

ZONTA



INTERNATIONAL

June 2010

Zo-NoHo News

Newsletter of the Zonta Club of Northampton Area

District 1, Area 2: Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month

E-mail: northampton@zontadistrict1.org; Web: www.zontadistrict1.org/northampton_ma/

President's Letter:

Dear Sister Zontians and Friends of Zonta,

I would like to begin by thanking outgoing board members for their commitment and service to Zonta. We look forward to their continued support and guidance. Also, a warm welcome to the new and returning board members. I greatly anticipate familiar as well as new and exciting agendas ahead for the Zonta Club of Northampton.

As the year winds down we still have a couple of events to look forward to. The membership meeting will be held on June 9th, 2010 at the Clarion Hotel, Northampton. This will be our annual planning meeting (first meeting of the Zonta year) and a great opportunity to hear from the committee chairs as to a summation of our past year.

In addition, please check back for more information on the annual Berkshire Children and Families Aide picnic held at Look Park, as well as our annual August gathering and potluck picnic.

I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you in September and throughout the summer.

In Zonta love and service

Megan Butow, President



This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting will be held on **Wednesday June 9, 2010** at Montana's Restaurant, Clarion Hotel, 1 Atwood St. Northampton: From I-91 North and South: Take exit 18, take a right at end of ramp. Hotel is 3 tenths of a mile on the right. Social, Business Meeting, and Dinner will be held in the restaurant.

Agenda:

- Induction of Donna Sroka, Treasurer
- Proposed changes to the ZI Bylaws that will be voted upon at the ZI Convention (Delegate Donna Sroka will keep our decisions in mind when she votes on our behalf).
- Annual Reports (2008-2010 Club Board and Club Committees)

Dinner will be ordered from the menu with separate checks. I will need to call in a head count for you and guests.

Call or email Megan Butow (msbutow@yahoo.com) by June 7, 2010 on status of attendance and guests.

Zonta International Convention



Donna Sroka will be our Club delegate at the Convention in San Antonio June 25-30. Thanks Donna! We will discuss some of topics to be voted on at our June club meeting. Check out www.zonta2010.org for updates on the convention.

District 1 Area 2 Spring Workshop

As outgoing District 1 Area 2 Director I was delighted to host the Area 2 Spring Workshop on May 1, 2010 at the Clarion Hotel, Northampton MA. During the time I served as Area Director I have had the honor of witnessing Area 2 Zontians' enthusiasm and commitment to Zonta International's mission and goals to advance the status of women worldwide. I have renewed old friendships, met new members to our Area and watched in awe at the leadership and achievements of the Area 2 membership.

Twenty-nine people from Area 2's five clubs attended the workshop that began with Lynn Goodhue, ZI representative, member of the Zonta Club of Northampton and past District Governor who gave a historical perspective at the time of the founding of Zonta in 1919. She took us on a Zonta Journey to the present and Zonta relevance in today's environment.

Each Club President/designee presented a current or upcoming service and/or advocacy projects that they especially proud of or that was a club challenge. I think Club sharing current initiatives were a testimony to Lynn's question **WHY ZONTA NOW?**

Dr. Mary Ann Rubis, Lt. Governor/Governor-Elect and Chair of the OMC Committee reported on recruitment activities for Area 2. I am proud that Area 2 has shown success in the past year with recruitment activities. The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley presented highlights of their Mentor/Mentee Program that may be a factor with that club's success and that clubs can consider with their recruitment/retention initiatives.

Debbie Knight, Chairwoman on the Marigold Fund's Board of Directors, presentation on the Marigold Fund received very favorable comments in the evaluations. Marigold Fund's mission is to help Afghans rebuild their country, and to establish substantial friendship and understanding between Afghans and Westerners. Project Focus Areas: Social Service, Health/Medical and Education. I will not be surprised that she receives inquiries from other Area 2 Zonta Clubs to present on the Marigold Fund.

Governor Nadine Salley presented the proposed bylaw changes at the upcoming 60th ZI Convention in San Antonio. Smith College Golden Z Club members were also present and spoke to the Zontians at the meeting. Dr. Mary Ann Rubis, Governor Elect and Debbie Wood, Area 2 Director Elect's shared their perspectives for the next Biennium.

