



Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley

Member of Zonta International

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

ZONTA BOG NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2015

2015 CALENDAR

February 9 Dinner Meeting

Membership and International Project Updates

March 9 Dinner Meeting

Advocacy

April 13, 2015 Dinner Meeting

Save the Date! The 2015 Spring Retreat will be held in Wells, Maine on May 1st and 2nd.

May 4, 2015 Silent "No More!" Auction

(Monday before Mother's Day)

June 8, 2015 Dinner Meeting—final meeting before summer break

Note: Member reservations for the dinner meeting are assumed and payment expected unless notification is made in advance. Contact **Kris Goold** kmgoold@aol.com or (413) 783-4376 with your guest count by Wednesday before meeting.

Collecting Toiletries

You probably have toiletries from your travels to share, or can pick up an occasional 'extra' during a shopping trip. Debbie Wood is collecting donations to give to the Helping Hands Cupboard in Belchertown. Feel free to bring to our monthly meetings.



President's Message

Greetings Sister Zontians,



The February meeting promises to be informative as well as interesting. The membership committee will be presenting an overview of the revised procedures for bringing in new members to the club. The revisions include the changes made at the 2014 International Convention in Orlando. Those of you who were able to attend the Fall Conference heard the report about the diminishing number of members in our District. If we go below 300 members, District 1 will be combined with another District. I know none of us wants that to happen, so it is imperative that we all work to not only maintain our membership numbers, but increase them as well.

We will also hear an update on the International Service Projects. We all work hard to raise funds for the International Foundation so we will take a look at on what and where the Zonta Foundation is working to improve the status of women worldwide.

Because we are in the middle of a very cold and unpredictable winter, please remember that your attendance at the dinner meeting is assumed unless you notify me that you are unable to attend. You can reach me at my home number (413) 783-4376 or by email at kmgoold@aol.com. Please contact me by the Wednesday before the meeting if you know in advance that you will not attend. If the weather is bad the day of the meeting and you don't want to travel, please contact me any way so that I know we won't see you at the meeting. Thank you.

Take care, stay warm and I'll see you at the next meeting on February 9th.

Kristin Goold, Co-President



Every Zontian is responsible for generating interest in our organization. Please take a few minutes to review the Membership Page on our District Website: zontadistrict1.org/membership/blog and a tool developed by our District to help in attracting and retaining members, [ZD1 Membership Manual](#).



WWW.ZONTADISTRICT1.ORG

- Home
- Who's Who in District 1
- Membership
- Advocacy
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Resource Center**
- Web Links

- District I Clubs**
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Resource Center

International Resources

[Zonta International Brand Refresh](#) [Templates and Guidance](#)

ZONTA SAYS NO!

- [Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women website](#)
- [Zonta District 1 Advocacy website](#)

Service Projects

- [International Service Program \(ISP\) 2014-2016 2014-2016 Zonta International Foundation PowerPoint](#)
- [International Service Program \(ISP\) 2014-2016 Project Descriptions Towards Elimination of Obstetric Fistula and Reduction of Maternal and Newborn Mortality in Liberia Working Toward an HIV-Free Generation Effective Prevention and Response to Gender Based Violence in Rwanda Gender Responsive Schools Pilot Model](#)
- [Zonta International Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Women \(ZISVAW\) Program 2014-2016 Project Descriptions Respecting the Rights and Responding to the Needs of Adolescent Girls in Niger Voices Against Violence: Non-Formal Education Curriculum for the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts on Ending Violence against Women and Girls](#)

Publications

- [Zonta Newsletters](#)
- [Zontian Magazines](#)

Manuals

- [District Manual](#)
- [Club Manual](#)

If you are looking for information on a specific Zonta– related topic, you might want to visit the District website Resource Center as a first stop. It has been updated with links to ZI service projects, publications, manuals and forms— as well as all the District Manuals and procedures and Club resources. While you are on the site, check out the Advocacy link and Membership page for additional information on the wonderful work our District is doing.

**Golden Words
from Famous
Women:**

"Nobody can make you feel inferior without your permission." - Eleanor Roosevelt

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

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

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

January 12, 2015 Zonta of Quaboag Valley Dinner Meeting

Ludlow Country Club, Ludlow, MA

Present: Pam Albertson, Dana Burton, Marge Cavanaugh, Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Janet DaSilva, Mary Knight, Liz Reeves, Mary Ann Rubis, Lisa Sedelow, Debbie Wood

Absent: B.J. Bourdon, Ann Cornier, Loretta Dansereau, Chris Gerl, Sandy Goss, Tina Guinasso, Desiree Joy, Dianne Kidd, Trish Pupek, Kris Goold

Guest: Gail Dragicevich

Welcome: Co President Janet DaSilva opened the meeting at 6 P.M.

