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SMOKE SIGNAL

APRIL, 2014

HONOR DIARIES



"Culture is no excuse for abuse." This is the message of *Honor Diaries*, the film presented at the sixth annual Zonta's Day of Film, on March 22. The film highlighted nine women who advocate against crimes committed against women in the name of honor. Each woman featured in the film had a personal story. One told of a sister who set herself on fire rather than dishonor her family by asking for a divorce from an abusive husband. Another told of preventing the "circumcision" of some girls in her community by presenting evidence to their father of the harm that could occur as a result of his allowing his daughters to be mutilated.

Such crimes occur primarily in Muslim-majority countries, but the idea that a woman's life is less important than a family's honor comes with some immigrant families and honor crimes occur in western countries, including the United States, as well as in other parts of the world. Several of the women advocates decried the fact that Western authorities do not do more to protect women

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Be a rainbow in someone else's cloud.

from such crimes, even when it should be obvious that something is wrong. Hence the film's message that culture does not excuse abuse.

The screening of the film was followed by a discussion led by Cynthia Hessin of Rocky Mountain PBS and featuring Jacqueline St. Joan, author of *My Sisters Made of Light*, and Dr. Anastasia Posadskaya-Vanderbeck, Manager of UN Women's Safe Cities Initiative. Ms St. Joan remarked on how changes in laws can lead the way toward changes in public attitudes. She gave an example of a Colorado law passed in the 1980s mandating that police follow up on reports of domestic violence, which led to an increase in the number of arrests and, she felt, a decrease in public acceptance of domestic violence.

Honor Diaries is available for download at www.honordiaries.com.

Maya Angelou,
Letter to My Daughter

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MARILYN WARING NAMED HONORARY ZONTIAN

Zonta International has named Dr. Marilyn Waring as an honorary member of Zonta. The Zonta International Board awards lifelong International Honorary Membership to individuals who have helped to change societal attitudes about women, or have improved conditions for women beyond the national level. What follows are excerpts from ZI's press release about its honoring of Dr. Waring.

From the time she became the youngest member of the Parliament of New Zealand in 1975 at age 23, Dr. Waring has dedicated her career to advancing the status of women internationally. In particular, she is known as the principal founder of feminist economics, which argues that women's work has not traditionally been factored into economic study. Her 1988 book, *If Women Counted*, persuaded the United Nations to redefine gross domestic product and inspired new accounting methods in dozens of countries, all to make women a more significant factor in the economy.

"In my life I have tried to use the privileges and skills I have, and the relative safety of my precious New Zealand passport, to unapologetically speak truth to power, to serve as a bridge and access for those who are silenced, bullied or invisible. I have had feminist friends, human rights defenders, who have disappeared, been imprisoned, and faced trumped up charges. I have never had such threats, and I have never felt able to choose an easier path while my friends literally put their lives on the line.

Dr. Waring's accomplishments are vast. In the 1975 election, she became one of only four female Members of Parliament. She also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand.

Since 2006, Dr. Waring has been a Professor of Public Policy at the Institute of Public Policy at AUT University in Auckland, New Zealand, focusing on governance and public policy, political economy, gender analysis and human rights. She has received numerous awards and accolades for her work, including the 2013 Amnesty International New Zealand's Human Rights Defender Award, a Doctor

of Letters from Glasgow Caledonian University for her outstanding international contribution towards the understanding of feminism and female human rights, and the Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for her services to women and economics.

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WOMEN OF COURAGE

The United States Department of State gives Women of Courage Awards each year. We will feature one each month and hope readers are inspired by what these individuals have accomplished.

A prominent leader in the field of maternal health, Dr. Nasrin Oryakhil is a doctor of Gynecology and Obstetrics and has been the Director of the Malalai Maternity Hospital in Kabul since 2004. In addition to providing emergency obstetric care to women, including for rural women who come to Kabul because of medical complications, Dr. Nasrin founded, at Malalai Maternity Hospital, the first center for obstetric fistula repair in Afghanistan. Dr. Nasrin is also firmly committed to strengthening the role of women in medical professions in Afghanistan. She has increased the recognition of the essential role of midwives and supported the establishment of the Afghan Midwives Association. She is the president of the non-governmental organization Afghan Family Health Association, which is currently implementing innovative reproductive health programs, providing a hotline for youth and shelters for women, and conducting outreach sessions in high schools to raise reproductive health awareness among students. She is also an active member of the Afghan Women's Network, has spoken before the Parliament many times, has presented at professional medical conferences, and is part of the working group tasked to establish a Medical Council in Afghanistan.



