

# Smoke Signal

## August 2013

Volume 20, Issue 3

President, Wendy Henry-Moraskie Editor, Judy McNerny

### Special points of interest:

- Billboard Advocacy
- Oppression Can Lead to Opportunity

### Inside this issue:

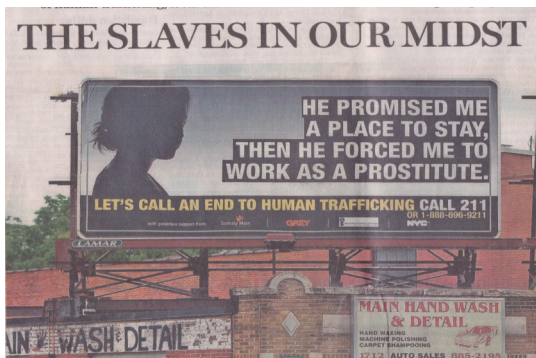
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## BILLBOARD ADVOCACY

Bright and early June 14<sup>th</sup> Sheila Davis, Governor and member of the Zonta Club of Denver, Kay Meyer, Past Governor and member of the Zonta Club of

Boulder Foothills, Betty Edwards, Past Governor and member of the Zonta Club of the Pike Peak Area and I ventured off to Niagara Falls, Ontario for the Zonta North American Inter District Meeting. After an early morning flight, storm delays, and normal travel hassles we arrived at the Buffalo International Airport. While waiting in line for our rental car I spotted the Buffalo newspaper. We all know human trafficking is everywhere, but little did we know that we would be met with such a headline and billboard as pictured above. It was just in time for the arrival of Zontians and it was amazing. We bought all of the papers and shared with others at the conference.

Betty and I stayed Monday for some rest and relaxation. We had a motel booked close to the



Click [here](#) to read the story

Buffalo airport for that night and an early Tuesday morning flight. On our way to Buffalo and just after we crossed into the US Betty broke the news to me that she wanted to see the human trafficking billboard up close and personal. Now the only map we had was the very small Avis Rental Car map of Buffalo. With a lot of urging and perseverance, mostly on Betty's part, we actually found the billboard without getting lost. It was in a semi-industrial part of town perched on the top of an auto detailing business. The owner of the business, a very tall and muscular African-American man, became quite curious when we started to take pictures of the billboard. He came out to talk to us. This was a golden

opportunity for Betty to do what she does best – talk about human trafficking. As founder of the Southern Colorado Human Trafficking Task Force, this is her

passion. She is not only passionate, she is knowledgeable. We asked the business owner if he was given any information about human trafficking when the billboard was erected. He wasn't, so Betty took care of that situation by giving him a brochure, information and a stack of the small tri-folds with the 800# emergency number for any suspected trafficking situation. Betty asked what he knew about human trafficking and his answer, "Well, you would have to be pretty stupid not to realize something is going on when people just disappear," was a very to-the-point answer by an average citizen who got caught up by something he had no control of.

—Mary B,  
Past Governor

### August Club Garden Party Details



**Where:** Liz C's home  
6235 E. Montview Blvd

**When:** Thursday, August 8, 2013  
5:00 pm Social Hour  
6:00 pm Dinner

**Menu:** Pot Luck  
A-D Please bring a main dish  
E-L Please bring a salad  
M-Z Please bring a dessert

**Cost:** \$10 for drinks and extras

**Inspirational Moment** Evie Ashmore

**Greeter:** Judy Allen

**RESERVATIONS:** None required.

**PROGRAM:** Relax and enjoy. What a great time to bring a guest to meet your Zonta friends in a lovely setting and enjoy a summer evening!

The United Nations has estimated that 2.5 million people are in forced labor, including sexual exploitation, at any given time. It remains one of the most underreported crimes in the world. A recent report by the U.N.'s Office of Drugs and Crime noted that trafficking for sexual exploitation accounts for 58 percent of all trafficking cases detected globally. Meanwhile, the share of detected cases involving forced labor has doubled over the past four years to 36 percent. Victims can be found in restaurants, fisheries, brothels, and construction sites. Women and girls together account for about 75 percent of all trafficking victims, both for sex and for labor, according to the U.N.

### Directory changes—

Cathy C's job with GE has ended. To contact her, email her at [cconley2225@comcast.net](mailto:cconley2225@comcast.net) or call her home phone, 303-691-6926, or her cell, 303-594-5169.

