

Smoke Signal

December 2012

Volume 19, Issue 7

President, Wendy Henry-Moraskie Editor, Judy McNerny

LANDMARK TWENTY WOMEN SENATORS

Special points of interest:

- 20 Women to Serve in U.S. Senate
- VOA programs serve homeless women veterans

Inside this issue:

Holiday party	2
VOA holiday service project	3
Committee reports	5
Service Opportunities	6
Colorado Advocacy Chair	7
Foundation Ambassador	8
November minutes	8
President's Message	9
Human trafficking	10
2012 Sponsors	13
Calendar	14

In January, a record number of twenty women will be serving in the United States Senate.

2013 female newcomers to the Senate include four Democrats – Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota, Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin (who will be the first openly gay U.S. senator), and Mazie Hirono of Hawaii (who ran against another woman, and will be the first Asian American woman in the Senate) and one Republican, Deb Fischer of Nebraska, who beat Democratic native son, Bob Kerrey.

All six Democratic women Senators who were on **this year's ballot won** reelection.

And another milestone—New Hampshire, which already had two women Senators, last month elected two women to the House (making its entire Congressional delegation female) and a woman governor—the country's only female Democratic governor. As Arkansas journalist Suzi Parker said in *The Washington Post*, "That's girl power to the nth degree."

Consider that Senator Barbara Mikulski of

Maryland was the first woman elected to the Senate whose spouse had not served before her, and that was just in 1986.

This is great, isn't it?

Well, yes and no.

Jennifer Lawless, director of the Women & Politics Institute at American University in Washington, says in a message on the Institute's website:

It is impossible to deny the substantial progress women have recently made in government and politics. Over the course of the last 30 years alone, the number of women in Congress has more than tripled...[but despite] these stories of political success, the U.S. still ranks 90th worldwide in the percentage of women serving in the national legislature. When the 112th Congress convened in January 2011, 83 percent of its members were men. Three-quarters of statewide elected officials and state legislators are men. Men occupy the governor's mansion in 44 of the 50 states, and they run City Hall in 93 of the 100 largest cities across the country. Moreover, whereas the 1980s saw a gradual increase in the number of women



Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren

holding public office and the 1990s experienced relatively dramatic surges, the last several election cycles indicate a plateau at the state legislative level and only marginal increases at the federal level.

So, it is not time for women to sit on their laurels. There is work yet to do.

However, as New York's Senator Kirsten Gillibrand told *The Huffington Post* last year: *When women are part of the negotiation and are part of decision-making, the outcomes are just better...When we have our dinners with the women in the Senate -- the Democrats and Republicans...[w]e agree on so many basic principles and values. I think if there were more women at the decision-making table, we would get more things done.*

Let's watch and see.

December Club Meeting Details

LET'S CELEBRATE!

2012 HOLIDAY PARTY

Time: 5:30 to 9:00 pm

Date: 12/13/2012

Columbine Country Club

Enjoy a holiday celebration with your Zonta friends, a luscious buffet dinner (see menu below) and open bar. Bring a white elephant gift, wrapped, and holiday contributions for the women veterans served by the Volunteers of America.

Spouses, significant others and friends are more than welcome!

Location and Details

17 Fairway Lane
Columbine Valley, CO 80123

For more information, contact
Judy Allen at

(303) 841-7202 or Ju-
dith.Allen@ch2m.com

Price is \$45 per person—Make your reservation by mailing a check payable to the Zonta Club of Denver to:

Judy Allen
8775 Pawnee Road
Parker, CO 80134

Payment by December 6th



“Bring holiday contributions for the women veterans served by the Volunteers of America.”

Country Buffet

Cream of Pumpkin Soup

Mixed Greens with Poached Pear, Candied Walnuts and Blue Cheese in Cranberry Vinaigrette

Chef Carved Oven Roasted Rosemary Turkey Breast,
Served with Traditional Gravy, Grand Marnier Cranberry Sauce and Grainy Mustard

Applewood Smoked Bacon and Herb Roasted Pork Tenderloin
With a Fig Balsamic Reduction
Traditional Stuffing with Sage and Onions

