



# ZONTA CLUB OF QUABOAG VALLEY BOG NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 2020

### Important Dates for your Calendar



Zonta Foundation for Women ~ District Challenge ~ Every Member, Every November

November 9 Business Meeting—Zoom

Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women campaign 11/25—12/10

December 14 Business Meeting—Zoom

January 11 Business Meeting

February 8 Business Meeting

March 8 - Zonta Rose Day

Please consider making a donation to the Zonta International Foundation in honor of someone who has made a positive impact on your life or the lives of others.

March 8 Business Meeting

March 15-26 Commission on the Status of Women 65 will be Virtual—[unwomen.org](http://unwomen.org) Click on CSW for updates

April 12 Business Meeting

May Silent “no more!” Auction

June 14 Business Meeting

September 12 Zonta Golf Tournament Fundraiser—Cold Spring Country Club

**P.S. Guests are invited to our virtual meetings. If you know any one who is interested in joining us, simply contact us by email to get a meeting link: [info@zontaqv.org](mailto:info@zontaqv.org)**

Hello Zontians and friends,

I want to start off by saying thank you to our wonderful panelists from our Domestic Violence event. Monica, Emily, and Danielle provided us with some great information.

As Thanksgiving and the holidays draw closer I'd like us to think about thankfulness and understanding. It's been a difficult year for many but yet I feel like there has been so much to be thankful for as well. Personally I'm very thankful for my family and our health. I'm thankful for my sister Zontians as well. Especially everyone's support of me as president. I appreciate those who have helped make my job easier and provided coaching when I'm unsure. The Zonta spirit is one of understanding, support, and respect, not drama and pettiness and I love that!

As most of you know we have decided to postpone our Founder's Day event and in lieu I would like to have a meeting that focuses on activism, community, and support. The 16 days of Activism begins November 25th and end December 10th. I would like to have a strong Zonta Says No social media campaign during this time and challenge you all to do your part to spread the word. Share on your local community forums and groups! November is also “Every Member Every November” District Challenge, when we have a little friendly inter-district donation challenge. Mary Ann will provide more information about it at the November meeting.

Lastly, the poinsettias will begin getting distributed right after Thanksgiving. Check in with local businesses in the next couple weeks to see if they are interested in purchasing some beautiful poinsettias to benefit a great cause. The sales forms are available on our website.

Sincerely,  
President Dana Burton

P.S. I expect to see all of you on 11/9; if you are unable to Zoom, please let me know.



### In this issue:

1. Message from President Dana Burton
2. Call to Action for Zonta Says NO
3. Business Meeting minutes from 10/12
4. Board Meeting minutes from 10/8
5. Advocacy In Action—Medford Club in the news
6. Flags of Hope Project ~ DV Awareness
7. Poinsettia Fundraiser Update



Mary Knight 11/12  
Christina "Tina" Guinasso 11/14  
Dana Burton 11/25

### Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women is part of the 16 Days of Activism held each year from 11/25 to 12/10.

The 2020 goals are to:

- (1) Inspire and encourage Zonta clubs and individual members to raise awareness of, and take action to prevent, gender-based violence during the 16 Days of Activism.
- (2) Make individual members feel like they are part of a global community of activists and are empowered themselves to take action and be part of the campaign.
- (3) Collect more stories and photos of Zonta action across the globe.

Visit [zontasaysno.com/takeaction/](http://zontasaysno.com/takeaction/) and click on the "Toolkit" to see ideas for a wide variety of actions that can be tailored to meet the needs of local communities and the capabilities of our club.

Violence against women and girls is one of the most pervasive human rights violations and a global epidemic. It knows no national or cultural barriers; it takes place at home, in the workplace and in open spaces, and affects millions of women and girls in peacetime and conflict. It includes psychological, physical and sexual violence, and harmful practices such as rape, female genital cutting, child marriage and human trafficking.

Violence against women and girls threatens countries, inhibits economic progress, and prevents women from contributing to their community and creating better lives for themselves and their families.

Zonta International's ongoing service efforts are demonstrated through numerous local projects and programs and through partnerships with the United Nations and its agencies.

Our ongoing advocacy efforts are built around the **Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women** campaign. Launched in 2012, the campaign has raised awareness of the global pandemic of women's rights violations and has united Zonta clubs worldwide in conducting impactful advocacy actions to fight violence against women and gender inequality.

