



# Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey

## March 2021 Newsletter



Greetings,

As we are transitioning from the winter months to spring, there is always a chance of the Mother of All Storms. A lot of uncertainty and anxiousness as we patiently await the warm breeze, the rebirth of buds on trees, robins chirping away, blue skies, sunny days and the start of non-stop weeding!

March is one of my favorite months! March 8<sup>th</sup> is when International Women’s Day is celebrated. A day to recognize and honor women for their social, political, cultural, and economic achievements all throughout the world! Purple is the suggested color to wear on International Women’s Day as purple represents “loyalty, consistency to purpose, and unswerving steadfastness to cause.” Purple also represents self-respect, dignity, and bipartisanship. Therefore, please consider wearing PURPLE to our March Membership meeting.

We have a great program planned for March 11<sup>th</sup> and I am looking forward to seeing each of you at our Membership Meeting.

Cheers, Amy



### Meetings and Events – Upcoming plans

New or changed items.

	<i>Zoom meetings unless otherwise noted</i>
<b>March 2021</b>	
Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup>	YWPA Applications due to Eileen; review/selection will occur this month.
Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, 11 <sup>th</sup> 5:45pm Social 6pm Meeting	Monthly Membership Meeting – <i>wear Purple!</i> Join us as the IFP Program comes to us! Ashlea Lowe-Cordell, the coordinator for the International Fellows Program (IFP) Sponsors and Conversation and Culture Programs will be our speaker. See article for more details. Also, we’ll preview revised 501(c)3 By-laws.
Thursday, 18 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	Special Membership Meeting for 501(c)3 By-law review and approval. They will be distributed following the March Board meeting.

<b>April 2021</b>	
Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> , 6pm	Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> 5:45pm Social 6pm Meeting	April <b>Business</b> Meeting, Members Only
Saturday, 10 <sup>th</sup> 9am – noon	Membership Orientation
Saturday, 24 <sup>th</sup>	District 3 Spring Workshop. See information on last page.



### March 2021 Speaker

Ashlea Lowe was born and raised in Greencastle, Pennsylvania. She began her Department of the Army civilian career as an Equal Employment counselor and certified mediator with the Department of Defense in 2007. In this position, she developed strong communication and listening skills while mediating work place disputes. In 2013, deciding to pursue a different career path, she was hired as a key member of the International Fellows Program at the US Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA. Currently she serves as the Sponsorship Program and Conversation and Culture Program Coordinator. In this role, she manages volunteers whom assist in providing cultural and social opportunities. Ashlea was awarded the Department of the Army Civilian Service Commendation Medal in October 2019 for establishing initiatives to improve the sponsorship and cultural exchange experiences for the International Students and dependents.

In her free time, Ashlea enjoys traveling, gardening, scrapbooking and spending quality time with family. She is married to her husband, Gregory, and together they have two young sons, Xavier (5) and Alijah (1).

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### Membership and Social Media Corner

The Spring New Member Orientation will be held on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Alice Kirchner will conduct the training. Details of where it will be held will be announced later. Everyone is welcome to attend.

I have been working with Lisa Burton from District 3 on the Membership Committee to create a Membership plan for the biennium 2020-2022 and to develop procedures for implementing them.

In February, we provided a member Certificate of Appreciation to Cynthia Barbedette for her dedicated service in presenting helpful information on social media at our 2021 January meeting.

Did you know....



Cynthia Barbedette is an independent scholar focused on the American Suffrage Movement. She has been honing her social media skills as part of her SuffragetteCity100 project and was happy to share her knowledge with the Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey. She is a historian, writer, graphic designer, audio-curator and product designer. Her background includes having worked as a museum educator, research librarian, and social worker. She has also worked in product development, digital marketing, and has been a content contributor to Atlas Obscura and Everse Radio.

It was great to see everyone on the Zoom meeting on February 11th. We welcomed Karen Jarvis, our District 3 Area 3 Director to the meeting. There were 20 members and five guests at the meeting.

In February’s newsletter, did you **Guess Who** said.... “as a college kid I was the only female worker on a roof tarring job at the local hospital.”

It was Jemry Small. Here is a little more to her story.....

In order to pay for my college education, I had to work year-round. For summer jobs, I tried to get the best paying work and unfortunately, they were always the jobs that required manual labor. The summer after my freshman year I was hired by Munising Hospital to work in their maintenance department. The only female (age 19) with five men (ages 35-60). The focus for the department that summer was to repair and tar the flat roof of the hospital. Munising is in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan so the summer season is very short.