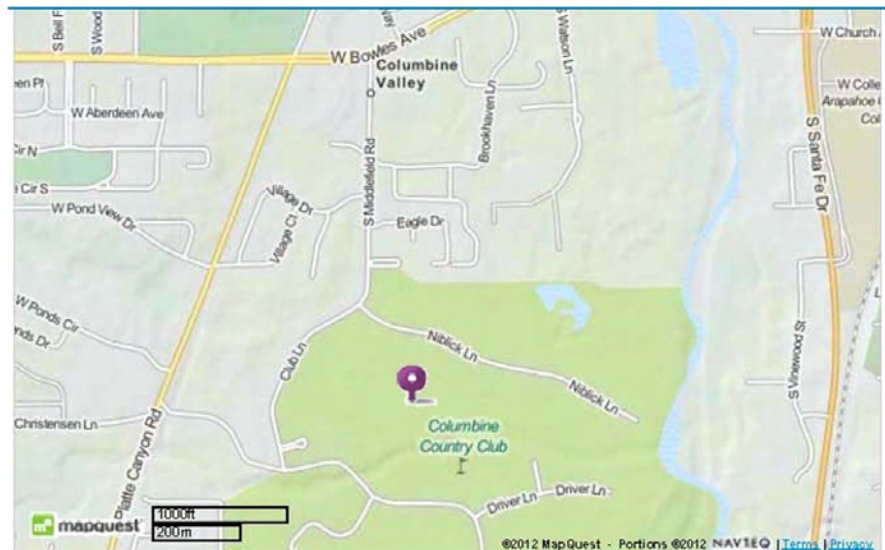
Creamed Corn with Bacon Brittle
Sautéed Haricots Vert and Mushrooms with Fried Shallots

Country Rolls with Butter

Peppermint Ice Cream, Pumpkin Pie, Chocolate Pecan Pie and Maple Pound Cake



VOA's Clermont Commons



Volunteers of America—Women Veterans Transitional Housing

The Volunteers of America Women Veterans Transitional Housing Program provides homeless female veterans with emergency shelter, transitional housing and in-depth case management services for up to two years, through a Grant Per Diem (or GPD) award from the department of Veterans Affairs. Between the Brandon Center emergency shelter for women and children, and VOA's Family Motel, the VOA is able to provide twelve GPD beds to Veterans in need. All veteran women receive an array of services through Volunteers of America's programs as well as medical and mental health treatment and many other services through the local VA Medical Center. When a resident is mentally and emotionally stable, has a substantial income, and has been consistently working on the

goals developed at the time of intake, she then has an opportunity to move to a brand new, beautiful, five-bedroom house at 12th and Clermont Street, conveniently located three blocks from the VA hospital. This stabilization time period in the shelter setting looks different for each participant. Some are at the shelter ten months, some two, prior to moving to the transitional homes. The first home, 1275 Clermont, opened in May of 2011. The second home, 1285 Clermont, is scheduled to open in December of this year, and the third home in January of 2013. Currently, this GPD program serves sixteen female veterans, and with the completion of the projects at 1285 and 1295, an additional eight veteran women and their families will have a place to call home. The expanded program will

result in a comprehensive array of housing and advocacy services for veterans, and will contribute to Volunteers of America's role as a premier provider of services to homeless veteran women in our region. Of the eight women who have started at the Brandon Center shelter and moved to our transitional housing at Clermont and 'graduated' from the program, *all eight* have obtained permanent housing and maintained it to this day. Since the first participant entered the Brandon Center in February of 2008, 113 homeless female veterans have been served. This program has proven to be successful and builds strong foundations for homeless veterans to become self-sufficient and thrive. —information provided by the Volunteers of America



VOA's Brandon House playground

“All eight women who started at Brandon Center and moved to Clermont have maintained permanent housing to this day”

THE VOA WISH LIST

Full Sized Toiletries

Luxury Toiletries

New Cosmetics

Robes & Slippers

Jewelry

Purses

New Clothing

New Underwear

Alarm Clocks

Monthly Planners

Gift Cards, \$5.00 or \$10.00—Gas, Target, Walmart, King Soopers



Clermont Commons resident

IN MEMORIAM

As specified by Jacki, Zonta Club of Denver will be making a donation to JeffCo Action Center in Lori Sammons' name.

White Elephant Gift Exchange

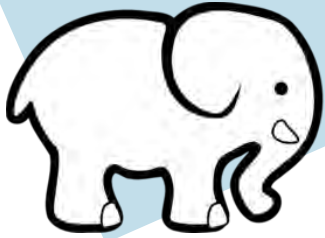
What would the holidays be without a White Elephant Gift Exchange?? This year for our holiday party the entertainment will be a White Elephant Gift Exchange. Each person attending should bring a wrapped gift. If you are lucky enough not to have a

white elephant around your house, something nice and new that you bought or received but is the wrong **color or just isn't you will be perfect. Don't go out and purchase a white elephant, really!**

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the

Holiday Party. If you know of someone that might need a ride please make the offer or contact me and I will do my best to see that all of us are together for a Zonta holiday celebration.

