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SMOKE SIGNAL

JANUARY, 2014 SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY

Sexual assault in the military is a subject that has been receiving intense media attention recently. The topic is complex, and Congressional approaches to solving the problem vary, even among women senators and representatives. (Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is pictured at right.)

"There were 3,553 sexual assault complaints reported to the Defense Department in the first three quarters of the fiscal year, from October 2012 through June, a nearly 50 percent increase over the same period a year



earlier," the New York Times reported in November. Fiscal year-end figures released by the Pentagon show 5,000 reports, up from 3,375 the prior year., according to a more recent Wall Street Journal article.

However, according to a separate survey on sexual assault taken every other year among 1.4 million active-duty service members, about 26,000 men and women in the military were sexually assaulted in 2011, increase from 19,000 the prior year. (NYT)

Although Congress and the media have focused on abuse of women in uniform, according to the Pentagon, 53% of the estimated 26,000 troops who were raped or forced into sex last year were men. As the LA Times reports, "Although women are proportionally more likely to be the victim of a sexual assault - the Defense Department estimates that 6.1% of women and 1.2% of men are victims of sexual assaults - the fact that men so vastly outnumber women in the military means that the problem affects more men than women."

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Zonta Says No

UN Women

I myself have never been able to find out precisely

An article on <u>YahooNews</u> explains that "the military has long struggled to get victims to report sexual harassment and assault in a stern military culture that emphasizes rank, loyalty and toughness. Too often, victims have complained that they were afraid to report assaults to ranking officers, or that their initial complaints were rebuffed or ignored."

The military believes the increase in complaints shows that their efforts to address the problem have been effective."More reports mean more victims are getting the necessary health care," said Maj. Gen. Gary S. Patton, the director of the Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, quoted in the New York Times article. "More reports means a bridge to more cases being investigated by law enforcement and more offenders being held accountable."

Congress recently passed legislation including reforms to Pentagon policies. Commanders will not have authority to overturn jury convictions or reduce sentences, and service members convicted of a sexual crime will be discharged or dismissed. Victims will get new legal protections and counseling after they report a crime.

These reforms were championed by Senator Claire McCaskill, a moderate Democrat from Missouri.

However, they do not go far enough for Kirsten Gillibrand, Democratic Senator from New York. She believes that the decisions of whether or not to prosecute cases should be made by independent prosecutors, not by "commanders with no legal training and conflicts of interest." Politico reports that she will push for a vote on a bill to make that change in early 2014. McCaskill and others in the House and Senate believe the Pentagon should be given additional time to make reforms. President Obama has signed the new legislation but issued a statement that he has ordered a progress report by December 1, 2014, and "If I do not see the kind of progress I expect, then we will consider additional reforms."

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January Meeting

Meeting Details

Date: January 9, 2014

Time: 5:30 pm

what a feminist is; I only know that people call me a feminist every time I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat.

Rebecca West (1913)

Join Our Mailing List!

Forward to a Friend

Location: Sheila's home

3635 S. Roslyn Way

Denver 80237

Menu: **Potluck**

> A-D Please bring side dish/salad E-L Please bring main dish M-W Please bring a dessert

Greeter: **Evie Ashmore Inspirational Moment:** Julie Bradley

Cost: None except your ZIF donation--see below

Reservations to Judy Allen at judith.allen@ch2m.com or 720-286-5012 by noon Monday. Members on the Permanent list must call to cancel.

This will be the third year that we have held a Dining-In Event for our January meeting. The idea is to have members bring a pot luck dish to the meeting. Then the difference between the cost of the dish and what you would have spent at a restaurant will be the amount of the check you write to the ZI Foundation. Forms will be available at the meeting for you to complete and designate the project you would like your money to benefit. We all give to various non-profits during the year. Why not make the Zonta International Foundation one of those non-profits? Sheila has once again graciously agreed to host the evening. The program will be on ZI projects with an updated film on the Rwanda project. In addition, there will be a short video featuring the Zonta cheerleaders!

Our club has a goal of having 100% of members donate to ZIF. If this goal is achieved, two things will happen. First, Pam Dumonceau, Consistent Values, will write a check for \$800 (\$25 per member) as her donation to ZIF. Second, the Zonta Club of Denver will be recognized at Convention for having 100% of its members contribute! Come join in a fun and productive evening.