Luncheon served as an opportunity to brainstorm with other clubs and for new area members to share with the Governor, Governor-elect and ZI representative.

Attendees were generous in their support of literacy with donation of books for *Links to Libraries*. *Links to*

Libraries, founded by Susan Jaye-Kaplan and Janet M. Crimmins, donate between 700-900 books each month throughout Western MA and N.CT.

Very positive evaluations and smiling faces concluded the day that was packed full of information, sharing, education for incoming Presidents, Treasurers and new members.

A warm thanks to those who assisted in making the workshop a success and to those in attendance.

Jayma Hall
Area 2 Director 2008-2010

Program Committee Report 2009-2010

This past "Zonta" year was another busy one for the Program Committee. The diverse programming reflects the varied interests of Zonta Club of Northampton's members and the mission of the Zonta Organization. Committee members Jayma Hall, Chair, Linda Gibbon, Judy Luddy and Lexi Johnson met at monthly meetings, or through email. Club members were requested to submit suggestions for topics or speakers.

The year began in **June** 2009 with a Celebration of our club's 75th Anniversary. The event was held at the Browsing Room, Smith College and opened to the public. The event included a special presentation by Steve Strimer, historian, worker-owner, printer and member of the **Sojourner Truth Memorial Statue Committee**. Club membership had an opportunity to share hors d'oeuvres with guests who joined in our celebration.

In **September** Kristen Golden, Executive Director and Joanne Sunshower, Project Coordinator spoke about a project funded by a grant from the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts called Women Building Bridges for Economic Development and Justice. The speakers shared the goals and strategies they have undertaken to address cross-class issues

In **October** Lynn Blaisdell provided an update on Grace House. She shared three primary goals of the recovery program at Grace House offered to addicted women and their children.

In **November** Peggy Hoime, CCCP, Certified Life Coach gave us an introduction to coaching techniques designed to enhance the lifelong process of learning, effectiveness, joy and fulfillment.

The Annual Holiday meeting in **December** was an International Cocktail Party at the lovely new home of Lexi Johnson. Guests included LaWanza Lett-Brewington who was presented with gifts for the women of Safe Passage. Debbie Knight, Chairwoman

of the Marigold Fund also joined us as well as Golden Z members. Those who braved the weather had a lovely evening of good food, drink and fellowship.

At our **January** meeting Meg Gage, President and Executive Director of the Proteus Fund was our speaker. Meg founded the Peace Development Fund in 1981 and served as its Executive Director until 1992. She served as the Executive Director of the Ottinger Foundation from 1992 through 1999 and founded Proteus Fund in 1995. She was awarded the Inaugural Robert W. Scrivner Award in 1986 for Creativity by an Individual Grantmaker. In 1997 she wrote *The Funders Handbook on Money in Politics*.

The **February** meeting was to be a brainstorming meeting about recruitment but because of the inclement weather, the meeting was cancelled.

Elections for the 2010-2012 Biennium were held at the **March** meeting. After a brief business meeting and dinner, a brainstorming session was lead by President Frasca. There was a lively discussion on future fundraising activities. Consensus was to continue with the Annual Poinsettia Sale and to begin solicitation, especially from businesses, late August/early September to increase Service Committee funds for 2010-2011. The cost/benefit of holding many small fundraisers versus one or two large fundraisers was discussed. The membership also brainstormed on future activities/events to attract potential club members with a goal of increased membership in the next Biennium.

At the **April** meeting, we invited potential members of Zonta to join us to learn more Zonta. Lynn Goodhue, Jayma Hall and Megan Butow spoke on the ZI, District, Area and Northampton Club goals and projects. Betsy Neisner, Director of the Cancer Connection gave an update on the Cancer Connection. Spoke about TIGER, a performance group that presents at schools assist children with issues such as bullying.

In **May**, the last meeting of the year, we held the induction of the elected Board for the 2010-2012 Biennium. Christie Marsh, Pharmacist, shared her recent experience in joining a medical team to work in Haiti as the earthquake recovery.

The Program Committee thanks the membership for their assistance and recommendations for this year's speakers. We encourage you to send requests and recommendations for presentations and speakers for the upcoming year.

