



# Smoke Signal

## Nomination Committee

The nominating committee is excited and pleased to announce that we now have a full slate of officers and directors to vote on at our April meeting. Jennifer Koeller stepped up to the plate and volunteered to run for President-Elect. She did this after our President Judy sent an email plea and then reiterated that plea at our March meeting. Both Judy McNerny and Beth Mundell, our incoming President, as well as the Nominating Committee are excited and confident about this wonderful turn of events. Since Jennifer was going to have another year as a Director, this change would leave that position open. Mary Benoit has volunteered to fulfill Jennifer's final year, 2009-2010, as a Director. Replacing Mary as a nominee for the Nominating Committee for next year is Dorothy Swindt.

Under our bylaws (see page 32 of the directory), the Nominating Committee is responsible to nominate a member to fill any vacancy on the Board (other than president) and to present the nomination to the club for a vote at the earliest opportunity. Mission accomplished! The following is the slate of candidates to be voted on at the April meeting:

- President** Beth Mundell (elected in 2008)
- President-Elect** Jennifer Koeller
- Vice President** Kathy Hyzer
- Secretary** Carroll Allen
- Treasurer** Nikki Headlee
- Directors 2009-2010**
  - Deb Heckart (elected in 2008)
  - Mary Benoit (nominated to complete Jennifer's term)
- Directors 2009-2011**
  - Kate Linscott
  - Krystie Rose Millich
- Nominating Committee**
  - Judy McNerny
  - Sheila Davis
  - Dorothy Swindt (replacing Mary Benoit)

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## President Judy's April Message



. My suggestion last month that the future of our club hung in the balance, like the report of Mark Twain's death, was an exaggeration. As you may already know, Jennifer Koeller has volunteered to move into the president elect position! Naturally, she has to be elected first, but as no one else has been nominated, I think I am safe in assuming her campaign will be successful!

The Zonta Club of Denver is not only not dead, it is heading for a period of revitalization. We all know that Zonta needs new and younger members if it is to continue to thrive. How better to attract new and younger members than under the leadership of newer and younger members like Beth and Jennifer?

At the excellent Area 3 Meeting, one "Study Hall" (education was the theme of the meeting) focused on what the club of the future might look like. To be honest, the mostly over-50 women in the group had some difficulty figuring out what changes in the ways we do things—"That's how we've always done it!"—might make sense to address the concerns and goals of potential members today.

The *Prevention* magazine article, "What It Means To Be Wise," that I have been quoting from all year, "defines" wisdom like this: "Its classic elements include sound judgment, psychological insight, long and diverse life experience, emotional control, empathetic understanding, and, of course, knowledge."



## Fund-raising Committee

If you missed our first film event on February 26<sup>th</sup> you missed a wonderful event. Although we missed our goal of selling all 160 seats we ended up with nearly 130 seats sold and made close to \$2200.00. This is terrific for our first time!

The film's date was chosen to be in conjunction with the celebration of International Women's Day. Feedback from our guests was very positive on the film, as well as, we achieved a big goal of raising the public's awareness of the Zonta Club of Denver. We got lots of questions about our great club and the service activities that we do. Great mileage will be gained for the club from this event.

A lot of work was done in a very short amount of time and lots of credit goes to the entire Fundraising Team for this achievement. Also, lots of thanks to Mindy Craig who brought this particular film concept to our committee and coordinated the attendance of Allison Shigo, the producer of *A Walk to Beautiful*, and to Krystie Rose for her participation in covering ground for the publicity and flyers. We are also thankful for the many ZCD members who assisted us in setting up the reception room, attending to the guests, helping with clean-up and those who bought and sold tickets to friends and family.

Do you notice that creativity isn't on the list?

As our club's newer and younger members move into leadership positions, their different and creative ideas will energize and transform it. Some of their experiments will bomb, to be sure (meetings by Twitter? I hope not!) but although very few mistakes can't be undone, refusing to change is an experiment that we can't afford.