- Nikki, Club Foundation

Ambassador

Member News

Jacki has moved to a retirement community. Her new address is 7100 W. 13th Ave., #226, Lakewood, CO 80214. Her old home phone number will no longer be good.

Happy birthday to Wendy on January 7!

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Service Committee

Olette planned another successful dinner in December for The Delores Project. The spiral ham dinner was enjoyed by all. Thank you, Olette, Julie B., Marian, Nancy, Judy Mc., Kathy H., Jeanette, and Cathy C. for providing all the food.

The next Service committee will be on Monday, January 20 at Perkins at 6:00 p.m.

- Nancy



Fundraising

Our contract for the 2014 Day of Film has been signed - we are just days away (two weeks maybe) from choosing the film we will sponsor and we are working on getting a special film event for early purchasers of tickets for the event. Early purchasers will be invited to a pre-festival showing at 7 pm on February 6th of "I Am Not a Rockstar" a film about Marika Bournaki, child prodigy concert pianist from Canada and her life from 12 - 20 years old.



Sponsors are being contacted and responding; caterers are being worked on. We would like members to contact their local King Soopers for a gift card donation. Local King Soopers can, at the discretion of the store manager, donate a \$25 gift card to local organizations. If you have a King Soopers that would donate we can get you a letter to give to the manager. We currently have two stores that are going to donate. We can use those gift cards to purchase juice for our Mimosas, party supplies, etc., for the event.

We sold one of the pictures that the club owned at the Zonta Says No event and the money will be put into the Foundation account. We are still working on selling the Chapel items that we own.

Our next meeting of the committee will be Wednesday January 15th at Perkins to hopefully solidify the film and plan work assignments for the event so that we can get members to sign up at the meeting the following evening.

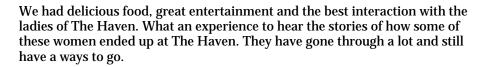
Please be thinking of (and put together a list) of individuals that you think need to be invited to our film event. We will be sending out a 'save the date' email by the January meeting so make sure your friends get that email!

Thanks for all you do and remember everyone is a member of the fund-raising effort for the Film Event in March of 2014!

-Julie and committee

Membership

Membership and Service would like to thank the club members for the event at The Haven.





The tree was beautifully decorated with the many decorations you all brought. Nancy provided great music on her guitar, singing Christmas carols, and she even furnished the words so we could all join in. The best part of all is that we don't have to take the tree down.

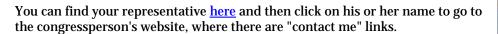
Thank you to Joetta who furnished the beautiful tree!

Membership will meet in January at Perkins on Colorado Blvd., date to be announced.

- Judy A.

Advocacy

What do you think about Kirsten Gillibrand's proposal for independent prosecutors in cases of military sexual assault (see article above)? How about sharing your views with your Congressional representative and with Senators Bennett and Udall?

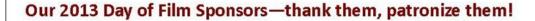




Of course, you can contact them about other issues too!

Please put February 20 on your calendar and plan to be at the State Capitol (with its newly unveiled gold dome) for at least some part of the Human Trafficking Awareness Day sponsored by Zontian Betty Edwards' Human Trafficking Task Force of Southern Colorado. The flyer appears below and I will pass on additional details as I receive them. Let's keep up the momentum to end gender-based violence that we created with the amazing Empty Shoes event!

-Judy Mc



Kenneth King Foundation

900 Pennsylvania Street, Denver, Colorado

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

Judy Allen and Richard Starlin

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

January Meeting Items

Please bring baby wipes for Open Door Ministries.

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810 E. 17th Avenue 405 16th Street 606 West Colfax



NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

The November, 2013 regular meeting of the Zonta Club of Denver was held at DU Women's College. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President, Wendy Henry-Moraskie. Minutes of the October meeting were discussed and amended to read that Jane Page (not Zonta International) made a statement at the Area 3 meeting about advocacy. The Minutes were then approved as amended. No treasurer's report was given as Kathy Hyzer did not attend. The Inspiration was read by Nikki Headlee. A catered dinner was then enjoyed by all.