Minutes: With a correction of 16 days of "Activism" the Minutes as they appeared in the newsletter were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Pam Albertson reported that the restricted funds that were conserved from the disbanded former Westfield Zonta Club for a scholarship for a Westfield University student were transferred to B.J. Bourdon to manage an endowment scholarship fund. As indicated in the Financial Report, \$4,362.00 was collected from the sale of poinsettia plants. Once the expenses amounting to \$2,479.00 were paid the profit was \$1,883.00. This is down from last year.

Thank You Notes: Debbie informed the group that Childhelp had sent the club a thank you for honoring Kathy Picard who in turn used her donation from the club in her name to benefit the Childhelp organization. The Palmer Food Share also sent a thank you for our donation of \$150.00 to their organization.

Amelia Earhart Month: Dana Burton provided some background regarding the Amelia Earhart Fellowship program which was established in 1938. Currently 35 Fellowships amounting to \$10,000 are awarded annually. This has amounted to 1438 scholarships and over \$8.6 million that have been awarded to women in 70 countries since the inception. Dana described 4 women from MIT and their studies. Dana introduced a Heads and Tail game to test our knowledge of Amelia Earhart. In a playoff between Mary Knight and our guest Gail, Mary was the winner.

Introduction of Gail: Gail related that in addition to her work as an author, she is a life coach and has a strong interest in issues affecting women. She was encouraged to attend our future meetings to learn more about expectations and the benefits of becoming a member.

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee: Lisa shared copies of the Membership Packets for members to use in extending invitations to prospective members. Janet mentioned a 2002 document outlining some Membership Procedures. It was recommended that the Membership Committee review and revise the document before presenting to the Board and ultimately the members for approval.

Service Committee: Loretta was not present and there are no outstanding requests for funds. Mary Knight informed the group that a "Request for Service Funds" form is located on our website. Loretta has requested that we circulate the form to sign up and keep in mind various activities to offer the Soldier On women.

Poinsettia Sales: Liz mentioned that the decrease in orders from past customers accounts for an overall decrease in sales.

International Marketplace: Since Dianne was not present Janet stated that information discussed at the Board meeting would be shared with the Marketplace Committee. General remarks indicate that screening of vendors might help avoid duplication of items offered.

Soldier On: Debbie reported that the December visit to Look Park and the distribution of blankets and stockings to the women were all well received by the 12 residents of the cottages in Leeds.

Old Business:

Update on Founder's Day: Overall it was agreed that it was a meaningful event and resulted in good publicity which can also be considered as part of our participation in the 16 days of activism. Our recognition of the "Zonta Says No" campaign can also be included in the 16 Days of Activism.

Soldier On: Janet informed the group that Sandy is offering manicures to our Veterans in the month of January but Sandy has yet to hear from Cindy Nolan regarding the number of interested women who might attend one of the 2 dates she is proposing. In regards to future activities to offer the Veterans, a number of ideas were exchanged such as: craft projects, visits to local sights, game play, chocolate or cooking activity, etc. It was agreed that Joanne would make contact with Kate Doherty to get a list of ideas of interest to the Veterans to help us propose activities for future visits. She will also check to see if they have an interest in the proposed manicures which Sandy is offering and recommend that they make contact with Sandy to coordinate.

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Pass the word to College-Bound students in the Quaboag Valley:

The **Young Women in Public Affairs Award** recognizes young women for their demonstrated leadership skills and commitment to public service. We are looking for women in the Quaboag Valley and surrounding towns who are high school juniors or seniors and have an active commitment to volunteerism, experience in local or student government, demonstrated leadership skills, and dedication to advancing the status of women throughout the world. The club offers **an award of \$1000 to be used however the recipient chooses**, to the most outstanding YWPA applicant. The local winner's application will then be submitted for competition at the Zonta District 1 level (New England states of the U.S. and Nova Scotia, Canada). The District 1 winner goes on to compete internationally. District and International awards are funded by the Zonta International Foundation. The application is available at www.zontaqv.org. Due: **March 15**,

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Awards from Fall Conference: Janet circulated the certificates which our club received for the highest donation per capita and 100% donation from all members of our club.

Next District Conference: Janet announced that the next Fall conference is scheduled for October 23-25th in Burlington, Vermont.