Beth and Jennifer—a warning: you will hear a lot about history, knowledge and our experience from us Zonta veterans. Please smile politely, thank us for our comments, consider them with respect, and soldier on into the 21<sup>st</sup> century even if it means rejecting the "wisdom" of your 20<sup>th</sup> century predecessors. Be confident that we are behind you, grumbling perhaps, but rooting for you to succeed!

*Judy McNerny*

## Service Committee

The Service Committee will be meeting in April - the date will be announced at the meeting. We met at the Mariposa House, the recipient of one of our service grants for this year. Their needs are many, but seem to fall into two main areas:

1. The women come to the house with very low self esteem and many health issues. They could use assistance and mentoring in areas from budgeting and finances to self care like teaching them good nutrition, exercise, and possibly yoga or tai chi, or just walking. It was suggested that a group membership could be obtained for the Botanic Gardens. It would be a safe place for them to get exercise.
2. Needs for the house. They need furniture for the entry area - a love seat and possible table and lamp. Colorful decor is also a needed - curtains, cheerful pictures, and dishes. The kitchen cabinet collapsed recently, and they have a need for plates, bowls, and salad plates. The remodeled kitchen is well stocked, and they do not currently have a need for us to cook meals - the women do a good job of cooking for themselves, but could fix healthier meals.

One suggestion was that groups might want to "Adopt a Bedroom" to provide colorful bedding, curtains, etc. They also need patio furniture. There is space on the side of the house for a garden, and several women have expressed an interest in planting some flowers and vegetables. The manager indicated they could arrange for the ground to be roto tilled and some top soil brought in, if our members would help the ladies with planning and planting a garden.

As you can see, their needs are great. We'll have more on how Zonta might serve soon.

Our only active project in March was Dolores Project, where dinner was served to almost 40 women on March 15.

## April General Meeting

Based on feedback from club members, this month's dinner and our May dinner will be at the Doubletree Hotel at Stapleton. It's the same hotel as our February dinner. Planning for the upcoming 2009-2010 year, our July and September meetings will be there also.

**When:** Thursday, April 9, 2009

5:30pm – Social Hour

6:00pm – Dinner

**Where:** Doubletree Hotel Denver

3203 Quebec Street

Denver CO 80207

Crystal I Room

**Menu:** Chef's Choice

Vegetarian available – please let Cathy know

Salad & Dessert

**Cost:** \$30

**Cocktails:** Can be purchased in the bar very close to the meeting room

### RESERVATIONS:

Please RSVP to [Cathy Conley](mailto:cathryn.conley@ge.com), at 720-622-0181 (w), 303-691-6926 (h), or [cathryn.conley@ge.com](mailto:cathryn.conley@ge.com) by **Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at noon.**

### APRIL PROGRAM:

Mandy Ziegler, a former club member, is launching her new-found purpose as a publisher and professional speaker. Her speech is entitled "Power, Purpose and Spirit." She utilizes a major work by her late husband, Warren, entitled, When Your Spirit Calls.

### Fast Facts

- 70 percent of the 1.3 billion poor are women.
- ⇒ Two-thirds of illiterate adults are women and two-thirds of children not in school are girls.
- ⇒ 60 million women are "missing" because of gender-based violence.
- ⇒ Every year an estimated 4 million women and girls are bought and sold worldwide.
- ⇒ Today, 7,000 women and girls will contract HIV.

### Reservations

For each general dinner meeting, please remember to call if you aren't on the permanent reservation list. And, as always, we are charged for the number we guarantee, so we have to bill anyone who makes a reservation (or forgets to cancel a permanent reservation) but doesn't come to the meeting.



### Permanent Reservation List Update!

- Members who are on the permanent reservation list do not have to call to make a reservation for dinner meetings (but you must call to cancel or be billed for dinner anyway)
- If you plan on coming to every meeting—why not add your name if it is not on the list?
- If you are on the permanent list but tend to forget to call and cancel—why not take your name off the list?
- Be sure to call Joetta Williams or Cathy Conley, Membership Co-Chairs, with your request to be added or deleted!

### Permanent Reservations

Should your name be listed here?

