



ZONTA
CLUB OF
DENVER

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Smoke Signal - June 2018

2018-2019 Zonta Club of Denver

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Marian Lee, President
Mary Lou Edwards, President-elect
Jeanette Scotland, Vice President
Tricia McNerny, Secretary
Evie Ashmore, Treasurer

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Jeanette Scotland
Evie Ashmore
Mary Lou Edwards, ex officio

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Liz Cameron
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Judy McNerny

Please send your newsletter submissions
to Judy McNerny, Julie Bradley, and
Wendy Moraskie.

visit us online at www.zonta-denver.org



*It isn't the mountain ahead that wears you out; it's
the grain of sand in your shoe.*

Robert W. Service

June Meeting

Date: Thursday, June 14th
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Place: Fresh Fish Company
7800 E Hampden Ave

RSVP to **Liz Savage** at
esavage2017@gmail.com by noon on
Monday, June 11.

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**The club meeting will begin at
5:30, and my ambition is to be
done by 7:30. ~ Marian**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."
-- Edward Everett Hale*

I'm honored to serve as ZCD's president this year. In the five years since I joined the club, I've been inspired by this group and amazed by the array of talents our members possess. I'm excited about working with our new and returning committee chairs, and look forward to doing all I can to support their success.

I have three goals for this year. All are interrelated, and all pertain to our people:

- 1. Connection** – To increase the strength and breadth of connections between our members, and between our members and the club; to create new opportunities for our members to get to know each other, so that even newer members feel they “belong” and have friends in the club.
- 2. Engagement** – To maximize our members' engagement in Zonta and its work - on our committees, in club leadership, and through our service projects. Working together to advance Zonta's mission helps bind members to the club and to each other, and is the most fulfilling part of Zonta membership.
- 3. Continuity** – To not only recruit new members, but connect them, engage them, and teach them about Zonta's purpose, mission, and programs, the ways they can contribute, and the ways that being a Zontian will benefit their personal and career growth. We want to build a strong base for the future, so that when our club celebrates its 100th anniversary in a few years, it is more vibrant than ever.

I have enormous respect for the presidents who have served before me, and have truly appreciated their counsel and support. I still have a lot of learning to do, and I welcome your suggestions for strengthening the club – please let me hear from you as we move through the coming year.

~ Marian Lee

Minutes of May Meeting

Go [here](#) to read the minutes of the May 10, 2018, club meeting.

THANK YOU ZONTIANS

I would like to express the gratitude of Zonta International Foundation for the incredible amount of generosity that has been shown by the Zonta Club of Denver and the members.

This is how it breaks out: Over the last biennium Zonta Club of Denver has donated \$35,992 to Zonta International Foundation. As individual members 20 of you made at least one donation during the last biennium and 5 of you have a recurring donation happening every month. 25 individual club members have donated \$10,736 in the last biennium, for a grand total of \$46,728. It makes me extremely proud to be a member of the Zonta Club of Denver and the Zonta International Foundation Ambassador for District 12.

How does all of this look in the Zonta world as a whole? As a member of District 12, we are just one of 32 districts. One of my goals as D 12 Foundation Ambassador was to increase both club and individual donations. The club donations have stayed about the same, not surprising since sadly the district lost 2 clubs this biennium. As individual donors District 12 is a shining star. Out of 32 districts, our District 12 was ranked #12 in individual donations. This biennium 213 individual members donated \$48,654. Last biennium 263 individual members donated \$35,491. This is an increase of 137%. You Zontians of The Denver Club are a big part of this effort by District 12. Just as an aside, we are #12 in the amount of donations but the smallest of size in the ranking, so the clubs that ranked #1 to #11 have considerably larger memberships than that of District 12.

Now that the biennium is at an end, you thought that I might quit asking for money. Well not so fast, our incoming Governor Deedee Boysen has asked me to continue on as the Foundation Ambassador for District 12. So here we go for 2 more years. I was going to say the sky's the limit, but there are no limits.

~ Mary Benoit
District 12 Foundation Ambassador

Child Marriage

Yes, It Happens Here.

It's 2018 and still, there are practices in the US that horrify anyone who purports to protect children. And they're not barbaric acts imported from other countries, no, we invented them here and defend them in the name of "morals." *Read more [here](#).*

Note from Your New Treasurer – Did You Know?

I am honored to serve as your Treasurer for this next year under the able leadership of Marian and the Board. Thank you for your vote of confidence!

After going through some of the financial material and finding an acknowledgement from Zonta International, I found that, to date – **our Club has made a LIFETIME CONTRIBUTION OF \$435,750.54 to Zonta International.** Wow, members have been very generous through the years and we should be rightly proud!



