



Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley

Member of Zonta International

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

2008 CALENDAR

November 10 5:30

**Dinner Meeting
Founders Day Event**

Please bring canned goods/dry goods to donate to local food banks.

**November 25 International Day
Against Violence Against Women**

December 1 World AIDS Day

**December 8
Holiday Dinner Meeting**

December 10 Human Rights Day

Reminder: notify Louise if you are interested in attending the Massachusetts Conference for Women 12/11/08 Boston Convention Center.
www.maconferenceforwomen.org/

See our Calendar at
zontaqv.org/calendar.htm
for other important dates.

Guests Welcome! We meet at **Johnsens Catering** on Main Street in Palmer 5:30 Social | 6:00 Dinner followed by meeting, program. Notify Mary Knight at 413 323 4806 or mfknight@crocker.com of the number of new and/or returning guests.

UN / International Committee Challenge. Win a "foreign treasure" for correctly answering this question:

"At present, how many PMTCT (Prevention of mother-to-child Transmission of HIV/AIDS) sites are there in Rwanda?"

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ZONTA BOG NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2008

President's Message

Dear Sister Zontians:



On October 6th, we started our meeting with a toast to Kathy Hood—special for all she does for our club and for her remarkable spunk. On October 29th, Kathy lost a hard fought battle with cancer. Having touched so many people in so many ways, she will live on in spirit for generations to come. The Board will be asking that a donation be made from the club to the D'Amour Cancer Center in Kathy's name. Private donations to the Center or to the Zonta International Foundation Rose Fund are welcome as well. Forever in our hearts, Kathy.

The ZISVAW program, Through The Eyes of a Child, attracted over 80 attendees. The speakers, format and location received high marks. One of the participants, Sheridan Haines, Executive Director of the Governor's Council to Address Sexual and Domestic Violence, sent the following message: "Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to your larger group. Nice Job! The survivors were great. Very powerful. Keep up the good work out there!" A summary of the event can be found on page 4 of this issue. Thanks to EVERYONE who participated in pulling this together.

I know you will be very happy to meet our Founders Day Award winner Nancy Fletcher on November 10th. Read more about her on page 5. Members and guests—please bring non-perishable food items to the November meeting to be donated to a local shelter. Also, see the UN/International Committee's challenge on the left! Please let me know how many guests will be attending.

Thanks for all you do.
Mary F. Knight

89 Years of Service and Advocacy to Change the Lives of Women



On November 8th, Zontians around the world celebrate the 89th anniversary of Zonta International. Since 1919, Zonta has made a difference in the lives of millions of women and girls.

You can help continue that tradition by recognizing Zonta's anniversary with a contribution to the Zonta International Foundation Rose Fund. What better way to honor the thousands of Zontians who have been working to make the world a better place for women over those 89 years than by making possible more opportunities for women and girls.

The 2008-2010 Zonta International Board was installed at the 2008 Zonta International Convention in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Top row (l-r): Heddy Tangen Steffensen, Ragna Karlsdottir and Maria Victoria P. Vergel de Dios. Middle row (l-r): Dilruba Ahmed, Lynn Goodhue, Ingeborg Geyer and Kerry Dixon-Fox. Bottom row (l-r): Lynn McKenzie, Dianne Curtis, Beryl Sten and Gloria Stootman Wristen.



Zonta Bog
 Newsletter feedback
 and content
 suggestions are
 encouraged.
 Please send to
 MFKnight@Crocker.
 com

Club Officers

2008—2010

Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley
 District I, Area II, Charter 1317 of Zonta
 International

- President Mary Knight
- Vice President Janet DaSilva
- Treasurer Julie Bowder
- Secretary Carol Bardon
- Directors Chris Gerl
 Louise Larocque
 Joanne Turner-Chiacchia

Committee Chairs

- Finance.....Julie Bowder
- Membership.....Janet DaSilva
- PR/Marketing.....Louise Larocque
- UN/International.....Liz Reeves
- Status of Women.....Deb Allen
- Scholarships.....Carol Bardon

- ZISVAW..... Mary Knight
- Bylaws.....BJ Bourdon
- Environmental.....Joanne Turner-Chiacchia
- Poinsettia Fundraiser. ...Ann Cormier
- Founders Day.....Chris Gerl
- Holiday Party.....MaryAnn Rubis
- Amelia Earhart.....Dianne Kidd
- Golf Fundraiser.....Debbie Wood
- Archives.....Marge Cavanaugh

- Nominating.....T.B.D.