**Guess Who? For March...** You might be surprised to learn that I have donated over 8 gallons of blood since 1983.

*Kathy Gates, Membership and Social Media Chair*

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**Zonta Club Harrisburg-Hershey Club Member Milestones**

<p><b>March Birthdays</b> None</p>	<p><b>March Zonta Anniversaries</b> Cathy Paul, 3/1/1993</p>
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## Service Committee News

*Our 2021 March Program*

*Flexibility is the key to success!*

For the past several years Club members have visited the US Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, PA in March to share lunch and introduce Zonta to 40-50 international women who are wives of students in the International Fellows Program. Here's a great memory from our 2020 program.

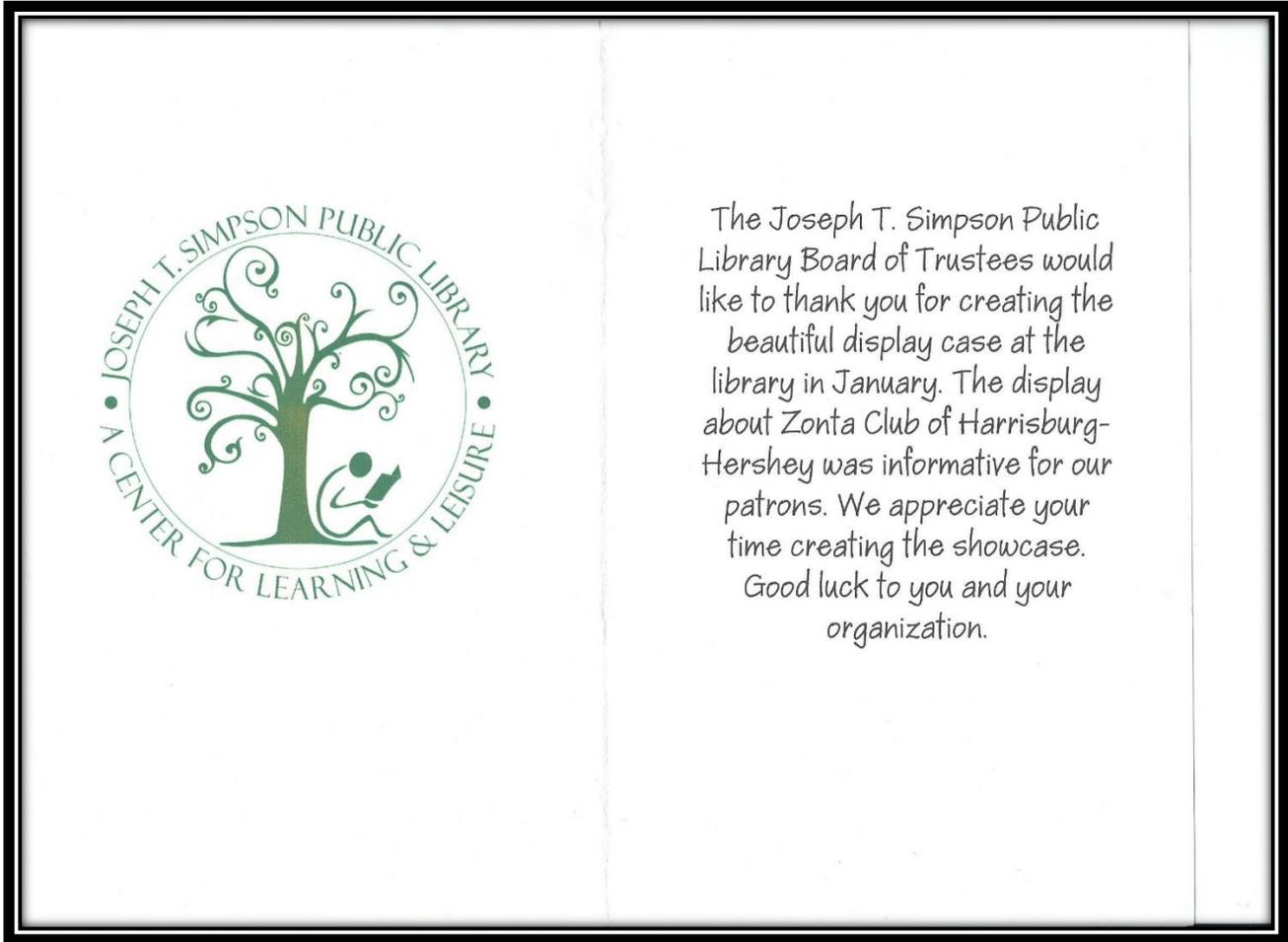


Given the current restrictions we are experiencing, we aren't able to hold our traditional gathering so we are bringing the story of the IFP program to us via Zoom this year.