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April Meeting

Meeting Details

Date: Thursday, April 10

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Hacienda Colorado
4100 East Mexico Ave.
Denver, CO 80222

Menu: Order individually from the extensive menu

Greeters: Judy McNerny

Inspirational
Advocacy Moment: TBA

Cost: As priced on menu

Reservations to Judy Allen at judith.allen@ch2m.com or 720-286-5012 by 10am Monday, April 7th.
Members on the Permanent list must call to cancel or you will be charged.

Permanent Reservations:

We are charged for the number we guarantee for our dinner meetings, so we must bill a member who makes a reservation but doesn't come (or who forgets to cancel a permanent reservation).

The following members have permanent reservations:

Judy Allen	Sheila Davis	Kate Linscott
Evie Ashmore	Mary Lou Edwards	Judy McNerny
Mary Benoit	Nikki Headlee	Nancy McWhirter
Alice Borodkin	Cynthia Herndon	Wendy Moraskie
Julie Bradley	Kathy Hyzer	Dorothy Swindt

Program

Our speaker for the April meeting will be Shiela Porter. Shiela has always been interested in the role of women in developing countries, and she strongly supports micro lending as a means to be self sufficient.

Shiela's background includes an educational minor in Art History, 30 years as a clinical and forensic psychologist, a volunteer for projects in Africa and Cambodia, as well as travel in third world countries (recently Myanmar). She's also a teacher at the Academy for Lifelong Learning, a non credit continuing educational program for seniors.

Shiela will talk about "Women Gaining Power in Third World Countries as the Key Factor to Future Development."

A Glass Half Full

The March club meeting was not in our usual room and the set-up offered challenges. Here are one upbeat member's comments to our Membership Committee:

I thoroughly enjoyed last night...I know it wasn't perfect, but it was energetic, fun, I loved sitting at the table with a bunch of folks rather than just a few....

and I still had enough \$\$ to give some of my monthly budget to Delores and still buy my ticket to the film fest....

awesome!
Beth

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**Judith Allen
and
Richard Starlin**



Jim Medford Photography
www.jmedford.com
(303) 570-4272
jmedford@aol.com

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Service Committee

On Thursday, March 16, Kathy H., Cathy C., Nikki, and I attended The Delores Project's Donor Appreciation Luncheon. We were served sack lunches made by Café Options. Terrell Curtis, the executive director, gave us an overview and shared some interesting facts. Every year The Delores Project receives \$100,000 in food and supply donations. They are full every night with 50-60 women. The Delores Project was started 14 years ago and has been in its current building for 7 years. After the luncheon, Terrell gave us a tour of the facility. It was very informative and interesting.



Our annual luau dinner at The Delores Project on Mar. 16 was a smashing success! The menu was Kahlua Pig, macaroni salad with shrimp, fruit salad, cole slaw, and dessert. Hawaiian music was played as our Zonta sisters adorned with flowers in their hair and leis served the women. Thank you, Olette, Mary Lou, Jeanette, Nikki, Sue, Julie, and Kathy H. for providing the delicious food and for making such a fun evening happen.

In addition to all the bras and panties that were brought to the March meeting, Jeanette has been busy cashing checks and purchasing more undergarments for the women at The Haven. Our Zonta Club has been extremely generous! Once the final purchases have been made, Jeanette will give us a more detailed report on the final numbers.

**Item of the Month:
Laundry Detergent (high efficiency preferred) for
The Delores Project
Please bring to the April Zonta Meeting**

Thanks, Nancy

Please thank and patronize our 2014 Day of Film Sponsors!



Fundraising

Thank you all for the wonderful event '6th Day of Film' Honor Diaries. The audience was primed, the film shocked and pushed us to deal with one of the crucial issues of our day: honor violence and killings. Our panel of women, Cynthia Hessin as moderator, Dr. Anastasia Posadskaye-Vanderbeck from UN Women's Safe Cities and Jacqueline St. Joan as author, advocate and lawyer all held us spellbound in the discussion of this film and issue. We were so enthralled in the discussion that we went over our time and had to leave the theater so that the next film could start.



