

Velta Raudzepa Area Director 06 Lettland

I am a Zontian since 1993, when the first club in Latvia – the Zonta Club of Riga was chartered. My meeting with Sonja Renfer, Zonta International President 1992-1994 (Switzerland) who came to our club's charter ceremony was unforgettable. I had to introduce Sonja Renfer with Latvian culture and felt her deep interest in our history and cultural values. At the same time I saw her as a truly devoted Zontian who cared very much what happens globally. Another devoted Zontian, whom I would like to mention as my Zonta model, was Inger Brolin, our club's „Mother”.



Since then I have met many active, knowledgeable and enthusiastic Zontians in Sweden, as well as in other countries of the world possessing a certain mission to be a Zontian, to represent their country in the wide Zonta world. This gives to me and I do hope to other Zontians a good feeling – that you are not just any woman, you have many friends, you have your own mission to serve in the benefit of other women in the world, because there are a million things to do.

I was Riga Zonta Club President, Vice-president, board member, secretary, etc. I was in charge of Latvia Culture days. I have always tried to establish international contacts among different countries and zonta clubs. Being Area 06 Director I am deeply interested to continue projects with Swedish Zonta clubs on the Professional Exchange Programme, to search for new ways of cooperation between the Zonta clubs of Latvia and abroad.

All my professional career has been mainly connected with the world of art and culture. I have been working at the Museum of Decorative Arts and Design (now a part of the Latvian National Art Museum) as a curator, chief collection manager, and deputy director. I have gained rich experience in organizing big international exhibitions and conferences, and I have taken part in the EU projects. For almost sixteen years I have been teaching textile history at the Latvian Art Academy.

I have a family with two married sons (both lawyers) and four grandchildren (each son has two children).

I would like to wish all the Zontians and everybody: „If you do something, then do it with your heart

Velta Raudzepa

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