



WINTER 2026

## Governor's Message

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Dear Zontians,

I hope you all have had a wonderful holiday season with loved ones. As we welcome in the New Year, I invite each of you to pause and reflect on the power of our collective intentions. Zonta is more than an organization, it is a global movement fueled by member compassion, courage, and an unwavering commitment to build a better world for women and girls. In the year ahead, we will continue to lead with purpose, to listen with empathy, and act with conviction.

Let's strengthen our clubs through fellowship and collaboration, support one another as leaders, and continue to champion advocacy, service, and education with our mission's clarity and resolve.

My hope is that the New Year inspires us to be bold in our vision, generous in our service and united in our actions. Together our voices and our advocacy can create lasting positive change and together we will continue to say yes to equality for women, yes to ending violence against women, and yes to creating more opportunities globally for women's education.

Thank you once again for your dedication and your belief in the work of Zonta. I look forward to all we will accomplish in the year ahead.

Governor Lorraine



### Important Zonta Dates

- 1-31 January: Amelia Earhart Month
- 21 January: CSW70 Conversation Circle
- 24 January: International Day of Education
- 26 January: Amelia Earhart Month webinar
- 28 January: Coffee Chat with International Advocacy Chair Helen Bowie
- 4 February: CSW Conversation Circle
- 11 February: CSW Conversation Circle
- 16 February: Zonta International Headquarters office closed in observation of Presidents' Day
- 18 February: CSW Conversation Circle
- 20 February: World Day of Social Justice
- 28 February: Zonta Excellence in Service and Advocacy deadline
- 1-31 March: Zonta Yellow Rose Campaign
- 8 March: International Women's Day
- 15 March: Last day for Early Bird Registration Rates for Convention

# D2 SPRING WORKSHOP 2026



SAVE THE DATE

April 25, 2026

Holiday Inn Resort Lake George  
2223 Canada Street, Route, US-9  
Lake George, NY 12845

Watch for more information to be released in February.



ZONTA CLUB OF MELBOURNE ON YARRA  
INC. AUSTRALIA



ZONTA CLUB OF THE NEW TERRITORIES II,  
HONG KONG



ZONTA CLUB OF LOME, TOGO



ZONTA CLUBS OF BANGLADESH



ZONTA CLUB OF ABIDJAN, COTE D'IVOIRE



ZONTA E-CLUB OF THE ATLANTIC COAST  
I, USA

## ZONTA SAYS NOW VIRTUAL ART GALLERY



SUBMIT YOUR ART TO EXPRESS GENDER-EQUAL CLIMATE CHANGE  
[WWW.ZONTA.ORG/ZONTASAYSNOW](http://WWW.ZONTA.ORG/ZONTASAYSNOW).

Calling all D2 Zonta artists! Share your creative voice by submitting artwork that celebrates the love you have for Mother Earth. This is your opportunity to express passion, purpose, and advocacy through your art. Submit a photo of your artwork to the Zonta Says Now Virtual Gallery AND then bring your art to our D2 workshop to have your art on display for all to appreciate. ART is a form of advocacy and your creativity is a powerful way to highlight how women and girls are disproportionately affected by climate change.

# District News

A Thank You for the  
District Conference  
Service Project

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**

**Mohawk Valley**  
Main Office  
7 Fulger Park  
Utica, New York 13501  
P 315.732.2159  
F 315.732.8760

December 15, 2025

Child Advocacy Center  
of Herkimer County  
284 West Main Street  
Ilion, New York 13357  
P 315.895.0349  
F 315.895.0641  
[ywcamv.org](http://ywcamv.org)

Via Email

Lorraine Abess  
Zonta District 2

Dear Lorraine,

On behalf of YWCA of the Mohawk Valley, we would like to thank the many Zonta Chapters who generously donated the in-kind donations of gift bags of women's toiletries, scarves, hats, gloves, etc. Your generosity directly assists clients in our community.

Each day, YWCA of the Mohawk Valley assists clients through our free confidential 24-hour hotlines, emergency shelters, crisis service advocacy in courts, at the hospitals, as well as through support groups and one-on-one counseling with our therapists.

In addition to serving survivors of domestic and sexual violence, we also educate our youth about diversity, inclusion, and healthy relationships. We offer programming to the business community in recognizing and dealing with sexual harassment with a focus on creating safe environments for all.

We could not provide the assistance and help we offer each day without your support, and for that we are most grateful. Thank you for your belief in our work, your generosity, and commitment to our mission.

Sincerely,

  
Dianne Starcato  
Chief Executive Officer

*Thank you to all!  
Fabulous Gifts*

Herkimer County  
24-Hour  
Sexual Violence Hotline:  
P 315.866.4120

Oneida County  
24-Hour  
Domestic Violence and  
Sexual Violence Hotline:  
P 315.797.7740

All contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law. YWCA Mohawk Valley provided no goods or services in exchange for this donation. Please keep this acknowledgment as your tax receipt.

Watch for the 2026 Add Your Voice campaign.  
Last year materials were released in March. We  
will share them as soon as they are available.



