



# Smoke Signal

## Zonta Club of Denver

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### THE ZONTA ZINGER WANTS TO KNOW—

*What winter holidays are represented by the images in this issue? (Hint: the answers are here!)*

**Bee communication and hive health** – *“Honey bees and humans are social creatures. We both live in proximity with others and share in daily activities. The benefit of sociality is that the colony of bees or the community of people can accomplish more as a group than the individuals could if acting alone. – The Peaceful Bee Farmer.”*



It's December...really? That was an amazingly fast Denver autumn, wouldn't you agree? With the

completion of the District 12 Conference, we now get to enjoy the December holidays and get rested for the new 2010 year ahead. It has been easy for us (well, me) to give much of Zonta Denver business a pass because the conference was a fairly consuming endeavor for our members. It has taken its toll, but more on that later. The Board met this past Thursday and we recommitted to get our goals back on the table and some timelines to get back up to speed. First, by the time you read this, Service Chair Mary Benoit and I will have a plan to meet with our 2009 Service Grant recipients to discuss specific volunteer projects that we can accomplish that will fit our small club numbers, and variety of work times and situations. Equally as important, we will be requiring a

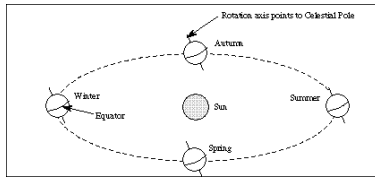
commitment from our grant recipients to get the word out that Zonta Denver provided a significant grant to help them in their work in the Denver community; we don't think that is too much to ask, and will take place before we hand them the award.

Second, the P/R committee will complete the required transfer of information to set up our website to be similar to other District 12 websites so we can proudly tell interested people to view it without the caveat, "We have been trying for years to get it changed and updated." Wendy will be developing an electronic version of our volunteer projects and hours so we can show proudly all that we do. Which means, dear ZBees...please follow through on the commitment to let Nikki know ALL of your service hours...nuff said on that.

Third, Fundraising still has some coffee to sell that will make terrific

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holiday gifts...glad to help you with shopping ideas, you are welcome. Also, we will be updating

you on the film fundraiser as it progresses. Personally, I am really jazzed with the possibilities and the hard work the committee has done on all of our behalf.

Fourth...Kate and her membership committee has done stellar work on arranging the frenetic scheduling of meeting places, meals, speakers, details, etc. Kudos to all of her committee; I know that Holiday party at Landry's will be a hoot and I am sorry to be missing it.

Fifth, January we will be having the difficult (maybe?) discussion we barely started\* at the last meeting about the future of our service as a club in relation to the funds we are lucky to be able to provide to the

community from previous members who were thoughtful in their legacy commitments. Please bring your thoughts, ideas, commitments and willingness to have difficult, but thoughtful and respectful discussions.

Finally, in response to those of you who feel you did not get enough accolades for the conference...let me say it again...YOU ALL WERE SIMPLY AMAZING...I couldn't have asked for anything better...thank you for your creativity, your hard work, your particular skills and experience, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you.

Respectfully, Beth

\* (sorry dear Zontians, I was spent and I got make a Queen Bee decision at that point...I know it angered some and confused others)

## COMMITTEE NEWS

### SERVICE

#### NEWS FROM THE SERVICE COMMITTEE

What a rush this time of year is as we bustle from one task to another and of course the service committee is no different.

I would like to thank all of you that volunteered and worked so hard on the necklace sales over the past weeks. Your work is appreciated. I would like to thank all of you in advance for volunteering to Ring the Bells for Salvation Army, work at the Santa Claus Shop, and prepare and serve dinner for The Delores Project.

Please remember our Holiday Service Project. At the holiday party we will be collecting small, personal gifts for the women at Empowerment Program's Chrysalis House. This is a home for women just released from prison. We are collecting 22 identical items so the service committee can put together 22 identical gift bags for the women. Liz Cameron will be creating a spreadsheet with everyone that has already volunteered. She will be distributing this soon if not already. Please e-mail Liz with what you would like to bring. If you lack inspiration, please don't stress,

money is always appreciated. I am hopeful there will be enough money to purchase Wal-Mart gift cards for the women.

Speaking of stress..... At the District Conference our Saturday keynote speaker Michelle Haney, talked about stress. Also she sold her book "Stress The Owners Manual". I did something nice for myself, bought the book and read it on vacation. If you bought the book – read it, if you didn't there is a possibility you might need to. Let me know and I would be happy to share the information to purchase the book.