During the 16 Days of Activism, 25 November–10 December, all Zonta clubs and districts are encouraged to take part in the **Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women** campaign and to take local, national and international actions to influence the making and implementation of laws, as well as changing gender-based attitudes and behaviors to end violence against women and girls.

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.**

"An educated girl will stay healthy, save money, build a business, empower her community, lift her country, change the world."

Unknown author



**Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley  
District I, Area II,  
Charter 1317 of Zonta  
International  
2020—2021**

**President:** Dana Burton  
**Vice President:** Danielle Petrangelo  
**Treasurer:** Andrea Bordenca  
**Secretary:** Mary Knight  
**Directors:** Patti Matthieu  
 Luz Rivera  
 Patricia Pupek

**Website:** [www.zontaqv.org](http://www.zontaqv.org)

**Committee Chairs 2020—2021**

**Finance/Audit Chair:** Joanne Turner-Chiacchia  
**Membership Chair:** Danielle Petrangelo  
**PR /Communication Chair:** Mary Knight  
**Advocacy/UN Chair:** Pam Albertson  
**Service Chair:** Joanne Turner-Chiacchia  
**Scholarships Chair:** Maria Maloney  
**Poinsettia Fundraiser Chair:** Liz Reeves  
**Golf Fundraiser Chair:** Debra Wood  
**Auction Fundraiser Chairs:**  
 Patricia Pupek and Dianne Kidd  
**Nominating:** TBD  
**Bylaw Revisions:** Suz Tiranno

# Zonta of Quaboag Valley—October 12, 2020 Business Meeting

## Business Meeting – Zoom October 12, 2020 @ 6pm

**Present:** Pam Albertson, Dana Burton, Marge Cavanaugh, Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Mary Knight, Danielle Petrangelo, Trish Pupek, Liz Reeves, Mary Ann Rubis, Susan Seaver, Suz Tiranno, Stacy Troy, Debbie Wood

**Excused:** Andrea Bordenca, Dianne Kidd

**Absent:** Nancy Ayers, Janet DaSilva, Kris Goold, Luz Rivera, Maria Maloney, Patti Matthieu

**Guests:** Karen and Chris Keough-Huff, Monica Moran Manager, Domestic Violence Prevention Projects Pioneer Valley Planning Commission <moranmonica9@gmail.com>, Emily Skoczylas from the Palmer Domestic Violence Task Force and employed at ServiceNet (CHD) Ware <palmerdvtf@gmail.com>, and Danielle Mickey a Court Advocate in Belchertown working for YWCA of Western MA <dmickey@ywworks.org>

**President Dana Burton welcomed attendees and introduced tonight's Program - Domestic Violence Awareness in the Midst of COVID-19.** She and Danielle Petrangelo asked the panel of speakers to share protocol changes, the impact of social media, and ideas on how we (and other bystanders) can be of help. Highlights from the discussion, supplemented with info previously published by Monica Moran:

**COVID-19 and social isolation are an increasing danger** for those who have to shelter at home with abusive partners. However, the pandemic is NOT to blame for an increase in domestic violence. At issue is the conviction of abusive people that they are superior to their partner, that if their partner challenges them or makes them uncomfortable they have the right to harm their partner, that their partner should be grateful for whatever they get, and that their partner's opinions and perspectives don't matter. That's what has to change.

**Individuals who may be at risk should think** about their support system and who they can trust. Talk with that person about how they could help if you need to get out quickly and come up with a code word you can use to let them know you need help. Keep your phone charged. If planning help is needed, call Proteus at 413-579-7570 or contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233 or [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org).

**If you know someone who is at risk of being hurt,** reach out. Tell them you are worried, but don't push. Listen, be supportive, and don't judge. You'll want them to feel like calling you back. Remind them of their strengths and what you love about them. If they

tell you about being mistreated, remind them it is not their fault. Don't trash talk their partner, but do talk to them about staying safe and offer to help them plan for safety. Think of what they might need and what help you can offer. Can you read to their kids over Facetime everyday at 7pm to give them a scheduled break? Can you drop off groceries or gift cards? Can you offer money through a cash app? You can find more ways to help at <https://janedoe.org/know-more/how-to-help-a-friend/>

**New phone app: Circle of 6** lets you choose six trusted friends to add to your circle. If you get into an uncomfortable or risky situation, use Circle of 6 to automatically send your circle a pre-programmed SMS alert message, with your exact location. It's quick. It's discreet. Two taps on your iPhone is all it takes.