# D2 Committee Corner

## Membership

*Lt. Governor Iraina Gerchman*

### **The Lifeblood of a Strong Zonta Club: Why Recruitment and Retention Matter**

Zonta Clubs thrive when they are filled with engaged, diverse, and committed members who believe in advancing equity for women and girls. Recruitment and retention aren't just administrative tasks—they are strategic investments in the future of every club and, ultimately, the global mission of Zonta International.

### **Recruitment: Bringing New Energy and New Perspectives**

Welcoming new members ensures that a club remains dynamic and relevant. Each new person brings fresh ideas, lived experiences, and skills that enrich the club's service, advocacy, and fellowship. Strong recruitment also strengthens a club's visibility in the community. When members actively share Zonta's mission, they inspire others to join a movement that is bigger than any one individual.

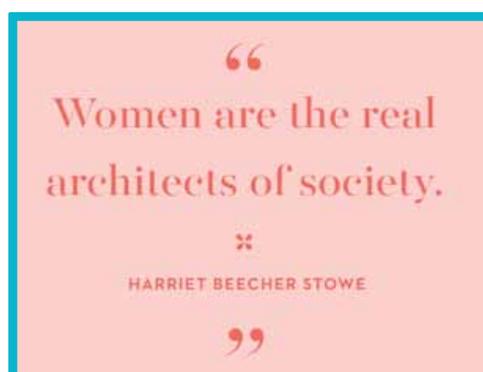
### **Retention: Nurturing Commitment and Connection**

Retaining members is equally essential. When people feel valued, informed, and connected, they stay engaged. Retention grows from meaningful involvement—inviting members to contribute their talents, offering leadership opportunities, and fostering a culture of respect and belonging. A club with high retention builds continuity, stability, and institutional knowledge, all of which are vital for long-term success.

### **The Impact: Vibrant, Viable, and Mission-Driven**

A club that prioritizes both recruitment and retention remains vibrant—full of energy, creativity, and purpose. It also stays viable, with the capacity to deliver impactful service projects, advocate effectively, and mentor future leaders. Most importantly, strong membership ensures that Zonta's mission continues to flourish in local communities and across the world.

A thriving Zonta Club is a testament to the power of people coming together with shared values and a shared vision. By investing in both welcoming new members and nurturing existing ones, clubs build a legacy of empowerment that endures.



# D2 Committee Corner

## Membership

Lt. Governor Iraina Gerchman

### New Members Since Last Newsletter - Welcome All

Current District Total - 466

Club Name	First Name	Last Name
CANTON AREA	Sandra	Russell
CANTON AREA	Cathryn	Thomas
ELMIRA	Maureen	Prapestis
GLENS FALLS	Barbara	Kestler
GLENS FALLS	Mariane	Simas
MONTGOMERY-FULTON CO AREA	Tanya	Beyer
MONTGOMERY-FULTON CO AREA	Raeann	Seidel
OSWEGO	Marisa	Torres-Dashner
SCHENECTADY	Laurie	DeMichele
SCHENECTADY	Sandra	Ford
UTICA	Melanie	Adams
UTICA	Christine	Cecilia

## Foundation Ambassador

Irene Orton

[Donate Here](#)



## D2 Committee Corner

*UN Committee / Climate Committee*

*Eileen Gilligan*

The annual Forum of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women is scheduled for March 8 – 21 in NYC. The theme this year is: “Ensuring and Strengthening Access to Justice for All Women and Girls”. If this is an issue of high importance to you, the Forum is your opportunity to network and to learn more about the issue from a global point of view. During this time period, there will be official meetings and talks to/by members nations within the UN grounds (including some NGO presentations) and also many talks, meeting, receptions, social gatherings by NGO members of the overarching organization called NGO CSW. If you are interested, please check the following website for information:

[NGO CSW/NY](#) Click on NGO CSW Forum tab, this year is NGOCSW70

[CSW70 \(2026\) | UN Women](#) – Headquarters This describes official member states events.

[Zonta International Home](#) Click on the News and Events tab, then under Events click CSW70 follow the instructions in the right-hand column, sign up for the emailing list. This is the Zonta International website, very helpful.

Using ideas from Pam Morgan (Zonta UN Chair), I have outlined a theoretical 4-day trip that might appeal to Zonta District 2 ladies. It is a budget-conscious approach to see how much attendance might cost. By my calculations, for a 4-day trip to NYC, traveling by train, staying 3 nights at the YMCA near Central Park West, and using taxis to travel back and forth to the UN grounds, the cost would be at least \$500 plus food. So, being realistic, this trip might cost at least \$1000 per person, after food and tips. Not too bad if Women’s Justice is your issue, but expensive none the less.

Here are links to the sites that I used for my calculations:

[West Side YMCA - New York City - Tripadvisor](#)

[Train Tickets, Schedules & Routes | Amtrak](#)

Anyone who wants to go on to NYC trip for this conference should make (and pay for) their own travel and attendance arrangements, coordinating with their clubs.

If you want to go, it is necessary to register for NGO CSW meetings ahead of time. Also, you should get on the list with Zonta headquarters to receive updates and announcements of Zonta activities.