Last but not least I would like to thank Julie Bradley for compiling and sending information about The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. This is a wonderful educational piece – please pay attention. We have so much to be thankful for and so much work to do. But don't stress, we can work together to make a difference.

May you all be blessed with a holiday season that makes you happy.

—Mary B

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## Holiday Party

**When:** Thursday, December 10, 2009  
6:00pm – Cocktails (Cash Bar)  
7:00pm – Dinner

**Where:** Landry's Seafood Restaurant  
7209 S. Clinton Street  
Englewood, Colorado 80112

**Menu:** Buffet with Salmon, Chicken, Top Sirloin, and many sides. Dessert of strawberry cheesecake and chocolate mousse cake.

**Cost:** \$40 per person

**RESERVATIONS:**

Please mail a check made out to the Zonta Club of Denver **which must be received by Monday, December 7th.** Please send your checks to Kate Linscott, 4212 S. Zenobia Street, Denver, Colorado 80236.

Please join us for this annual festive event and a great start to the Holiday Season! What a great time to bring a guest!

We will be collecting donations to the Empowerment Program (details on page 2).

*Don't forget those with December birthdays!*

- Barb P** & Bette Midler – Dec 1
- Walt Disney – Dec 5
- Evie A** – Dec 6
- Ellen Burstyn – Dec 7
- Diane T** – Dec 8
- Nikki H** – Dec 15
- Jane Austen & Ludwig Van Beethoven – Dec 16
- Cathy C** – Dec 17
- Cicely Tyson – Dec 19
- Mary Higgins Clark – Dec 24



***DRESS FOR SUCCESS***

Don't forget there will be another collection for Dress For Success in January. The following is a list of acceptable donations:

- business suits
- handbags
- blouses
- costume jewelry
- slacks

- scarves
- jackets
- new or lightly worn shoes

Please keep in mind that clothing must be:

- on hangers
- in season (winter clothes this time)
- in style (within the last five years)
- in excellent condition
- clean

## PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

Now that the District Conference is behind us, the PR Committee is turning its attention to updating our website. It has received little attention since Julie changed jobs at the Salvation Army and now spends most of her time on the road. Also, District 12 has set a goal of having clubs' websites consistent in style with the District website.

To put our own touch on that model, we are hoping to gather and use photos of our own club members working on any of our many club service projects.

Do you have any photos that you could contribute? If you have one in electronic form, please email it to me. If you have a printed photo, give it to any of the PR Committee members. We'll scan it and, if you want the photo back, return it to you.

Help us put our best faces forward to prospective members and others who find us via our website!

—Wendy M.

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM THE ZONTA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE

## December 4, 2009 – Right Livelihood Award Ceremony

Congratulations to Dr Catherine Hamlin (Ethiopia), Zonta International Honorary Member, who is awarded the Right Livelihood Award 2009 “for her fifty years dedicated to treating obstetric fistula patients, thereby restoring the health, hope and dignity of thousands of Africa’s poorest women”. The prize money is EUR 50,000.

On December 4th parliamentarians, ambassadors, members of the board and jury of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation and invited guests from civil society, business and media among others will gather at the Swedish Parliament in Stockholm to honour the 2009 Award Recipients.

The Swedish Deputy Prime Minister Maud Olofsson will together with the Vice President of the European Commission Margot Wallström present the Awards to the Laureates.

The Award is widely known as the Alternative Nobel Prize and is presented annually in Stockholm, Sweden, at a ceremony in the Swedish Parliament.

The Award is usually shared by four recipients. Often an Honorary Award is given to a person or group whose work the Jury wishes to recognize but who is not primarily in need of monetary support. The others

share the prize money of EUR 150,000. The prize money is for ongoing successful work, never for personal use (to read more: [www:rightlivelihood.org](http://www.rightlivelihood.org)).

Dr Hamlin was presented the Zonta International Honorary insignia at a ceremony in Gothenburg, Sweden in 1997 by Past International President Margit Webjörn (then ZI Director) and President Beryl Sten (then D21 Governor) per request by then D24 Governor Jane Wilson O’Brien.

At the Convention 2000 in Hawaii Dr Hamlin was a keynote speaker and received at that time a substantial financial contribution from Zonta for her fistula work.

*(Editor's note: Dr. Hamelin co-founded the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital and was featured in A Walk to Beautiful, shown at Zonta's Day of Film 2009.)*

## November 25 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

Zonta International joins the Secretary-General in reaffirming our commitment to women's human rights. *(UN Message below)* To further strengthen our commitment and visibility we will make it possible for all Zontians to register at our own website and be a part of the "UNiTE to End Violence Against Women". Further details will be coming soon.