### OPPRESSION CAN LEAD TO OPPORTUNITY

Several years ago, I read Nicholas Kristoff and Sheryl Wu Dunn's amazing book, *Half the Sky*. It is said that women hold up half the sky. Ask any woman and she will tell you that is true. In this book the authors explore the depths in which women around the world are steeped in generations of male oppression, cultural mores that stifle their lives, their children's lives and future generations of women. Sound familiar?

Yes, we know it's 2013, and yet these women are kept in the dark ages. Sold into slavery, beaten, raped, tortured and looked at as disposable as trash. That's the dark side of women's peace and security. And it happens in the US every day. Violence against women is still happening at a frightening rate. But for the grace of God, there go I and other women who have fought through the ages for equality.

But here is the message. Look closely and see, as some women have begun to see, the opportunity for change, now beginning to move forward, as we have for generations before us, no longer following the script written by men for women. Some of us have been bucking the system for years! The single-minded, passionate resolve to make changes even if it's one woman at a time. The same changes some of us followed through and



Read this trafficking victim's story [here](#)

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made in the 1950's, 60's and right into today. Reading about the dark side, I cried in frustration, reminding myself of the early years of my life, following a script written by the women before me, and I knew I must—we must—change. And yes, overtly and in the open, women in the United States are close to losing ground. The ground we

fought so hard for and are still fighting for. But oppression makes opportunity. Women can no longer be quiet, no longer be stifled, we are on the edge of something great if we use the power of women. Women can not only survive, but thrive. They smile. They lend a helping hand to other women climbing the ladder with

hope for a better life. We are on the edge of a movement to show the world that, while it is better for women in 2013 than ever, there is so much more to be done to end the oppression and create the opportunity for equality by standing our ground. —Alice



Read full text [here](#)

### Committee Reports

#### Advocacy



The committee has not yet met but the goals the (to-be-elected)

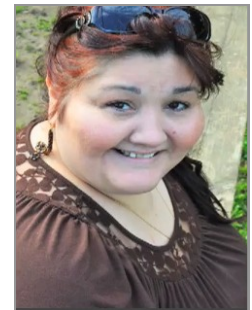
chair has set are:

1. Read and forward pertinent legislation. Denver Women's Commission and Women's Lobby provides info. State Legislature also has info.
2. Meet and discuss

- working with Amy Blackwell AAUW to discuss a collaborative effort on disseminating information and Action Items.
3. Guest speakers from advocacy organizations to teach/show how the process works.
4. Guest speakers from Women's Lobby, Women's Commission and Denver County Human Rights Office/Commission

- agencies.
5. Guest speakers from Colorado State departments (AG office) on Human Trafficking. Please remember—Zonta and ZCD are non-partisan, neither Democratic nor Republican. The committee will be sending information to members to help you make educated decisions about issues. —Alice

*“There is so much more to be done to end oppression and create opportunity”*



**Generosity always trumps stinginess.**

~ Past District 12 Governor Toni Watkins ~

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Institute for Women's Studies and Services

Hear the story [here](#) of this trafficking victim and advocate

### Membership



Hacienda Colorado

The Membership committee met on July 22 at Perkins. We discussed the change of venue for our monthly meetings.

Three venues were submitted, Hacienda Colorado, Whole Foods, and The Woman's College at DU. The committee will

visit each one to check if it fits our criteria. The next three months we will meet at each one of these places. Membership is putting together the schedule of speakers for the year. The vision of ZI is our focus for the speaker criteria.

Next meeting will be August 20 at the Hacienda on Colorado Blvd. Meeting is at 4pm.



—Judy A.

**"The difference between try and triumph is just a little umph!"**

**~ Marvin Phillips ~**

***"We are now going to have an 'Item of the Month' to include our grant recipients."***

### Service



The service committee met for the first time on July 15. We decided that

our committee will forward fewer emails to the entire membership from the various women's groups and instead focus on specific projects. More sign-up sheets will be used at the monthly meeting.

We are now going to have an "Item of the Month."

We would like to designate different beneficiaries throughout the year, specifically to include our grant

recipients.

We are going to contact the 2013 grant recipients to remind them that their required six-month report is due on Aug. 15, ask them how we can help them with a service project, and let them know that they can apply for a new grant for 2014, if desired. We are also going to ask them if there is a specific item they need that we could collect for them.

Mary reported that District 12 would like all Zonta clubs to collect items for women who are

victims of violence for the months of October and November. It was decided that we would make a big push for The Delores Project in October and for women veterans in the month of November. We will need to make a report and take lots of photos to submit to the District.

The women at The Delores Project enjoyed our July taco bar. It was so yummy that the women came back for seconds and thirds. Thank you Olette, Jeanette, Cynthia, Cathy C., Sheila, Evie, Julie B., and Mary Lou for providing another successful dinner!