Respectively Submitted,
Jayma G. Hall, Chair
Linda Gibbon, Judy Luddy,
Lexi Johnson

UN/Advocacy Committee Report 2009-2010

The most outstanding initiative carried out by the Northampton Area club was '16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women'. Almost all of our members participated and all activities chosen were unique. There were individual activities such as: collecting phones for Safe Passage; delivering baby sweaters and blankets to Care Center of Holyoke; planning a program with the Hilltown Coalition to End Domestic Violence; making a donation for supplies for a poetry workshop for incarcerated women; reading the book of poetry written by women in previous workshops; attending a forum at which one of the poets spoke about her life of hardship. It was recommended that the program committee invite this inspiring woman to speak at a club meeting. Activities included small group activities mostly with family members: a continuum of awareness through focusing on women's issues in discussion with nieces and a nephew; gathering information on the Montreal Massacre and discussing the event with a daughter and her BU classmate. We also participated in group discussions and activities: Golden Z Coffeehouse at Smith College to support and connect with our 'Z's', a graphics display presenting information on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for a Community Supper and church groups; and then there was massive participation in the Hot Chocolate Walk to benefit Safe Passage which provides support and services to survivors of domestic violence.

The club supported and promoted many educational programs, among them: Massachusetts Conference for Women; Walking Tours of Florence Women's History visiting sites relating to Sojourner Truth, Lydia Maria Child, Laura Knowles Washington, Anna Garlin Spencer, Frances Judd, Dolly Stetson, Olive Gilbert, and others; Women Building Bridges; Golden Z Coffeehouse – Access to Education for Girls in Afghanistan; Stand Up Against Poverty; distributed information concerning health insurance companies denying insurance claims in cases of domestic violence; distributed ZI template letter to encourage congress to ratify CEDAW; and biggest of all, 'Say NO and UNiTE Against Domestic Violence' a worldwide initiative.

Some of the women's health issues we addressed: donations of free mammograms to underprivileged women through the breastcancersite.com website; and the ambitious Golden Z of Smith College 'Voices of Haiti/Les Voix pour Haiti' benefit for Partners in Health.

There are many advocacy issues for the club to pursue in the coming biennium such as: 'An Act Defining Comparable Work' **S689/H1880** which is being addressed by former Lt. Governor Evelyn Murphy and

sponsored by Senator Jehlen and Representative Wolf as vital to the critical issue of closing the wage gap for women and the continuing effort to meet the 'Say NO – UniTE' goal of 1 million actions against world poverty by November, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted
Audrey Millgate, Chairman and Lynn Goodhue,
 Member

Membership Committee Report 2009-2010

In June 2009 we started with 17 members, and in May 2010 we ended the year with 18 members. This includes Verda Dale's membership.

Our programs continue to attract many guests to meetings and thanks to all who have invited guests to our events! The Zonta Web site, club newsletter, and advertisements in area publications have attracted several guests and prospective members. Unfortunately, the majority of these guests have not applied for membership. The membership committee did actively follow up with attendees who indicated further interest in Zonta, however no response was received.

The membership committee had 2 meetings in 2009-2010. In April, the club coordinated a meeting to introduce prospective members to Zonta. Held at the Clarion Hotel in Northampton, the meeting focused on a brief history of Zonta, on an international and local level, current service projects and a brief collaboration of speakers. Members were encouraged to invite guests and friends to introduce them to Zonta. About 3 speakers and prospective members attended with 2 women showing interest in attending future meetings and/or learning more about becoming a member. Unfortunately, the issues for many prospective members continue to be a lack of time to participate, concerns about the cost of membership, and/or attending dinner meetings, etc.

To retain and increase membership, there should be a good mix of service, programs at meetings, and advocacy. All three of these components attract new members and keep current members active. Publicity and a current and informative newsletter and web site are also important factors.

Membership is the responsibility of all club members, not just the board and the membership committee.

The membership committee invites all suggestions on how we can grow:

How to promote Zonta Club of Northampton Area and our activities?

Where can we find prospective members?

How can we retain current members?

How can we talk to friends, coworkers, etc about Zonta?

What are other clubs doing?