—Pres-Elect Mary



Lending Library

Our club has a lending library...and this is how it works! If you wish to give someone the joy of reading a good book why not bring it to the Zonta Club of Denver lending library. Each

month I bring a suitcase full of books donated by members. If you see a book you would like to read – take one. If you have a book that you can part with bring it and put in the lending

library for someone to enjoy. This is available at each meeting. Bring a book – take a book.

—Evie Ashmore

“Happy birthday to December birthday ladies Barb, Nancy, Evie, Nikki, and Cathy!”

Thank You

What a great Birthday surprise we received at the November meeting! We really felt like "Queens for the night"! You are a great group -

Thanks again for the flowers, cards, gifts and Cake. We loved it! YIZ Dorothy (90) Minnie (87)



Directory Correction—Page 34—The Standing Rules in your directory incorrectly state the amount of our dues as \$188. You may remember writing a check for \$189. This is because District dues increase \$1 each year and your editor did not show that increase. Total dues for a member joining our club now (after December 1) will be \$138.50.

Hershey Charitable Trust

Thanks to a bequest from our deceased member, Edna Jean Hershey, who was **profiled in last month's Smoke Signal**, The Hershey Charitable Trust offers grants and loans to any past or current member of a Colorado Zonta club who is elderly, ill or needy, who has an actual need for financial

assistance, and who has been a Zonta member for at least five years. There are priorities specified (ten-year ZCD members first, for example) in the event there is not enough money available to fund all **requests, but this hasn't** happened yet. Every three years, any

undistributed income from the Trust is given to the Metropolitan State University of Denver Foundation to fund scholarships for single-mother students. If you learn of a Colorado Zontian who is in need, ask Judy McNerny for more information.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advocacy



Your Advocacy Committee is working with District 12 State

Advocacy Representative Alice Borodkin, Ingrid Lantz from UNA-USA and AAUW as they explore avenues to get the Violence Against Women Act passed by the Colorado House of Representatives. We are so fortunate to have Alice working on this as she brings her valuable expertise and experience to the table. She was a presenter at the UNA-USA trafficking event last

Sunday and is working with AAUW to get VAWA before the Colorado legislature this year.

Hopefully, all Zontians are aware that the 16 Days of Activism for the Elimination of Violence Against Women is a special time of year when we remember our sisters and their children who are being violated. Unfortunately, many people think this is only a problem for women who live in places like Africa, India or Guatemala. The truth is that violence occurs in developed nations as much as anywhere, including Colorado. It is

time for our lawmakers to take a stand for non-violence and our club can help them do it! Zonta Club of Denver members now have the opportunity to help Alice get this important law passed and we ask that all members commit to this project.

For more information on 16 days and VAWA, I refer you to Alice's e-mails, her article in this *Smoke Signal*, and to Zonta International President Lynn McKenzie's article in the November ZI newsletter.

I wish you all a very peaceful holiday season.

—Mary Lou



The Cycle of Domestic Violence

“It is time for our lawmakers to take a stand for non-violence and our club can help them do it!”

Service

As always there are so many opportunities to share and help out.

Laura Gabby, Executive Director of Project WISE, has invited us to their annual Celebration Circle starting at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, December 6th at Saint John's Cathedral, 1350 Washington Street. They would be grateful for any donations of food, baked desserts, in particular, or other foods for their dinner buffet for about 40 women. Please call Laura at 303-407-3820 or 303-765-5879 to let her know if you can attend or contribute goodies.

Please remember to bring articles for the women veterans to the Holiday

Party. There are more details about the VOA programs and requested donations on page 3. You know in your hearts the joy any of these “gifts” will bring to these ladies.

I want to pass on the impact the money we work so hard to raise and distribute through our grants has in the community. Bill Winn of Friends of the Haven called me the day he received my letter notifying them of their selection for a grant. “We are so excited and pleased to receive this grant. We now plan to start the project in January.” The grant will fund certifications in Microsoft Word Training:

Increasing Job Skills for Women in Recovery from Addictions.



In the coming year we will have opportunities to help through mentoring, helping with special events, serving dinner and other things. More information will follow.

To give to over 1200 non-profits, save the date for Colorado Gives Day 2012 on Tuesday, December 4th! Gifts can be scheduled now online. You can give to one or more organizations helping women.