Daleena Scott, Director of the Veterans of America Housing Program, and Program Vet, Anna Leos were our speakers. The goal of the program is to transition female vets into stable housing. A case manager is provided to address their needs and slowly transition them out within 2 years - into Claremont Commons - 3 great homes. The VA hospital referred Anna to the program which has been very successful for her. She said it was good to be busy and to have a plan for the future. They take classes to learn about all the triggers and red flags for behaviors. Daleena was in the Army Reserves for eight and a half years in Civilian Affairs, and Anna was in the Air Force, doing mortuary duties in Georgia. She moved to Denver to get married - went to the VA to recover from domestic abuse where she was referred to the program. She is studying accounting. We gave the program clients Day Timers, tooth brushes and tooth paste.

Committee Reports:

Membership and Service - Judy Allen and Jeannette Newville are jointly planning our tree trimming party at The Haven on Dec. 5. All members need to pay \$10 for food which the committee will provide. The Haven is at Ft. Logan in SW Denver - the committee will send directions.

A vote was taken on a meeting place. The majority voted for The Hacienda for the March, April, May and June meetings. The January meeting will take place at Governor Sheila's home, and February will be our Grant Recipient meeting at Embassy Suites.

Public Relations - Katie Boysen said our Facebook page will go orange in honor of Zonta Says No.

Fund Raising - Julie Bradley said the committee has met and is working on proposals and letter to sponsors for the film event which they will mail on January 1.

Service - Nancy McWhirter thanked those who showed up to read to the children at Open Door Ministries - it was very fun!

Nominating - Joetta Williams said the committee voted unanimously on a new Director - Judy McNerny. Kate Linscott installed Judy as a Director at this meeting. Judy then gave an Advocacy Report.

Advocacy - Judy McNerny reported that the definition she found for Advocacy was "action directed at change - directed toward issues." She challenged us all to share a story or fact. She urged everyone to buy tickets for and attend the November 25 Zonta Says No Art Event to help kick off the 16 days of Non-Violence which is of paramount importance to Zonta International.

Zonta Says No - Evie Ashmore and Governor Sheila are helping with food at the event and asked people to sign up to help with bringing ice, picking up cookies, busing tables and serving drinks.

Beth Mundell has our book library now. She asked everyone to bring her books.

President Wendy said the reception at Metro State was lovely. Our club presented Metro with a \$25,000 check to add to our endowment there which is now \$125,000.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Delores House Dinner November 17

Zonta Says No November 25 - McNichols Bldg.

Tree Trimming Party Dec. 5 - The Haven

Nov/Dec Board meeting December 12 - Mary Benoit's office

Film Event March 22, 2014

Garage Sale May 17, 2014 - Cynthia's home

~Respectfully submitted, Mary Lou Edwards, Secretary

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

December 5, 2013, The Haven House

This meeting of the Zonta Club of Denver was held at the Haven House, a residential drug and alcohol treatment program for women which the club has sponsored with several grants. The meeting served as the club's Christmas celebration for the year. Members of the club provided the meal plus a Christmas tree, lights, garlands and ornaments.

Before the Christmas celebration, members met to vote on the Service Committee's 2013-2014 proposed service grants. Grants were unanimously okayed for Smart Girls and COVA (Katie Boysen abstained from voting on the Smart Girls grant for conflict of interest). Details of the grants will be published in the Smoke Signal.

Olette Stansbury asked members to sign up for the January and February, 2014 dinners to be served at Delores House. She said that December was covered.

The business meeting was adjourned and members joined the women at Haven House for dinner. After dinner, the tree was decorated and Christmas songs were sung, accompanied by Nancy McWhirter on the guitar - a truly memorable Christmas celebration for all who attended.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Nov/Dec Board meeting December 12 - Mary Benoit's office

January Regular meeting January 9, 2012 - Sheila's home

January Board meeting January 23, 2014 - Mary Benoit's office

Film Event March 22, 2014

Garage Sale May 17, 2014 - Cynthia's home

~Respectfully submitted, Mary Lou Edwards, Secretary

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DOMESTIC DIVA

TURKEY NOODLE CASSEROLE

Looking for a way to use that leftover Holiday turkey? - Here it is. You could probably substitute ham as well.

1/2 lb wide egg noodles
1 T olive oil
few slices of turkey bacon, chopped
2 cups of chopped cooked turkey
1 lb mushrooms, sliced
1 chopped yellow onion
2 tsp thyme
1/2 cup dry white wine

1 cup chicken broth
1/2 cup heavy cream
1/4 tsp nutmeg
2 T butter, softened
2 cups grated Gruyere cheese (8 oz)
1 cup bread crumbs
2 T parsley

Boil noodles until al dente. Drain and return to pot.