October 6, 2008 Business Meeting

Johnsen's Catering Palmer, Massachusetts

Members Present:

Deb Allen, Carol Bardon, BJ Bourdon, Julie Bowder, Marge Cavanaugh, Ann Cormier, Janet DaSilva, Chris Gerl, Dianne Kidd, Mary Knight, Dot LaFratta, Liz Reeves, Joanne Turner-Chiacchia, and Deb Wood.

Absent: Louise Larocque and Kris Gould

Dinner began at 6:15pm.

Good thoughts were expressed for Kathy Hood from members. Toiletries were collected for delivery to area shelters. Reminder for November meeting: please bring in can goods for donation.

Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes with minor corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Julie explained report. A motion was made and seconded to file for audit.

Committee Reports:

Mary discussed that Louis Larocque is thinking of resigning. Deb Allen can not be chair of service committee. They are both overwhelmed. We need to step back and see what we can do as a club for the coming

year. BJ mentioned that this is a concern with all Zonta areas. We may need to reduce committees and have more on a committee – need to discuss with membership. This will be discussed at a future Board meeting.

Finance: Julie – finance committee discussing whether to conduct full golf tournament or a mini golf tournament. Discussion of changing bank for a better rate. Recommended leaving money with Country Bank. They donate to Zonta and are sponsors for the golf tournament. Motion was made and seconded to put \$6,000.00 into a five month CD at a rate of 3.25% at Country Bank. Approved.

Golf: Deb Wood and Marge suggested that it might be a good time to try a new venture. We could raise money with pledges. Suggested a mini golf tournament at Evergreen on Rt. 9, Belchertown. We could have food, etc. This is a way to involve our families and not just golfers. Suggestion to have members raise \$100.00 each in pledges. We could charge around \$4.00 per person to play. Still working on details, need to think about timing with other fund raising activities from other organizations.

Membership: Janet – suggested a more social event in

December. Look to membership to invite one person, per member. Give names and addresses to Janet. Suggested that members pay for guest. Possible power point to play during social hour before meeting. Mary Ann is in charge of December meeting.

ZISVAW: Meeting in October needs more to help with the planning. Contact BJ to attend planning meeting. Members asked Mary to e-mail members with a list of items that need to be done.

Poinsettia Fundraiser: Liz – letters and order forms are ready to be mailed out at the end of October. Call Liz or Ann for additional letters and order forms. Need to think of places to set-up to sell in December.

Founders Day: Mary suggested Nancy Fletcher from ACT Now in Belchertown. She works with girls to make videos. Voted and accepted. Suggested that recipient bring some of the girls that participate in the program.

Suggested sending out invitations to past members and past recipients and have a discussion of "What is Zonta." Mary will update a brochure for the next meeting.

District Conference: Joanne reported on the District meeting in Nova Scotia. It had several great speakers. New service projects were presented. We raised over \$1,000 in the raffle.

Continued to page 4

Domestic Violence: Through the Eyes of a Child— A Great Success!



The program—organized by the Zonta Clubs of Western MA and Connecticut—about the issue of Domestic Violence as seen through the perspective of children was held October 23, 2008 (4—7:30) at the MassMutual Learning Center in Chicopee, MA.

Details: www.zontaqv.org/DomesticViolence.htm

I know the event on October 23rd, **Domestic Violence Through the Eyes of a Child** was a group effort but B.J and Mary Knight really deserve special recognition. I saw the 22 News and B.J.'s wonderful interview representing Zonta and the plight of abused women so well. B.J's introduction really made me proud to be a part of Zonta International. Mary coordinated all the aspects in such an organized manner so that everything proceeded smoothly and as scheduled. I know that all those who participated in the Bingo game (a Kris Gould contribution) were really enjoying the contact and it was a great social icebreaker. I felt like a celebrity when asked for my signature for many different spots listed on the cards.



District Attorney, **Elizabeth Scheibel**, Northwestern District in the middle with **Madeline Wheeler** and **Kathy Picard** survivors and advocates

The food and beverage was perfect and very adequate for the time frame involved. The presentations were all interesting and District Attorney Elizabeth Scheibel was a great speaker and Mistress of Ceremonies. I know that I enjoyed the exchange of information at my table regarding the Case Studies and we were fortunate to have Lawanza Lett-Brewington, Executive Director of Safe Passage as a facilitator. I had occasion during the break to speak with some attendees who asked some specific questions and were grateful for the information they learned so that they can help some friends affected by violence.



All attendees appeared most appreciative of the testimonials and support they received at the event. It was most encouraging to have so many new and experienced professionals and attendees working or having small children eager to learn how they can assure their safety so that they do not experience or can manage the enduring effects of household violence.