Whole Foods Market

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### Fundraising

Fundraising Committee met July 6th to review our plan for the upcoming year. We decided to be proactive this year and try to sell our Zonta Chapel items as well as a couple of donated pictures and are in the process of contacting galleries, churches and art appraisers on the value and likelihood of sales. We are also selling a couple of items left over from the garage sale that we held back - a kitchen table & chairs and an oak rocking chair. We are posting on craigslist and hope to sell this summer.

We are investigating a possible sale of 'Butter Braid Frozen products' and will bring the idea to the August meeting for the membership to decide if they are interested. This comes in cherry, apple, blueberry cream cheese, cinnamon, and cream cheese, and they also sell caramel rolls. If there are enough interested we will proceed but there is a minimum of 100 products to sell. Please think about this and be prepared to decide if this is something you want to do. Our two big fundraising events will continue to be

our garage sale and our film event. Please mark your calendars for those dates and we will be giving you info on these through the year!



Our 6th annual Day of Film: Saturday March 8th at the SIE Film Center (please block out all day) and our garage sale on Saturday May 17th! We look forward to a great year with a fantastic and enthusiastic committee!  
—Julie



Save the Date

#### from *IF I HAD MY LIFE TO LIVE OVER* - by Erma Bombeck

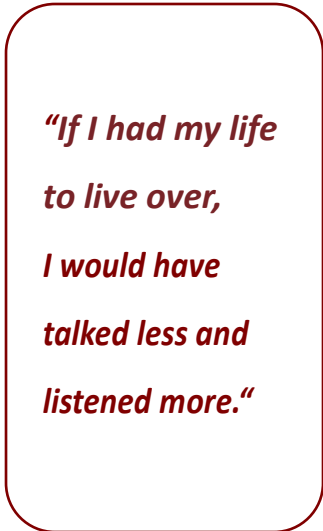
I would have gone to bed when I was sick instead of pretending the earth would go into a holding pattern if I weren't there for the day.

I would have burned the pink candle sculpted like a rose before it melted in storage.

I would have talked less and listened more.

I would have invited friends over to dinner even if the carpet was stained, or the sofa faded.

I would have taken the time to listen to my grandfather ramble about his youth.



Laurie Peterson had to resign from Zonta and as she was on the board as secretary we needed to make some changes. Mary Lou Edwards has agreed to serve as secretary and Alice has agreed to fill Mary Lou's board position and chair the Advocacy Committee. Club members will be asked at the August meeting to vote to ratify these appointments. Thank you ladies for stepping up to fill our need.  
—Wendy



The Women's College at DU, recently renamed Colorado Women's College

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606 West Colfax



Girls Inc. of Metro Denver has accomplished the following items thanks in part to the generous continued support of the Zonta Club of Denver:

1. Served over 2,000 unduplicated girls through comprehensive after school and summer programs that are gender, age, and culturally appropriate.
2. Delivered 75,000 curriculum hours including 15,000 of academic tutoring.
3. Provided daily transportation to GIMD to 15 area schools.
4. Offered paid summer internships to four girls in 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade.

5. Delivered comprehensive outreach programs at 20 local schools and organizations.
6. Awarded \$80,000 in college scholarships to GIMD alumni.
7. Supported the following short-term outcomes for girls: increase in skills and knowledge; exposure to critical issues facing girls; development in positive self-image; development of resiliency skills.
8. Supported the following intermediate outcomes for girls: increase in self-esteem, self-efficacy, future outlook; reduction in risky behavior and teen pregnancy rates; improved grades and

school attendance; advancement in grade; ability to manage and avoid negative relationships; and developed peer and adult support networks.

As far as volunteer opportunities we are in need of some folks to come and help us weed and do a little light landscaping. If this is something that may interest your group please let me know and I will be happy to coordinate. Thanks so much for all that you have done to support our work.

Jeslin Shahrezaei

**“Girls Inc. has served over 2,000 girls through after-school and summer programs.”**



**ITEM OF THE MONTH:**

**GROUND COFFEE**

**THE DELORES PROJECT**  
SHELTER AND SERVICES FOR HOMELESS WOMEN

**“WOMAN PUTS FACE ON STRUGGLE TO SUCCEED”**



So read the headline in the *Arvada Press's* June 27 [story](#) about Jennine Jeffries who, if you can't

quite place the name, is one of ZCD's Metro scholarship students. The story reported that

Jennine came from a “broken and abusive childhood home,” grappled with substance

**Girls Inc.—  
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abuse and legal problems as a younger person, and has four children including a 19-year-old son and four-year-old twins.