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

### MESSAGE ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

New York, 25 November 2009

In the ten years since the General Assembly designated 25 November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the circle of engagement

has widened. More groups and individuals, including men and boys, are getting involved in efforts to prevent and address this heinous violation of women’s human rights.

There has also been significant progress at the national level as many countries have adopted laws and comprehensive action plans. However, much work lies ahead. In

every country, women and girls continue to be plagued by violence, causing tremendous suffering. Such violence undermines development, generates instability, and makes peace that much harder to achieve. We must demand accountability for the violations, and take concrete steps to end impunity. We must listen to and support the survivors. Our goal is clear: an end to these inexcusable crimes -- whether it is the use of rape as a weapon of war, domestic violence, sex trafficking, so-called "honour" crimes or female genital mutilation/cutting. We must address the roots of this violence by eradicating discrimination and changing the mindsets that

perpetuate it. The "UNiTE to End Violence Against Women" campaign that I launched last year is galvanizing action across the United Nations system. It calls for all countries to put in place, by the year 2015, strong laws, multi-sectoral action plans, preventive measures, data collection, and systematic efforts to address sexual violence in conflict situations. I invite governments, organizations and individuals to join us in this Campaign. I have also just launched a Network of Men Leaders to strengthen our advocacy. The UN General Assembly's support for the creation of a new gender equality entity will also

bolster our work. The new entity will promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, and hold the UN system itself accountable for supporting measures to eliminate discrimination against women and end violence against them.

Women around the world are the very linchpin keeping families, communities, and nations together. On this International Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to women's human rights; let us invest more resources in countering this violence; and let us do all it takes to end these horrific assaults once and for all.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

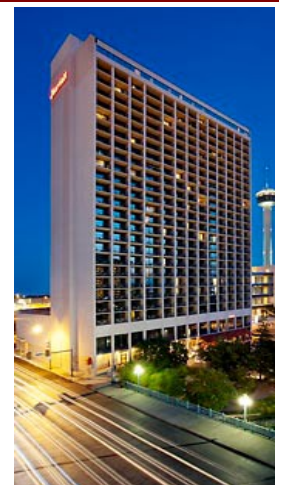


**ZONTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
DISTRICT 10—2010  
YA'LL COME!  
JUNE 25-30, 2010**



Check out the 2010 International Convention website from time to time (at [www.zonta2010.org](http://www.zonta2010.org) or follow the link on the ZI home page). Details are starting to appear, including photos and information about the Convention hotels (see left and right) and tidbits like this:

“Pin trading is a tradition at Zonta International Conventions. We will have 2010 Convention pin sashes available or you may bring your own. Bring pins that denote your geographical area and lots of people will be ready to trade ... a great opportunity to meet Zontians from all over the world and establish lifelong friendships. (Some tourist bureaus will provide pins, as will local Chambers of Commerce, check online sources).”



# MORE COMMITTEE NEWS

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### The Delores Project

The Delores Project is named for Delores Big Boy, a Lakota woman who frequently lived on the streets of Denver. Her situation was complicated by health, developmental and substance abuse issues, as well as physical and sexual violence. Although Delores sought aid from various Denver agencies, sadly, she fell through the cracks in the system. Delores died while living on the streets June 8, 1999. In forming the shelter in 2000, her memory is honored with the project's continuing commitment to ensure safe shelter for every woman and support for those in transition.

There is a committed crew of Zonta Denver members who volunteer on a regular basis to provide a hot, home-cooked Sunday evening meal for the women of Delores Project. Each month, a thoughtful menu is planned, executed and hand served. While this may not be a satisfying

volunteer project for all of Zonta Denver's members, it is important to recognize those members who plan, buy food, cook and serve on the third Sunday in each month. I can speak for myself, I do not volunteer every month, but when I do, it feels amazing.

Of note, as the weather turns colder, the number of women finding warmth at Delores is increasing. For the first time when we served in November, there were cots set up in the dining area. The Program Directors said they were 20 women over their bed limit. Please, help with this simple but meaningful project. If you can't cook or serve, consider contributing a few dollars to help with some of the food or making a holiday donation of one of the items on the wish list below...it would be greatly appreciated and believe me when I say, the women of Delores Project are humbly, and quietly honored, with what Zonta Denver does.

