



Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley

Member of Zonta International

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

ZONTA BOG NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014

2014—2015 CALENDAR

November 10 Founder's Day



Celebrate our honoree, **Kathy Picard, Advocate, Educator and Mentor of Child Abuse Victims**. Kathy has been in the news most recently for spearheading legislation to extend the statute of limitations on abuse reporting, but she has a long history of advocating for women and children.

November 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women - marks the start of the 2014 **Zonta Says NO to Violence against Women** campaign, as well as the beginning of the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence**. The 16 days also includes: 11/29 International Women Human Rights Defenders Day, 12/1 World AIDS Day, 12/6 Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre, and 12/10 International Human Rights Day

December 8 International Marketplace

Local nonprofits and women business owners are invited to sell their wares at this special event.

Mark Your Calendar:

January 12, 2015
February 9, 2015
March 9, 2015
April 13, 2015
May 4, 2015 Silent "No More!" Auction (Monday before Mother's Day)
June 8, 2015

Note: Member reservations for the dinner meeting are assumed and payment expected unless notification is made in advance. Contact **Janet DaSilva, dasilvaassoc@msn.com or (413) 323-4906** with your guest count by Wednesday before meeting.

President's Message

Dear Sister Zontians,

We just returned from a hectic, inspiring, energetic weekend at the 2014 District Fall Conference. I can not say enough about the incredible efforts by all of our members. The Hospitality Suite, Zonta Store, the Holiday and Chocolate /Wine baskets, and Pumpkintinis were well received, and we enjoyed fellowship with our sisters in the District. Kudos to all!

The informative conference sessions included Membership (with Mary Ann Rubis – International Committee member), Public Relations (with Mary Knight, District webmaster), Advocacy and ZI Foundation. Lisa Sedelow (Delegate) will share more about the conference program and any of the other attendees would be happy to share their experiences as well.

Our District 1 mission "Conviction, Commitment and Courage" was in the forefront throughout the weekend, as were key goals of Service, Advocacy and Resources – especially recruiting and retaining dedicated members. Be assured that we will be incorporating the ZI mission, goals and vision in all of our activities this biennium.

I am happy to report we are the proud recipients of two awards from Zonta International Foundation. One is in **recognition of 100% member donation to ZI Foundation and the second recognition of the highest donation amount per capita by a District 1 Club**. We also learned that Quaboag Valley's 2014 **Jane M. Klausman Award Winner** - Elizabeth Fitzgerald - has been honored with the District JMK award!

The next two months will be very busy. On November 10th we will honor Kathy Picard as our 2014 Founder's Day award winner. November 25th - International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women - marks the start of the 2014 Zonta Says NO to Violence against Women campaign, as well as the beginning of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. Also in November, Lisa Sedelow and Liz Reeves have planned a project with the women of Soldier On.

In December we have our International Marketplace hosted by the Silent "No More" Committee. Please see anyone in the committee if you have suggestions and/or friends, acquaintances or professional contacts who would like to host a table and/or attend. Lastly, we will have Ann Cormier going to her warm climate shortly. Please wish her well as we will miss her experience and expertise.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Ann DaSilva Co-President



Kathy Picard Named Founder’s Day Recipient for 2014

The Founders Day award is given annually to a woman in the greater Quaboag area who exemplifies the ideals of Zonta International, a global organization of professionals working together to advance the status of women and girls worldwide through service and advocacy. Kathy Picard of Ludlow, MA has been chosen by the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley to receive its 2014 Founders Day award. She will be honored with a reception and dinner on Monday, November 10, 2014 at Ludlow Country Club.

A graduate of Cathedral High School and a receptionist at Valley Communications in Chicopee, Kathy was nominated to recognize her tireless advocacy on behalf of children and adults who are survivors of child sexual abuse. Just this year, she was present to witness a new bill signed into law by Gov. Deval Patrick that extends the statute of limitations from age 21 to 53 for sex abuse victims to file suit against their abusers. Kathy worked for 12 years for passage of the bill. She has now filed suit against a male family member who abused her between the ages of 7 and 17. In addition to speaking at the Dunbar Community Center, the YMCA of Greater Springfield and with other groups of all sizes, she has been instrumental in raising awareness through Children's Safety Events and through Childhelp “Speak Up Be Safe” - a child abuse and bullying prevention education curriculum. Kathy received the Unsung Heroine award at the State House in 2006 and will also be recognized as a recipient of this year’s prestigious Pynchon Award. Pre-registration is required. Email Pamela Albertson at pam@zontaqv.org with names of all attendees and pay \$25/pp at the door – cash, check or credit card.