—Cathy



Service Opportunities



The Delores Project



THE DELORES PROJECT
SHELTER AND SERVICES FOR HOMELESS WOMEN

Most-Needed Items of the Month

laundry detergent and bleach

thedeloresproject.org/

“To date we have received over \$3,500 in Day of Film sponsorships, with additional monies expected.”



How about giving yourself the gift of a Work Options for Women cooking class? Upcoming classes are on December 11, when David Goergen of [Crú Wine Bar](#) will share the secrets of his holiday favorites, and January 22, when Café Options’ Head Chef Craig Dixon will

teach you how to master the art of soup, just in time to warm you up from the cold weather. Or, if you have holiday shopping to do downtown, enjoy lunch at **WOW’s Café Options**, 1650 Curtis.



TUESDAY—Many of the agencies helping women that our club currently supports, or has supported in the past, are accepting contributions on Colorado Gives Day. Go to <https://www.givingfirst.org/cogivesday>, search for your favorite and make a donation!

Archiving

Your Archiving Committee is pleased to report that we have finally completed going through and sorting materials from some forty to fifty boxes that were moved from the storage unit to my

basement. Our next task is to cull **through what we’ve saved** and determine what should be saved electronically as well what should be saved as-is. We hope to have the next task com-

what we’ve saved and determine what should be saved electronically as well what should be saved as is. We hope to have the next task completed by the end of summer. —Nikki

Fundraising

The Fundraising Committee met and sent out additional sponsorship letters.

To date we have received over \$3,500 in Day of Film sponsorships, with additional monies expected. We have also sent out letters

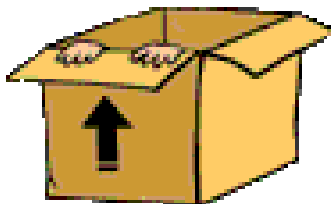
for sponsorships from caterers to donate one food item for the brunch at the film.

We will be selecting our film at the end of December and asking members to sign up for film assignments in January!

The committee will be meeting via email during December.



—Julie B



Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for March 9, 2013, for the next ZCD Day of Film in conjunction with the Denver Film Society's VOICES Film Festival and celebrating International Women's Day. We're not guaranteeing another Oscar winner, but...

Date: 3/9/2013
Time: 10:00 am
Sie FilmCenter in the Lowenstein CulturePlex

Contact person: Julie Bradley
Phone: 720-890-0125
E-mail: julieqbradley@comcast.net



Daniel Junge, Oscar and Nikki at 2012 Day of Film

DISTRICT 12

ONE VOICE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Over the past several weeks I have sent

information about how to take action on issues to all Zonta Advocacy Chairs and Presidents of Clubs throughout Colorado and asked them to share with their Clubs.

Let's look at what I sent:

- An AAUW Action Committee notice to contact our Congressional delegates to move to the top of their list the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) which was passed in the Senate (S. 1925) in April, 2012. One click on the Take Action button sends your message to your elected officials in Congress.
- A message for Denver

Zonta members from Mary Lou Edwards, Denver Zonta Advocacy Committee Chair. I thought Mary Lou hit the nail on the head concerning the 16 Days and what we can do to stop inhuman assaults on women.

- A call to action from SAY NO-UNITE to check with neighborhood organizations that provide shelter, support and services to survivors of violence to see what they need in order to continue their work.

Now I ask that you educate yourself on UN Resolution 1325. It is only by educating ourselves that women can engage globally and advocate on behalf of women everywhere.

It is my belief that looking closely at UN Resolution 1325 will stimulate the advocacy that is needed to

move it along. While CEDAW remains stagnant for the moment, 1325 can and does answer the question of women, peace and security and the effects of war and violence against women.

CEDAW and Resolution 1325 must be addressed through international law, **women's empowerment**, military and global security.

We must involve and educate men in these discussions about women in areas of conflict, and the ongoing scourge of violence against women and girls.

I cannot urge you enough to learn how to advocate for those issues that resonate within you and make the changes so badly needed.

Yes, one woman, one voice can make a difference.

—Alice B. Colorado Advocacy Chair

“We must educate men about women in areas of conflict, and the scourge of violence against women and girls.”



ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

Club Foundation Ambassador



ZIF—helping women around the world

December is often the month when people make their yearly donations to charities. **If you're one of those people, why not consider making a donation to the Zonta International Foundation.** Sharon Rogge, of the Pikes Peak club, **once said she didn't understand why people don't think of our Zonta**

International Foundation in the same light as the Red Cross, UNICEF, the **Women's Bean Project**, Work Options for Women, or the Salvation Army. **And, if you've already completed your 2012 donations, you'll get another opportunity in January when we have our pot luck at Sheila's and write checks to ZIF**

for the difference between the cost of your dish versus what would be spent at the Embassy Suites for food and drink. Regardless, enjoy the season.



—Nikki

“Consider making a year-end donation to the Zonta International Foundation.”

NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Time: November 8, 2012, 6:00 p.m.
Place: Embassy Suites

GUESTS:

Olette Stanberry
Katie Boysen
Elaine Gilley
Caitlin Hungate
Nicole Tiggerman
Cynthia Aschnenbenner

NEW BUSINESS

Announcement for the remaining scarves for sale for \$5.00 ea. Remaining scarves will be donated to Volunteers of America.

Judy Allen announced birthdays for Dorothy and Minnie and presented roses.

Evie Ashmore provided the inspirational moment.

Budget proposals/review – it was recommended that the printing/collating for the directory be added to next year's budget.

\$100.00 was deducted for president's pin. Budget

was approved.

Estella Rummelein resigned as the Area 3 Coordinator. Mary Lou Edwards volunteered to replace Estella.

The donated items from tonight will be delivered to Volunteers of America.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fund Raising, Julie Bradley

Julie reported that the sponsorship letters for the film event were sent out. We have received \$2300.00 to date.

Membership, Judy Allen

The holiday party will be on December 13 at the Columbine Country Club. The price is \$45.00/person. Friends and family members are welcome. We will do a white elephant gift and will collect items for be donated to an organization determined

by the Service Committee.

The membership committee is working on doing a cocktail party for potential members sometime in February.

Service, Cathy Conley

Cathy reminded everyone that today is the anniversary of Zonta International – November 8, 1919.

Cathy attended a Project Wise event to accept an award to ZDC.

10 applications were received for grants.

Evie Ashmore presented grant request from Open Door Ministries. Request was for \$5000.00 for the Stillwater Housing Unit. The committee recommends \$3500.00

Nancy McWhirter presented grant request from Delores Project. Request was for \$10,000.00 for their Steps to Stability Program. Committee



Cathy and Mary with some November donations for women veterans

recommends \$5000.00
 Liz Cameron presented grant request from Girls Inc. Request was for \$10,000.00 for STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Math program. Committee recommends \$7000.00
 Sue Kruger presented grant request from Work Options for Women (WOW). Request was for \$10,000.00 for their culinary program to teach kitchen math. The committee recommends \$7000.00.
 Cathy Conley presented grant request from The Haven. Request was for \$8000.00 for their computer training program. The committee recommends \$8000.00.

Cathy motioned that all recommendations be approved as recommended by the committee. Grants were approved as recommended.

Public Relations, Beth Mundell

Beth resigned her position as chair of Public Relations. We currently need someone to fill her position.

Advocacy, Mary Lou Edwards

Mary Lou recommended that we continue to collect money at our monthly meetings for UNICEF – Child Survival. Each time we hit the \$100.00 mark, we will write a check.

The 16 Days of Non-violence is approaching. This year's theme is: How can we help women come in to the peace process. Mary Lou reported that 90% of casualties of war are civilians.

UNAUSA – Women Trafficking, is December 2nd.

OTHER BUSINESS

Linda Rhea is looking for volunteers for the Santa Shop in December. It will be held at 2150 S. Havana.

Evie Ashmore presented the Zonta rock to Dorothy Swindt.

Adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
 Julie Walker, Secretary



Dorothy displays Zonta rock

Happy Holidays!

President's Message

As this issue of the Smoke Signal comes out, we are between Thanksgiving and Christmas. I hope to remember all that I am thankful for as I head into the shopping, wrapping and shipping season. Perhaps that will help me re-center this month when I hit an unintended "reply all" on an email or I don't get the parking space I was waiting for.

It's also the beginning of a few pretty busy months for Zontians. By sheer good planning, we're starting them off with a party. Shortly after that, in subsequent months we'll welcome a new member or two, give out our 2013 grants to local organizations, and then host our Fifth Annual Day of Film, right

after International Women's Day, to help fund the grants we give each year.

Don't forget to RSVP for the party with Judy Allen as soon as possible (see the reminder on page 2).

