



ZONTA

CLUB OF
QUABOAG VALLEY

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

ZONTA BOG SPECIAL EDITION 25TH ANNIVERSARY 1991—2016

Contents

- 1 An Overview
- 2 Because of Zonta
- 3 Original Members of ZCQV
- 3 Current Members of the Club
- 3 In the Beginning...
- 3 Service Projects
- 4 Presidents of ZCQV
- 4 Advocacy Initiatives
- 5 Photos of Service Projects
- 6 A Historical Perspective
- 8 List of Hands-on Service Projects
- 8 Fundraising
- 9 Photos with Soldier On women
- 10 Founders Day
- 10 Founders Day Recipients
- 10 Education Awards
- 10 Zontian Connections
- 11 Recipients of Education Awards
- 10 25th Anniversary
- 11 Letter from ZI on our 25th Anniversary
- 12 Program for 25th Anniversary
- 13 Pictures from the 25th
- 15 The Next Chapter
- 16 Zonta District 1

Special thanks to members who shared their What's-In-It-For-Me (WIIFM) stories and to Debra, Elizabeth and Marjorie for their diligence in keeping records, memorabilia and photos that captured the essence of our club's history.



Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley—25 years

The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley was chartered with 22 dedicated members on November 22, 1991 in Wilbraham, Massachusetts. The chartering president was Judy Van de Geer. The club met at various locations over the years until finally settling at their current meeting location at the Ludlow Country Club. Members reside in many cities and towns in the Pioneer Valley and Quaboag Valley.

In support of the mission of Zonta International to improve the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy, the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley has worked on numerous initiatives in its 25 year history. Some of the projects include establishing a visitation room

for children of women incarcerated at Stoney Brook Jail in Ludlow; mentoring women veterans who are rebuilding their lives at the Soldier On Program in Leeds; collecting and filling handbags with personal items needed by women living in shelters and on the streets; and donating hundreds of toys and books to local nonprofits for distribution to children who may not otherwise receive personal gifts.

The club conducts three fundraising events each year: a golf tournament in September, a poinsettia sale in November, and the Silent "no more!" Auction in May. Profits from these events support our service projects and scholarship awards, as well as provide funds to Zonta International for Zonta's efforts around the world.

By the Numbers

- During its first 25 years, this club has accomplished a lot.
- \$56,263.70—Contributions made to Zonta International Foundation.
- \$90,480—Money and in-kind donations made to local non-profits.
- \$14,600—Scholarship money awarded to 27 women in the area.
- 20—Number of women honored with Founder's Day awards.
- 85—Number of women veterans we have mentored so far.
- 389—Purses filled with personal items, given to women in shelters.
- 95—Yarn doll kits created for young victims of domestic violence.
- 250—Pounds of supplies and cards sent to troops overseas.
- Countless—Hours members have spent on service and advocacy.



Founding members **Debra Wood, Elizabeth Reeves** and **Marjorie Cavanaugh** at our 25th Anniversary Event on November 14, 2016.

BECAUSE OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL, founded in 1919 with headquarters in Chicago, Illinois,

- Scholarship awards reflecting the unique needs of communities around the world have provided millions of dollars in local educational aide.
- Female students in high schools and colleges around the world experience leadership, service, and advocacy opportunities as members of Zonta International's Z and Golden Z Clubs.
- The Zonta Says No to Violence against Women Campaign exists.

For the biennium 2016-2018,

BECAUSE OF THE ZONTA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, Zonta's charitable arm, that raises, invests, and distributes funds

- 70 women pursuing PhD degrees in aerospace-related sciences and engineering will receive \$700,000 through the Amelia Earhart Fellowship, which honors aviatrix Amelia Earhart a former member of the ZC of NY.
- Women pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in a business-related field will receive \$232,000 through the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship.
- Young women, between the ages of 16-19, demonstrating leadership skills and a commitment to public service and civic causes will receive \$144,000 through the Young Woman in Public Affairs Award.

Since 1923, more than \$21 million has funded Zonta International Strategies for the Elimination of Violence against Women Projects, also known as ZISVAW, and International Service Projects benefitting women and girls in more than 36 countries.

This biennium, donations are funding two ZISVAW and two International Service Projects. The two ZISVAW projects are: Delaying Early Marriage in Niger and addressing Human Trafficking and Unsafe Migration in Nepal. The two international service projects are: Eliminating Obstetric Fistula and Reducing Maternal and Newborn Mortality and Morbidity in Liberia and Providing an Integrated Educational Program for Adolescent Girls in Madagascar. The Zonta International Foundation, through the generosity of Zontians and supporters from around the world, will provide more than \$5 million this biennium to fund all of these awards and projects. Pretty impressive for a group of 28,000.