The Forum is 2 months away, although I have not yet seen a schedule of talks or events. Make your reservations ASAP.

## D2 Committee Corner

### *Women in Stem Award*

#### *Dorothy Bonney*

Zonta District 2 STEM Award  
nominee for the 2026 Zonta  
International Women in STEM Award



The Women in STEM Award Committee in District 2 has selected Anna Port as the 2026 nominee after reviewing other fine candidates who demonstrated groundbreaking research, pioneering discoveries, and/or remarkable contributions, knowledge, innovation in the world of STEM.

Anna Port is pursuing a Master of Arts in Archaeology at Cornell University. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Classical Civilizations from Duke University. Currently she is focusing on digitizing and conserving archaeological collections for educational and museum preservation. Anna has spent time in labs where she worked on the use of creating 3D models of objects and excavation trenches and at sites where the digs are taking place. She has applied photogrammetry, VR and digital imaging to reinterpret Etruscan inscriptions. In addition, Anna has demonstrated proficient cataloging and digitization projects through her fieldwork at the Poggio Civitate site in Italy.

Anna focuses her talents to assist museums and universities take the archaeological content and the contextualization of temples, palaces, tombs and to explore more about everyday life of ancient civilizations. Lack of financial support from the government has made the process difficult for museums' financial abilities to do the contextualization which would bring in support from the public. Furthermore, Anna believes that she can document the task analysis she is working on, recording the step-by-step process which will enable other universities to use the process free of charge, enabling the other universities and museums to make their collections publicly available; therefore, to view the ancient world in 3D models of both objects and excavation trenches within her assigned area of research.

Finally, Anna's dedication goes beyond her studies. She has been active in Duke Outdoor Adventures as a student leader teaching and mentoring her peers. Also, she has been active with alumni in the Planned Parenthood Generation Action and the Canine Cognition Center showing that she is not only a scholar, she is socially conscious, civic-minded and committed to making a difference both locally and globally in bringing the people closer together in educational settings and museums through the fields of photogrammetry, 3D Models, classical civilizations and the trenches of archaeology.

We congratulate Anna on all her accomplishments and wish her luck in the Zonta International Scholarship process.

## D2 Committee Corner

Foundation Ambassador  
Irene Orton

### Z and Gold Z Club Committee Chair Christina Seado Vasquez

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Christina Seado Vasquez and I am the District 2 Chair for Golden Z and Z Clubs. In my role, I am tasked with communicating updates between the District and the clubs that have Golden Z and Z Clubs associated with them.

Firstly, if you would like me to communicate directly with any Z Club or Golden Z advisor, please send me their email information. My list has not been updated in some time and it would be beneficial for clubs to provide me with their preferred contacts, versus going through the Club Email accounts.

Secondly, if your clubs have any updates from Golden Z and Z Clubs, please let me know. Iraina does like to include those updates in our District 2 newsletter.

Lastly, the Zonta International District 2 Z Club Award Application is now open. This was not awarded last year and Governor Abess wants to ensure we give a deserving Z Club the opportunity to earn this award this year. Here is the link to a fillable application. It is a \$300 award. Please have any applications sent to me no later than March 15th. The deadline for the award is April 1, 2026.

Thank you for all of your help with gathering this information and making sure that our youngest Zontians are celebrated and rightfully awarded.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me.

**Known Student Clubs  
in District 2**

**ZClubs**  
Auburn  
Columbia Co. (UHV)  
Manlius Pebble Hill (Syracuse)  
North Country (Glens Falls)  
Cortland  
Oneida  
Oswego

**Golden Z Clubs**  
SUNY Oswego  
Utica

Please let us know if they are no longer active.



# Club Highlights - Area 1

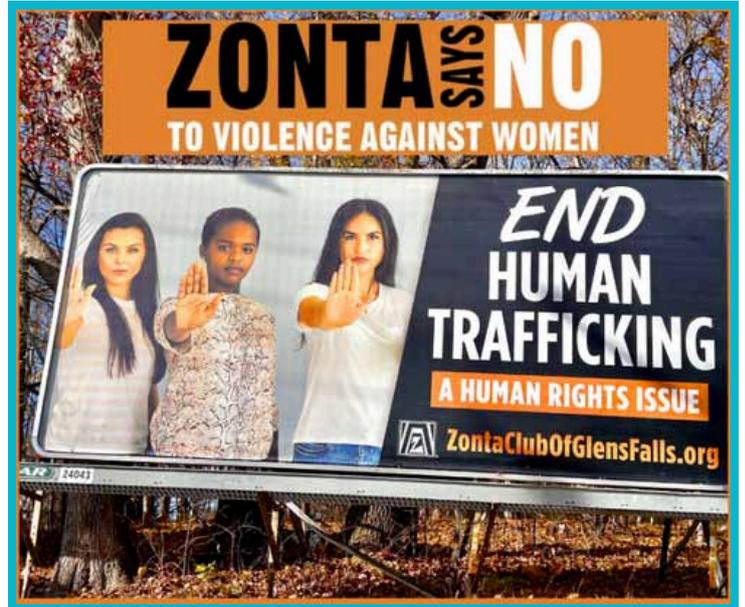
Area 1 Director Debra Grobe Searles

## Zonta Club of Glens Falls

Presidents Karen Hartman & Stacey Wood

Advocacy, Service, and Fellowship have been our common themes since November. Our committees were busy planning the many projects and activities for our club.

