



ZONTA
 CLUB OF
 QUABOAG VALLEY
 MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
 EMPOWERING WOMEN
 THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

**ZONTA CLUB OF
 QUABOAG VALLEY
 BOG NEWSLETTER**

NOVEMBER 2021

2021 Dates for your Calendar

November 8 6pm ZOOM
 Business Meeting



**November 25—
 December 10**
 16 Days of Activism
 Against Gender
 Based Violence

December 13 ZOOM
 Business Meeting

2022 Dates for Meetings /Speakers

January 10 February 14
March 14 April 11
May 9 June 13

**Commission on the Status of Women
 CSW66 March 14—25 Virtual only**
unwomen.org/en/csw/csw66-2022

**Zonta International Convention 2022
 Hamburg, Germany
 June 25—28 Early registration is open**
**Virtual and
 on-site rates!!**
[Zonta.org/
 convention](http://Zonta.org/convention)



In this issue:

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2. 16 Days of Activism
3. October Business Meeting minutes
5. New members and Onboarding invite
6. Fall Conference take-aways
7. Women and Climate Change
8. Poinsettia Fundraiser

Happy Halloween Zontians and Friends,

I hope everyone is enjoying the spooky season. I was glad that some of you were able to attend the fall conference hosted by the Zonta club of Concord. They did a great job with the task of a virtual conference. I want to congratulate Mary Knight on winning and being the inspiration for the Mary Knight award! This award will now be given at each fall conference to the Zontian that exemplifies the hard work and dedication of Mary Knight. It is no secret to most of you that this club and this district would not function nearly as well without her.



It was very nice to meet in person the last two months. Thank you Marge for having the connections in Three Rivers. Pulaski Park really worked out nicely. I want to thank Gloria Caballero Roca for speaking with us about an Afro-Latina women's experience in local politics. Your talk was amazing and very eye opening. I also want to congratulate and welcome Gloria and Kerry Chenausky on becoming new Zonta members!

It was wonderful to be able to gather donations for Dress for Success. Diane was very happy to receive all the wonderful items that were dropped off. She again apologized for missing our October meeting but is hoping to be able to talk to us at our November Zoom meeting about Dress for Success and their mission. The November meeting will be 11/8 at 6pm on Zoom. Mary will send the link out to club members and interested guests beforehand. Always feel free to invite guests.

November 25th marks the start of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence. See page 2 of this newsletter for resources and information. I am hoping our club can participate both virtually and in-person to bring attention to this important cause. Everyone keep your eyes peeled for events or if anyone has any ideas for advocacy projects please let the club know.

Our Poinsettia Fundraiser is underway. Please continue to spread the word about these beautiful plants and get friends and businesses to sign up for purchases. Order forms are in this newsletter and online at zontaqv.org/poinsettia.

December's business meeting will be 12/13 at 6p on Zoom. The programs committee is working to line up some other great speakers in the months ahead. Some topics include stress management and climate action. If there are other topics that are of interest to you and pertain to Zonta's mission please feel free to reach out.

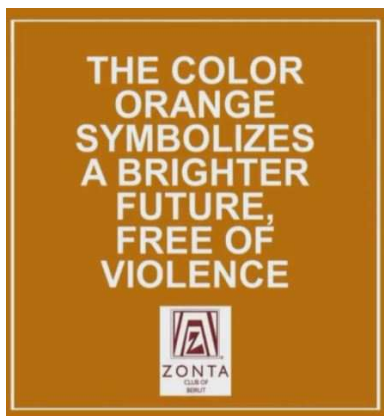
In Zonta Friendship,
 President Dana Burton



Birthday wishes:
 Mary Knight 11/12
 "Tina" Guinasso 11/14
 Dana Burton 11/25

November 25th—December 10 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence

This year's global theme for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence is "Orange the world: End violence against women now!". On November 30th Zonta International is hosting a one-day online summit to share how as a society we can come together and say NO to violence against women and girls. More information for that can be found at www.zonta.org/events. If you are on social media please pay attention and share posts to raise awareness during the 16 days campaign. Let's get actively engaged.