Food and beverages followed suit with marvelous selections and wonderful followup discussion and networking. We want to thank all our sponsors for the yummy treats and wonderful mimosas.

Due to the cold and snowy weather we were a tight group of individuals but a mighty one. Sponsorships were up in money and caterers. Attendance was slightly down. Thanks to all those of our membership who did participate in the film event. Let's make sure next year we are sold out in tickets and sponsorships!

Thanks to all the hardworking members of the fundraising committee, Nikki, Mary, Cynthia, Alexis, Dorothy, Cathy, Kate, Dottie, Kathy and Wendy. Great job!

Next fundraising committee meeting is the week of April 7th. Please look for your email about the meeting.

Garage Sale. May 17th at Cynthia Herndon's house 1360 Glencoe.

Please contact Julie B to pick up larger items or Cynthia to schedule a time to drop off your donations of items for the sale. We accept all items except: adult clothing. Furniture, kitchen items, appliances, books, CDs, DVD movies, linens, tools, holiday items, baskets, children's toys, books, baby items, rugs, paintings, etc., are just a few of the items donated in the past. When the event is over unsold items will be given to The Salvation Army Thrift store. Old televisions (not flat screens) cannot be accepted if they are not sold.

An online signup sheet will be sent out before the meeting in April to get a start on those who can work, who can lend tables, etc., for display of garage sale items with the schedule.

Friday before the sale will be the time to price items that were not already priced. Remember it would be a help if you could mark your donated items with a price ahead of time so that we would only have to sort and get items ready for sale the next morning. The Sale will start at about 8 am that day until about 3 pm. Please make sure you 'SAVE THE DATE' to help with our second highest fund raiser of the year!

Thanks, Julie

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Advocacy

Did you think that *Honor Diaries* was a film about violence against women in the name of religion, cultural norms or a family's honor? Well, it was that of course.

But it was also a film about advocacy. The women featured in the film are all advocates for the women and girls who are victims and potential victims of honor crimes. The *Honor Diaries* website declares their mission: starting a movement to save women and girls from human rights abuses - around the world and here in America. They ask us to "join the movement of women and girls who speak the truth that: Culture is No Excuse for Abuse." I hope that each of us will join that movement by thinking and telling other people about what we learned from the movie. Advocacy isn't always easy or comfortable, but the courageous women shown in *Honor Diaries* are inspiring role models for anyone committed to improving the lives of other women.



Judy Mc

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Membership

Membership is planning a ZONTA 101 information event on April 17. If you have anyone you would like to suggest for this please contact membership members. We will send out an invitation. Or I have invitations and will send to you. Please include Emails.

Meeting will be at the Ross University-Hills Library
4310 E. Amherst Ave.
Denver, CO 80222
5 pm to 7:30 pm

We will have light refreshments.



~ Judy A.

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SLATE OF CANDIDATES

The slate of candidates nominated for the club board to serve during 2014-2015 is as follows:

President-Elect Mary will become President automatically.

Director Nancy McWhirter will complete her two-year term ending May 31, 2015.

The following were nominated for the remaining offices and board positions:

President-Elect:	Judy Allen
Vice President:	Katie Boysen
Secretary:	Mary Lou Edwards
Treasurer:	Kathy Hyzer
Director - 2014-2015:	Marian Lee (to complete Katie Boysen's term as director)
Directors - 2014-2015:	Judy McNerny
	Gwen Fornia
Nominating	Wendy Moraskie
Committee:	Cathy Conley
	Liz Cameron

The election will be held at the April club meeting.

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MARCH MEETING MINUTES

President, Wendy Henry-Moraskie called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Guests at the meeting:

Katie Boysen introduced her friend, Caitlyn, and Karen Silverman, Executive Director of Smart Girls.

Mary Benoit announced that Alexis Newton will join our club this Spring.

Mary Lou Edwards gave the IAM (Inspirational Advocacy Moment) about Honor Killings.

The February Minutes were approved; Kathy Hyzer, Treasurer, reported that the Audit Committee met that day (March 13, 2014) and "all is okay"; and President Wendy invited everyone to participate in dinner.

PROGRAM:

Karen Silverman, Executive Director of Smart Girls, talked to us about the impact our Grant to them will have on their training program. She said that the "big picture" of Smart Girls is social/common/emotional growth skills. Middle School girls & boys in their program learn how to set boundaries, how to build healthy relationships, nurture self-esteem and self-advocacy, and how to get help.

