

ZONTA CLUB OF  
QUABOAG VALLEY

CALENDAR

**March 8 Rose Day,  
International Women's  
Day**

**March 12 Dinner Meeting 5:30 p.m.\*** Zinfandel's Restaurant. Guests welcome! Kris Holloway, author of *Monique and the Mango Rains*, will be our guest speaker. Thanks to Liz Reeves who was able to contact and secure Ms. Holloway for our program. Great opportunity to invite a guest—let's publicize!

**April 9 Dinner Meeting 5:30 p.m.\*** Zinfandel's Restaurant. Peaked Mountain Reservation environmental program. Guests welcome!

**May 5 New England Areas Retreat**, Wells, Maine. Save the date!

**May 14 Dinner Meeting 5:30 p.m.\*** Zinfandel's Restaurant. Guests welcome!

\* **Dinner \$15, dues \$3.** Please notify Chris Gerl at 413/568-3593 or cgerl@comcast.net of the number of new and/or returning guests. Member reservations for the dinner meeting are assumed and payment expected unless Chris is notified the Wednesday before the meeting.

**Zinfandel's Restaurant**, 1432A Main Street, Palmer, MA [413/283-2707] - Downtown Palmer on Route 20, at the lights, diagonally across from CVS. Parking is available on Main Street and lot at the corner of Bridge and Main Streets.

# Zonta Bog Newsletter

DISTRICT 1 AREA 2

MARCH 2007

## President's Message

Dear Sister Zontians,

This is an exciting month. We have a guest from the Peace Corps who spent two years in Africa working with a mid-wife.

I hope everyone asks someone to attend the meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Remember to let me know by Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> how many guests you will bring so we'll be sure to have enough food for everyone.

I went to the conference regarding World Health Issues and Clean Water at Smith College.



There were several people with interesting view points and ways to look at the epidemic of AIDS in Africa. I was disappointed more people did not attend.

Please be thinking about the Spring Retreat in Wells, Maine on May 5<sup>th</sup>. There

will be workshops on "advocacy", what it is, and why and how to do it. I hope many of you can go as we always have a great time.

See you on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Yours in Zonta's service,  
Christine Gerl

### Quote of the Month, in honor of Women's History Month

*"...women, unlike most men, are able to accept mystery, accept whatever comes to them—even if it's not logical..."*

**Cher**

## Top Floor Learning

Carrying on the extraordinary 25-year legacy of Literacy Volunteers of Quaboag Valley, Top Floor Learning, Inc. is a state and federally chartered non-profit 501 (c) (3), tax-exempt corporation with headquarters on the third floor (the Top Floor) of the Palmer Public Library. It is upon this plat-

form of longstanding and widely acknowledged public service that Top Floor Learning intends to develop the region's premier literacy and life-long learning center.

Top Floor Learning is entirely dependent on income from donors and fundraisers. This year, our club has again been asked to contribute to the center's annual bas-

ket raffle. At our February meeting, we unanimously and enthusiastically agreed to contribute our signature Golf Theme basket.

Please bring your basket contributions to the March and April dinner meetings.

# 13th Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser



Bring Golf Tournament prizes to dinner meetings.

In preparation for our June 16<sup>th</sup> Golf Tournament Fundraiser, members are invited to bring any new sponsor names, addresses and contact persons to the next meeting (or email to Debbie anytime) as letters to sponsors will go out the week of March 12<sup>th</sup>. Members are welcome to solicit sponsors and prizes at any time and bring to dinner

meetings.

As mentioned at the February meeting, we are hopeful for three prizes for the advance raffle:

- Foxwoods dinner and overnight;
- Two weekend Boston Red Sox tickets;
- Portable DVD player (compliments of Mary Ann R.)

As soon as the Foxwoods prize is confirmed, tickets will be printed and distributed for members to start selling.

**Golf Tournament Committee Co-Chairs**

**Debbie Wood and Marge Cavanaugh**

## Club Officers

### 2006-2007

President.....Christine Gerl  
 Vice President.....Mary Knight  
 Treasurer.....Debra Allen  
 Secretary.....Elizabeth Reeves  
 Directors.....Julie Bowder  
 ..... Dr. Mary Ann Rubis

## Committees/

### Current Chairs

Archives..... Marjorie Cavanaugh  
 Environment..... Elizabeth Reeves  
 Golf Tournament..... Marjorie Cavanaugh  
 Membership..... Mary Knight  
 Poinsettia Sales..... Elizabeth Reeves  
 Program..... Janet DaSilva  
 Public Relations..... Debra Wood  
 Scholarship..... Kristen Goold  
 Service..... Joanne Turner-Chiacchia  
 United Nations..... Betty Jane Bourdon  
 ZISVAW Dorothy LaFratta, Mary Knight

### Zonta Bog

Newsletter feedback and content suggestions are encouraged.

Please send to

MFKnight@Crocker.com

## March Program Speaker

Author Kris Holloway



### **Monique and the**

**Mango Rains** is the true story of the life and death of a remarkable West African mid-wife, seen through the eyes of a young Peace Corps Volunteer who worked side-by-side with her, birthing babies and caring for mothers, in a re-

mote, impoverished village. It is a rare tale of friendship that reaches beyond borders to vividly and irrevocably unite another woman's world with our own. At our March 12 dinner meeting, we will have the opportunity to hear firsthand about Kris's experiences.