Carroll Allen

Evie Ashmore

Judy Bederman

Mary Benoit

Cathy Conley

Linda Corssmit

Shelia Davis

Pam Dumonceau

Nikki Headlee

Deb Heckart

Cynthia Herndon

Kathy Hyzer

Dottie Jenkins

Jennifer Koeller

Kate Linscott

Judy McNerny

Krystie Rose Millich

Wendy Moraskie

Beth Mundell

Linda Rhea

Dorothy Swindt

Joetta Williams

**Remember to call if you can't come, otherwise you will be billed for the dinner.**

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## Committee Preference Form

The names of committee Chairmen and committee members must be submitted to the new Board for approval at the May Board Meeting. It would be appreciated if you would give some indication of your committee preference on this form and return it to Beth Mundell at the March club meeting.

The chairman of each committee is responsible to the President for all aspects of her committee's work. Each committee has responsibilities outlined in the by-laws. Each committee will also decide how these responsibilities will be managed (committee of the whole, sub committees, etc.)

If you have been a member of the same committee for two or more years you are urged to consider serving on a different committee. Varied committee experience should mean a richer, more satisfying realization of the potentials of our individual members and our organization.

Please indicate your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice

\_\_\_\_\_ **Membership and Membership Services**

Responsible for programs, arrangements, directory, recruitment, retention  
(approx. 35% of the membership)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Service/ Status of Women**

Responsible for service funding and project recommendations; advocacy; Young Woman in Public Affairs Award/Jane Klausman Women in Business Scholarship; community and international relations; United Nations and inter-city relations  
(approx. 30% of the membership)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Fund Raising**

Responsible for executing fund raising plans  
(approx. 25% of the membership)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Public Relations and Communications**

Responsible for PR; club historian; press releases; Smoke Signal; web site  
(approx 10% of membership)

Remember: All members of the Board membership will be chairs of the committees and you will only be on one committee....

In checking any of the above, if you have a particular area within a given committee you would like to work, please indicate it. The President will consider your wishes in making committee assignments; however, it may be necessary to assign members to a committee not indicated by said member in an effort to attain proper representation on all committees.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Get the Zonta Buzz!

**Great News!...**

**We now have our Hotel for the  
2009 District 12 Conference!**

The conference will be held at:

**Red Lion Denver Central (@ Stapleton)**

- Entire hotel newly remodeled in 2008
- Small size property; we'll be the only conference there
- Easy freeway access at I-70 & Quebec
- Free shuttle to Northfield Stapleton and Quebec Square shopping & entertainment areas



**Friday, October 30-Sunday, November 1, 2009**

## February 2009 Dinner Meeting Doubletree Hotel Denver 2/12/09

**President Judy McNerny** called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and **Liz Cameron** read the inspirational *Glory Forever*.

**Kendis Paris**, a guest of **Kathy Hyzer**, was introduced as was **Sue Krueger**, guest of Beth Mundell.

Kendis was one of the organizers of the Human Trafficking Awareness Conference last fall. She presented an update of her efforts on trafficking as the Status of Women Moment. President Judy McNerny asked for and received approval of the January minutes as published in the *Smoke Signal*.

**Barbara Pellegren** was not able to attend so there wasn't a finance report.

**Joetta Williams** reported for Membership. The committee is still working on a permanent location for the monthly dinner meeting. So this month we are trying the Doubletree Hotel Denver and stay tuned for information on the location of the March meeting.

**Beth Mundell** reported the Delores Project this Sunday is the only on-going service project at the present time.

**Wendy Moraskie** indicated she is gearing up for the film event by updating brochures, making a new service project banner, etc. The website is updated and is to be remodeled. We will have a presentation at the Women's Legislative Breakfast next week.

**Mindy Craig** reported for the Fundraising Committee. She talked about how important it will be for all members to participate to make this the success we need it to be. Flyers were available for members to take and post in libraries, grocery stores, fitness centers, etc., any place in the community where people might see them. Mindy suggested giving promotional brochures to friends – send e-mails – meet friends for a pre-event meal and then head over to the film, etc. She also suggested if a member isn't available to attend she can donate money so a Metro student can attend. She indicated we need to get the word out to everyone including other Zonta Clubs. And this event will get the word out about our organization, too. March 8<sup>th</sup> happens to be International Women's Day and Zonta Rose Day which all tie into the film "A Walk to Beautiful".