Part of a tribute read by Dr. Mary Ann K. Rubis at the 25th Anniversary Celebration /Founder's Day Award for the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley November 14, 2016

WWMD?

*A tribute to Marge
Cavanaugh—
an inspiration and
role model for this
club and for all
who know her.*

**Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley
District I, Area II,
Charter 1317 of Zonta
International
2016—2018**

President: Mary Knight
Vice President: Patricia Pupek
Treasurer: Joanne Turner-Chiacchia
Secretary: Kristin Goold
Directors: Debbie Wood
 Dana Burton
 Lisa Sedelow

Website: www.zontaqv.org

Committee Chairs 2016—2018

Finance & Audit Chair: Pam Albertson
Membership Chair: Patricia Pupek
PR /Communication Chair: Mary Knight
Advocacy/UN Chair: Dana Burton
Service Chair: Debra Wood
Scholarships Chair: Dana Burton
Poinsettia Fundraiser Chair: Liz Reeves
Golf Fundraiser Chair: Debra Wood
Auction Fundraiser Chair: Patricia Pupek
Archives Chair: Marge Cavanaugh
Nominating: Pam Albertson, Liz Reeves,
 Marge Cavanaugh

ZONTA BOG NEWSLETTER



Original Members of the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley

Judy Van de Geer, President
 * Marjorie Cavanaugh, Vice President
 Karen Bremberg, Secretary
 Linda Ware, Treasurer
 J.D. Ayers
 Julia Balliet
 Elinor Cavi Brow
 Carole Clark
 Barbara Discawicz
 Joan Knysh
 Barbara Lukis
 Sharon MacDonald
 Anne Meurisse
 * Elizabeth Reeves
 Kimber Richter, M.D.
 Debbie Rodriguez
 Sylvia Sibilis
 Mary Ann Strout
 Jane Trainor
 * Debra Wood
 Mary Wilson
 * 25 year Members

Current Members

Mary Knight, President
 Patricia "Trish" Pupek, Vice President
 Kristin Goold, Secretary
 Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Treasurer
 Pamela Albertson
 Dana Burton
 Marge Cavanaugh
 Ann Cormier
 Janet DaSilva
 Christine "Tina" Guinasso
 Dianne Kellner Kidd
 Elizabeth "Liz" Reeves
 Mary Ann Rubis
 Lisa Sedelow
 Shanique Spalding
 Debra Wood
 Susan Williams (inducted 1/2017)

In the Beginning...



Our first meeting was on November 22, 1991 in the town of Wilbraham MA. Judy Van de Geer was our chartering president and led the way with the help of all 21 members. Our sponsor and mentor was the Zonta Club of Springfield. We met in various area locations: Pathfinder High School, Palmer Public Library, different restaurants and, from time to time, in our members' homes – searching for the place, time and budget that would best meet the needs of our members. We are very fortunate to have found a home at the Ludlow Country Club in Ludlow MA on the 2nd Monday of the month. The space size is perfect for business meetings as well as larger events like our Silent "no more!" Auction; the food is exceptional and the staff very accommodating. Over the years we have lost members due to relocations and other commitments, and recruited new women – mostly by word of mouth. We are usually fifteen to eighteen strong. Zonta International recently introduced a new "Voices" membership communications toolkit and our club is taking advantage of this support to ramp up efforts to grow our club.

Local Service Projects

As we were starting from scratch and learning along the way, our first projects were mostly hands on—donating to the food pantry, providing toiletry packages to shelters for battered women, and setting up a visitation room for children of women who were incarcerated at Stoney Brook jail in Ludlow MA. We continue some of these projects and have added many more—including the ones listed in the sidebar on page 6.

After looking for several years for a long-term service project for the club, we found one during BJ Bourdon's presidency in 2009: the V.A. Soldier On Women, located in Leeds MA. We have mentored and worked with over 85 women so far and have found this mutually inspirational. We have raised money and donated welcome bags for women entering the program,



Quaboag Valley Presidents

1990—1992 Judy Van de Geer
 1992—1994 Marge Cavanaugh
 1994—1997 Sharon MacDonald
 1998—2000 Rosalie Dorland
 2000—2002 Debbie Wood
 2002—2004 Jeanne Dill
 2004—2006 Mary Ann Rubis
 2007—2008 Christine Gerl
 2008—2010 Mary Knight
 2010—2012 Betty Jane Bourdon
 2012—2014 Ann Cormier
 2012—2014 Joanne Turner-Chiacchia
 2014—2015 Kristin Goold
 2014—2015 Janet DaSilva
 2015—2016 Lisa Sedelow
 2016—2018 Mary Knight

What's In it for Me....