Advocacy - Our Advocacy Committee designed 2 billboards to display the Zonta mission, "Zonta says NO to violence against women." The billboards were up for a month, including the 16 Days of Advocacy. In addition, flags were displayed on lamp posts throughout downtown Glens Falls, and members displayed lawn signs at their homes. Arrow Bank displayed our message on the digital sign in front of the Civic Center. Members dressed in orange for our November member meeting and posed for our annual photo. There was no missing our message in the Glens Falls area. Many thanks to our dedicated Zontians on the Advocacy committee.



Zonta Club of The Adirondacks  
President Chris Newcomb

Adirondacks Period Project

Duffle Bag DM Project



# Club Highlights - Area 1

Area 1 Director Debra Grobe Searles

Zonta Club of Albany  
President Carol Tomlin



We are sorting shampoos, soaps, toothbrushes, etc. We added new hats and gloves for women in shelter in Troy.



This is a Moonbees representative speaking to us as we learned how to help make a reusable menstrual kit that is sent to India and Africa. We did this to celebrate 16 days of activism. We may do another one in April and invite other clubs to join us.

This is our club wearing orange to celebrate 16 days of activism.



# Club Highlights - Area 1

## *Zonta e-ClubNY 1*

*President Irene Orton*

Greetings and best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year from the frigid Northeast!!

As a club we took a little break after our BIG D2 Conference Service project of presenting 25 large tote bags to the District.

Our main fundraiser of selling items from the Charleston Wrap company netted the Club \$470 in time for the holidays.

We gained one new member in December, Dolly Dastoor, past Governor of D2 in 2002-2004. Dolly has been a very active Zonta member for a long time as a member of the Montreal Club and has served the organization in many local and International positions. We are very excited to welcome Dolly into our eClub.

Each member of the eClub 1 of NY is doing their own advocacy and service as we are diverse in where we live. Food pantries, homeless shelters as well as domestic violence shelters are our main targets.

We meet virtually on Zoom, the second Tuesday of every month!

## *Zonta Club of the Upper Hudson Valley*

*President Celeste Alexander*



# Club Highlights - Area 1

Zonta Club of Schenectady  
President Daniela Puerto



At the November meeting, our club kicked-off 16 days with our sign campaign, video on why we, as Zontians say NO to GBV, and a thoughtful social media campaign put together by our club's advocacy chair, Robbin Jorgensen.

In December we celebrated holiday cheer by inducting new members, with special guests, Gov. Lorraine and Area 1 Director Deb. We also got the opportunity to pose with our district Step Up Award, which we were awarded at our fall conference.



# Club Highlights - Area 1

*Zonta Club of Montgomery Fulton  
President Liz Tesiero*

Community Support: In November, our club donated bags to the Montgomery County Domestic Violence Program.



New Members: We proudly inducted two new members—Tanya Beyer and Raeann Seidel—at our December membership meeting.



Season of Giving: Also in December, we visited a local nursing home and shared Christmas cheer with stockings filled with goodies.



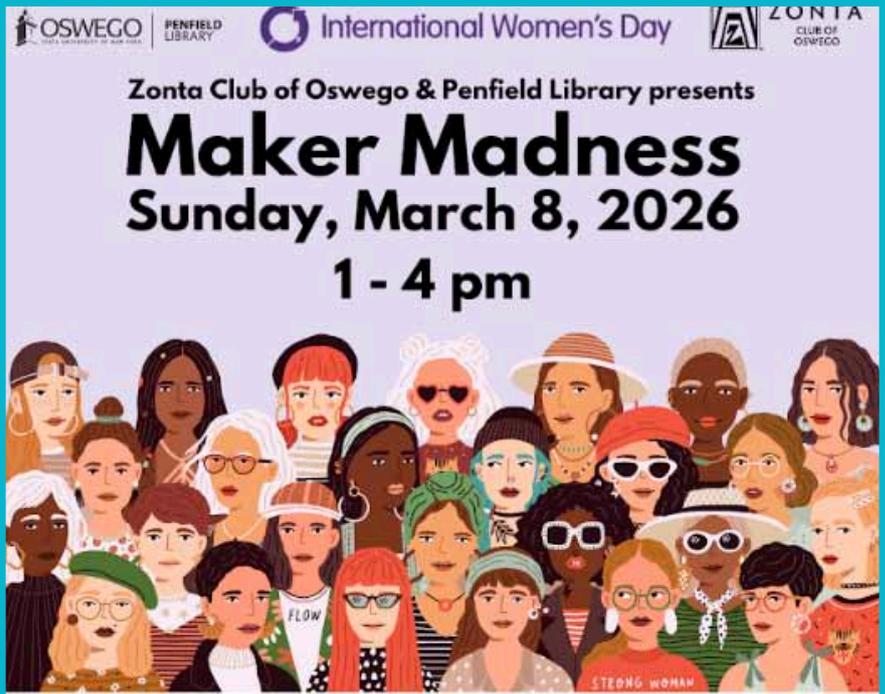
## Club Highlights - Area 2

Area 2 Director Dianne DiMeo

Zonta Club of Oswego  
President Kristen LaBarge

This is our annual International Women's Day Event. We would love to have you as a Maker. Contact us for more information.