**Nikki Headlee** asked that suggestions for new club officers be submitted to the Nominating Committee by next Monday.

**Krystie Rose Millich** received the Zonta Rock last month and passed it on to Mindy Craig for all her great work on the film event.

Kathy Hyzer brought the door prize and Gayle Erickson-Ash was the winner.

This meeting like every February dinner meeting is a special occasion as we present checks to organizations to support specific projects. The selection process is performed by the Service Committee. Kathy Hyzer and Beth Mundell, co-chairs of the committee explained the distribution of funds for this year. Beth told of the decision to give 2 larger awards rather than a number of smaller ones as in the past.

Before announcing the 2 recipients, though, Rachel Lewis, Volunteer Coordinator for Denver Kids, Inc was introduced. Zonta was one of the founders of Denver Girls, the predecessor to Denver Kids, and has a long history of supporting this organization. Rachel was given a check for \$5,000. a bequest from Bobbie Razez, a long time Zontian who recently passed away.

Carol Lease of the Empowerment Program accepted a check for \$10,000 of which part was proceeds from Essie Garrett's walk to Kansas. The Empowerment Program is 23 years old and has a 33 person staff. In 2008 they served 28% more women (average age – 38 years old) than the previous year. Their mission is to provide education, employment assistance, health, housing referrals and support services to women who are in disadvantaged positions due to incarceration, poverty, homelessness, HIV/AIDS infection or involvement in the criminal justice system. Their goal is to decrease rates of recidivism by providing case management, support services, basic skills education, housing and resource coordination that can offer viable alternatives to habits and choices that may lead to criminal behaviors.

A. J. Steele and Amanda Finger represented the Polaris Project and accepted our check in the amount of \$20,000. The vision of the Polaris Project is for a world without slavery. It is one of the largest anti-trafficking organizations in the U.S. Our financial support will be used for research; a two-phase community needs assessment to gauge services available statewide to assist victims of trafficking.

The closing quote was presented by Judy McNerny.

Upcoming Events –

Zonta Club of Denver Film Event March 8, 2009

March club meeting (location TBA) March 12, 2009

Area 3 meeting March 28, 2009

2009 District Conference *in Denver!* October 30-November 1, 2009

Respectfully submitted by Carroll Allen, Secretary

## March Dinner Meeting Red Lion Hotel Denver 3/12/09

**President Judy McNerny** called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

**Liz Cameron and Joetta Williams** collaborated in putting together quotes from famous people for an inspirational moment.

Alice Borodkin was introduced as a guest and program speaker. **Nikki Headlee** introduced Kathy Leopold, who attended the film event and was interested in learning more about Zonta. **Mindy Craig** introduced Laurie Maves an artist, as a guest, too.

**Diane Twining** presented the Status of Women Moment. The February dinner meeting minutes will be published in the next Smoke Signal along with these. Approval of both will be asked for at the April meeting.

Judy will be e-mailing information on Senate Bill 68: Funding for Domestic Abuse Services. Diane gave an update on CEDAW. She emphasized advocacy.

And she will be e-mailing information as CEDAW is being considered again by the U.S. Senate

**Barb Pellegrin**, Treasurer, reported the club's investments are down but are doing better than most. The club's bank, American National Bank, has been named a Blue Ribbon Bank.

### **Committee Reports –**

Joetta reported Sheila Davis will be sending an e-mail ballot to vote on a location for the monthly dinner meeting.

Deb Heckart indicated the film event was special. One hundred two tickets needed to be sold to break even and a hundred twenty-something were sold. Final numbers aren't available yet as the event was held just last Sunday. Nikki gave a brief history of fundraising events and encouraged us to take it to three years. Bo Smith of the Denver Film Society wants to partner on more events.