Thanks to Zonta I have more confidence in my abilities and have developed more comfortable assertiveness in my professional and personal life. The fellowship and support from my Zonta "sisters" have meant the world to me and helped me to manage any setbacks and losses I have experienced. Zonta has brought so much meaning to my life in the past 25 years life and helped me keep so many aspects of my life in reasonable perspective. I cannot imagine my life without Zonta.

Debbie Wood

It wasn't until I attended my first convention in Honolulu and heard a woman physician speak about the hospital she and her husband founded in Ethiopia to help women who suffered with fistulas as a result of very poor birthing conditions. I had no idea a woman would have to not only suffer physically, but also emotionally for something she had no control over. That speech reached my core beliefs and I was hooked on Zonta and what we do in the name of women who care for women who need our care.

Kris Goold

household items for women leaving the program to start a new life, furnishings for an exercise/fitness room, personal items for the women and cash so they can purchase items that are meaningful to them. One year, for example, the women voted to buy small security safes for their rooms. Most importantly however, we have spent countless hours face to face on activities like gardening, pie making, talking over pizza or ice cream sundaes, making cards, flower arranging, playing games, making yarn doll kits for children visiting their mothers in prison. We have provided in-house massages and acupuncture, and arranged for manicures and makeovers. We've taken them out to the Butterfly Museum, horseback riding, to Quabbin Reservoir, Old Sturbridge Village and to Club events like our Silent "no more!" Auction. Annually we get together for a summer campfire and for a special Christmas celebration with gifts and stockings for all.

Another meaningful service project was our Fill a Bag with Hope in 2016; it helped us generate a good deal of interest within the community. We collected more than 500 hundred gently used pocketbooks and filled most of them with toiletries, makeup, personal items and notes of encouragement. They were distributed to women in shelters throughout the area just in time for Valentine's Day.

In February 2017 we are sponsoring another hands-on event:

The Project Period – distributing dignity to women and girls in need. We learned that basic menstrual products are considered "non-essential" by the federal government, so they cannot be purchased with food stamps. We are collecting items to create monthly menstrual kits for homeless women and to stock supplies at local shelters.



Advocacy Initiatives

Our first major advocacy initiative was a series of seven Conferences on Domestic Violence between 1994 and 2008. Each event was a day of workshops, involving speakers from the legal, medical and political community as well as representatives from battered women's shelters. The most recent, "Through the Eyes of a Child", informed local educators, law enforcement personnel, counselors and scout leaders about the effects of and best practices to assist young victims of domestic violence. A few of the conferences were joint efforts with other Area 2 clubs—Berkshire, Northampton, Springfield and Quinebaug Valley.

We have handed out literature about issues important to Zontians at a number of events including the Vagina Monologues and walks organized for Domestic Violence and Suicide Prevention. We have participated in letter writing campaigns, such as raising awareness about Bosnia & Herzegovina conflicts and urging legislators to vote for equal pay for women [signed by President Obama in 2009] and to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) - an international treaty adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly [no movement on this yet in the United States but our Canadian neighbors have ratified CEDAW].



A Historical Perspective *

1991 – 1995

- The Cold War ends and the Soviet Union dissolves.
- A U.S. Labor Department study: women/ minorities hitting "glass ceiling" is at a much earlier stage than previously believed. Gender equality a long way off, but women are taking on more leadership positions – in Congress, as mayors, Attorney General of US (Janet Reno), Space program, American Bar C, etc. Worldwide, six countries had female prime ministers, three had female presidents and three female governors-general.
- Family Medical Leave Act gives parents protected unpaid leave to deal with family emergencies.
- UN World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna confirmed that women's rights were human rights.
- President Clinton signs 'Don't ask, don't tell' - prohibits openly gay people from serving in the military.
- The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funds services for victims of rape and domestic violence
- Gender Equity in Education Act promotes gender equity in education, counseling for teen pregnancy and prevention of sexual harassment
- Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing is significant to the global agenda for gender equality – 12 key areas outlined



The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley – District 1, Area 2, Charter # 1317 of Zonta International – was formed, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Greater Springfield.

1996 – 2000

- Firsts for females: Madeleine Albright; Secretary of State; Nancy Dickey, President of AMA; Nancy Mace graduates from Citadel Military college; Eileen Collins, Commander of Space Shuttle Mission; Kathleen A. McGrath, Commander of U.S. Navy warship at sea
- Eve Ensler's *Vagina Monologues* first performed
- Supreme Court links Title IX funding to equal participation in school sports
- UN General Assembly designates November 25 as International Day to Eliminate Violence Against Women.
- A number of sexual discrimination and sexual harassment cases in the news



Zonta International Strategies to End Violence Against Women project (ZISVAW) was adopted as an ongoing program.

The Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship is established.