Here are some questions

from the book's webpage to consider for our group discussion.

- *At what points in the story did you feel a connection to the people in Mali?*
- *What are the key themes or messages that you found in this book?*

# February Business Meeting Minutes

## Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley Meeting Minutes Zinfandel's Restaurant Palmer, Massachusetts February 12, 2007

**Present:** Deb Allen, BJ Bourdon, Marge Cavanaugh, Janet DaSilva, Jeanne Dill, Chris Gerl, Kris Goold, Diane Kidd, Mary Knight, Liz Reeves, Mary Ann Rubis, Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, Judy Van de Geer, Debbie Wood.

**Absent:** Julie Bowder, Ann Cormier, Kathy Hood.

**Guest:** Carol Bardon.

Chris called to meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

Top Floor Learning asked if we were interested in donating a golf basket again this year for their fundraiser. We will, and members can bring items for next meeting.

Chris asked that all members hand in their ZI Surveys.

Chris passed around a quarterly survey sheet for all members to fill out what meetings and other events they have attended.

**Minutes:** BJ corrected the UN report. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

**Treasurers Report:** Deb gave an explanation of the minutes. No questions were asked, and the report was filed for audit.

### Committee Reports:

**Poinsettia:** All money was collected and the profit was an-

nounced. We did slightly better than last year.

**Environment:** A gentleman from Peaked Mountain Reservation will come to our April meeting and share with us some of the things we could do for a project.

**Golf:** Debbie and Marge are co-chairs. Marge asked for a \$200 check so Mill Valley will reserve our date (June 16—13th annual). Debbie went over how the event will unfold that day. Sponsor letters will go out mid-March. Mary Ann will donate a portable DVD player. The raffle tickets will be available at the April meeting. Debbie is making hand towels with Zs on them. Anyone wishing to donate Zs or shower hooks may. Marge will make pouches again.

**ZISVAW:** Dot attended the Domestic Violence Task Force meeting but was unable to report as she was not present at tonight's dinner meeting.

**Membership:** Mary had nothing to report. She encouraged all members to bring perspective members.

**Public Relations:** Debbie took pictures of Diane's installation. She will send a picture to the newspaper and write up an article to go along with it.. She will also publicize that Kris Holloway will be at our March meeting. Bring your books so Kris can sign them. Other local clubs will be notified also.

**Service:** Joanne mentioned that

there was an article in the local news urging people to help clean up Burleigh Park. Is that something we may be interested in doing? *Relay for Life* will be in Belchertown this year. Do we want to participate June 22-23?

**Scholarship:** Young Women in Public Affairs award applications went out in January. Kris will be sending out the applications for the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business scholarship by the end of February.

**United Nations:** BJ is our February program presenter speaking on International programs.

**Program:** Kris Holloway, author of *Monique and the Mango Rains*, will be our program speaker in March. In April, we will have a gentleman coming from Peaked Mountain Reservation in Monson.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:** Diane Kidd is now officially a member of ZQV! She was installed tonight. Congratulations Diane!

**Raffle:** Chris and Marge were our winners this month.

**Adjournment:** Business Meeting and Installation were adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The program followed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Reeves, secretary

**Bring your  
"Monique and  
the Mango  
Rains" book  
to the March  
meeting for  
Kris Holloway  
to autograph.**



Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley

PO Box 1034

Belchertown MA 01007

<http://www.zontaq.org>

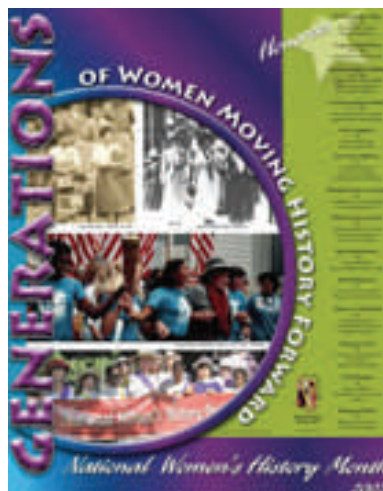
## National Women's History Month 2007 Theme

The 2007 theme, **"Generations of Women Moving History Forward,"** presents special opportunities to highlight some critically important historic events, including the 50th anniversary of the integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and the 30th anniversary of the National Women's Conference in Houston, Texas.

In 1957, the integration of Central High School helped ignite the Civil Rights Movement and in 1977, the Houston Conference marked a high point in the influence of the Women's Rights

Movement on the formation of government policy.

The National Women's History Project 2007 theme, **Generations of Women Moving**



**History Forward**, is an expansion of the theme of the Houston Conference, **"We Are Here to Move History Forward."** This theme recognizes the wisdom and tenacity of the generations of women who have come before us and those who will follow. Recognition of the historic anniversaries of 2007 presents special opportunities to acknowledge and celebrate the courage, determination, and steadfastness needed to move history forward.

<http://www.nwhp.org/whm/index.php>