



ZONTA

CLUB OF
QUABOAG VALLEY

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

ZONTA CLUB OF QUABOAG VALLEY BOG NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022

2022 Dates for your Calendar

January 10 @ 6pm on Zoom

Speaker and Meeting

Hundreds of Afghans are starting new lives in the US after escaping the Taliban. Tonight we will hear about one family's journey, the resettlement efforts by local charities in Western MA, and opportunities for Zontians and friends to help welcome Afghan evacuees.

January 11—Amelia Earhart Day

Read more about this famous Zontian and the Fellowship Awards given in her honor on pg. 2.

February 14 Business Meeting

March 14 Business Meeting

Commission on the Status of Women

CSW66 March 14—25 Virtual only
unwomen.org/en/csw/csw66-2022

April 11 Business Meeting

May 9 Business Meeting

June 13 Business Meeting

Zonta International Convention 2022

Hamburg, Germany

June 25—28

Early registration is open with Virtual and on-site rates!!



Zonta.org/convention

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Hello Zontians and Friends,

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a happy and healthy holiday. I have to admit it was nice to be home with no commute for our December meeting. It will be nice to see each other face to face again someday but during these dark, cold nights it sure is nice to be home. December was an eventful meeting. Congratulations to Gloria on becoming our newest member! Thank you again to Stephanie for joining us! I hope we all worked on our boundaries and lowering stress during the holidays. Also thank you to Julie and KC for informing us about Ankaa and their plans.



Thank you to all the members and friends that contributed to one of our holiday drives for local kids. I am sure we made a big difference in many holiday celebrations.

Next meeting is January 10th at 6pm on Zoom. January is our time to reflect on and honor Amelia Earhart. She became the first pilot ever to fly solo from Honolulu to Oakland on January 11, 1935 and broke a number of other barriers during her short life. To celebrate her courageous spirit we are going to hear from Nazifa Safie, MBA on her experience as a refugee from Afghanistan and Dianne Fuller Doherty who sponsored Nazifa's family here in Western MA. This is sure to be inspiring, so please invite guests. They can request a Zoom invite at info@zontaqv.org We will have a short meeting following the speakers. I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting on the 10th!

In Zonta Friendship,
President Dana Burton

P.S. We have been very successful in our fundraising efforts over the last couple of years. One-third of those funds are targeted to the Zonta International Foundation for Women in support of International Service Projects, Education awards and Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women efforts. **The remaining money is available for local initiatives! We need your help in identifying non-profits with projects that will improve the lives of women and girls.**

The Service Fund Application is available to download on our website. Please share!!



Birthday wishes:

Karen KeoughHuff 1/18
Debra Wood 1/19
Joanne Turner-Chiacchia 1/30

Amelia Earhart

Amelia Earhart Day – January 11—is celebrated by Zontians throughout the world.

Amelia Earhart was an active member of the Zonta Club of Boston and New York during 1928-1937. July 24, 1997 marked the 100th anniversary of her birth in Atchison, Kansas. The spirit of Amelia lives on through the Zonta International Amelia Earhart Fellowship Award program, founded in 1938 to support women pursuing graduate degrees in aerospace-related sciences and engineering. Zonta annually awards up to 35 Fellowships of US\$10,000 each to women pursuing Ph.D./doctoral degrees in aerospace engineering and space sciences. Visit the Zonta website to learn more: https://zonta.org/Web/Programs/Education/Amelia_Earhart_Fellowship.aspx



“Slowly the prejudice against women is lessening, and it appears probable that before long they will compete on equal terms.” – Amelia Earhart, 1931

Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, in 1932. She disappeared on July 2, 1937, while attempting to circle the globe.

FUN FACT—WORLD FLIGHT 1997—American Pilot Linda Finch flew out to Oakland, California on March 17, 1997, and replicated Earhart’s around-the-world flight attempt ended 60 years ago when Earhart disappeared in the Pacific Ocean. Earhart was attempting to become the first pilot to circumnavigate the world at its widest point, the equator. Finch was flying a plane nearly identical to Earhart’s, a Lockheed Electra 10-E which she restored and modified for World Flight 1997. Aviation enthusiast Finch dropped three wreaths over Howland Island in memory of Amelia Earhart. One wreath was from Zonta, one from the mayor of Atchison, Kansas, Earhart’s home town, and the third was from Finch to express her admiration of Earhart. “Amelia Earhart believed in herself and her dream,” says Linda Finch. “If she had completed her around-the-world journey, history would focus on her skill, courage, and daring. World Flight 1997 is our way of sharing her message with the world.” The trip took more than two months and was sponsored by engine builder, Pratt and Whitney.