**Court advocates are working remotely right now but are available** to work with individuals who reach out to police or a hotline. Confidential support, safety planning, protection court order and placement are among the ways advocates can help.

**Social Media can be helpful in getting information out** and connecting people who are in isolation, but it must be used with care because individuals can be tracked or stalked. Check your privacy features and do not put any information on social media that might expose you to danger.

**Domestic Violence advocate Jane Doe Inc** was incorrectly cited in voter info literature as being opposed to Question 1 Right to Repair because it would enable persons to access confidential information to track and monitor victims. That is NOT a concern for this bill.

**Coming soon – a hotline for bystanders** who want to help individuals in may be in danger.

**Child Marriage is on the increase right now** – even more reason to work on changing the law in Massachusetts.

~~~~~  
**Following the Program, the business meeting called to order at about 7:00 by President Dana Burton**

**Reminder to all members:** Attendance at meetings is expected unless notice provided in advance.

**Minutes:** Debbie clarified that next year's golf tournament scheduled for 9/11/21 (20th anniversary of 9/11) will be moved to Sunday 9/12. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes published in the Bog as corrected.

**Treasurers Report:** Andrea is unavailable tonight. She and Joanne will meet tomorrow to create an updated report for members.

*Continued on Page 4*



Business Meeting minutes continued

### Committee Reports

**UN/Advocacy** – Pam spoke about progress on an Act to End Child Marriage in MA. The Malden Club has a Zoom meeting with legislators on Tuesday 10/20 to voice our strong support.

Mary Ann, with input from members, has created a flag for our submission to the Flags of Hope Project spearheaded by the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force.

**Poinsettia Fundraiser** – Liz reported that we will reach out to businesses next week with 2020 Order Form. Form will be on club website and members are encouraged to start sharing with friends and family. Sorting, wrapping, and delivery support will be needed the last week in November.

### November 9, 2020 Meeting

This will be a regular business meeting. Speaker/ program suggestions welcomed. 16 Days of Advocacy starts in November and we perhaps can tap into the great info provided by ZI.

**Soldier On** – Only three women currently reside in the Leeds building and the public is not allowed on the premises. Maria has arranged a picnic at Look Park on 10/18 – Debbie and Trish will join her. Suggestions will be solicited from the ladies about future get togethers, including the usual Christmas gift giving.

### Other Business

Holiday toys for kids – we need confirmation from the usual places about whether they can accept items and if so, what is needed.

Dana thanked everyone for attending. Next Newsletter deadline is 10/29; next meeting 11/9.

### Meeting Adjourned 7:25

Respectfully Submitted  
Mary Knight  
Secretary

## ZQV Board Meeting October 8, 2020 6:00 PM on Zoom

**Present:** Dana Buton, Mary Knight, Danielle Petrangelo, Trish Pupek

**Absent:** Luz Rivera, Andrea Bordenca, Patti Matthieu

President Dana called the meeting to order at 6:05.

**Minutes:** The minutes from September 2020 were moved and voted to accept as written.

**Treasurers Report:** Andrea was not available. Dana will follow up with Andrea and Joanne to see if they need assistance in the transition.

**Golf Tournament Fundraiser:** The turnout, the weather, the amazing outpouring of donations and work by the Committee and a few members combined to make this a record year for profits, despite the obstacles presented by the pandemic. Debbie would like board to discuss how to improve participation from the whole club

**Poinsettia Fundraiser:** Mailing of Order Form to businesses begins at the end of this month. Hoping this will be a success as well. Susan has joined the committee.

### October 12 ZOOM Business Meeting:

DV Panel: Emily Skoczylas, Monica Moran, Danielle Mickey - Some of the talking points/questions: - update on any new programs or protocols d/t Covid - new signs to look for? - Social media influence? - any tie ins with child marriage - what are some messages you want public to know? - how can we help/resources needed? Danielle will help Dana moderate. Mary will send Zoom invite to members, panel and any guests who like to attend.