[jennifer.joyce@oswego.edu](mailto:jennifer.joyce@oswego.edu)



Zonta Club of Oswego & Penfield Library presents  
**Maker Madness**  
Sunday, March 8, 2026  
1 - 4 pm

**FREE EVENT** at Penfield Library SUNY Oswego  
**CALLING ALL MAKERS**

What's a Maker? Makers can be creators, innovators, hoobyists or crafters.



Scan QR code to reserve your Maker space today!  
2/22/26  
Deadline!

For more information about the event, to volunteer as a Maker, or to inquire about accommodations for persons with disabilities, please contact [jennifer.joyce@oswego.edu](mailto:jennifer.joyce@oswego.edu).  
Per SUNY policy, children under the age of 17 who attend programs on the SUNY Oswego campus



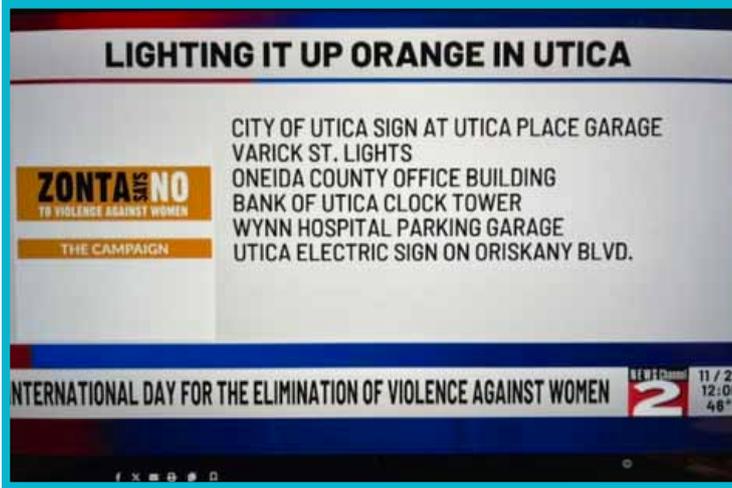
The Zonta Club of Oswego, @sunyoswego.goldenz and @zclubofoswego completed a Moonbee sewing project where we made reusable period hygiene products! The public can access these in our period pantry in Oswego!

# Club Highlights - Area 2

Area 2 Director Dianne DiMeo

Zonta Club of Utica

President Claudia Jasinski



Orange the City of Utica



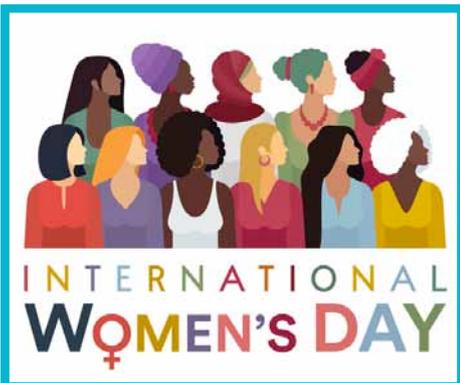
## Club Highlights - Area 2

Area 2 Director Dianne DiMeo

Zonta Club of Chenango County  
President Kristin Giglio



Chenango County launches its first "Zonta Says No" social media campaign.



International Women's Day  
Get ready for IWD March 8, 2026.

Did you know?

- IWD has occurred for well over a century, with the very first IWD held in 1911.
- Purple, green, and white are the colors of women's suffrage and are widely adopted for IWD. Their use originated from the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in the UK, founded in 1903.
- Zonta International aligns with IWD by celebrating Rose Day.
- Some of the countries where IWD is observed as an official holiday include: Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, China (for women only), Cuba, Georgia, Germany (Berlin and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania only), Guinea-Bissau, Eritrea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Madagascar (for women only), Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nepal, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Zambia, and more.

## Club Highlights - Area 3

Area 3 Rita Loperfido

### *Zonta Club of Watkins Gen Montour Falls President Corinne Wolford*

The Watkins Glen-Montour Falls Zonta Club celebrated the holidays together at the Blue Pointe Grille in the Glen's Harbor Hotel. Gifts were collected for residents of the Falls Home in Montour Falls and for a local family. Earlier in December, a huge collection of new hats and mittens/gloves were donated to Seneca Santa, and several tie-blankets were assembled by 4 members and donated to the Safe House. More projects are planned for the new year. The first is a Valentine's Pet Photo shoot planned for Saturday Feb. 7 12:00-2:00 at Lakeside Veterinary Clinic in Montour Falls. Happy New Year!



