

Report from the United Nations Chair District 4 – November 12, 2011

Since our last meeting in September I have continued to receive invitations to various clubs within the District. After the conference in addition to the previous requests, I have visited Three Rivers North- Pittsburgh- October 12, Stratford- November 3 and Brampton- Caledon on November 8. All visits were very enjoyable and members were very interested in our role with the United Nations and the International Service Projects that our Zonta International Foundation sponsors through UN Women.

Mary Ann Tarantula has continued to share updates from her work on behalf of Zonta International including the information on the Rutgers website www.16dayscwgj.rutgers.edu regarding the 16 Days of Activism Tool Kit. The website is phenomenal and has many ideas large and small for clubs to use to mark the 16 Days of Activism in appropriate ways. Clubs are encouraged to share their efforts with Mary Ann so that they can be shared with our International community.

As additional information, the reception of the Nobel Peace Prize by the President of Liberia, peace activist Leymah Gbowee also of Liberia and Tawakul Karman of Yemen, a pro-democracy campaigner was superb. The citation read: “We cannot achieve democracy and lasting peace in the world unless women obtain the same opportunities as men to influence developments at all levels of society.”

In closing I have received several inquiries about a visit to the United Nations as was organized in the past, so I will in the Spring contact the League of Women Voters of New York to see whether a trip can be developed for the Fall.

Submitted by:

Joanne Raymond

Chair United Nations Committee

District 4