The setting was perfect and very comfortable for this event. I do not know the details of the expenses involved but certainly know that it was such a worthwhile "A" Zonta service project that should justify the sharing of the costs by all the clubs involved from service funds. Last evening was the culmination of the collaborative efforts of many Zontians and was an inspiration for future possibilities to come. Kudos to B.J., Mary Knight and all those Zontians and friends who helped sponsor such a meaningful event.



Debbie Wood
Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley

Zonta of Quaboag Valley proudly presents its 2008 Founders Day Recipient Nancy Fletcher



This year's recipient has devoted her vast experience to area youth and truly exemplifies the ideals of Zonta. Nancy Fletcher of Belchertown is founder and Executive Director of ACT NOW! Inc – a nonprofit organization dedicated to building character and confidence in youth, particularly girls, through improvisation and moviemaking. Nancy has taught

video to children, Amherst Leisure Services, and worked with the New Haven Youth At Risk project. She studied with David Shepherd. As founder of Equinox Documentary and Promotional Video, Nancy produced and directed more than 20 video projects, including internationally circulated promotional videos on Amherst and the Central Asian country, Kyrgyzstan.

She was an actor with Shtick and Stones Comedy Improv Group and appeared in "Trusting Me", Baystate Medical's "Women and Aid Project". She is former director of public relations for Mount Holyoke college and President of Fletcher Associates Public Relations. These are just some of the projects she has been involved in. We look forward to learning more about this dynamic, creative woman.

ACTNOW! is dedicated to building confidence and character in young people, primarily adolescent girls. In our core program, the ACTNOW! staff helps players create their very own short movie in the course of one day. The players select a site, invent a story, create characters, improvise scenes on camera and screen the result within 24 hours.

ACTNOW! uses MOVIEExperience™, David Shepherd's** method of creating improvisational movies. Shepherd, whose role in producing professional improvisational theater in Chicago in the 1950's earned him the nickname "father of improv," is credited with launching the careers of Alan Alda, Elaine May, Mike Nichols and many more. The agency is governed by a board of nine directors, including David Shepherd, and guided by an international committee of 50 female E-visors.

October meeting minutes Continued from page

Joanne's efforts helped raise over \$1,200 for ZIF. Northampton club had 100% member contribution. We are now a member of "The Order of Good Times." This is an honorably membership from Nova Scotia.

International Projects: BJ shared her experience in Bolivia with a power point presentation. She told about the equipment that Zonta donated to six school to help with learning to read and write. Zonta is working on academic, vocational, sexual, and human rights education.

Service hours: Deb Wood and Marge walked in Brimfield for "Domestic Violence," four hours each. Joanne and Ann worked on Muligan Day in Palmer for 2-1/2 hours.

Other Business: Liz received an e-mail for the 4th World for Stand up against poverty. There is more information on the Zonta web site.

Mary – there are many events happening in the next months – see calendar to get ideas to work and put our name out there.

Raffle: Marge

Adjournment: 8:10pm

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Bardon, Secretary



Stepping Out Against Domestic Abuse and Walking Toward Community Awareness. Deb Wood and Marge Cavanaugh represented the club in Brimfield on October 5th to participate in a walk sponsored by the Tri-Town Domestic Violence Task Force to educate and raise awareness about domestic abuse. Posing with them is an honorary Zontian!



Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley

PO Box 1034

Belchertown MA 01007

<http://www.zontaqv.org>

Take Action

Say **NO to Violence against Women**

Help reach one million names by 25 November, when all names will be handed to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in a broadbased call for governments to take action to end violence against women and girls. **UNIFEM** Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman invites you to Say NO to Violence against Women. Add your voice to an ever-growing movement of people who call for global action to end violence against women. Go to <http://www.saynotoviolence.org/> and follow the prompts.



16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence 25 November - 10 December 2008



Join the 2008 Global Campaign! Human Rights for Women ↔ Human Rights for All
Zonta International invites all Zonta Clubs, Zontians and friends of Zonta to join this global campaign against gender violence. Campaign participants have been instrumental in bringing issues of violence against women to the forefront of local, national, regional and global arenas since the first campaign originated in 1991.

Since 1991, the 16 Days Campaign has helped to raise awareness about gender violence and highlighted its effects on women globally. Each year, thousands of activists from all over the world utilize the campaign to further their work to end violence against women. This year's theme is dedicated to recognizing the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 2008.

Take Action Kit and Ideas at: www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/16days/kit08/theme.html