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to a great 2010-2011 year.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan S. Butow, Chair

Service Committee Report 2009-2010

The Service Committee recommended the following disbursements of the service funds raised in FY2009:

Zonta International Foundation	\$1000
Rose Fund	100
Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund	200
Jane M Klausman Scholarship Fund	100
Young Women in Public Affairs Award Fund	100
International Service Programs	250
ZISVAW Programs	250
Local Service	\$1400
Safe Passage (gift certificates) <i>Violence Against Women</i>	300
YWPA local award <i>Education</i>	500
Breast Form Foundation <i>Self Esteem</i>	300
Haitian Health Foundation <i>Economic, Health, Education</i>	300

We further recommended and the membership participated in the following activities:

- Volunteered at the **Berkshire Youth** (formerly Children's and Family Services of Northampton) Parents Aide Picnic in July at Look Park; members helped with food preparation, face painting, crafts, clean up, etc.
- Team participated in the Hot Chocolate Walk Run in December 2009, which raises money for **Safe Passage** (*Violence Against Women*)
- Donated cell phone for **Safe Passage** so women could have phones that call 911 (*Violence Against Women*)
- Brought donations of non-perishable food to January and May meetings for **Haitian Health Foundation** (*Health, Economic Status*)
- Hosted a fund raising event at Joia Beauty in April, which raised nearly \$300 for **Cancer Connection** (*Health, Self Esteem*)
- Volunteered at Bill's Challenge, a walk/run and a trikathlon (adult relay race on children's tricycles), to benefit **Cancer Connection** (*Health, Self Esteem*)

Here is more information about our local donations:

Safe Passage

Safe Passage is the local shelter for women victims of domestic violence and their children. Our gift provided gift cards of \$50 for each of the women residing at the shelter in December for them to purchase holiday gifts for their children.

YWPA

Co-chairs Lynn and Christine sent information packets to nearly all public and private high schools in Hampshire and Franklin counties (except Belchertown and Ware – the Quaboag Valley club solicits there), and to the YMCA, Girls Inc. and the Care Center. Club members Megan Butow and Christine Arcese, and Smith College professor Susan Van Dyne, evaluated the five applications received from young women at Hopkins Academy in Hadley (3 applicants), South Hadley High School and Northfield-Mt. Herman School.

The winning student, Hannah Michalak from Hopkins, was honored at our May meeting, where she was presented with a check for \$500. Her application has been sent on to Governor Nadine Salley for consideration for the District 1 award of \$1000; ours was one of only five clubs in the district to submit YWPA applications; the district winner has been selected, but the name will not be announced until the Zonta International award winners are announced in July. We are keeping our fingers crossed for Hannah. An article about Hannah appeared in the May 29 *Daily Hampshire Gazette*. (Thank you to Judy Luddy for handling the press release.)

Breast Form Foundation

The Breast Form Fund offers financial assistance for breast prostheses and post mastectomy bras for women who either have no insurance, or are under-insured. The BFF offers assistance to women of all ages and cultural backgrounds in Massachusetts. Our gift of \$300 buys one breast prosthesis.

Haitian Health Foundation

In previous years we had purchased goats for a Haitian family to provide milk and income. This year, partly in response to the devastation of the earthquake, we decided to give more money, \$300, to “adopt a family”. Our gift will provide food, rent and education for a family for one year. We voted to ask that the Foundation use our gift to support a family headed by a woman.

Other

We had also recommended donations of cash or gifts-in-kind as we had in past years to a number of worthy programs that we had supported in the past. These

were all tabled and remaining service funds will carry over to FY11.

Respectfully Submitted,
*Joyce Twarog, Linda Gibbon, Lynn Goodhue,
Christine Arcese*

Marigold Fund Receives Third Matching Grant

Debbie Knight, Chairwoman on the Marigold Fund's Board of Directors, who you will remember from the Global Action Against Poverty Everywhere (G.A.A.P.E) program that the Golden Z Club, chartered by the Zonta Club of Northampton Area, presented at Smith College, our Holiday Party at Lexi's and the District 1, Area 2 Spring Workshop, has confirmed good news. Marigold Fund recently received its third matching grant of \$126,000 from Doris Buffett, sister of Warren Buffet, and the Sunshine Lady Foundation.