The Quaboag Valley club has completed several service projects and has sponsored five Conferences on Domestic Violence. The club has started celebrating Founder's Day each November, honoring local women who exemplify the ideas of Zonta. Thanks to the annual Poinsettia Drive and Golf Tournament fundraisers, we have funds to recognize high school students with the Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) award, to donate to local causes and to contribute to Zonta International Foundation.

2001 – 2005

- Firsts for females: Margaret C. Wilmoth, Brigadier General; Gale Norton Secretary of the Interior; Danica Patrick led the Indianapolis 500; Angela Merkel, Germany's Chancellor.
- First for African American females: Halle Berry wins Best Actress Oscar; Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State
- No Child Left Behind Act education reform bill passed, but without funding
- 9-11 attack on the USA changed life in many ways. Iraq War that followed increased female military involvement
- March for Women's Lives in Washington, D.C., protests Bush policies on abortion and women's healthcare
- The social networking website Facebook is launched.
- Massachusetts is first state to legalize same-sex marriage in compliance with a Supreme Court ruling
- Reauthorization of VAWA authorizes federal funding for victims and those at risk



The Quaboag Club continues to fluctuate in membership but a core group of members remain very active locally and within the District. We continue many of the service, educational and fundraising initiatives noted above.

2006 – 2010

- Firsts for females: Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House; Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of Liberia, African head of state; Effa Manley inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame; Michelle Bachelet, President of Chile; Ann E. Dunwoody, U.S. Army four-star general; **Kathryn Bigelow wins Oscar for Best Director**
- Hillary Rodham Clinton announces her candidacy for the 2008 Democratic presidential nomination. She ends up conceding to Barack Obama who goes on to become the first African American President, and she becomes his Secretary of State in 2009.
- The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act is the first bill signed into law by President Obama; it protects against pay discrimination.
- Sonia Sotomayor becomes U.S. Supreme Court Justice; first Hispanic American and the third woman to serve.



The Quaboag Club continues to be 18 – 22 in membership but is making a difference locally and globally; and those efforts are awarded the District Governor's Award for outstanding service and overall achievement. In addition to the YWPA educational award, the club now offers the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. The club starts working with the VA Soldier On women out of Leeds, MA in 2009 as a long-term service initiative— a win-win for them and our members. Also in 2009 a third fundraising event is added: the Silent “no more!” Auction. The club is taking a more active role in advocacy efforts.

2011 – 2016

- Firsts for females: Elizabeth MacDonough appointed as Parliamentarian of the United States Senate; Janet Wolfenbarger named U.S. Air Force 4-star General; Nicole Kirman, Coach and owner of Privateers professional hockey team; Mary Barra CEO of General Motors, a major automaker; Janet Yellen, Chairman of the Federal Reserve; pilot Katie Higgins joins the Blue Angels; Michelle K. Lee leads US Patent and Trademark Office; Carla Hayden became Librarian of Congress.
- The Affordable Health Care Act is signed into law. Requires coverage for birth control, preventive services; disallows rejection for pre-existing conditions; includes coverage of young people under parents' plan.
- Same-sex marriage is legalized in all 50 US states.
- On July 26, 2016, Hillary Clinton, the former first lady, U.S. senator and secretary of state was officially nominated as the Democratic nominee, becoming the first woman from a major party to achieve that feat.

The Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women campaign launched by ZI in 2012 provides clubs excellent tools and templates for Advocacy efforts. “Empowering Women Through Service and Advocacy” slogan adopted in 2014. This period also saw dramatic improvements in Membership resources with the Membership Communication Toolkit. ZI Headquarters invested in information access with a dynamic website platform that includes ZI, ZIF and a Membership portal.



The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley lost members during this period, leading up to its 25th anniversary and is working on a strategic plan focused on strengthening the club. (see The Next Chapter) In addition to taking advantage of new advocacy and membership materials from ZI, the club is using social media and hands-on projects – like the Fill a Purse and the Period Project – to generate enthusiasm.

* This is only a spattering of historical events show to provide context. Thanks to Patricia Pupek for gathering these highlights.