—Beth



### **DELORES PROJECT WISH LIST**

Ongoing needs, the stuff there is never enough of:

- Liquid hand soap (gallon size preferred)
- Disposable gloves (latex medical and food service)
- Multipurpose cleaner, bleach (gallon refill size preferred)
- Trash bags (all sizes)
- Household items, new or used
- Coffee cups
- Silverware, serving utensils
- Brooms, dust pans, vacuums
- Bath towels, wash cloths
- Blankets, quilts (twin size preferred)
- Pillows, pillowcases (standard size preferred)
- Water pitchers (plastic preferred)

They are very picky about the clothes they accept, because their storage space is limited. They can

always use:

- New underwear
- New T-shirts (including promotional t-shirts from an event)
- New sweat pants and shirts
- New socks

Here are the long term items needed:

- Mattress covers, twin bed, vinyl
- Pillow covers, vinyl
- Professional restaurant type carafes
- Bus tubs for dirty dishes
- Chairs for dining room
- Sleep mats, cots, blow up mattresses for overflow clients
- Rubbermaid style bins for clients' belongings
- Shower curtains, narrow, industrial, locker-room style
- Single beds, metal

Laundry cart with sides

Since there would only be so much room for these items it would be prudent to contact The Delores Project before donating.

A carpet cleaning service willing to clean carpets, no charge.

If you have questions, please ask!

The Service Committee will continue to collect beverages for The Delores Project at club meetings—coffee, tea, hot chocolate or any other dry drink mixes. So as you shop, clip coupons or just generally feel like making the lives of the women at Delores better please purchase some beverages. You may also bring the beverages when you come to serve dinner.

*Continued on page 7*

## FUND RAISING

The Fund Raising Committee still has some coffee you can buy for holiday gifts, stocking stuffers, etc! We'll bring what is left to the December party. When we have sold all of the coffee, we will have a profit of about \$360 from District Conference and coffee sales.

Don't forget to save your household items in



good condition for our garage sale in May. Cynthia Herndon has kindly offered to host. We will be gearing up for the film festival in December – we are trying to get a meeting set up with the Denver Film Society early in the month to select a film.

—Kathy H

## ADVOCACY

### ***MAKING SENSE OF LOBBYING AND ADVOCACY***

Your opinion is important! Take it from a former State Representative....me.

In a democracy, state and national officials are elected to represent the constituents of their districts. Elected officials work for you. As a citizen, you have not only a right but a responsibility to convey your opinions and concerns to your elected officials.

How would I know what you want? What you like? What you don't like? And what you want me to do? Your voice is important as an individual, constituent, taxpayer, and average citizen.

It's not scary, it should not be intimidating, you pay our salary and it pays to remember that.

A face-to-face meeting with an elected official is the most effective way to present your position on an issue. This can be done alone or with a coalition of like-minded citizens.

The only thing an elected official asks for is that you make an appointment and be on time. Of course there are times elected officials run late due to extended committee meetings.

And of course prepare for the meeting. Know the issue you are concerned with and try to know your representative's stand on an issue.

And please remember that I am here to help you through the process!! And I'm no longer from the government!

—Alice B



## UNITED NATIONS

### ***HAVE YOU HEARD OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325?***

This resolution passed unanimously at UN Security Council in October 2000.

It is a resolution on Women, Peace and Security. In addition this historical resolution has critical implications: protection of women in armed conflict, participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution and reconstruction.

One of the most important pieces of 1325 is mainstreaming women within the UN system. The UN Secretary General is obligated to increase women in decision making in conflict resolution and the peace process.

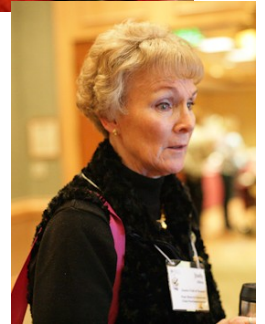
So how's it working? And what does Zonta have to do with this resolution? Let's take a look at Zonta and CEDAW. Violence against women is one of the issues Zonta has on its action agenda. Let's not overlook our NGO as one of the working organizations at the UN. How can we support their work on a local level?

Violence against women gained public attention largely because of the grass-roots work of organizations like Zonta and movements around the world. The interaction between women's advocacy and United Nations' initiatives has been a driving factor in establishing violence against women as a human rights issue on the international agenda.

Zonta Denver, as well as all Colorado Zonta clubs, has an obligation to pursue this endeavor on a local, state and international level.

—Alice B, UN Officer

*ZCD Goes to District Conference*





*Zonta Club of Denver November Dinner Meeting  
Doubletree Hotel 11/12/09*

Social hour and dinner started at 5:15 p.m. followed by the Call to Order by President Beth Mundell at 6:50 p.m.