Twibbon: Tina was not present but will explain and provide instructions in the newsletter for signing up for the application for those who might be interested.

Potential New Members: Janet mentioned a list of names for follow up. Lisa will follow up with Cindy Willette and In the Box owner Sharon. She sent a Membership packet to Milagros Johnson. Another interested person, Nancy Otto hopes to attend our next meeting. Two names (Pamela Peck and Tammy Gardner) were not familiar to those present.

New Business:

Leave of Absence for Desiree Joy: Desiree's request for a Leave of Absence to pursue her studies was approved by the Board and announced to the membership tonight. She plans to rejoin our club by the fall of this year.

Additional Board Member: The Board had recommended the addition of another Director to the Board. Liz Reeves has agreed to accept the position until the end of this Zonta year.

Co President for next 3 meetings: Janet indicated that Kris would be presiding at the February, March and April meetings as Janet will be away.

Women's Night of Comedy (March 26th): Lynn Goodhue, Northampton Club is hoping to have a table with Zonta members. Debbie



sent an E Mail with the link to register and recommended letting Lynn know once this is done. So far Debbie, Pam and Kris have expressed an interest in attending. [Proceeds to benefit Girls Inc. www.wboa.org/comedy-night]

World Aids Day: Kris informed the Board that in December a \$50 check was submitted to Zonta International in honor of World Aids Day. [The funds were collected from members and guests at the December Marketplace event.]

Announcements:

* Mary Knight mentioned that new logos and letterheads for Zonta International and our club are now available on our website.

* Mary also mentioned that January 30th is the deadline for newsletter articles.

* Karen Duffy and her husband adopted a baby boy this month.

* On behalf of the club Janet presented Lisa from the Ludlow Country Club a gift in appreciation for all that she has arranged for our Zonta meetings and events.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 9th at Ludlow Country Club.

Raffle Winner: Marge was the winner of both raffle prizes.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by
Debbie Wood, Secretary



INFORMATION

While not official Zonta events, the upcoming Commission on the Status of Women and the North American Inter-District Meeting will bring Zontians from around the world together in a unique format.

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)
Primary theme: Beijing +20 March 9-20, 2015 New York City



An unprecedented 55 Zontians from North America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia will join thousands of other members of NGOs around the world as the Commission reviews the progress made by Member States since the Fourth World Conference on Women in September 1995 in Beijing. In 2013, the Member States adopted a resolution calling for a 20-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action to take place in 2015 at this session of the CSW. The focus will be on the 12 critical areas of concern as outlined in 1995. (See sidebar)

In addition to official meetings at the United Nations, side events inside the UN and NGO parallel events at locations around Manhattan will occur. As an NGO, Zonta is allocated 20 passes for members to attend sessions in the UN. Parallel events are open to everyone. Most are free. This year, all attendees must register with the CSW.

Meeting and engaging with women, men, and teens (female and male) from around the world working to advance the status of women in their own unique ways is an amazing experience. This year, I will attend my third CSW. Each one has been an eye opening and thought provoking opportunity.

- Critical Areas of Concern**
- Women and the environment
 - Women in power and decision making
 - The girl child
 - Women and the economy
 - Women and poverty
 - Violence against women
 - Human rights of women
 - Education and training of women
 - Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women
 - Women and health
 - Women and the media
 - Women and armed conflict

In addition to participating in discussions at the UN, Zonta will also host parallel events during the two weeks. On March 12, The Zonta Club of New York will host a dinner for ZI President Maria Jose Landiera Ostergaard and the Zonta delegation, which will include a discussion on the Beijing Platform for Action.

More information can be found at www.unwomen.org and www.zonta.org.



North American Inter-District Meeting (NAIDM) June 12-14, 2015 Minneapolis

The NAIDM is a fabulous opportunity for Zontians from North America to meet every two years and engage in discussion on the challenges and topics important to us. This year, membership will take center stage as ZI discusses redistricting. A diverse selection of workshops, including those with a leadership theme, will be offered. Additional information will be available soon.

So, check your calendars and see if you are able to attend one or both of these meetings. I promise, you will return with an entirely new perspective of the world we live in.

Next month, I will share with you my Zonta adventure as I travel to Belgium to attend the European Interdistrict Zonta Seminar. Until then, tot ziens!

Mary Ann K. Rubis,
 Zonta International Membership Committee Member, 2014-2016

Every month, a new ZI topic will be featured. Please share your ideas and questions for future newsletters with Mary Ann at maryannrubis@yahoo.com