Also in October – we are participating in an art project invited by Monica Moran for Ware River Valley Task Force to hang flags around town to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness. Mary Ann Rubis took the lead and will have the Zonta of Quaboag Valley flag submitted by 10/17 deadline.

October 18 – Soldier On visit – lunch at Look Park – Maria is organizing, Debbie Wood and Tricia Pupek will attend. They will ask for feedback about other activities the women would appreciate.

### November 9 Founders Day Meeting:

With Founder's Day postponed, we are looking for program ideas. Options 16 Days of Activism, Child Marriage update. Perhaps invite Vickie Palardy, our Area Director? Mary mentioned that she is updating Resource Center on ZontaDistrict1.org to get information from District Committee Chairs, like Advocacy and UN news.

### December 14 Business Meeting:

Dana has a possible speaker from the Five College Women's Research Center who could talk about "The F word: Feminism".

Mary Ann asked whether shelters would take holiday gifts for children. Emily Skoczylas works at CHD too and said she can definitely hand out toys.

### Other Business:

Future Board meetings discussed – we will try going back to previous schedule – Monday following business meeting. Next: 11/16.

Next newsletter will be published 1029.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Knight, Secretary

## Advocacy In Action

The Zonta Club of Malden has been working diligently on the goal to ban Child Marriage in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, taking a lead from Zonta International's effort to End Child Marriage Globally. Massachusetts is in a unique position for the Zonta Club to advocate for the passing of the Bill S.2294, "An Act to end child marriage in Massachusetts" filed by Senator Chandler and Representative Khan. S.2294 was engrossed by the Senate in July of 2019 and is now before the House Committee on Ways and Means. Michelle Luong, President Zonta Club of Malden, and her members have had many meetings with Representative Khan and Representative Donato on how Zonta can be helpful in their efforts to End Child Marriage.



To that end, the Zonta Club of Malden invited co-sponsors of the bill and fellow Zontians to a meeting with the **Speaker of the House of Representatives Robert DeLeo** on Tuesday October 20th on Zoom. This was a very exciting opportunity for Area 4 to demonstrate our commitment to Zonta International's goal to End Child Marriage Globally.

The Malden group did an amazing job getting state representatives and officials to hear from Zonta District 1 Governor Beatrice (Nova Scotia) and clubs across the state to support this bill. Members of Quaboag, Northampton and Berkshire Clubs attended and felt that this was a great example of the power of Zonta and how working together can bring change and name recognition of what Zonta is. It is also an effective way to attract new members with online speakers or advocacy events.

The Speaker was impressed with 50+ individuals who attended, as well as the information and the passion expressed. It was respectfully requested that the House Committee on Ways and Means release S.2294 with a favorable report and bring the bill to the floor for a vote before the end of the 191st Session. **We are all encouraged to contact our Representatives as a follow up to this advocacy initiative.**

A few facts shared:

- Child marriage is any formal or informal union where one or both of the parties are under 18 years old, according to Girls Not Brides. Early and forced marriage happens across countries, cultures and religions.
- Each year, 12 million girls are married before they turn 18. It is estimated that 650 million women alive today were married as girls.
- Child brides are often pulled out of school and are at a greater risk of violence, being trapped in poverty and serious health complications or even death due to early pregnancy.
- Sadly, as of July 1, 2020, three marriages of minor petitions were filed in the Massachusetts Probate and Family Court. A total of nine petitions have been filed this year. These cases are now coming before the court because families could not bring their children to the court to file these petitions when the courts were closed due to COVID-19. These cases were from different parts of the Commonwealth, including, Essex County (Case Number ES20D0911JP), Middlesex County (Case Number MI20D1412JP), and Worcester County (Case Number WO20D0997JP). In the Middlesex County case, a 16-year-old girl is petitioning to marry a man in his mid-to-late twenties.
- These recent cases demonstrate that the Commonwealth is not adequately protecting our young people from the devastating consequences of child marriage.