However, she is determined to succeed. "Given the pain I have put my family through, given the pain I have put myself through, given the struggles I have been through, I want a career where I can help those who are like me, women in transition, women who feel that maybe they're not worthy, or that they have no hope," she says. "I want to make a difference in people's lives."

Jennine has worked for the Metro Institute for Women's Studies and Services, and is currently an intern at Project WISE (another familiar name). Despite her volunteer work, her paying jobs, and her long commute to Metro, Jennine has a 3.97 grade point average. She will graduate next spring. Yet, Jennine worries about how, as a new college graduate, she will be able to earn the \$40,000 she will need to take care of her family without the housing, food stamps and Medicaid benefits she currently receives.

"I'm terrified that once I graduate I won't be self-sufficient." The story about this woman that ZCD has been fortunate enough to be able to help is one of a series about the "cliff effect." The cliff effect occurs when even a modest increase in income leads to a complete termination of a benefit and a large net loss to the family. Go [here](#) for links to other articles in the series. \*Thanks to Mary for noticing the Arvada Press article.



Jennine Jeffries speaking at Area 3 meeting in April

DOMESTIC DIVA

Pie for Breakfast

- 1 ready-to-eat 9" pie crust
4 eggs
1/2 cup sour cream
6 oz. baby spinach
1/3 cup sun-dried tomatoes, drained and chopped
1/4 t. freshly-ground black pepper
salt to taste
1 - 7/8 cup (7.5 oz.) shredded cheddar
1/2 cup half and half or whipping cream

Preheat oven to 350° F. Spray nine-inch pie plate with nonstick spray; place pie crust into pan; flute edges. Microwave spinach in a bowl until wilted, about two minutes. Cool, squeeze dry and coarsely chop. Beat eggs and add half and half, sour cream, tomatoes, pepper and salt. Stir in spinach and one and 1/4 cup of cheese. Blend well; pour into crust. Bake 35 minutes until crust is browned and internal temperature is 160° F. Top with remaining cheese. Let stand at room temperature five minutes and serve.

"I want a career where I can help those who are like me, women who feel that they're not worthy."



Zontians at Bubba Gump's in July



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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



President Wendy

Somehow I recently got on the list for sample magazines. As I have leafed (leaved? left?) through Glamour, Allure, Self, More, Cosmo, and the like, I’ve noticed that many of them have some sort of “Woman of the Year” award. The awards, and the qualities and characteristics for which they award them, remind me of the Edna Jean Hershey “Zontian of the Year” award. They all seem to recognize women who go above and beyond their usual daily activities of family, home and work, to make the world a little brighter or smoother for someone else. And so do we with our Z of the Year. The Zontian of the Year award is our chance to take an extra moment to be appreciative of someone we may see at meetings or service projects, who also has, just like we do, a thousand things on the never-ending list, all clamoring for attention, and chooses to

make Zonta a priority. So please take a minute and think of the person this year who deserves our appreciation. Nominate her for Zontian of the Year by sending in a quick write-up of the qualities that make her a natural nominee. Send your nomination to me, Mary Benoit and Kathy Hyzer. We give the Zontian of the Year award annually because each year, a different person seems to step up to fill a need. It’s a reminder that we’re here on our own time because of our mutual commitment to the mission, and that we all make a difference in our own ways, and when we have the personal energy to do so. Many of us have experienced that surprising burst of energy that flows when you do something for someone else even when you’re exhausted. And isn’t that amazing? “Service is the rent we pay for being. It is the very purpose of life, and not

something you do in your spare time.” Marian Wright Edelman I look forward to the service opportunities being developed by Nancy’s committee—I can’t wait to see what they come up with! Through our service and our camaraderie, we make a difference to the women and children served by the organizations we support, to the people who work at those organizations, and to each other. Thanks to each of you who have stepped up to fill needs, on the Board, on committees, and in activities and fundraisers, especially when it’s not even the committee you signed up for—when it’s “not your job.” We have a mission that is a joy to support and fellow club members who will drop most anything and open their hearts to help each other. What a gift.