Like last year’s honoree, Yoko Kato, Kathy Picard is a keen supporter of our initiative called "Zonta Says NO" - a campaign focused on ending violence against women and girls. Zonta International considers this a societal issue. Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard, President of ZI, notes that we need to “address root causes and focus on prevention through education to change attitudes in men and women.” Kathy has brought that vision to Western MA with the help of www.childhelp.org.



General statistics from ChildHelp: A report of child abuse is made every ten seconds. More than four children die every day as a result of child abuse. Approximately 70% of children that die from abuse are under the age of 4. More than 90% of juvenile sexual abuse victims know their perpetrator in some way. Child abuse occurs at every socioeconomic level, across ethnic and cultural lines, within all religions and at all levels of education. About 30% of abused and neglected children will later abuse their own children, continuing the horrible cycle of abuse. The estimated annual cost of child abuse and neglect in the United States for 2008 is \$124 billion. childhelp.org/pages/statistics

**Golden Words
from Famous
Women:**

“I’m not going to lie down and let trouble walk over me.”
Ellen Glasgow

**Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley
District I, Area II,
Charter 1317 of Zonta
International**

- Co-Presidents:** Kristin Goold
Janet DaSilva
- Vice President:** Lisa Sedelow
- Treasurer:** Pam Albertson
- Secretary:** Debra Wood
- Directors:** Tina Guniasso
Ann Cormier
Joanne Turner-Chiacchia

Committee Chairs

- Finance & Audit Chair:** Pamela Albertson
- Membership Chair:** Lisa Sedelow
- PR /Communication Chair:** Mary Knight
- United Nations Chair:** BJ Bourdon
- Advocacy Chair:** Tina Guinasso
- Service Chair:** Loretta Dansereau
- Scholarships Chair:** Dana Burton
- Poinsettia Fundraiser Chair:** Liz Reeves
- Golf Fundraiser Chair:** Debra Wood
- Auction Fundraiser Chair:** Dianne Kidd
- Archives Chair:** Marge Cavanaugh
- Nominating:** Loretta Dansereau,
Dana Burton, Mary Knight

October 20, 2014 Zonta of Quaboag Valley Dinner Meeting

Ludlow Country Club, Ludlow, MA

Present: Pam Albertson, B.J. Bourdon, Dana Burton, Marge Cavanaugh, Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Ann Cormier, Loretta Dansereau, Janet DaSilva, Chris Gerl, Kris Goold, Sandy Goss, Tina Guinasso, Desiree Joy, Mary Knight, Trish Pukek, Liz Reeves, Mary Ann Rubis, Lisa Sedelow, Debbie Wood

Absent: Diane Kidd

Guests: Laurie Chaisson & Milgros Johnson (program speaker)

Welcome: Janet DaSilva called the meeting to order at 6:10

Minutes: As published in the newsletter read and approved with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Pam indicated that as of September 30, 2014 we have \$16,097.98 plus \$6,394.03 in a CD and a total of \$12,741 in available service funds. There is a plan to present a check for our 1/3 annual contribution to ZI at the upcoming Fall Conference. Treasurer's Report is filed for Audit.

Program Speaker, Milagros Johnson (Mayor's Office of Consumer Affairs and Information) presented an informative outline of the ways to avoid Identity Theft and Scams. She reviewed the common scams and thefts and provided ways to recognize and prevent being a victim. Milagros distributed helpful information for those in attendance to consult.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Lisa, Chairman, says her Membership Committee comprised of Mary Ann, Mary, Joanne and Janet would be meeting and preparing Potential and New Membership packets. Information should be available for our Founder's Day event next month.

Service: Loretta, Chairman is scheduling a meeting for October 30th. Her committee is Desiree, Chris, Joanne and Debbie.

Joanne explained the breakdown of our 1/3 annual contribution of service funds to Zonta International Foundation: 36% ZI International Service Fund, 36% ZISVAW, 5% Amelia Earhart, 5% Jane Klausman Award, 5% Young Women in Public Affairs Award, 13% to Rose Fund.

Golf Tournament: On behalf of the Golf Committee Debbie made a motion to separate the raffle that has been associated with the Golf Tournament from the Golf Tournament Committee. Motion approved. Pam made a motion for the discontinuation of the raffle with the rationale that we have adequate service funds and ask so much of members that we can afford to discontinue this fundraiser and reconsider if needed in the future. Motion passed.

Poinsettias: Liz indicated that letters will go out next week to those businesses and individuals who have placed orders in

the past. The cost is the same as last year. Order forms are available on our website. Deliveries will be made the first week in December.

Legislative Awareness and Advocacy: Tina, Chairperson stated that the "16 Days off Action" campaign starts November 25th. As far as the Ebola outbreak, Zonta International supports other organizations helping with the effort. There is concern with the ZI Fistula Project in Liberia and the effect of the Ebola outbreak will be monitored there.

