

ZONTAGRAM

ZONTA CLUB OF WESTCHESTER
CONSTITUENT OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 3 AREA 1 ORGANIZED 1931

January 2012



MONTHLY MEETING

January 17th,
2012

J.C. Fogarty's
60 Kraft Avenue
Bronxville, NY

**Board Meeting
to be Held at
5:30pm prior to
the General
Meeting**

Members & Guests
\$35.00
Cocktails 6:00 pm
Dinner 6:45 pm

**Topic:
Swing with a
Zing!!!**

Unable to Attend
Call Jo-Ann
Farenga
346-5654

OFFICERS

President
Alice Massa

Vice President
Sheila Sievertsen

Treasurer
Georgia LaBlanc

Recording Secretary
Constance Crump

Directors
Karen Carroll
Vivienne Bartley
Mayra Rodriguez
Stella Reiss

COMMITTEES

Finance
Jamie Hubert

Organization, Membership & Classification
Theresa Sigauke

Public Relations & Communication
Vivienne Bartley

Service
Shirley Carter

United Nations
Pat Latona

Archives
Georgia LaBlanc

Programs
TBA

Legislative Awareness & Advocacy
Shelia Sievertsen & Nora Gorman

Parliamentarian
Minna Elgart

Nominating
S. Carter, P. Wines, P. Latona

Newsletter
A. Crew S. Reiss

Website
Mayra Rodriguez

January 1, 2012

Dear Westchester members,

The New Year has arrived in a flurry of activity. Final plans are being made for the RAD workshop, and preparations are being made for the spring fundraiser and membership initiatives.

I was asked by the Kiwanis club to do a presentation at their meeting on Zonta. I will be there on January 24th presenting information about Zonta International and our club.

This holiday season, we were able to assist a woman and her children from Hope's door celebrate the holidays with a supermarket gift card and toys for the children. We collected gift cards for Victims' assistance and Hope's Door, to provide the dignity of choice to the woman serviced by these agencies. Many of our members assisted in buying a water heater and arranged for installation for a local working woman and her family, who had no hot water for over a year. As I have said so many times before, I am so proud to be a part of this Zonta group.

At our December meeting, the Zonta Club of Westchester was presented with a donation from the family of Pat Latona, in honor of their mom who passed recently. What a wonderful gift!

Some of our members have made individual donations to Zonta International Foundation. I encourage all to think about doing so. Funds for special programs have tightened in this economy and I believe that the mission of Zonta International is a substantial component of positive change in our world. I would like to publically thank Georgia LaBlanc and Nora Gorman for making donations in my name to Zonta International.

I hope to see you all at our January meeting.
Happy and Healthy New Year!!

Alice De Luise Massa, President

Remembering Zontian Amelia Earhart

To Amelia Earhart

*Earthbound, we watched, enthralled,
As unafraid you climbed the cloud-
strewn sky;
Your flight a symbol of that great heart
That dared apathy and prejudice defy.
"Own your soul!" your voice rings clear.
So gaily began your last long flight.
Circling the globe, Electra's gallant crew
Through wind and fog, missed finding
Howland light.
For us, AE you'll never die.
The world, fleetingly, became less sad
and drear
For the courage and concern we saw
In your brief, joyous sojourn here.*

-Muriel Morrissey, sister of Amelia Earhart and charter member of the Zonta Club of Medford, Massachusetts

On 2 July 1928, as Amelia Earhart, world-famed aviator and the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean as a passenger, approached the shores of the United States on her triumphant return home, she was handed this radiogram:

**Boston Zonta Club is proud to
welcome you as a member.**

Signed Alice Bradley, President

A few weeks later, she was inducted into Zonta International and served as an active member first in the Boston club and later in the New York club until her tragic and untimely disappearance in 1937. An outstanding woman with a charismatic personality, Earhart was universally admired around the world for her "wildly daring" but "never reckless" courage.



Over the years 1928 to 1937, she organized the Ninety-Nines, an organization for women pilots, and became the first woman to:

- *Fly the Atlantic alone.
- *Fly an autogiro.
- *Receive the United States
- *Distinguished Flying Cross.
- *Fly from Hawaii to the mainland.

Epitomizing the ideals of Zonta International by actively promoting women to take on non-traditional fields, she wrote articles about aviation for Cosmopolitan magazine as an associate editor, served as a career counselor to women university students, and lectured at Zonta club meetings, urging members to interest themselves in aviation.