Hands-on Service Initiatives by members of ZCQV

- Collect non-perishable items for Open Pantry and Foodshare
- Provide refreshments for Literacy Volunteer Awards events
- Collect hats, scarves, mittens for holiday tree raffle
- Volunteer for Visitation Room at Stonybrook Correctional
- Donate raffle prizes and food for annual golf tournaments
- Bake deserts for Congregational Church dinners in Palmer
- Provide groceries to family in need in Wilbraham
- Donate books for Palmer Literacy Volunteer Program
- Donate books and puzzles to Kid-stop program
- Collect magazines for Palmer Library and Wing Hospital
- Donate toys at Christmas for local organizations and shelters
- Donate toiletries to shelters and food pantries at local churches
- Collect eyeglasses for Honduras
- Serve dinners for Monson First Church
- Donate contents for Golf Raffle Basket for Top Floor Learning
- Donate items for Raffle Baskets at District 1 Conferences
- Volunteer for spring clean up at Burleigh Park
- Support Vagina Monologues event—refreshments and acting
- Collect cell phones for YWCA
- Participate in a Habitat for Humanity all-women-built home
- Read books to children at Palmer Library and provided snacks
- Send packages, cards to soldiers
- Clean up in Bondsville and planted flowers in Ludlow downtown
- Assemble yarn-doll kits for shelters and visiting rooms
- Donate coats for Solder On, suits for Dress for Success and new, loose clothing for rape victims at Wing Memorial Hospital
- Donate items to Silent “no more!” Auction
- Participate in and raise money for cancer research at [Relay for Life](#) and [Rays of Hope](#) walks; and for suicide prevention at [Out of the Darkness Walk](#)

We are actively involved with the Palmer Domestic Violence Task Force. Marge Cavanaugh, our liaison, reports participation in a White Ribbon Campaign, where young men in local high schools are asked to sign a pledge they will not use violence against anyone; a National Night Out, where women who have been in abusive relationships share stories and offer help to victims; and dissemination of literature to grade school students to bring home concerning where to get help if needed.

The Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women annual campaign launched in 2012 by Zonta International has helped us step up advocacy to the next level. We have used a banner and our voices in social media, in numerous walks for important causes and in print to raise awareness about Zonta’s stand on a zero tolerance for violence.



“Violence against women is a worldwide pandemic - it crosses every social and economic class, every religion, race and ethnicity. At least one out of every three women worldwide have experienced violence during their lifetime. We in Zonta International cannot accept this – we need to use all our energy to eradicate violence against women locally and internationally through service and advocacy.”

Sonja Hönig Schough, Zonta International President 2016-2018

Fundraising

In order to improve women’s status and provide service it is important to raise funds. We have used several approaches: book signings, a variety of raffles – including gift baskets,



and selling donated items at district conferences and events. Two of our major fundraisers – begun in 1994 and still strong in 2016 – are Poinsettia sales in December and a Golf



Tournament, currently held in September. Our entire membership participates, and these events work

like a fine-tuned machine!

In 2009 we hosted a silent auction just before Mother’s Day to raise money and awareness for local Domestic Violence Taskforce organizations. Its success encouraged us to make this an annual fundraiser called the Silent “no more!” Auction – because victims



need to be heard. Thanks to the dedicated effort of every member, the event has gained momentum over the years, more than tripling attendance and profits raised. It is a dress-up affair and includes a lovely banquet and over 100 items valued from \$25 to “priceless” – like 4 box-seat tickets to Saratoga Race Course and a five-course Italian dinner for 10 served in your home. In addition to raising funds, the auction helps raise awareness about Zonta and educates attendees about some very important issues. Benefitting organizations have included Ludlow C.A.R.E.S., Womanshelter Companeras, WestMass ElderCare, local chapters of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and Massachusetts Society



Founder's Day Recipients

1996—Gladys Sullivan—Palmer Library
 1997 Kathy Selvia—NEPM
 1998 El Cavi Brow - Volunteer
 1999 Barbara Laffan—RN Wing Volunteer
 2000 Shirley Batsie—Molly Bish Fund
 2001 Tess Pelissier—Summer Theater
 2002 Janice Kucewicz—VP Wing Mem.
 2003 Donna Buxton—Food Pantry
 2004 Mary Ann Rugali—Cougar program
 2004 Janice Marciniac—Cougar program
 2005 Sandy Nichols—Palmer Senior Ctr.
 2006 Kathley Norbut—Volunteer, advocate
 2007 Trudy Canterbury—Volunteer
 2008 Nancy Fletcher—ACT NOW!
 2009 Bonny Rathbone—Principal
 2010 Erin Pincince—Palmer Senior Ctr.
 2011 Anne Gobi—MA State Rep.
 2013 Yoko Kato—DV Advocate
 2014 Kathy Picard—Child Abuse Advocate
 2015 Mary Reardon Johnson—YWCA
 2016 Marjorie Cavanaugh—Volunteer

What's In it for Me....

After serving on the board of US National Committee for UN Women for 6 years, I was looking for a local organization to support. I knew about Zonta from my time with USNC and sought out a local club, which I happily found! I feel my work contributes to awareness of and help for women in difficult situations; that friends who aren't Zontians learn about the issues so I'm creating awareness among them. Our fundraising efforts contribute to local groups with slim budgets and we can see the difference our efforts make!

Pam Albertson

The chance to give back, to pay forward and to grow as a person. I would not have known about many of the projects I became involved in if it was not for Zonta. Membership opened a whole new world to this small town woman. I joined to give and received much more.