Resources:

- unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/take-action/16-days-of-activism
- zontasaysno.com
- <https://zontasaysno.files.wordpress.com/2019/10/get-the-facts.pdf>
- zonta.org/events
- facebook.com/ZontaInternational
- instagram.com/Zontaintl/

Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley District I, Area II, Charter 1317 of Zonta International Club Officers 2021—2022

President: Dana Burton
Vice President:
Treasurer: Andrea Bordenca
Secretary: Mary Knight
Directors: Patti Matthieu
 Patricia Pupek
 Susan Seaver
 Chris Keough-Huff

Website: www.zontaqv.org

Committee Chairs/ Members 2021—2022

Finance/Audit: Chair Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Pam, Sue
Membership: Chair Mary Knight, Mike, Andrea
PR /Communication: Chair Mary Knight, Dana
Advocacy/UN: Chair Pam Albertson, Mary Ann, Chris, Debbie
Service: Chair Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Patti, Chris, Maria
Scholarships: Chair Kris Goold, Maria, Marge, Dana
Program: Chair Cyd Melcher, Karen, Dana
Poinsettia Fundraiser: Chair Liz Reeves, Patti, Danielle, Mary
Golf Fundraiser: Chair Debra Wood, Suzanne, Stacy, Marge, Karen, Chris, Dana
Spring Fundraiser: Chair Patricia Pupek, Joanne, Janet, Sue
Nominating:
 Trish Pupek, Kristin Goold, Janet DaSilva

Zonta of Quaboag Valley— October 11, 2021 Business Meeting

Business Meeting – Pulaski Park, 40 Belchertown St, Three Rivers MA

Present: Dana Burton, Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Kris Goold, Karen Keough-Huff, Chris Keough-Huff, Mary Knight, Cyd Melcher, Liz Reeves, Mary Ann Rubis, Susan Seaver, Mike Wallace, Debbie Wood

Absent: Pam Albertson, Andrea Bordenca, Marge Cavanaugh, Janet DaSilva, Maria Maloney, Patti Matthieu, Danielle Petrangelo, Trish Pupek, Suz Tiranno, Stacy Troy,

Guests: prospective members Gloria Caballero Roca and her partner, and Kerry Chenausky

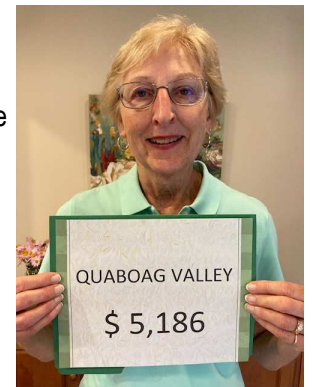
President Dana Burton welcomed everyone and thanked us for donations made to Dress For Success – her car is filled! Unfortunately, the representative from the DfS organization had to cancel, but Dana will meet with her this week to hand off the donations. We then recited the Zonta Blessing.

The meeting was called to order at 5:40.

September Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes published in the Bog. The vote was in favor.

Treasurers Report: In Andrea's absence, Joanne confirmed that the Fiscal report for 2021 is accurate and complete. A motion was made and seconded to file the report for audit; the vote was in favor. The proposed Budget for FY2022 was voted previously. The main edit is the amount available for new service requests (after accounting for designated service funds): \$11,323.

The 1/3 of profits from 2021 that we have put aside for the Zonta Foundation of Women is \$5,186. We traditionally make the donation at the biennium Fall Conference and target it to the funds most in need. This year's event is virtual, so we are reaching out to the Foundation Ambassador to ask how best to make a splash about this sizeable amount.



Induction of Cyd Melcher

Mary Ann Rubis did the honors – exceptionally as always. We are delighted to have Cyd rejoin the Quaboag Club. She has already chosen to be chair of the Program committee and \$50 will be donated in her name to the Zonta Foundation for Women.

Speaker – Gloria Caballero Roca: An Afro-Latina Woman's Experience in Local Politics

Gloria – mother, educator, activist and peace fighter - gave us an overview of her life in Cuba and the U.S., and her travels abroad; her quest for two Ph.Ds and MAs, and her experience running for the office of Mayor of Holyoke. She is one very determined woman!

Committee Reports

Service – Joanne noted that her committee is actively looking for opportunities for hands on projects and worthy causes needing funding. Service request form is online at zontaqv.org/resources.