I don't know just when Amelia began to plan for the around-the-world flight. Neither do I know how much various conversations, with then President Roosevelt, had to do with her decision to attempt to circle over the Japanese occupied islands of the Pacific.

It may have been merely the desire to conquer the world's seas because they were there and no woman had yet crossed them by air. Anyway, the plan was born and the months of testing and research and discipline followed. Because she was teaching at Purdue University, she was given the wonderful "Flying Laboratory" the Lockheed Electra. After her Hawaii-Oakland flight, the National Geographic gave her their coveted medal for outstanding contributions to science. They recognized the careful research that went into the blueprints for her trip.

The last flight was begun in 1937 in May. On July 3 an S.O.S. was picked up from somewhere between Lae, New Guinea, and Howland Island. Exactly what happened we shall never know. Of this only we are certain: Amelia died as she lived, doing the work she loved with her whole soul. Amelia left a letter to her husband George Putnam saying, "Please know that I am quite aware of the hazards. I want to do it because I want to do it. Women must try to do things as men have tried. When they fail, their failures must be a challenge to others."

**Source: A History of Zonta
International, 1919-1999**

CALENDAR

DATE	MEETING	LOCATION	PROGRAM
January 17, 2012	General—6:30am	Fogarty's	Swing with a Zing
February 21, 2012	General—6:30pm	Fogarty's	Speaker—Prison Chaplain
Mar 20, 2012	General 6:30	Fogarty's	Health Panel
Apr 14, 2012		Davenport Club	SPRING FUNDRAISER
Apr 17, 2011	General 6:30	Fogarty's	Committee Reports
May 15, 2012	General 6:30	Fogarty's	Installation of New Officers
May 19, 2012	Amelia Earhart Event with Queens Westchester County Airplane		
June 23, 2012	General	*Member's home	

AMELIA EARHART FELLOWSHIP

The Amelia Earhart Fellowship program helps talented women, pursuing advanced studies in the typically male-dominated fields of aerospace-related sciences and engineering, achieve their educational goals. The Fellowship enables these women to invest in state-of-the-art computers to conduct their research, purchase expensive books and resource materials, and participate in specialized studies around the globe. Amelia Earhart Fellows have gone on to become astronauts, aerospace engineers, astronomers, professors, geologists, business owners, heads of companies, even Secretary of the US Air Force.

Since the program's inception, Zonta has awarded 1,333 Amelia Earhart Fellowships, totaling US\$7.5 million, to women from 65 countries.

How Does the Program Support Zonta's Mission to Advance the Status of Women?

The Amelia Earhart Fellowships focus on eliminating the gender bias that women face in pursuing doctoral degrees in the sciences. Women are beginning to demonstrate a progression from limited representation in aerospace-related sciences to being leaders in the field. During the first years of the program, the awards committee had trouble finding qualified applicants, and worked as mentors with potential applicants to help them become qualified for the awards. Today, as evidence of the increasing numbers of women in aerospace-related sciences and engineering, the challenge is choosing the most promising women from among the many qualified applicants. In addition, while professional and academic recommendations in this field were once written exclusively by males, many of today's applicants receive recommendations from respected professors and professionals who are past Fellows themselves.

Since 1996, 35-40 awards have been given to Fellows around the globe each year. In 2008, the Fellowship amount was increased to US\$10,000. See www.Zonta.org for additional information.

United Nations Report: Submitted by Pat Latona

As part of my work as a member of Zonta's UN committee, I will be participating in a newly formed committee: NGO COMMITTEE AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS. According to its mission statement the NGOCATIP is dedicated to the eradication of human trafficking in all its forms through education, advocacy, research, and monitoring compliance with United Nations treaties, protocols, laws, and resolutions. The Committee recognizes the urgency of a) raising awareness of trafficking in persons as a violation of Human Rights, b) ensuring action at the UN to address the underlying causes of human trafficking, and c) advocating for provision of services to victims.

Our main goals are to 1) educate ourselves and others about - criminal trafficking networks and effective processes to eradicate them; 2) research underlying causes of human trafficking, including demand, cultural factors, poverty, undocumented migration, and use of the internet in violation of basic human rights; and 3) study UN Human Rights framework, treaties, protocols, and General Assembly resolutions, as they relate to trafficking in persons. I will keep you up-to-date as the committee develops and work progresses.