2 new members, inducted at our November meeting, Deborah Yeager and Marie Tillman.



## Club Highlights - Area 3

Area 3 Rita Loperfido

*Zonta Club of Cortland*

*President Lixz Arnold*



**This week, we brought presents to children and their mothers at the Grace Brown House. The Grace Brown House is a permanent housing option for area women and children of domestic violence. We wish them a Merry Christmas 🎄🎁**



## Club Highlights - Area 4

Area 4 Director Colleen Anderson

Zonta Club of Canton  
President Julie Miller

Sunday, November 9, 2026

Thank you to everyone who made our Zonta Club of Canton Bowling Tournament a huge success!

We had an incredible turnout filled with a lot of laughs, plenty of strikes and maybe a few gutter balls!

A huge thank you to all the teams, raffle donors, and our amazing volunteers who helped the day run smoothly.



We are ready to kick off another year of service to our community and what better way than partnering with the VFW for our annual shuffleboard tournament.

Please join us at 11:00am on Saturday February 7th at the VFW in Canton for a day of friendly competition, food, cash bar, raffle baskets, a lottery tree, and a 50/50 raffle. To sign up please contact Liza Aldous at 315-261-0806 or sign up at the VFW Canton post.

Entry is \$10.00 per person, and teams will be drawn to make it a fair event. There will be 1st and 2nd place prizes.

We are excited to see everyone and spend a day filled with fun and friends!



**Reginald Lee Sapp Memorial Scholarship & Community Impact** – The Zonta Club of Canton honored the legacy of Reginald Lee Sapp, husband of longtime Zonta member Sigie Barr-Sapp, through a memorial scholarship supporting youth education and community programs. Funds helped send a young woman to 4-H Camp Overlook, where she participated in leadership development, environmental awareness, and community building activities. Remaining funds were donated to Cornell Cooperative Extension's Harvest Kitchen, supporting a summer cooking program for children and providing each participant with a personal cutting board and message in Reginald Sapp's memory.

## Club Highlights - Area 4

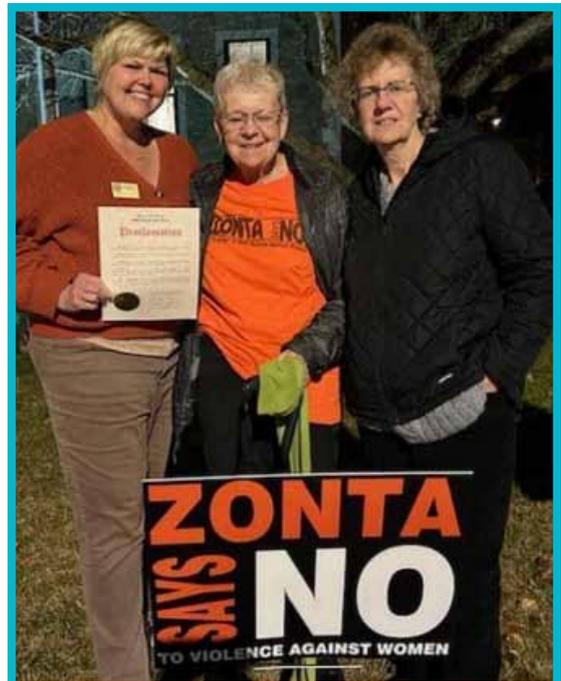
*Area 4 Director Colleen Anderson*

*Zonta Club of Ogdensburg  
President Angela LaJoy*



Happy Birthday to the Ogdensburg Area Zonta Club! We're celebrating 80 years in our community, building a better world for women and girls, locally as well as worldwide. The Ogdensburg Area Zonta Club was chartered November 1, 1945. We also wore orange to advocate for Zonta Says NO to violence against women.

16 Days of Activism  
Advocacy Zonta Says No  
Signage were placed in our  
communities  
Sign can be seen in this  
picture.



Zonta Club of Ogdensburg adopts a family every year as a Club for a Christmas/16 Days of Activism Service Project and we cannot describe how powerful an experience it is. St. Lawrence Valley Renewal House helps victims of domestic violence and sexual assault throughout St Lawrence County. "Adopt A Family/From Your House to Renewal House" is a special Christmas program that Renewal House runs to help victims of violence in St Lawrence County to have a Christmas. Help them believe in the magic of Christmas in this very difficult time in their lives.

## Club Highlights - Area 4

Area 4 Director Colleen Anderson

Zonta Club of Kanata-Stittsville  
President Judith Ainsworth



For the Zonta Says NO to Violence against Women campaign 2025, the Zonta Club of Kanata-Stittsville surprised the community with an Orange Ladies campaign to raise awareness and galvanise action to end violence against women and girls locally and worldwide. Signage was created on Canva using the colour purple to respect our Indigenous communities in Canada that have chosen orange for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. Topics included Child Marriage, Cyberbullying, Femicide, GBV, Human Trafficking, IPV and Sexual Harassment. Elspeth and Judith are pictured with the ladies ready for distribution.