Ms. Silverman has been with Smart Girls for four years. Her background includes law school and volunteering at Safe House Denver where she learned about non-profits, found she loved it and has stayed there. She loves Smart Girls because it's the middle school prevention area. It was founded in 1998 by 4 women at US West, and has evolved into a peer program. Karen is responsible for transitioning Smart Girls to a structured, businesslike and sustainable program.

Smart Girls' Leadership Institute trains high school and college age girls/women to mentor middle school girls and boys. The training takes 22 hours and they can get college credit for doing it. She gave us a handout that showed the program is now in 39 different sites (7 counties in Colorado, 1 county in New York & 1 in Wyoming).

FILM EVENT:

Julie Bradley reported that the committee has received \$6800 in sponsorships; the Tattered Cover will have books for sale at the event about Honor Killings; the author of "My sisters Made of Light" will be one of the two speakers on the discussion panel; the reception is all set and won't cost us anything; there will be a door prize drawing; and she needs people to sign up to help the day of the event.

SERVICE:

Nancy McWhirter thanked everyone for their donation of underwear for Friends of the Haven at this meeting, and said that the donation item for April will be laundry detergent (high efficiency only) for Delores House. Jeanette Neville did a good job of getting much needed "undies"

purchased and delivered to Friends of the Haven. She said that Olette is concerned that our day to serve dinner for Delores House in April falls on Easter and asked if we wanted to skip that day. Kathy Hyzer and Nikki Headlee volunteered to take charge of that dinner and Judy McNerny, Helen Mulhern and Beth Mundell volunteered to help them.

Nancy and Kathy Hyzer attended the Delores House dinner where they learned that the value of our dinners and contributions is over \$100,000!

BARB PELLEGRIN

Nikki reported that Barb is still recovering at the rehab facility on Lincoln for a couple more weeks. Her spirit is good, but her toughest times are the weekends and she would appreciate visits.

PR:

Katie Boysen thanked members who helped with the Smart Girls event before and during Sat., Feb. 22.

She reported that several of our club members attended the Denver Women's Commission event on March 4, 2014 with special guest Mayor Michael B. Hancock. Kathy Hyzer has a copy of DWC's assessment of the issues most affecting women and girls in Denver.

Katie advised us of an HBO event on Monday - a documentary featuring Maria Shriver called "Paycheck to Paycheck."

MEMBERSHIP:

Judy Allen said that our April, May and June meetings at the Hacienda will be in the back room. She has booked the site for our meetings through next Fall.

NOMINATING:

The Nominating Committee, Joetta Williams, Cathy Conley and Jacki Sammons were pleased to present a slate of officers for the coming year:

- President, Mary Benoit
- President-Elect, Judy Allen
- Vice-President, Katie Boysen
- Secretary, Mary Lou Edwards
- Treasurer, Kathy Hyzer
- Directors: Judy McNerny, Nancy McWhirter, Marian Lee and Gwen Fornia
- Nominating: Wendy Henry-Moraskie, Cathy Conley and Liz Cameron

All nominees accepted their nominations.

RAFFLE:

Katie Boysen sold tickets and Julie Bradley won the drawing.

ZONTA ROCK:

Jeannette Newville gave it to Judy McNerny for picking up Advocacy and running with it.

There being no further business, President Wendy adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 16 Luau Night at Delores House

March 20	Board Meeting, Mary Benoit's office
March 22	Film Event
March 29	Area 3 meeting hosted by LW/Golden
April 10	Regular meeting at The Hacienda, 5:30
April 12	Douglas County's Trivia Night
April 24	Board meeting at Mary Benoit's office, 5:30
May 17	Garage Sale at Cynthia's home
June 27 - July 1	ZI Convention in Orlando

~Respectfully submitted,
Mary Lou Edwards, Secretary

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DOMESTIC DIVA

Our recipe this month comes from The Delores Project Luau:

HAWAIIAN SALAD - Serves 20-25 - 2 day prep.