Beginning February 27th and ending March 9th, the 56th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) will be held at the UN. Every year, representatives of Member States gather at the UN to evaluate progress on gender equality, identify challenges, set global standards and formulate concrete policies to promote gender equality and women's empowerment worldwide. The Three (3) Themes will include: 1) **Priority theme:** The empowerment of rural women and their role in poverty and hunger eradication, development and current challenges; 2) **Review theme:** Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women; and 3) **Emerging issue:** Engaging young women and men, girls and boys, to advance gender equality.

As a member of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women I will be attending several events during these two weeks. The NGO CSW is made up of 80 NGOs including Zonta and is instrumental in organizing the Consultation Day on February 26th which prepares participants for the CSW meeting. NGO CSW also organizes two weeks of Parallel Events which bring together NGO representatives from around the world for networking, sharing strategies and best practices, and for lobbying governments and encouraging them to implement resolutions, and allocate necessary resources.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

ATTENTION MEMBERS!! Have you ever dreamed of being president?? Now's your chance!!!

Officers and Directors needed for the coming Biennium, 2012-2014

We need volunteers for the following positions:

President

Vice President

Secretary

2 Board Members.

For more information, speak with one of the members of the nominating committee at the next meeting!

SAVE THE DATE!!

**Saturday, April 14,
2012**

**Zonta Club of
Westchester's
13th Annual Fundraiser:
Spring Fashion Show
and Brunch!!**

Time: 11am-3pm

**Tickets will go on sale
starting in January!**

**Be sure to tell all of
your friends and family
members!!**

Annual UN Event

"Meet and Greet 2012"

**Saturday, March 3,
2012**

4pm-6pm

**Beekman Hotel Top of
the Tower**

New York City

**Light Hors d'oeuvres &
Cash Bar**

\$44.00 per person

*Washington DC Zonta Club is
hosting its*

**Zonta Spring Gala and Silent
Auction**

*Hyatt Regency
Capital Hill*

March 24, 2012

**90 years of Changing the lives of
Women in Washington and the
World**

\$95 per person

Thanks to our December speaker, Thandi Lewis, who told us about the Tribute World Trade Center Visitor Center. Here is a brief overview of the center's mission:

Tribute WTC Visitor Center offers visitors to the World Trade Center site a place where they can connect with people from the September 11th community. Through walking tours, exhibits and programs, the Tribute WTC Visitor Center offers "Person to Person History," linking visitors who want to understand and appreciate these historic events with those who experienced them.

The Tribute Center embodies the need to gather at the World Trade Center site, connect with the people, places and events of February 26, 1993 and September 11, 2001, and reflect. The Tribute WTC Visitor Center expands upon the September 11th Families' Association mission to unite and support victims of terrorism by incorporating the entire 9/11 community - families, survivors, residents, rescue workers and volunteers affected by 9/11/01. The Center creates a central place for information about 9/11 at the WTC site. Visitors learn factual information about the events on September 11th, the identity of 2,973 people killed in the attacks, the unprecedented rescue and recovery operations and the tremendous spirit of support and generosity that arose after the attacks.

Program components provide sensitive reception and hospitality to men, women and children from all over the world who will receive guidance, friendship, and the opportunity to carry with them a significant memory for the rest of their lives. The educational program depicts to visitors a core curriculum through the gallery space, lectures, multimedia displays and guided walks around the World Trade Center site.

Daily walking tours take place on the 9/11 Memorial. Tribute Center Walking Tour Guides are 9/11 survivors, lower Manhattan residents, recovery workers, volunteers who assisted in the recovery efforts, or family members that lost loved ones. Tours begin at the Tribute Center. The tour includes a brief history of the World Trade Center before the attacks and the events and aftermath of September 11th, with personal experiences of survival, loss and healing woven in. Each tour offers unique first hand experiences and ends in discussion of the rebuilding and the growth of the new World Trade Center site.

Visit www.tributewtc.org for more information.

**Congratulations
To our Zontian of the
year,**

**Patricia
Latona!!**

**We appreciate all of
the time and effort
you've put into our
club!!**

MLK Day 2012: Not a Day off, a Day of Service

On January 14th, 2012, the Volunteer Center will be holding its annual service day in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Volunteers will participate in over 25 service projects including companionship for seniors, education for youth, painting homeless shelters, artistic inspiration, conflict resolution exercises and environmentalism in Westchester, Putnam and now Rockland counties. In White Plains, projects will take place at the Public Library, YMCA, WJCS, Pass it on Kid's Kloset, and Youth Bureau. More information is on our website at www.volunteer-center.org and registration is now open.

Happy Birthday, Dr. King!!



Happy Birthday!!!

Patricia Latona – January 27