Membership – Mary Knight is acting Membership Chair with Danielle stepping down from the position. She distributed two documents tonight – one which lists important online resources and an overview of the purpose of Zonta Clubs. Members are encouraged to review the 6 bullet points and think about how they can support club membership. Supporters and members are invited to join one of the upcoming Zonta Orientation meetings on Zoom that will provide an overview of Zonta – modeled on competency guidelines provided by ZI. **November meetings are 11/1 @ 11am and 11/16 @ 6pm.** Contact her for an invitation link.

New applicant **Gloria Caballero Roca** was introduced in the October Bog. A vote was taken tonight to recommend Gloria for membership. It was unanimous. She will be sworn in at the November meeting.

A second applicant **Kerry Chenausky** was also introduced in the Bog; she spoke briefly tonight of her inspiration to join Zonta. Both Gloria and Kerry will be attending an upcoming Zonta Orientation meeting. An email vote will be conducted so that Kerry can be inducted in November as well.

October Business Meeting minutes continued

Nominations – Step Up! You will be mentored and supported. Please contact Dana, Trish, Kris, Janet or another leader for guidance. Also, review the job description in the Club Manual—zontaqv.org/resources.

Current openings:

Join the Board as Vice President NOW, and get mentored to serve as President for the next biennium.

Serve as Vice President and Membership Chair for the next biennium.

Serve as Treasurer for the next biennium

Advocacy – Pam was feeling unwell tonight but will update us on Women and Climate Change in the November newsletter.

October is DV Awareness month and the Ware River Valley and Palmer Domestic Violence Task Forces have two ways we can support them: Use a purple lightbulb for the duration of the month to shed light on the devastating effects of DV and attend the 6th annual DV Awareness walk on 10/23 at 1pm starting at Veterans Park in Ware.

16 Days of Advocacy /Zonta Says No campaign will run from 11/25 – 12/10. The Advocacy committee is working on ways to promote.

Poinsettia Fundraiser – Liz shared that the poinsettia plants will be a little more expensive this year. The flyer is ready and will be posted at the zontaqv.org website. Liz will be sending letters out to past buyers and members are asked to encourage sales from friends, neighbors, colleagues, local merchants, etc. Delivery will be the week after Thanksgiving.

Upcoming events _____

Virtual District Conference 10/22-23 –

Governor Beatrice and the Concord NH club are Conference hosts.

Pam is our delegate; Dana is back-up.

Details on candidates, speakers, program, and reasons for attending are at FallConference.ZontaDistrict1.org

November 8 @ 6pm–ZOOM Business meeting.

In a normal year, we would celebrate our 30th anniversary at a Founder's Day meeting/event, but after a short discussion about our inability to celebrate this properly, members voted to postpone the celebration to next year. That said, we will have a business meeting and would like to have a compelling speaker. Please let the Program committee know if you have suggestions.

December 13 @ 6pm– ZOOM Business meeting. Please let the Program committee know if you have suggestions.

Interested in adopting a family for the holidays and purchasing gifts for children in the family and gift cards for groceries? If enough interest, we will find a family in need.

Dana thanked everyone for attending and we adjourned as the sky darkened! Next Newsletter deadline is 10/28.

Meeting Adjourned 6:34

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Knight, Secretary

Note: If you have Zontian magazines you would like to recycle, please see Mary Knight. We add a sample magazine to the welcome package of new members.



As members of Zonta, we are all volunteers. We each have our own reasons for being involved—to make a difference in the lives of others, to advocate for those who need a voice, to make new friends and stronger friendships, for connection and confidence, for social and networking skills, for a chance to pay it forward, for feelings of gratitude...and many more.

Whatever your reason, thank you for what you do. And thank you for stepping in and stepping up to leadership positions when the need presents itself.

We don't say "thanks" often enough, but we could not do what we do without you. You are appreciated!

Please Welcome Two New Members to be inducted November 8th



My name is **Gloria Caballero Roca** I am a Cuban American living in this country for the last 24 years. I am a mother, an educator, an activist and a peace fighter. I believe education and health care are human rights and I also believe that every human being deserves a dignified quality of life.

I am a human being who emphasizes the need for respect, care, understanding, dialogue and empathy among all of us so that we start living life in its full capacity. During many years of teaching, studying and doing research I came to the realization that we humans have been guided towards a path of disengagement through consumption. We are divorced from our main source of life, the Earth, and from the air, the water, the forest, and all living things. As an academic who has taught both at high school and college level national and internationally, who has given talks at over a dozen countries around the world and now with two Ph.Ds and two MAs, I got to the conclusion that it is only through free access to education, one that emphasizes critical thinking, hands on projects and the possibility for creativity, that true freedom and liberation comes with a strong quality education.