Days 15 and 16 of the 16 Days of Activism featured photos with our male allies at Ottawa Police Service (OPS) in Stittsville and Shelter Movers Ottawa, and Fire Services at Station 81 in Stittsville. Read the full OPS article "[Ottawa Police Service Partnering with ZONTA](#)" and more about [Shelter Movers](#).



## Club Highlights - Area 4

Area 4 Director Colleen Anderson

### Zonta Club of Ottawa

President Renuka Gamage

Photo caption: Our club continued our support of Carty House, which operates the only homes dedicated to female refugees in Ottawa, with a \$1,500 donation to their “A Home of Our Own” campaign. Carty House was gifted a new duplex that welcomes 12 refugee women at a time, and the campaign helps cover the immediate costs of ownership.

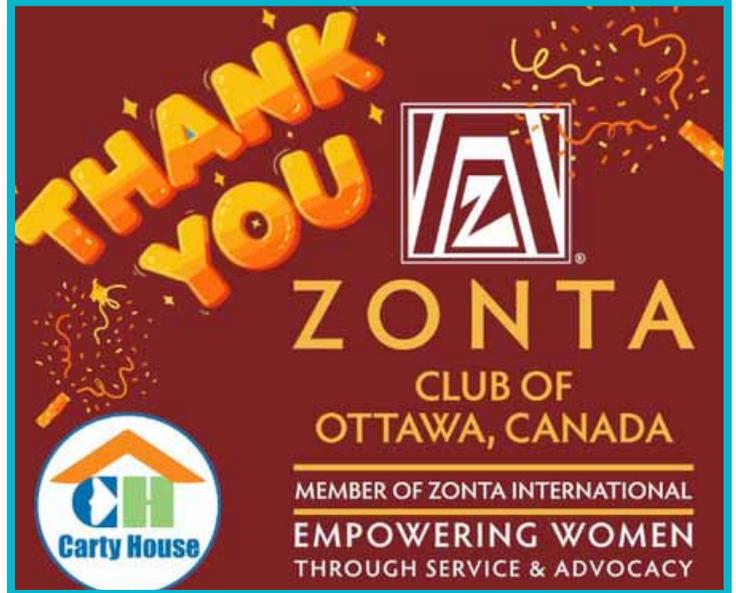


Photo: Club members and guests gathered on December 6th for a Christmas brunch and to commemorate Canada's Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. We wore purple and orange to mark the occasion and collected donations for Cornerstone Housing for Women's Holiday Gift Program.



Photo: Thank-you card from Cornerstone Housing for Women, a local women's shelter, for our club's donations of essential items to their Holiday Gift Program. Past President and current Board member and Treasurer of the Zonta Club of Ottawa, Canada, Cynthia O'Neil, featured in the photo below the card's text, delivered our members' contributions.

Cornerstone serves over 300 women and gender-diverse individuals daily through five locations, offering both immediate shelter and long-term housing solutions. Its services are tailored to the unique needs of women transforming their lives after homelessness.



## Club Highlights - Area 4

Area 4 Director Colleen Anderson

Zonta Club of Brewerton, - Friends for Equality  
President Marnie Annese



### 16 Days Of Activism/Zonta Says No

The Club ran a social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram. They also held a table event/Zonta Says No display at Destiny Mall, 2nd Floor 11am-5pm on Saturday, November 29, 2025. They used the Certificate of Insurance from Zonta International for the required certificate of insurance.

Our club enjoyed hosting Trivia 70's Dinner on Saturday, November 5, 2025 3-6pm and was so happy to see so many smiling guests' faces! Trivia caller Julie did a great job too! Dinner was delicious at the Greenview Country Club.

We raised a good amount of funds that will help us to support our local community and our global service projects.

Bonus: We always love to welcome new members and we're delighted that three guests requested information about club membership!



# From the Zonta USA Caucus

[Visit the Zonta USA Caucus Website](#)



## Advocacy Tools

[Visit the Advocay Tools Website](#)

The ZI website has very easy to use advocacy tools, including an explanation of What is Advocacy, policies and guidelines, information on the four focus areas, shared moments of activism and new initiatives, toolkits, Zonta Advocacy Series webinars, position papers and statements, training modules and many other resources. The first module of the Zonta Advocacy Internal Training Program, Module 101 (Introduction to Zonta Advocacy) has been launched and can be found on the Advocacy Tools page of the My Zonta section of the ZI website. Click on “Advocacy Training” at the top of the Advocacy Tools page or scroll down that page to “Zonta International Advocacy Training.” Module 101 comprises a video, a script and slides and covers topics such as what Zonta advocacy means, the difference between Zonta advocacy and Zonta service, the goals and strategy of Zonta advocacy, the four focus areas, the four shared moments of activism, the four new initiatives for Zonta advocacy in the biennium and what it means that Zonta is non-partisan and non- sectarian and how that affects Zonta advocacy.