Marge Cavanaugh

for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children; and Bullying Awareness/ Prevention programs at Palmer High School and Pathfinder Regional.

Our club proudly sends one-third of our fundraising profits to the Zonta International Foundation to support Zonta's international service and education projects. Our lifetime contribution total as of our 25th anniversary is **\$56,263.70!** Members also give generously on their own – we have been recognized for 100% individual donations.

Founder's Day

In November of each year the club celebrates Founders Day by giving an award to a woman in the greater Quaboag area who exemplifies the ideals of Zonta International. Recent past recipients include Mary Reardon Johnson – long-time Executive Director of the YWCA of Western MA; Kathy Picard, Children's Rights Activist, Educator and Mentor; Yoko Kato, DV Activist and Motivational Speaker; and Anne Gobi, State Representative and now State Senator, and strong advocate for women's issues. In 2016, as we celebrate our 25th anniversary, the club chose to give this honor to one of its charter members, Marjorie E. Cavanaugh for her extraordinary volunteer efforts.



Educational Awards

Starting in 1997 we were in a position to offer scholarships to local women to help advance their education. The Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award recognizes young women, ages 16-19, who demonstrate superior leadership skills and a commitment to public service and civic causes, and encourages them to continue their participation in public and political life. The Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship supports women pursuing undergraduate and master's degrees in business management. We have awarded nearly \$15,000 so far and the women chosen have provided us with a good, hopeful feeling for the future.

Zontian Connections

Our club generally has very good attendance at Area meetings, District Conferences and Workshops. Our club has been the recipient of three District Governor's Award for outstanding service and overall achievement. We are fortunate to have members who regularly attend the North America Inter-District Meetings (NAIDM), Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) sessions, and Zonta International Conventions as well, so we benefit from first-hand knowledge of what's happening in the Zonta world.

Twenty-five Years!

On November 14, 2016 the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley celebrated its 25th Anniversary in style. The club worked in teams to handle logistics, invitations, public relations and the program. Eighty-eight were in attendance and several who could not be present sent messages of congratulations.

Special touches, with the help of member generosity, included beautiful centerpieces, chocolate "25" favors, decorated sheet





Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard
 President 2014-2016
 Zonta International and
 Zonta International Foundation
 Kratholmsvej 8, 2830 Virum, Denmark
 +45 4585 1944 / +45 2275 4420
 president@zonta.org

April 15, 2016

Dear Governor of District 1 and Club President of the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley,

Let me please start by congratulating you and the members of the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley on your 25th anniversary!

As you all know, since 1919 Zonta International has contributed to the advancement of the status of women and, internationally, we have distributed more than US\$19 million in service projects, fellowships, scholarships and awards. We proudly celebrate that we have changed the lives of more than 2 million women and girls in more than 34 countries.

The efforts in all Zonta communities at local levels are uncountable, and cover issues from economic growth, equal rights, access to health and education, self-sustainability, self-esteem, personal support and comfort in difficult situations.

As Zontians, our mission is to fight all forms of violence, oppression and discrimination against women, to contribute to the education and health of women, and to ensure that women's rights are respected for what they are: HUMAN RIGHTS.

You are now a 25-year-old club, with a lot of history and traditions. Together, with many clubs around the world, the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley has contributed significantly to improving women's lives and empowering them so they can develop their fullest potential. On behalf of those women, please allow me to extend their gratitude and acknowledge your efforts and support.

Your dedication to Zonta and what it stands for is an inspiration to many other clubs who were chartered later than you. Thank you for all you have done and all you have contributed to making our international organization what it is today. ONCE MORE, CONGRATULATIONS!

This biennium, let us all work to strengthen women's voices, leadership capability and presence in decision making positions. Let us ensure women have access to education and economic empowerment and that we work on advocating for ending violence against women.

Wishing you the best for the future.

Warm regards,



Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard
 International President



1211 West 22nd Street | Suite 900 | Oak Brook, IL 60523 USA | +1.630.928.1400
 www.zonta.org | zontaintl@zonta.org

Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award Recipients

1997 Kimberly Owens
 1998 Amanda Berger
 1999 Kristen Van de Geer
 2000 Karolina Sadowicz
 2001 Ashley Brodeur
 2002 Jillian Bresette
 2003 Sherry Guimond
 2004 Aubrey Menard
 2005 Courtney Holbrook
 2006 Victoria Duke
 2007 Gianna Masi
 2008 Christina Benoit
 2009 Marissa Dos Santos
 2010 Karla Dos Santos
 2011 Katrina Catalano
 2012 Kaila Grenier
 2014 Diane Geberich
 2015 Eve Falk
 2016 Olivia Murray

Jane M. Klausman (JMK) Scholarship Recipients

2006 Wanda Columba
 2008 Amy Newton
 2012 Mary E. Grygorcewicz
 2014 Elizabeth Fitzgerald
 2015 Elizabeth Fitzgerald

What's In it for Me....