**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
Joanne Turner-Chiacchia
- 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— December 13, 2021 Business Meeting

Business Meeting – Zoom

Present: Dana Burton, Gloria Caballero Roca, Kerry Chenausky, Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Kris Goold, Karen Keough-Huff, Chris Keough-Huff, Mary Knight, Liz Reeves, Mary Ann Rubis, Mike Wallace, Debbie Wood, Pam Albertson, Trish Pupek, Suz Tiranno, Stacy Troy

Absent: Andrea Bordenca, Marge Cavanaugh, Janet DaSilva, Maria Maloney, Patti Matthieu, Cyd Melcher, Danielle Petrangelo, Susan Seaver

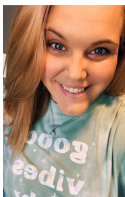
Guests: Stephanie Lora Bearce, Julie Vasbinder and KC

President Dana Burton welcomed everyone, and the meeting was called to order at 6:05.

Induction of Gloria Caballero Roca

Mary Ann Rubis did the honors – personally targeted and professionally done as always. We are delighted to have Gloria join the Quaboag Club. \$50 will be donated in her name to the Zonta Foundation for Women.

Speaker – Stephanie Lora Bearce, Mindset & Empowerment Coach and Intuitive Energy Healer for entrepreneurs looking to make a



big impact on the world. Stephanie shared valuable information about stress and anxiety we might be feeling as a result of holidays, the pandemic, the political climate, or personal challenges: whatever we might be feeling is separate from who we are. If caught up - acknowledge what you are feeling, then put the baseball bat down – breath – and remind yourself that you are perfect just as you are. She also suggested patching up “energy leaks” which can leave you running on empty, by setting boundaries and choosing to spend more time around people who are uplifting. Need more ideas? Stephanie lives in Palmer and is easily accessible through her website: <https://upleveingunapologetically.com/> Outstanding speaker!!

Advocacy opportunity – Ankaa We had two other visitors tonight thanks to the ‘Dana Connection’: Julie Vasbinder and KC shared information about a mission-based safari lodge they hope will be established in Botswana in early 2023. A standing trust will fund the project if they can raise the capital to get it moving. They shared pictures and stories about the women and children who will benefit from Ankaa (meaning hope and rebirth) and have submitted a request form to our Service Committee in hopes we might be able to help. More information: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/ankaa-women-empowerment-via-knowledge-action>



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

Treasurers Report: No report available. Joann has lots of entries to make in the bookkeeping program before monthly reports can be created. She expects to have a full report that we can vote on to file for audit in January.

Committee Reports

Service – Our very generous members contributed over \$300 worth of Walmart gift cards to help families served by the Palmer Domestic Violence Taskforce; and hundreds of dollars-worth of gifts to fill a wish list for children in the care of the Department of Children and Families (DCF), coordinated by Suanne and Stacy. In addition, our club approved a donation from Service Funds to purchase \$25 gift cards totaling \$500 to be used for food and necessities supporting children served by DCF who are living with bio family members. AND \$100 checks were sent to four area Food Banks in December as part of designated service expenditures in the 2022 budget. Holidays were certainly made brighter for many in our service area! Kudos to the Quaboag Valley club!

Membership - REMINDER: Individuals interested in learning more about Zonta and existing members who would like a refresher are invited to attend an upcoming Zonta Orientation meeting on Zoom that will provide an overview of Zonta – modeled on competency guidelines provided by ZI. Contact Mary Knight for an invitation link.

Nominations – Step Up! You will be mentored and supported. Please contact Dana, Trish, Kris or Janet.

Volunteer to step up and join the Board as Vice President NOW, with the hope of serving as President for the next biennium.

And a second person to serve as Vice President for the next biennium. A third volunteer needed to serve as Treasurer for the next biennium

HELP US HELP OUR COMMUNITY—Service Funds Available

An object of this club and of Zonta International is to improve the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women at the global and local level through service and advocacy. The Service Committee takes action by offering financial support for local service projects that are aligned with the Zonta goals. Requests for funding by organizations located in the Quaboag Valley area and surrounding communities will be reviewed by the Service Committee and – if they meet the criteria for our support – brought before the full membership for approval, during a regularly scheduled business meeting.

PLEASE SHARE WITH ORGANIZATIONS YOU WANT TO SUPPORT. Download application at zontaqv.org/resources.

Service Funds Application

Attach up to three items that would help support your request, i.e. brochure, press release, etc.

Name of Organization: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact person for this application: _____

Telephone Number _____ E-mail: _____

Amount requested: _____ Payable to: _____

Description of the organization:

Project summary – the need, how funds will be used, who will benefit, the timing (use reverse if needed but keep concise):

Why Zonta of Quaboag Valley? Specify any relationships to this organization.

December Business Meeting minutes continued

Advocacy – 16 Days of Advocacy /Zonta Says No campaign will run from 11/25 – 12/10. Pam distributed postcards and stamps for interested members to write to their representatives in Massachusetts about ending child marriage. Dana updated out Facebook regularly with information worth sharing. Well done!

Poinsettia Fundraiser – Liz reported that deliveries went very smoothly! We sold more plants this year than in 2020 PLUS we received \$647.50 in donations! A report of the profit going into Service funds will be available by next month.