Scholarship: Dana indicated that YWPA applications were mailed to high schools with a March 15 deadline.

Old Business:

Fall Conference: A list of items which members have volunteered to donate or bring was circulated and members are asked to bring to the Hospitality Suite by 6 P.M. on Friday. Kris and Janet announced that the hospitality hours are expanded from 6-11 P.M. on Friday and post dinner till 11 P.M. on Saturday. There will be substantial offerings of food for those who might not have a chance to get out for dinner on Friday. Members brought generous donations for the Silent Auction and Zonta Store raffle baskets to be assembled tonight. Tina is in charge of the Zonta Store and asked for additional coverage on Friday and Saturday. Lisa circulated a picture of the tee shirts which we plan to sell. It was voted to order 100 at a cost of \$10.50 each. The price will be \$18.00 each and a variety of sizes will be ordered. Debbie will prepare signs for the raffle basket and Pam will provide change for the event and make available an instrument to accept credit cards.

Founder's Day (November 10): Over 150 invitations have been sent out. Proclamations will be presented to Kathy Picard, the recipient. The charge is \$25.00 for guests, \$18.00 for Zonta members. Janet is working with LCC on the menu. The press release that Mary recently sent can be shared as an E Mail with potential guests we might want to invite.

Soldier On: Janet indicated that Virginia Lieblein has left her position and the VA is in the process of hiring her replacement. It was suggested that Kate Doherty or Cindy Nolan will serve as contacts and Joanne will provide their E Mail addresses to Janet and Kris. Liz and Lisa are planning to offer some type of craft activity in November and will confirm the specific plan and date. For December the ladies will be invited to the International Marketplace and are welcome to offer some item(s) for sale.

Their interest in a trip to Look Park in December with cocoa and cookies after was mentioned as a popular activity. The quilts that are being made could be offered at that time.

International Marketplace (December 8): Diane was not able to attend tonight but BJ reported the basic plans. Mostly woman owned non profits and for profits will be invited to sell their items. Non profits will not be charged.

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Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley's International Holiday Market Place

December 8th 6 – 8pm
Ludlow Country Club



Please reach out to vendors who might be interested in having a table for displaying and selling their wares. **Tables are NO cost for non-profits; \$25 for for-profit concerns.*** This is NOT a fundraiser for us—but rather an opportunity to benefit the women-owned organizations in our area. We are emphasizing the "international" theme, but others are welcome. Vendors should send an email to info@zontaqv.org, identifying their status and providing a brief explanation of the items they would like to offer for sale at the Marketplace.

Please also start passing the word to colleagues, friends, family about this opportunity to shop and make an impact! Among the offerings we expect:

- Specialty items made in Malawi and Uganda to benefit local nonprofits
- Crafts made by and for refugees resettled in Pioneer and Quaboag Valleys
- Imported Italian Olive Oil
- Handmade Pottery, Jewelry, Knitted Wraps/Shawls, Scarves, Birdhouses
- Local Honey and honey-infused products
- Poinsettias & Other Holiday items

Hearty Appetizers and Desserts, Coffee, Tea and Cash Bar

Entertainment by Deborah Deschamps

Cost \$15 / Person (*Non-profit and for-profit tables receive one free \$15 guest pass)

Toys, books and clothing gift cards will be collected at the event to benefit children spending the holidays in shelters. Wish list will be provided on zontaqv.org when available.

Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser



Order forms are on zontaqv.org. We have sent several out, but please help us out by passing the word to everyone on your list. Deliveries will be the week of 12/1. If anyone needs them the week of Thanksgiving let me know.

I will be sending an email to members asking for volunteers to make deliveries. Our mailing list will be passed around at the November meeting so members can put their names next to the people they will follow up with for orders. Sales are not limited to the list! Ask family friends, colleagues, hairdressers, manicurists and the list goes on. We have increased our profits each year, so sell, sell, sell for another successful fundraiser.

Thank you for all of your efforts!
Liz Reeves, Chair

October 2014 minutes continued from page 3

For profits will be charged \$25.00 with one meal included. A flyer will be made available by the November meeting.

New Business:

Fines for Name Tags for the Sunshine Fund: Janet raised the idea of assessing \$1.00 fines to members who forget their name tags to help raise \$ for the internal club Sunshine Fund. The motion to levy the fines was defeated when a voice vote was taken.

Speaker budget: Janet raised the need to increase the original budget amount of \$250 by \$400 since \$200 was already spent on the September speaker. The motion to increase the budget resulted in a split vote (6 for and 6 opposed). It was voted to table the discussion at this time.