We have gone through lots of changes over our twenty five years and have learned a lot. We continue to learn! I love that our membership works together. It seems when we are planning something (events, fundraisers, service projects) everyone takes a piece of it and makes it work and work well! It means a lot to me to make a difference in women and children's lives locally and globally. I really enjoy our time with the Soldier On women. I have learned so much from them. Learning new skills as well as sharing some of my skills in a supportive environment is rewarding. So WIIFM? Fellowship with lots of wonderful women working together to make the lives of less fortunate women better!

Liz Reeves

cakes, commemorative pens, programs printed on silver-colored paper and a photographer for the night.

Mary Knight, current President of the Quaboag Valley club, opened the ceremony:

"I am pleased and proud to welcome you this evening and thank you for joining us.

Tonight we celebrate the club's silver anniversary and 25 years of Zonta service for our three charter members: Marjorie Cavanaugh, Elizabeth Reeves and Debra Wood. We also celebrate the 2016 Founder's Day award honoree – a woman who not only exemplifies the ideals of Zonta, but has inspired members of the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley for 25 years and worked tirelessly in her community and beyond to make a positive difference – Marjorie Cavanaugh

A Sampling of Messages

Congratulations to the members of the Zonta club of Quabog Valley on the Silver Anniversary of your club. I'm sorry I couldn't be in attendance for your celebration. This milestone of service to the women in your community is certainly well worth celebrating. As a fellow Zontian, the Club of Quabog Valley instills such pride in me and consistently amazes me with your accomplishments. The women in this club are true examples of the spirit of volunteerism.

Marge, I am thankful to you for continuing to demonstrate consistently for all of us what leadership means and to be an outstanding Zontian.

Christine Hunt, Area 2 Director

The Zonta Club of Berkshire County

would like to send our sincerest congratulations to the Zonta Club of Quabog Valley on its 25th Anniversary and to Marge Cavanaugh for having been recognized as the Founder's Day award winner for 2016. Tonight is our monthly meeting, so please accept our regrets that we were unable to attend this honorable event but all of our 44 members are with you tonight with the pride and spirit of Zonta.

Volunteerism is at the heart of Zonta and we commend your club as a leader, mentor and advocate for empowering women with service above self. Thank you for all that you do and inspire in others.

Please extend my congratulations to Marjorie for her outstanding volunteer work, and to the entirety of the Zonta Club of Quabog Valley for all of the wonderful service you provide to those who need it the most. Womanshelter is most appreciative for all that you, and your members, have done for us.

**Susan E. Scully, Development
Womanshelter/Compañeras**

Before we start dinner, I would like to recognize some of our special guests.

*State Senator and past Founder's Day honoree **Anne Gobi***

*State Representative and avid supporter of women's issues **Todd Smola***

*The Governor of Zonta District 1 **Joanne Puopolo**, from Malden MA*

*Past District Governor 1992-1994 **Bonnie Hagkerdar** from Bangor ME*

Zontians from other Area 2 clubs who honor us with their presence

Past Quabog Valley members who join us to celebrate.

*Past Founder's Day honorees **Kathy Picard, Bonnie Rathbone***

We are also honored to have with us a Superintendent, Center Director, Commanders, Coordinators, Committee Presidents and Board of Director members – we are in great company!"

Program

Welcome and Introductions

Mary F Knight, President

Zonta Blessing

Elizabeth Reeves, Charter Member

~~~~~ Dinner ~~~~~

### Zonta in Perspective

**Dr. Mary Ann K. Rubis**

**Governor Joanne Puopolo**

**Advocacy Dana Burton**

**Service Funds Marge Cavanaugh**

**Education Janet DaSilva**

**Service Projects Patricia Puppek**

### 25 Year Recognition from Zonta International

~~~~~ Dessert ~~~~~

Founder's Day Award Presentation

Mary F. Knight

Marjorie E. Cavanaugh

Guest Speakers in Honor of Marge

Closing Remarks

Debra Wood, Charter Member



Photos by Fran Ferry 11/14/16



Photos by Fran Ferry 11/14/16

What's In it for Me....

I was introduced to Zonta by my sister's mother-in-law, Marge Cavanaugh. Since my first meeting, I have had the wonderful opportunity to partner with an amazing group of vibrant, intelligent and talented women, who have been an inspiration to me. Zonta has opened my eyes to so many issues facing women both here at home and around the world. I have gained friendship, support, leadership skills to name just a few benefits, all while helping to support other women in need. I treasure the relationships I have with my Zonta sisters.