—Wendy

*“Please take a minute and think of the person this year who deserves our appreciation.”*



Marian Wright Edelman first black woman licensed to practice law in Mississippi

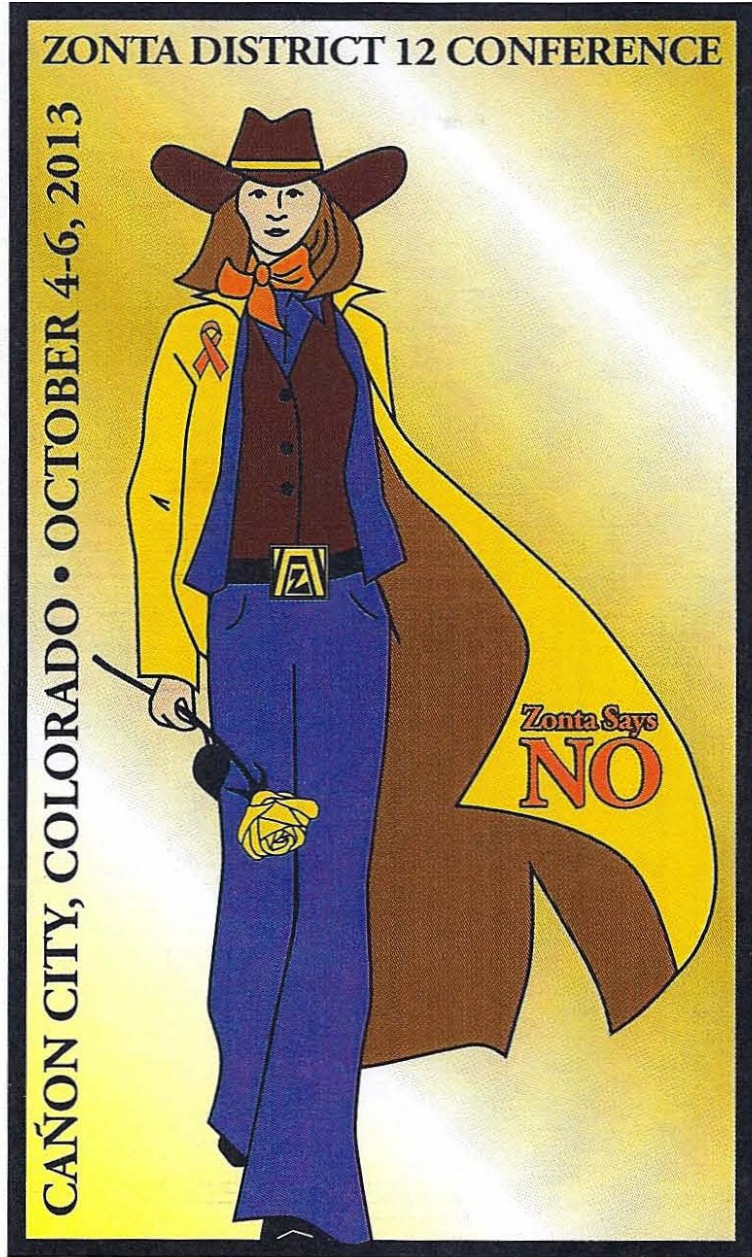
**A man spoke frantically into the phone: 'My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart'. 'Is this her first child?' the doctor asked. 'No!' the man shouted, 'This is her husband!'**

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SAVE THE DATE



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*Save the date and polish your boots....*

Come one, come all to the **2013 Zonta District 12 Conference** in Cañon City, CO, October 4-6th. We have lots of activities planned for you. Be sure to get here on Friday afternoon, in time for the Wine Tasting event at the Abbey Winery (from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm) and fellowship with some great Zontians. On Saturday, you will receive some really good learning opportunities and hear interesting speakers. Start shopping for some **orange fashions or accessories** for Saturday night's banquet in honor of the **Zonta Says NO** campaign. Keep an eye out for more information coming soon to your email mailbox in August.

*Join us for blazing trails for Zonta's future.*



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**The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes,  
but also by the aggregate of tiny pushes of each honest worker.**

**~ Helen Keller ~**

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August 8	Club meeting—5 pm—Liz’s garden	September 18	Fundraising Committee meeting 6pm—Perkins on Colorado and I-25
August 10	Jacki’s and Mary’s birthday	September 20	Mary Lou’s birthday
August 18	The Delores Project—service opportunity	September 22	Liz’s birthday
August 20	Membership Committee meeting 4 pm—Hacienda on Colorado Boulevard	October 4-6	Zonta District 12 Conference Abbey Event Center, Cañon City, CO
September 3	Olette’s birthday	November 25	Area 3 <i>Zonta Says No</i> Event—Empty Shoes McNichols Center, Civic Center Park, Denver
September 9	Pam’s birthday	March 8, 2014	Sixth Annual Zonta’s Day of Film
September 12	Club meeting—TBD	May 17, 2014	ZCD annual garage sale
September 15	The Delores Project—service opportunity	July 2014	Zonta International Convention Orlando, Florida