Announcements: Janet shared information concerning "This is Your Life" material. **Raffle:** Laurie Chaisson, guest was the winner.

Next Meeting: November 10, 2014 Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Wood, Secretary

Delegate Report

The 2014 District 1 Fall Conference was held October 24-26 at the Sheraton in Springfield MA. The title of the conference was "**Uncovering the Mysteries of Zonta**". Club attendees included Kris Goold, Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Mary Knight, Marge Cavanaugh, Debbie Wood, Ann Cormier, BJ Bourdon, Tina Guinasso, Mary Ann Rubis, Janet DaSilva and myself.

The conference was truly uplifting—a weekend of time well spent. The itinerary was packed with interesting topics, murder mystery theater, interactive fun, great food and conversation. I recommend this valuable experience to any Zonta member from the newest member to a charter member. It's a great way to regain focus on things that matter most, learning about local and International levels of Zonta, the Zonta mission, understanding why it is so important to make a difference through advocacy and volunteer service work, and the fact that increasing membership is critical at this time as clubs are shrinking. Excellent time spent building friendships, having fun, relaxing, learning; and great to return full of motivation, rejuvenation and inspiration.

Lisa Sedelow, Delegate



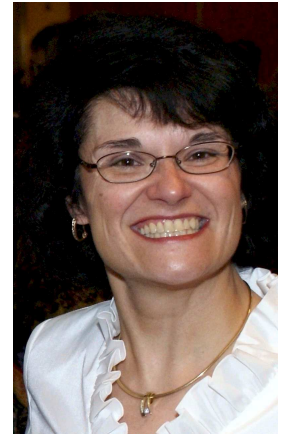
INFORMATION

The number of American troops killed in Afghanistan and Iraq between 2001 and 2012 was 6,488. The number of American women who were murdered by current or ex male partners during that time was 11,766. Almost double the amount of casualties lost during war.

Since its inception in 2012, Zontians around the world have united and embraced the “Zonta Says NO” Campaign through local actions. Created to raise awareness of Zonta’s efforts to end violence against women and girls at the club, district, and international levels, the campaign has also focused attention on our Zonta International Strategies to End Violence against Women (ZISVAW) projects as well as our partnerships with the United Nations and its agencies.

Recognizing Zonta’s role as a non-governmental organization within the UN, the ZI Public Relations and Communications Committee last biennium looked more closely at the UN’s 2009 Say NO UNiTE campaign. That campaign title and the proclamation that the 25th of every month be called Orange Day to recognize the issue of violence against women inspired the Zonta Says NO Campaign.

To acknowledge the UN’s International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the beginning of the 16 Days of Activism, November 25th was selected as the campaign date. This biennium, the ZSN Campaign is being further developed to increase the number of advocacy actions around the world. To clarify Zonta’s stance on the issue of violence against women, an updated Zonta Says NO to Violence against Women campaign logo has been created. Clubs and districts are asked to use this updated logo on all new marketing and promotional materials. Please visit the website zontasaysno.com to join the discussion and learn more about this effort.



Every month, a new ZI topic will be featured. Please share your ideas and questions for future newsletters with Mary Ann K. Rubis ZIMC Member, 2014-2016

ZONTA SAYS NO
TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



As ZI International President Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard wrote, “Violence against women is not a women’s issue, but a societal issue. It is often rooted in misinterpretations of history, inadequate laws, culture and religion, but can also be based on social structures and traditional ideas of feminine and masculine identities. Violence against women is most frequently about power and control, and we know its consequences to women’s physical, mental and reproductive health.”

From athletes beating their significant others in public elevators or in their own homes, to celebrities publicly abusing their girlfriends, news stories about domestic violence have recently permeated our airwaves. Despite the national outrage, as Halloween approaches, couples and even boys are dressing as a certain former NFL player and his abused wife, sparking a different kind of outrage. We still have a lot of work to do. Starting November 25, wear orange, identify an action, join the campaign.

16 days of activism

From 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, Human Rights Day, the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign is a time to galvanize action to end violence against women and girls around the world.

This year, the United Nations Secretary-General’s Campaign UNiTE to End Violence against Women invites you to “**Orange YOUR Neighborhood.**” Take the UNiTE campaign to local streets, shops and businesses, and organize “Orange Events” in your own neighborhoods between 25 November and 10 December 2014. Reach out to your neighbors, local stores, food-sellers on the corner of your street, gas stations, local cinemas, barbers, schools, libraries and post offices! Project orange lights and hang orange flags onto local landmarks, tie orange ribbons where you are allowed, and organize local ‘orange marches’ on 25 November to raise awareness about violence against women and discuss solutions that would work for your community. 16 facts to check out: who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/global_campaign/16_days/en/

