

# ZONTAGRAM

December 2004

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



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

I feel like I blinked and once again December has arrived with the promise of traditional celebrations, family gatherings, special foods and drinks, snowmen with carrot noses, button eyes and candy smiles. This month has it's own special magic for people of all ages.

Thank you Jane Easterbrook for making calls to members unable to attend the monthly meetings, checking to be sure that they are well, have received their Zontagram and briefly updating them on the meeting they missed.

I am pleased that every member present at our November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was able to sign the card for Mary Ellen Bittner, which was mailed the following day. It was a pleasure to have our two guests brought by Minna Elgart and Georgia LaBlanc present at our November meeting. It would be a pleasure to have both of our guests join us as Zontians.

Gay French Ottaviani – domestic violence counselor with the Northern Westchester Shelter did coordinate with Karen Coleman regarding the sponsorship for the holiday-Adopt a Family for Christmas program. Karen was given information about 4 families and was able to select 2 families for the club using the financial guideline of not spending more than \$300. At our November meeting Karen shared with us a little about the 2 families selected. The

## MONTHLY MEETING

December 21st

**Star Canyon Steakhouse**  
42 West Broad Street  
Mount Vernon, NY  
Phone 914 668-5551  
**Members & Guests \$30.00**  
**Board Meeting—5:30**

**6:00 Cocktails 6:45 Dinner**

## PROGRAM

**Jackie Shapiro, Area I Director**  
AND

**Music by Jonny Johansson**  
**Yonkers Music Academy**

Please call Catherine Kocur 964-4245 if you are not coming to the meeting. **ALL MEMBERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND MUST CALL BY DECEMBER 17th**

The club response was if there is a need to spend more to purchase the items for the families this can be worked out with a maximum of \$500 to be spent. Karen shared the information of the other 2 families with Pat Latona and Alice Massa who requested a family to adopt.

At our November meeting we celebrated Zonta's 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a lemon filled cake decorated with cream icing, yellow roses and lit candles. The Zonta candles were blown out by Min Barish Zontian for 38 years and Minna Elgart Zontian for 34 years. Our membership chairperson Ellen Manopoli, acknowledged all members-with Honorable mention to all of us who have been members 1-15 years and

## OFFICERS

President

*Shirley Carter*

1st Vice President

*Ellen Manopoli*

2nd Vice President

*Evelyn Garba*

Treasurer

*Lucetta Ganley*

Recording Secretary

*Patricia Latona*

Corresponding Secretary

*Julia Murphy*

## DIRECTORS

*Joan Manning Foulke*

*Minna Elgart*

*Catherine Kocur*

*Nora Gorman*

## COMMITTEES

Finance *Jamie Hubert*  
Organization, Membership  
& Classification

*Ellen Manopoli*

Public Relations

*Sheila Sievertsen*

*Alice Massa*

Status of Women Service

*Evelyn Garba*

*Nora Gorman*

United Nations

*Vera Voges*

## WEB SITE

[www.zontawestchesterny.org](http://www.zontawestchesterny.org)

a prepared certificate of acknowledgement for all members that have been Zontians 15 years and more.

Thank you once again to Mary Jean Howland for making our Auction so special. You helped the auction come alive with your descriptions of each item. We look forward to the next auction and to you as auctioneer.

I hope that every member has participated or is participating in the 16 days of action HIV/AIDS Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> – Dec.10<sup>th</sup>.

Our December meeting promises to be entertaining, fun and informative, giving time and receiving time. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

So long until I see you!

*Shirley Carter*



## UNITED NATIONS –

The United nations committee has received an invitation to a briefing on

**Gender Justice in Post-Conflict situations.** The date is Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Church Center for the United Nations, 777 United Nations Plaza— 12<sup>th</sup> floor (44<sup>th</sup> Street entrance near First Avenue). The Reception is from 5:30 to 6PM and the Briefing is from 6-7PM.

The guest speaker will be Norleen Heyzer, Executive Director, of UNIFEM. Addressing a UN Security Council Open Debate last month, Ms. Heyzer stressed the critical opportunity that post-conflict reconstruction presents for establishing justice and the rule of law for women. *“It has taken more than two decades for women’s voices to be seriously heard, a decade to establish the...frameworks for gender justice in order to remove violence against women and empower them economically and politically. Women from war-torn societies around the world are waiting to implement the recommendations contained in Security Council 1325 in ways that made a real difference in their every day lives. We cannot allow another decade to pass before this happens.”*

You may recall that Ms. Heyzer was the keynote speaker at the Zonta

Convention in July. UNA and UNIFEM/USA Members – No charge  
Non Members - \$10.00

Submitted by Vera Voges,  
UN Chair



## Status of Women

Without rights, women won't beat HIV/AIDS. The number of HIV-infected people rose to 39.4 million people in 2004. Nearly half of them were women. The pandemic is increasingly taking on a feminine face as it enters its globalization phase, but current prevention strategies are of little use to the millions of them who don't have the power to say no to sex or to insist on condom use. The lack of women's equality—from poverty and stunted education to rape and denial of women's inheritance and property rights—is a major obstacle to victory over the virus, according to an HIV status report published in November 2004 by

UNAIDS. Dr. Kathleen Cravero, deputy chief of UNAIDS, said the current HIV prevention strategies that urge women to abstain from sex until marriage, be faithful to their husbands and use condoms, are inadequate.

The global battle against HIV will ultimately fail unless serious progress is made on women's rights in the developing world, the UNAIDS chief warns.