Not only Area 2 Zontians are very impressed with Marigold's mission and success, in the short time of its establishment, due to the commitment of Marigold Fund's founders. Marigold Fund's mission is to help Afghans rebuild their country, and to establish substantial friendship and understanding between Afghans and Westerners.

Project Focus Areas: Social Service, Health/Medical and Education.

Zonta of the Northampton Club congratulate the Marigold Fund for its good work and future successes.

Elizabeth Clark, Captain of the Relay for Life Team “Cancer Crusaders”



Elizabeth Clark, granddaughter of Zonta Club of Northampton Area member Jayma Hall, was Captain of one of the ninety-seven teams that took a stand against cancer on May 21-22 at the fourth annual American Cancer Society's Relay For Life in Hopkinton, MA.

Elizabeth has been joining the Zonta Club of Northampton for a number of years with fundraising events such as Bill's Challenge for the Cancer Connection, Hot Chocolate Walk for Safe Passage and the annual Hampshire County Relay for Life at Look Park. Last year she made signs and cooked “S'mores” for our Zonta Club Team, “Zonta Zooms”.

This year she decided she would form her own team in her hometown of Hopkinton. She and five other eighth graders started early to make signs, make team T-Shirts and sell chocolate “ribbon” pops as a fundraiser. The Team “Cancer Crusaders” had a homepage for donations by sponsors to their team.

In gorgeous spring weather, teams gathered behind the Middle School at 4pm to set up their tents and belongings for the night ahead, and the Opening Ceremony began at 6pm. The survivor lap kicked off the relay; forty honored survivors with their loved ones took a lap around the track. The night was filled with themed laps and ceremonies around the school track, activities for those who needed to take a break from walking, and other fundraisers and raffles to support the cause.

Team parents and grandmothers of Elizabeth took shifts to chaperone the girls from the opening to the closing ceremonies. The Cancer Crusaders’ enthusiasm, hard work and Elizabeth’s leadership as Captain succeeded with reaching more than their goal of \$500.00.

Money is collected until August and it is predicted that this year’s Relay for Life will far exceed the goal of \$175,000.

Submitted by a very proud grandmother,
Jayma Hall

Committee Assignments 2010-2012

Status of Women/Service Membership

TBD TBD

Public Relations Program

TBD TBD
Verna Frasca, Newsletter

UN/Advocacy Finance

TBD TBD

Golden Z Club

Judy Luddy, liaison

EVERY MEMBER should be on at least one committee.
Which committee would you like to serve on?



Mark Your Calendar

June 2010

Wed 10 **Regular meeting**, 5:30 – 8:30 PM, Montana’s, Clarion Hotel, Northampton

25-30 Zonta International Convention, San Antonio

July 2010

TBD Picnic with Berkshire Families and Children

August 2010

TBD Club picnic

September 2010

Tue 7 Board meeting, home of Megan Butow, 6:30 PM

Wed 15 **Regular meeting**, 5:30 – 8:30 PM, Location TBA (NOTE this is the 3rd Wednesday of September!)

Tue 21 International Day of Peace

October 2010

Tues 5 Board meeting, home of Megan Butow, 6:00 PM

Wed 13 **Regular meeting**, 5:30 – 8:30 PM, Location TBA

22-24 Fall Conference, Bedford MA

Sun 24 United Nations Day

November 2010

Tue 2 Board meeting, home of Megan Butow, 6:00 PM

Wed 10 **Regular meeting**, 5:30 – 8:30 PM, Location TBA

25-Dec 10 16 Days of Activism

Tue 30 Board meeting, home of Megan Butow, 6:00 PM

December 2010

Wed 1 World AIDS Day

Wed 8 **Regular meeting/holiday party**, 5:30 – 8:30 PM, Location TBA

Fri 10 International Human Rights Day

Club Officers – 2010-2012

President: Megan Butow

Vice President: Alexis Johnson

Treasurer: Donna Sroka

Secretary: Joyce Twarog

Directors: Verna Frasca, Kim Pisinski, Judy Luddy

Zonta Web Sites

Zonta International: www.zonta.org

Convention: www.zonta2010.org

District 1: www.zontadistrict1.org

Northampton:

www.zontadistrict1.org/northampton_ma/