February Business Meeting Agenda:

- January Business Meeting Minutes
- December Final & January 19 to date Financial Reports
- Committee Reports

Program speaker: Debbie Johnson, Development Director, Crisis Center of Central NH

Upcoming Committee Meeting Dates:

Service
Tues., Feb. 23 @ 8:15 a.m. via Zoom

Ways $ Means
Thurs., Feb. 11 @ 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Be sure to read page 4 of this e-News to learn/relearn how you can be a legislative bill advocate in a “virtual” environment because your voice matters!
We have lots of legislative bills coming up that need our attention and support!

ZONTA CLUB OF CONCORD’S “Can’t Wait to Vaccinate” and “Got the Shot!” Education Campaign has been a huge success!
Over 5,000 pins have been distributed to nursing homes, banks, retirement homes, friends, co-workers, downtown businesses, and family members from the New England states to Florida, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and beyond. We were featured on WMUR-TV (Laura, you made us proud), Concord Monitor & NH Union Leader newspapers.

We are so proud that people want to wear these pins to show their support for the importance of protecting our community and slowing down/stoping this virus!

We do have more pins!
Call or email Laura or Janice to order pins. You can order online too at www.zontaclubofconcordnh.org.
The following was used on the Club’s period project handout and I thought it would be good to share it with you all (thank you Marianne Barter for finding it):

“Zonta is not an organization for the faint-hearted, the small in spirit, the person too busy to render service. It is for those who can accept a challenge to enter the world of affairs, clear-eyed, keen witted, generous, worldwide in sympathetic understanding and faith in womankind.”

- Katherine B. Sears
Confederacy of Zonta Clubs
President 1927-1929

PERIOD PROJECT SUPPLIES
WERE DISTRIBUTED TO THE
CONCORD EMERGENCY
WINTER SHELTER FOR THE
HOMELESS AS WELL AS THE
LYNX PANTRY AT NHTI,
CONCORD’S COMMUNITY
COLLEGE.
ONGOING DISTRIBUTIONS
WILL FOLLOW.

The Club received a check for $180 from
the Concord Unitarian Universalist
Church which they have asked to apply
toward our New American Merit Award
(NAMA). These were the proceeds from
their annual holiday wreath sales. A
thank you letter has been sent to them
expressing our sincere gratitude for
their thoughtfulness.

To commemorate Amelia Earhart day, the club invited Karen Mitchell (see her above next to her Cessna) to speak about her experience becoming a new pilot.

Karen is currently a local schoolteacher and became involved in aviation at the age of 39 and took her first flight lesson just two years ago. She received a $6,000 Amelia Earhart FlyNow Scholarship through the Ninety-Nines Aviation Association of Women Pilots to help fund her training. She received her private pilot license in July 2020.

Karen plans to continue her aviation training with her next goal to be certified in instrument flying. She hopes to someday be a professional pilot, perhaps on charter flights. She told us that only about 7% of the pilots for large carriers are women.

Karen was pleased to report that her daughter has already started to prepare for flight training, although not old enough to actually do so now.

We hope to someday see her at the helm when we’re flying commercially.

The Berkshire County Zonta Club will coordinate the Zonta District 1 Spring Workshop which will be held virtually. More information about the workshop and dates forthcoming.
THE BOOK NOOK IN HILLTOP CONSIGNMENT HAS A NEW LOOK!

NEW SIGN DESIGNED AND HANDCRAFTED BY ZONTIAN, DULCINEA BONILLA

The Book Nook continues its transition into an inviting location to browse through our hundreds of donated books. The many new bookcases are now filled!

The club’s Ways & Means Committee plans to publicize the Nook in local media during the month of February enticing residents to come and find a book or two to enjoy as they sit at home and read while we get through these cold months and the pandemic.

Over $1,300 has been raised this fiscal year through the sale of books with these specific proceeds being allocated to our many scholarships for women. Proceeds from other consignment sales have been donated to the club too in the amount of nearly $1,400.

Thank you, Sue McCoo, for your never-ending generosity to help us fund our many scholarships selling books and more at Hilltop Consignment.

It’s all about the little things!

2021 JANE M. KLAUSMAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP

Marie Lang has agreed to coordinate our 2021 JMK scholarship process. The following is the “abridged” version of the press release that was sent out. If you know of a woman who might qualify and who would be interested in applying, please share this information with her.

PRESS RELEASE

The Zonta Club of Concord is taking applications for the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. The application period begins January 29, 2021 and runs through March 21, 2021. This Scholarship Program is designed to encourage women to enter careers and to seek leadership positions in business-related fields in their communities and throughout the world. JMK Scholarships look to the women of today to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Any New Hampshire woman undertaking a business and/or business-related program leading to a business management career at an accredited university/college/institute and is in at least the second year of an undergraduate program through the final year of a master’s program at the time the application is submitted is eligible to apply.

The recipient of Concord’s $1,000 award will be eligible to compete at the Zonta District 1 level for an additional $2,000 award. The successful Zonta District 1 recipient will be qualified to compete for one of six international scholarship in the amount of $8,000.

The application and additional eligibility requirements are available online through the Zonta International website, www.zonta.org, on the Zonta Club of Concord NH website, www.zontaclubofconcordnh.org, or by emailing Marie Lang at concordzontajmk@gmail.com.
STEPS ON HOW TO BECOME A LEGISLATIVE BILL ADVOCATE

Getting involved in advocacy this year should be easier than ever. No finding a parking space or chair at the Legislative Office Building – everything is virtual.

Start here - http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/

On the left-hand side you will see “Find a 2021 Bill.” If you know the bill number, just type it in including the HB or SB (House Bill or Senate Bill). If you are not sure of the bill number, click on “Advanced Bill Status Search” and plug in a word that you know is part of the title and you should see it listed. From this point you can check out the bill language, amendments, what committee it is in, when the next hearing is, and status.

Back on that Gencourt homepage, you can also see what hearings are coming up on the calendar. There will be links so you can hop in and watch the proceedings. When you check in, you can indicate if you are for or against a bill and, if you want to give testimony, check that box. When you join in to watch a hearing, your face will not be visible, and no one will ask you to talk unless you have checked the box saying you want to give testimony. All hearings are open to the public.

One of the best ways to have an impact is to directly connect with your Representative and Senator. Back on that Gencourt homepage, you will also see “Contact Your State Representative” and “Contact Your State Senator.” Send an email or give them a call. Mailing letters is not recommended as it may not get to them until after the hearing.

When you call or email:

- Tell them who you are and the town where you live.
- Clearly indicate what you would like them to do – I am asking you to vote “no” on HB 12345.
- Briefly share why you would like them to vote this way.
- Thank them for their time, let them know you are available to answer more questions, and share your contact information (email and phone number).

You can also submit written testimony before a hearing. This testimony will be given to all those in the committee. Write a letter with the same information you would give to your own Representative in an email or call. The letter should be addressed to the Committee where the bill is being heard.

Sometimes people worry about “bothering” their elected officials or feel like their voice does not really matter. This is not the case. Our elected officials are there to serve the people and they want to hear from their constituents. Even if you think they will vote the way you want them to anyway, your information gives them more information and support for their decision – and when trying to sway their colleagues. Policy makers are not experts in everything. You may be bringing to their notice an unintended consequence or potential boon.

Your voice matters!

Submitted by Vice President, Lynn Stanley