The 101 Series focuses on basics of advocacy. while the 201 Series addresses specific advocacy areas of Zonta. Module 201, Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women has been released and includes information on the Campaign; the work of the ZI “Zonta Says NO” Working Group; the Campaign website; the Zonta Says NO Pledge and how to sign it; and the Zonta Says NO Summit. Please share information on these advocacy resources with club, area and district Zonta leaders including Area Directors, Club Presidents and Club Advocacy Chairs.

## Advocacy Resources

Caucus member, Katherine Cleland shared the following sources of information that she relies on for USA Advocacy:

1. Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP)-- tracks women in government and elected positions across federal and state levels and addresses topics such as finance
2. Women’s Congressional Policy Institute- tracks legislation in Congress impacting women
3. Ms. Magazine’s newsletter--writers are strongly pro-women’s rights,; occasionally may not fully meet the test of non-partisan

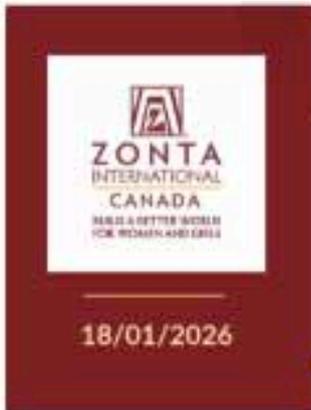
# From Zonta Canada

[Visit the Zonta Canada Website](http://www.zontacanada.ca)



**BUILD A BETTER WORLD  
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS**

*Enjoy the first edition of the Caucus News*



## New for 2026

The Canada Caucus will be assisting our Canadian Clubs with new tools and supports designed to make advocacy easier and more impactful for your Club going forward. We'll be working to build toolkits, social media programs, and letter campaigns to provide guidance, remove barriers, and take on the heavy lifting for many of our Canadian Clubs. Stay tuned!

## What's Coming in 2026?

- National Introduction – Newsletter Feature
- National Webinar – coming soon
- Canada-Wide Club Survey – April 2026

*The more we know, the better we can serve our members.*



### Coming Soon Zonta Canada Webinar

The Caucus's goals and strategic approach  
How coordinated national resources will simplify local advocacy  
Expectations for upcoming toolkits, templates, and data sheets  
How Clubs can align national messaging with local priorities



### Feb. 22nd National Human Trafficking

Coordinated messaging, social assets, Canada data, advocacy actions, and ready-to-send outreach templates.



### Mar. 8th International Women's Day & Rose Day

Theme: Cyberbullying & Digital Safety. Includes graphics, Canada statistics, social media toolkits, youth-engagement ideas, and tools to engage with local/provincial government officials.

## Club Resources

### Practical, ready-to-use advocacy tools

Guides for contacting officials, sample letters, media templates, messaging frameworks, and Canada fact sheets—saving your Club time while boosting visibility.

### Cross-Club learning and national alignment

We help Clubs share what's working, strengthen messaging, and build a stronger collective voice across Canada.

### Coordinated, plug-and-play campaigns

Access "campaign-in-a-box" kits with graphics, captions, hashtags, local action ideas, and media guidance for key national advocacy dates.

### Canada-specific data you can trust

Human trafficking, GBV, IPV, cyberbullying, digital safety, inequality, climate-related gender impacts—all evidence-based data and tailored for Canadian Clubs.



[www.zontacanada.ca](http://www.zontacanada.ca)



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# International News

## Zonta at CSW

[Read ZI Statement to the 70th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women](#)

As an NGO with General Consultative Status, Zonta International is invited to participate in the annual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York.

What is CSW?

The CSW is the largest annual gathering on women's rights worldwide, and is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The CSW is instrumental in promoting women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

"How do I participate in CSW70 as a Zonta member?"

Fill out this form to share how you will be attending (virtually or in-person), receive important updates and how to attend Zonta events at CSW70. All information will be sent to the email address you provide, so please make sure we are not in your spam folder!

Periodic email updates are sent out leading up to CSW70 including an email with a schedule of Zonta-sponsored events, a pre-CSW70 orientation invitation to help members learn how to navigate CSW, and other communications about Zonta members at CSW70.

UN side events taking place inside the UN are only accessible to those with a Grounds Pass. Zonta International is given 20 passes, and those have already been assigned and distributed for CSW70. The NGO CSW Forum organizes the hundreds of free parallel events happening around the UN during CSW70, which do not require a grounds pass to attend.

Conversation Circles offered at 9:00 am CST & 4:00 pm CST

Get ready for CSW70 with Pamela Morgan with four sessions in 2026:

21 January 2026: Ensuring and Strengthening Access to Justice for All Women and Girls

4 February 2026: Promoting inclusive and equitable legal systems

11 February 2026: Eliminating discriminatory laws, policies, and practices

18 February 2026: Addressing structural barriers

Registration will be available on the [Events page](#).

# International News

## Zonta International Convention 11-14 July 2026

Let us know if you will be attending,  
so we can get together as a district.

For complete Convention information visit  
<https://www.zontaconvention.com/>

Find details on the following items:

- Registration
- Accommodations
- Air Canada
- Tours
- Schedule



***Clubs: Poll your membership about who is going to Convention.  
District will need to know who your club delegates and/or proxies will be.  
Stay tuned!***