I am currently running for the office of Mayor of Holyoke and it will be an honor for me to be a member of Zonta organization, a place for gender equality and for women and girls to get inspired in the Light of freedom, self determination and peace.



Kerry Chenausky, NP works at Belchertown Internal Medicine, Primary Care. She joined us at the May 2021 business meeting to speak about women’s health issues in this time of COVID and touched on stable insurance coverage, access to telehealth and mental health services, and the availability of safe in-person services to support women in obtaining needed health care for the remainder of the pandemic and beyond. She was impressed to learn about Zonta and its mission and wants to be part of this organization.

A graduate of UMass Amherst and the MGH Institute of Health Professions, Kerry is a Women’s Health and Adult Primary Care Nurse Practitioner currently working at Belchertown Internal Medicine. She prioritizes patient-centered, respectful care and looks forward to partnering with patients to achieve their health and wellness goals. In addition to primary care, Kerry is a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner and lectures in Maternal-Newborn Nursing at American International College.



Club Member Competencies

Core Competencies for Members

1. Be actively engaged in club meetings and activities
2. Describe mission, vision, goals and structure of Zonta.
3. Access and navigate the Zonta International website.
4. Promote Zonta advocacy and service projects.



Dates set for Member Orientation

Existing and potential members of the club are invited to attend a Membership orientation meeting, modeled on competency guidelines provided by Zonta International. The program will be on Zoom and offered at times convenient to members. November dates: 11/1 @ 11am, 11/16 @ 6pm
December date(s) TBD by interested attendees.

Membership is the backbone of any organization. In order to ensure that “new members” are properly informed and prepared to be engaged members of Zonta, we will also be including a checklist as a guide in the onboarding process.

More experienced members who would like to be involved in the creation and/or presentation of this program are encouraged to contact Mary Knight, acting Membership Chairman. info@zontaqv.org



Report on Fall Conference, 2021 Pam Albertson, Delegate

The Zonta District Fall Conference was held October 22 and 23 via Zoom. It was organized by the Zonta Club of Concord and included the business meeting, speakers, workshops and entertainment.

Friday evening began with the call to order and the parade of flags as well as a welcome by Governor Beatrice Schori. After a brief business meeting we were entertained by Doris Ballard who is on a second “career” as a stand- up comedian. For 20 minutes she gave us lots of chuckles on her life as “A Baby Boomer” bringing laughter to others as a “Septuagenarian Woman”. Despite the lack of real-time laughter (we were muted), she was very funny. There was also a Zonta Quiz Show, cleverly done using our phones as response devices. I’m not sure who won but we all learned a lot about Zonta in a fun way!

Saturday began as all Fall Conferences do with a memorial to all Zontians who had died during the past year. It was very moving and paid tribute to Luz Rivera and other district members who are no longer with us in a very touching way.

From that we proceeded to the regular meeting interspersed with videos of each club’s successes during the previous biennium. Ute Scholz, ZI President-elect and our liaison, congratulated the District on its successes and spoke of the challenges going forward. I, as our club’s delegate, presented the election winners of the Board of Directors for the next Biennium. They are: Governor – Donna Sroka, Lieutenant Governor – Donna Raycraft, Secretary – our own Mary Knight, Treasurer – Janice Severance, and Nominating Committee – Sandy Carroll, Donna Clifford and Beatrice Schori. District Treasurer, Terry Timmerman, presented the 2022-2024 budget update, followed by the installation of the election winners.

There were five workshops on advocacy (US and Canada), membership, website and leadership followed by a very moving and enlightening interview with Donna Pollard, a survivor of child marriage.

The best was the announcement of a surprise award, to be given annually to the Zontian who best exemplifies service to the District and Zonta. Who else but Mary Knight is deserving of this award! Mary’s name will live on and inspire other Zontians to give their best to Zonta. I can say we are all so proud of Mary.

Individual donations to Zonta Foundation for Women during the conference were close to the \$2500 goal at the end—with Concord NH and Quaboag Valley neck in neck club totals!