Beth Mundell passed the Service Projects book around the room so volunteers could sign up for the Delores Project dinners and Excelsior and WOW's fundraisers.

Wendy Moraskie brought the updated club brochures for members to take. She talked about how fundraising relates to the club mission. She, also, talked about how hard it is to get media coverage for these events. She sent media info to 30 outlets for the film event and got no responses. She asked if anybody has any connections to please let her know.

Sheila gave an update on the district conference we are hosting over the Halloween weekend this year. The Red Lion Hotel Denver is the location. Four Z-Bees are traveling to Lamar next week to promote it at the Area 4 meeting. The next week will be another appearance, this time at the Area 3 meeting. Sheila also discussed the past governor's lunches she has been organizing. The first one was held to interview Mary Benoit. The purpose of gathering for these lunches is to discuss what did and what didn't work at district confer-

ences for each of the past governors. Then, hopefully, we can learn how to put on the best one ever this year.

Nikki reported for the nominating committee which consisted of Nikki, Cathy Conley and Minnie Lundberg. Following is a list of the people who are nominated –

President – Beth Mundell

President Elect – no nomination as no one contacted was willing to serve.

Vice President – Kathy Hyzer

Secretary – Carroll Allen

Treasurer – Nikki Headlee (Sheila Davis will assist)

Director – Deb Heckart (second year of her term)

Director – Jennifer Koeller “ “ “

Director - Kristie Rose Millich

Director – Kate Linscott

Nominating Committee - Judy McNerny, Mary Benoit and Sheila Davis.

There were no nominations from the floor so the slate presented by the Nominating Committee will be the slate of candidates presented for election at the April meeting.

There was much discussion about problems with getting members to step up and be president of the club. Barb moved to amend our by-laws so the President Elect does not have to chair a committee. Instead the person in this position would be an assistant to the President. Evie Ashmore seconded the motion. Judy asked for those in favor to raise their hands and the motion was passed unanimously.

Alice Borodkin's talk was entitled Women, Peace and Security—What the UN is Doing. She just joined the UNA and is the VP of Outreach. Women need to inform themselves about issues in the contemporary world. We need to learn how to strategize. Need to know about CEDAW, human trafficking, domestic violence, etc. What can we do to effect change? We should become political. She said we are from suffragette stock and we can't lose our vision. Have confidence in your skills and talents. Decide where you want to go. What do you want for tomorrow? Begin to reinvent yourself and our organization. She's challenging us to have a bigger vision. Need to change the way we operate. Alice took questions after her talk. Mindy Craig was the recipient of the Zonta Rock award last month and awarded it this time to Mary Benoit.

Linda Rhea asked members to join her in walking in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk at Washington Park on April 26<sup>th</sup>. It starts at 9 a.m. Donations to the cause will be greatly appreciated. Contact Linda for additional information. Judy presented Cracked Pots to Judy Bederman and Wendy Moraskie for their efforts on the film event. And she gave yellow roses to Deb Heckart and Mindy Craig for their awesome efforts for the event, also.

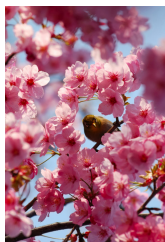
Alice Borodkin won the door prize. After Judy's closing quotes the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carroll Allen, Secretary

Zonta Club of Denver  
PO Box 2665  
Denver, CO 80201

*We're on the Web! Visit us at  
[www.zonta-denver.org](http://www.zonta-denver.org)*

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide...



*Upcoming Calendar Events Save the date!*

Apr 9	General Meeting - Election of Officers
Apr 12	Easter
Apr 23	Board Meeting at Judy McNerny's Home
May 10	Mother's Day
May 14	General Meeting - Installation of Officers
May 28 ??	Joint Board Meeting
June 21	Father's Day
Oct 30— Nov 1, 2009	District Conference in Denver!

*Birthday wishes go out to  
Our April Birthdays*

*Gayle Erickson-Ash—Apr 1st  
Robin Forti Jennings—Apr 3rd  
Julie Schmidt—Apr 16th*