IFP Program Coordinator Ashlea Lowe (see Speaker info) will join us along with a long time civilian IFP Program Sponsor Linda Markley and Class of '22 IFP Student wife, Karin Krejcirikova, from the Czech Republic.

*Karen Shirey and Suzanne Gale, Co-Chairs International Fellows Luncheon*

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*Service Committee - Amy, Karen, Grace, Claudia, Nancy, Heather and Suzanne*



### **The Shalom House Corner**

As many of you attended our last month's membership meeting, you will recall that Kyla Harvey, the Executor Director of Shalom House, took us on a virtual tour of the facility, including the newly renovated basement. It was great to see that lower-level area can now be used as another gathering room for the ladies. It is here where the library will be housed. Those of you who are collecting books, please keep them for a little while longer until the residence is up and running. The entrance way and office is spruced-up and looking quite welcoming now.

Here's an update from Donna Schuler of the Food Services Division. *“Needless to say, the Food Business is struggling everywhere. We remain hopeful. We have been contracted for 7 Summer Food Truck Events throughout the City. We also started Facility Services with Janitorial. We have been very fortunate to partner with yet another business that wants to support our Vision and*

*Mission as we Empower and Transform lives. We are in the process of getting all the legal documents in order to officially launch our 2nd business, Shalom Facility Service.*

*We have partnered with other organizations with our Workforce Development Program to create a holistic service in each individual life we are employing. We are in the process of adding the last piece, Life Coaching. We continue to look for creative ways to support the business to see us through these unprecedented times."*

As of this writing, the pop-up shelter at the Quality Inn is still up and running as a shelter and houses 9 ladies and 11 children. However, there is a possibility that some of the women may, just may, move back into the shelter sometime in March. Your service committee, including, Amy, Karen, Nancy, Heather, Claudia, Grace and myself, had decided to do something, once again to honor the women at SH for our Rose Day/International Women's Day. We prepared a very colorful bag of fruit, including apples and oranges, plus other goodies and delivered them to the Inn. And, of course, as tradition has it, we will be giving each lady a yellow rose. We wanted the women and children to feel the love from their Zonta Family and to let them know we all are thinking of them. Look for our pictures in next month's newsletter because the bags will not be delivered until around March 6th or 8th -- our designated ZI Rose Day date! And, the Service Committee celebrates you --- our entire Zonta Family - thank you for all that you do for our club.

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### Zonta and Membership Dues for 2021-2022

As current members of Zonta, we sometimes forget the reasons we first joined Zonta and the benefits we both receive and provide through our membership. I wanted to offer a couple of thoughts about that topic before I get into the details of the membership dues, which have an upcoming deadline of payment to Deb Crum by **May 15<sup>th</sup> 2021**. This year has been memorable, challenging and amazing. I so hope each of you will be renewing your membership!

Here are a few benefits of belonging to Zonta; I'm hopeful you see what YOU might describe as reasons you belong:

- ✓ Joining with like-minded people committed to empowering women through service and advocacy, locally and internationally
- ✓ Service opportunities – hands on service opportunities within your local community
- ✓ Advocacy opportunities – working with other Zontians and organizations on issues affecting women at local, national and international levels
- ✓ Fellowship and networking opportunities – meeting people you may not normally meet, exchanging ideas and learning from one another on local, national and international levels
- ✓ Combined efforts of an international organization with the influence of over 1,100 clubs in 61 different countries

Whether you are already a member or reading this and contemplating membership, I'd encourage you to consider the impact that you can make toward achieving the vision of Zonta:

*Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.*

### Details

Zonta clubs are the grass-roots level of membership in Zonta International, providing the 'local' emphasis that is essential to the vision of Zonta. Clubs can establish their own amount of membership dues, which remain in the Club to fund operations of the club – postage, website, marketing and other expenses associated with a small, functioning club. **The Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey dues are \$50.00, paid annually. This year the funds will be deposited in a new account for the 501©4 club operations.**

Zonta Clubs are organized into local Areas and Districts for certain purposes – Conferences and workshops (FUN educational opportunities), leveraging projects and programs across a geographic territory, and efficiency of organization. Our Club is a member of Area 3 in District 3; Areas don't charge dues, but District 3 does, to support operations at the District level - ongoing expenses, support for Board members to accomplish their responsibilities and enabling Clubs to be successful. **District 3 dues are \$20.00 per member, paid annually.**

Zonta International is the global organization that all the Clubs, Areas and Districts take direction from and 'belong to'. ZI has a staff that provides support to the Clubs and Districts across the scope of ZI's activities – scholarships, advocacy, membership management, social media and the selection of International Service and Advocacy projects. **ZI dues are \$91.00 per member, paid annually.** This amount includes \$3.00 liability insurance coverage for our members as well.