I have attended most of the Fall Conferences, Spring Workshops, NAID Meetings and one International Conference since becoming a member 11 years ago. This conference held by Zoom was excellent. The Concord Club did an amazing job of coordinating the technology, scheduling interesting speakers, arranging workshops and kept things running smoothly. I encourage all of you to participate in these events!

Please visit FallConference.ZontaDistrict1.org and click on Presentations to see PowerPoint and videos of many of the presenters and club snapshots.



2021 Mary Knight Award to Mary Knight for Outstanding Dedication to Zonta District 1

Advocacy Report – Women and Climate Change

Pam Albertson, Chair

As part of the Zonta Advocacy series, a session on Women and Climate Change was presented on September 13, 2021. A recording is available at www.zonta.org/videos - under Advocacy Series.

The session was a follow-up to ZI's Statement on Climate Change – A Gender Equality Issue which was published in June stating that climate change is a human rights issue. You can find a PDF of this report at the ZontaQV.org website.

The climate conference that took place in Madrid (COP25) in 2019 recognized that in The Paris Accords (COP21 adopted in 2015) women were under-represented and a five-year program was agreed-upon to enhance working progress on gender equity. It included an emphasis on gender balance and women's participation on leadership; gender-responsive implementation in the areas of finance and capacity; and better monitoring and responsiveness. Experts in climate science and gender equity are needed to address the gaps in knowledge in order to see the impact of climate change on women.

Some concrete examples of the impact of climate change (as presented by Alicia Godsberg of UNICEF) include:

For children:

- Disease – malaria, typhoid, etc which are exacerbated by warmer, wetter weather
- Water – children need more water by body weight than do adults
- Air pollution – asthma, other lung diseases
- General well-being – feeling safe from severe storms and excessive heat

For women:

- Poverty
- Higher mortality rates in times of climate destruction – most girls don't learn how to swim, for example.
- Greater distinction in stereotypical gender roles – additional domestic burdens (having to seek out water and fire wood as an example),
- Human rights abuses – combined with poverty often results in girls being sold or at least being pulled out of school

Ms Godsberg used Madagascar as an example of one of the world's countries most at risk of experiencing natural disasters. Most inhabitants there are dependent on the natural world for their survival and Madagascar regularly experiences floods due to deforestation followed by droughts. Zonta's program there includes learning about disaster risk reduction and how environmental education can promote resiliency which is critical to making necessary changes.

An environmentalist of over 30 years who has been at the forefront of promoting environmental protection public education, particularly in Hong Kong and the San Francisco Bay Area, Mabel Mak, spoke about women's role in combatting climate change. Concrete measures include the development of sustainable businesses, supporting green financing of wind, solar and hydro energy, and reducing carbon dioxide and greenhouse gas emissions. Specifically, women can conserve water, recycle, spend less time in cars, practice mindful flying, teach younger people, and be aware of policies in order to be an effective advocate.

Ms Mak listed an extensive sample of projects being led by women that result in saving energy, reducing food waste, promoting greater biodiversity, and the greening of cities. Lastly, she made the point that educating a girl of 12 years is likely to result in her having five fewer children. That amounts to a billion fewer people on earth by the year 2050.

What can we do? **Zonta International calls on its membership to:**

- Increase their own awareness of climate change and on its gender-related consequences and raise awareness locally.
- Include gendered climate change advocacy actions in their advocacy plans.
- Support the inclusion of women at the national and local tables of decision-makers on environmental sustainability.
- Promote girls' education and the inclusion of climate literacy in schools, as well as to promote girls' science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) studies to increase gendered scientific and technical contributions to climate change mitigation.
- Advocate for national policies that take into account women's economic opportunities and ensures their full and equal participation in the economy.



Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser

Liz Reeves, Chair

The order forms have been mailed out and are also available on our website for members to share with family, friends, colleagues, hairdressers, dentists and the list goes on. The medium plants are \$21.00 and the large are \$28.00. Deliveries and pickups will start the week after Thanksgiving. Contact me with any questions.



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 Multiply quantity times cost
	Medium (5-7 blooms) \$21	Large (10-14 blooms) \$28	Red White	Pink Pink & White*	
<i>Example:</i> 2	<i>Large</i>		<i>Red</i>		\$56

** limited quantities of pink & white, so please note 2nd choice on same line.*

Total: _____

Zonta of Quaboag Valley – Poinsettia Fundraiser Committee Members
Committee: Liz Reeves, 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!!