2--20 oz cans pineapple chunks, drained, reserve the juice
1--20 oz can crushed pineapple, drained, reserve the juice
1--16 oz pkg. acini-de-pepe (tiny pasta) - cooked, rinsed and drained
1 c. sugar
3 cans mandarin oranges, drained
2 Tbsp. flour
1/2 t. salt
1 3/4 c. pineapple juice
1--9 oz. carton Cool Whip
2 eggs, beaten
1 c. mini marshmallows optional
1 Tbsp. lemon juice
1 c. coconut, optional

1st day: combine sugar, flour and salt. Gradually add pineapple juice and beaten eggs. Cook over moderate heat, stirring until thickened. Add lemon juice and cool to room temperature. Add cooked, cooled pasta and stir well. Refrigerate in airtight container overnight.

2nd day: Add mandarin oranges, crushed pineapple and chunks, Cool Whip, marshmallows and coconut. Mix well. Keeps well refrigerated in airtight container up to one week. If you have questions, let me know! Thank You - Mary Lou Edwards

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Zonta Mission Reflected in Day of Film,
Former US President's New Book, IMF Managing Director's Philosophy

Last week, Zonta Club of Denver members celebrated our club, our common goals, and our local and international mission, in our enthusiastic participation at our sixth annual Day of Film. The film, "Honor Diaries," celebrated a group of women who were standing up and joining together to make a difference for all women in their culture, and by extension, all oppressed women in the world.

I was again struck by the awareness that, except for the slightest featherweight change in circumstances, any of the women activists in that film - and any of us or the women we know- might be victims of systemic violence and human rights abuses.

On the morning of our Day of Film and later in the week, I heard two interviews on the radio, one with former President Jimmy Carter and another with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, Christine Lagarde. I was struck by how these prominent people are echoing, unintentionally, of course, the 95-year-old mission of Zonta International.

The 39th President reports in the interview that he believes "the most serious and unaddressed worldwide challenge is the deprivation and abuse of women and girls."

He says in his new book, "A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence and Power," that "it is a crisis that manifests itself across the world in the form of child marriage, unequal pay, female genital mutilation, human trafficking, and more."

Here's a link to an interview with the Christian Science Monitor.

[Jimmy Carter Issues 'Call To Action' Against Subjugation Of Women](#)

(here's the url, in case the hyperlink doesn't translate) <http://www.cpr.org/news/npr-story/jimmy-carter-issues-call-action-against-subjugation-women#.dpuf>

The interview with IMF Director Lagarde contained a stunning quote. Lagarde, speaking of a study conducted by the IMF on women in the workforce, said, "We found that if females were working in the same proportion as men do, the level of (gross domestic product) in a country like Egypt would be up 34 percent, up 27 percent in a country like India but also up 9 percent in Japan and up 5 percent in the United States. All economies have savings and productivity gains if women have access to the job market. It's not just a moral, philosophical or equal-opportunity matter. It's also an economic cause. It just makes economic sense. It's a no-brainer."

Here's a link to that interview

[IMF's Lagarde: Women In Workforce Key To Healthy Economies](#)

(and here's the url) <http://www.cpr.org/news/npr-story/imfs-lagarde-women-workforce-key-healthy-economies#.dpuf>

As often as we may feel we're but a few small voices whispering in a strong wind, it's so heartening to hear our message strengthened by other powerful voices in the world.

Ladies, we weren't just watching a film and serving brunch. We were adding vocabulary to the worldwide discussion. Congratulations on a great Day of Film and thank you for all your participation in every part of that event and all of Zonta's activities that keep the critical dialogue moving forward.

~ Wendy

CALENDAR

Date	Event	Time	Location	Details
April 10	Club meeting	5:30 pm	La Hacienda Colorado I-25 and Colorado Blvd.	Shiela Porter, "Women Gaining Power in Third World Countries as the Key Factor to Future Development."
May 8	Club meeting	5:30 pm	La Hacienda Colorado I-25 and Colorado Blvd.	Pam Harvey, Development Director, Amy's House, a home for rescued human trafficked girls outside Ft. Collins
May 17	ZCD Annual Garage Sale	7:00 am to 3:00 pm	1360 Glencoe Street	REALLY START SAVING STUFF NOW
June 12	Club Meeting	5:30 pm	La Hacienda Colorado I-25 and Colorado Blvd.	TBA
June 27 – July 1	Zonta International Convention		World Center Marriott Orlando, Florida	orlando2014.zonta.org
July 10	NO CLUB MEETING IN JULY			
August 14	Club meeting	5:30 pm	Liz's garden	Pot luck and relaxation News from ZI Convention

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Wendy Henry-Moraskie, President | Judy McNerny, Editor

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