

ZONTAGRAM



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

February 2009



Seated in Front L-R: Peggy Wines, Georgia LaBlanc, Doreen LaBlanc, Shirley Carter, Alice Massa. Standing L-R: Antonio Gupta (new inductee), Ijeoma Nduka-Nwosu, Catherine Kocur, Patricia Latona

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www.zontawestchesterny.org
www.zontadistrict3.org
www.zonta.org

Dear Zontians,

It was a cold, wintry night plus it was the Inauguration of President Obama and all the Inauguration Balls were televised, which is probably why only 9 club members attended the January meeting. And here we are proudly posing in the picture above. Nevertheless, it was a productive, enjoyable and pleasant evening. We inducted our 5th new member, Antonia Gupta, who has already procured a speaker for the March meeting. Thank you, Antonia.

Our upcoming April 4th Spring Fashion Show and Brunch dominated much of our discussion: Journal Ads, Auction Items, Models, and How Can We Make It The Best Ever! And the answer to our success comes from your participation; attending and bring guests, taking an ad and asking others to also take an ad, donating auction items (both big and small), as well as soliciting auction items from your neighborhood merchants. But beyond the planning is the realization that we always have a great time and the monies raised fund so many important projects and worthy causes. So save the date, make your reservation and plan to have fun! Additional information included in this newsletter.

MONTHLY MEETING
February 17th, 2009

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

Members and Guests:
\$30.00
Cocktails 6:00
Dinner promptly at
6:45

BOARD MEETING
February 17, 2009

6:30 PM

PROGRAM
"Celebrate
Black History Month"

Presentation
President Barack
Obama & Michelle
Obama

Call Doreen LaBlanc if
you are unable to attend

(914) 779-3475

It is often said that February is one of the bleakest months with snowy, slushy streets, heavy gray clouds that block the sun and bitter cold winds. Yet there are many positive aspects about the month: it only has 28days!; Valentine's Day brings sweet candy and lovely red roses; we honor two great presidents, George Washington (1732-1799) and Abraham Lincoln (1809 – 1865); and we celebrate Black History Month.

On April 30, 1789, George Washington, standing on the balcony of Federal Hall on Wall Street in New York, took his oath of office as the first President of the United States. On January 1, 1863 President Abraham Lincoln, issued the Emancipation Proclamation that declared forever free those slaves within the Confederacy. The spirit that guided him is reflected in his second Inaugural Address, now inscribed on one wall of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C.: "With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds.... "

First established in 1926, Black History Month is a time when we celebrate the contributions and highlight the diverse and important roles so many African Americans have made to our country. We owe the celebration of Black History Month, and more importantly, the study of black history, to Dr Carter G. Woodson. For 2009 the official Black History Month theme is "The Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas", which is determined by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. With the election of the first Black President and the 100th anniversary of the NAACP it is more reason than ever to celebrate.

Join us on February 17th as the Zonta Club of Westchester celebrates Black History Month.

Be well,
Pat Latona



Happy Birthday

Georgia LaBlanc	February 2
Vicki Grella	February 4
Hermie Hubert	February 22

ZING
March 10th
Membership Meeting

Re-Scheduled

Want to discover more about Zonta?

Do others you know want to learn who we are, what we do and why we do it?

Do you have ideas and suggestions on how to make our club better, more interesting, productive?

**Your input is appreciated
Your support is vital**

JOIN US & BRING A GUEST
(in fact, bring two guests)

Remember - March 10th
(2nd Tuesday of March)

Update Your
Address / Phone Book
Linda Brown
1020 Warburton Ave #5E
Yonkers NY 10701.
914 613 7999



**February 17th
General Membership Meeting**

**Celebrate
Black History
Month**

**A fascinating look at our
newest President,
Barack Obama & the First Family**

**Presented By
Karen Carroll**

Where Were You?

By Karen D. Carroll

Many Americans have often asked each other this question during times of struggle and hope. There have been several historic events that people of my generation can recall exactly where they were when they happened. The historic event of electing Barack Hussein Obama, a person of mixed racial heritage, to become the first African-American President of the United States on November 4th, 2008; has caused me to reflect on where I was for three emotional events in my life.

It was a Friday, November 22, 1963. I was in the second grade at P.S. 27 in Yonkers. I remember the Principal coming to our classroom door and spoke briefly to our teacher. She was crying when she re-entered the classroom. She simply said was time for us all to go home. When I got home, my Mother was watching TV. She was also crying. President John F. Kennedy had been shot riding in a parade in Texas. I remember everyone being sad, watching the funeral and John-John Kennedy saluting his father's casket. I remember the somberness of that time, but as a seven years old, I just wanted everything to "return to normal".