At the Christmas Party next week, (hurry and RSVP for the party with Judy Allen as soon as possible), we'll be relaxing, enjoying each other's company and having fun with a White Elephant gift exchange. We'll also be honoring the Zonta mission with donations to the Colorado VOA's Homeless Women Vets housing and support program (see the article on page 3, and <http://www.voacolorado.org/Services/We-Support/Veterans-Services-Program> for more

information). It certainly is heartwarming to give back to these women who have graced us with their service.

Remember Charles Dickens's "A Christmas Carol?"

Dickens engineered such a fright for the hard-hearted Ebenezer Scrooge that Scrooge begged the ghosts that haunted him to relent. He promised, "I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me."

Let's try to keep that promise ourselves, for the women we serve and for each other. It's not so hard when we have Zonta's mission to remind us.

—Wendy

"I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year."



President Wendy



LABORATORY TO COMBAT
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS

Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking (LCHT), formerly called the Polaris Project, recently announced that it will begin to administer the Colorado Network to End Human Trafficking hotline starting on January 1.

The hotline was first established in June 2007 as a 24/7 statewide service and has previously been

administered by both The Salvation Army and Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA).

The hotline plays an essential **role in Colorado's anti-human trafficking efforts.** This service allows people to report tips about potential human trafficking cases; victims and survivors of human trafficking can receive telephonic support and be

referred to the services they need in their area; and service providers and first responders can receive necessary technical assistance and referrals.

For more information about LCHT, go to <http://www.combathumantrafficking.org/> or check out the LCHT [newsletter](#). Volunteers are needed to man the hotline and training is provided.

Project WISE

invites you to join us for our annual

Celebration Circle

to celebrate your many accomplishments in 2012!

Thursday, December 6, 2012

5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

St. John's Cathedral

1350 Washington St., Denver CO

Childcare and light dinner provided.

Free parking available on the street or in lot on Washington between 13th and 14th

Please email ehernandez@denverprojectwise.org or call 303-765-5879 by Dec. 1 to RSVP.

SHOP 'TIL YOU DO GOOD!



Edge of Seven and Ten Thousand Villages Denver are excited to announce a Community Holiday Shopping Event to benefit education for girls in the developing world!

Enjoy light refreshments while purchasing Fair Trade gifts for your loved ones. Ten Thousand Villages will donate a percentage of the night's sales to Edge of Seven's programs to provide education for girls in Nepal and Tanzania. *It's the easiest way ever to put your holiday shopping dollars to work for a greater good!*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2012
TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES, 2626 E. 3rd AVE.
5 P.M. to 8 P.M.

For more information, contact sarah@edgeofseven.org



Edge of Seven will be selling hand woven handbags from a women's collective in Nepal. 100 percent of the proceeds from those sales will go to education projects in Nepal.



**Zonta International
North American
Inter-District Meeting
Niagara Falls, ON Canada
June 14 to 16, 2013**

SAVE THE DATE

Please plan to join us

- Network beyond your club and district
- Hear great presentations
- Share ideas

**“Get on Board the New Zonta Express,
BE the Change, the Zonta Change”**

Watch for registration and program details in January 2013

2012 Day of Film Sponsors

Kenneth King Foundation

900 Pennsylvania Street, Denver, Colorado

Helping those in need by doing the common thing in an uncommon way

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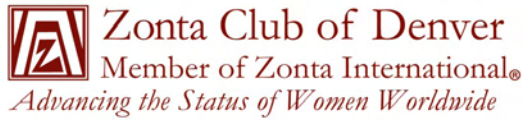
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P.O. Box 2665

Denver, Colorado 80201

**Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time,
and always start with the person nearest you.**

~ Mother Teresa ~

We're on the Web!

Visit us at www.zonta-denver.org

November 25- December 10	16 Days of Activism for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	December 16	The Delores Project—service opportunity
December 1	Barb's birthday	December 15	Nikki's birthday
December 2	Nancy's birthday	December 17	Cathy's birthday
December 6	Evie's birthday	January 10	Club meeting— Sheila's home
December 6	Project WISE Celebration Circle St. John's Cathedral, 1350 Washington	March 9, 2013	2013 Zonta Day of Film
December 10	International Human Rights Day	April 13, 2013	Area 3 meeting—Denver
December 13	Edge of 7 Holiday Shopping Event at Ten Thousand Villages, Cherry Creek	June 14-16, 2013	Zonta International North American Inter- District Meeting—Niagara Falls, Ontario
December 13	Holiday party—Columbine Country Club	July 2014	Zonta International Convention Orlando, Florida