- Furthermore, we also know now that cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and neglect are going down because of underreporting due to COVID-19. Isolation caused by COVID-19 is likely causing more abuse and neglect than we can even imagine. This public health emergency is making the lives of our most vulnerable children even more fragile and dangerous. Now, more than ever, we must continue to act to protect and empower these children.
- Child marriage astronomically increases girls' risks of experiencing violence in the home. Thanks to your leadership, the House has enacted a bold action around domestic violence and child welfare. Passage of S.2294 would represent a meaningful extension of your agenda around these issues.



**The Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force**

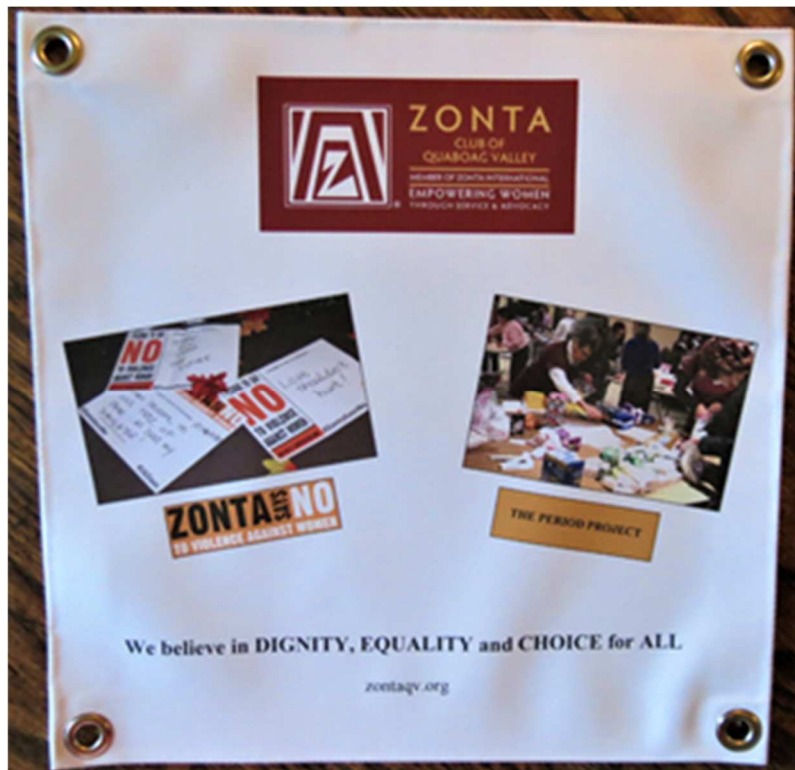
# Flags of Hope Project

Open to everyone who lives or works in the Ware River Valley

**What Does Respect and Connection Look Like in Our Community?  
Why Does it Matter To You?**

(respect and connection between family, friends, intimate partners, neighbors . . .)

**The project:** Due to COVID-19 we will not hold our Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk this year. Instead, we will collect Flags of Hope. We will hang these flags in rotating locations around the community starting with Veteran’s Park on October 24/ 25. We will also make a video of flags for social media



Thank you Mary Ann for creating our submission!  
Thanks also to members who contributed ideas and support.



# Committee Report: Poinsettia Fundraiser

The order forms are ready to go into the mail at the beginning of the week(10/26). The forms are on our website as well. They can be printed out to give to family, friends, colleagues etc. or you can take a verbal order and email to us. The order form will help familiarize the newer members with the sale. I will be sending out an email to the membership looking for volunteers to help deliver plants. Deliveries will start the week of Nov. 30.

Thanks for all of your efforts! Contact me with any questions!

Poinsettia Chairperson  
Liz Reeves



## The ZONTA Club of Quaboag Valley Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser

We invite you to participate in our annual poinsettia fundraiser. These plants brighten up the office and home during the holiday season, and make wonderful gifts for friends, colleagues and clients. These florist-quality Poinsettias in foil-covered pots are available in two sizes and four colors. Deliveries will be made between late November and early December.

**To order: Complete the order form and (1) mail OR fax to the Committee Chairs (contact info below) or (2) provide to the Zonta Club member who will call you in the next two weeks. Payment is due at delivery. Make checks payable to "Zonta of Quaboag Valley".**

Business/Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

| Quantity   | Size / Cost                                                    | Color Selection |                       | Subtotal<br>Multiply quantity<br>times cost |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
|            |                                                                | Red<br>White    | Pink<br>Pink & White* |                                             |
| Example: 2 | Large<br>Medium (5-7 blooms) \$20<br>Large (10-14 blooms) \$26 | Red             |                       | \$52                                        |
|            |                                                                |                 |                       |                                             |
|            |                                                                |                 |                       |                                             |

*\* limited quantities of pink & white, so please note 2<sup>nd</sup> choice on same line.*

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zonta of Quaboag Valley – Poinsettia Fundraiser Committee Members**

Committee: Liz Reeves, Andrea Bordenca, Patti Matthieu, Mary Knight, Susan Seaver

Phone: (413) 583-4283 Fax: (413) 547-0024 E-mail: Info@ZontaQV.org

Mailing Address: Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley, PO Box 1034 Belchertown, MA 01007-1034

*Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy. The Quaboag Valley Club uses profits from this fundraiser to support local community projects such as raising awareness on issues of child marriage, domestic violence, homeless women veterans, trafficking of women, and more. Visit us at zontaqv.org for more information. Thank you!!*