Submitted by *Nora Gorman*, Status of Women Co-chair

## MEMBERSHIP BOOK CORRECTION

Evelyn Garba  
(845) 639-4465



## SERVICE PROJECT

### Pajamas and Books for Young Adults

The Pajama Program Reading Center opened in July at the Andrus

Children Center in Yonkers. This program is the brain child of Genevieve Piturro who established the program to bring warmth and comfort to needy children. The organization welcomes donations of all sizes from infant to young adults. Some of the children in the upper age groups are bigger and need larger pajamas than normal. Please consider sizes 10-18 for young men and women when donating at the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting as this group is often overlooked.

You might also consider volunteering time to meet your service requirement, reading out loud to the children at the Yonkers center. A representative will speak briefly to this and bring back our donations at our holiday dinner meeting.

Submitted by *Nora Gorman*, Service Co-chair

## ZONTA'S 85<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

At our November meeting we celebrated Zonta's 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday with candles and cake.

Ellen Manopoli, membership chair, also honored our club members by listing their number of years in the club.

Special Certificates were awarded to those who have been members for 15 years or more. Our club has eleven such members and would you believe all but one was present!!



## HOLIDAY AUCTION

Thanks to all who attended the November meeting. There were 27 members and 2 guests. The six members that did not attend really missed a fun evening, an evening that included a chance to bid on some wonderful items.

The **net result** was that we raised **\$905.00** for our service fund.

The distinction of being the "BIG SPENDER" went to Pat Latona with Evelyn Garba being a close runner up. I am sure that they will have competition next year.

## Gifts

Your smile and acclaim

are gifts I hold

better far

than a chain of gold.

--Minna Elgart

### Upcoming Events

**Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> to Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>**  
 “16 Days of Action”

**December 21<sup>st</sup>** Regular  
 Meeting at the Star  
 Canyon Steakhouse

**January 11<sup>th</sup>** Amelia  
 Earhart Day

**January 18<sup>th</sup>** Regular  
 Meeting

**February 15<sup>th</sup>** Regular  
 Meeting

**February 26<sup>th</sup>**  
 NYC - UN Event

**March 5<sup>th</sup>** Annual  
 Fundraiser  
 Brunch/Fashion Show

**March 8<sup>th</sup>** Zonta Rose Day

**March 15<sup>th</sup>** Regular  
 Meeting

**April 16<sup>th</sup>**  
 Area 1 & 2 Workshop  
 Host Club:  
 Greater Queens

**April 19<sup>th</sup>** Regular  
 Meeting

### RED RIBBONS

Have you distributed your red ribbons and the Zonta book marks? It is not too late. **The 16 Days of Action** began November 25<sup>th</sup> and ends December 10<sup>th</sup> so there is still time. There are 16 days that hook together three important UN Days and emphases on Women, ZISVAW and HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Our club project is to educate ourselves and our communities on how violence against women is not only a violation of women’s human rights but has fueled the spread of HIV/AIDS worldwide.

At the November meeting Vera read the following:

In December 1999, the 54<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 54/134 declaring November 25<sup>th</sup> the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

The origins of November 25<sup>th</sup> go back to 1960, when the three Mirabal sisters from the Dominican Republic were violently

assassinated for their political activism. The sisters, known as the “Unforgettable Butterflies,” became a symbol of the crisis of violence against women in Latin America. November 25<sup>th</sup> was the date chosen to commemorate their lives and promote global recognition of gender violence, and has been observed in Latin America since the 1980s.

### Make the Connection

[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

### Register Now!!!

Join thousands of Zontians around the globe in the organization’s largest Web site registration campaign.

Registering with the Web site allows you access to online benefits and information reserved only for Zonta Club members. Clubs and Districts with the most registered members will receive special recognition on the Web site and in *The Zontian* magazine.

Goal: 14,000 members registered by May 2005. Please do your part!

**IF YOU DO NOT PLAN TO ATTEND THE NEXT MEETING** please complete the form below as soon as possible, and send it together with your check for \$5.00 to Lucetta Ganley, 5 Stoneycrest Road, Rye, NY 10580

( ) I will not be present at the next meeting and enclose my check for \$5.00 to cover the dinner surcharge. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ZONTA CLUB OF WESTCHESTER  
COMMITTEES FOR 2004-2005  
**STANDING COMMITTEES**

This is the latest information regarding the Standing Committees for 2004-2005. Please look over the lists and if you do not see your name under a committee please let me know.

Thanks!  
Shirley C.

**FINANCE**

Jamie Hubert, Chair  
Cynthia Chesner

**ORGANIZATION, MEMBERSHIP AND CLASSIFICATION**

Ellen Manopoli, Chair	Lisa Bianco
Patircia Horner	Georgia LaBlanc
Catherine Kocur	Peggy Wines
Maurine Van Meter Hess	Jane Buerger
Mary Jean Howland	Carol Humphreys

**PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Alice Massa, Co-Chair	Joy DeBellis
Sheila Sievertsen, Co-Chair	Betsy Biddle
Min Barish	Georgia LaBlanc
Lucetta Ganley	Pat Latona
Evelyn Garba	

**UNITED NATIONS**

Vera Voges, Chair	Julia Murphy
Karen Coleman	Claire Rie
Lucetta Ganley	Sheila Sievertsen
Jamie Hubert	Louise Wekstein
Evelyn McKnight	
Hermantide Hubert	

**STATUS OF WOMEN SERVICE**

Nora Gorman, Co-Chair	Karen Coleman
Evelyn Garba, Co-Chair	Georgia LaBlanc
Minna Elgart	Ellen Manopoli
Catherine Kocur	Joan Manning Foulke
Patircia Latona	