At 6:01 pm on April 4, 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was assassinated. It was a time of great mourning for our country, but especially for African Americans. We were called Negroes at that time. Soon after the assassination riots erupted around the country. I was in the eighth grade in Junior H.S. which was integrated, but with fewer children of color than white children. I remember one Friday an announcement came over the school's public address system that there would be an assembly at the end of the school day. It was unusual to have an assembly just before the weekend. When I entered the auditorium I realized that only the Negro students were there. A decision had been made to sequester us in the auditorium while the white students were dismissed. It was one of the first times that I actually felt "different." Students that I considered my friends were now afraid of me, simply because my skin color was different from theirs. Fortunately, all of us did eventually get back to our normal relationships and friendships.

On November 4, 2008, Barack Obama, accomplished what many us had dreamed of, but few believed it would happen in their lifetime. I cannot recall ever believing that I would live to see an African American elected to the highest office of this great country. I like most children, were told that if you try and work hard enough, you can grow up to become anything you wanted to be. I grew up in a time where even though I did work hard, go to school, and become a Registered Nurse, I couldn't move into any neighborhood that I wanted to live in.

For the first time, I actually believe that my grandchildren can, if they work hard, become anything that they want to be. There is a renewed energy, hope and pride in being American. As we celebrate in the inauguration and presidency of Barack Obama in 2009 I know that around the world people will all be asking.....Where were you?

CALENDAR

Zonta Club of Westchester

Date	Meeting	Location	Program
Feb 17, 2009	Monthly	Fogarty's	Black History Month Speaker
Mar 10, 2009 <i>New date!</i>	Monthly	Fogarty's	U.N. Speaker & ZING (Bring a Guest)
Apr 4, 2009	Fundraiser	Davenport Club	Spring Luncheon & YWPA Award Woman of the Year
Apr 21, 2009	Monthly	Fogarty's	Annual Meeting & Reports
May 19, 2009	Monthly	Fogarty's	Women's Health Speaker, & Club Scholarship
Jun 23, 2009	Monthly	Fogarty's	Fun



SCHOLARSHIPS

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Zonta Club of Westchester offers a \$1000 scholarship to an eligible undergraduate or graduate student studying in a Westchester college/university.

Applications are available at the General Membership Meetings or by calling Patricia Latona at 914-548-2702.

YWPA AWARD

The Zonta Club of Westchester offers a \$1000 award to an eligible pre-college student (age 16-20).

Have Fun! Join Us!
10th Annual Brunch & Fashion Show

Meet & Greet
"Woman of the Year"
Janine Rose

News Director & Anchor
News12 Westchester/Hudson Valle,



Saturday, April 4, 2009

11:00 AM

Davenport Club

Davenport Road, New Rochelle, New York
Donation \$50.00 At the Door \$55.00

All Welcome - Family, Friends, Children, Loved Ones

Don't Miss Out! RSVP by March 24th

Legislative Awareness

Confirmation Hearing Addresses Women's Rights Issues

Senator Hillary Clinton's confirmation hearing for Secretary of State covered a host of women's rights issues. She said, "of particular concern to me is the plight of women and girls, who comprise the majority of the world's unhealthy, unschooled, unfed, and unpaid."

In response to Senator Barbara Boxer who showed pictures of women burned and scarred from gender-based attacks, she promised to persuade world leaders and governments "that we cannot have a free, prosperous, peaceful progressive world if women are treated in such a discriminatory way."

In Nicholas Kristof's New York Times article of January 13th, he quoted Senator Clinton. "No woman or girl should have to live in fear or face persecution for being born female."

She pledged that the State Dept would have a very active office on trafficking and that the State Dept. would speak out "consistently and strongly against discrimination and oppression of women, and slavery in particular."

In his column, Kristof hopes that this new agenda will be embraced. Those of us in Zonta hope so as well.

Source
Mary Ann Tarantula
Zonta Club of Northern Valley, NJ

I AM THE CHAIR OF THE JANE M. KLAUSMAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIPS

If You Know Someone Pursuing An Undergraduate Degree In Business, Please Encourage Them To Apply.

The application can be obtained from the web at www.zonta.org

The scholarship award is \$5,000 from Zonta International. Local clubs and the district can also offer an award.

February Service Needs

EJ CHARITIES – BRING ATMs.
Aspirin, Tylenol, Multi-Vitamins.

E.J. will be leaving soon for her annual pilgrimage to her homeland to render much needed medical care. We wish her well.

\$10 Gift Cards - In preparation for International Women's Day and Rose Day in March please bring in \$10 (minimum) gift cards which will be donated to My Sister's Place at the March meeting. A good choice are CVS cards and cards from other establishments close to the agency

March Service Needs

Knitting for Children of Afghanistan

**Auction Items Needed for April
4th Fundraiser**

**Please Bring Them to the
February 17 Meeting**

This Zontagram is published by Catherine Kocur with the help of our club members. All are invited to send articles, stories, poems and other items to be published in the Zontagram to Catherine Kocur at ckocur2@verizon.net or mail to 168 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville, NY 10570.