Preheat large skillet over medium-high heat. Add olive oil and bacon and cook until crispy. Move bacon to side of pan and add the mushrooms and onion and cook for 3-4 minutes. Add the turkey and cook veggies and meats together until heated through. Season with salt, pepper and thyme. Cook for 5 minutes. Stir in wine and broth and bring to a bubble. Stir in cream and reduce heat to low. Add nutmeg and stir.

Preheat broiler to high. Combine noodles with the turkey mixture and pour into a buttered casserole dish. Top with cheese and then bread crumbs. Place 8-10 inches under broiler and brown for 3 minutes until cheese is melted. Garnish with parsley.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The start of a new year is often an occasion for looking back and forward in turns. The members of Zonta Club of Denver can be proud of our accomplishments in 2013 and excited about what we're planning for this year.

ZCD had a great 2013 with our Valentine's Day grant awards, ongoing service projects, our film event--a full house even as the snow kept falling--and the always delightfully surprising yard sale. We can all pat each other on the back for jobs well done on all of those efforts.

Coming up, and faster than it seems possible, are the dining-in event at Sheila's, the grant awards dinner, then this year's film event, the yard sale, and the International Convention! Whew!

For the January meeting it has become a tradition to have a "dine in," to focus on International projects. Governor Sheila has graciously offered her house for this event and we so appreciate her hospitality. The membership committee, Sheila, Nikki and others have

a very interesting program planned, and we look forward to seeing everyone there along with as many guests as we can pack in. This will be a great meeting for introducing new people to Zonta.

We have a great Zonta year coming up and I'm so glad we have so many enthusiastic members willing to help at each event with the myriad tasks that each seems to require. Our reward for all the work is that we're able to increase our impact for the at-risk women we hope to serve.

Thank you all for your continued commitment to Zonta, the mission and each other.

Oh, and Happy New Year!

- Wendy

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UPCOMING EVENTS



HUMAN TRAFFICKING ADVOCACY DAY AT THE COLORADO STATE CAPITOL

BE AWARE

MORNING SESSION HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS IN COLORADO LEARN WHERE, WHEN, HOW AND WHY

BE INFORMED

MID DAY SESSION
PANEL OF EXPERTS WITH INSIGHTS FOR FORMULATING
PUBLIC POLICY

BE ENGAGED

WEST STEPS RALLY WITH HT SURVIVORS, KEY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, AND AGENCY LEADERS THAT ARE RESPONDING NOW TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN COLORADO

IEMPATHIZE DISPLAY IN THE NORTH ROTUNDA THROUGHOUT THE DAY

SAVE THE DATE

ALL ARE WELC OME

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CALENDAR

Date	Event	Time	Location	Details
January 7	Wendy's birthday			
January 9	Club meeting	5:30 pm	Gov. Sheila's home	Dine-in fund-raiser for Zonta International Foundation
January 15	Fundraising Committee meeting	5:30 pm	Perkins on Colorado at I-25	
January 20	Service Committee meeting	6:00 pm	Perkins on Colorado at I-25	
February 1	Area 3 Service Project	9:00 am to noon	Project Cure warehouse 10377 E. Geddes Avenue Centennial	More details to follow
February 13, 2014	Club meeting	5:30 pm	Embassy Suites 7525 E Hampden Ave Denver, CO 80231	Presentation of 2013- 2014 service grants
February 20, 2014	Human Trafficking Awareness Day		Colorado State Capitol 200 E. Colfax Ave	Hosted by Human Trafficking Task Force of Southern Colorado
March 22, 2014	2014 Zonta's Day of Film	TBA	Sie FilmCenter Denver	NOTE DATE CHANGE
May 17, 2014	ZCD Annual Garage Sale	7:00 am to 3:00 pm	1360 Glencoe Street	START SAVING STUFF NOW
June 27 – July 1, 2014	Zonta International Convention		World Center Marriott Orlando, Florida	orlando2014.zonta.org

Zonta Club of Denver | president@zonta-denver.org Wendy Henry-Moraskie, President | Judy McNerny, Editor

> zonta-denver.org P.O. Box 2665 Denver, CO 80201

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