Carol Lease from the Empowerment Program was introduced as a guest.

Kate Linscott gave a very appropriate Inspirational Moment on women in the military.

Beth asked for and received approval of the October minutes.

Nikki Headlee, Treasurer, reported Alice Borodkin and Judy Bederman were both first-timers at the District Conference and the club paid their way.

#### **Committee Reports –**

**Membership** – Kate announced the holiday party cost will be \$40 each at Landry's. Holiday gift bags will be put together for the 22 women at the Empowerment Program. A sign up sheet is passing for donations. Nineteen members are present at tonight's meeting. The January meeting will be a hands-on-service project/dinner meeting at Lowry.

**Service** – Mary Benoit is on vacation so Judy Allen brought sign up sheets for a variety of service opportunities available in the upcoming couple of months. Judy announced the service grant recipients for 2009-2010 will be Joy House with \$10,000 and the Delores Project with \$17,000 with club membership approval. There will be an e-mail vote. Beth indicated Service will be an agenda item for the January meeting and would like for club members to be giving some thought to this area before that meeting.

**Fundraising** – Kathy Hyzer indicated that coffee is available for purchase this evening. It is part of what the club sold at the District Conference. Film festival planning continues for early spring. Cynthia Herndon has generously offered the use of her lawn in May for a club garage sale so start saving your no longer needed treasures for this event.

**Advocacy** – Diane Twining reported for Alice Borodkin. At the Area level there are two upcoming events – the Women's Legislative Breakfast and the Equal Pay Rally (4/28/10) which Beth wants us to support. Diane said



we need to have two great baskets for the Amelia Earhart event the Boulder County Club is hosting early next year.

**Public Relations & Communication** – Wendy Moraskie reported upgrading the website is a priority.

Carol Lease is in attendance to report to the club the use of the 2008-2009 Service Grant dollars given to her Empowerment Program. It has grown tremendously over the last year; so much so, they are in need of a larger building. They were able to serve 40 women with funds from our club. She is appreciative of the gift bags we will give in December and asked if we could include notes of encouragement, too.

**District Conference** – Sheila Davis reported that out of 110 registered to attend, 97 made it in spite of the blizzard. The Conference was a big success. All scheduled speakers made it through the snow. The only casualty was the Thursday evening dinner, scheduled at Kate's, had to be cancelled. Sheila recommends having one of our dinner meetings there in the near future in appreciation of the manager's understanding of the cancellation. The Friday night costume dinner/party was a hoot. The Saturday evening dinner and entertainment was fun. The speakers were wonderful and inspiring. And the birthing kit service project was a huge hit.

Nikki gave an update on the chapel items being stored in her garage.

Minnie Lundberg, Evie Ashmore and Judy Bederman announced the 2008-2009 Zontian of the Year Award was presented to Sheila Davis at the District Conference. A gift and roses were given to her and roses were, also, given to last year's recipient Minnie.

Kate Linscott received the Z Rock last month and presented it to Judy Bederman. That was followed by Judy B., also, winning the door prize Dorothy Swindt brought.

Beth presented Z Bee awards to district conference workers.

All business having been tended to, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Carroll Allen, Secretary



# Zonta Club of Denver

Member of Zonta International

*Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide*

**P.O. Box 2665**

**Denver, Colorado 80201**

**We're on the Web!**

**Visit us at [www.zonta-denver.org](http://www.zonta-denver.org)**

## Upcoming Calendar Events—Save the Date!

Dec 1st	Barb's birthday
Dec 6th	Evie's birthday
Dec 8th	Diane's birthday
Dec 10th	Holiday Party/General Meeting
Dec 12th	First day of Chanukah Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Dec 15th	Nikki's birthday
Dec 17th	Cathy C's birthday
Dec 19th	Last day of Chanukah
Dec 21st	Winter solstice
Dec 25th	Christmas Day
Dec 26th	First day of Kwanzaa

January 1st	New Year's Day Last day of Kwanzaa
January 14th	January Club Meeting
Jan 31st	Amelia Earhart Brunch—Fiske Planetarium, Boulder
February 11th	February Club Meeting
Mar 11th	March Club Meeting
Apr 5th	Baseball 2010 Opening Day
April 8th	April Club Meeting
April 10th	Area 3 Meeting
May 13th	May Club Meeting
June 10th	June Club Meeting
June 25th—30th	International Convention San Antonio, Texas