Trish Pupek

Not only does Zonta International give wings to its Amelia Earhart Fellows, it also gives wings to its members. I continue to learn about global issues affecting women and girls, make a difference within my community and the world, participate in unique events at amazing venues, travel the world, form lifelong friendships, and learn new skills, while enhancing current ones. Membership has allowed me to soar as a woman, professional and humanitarian.

Mary Ann Rubis

Zonta is an organization of women with heart. Each of us has her own story, but the common thread that unites us is a desire that every woman, everywhere, is able to achieve her full potential. I am blessed to be making a difference for thousands of women, worldwide, just by being a Zontian—how great is that!

Mary Knight.

The Next Chapter

The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley's 2016-2018 focus is to Strengthen Our Club so we can thrive for the foreseeable future. Our intentions are as follows:

- ◆ The marketing communication efforts of our club are generating interest from the community and an increase of guests and inquires.
- ◆ We engage and mentor individuals who are willing to actively support and implement the Mission, Vision and Objects of Zonta* as a member of this club.
- ◆ In our club, we maximize the 'value-quotient' of being a Zontian. Our members are hopeful, respected, seen and heard, and an integral part of a world-wide movement empowering women through service and advocacy.
- ◆ We continue hands-on service projects: working with Soldier-on Women Veterans and collecting /disseminating something valued by women in Domestic Violence and Homeless shelters.
- ◆ We continue to advocate for women's rights: participating in *Zonta says NO!* activities and partnering with like-minded organizations to raise awareness and support on important issues.
- ◆ Our fundraising activities – Poinsettia sales, *Silent "no more!" Auction* and Golf Tournament – raise money and awareness for Zonta's Vision – locally and globally; the generosity of our members support our goal of 100% participation in Zonta International Foundation donations.

* **Mission of Zonta** – Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

Vision of Zonta – Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

Objects of Zonta

- To improve the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women at the global and local level through service and advocacy
- To work for the advancement of understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of members in business and the professions.
- To promote justice and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- To be united internationally to foster high ethical standards, to implement service programs, and to provide mutual support and fellowship for members who serve their communities, their nations, and the world.

Please visit www.ZontaQV.org to keep up with our activities and events.

The Bigger Picture

Zonta International (ZI) is comprised of more than 1200 Zonta Clubs in 66 countries and geographic areas worldwide. For administrative purposes, ZI is divided into 31 Districts and one Region, as determined by the Zonta International Board. Each District is further subdivided by Area (as determined by the District Board). As part of a global organization each Club in a District is chartered to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy.

District 1 was created in 1927 and currently encompasses an area of the New England states of the U.S. and Nova Scotia, Canada. As of 2016, District 1 has 16 local Clubs in four Areas of the District. We meet at the local, district and International levels to adopt service projects and programs that further the objects of Zonta International.



The District 1 Board of Directors includes:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- and four (4) Area Directors

Area 1 - Maine, NH & VT

- Bangor, ME
- Burlington, VT
- Concord, NH
- Southern ME

Area 2 - CT, Western & Central MA

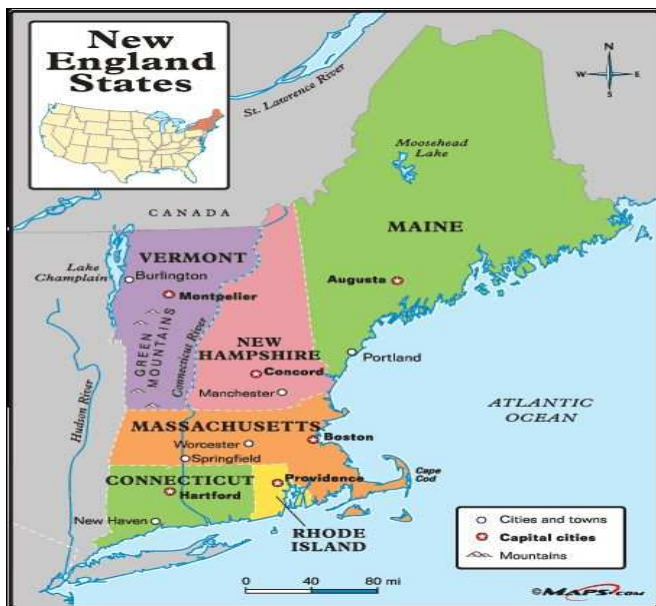
- Berkshire County, MA
- Northampton Area, MA
- Quaboag Valley, MA
- Quinebaug Valley, CT
- Springfield, MA

Area 3 – Nova Scotia

- Amherst Area, NS
- Halifax, NS
- Truro Area, NS

Area 4 - Eastern MA

- Arlington, MA
- Chelsea, MA
- Malden, MA
- Medford, MA



The District 1 website—zontadistrict1.org— is a great resource for club leadership, committees and members. It is also a good tool for sharing information about the great work being done by dedicated Zontians in our local areas.