Scholarships – Dana reported that the Young Women in Public Affairs Application is on our website (zontaqv.org/resources) and local school guidance counselors have been contacted to encourage students to apply for the \$1000 award.

Other news _____

SoldierOn Women - We are awaiting word from Casey about the exact number of women moving in and the visiting possibilities.
2021 Women of Impact – Cyd and Mary attended the event on December 9th in support of Elizabeth Dineed and the other amazing honorees. We paid for a sponsor Ad in the Business West publication in hopes of getting our name out there. Mary has copies of the magazine for anyone who would like to check it out.

Upcoming events _____

January 10 Business meeting @ 6pm– ZOOM Business meeting.
February 14 Business Meeting @6pm – ZOOM Business meeting

Dana thanked everyone for attending and we adjourned at 7:35

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.

From Afghan to Western MA—starting a new life in the US after escaping the Taliban

On Monday 1/10, we will hear about one family's journey, the resettlement efforts by local charities in Western MA, and opportunities for Zontians and friends to help welcome Afghan evacuees.

Nazifa Safie, MBA, had a varied career in Afghanistan, working as a pharmacist, then as a gender specialist and finance and administrative manager for the First Deputy CEO of Afghanistan Government, and finally as Country Operation Manager for Center for Civilians in Conflict. In September of 2021 she and her family left Afghanistan coming to rest in Western Massachusetts and in the care of Dianne Fuller Doherty with whom they lived before moving into their own home in Agawam.

Dianne Fuller Doherty is a major proponent of driving economic improvement in Greater Springfield through advising and investing in local businesses. She is especially focused on social entrepreneurship as a pathway to inclusion and justice. Dianne has extensive experience in marketing and public relations for small businesses in western Mass. She was most recently the Regional Director of the Western Mass Regional Office of the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center Network, an extension of the Isenberg School of Management at UMass Amherst. She is a proud co-founder of the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts and has served on numerous boards. She currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Western New England University, Tech Foundry (Emeritus), Valley Venture Mentors, and the National Conference for Community and Justice



Dianne Fuller Doherty

Advocacy Report – Afghan Refugees in Massachusetts

Update from Pam Albertson, Advocacy Chair

Ascentria Care Alliance (www.ascentria.org) is an organization that offers “community-based programs for refugees and immigrants in Massachusetts and New Hampshire that aim to help new Americans achieve independence and stability”. In Massachusetts they represent a wide range of clients, mostly focused on survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, and child abuse. Services offered include asylum, DACA, members of the LGBTQI community, consular processing, and citizenship, among others. They are the only foster care program in New England which provides foster care to unaccompanied refugee children and training and support for the foster parents. There is a recent emphasis on the helping with the resettlement of Afghan refugees.

To that end, they have created an Amazon wish list on their website where you can order items needed by the refugees to assist the families setting up their new homes. There is also a place to sign up to volunteer or to receive updates from Ascencia.

Donna Raycraft, the District 1 Advocacy Chair, wrote “As of November 11, fifty-seven have resettled to MA. Not all of them are women, but many of them are children. I know of one family resettled in my town in NH consisting of a mother and 5 children. The mother's first husband was killed by the Taliban, and her current husband has not yet escaped, and she doesn't know if he is alive or dead”. Since the beginning of October there have been 241 refugees resettled in MA and NH, with another 72 expected the last week of December. Here is the link for more information and the Wish Lists:

<http://us3.forward-to-friend.com/forward/show?u=ff1995c214a0d75507bb10db4&id=22b5cd5d7f>

CALL TO ACTION—This is an opportunity for Zontians and friends to advocate on behalf of the refugees to their U.S. Senators and Representatives of the need for them to pass legislation that would allow Afghans who are being evacuated from Afghanistan and arriving with humanitarian parole, a temporary status, to have an opportunity to apply to become lawful permanent residents – the same legal status they would have received had they been admitted as refugees. Doing so will provide a roadmap to permanent status for Afghans on humanitarian parole after one year. This is also critical because Afghans were advised to destroy documents associating them to the U.S. mission and other information that would otherwise be used to pursue an asylum claim.

Please phone or email your U.S. Senator and Representative urging their support for such legislation.

Contact info at www.zontaqv.org/advocacy/

2022



YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD

Recognizing young women for their commitment to volunteerism, volunteer leadership achievements and dedication to empowering women worldwide



1 APPLICATION, 3 OPPORTUNITIES

Club award
Varies by club

32 district awards
US\$1,500 each

10 international awards
US\$5,000 each

Applications must be received by the applicant's local Zonta club's deadline. To locate a club near you and download an application, please visit: zonta.org/YWPAAward.

CLUB DEADLINE:

MARCH 8, 2022
Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley
www.zontaqv.org

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

Kristin Goold
82 Catalpa Ter, Springfield, 01119
413 783-4376
kmgoold@aol.com

The Young Women in Public Affairs Award is a Zonta International program funded by contributions to the Zonta Foundation for Women. Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.