At the time a member FIRST joins ZI or re-joins after a lapse of membership, there is an additional \$15.00 new member fee added to the ZI amount; however, members joining between December 1 and May 31 are charged 50% of the dues detailed above (**Club - \$25.00, District – \$10.00, ZI - \$47.00 (\$44 dues + \$3.00 insurance + \$15.00 new member)**)

Dues for the 3 levels of the organization are collected at the Club level prior to the start of the new year, June 1; the Club Treasurer then forwards the appropriate amounts to the District and ZI for their purposes. ***Renewing members of the Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey should send payment in the amount of \$161.00 to Deb by May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Checks should be made payable to the "Zonta Club of Harrisburg-Hershey". See membership listing for Deb's address information, and please take this opportunity to make sure your address and other information is up to date!*** Please contact Deb if you'd like to split your dues into 2 payments (e.g. half in April, the balance in May).

*The Officers and Board Members look forward to continuing to work with you during the upcoming year; we value your membership and all that you do to empower women through service and advocacy. Thanks for your commitment to Zonta and the work being done within our Club!*



**Date:** Saturday, February 6, 2021

**From:** UN Women Email NEWS

## **UN Women statement for the International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM**

*Time to unite, fund and act to end female genital mutilation*

For 35 years, [Yatta Fahnbulleh](#) earned a living in north-western Liberia by initiating girls into adulthood through rituals that included female genital mutilation (FGM) – a practice that violates girls’ bodies and their human rights. She is one of many FGM practitioners who wanted to stop but who could not find an alternative way to support herself and her family. Now she is a caterer, trained along with some 300 other traditional FGM practitioners through the EU-UN [Spotlight Initiative](#), who are equipped to earn an income from alternative sources such as climate-smart agriculture, making soap, or tailoring.

The programme is one of the many ways in which UN Women and our partners are working with traditional and cultural leaders to change the norms that sustain harmful practices such as FGM. Continuing this work is more important than ever now that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are threatening livelihoods and increasing financial vulnerabilities, contributing to the risk of backsliding on important progress in gender equality.

Compared to three decades ago, girls today are one third less likely to undergo FGM, but the COVID-19 pandemic appears to be increasing the practice. Not only is it limiting our scope for critical prevention work, but many traditional cutters badly in need of an income during the economic downturn have started again, approaching families directly, door to door, in search of work. Without action, by 2030 we could see as many as 2 million FGM cases that could otherwise have been avoided. Data from UN Women and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) show that the crisis will push 96 million people into extreme poverty by 2021, something which can lead to FGM and child marriage being used as negative coping mechanisms to ease extreme physical and financial uncertainty. Girls from the most marginalized groups will be at even higher risk of FGM and child marriage. Pandemic-related school closures provide increased opportunities for FGM to be undertaken on girls at home, which only heightens the risk of health complications as well as the transmission of COVID-19. And with the crisis putting 11 million girls at high risk of never returning to school, future generations of uneducated women are more likely to support the continuation of the practice.

This International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM is a moment to lead change wherever we have a voice and influence; to fund the approaches we know work and support women's organizations to do so; to demand accountability for community and state actions; to provide essential support for health and social services for survivors of FGM; and to listen to the voices of adolescent girls and young women, and make it possible for them to decide on what happens to their own lives and bodies.

Stories of change such as Yatta's underline how much is possible when the necessary support and will are in place, and how important it is for the lives of millions of girls in current and future generations to grow up as healthy, educated young women. COVID-19 has shown us that we cannot take the successes on this issue for granted. We have a chance to come together in united action to end FGM and all forms of violence against women and girls, at UN Women's upcoming [Generation Equality Forum](#) – the most important convening for gender equality investment and implementation in a quarter-century. Through its Action Coalitions such as on gender-based violence and sexual reproductive health and rights, respectively, we will be harnessing broad-based will and resources to push forward with this important work focusing on adolescent girls. Let's use this opportunity to #Act2EndFGM and together realize a world that is truly gender-equal.

Zonta International is proud to partner with organizations and coalitions who share Zonta International's vision of a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. By partnering with like-minded organizations, Zonta International extends its reach and impact to empower more women and girls around the world to realize their rights.

At the local level, Zonta clubs partner with local NGOs that share this vision. Zonta International partners include UNFPA, UNICEF USA, UN Women, Girls Not Brides, Coalition to End Violence Against Women and Girls Globally and Women's Empowerment Principles.

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