~ Evie Ashmore

Garage Sale

A big thank you to everyone who contributed items or their time and labor for the yard sale. I appreciate all the help I had to finish the sale, even with the rain delay. We made \$1045.

Thank you everyone.

~ Cynthia

UNAFF

The United Nations Association of Denver will present its 4th Annual United Nations Association Film Festival on June 30 at the SIE FilmCenter. ZCD is the sponsor of the film, *I Am Evidence*, a searing, lucid film that exposes the alarming number of untested rape kits in the United States. There are 10 free tickets for this screening. Read more [here](#).



Past ZCD president
Katie Wienecke (left) with District
Governor
Renee Coppock,
following Katie's installation
as District 12 Secretary

Committee Reports

MEMBERSHIP

I hope everyone is enjoying the beginning of summer! As I pass the Membership Committee Chair torch to Veronica Hoegler, I want to thank everyone on committee this past year for your tireless help and dedication to making it a great year. Together, we re-energized our already fabulous group of women by bringing in eight new members with fresh ideas and lots of enthusiasm for service and advocacy on behalf of women locally and internationally in furtherance of Zonta's mission. The committee for 2018-19 includes many of the same people, and so I know Veronica will be well-supported and positioned to make it another successful and fulfilling year for all of our members!



As mentioned at the May club meeting, we will be planning the first of what hopefully will be a quarterly small group get-together for newer members and longer-term members over the summer. We hope it will be an opportunity for everyone to get to know each other better in an informal, fun setting outside of regular club meetings. Ideas for possible events include a "paint and sip" or "crafts and cocktails" evening, a Rockies baseball game, and a visit to Angel Concept Fine Gifts in downtown Littleton, which employs disadvantaged women to help transform their lives, followed by dinner. If anyone has other fun ideas, please let someone on the Membership Committee know!

And, back by popular demand, Membership will be planning another wine tasting and dinner event at Spero Winery for our August 9 club meeting! Details to follow in the July Smoke Signal.

~ Liz Savage



ADVOCACY

Greetings Zonta friends. I am slowly beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel following relocation to a new state (Wisconsin) after twenty years in the same house. While I love Denver, life in a small town of 8,000 agrees with me, especially the lack of traffic. We are in close proximity to lakes, rivers, forests, golf courses and scenic Door County, yet one hour from Milwaukee and two hours from Chicago when we need a big city fix. Lake Michigan is a twenty minute drive from our house. We are enjoying our granddaughter, her husband and 18 month old great grandson who live nearby.

Upcoming Event:

Billie Jean King. On October 10, 2018, The Women's Foundation of Colorado Annual Luncheon will feature a live interview with Billie Jean King. Tickets, table and sponsorships are on sale now and are expected to sell out. Ticket prices start at \$75. Three thousand people are expected to attend the luncheon at the Colorado Convention Center, Exhibit Hall D from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm. Register [here](#).

For those of you not old enough to remember, Billie Jean King (a woman) was a world champion tennis professional who battled Bobby Riggs (a man) in a tennis match in the 1970s. She has remained active supporting women's equality in sports and working for social justice. Billie Jean King was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

The Women's Foundation of Colorado works to advance economic opportunities for Colorado women and their families. Learn more at wfco.org.

Books to Inspire:

Her Story - A Timeline of the Women Who Changed America by Charlotte S. Waisman and Jill S. Tietjen.

Most of our history has been written about men and the contributions of women minimized or ignored. Charlotte S. Waisman and Jill S. Tietjen have compiled a chronological story, beginning in 1587, of the accomplishments and contributions of more than 900 women in our history. The forward is written by Madeleine Albright, our first female U.S. Secretary of State. *Her Story* is available on Amazon.

Eunice: The Kennedy Who Changed the World by Eileen McNamara. Born into a family where the focus was on grooming the sons for political careers while the ambitions of the daughters were discouraged or ignored, Eunice Kennedy Shriver was not deterred by gender barriers or the low expectations of her powerful father. Best known for her role in the development of the Special Olympics, Eunice Kennedy Shriver's influence went beyond that. *Eunice* is available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and other bookstores.

~ Carol Mangold

PUBLIC RELATIONS



This month it's my honor to thank the members of the PR committee from last year and turn over the reins to an new chair for 2018-19.

I so appreciate all the help from the PR committee this year. We created a simple and workable plan for the year and executed it. Thanks to Judy Mc and Marian, the Smoke Signal was beautiful and informative every month.

Our grant awards, Day of Film and yard sale benefited from everyone's efforts. Members shared and put up signs, cards and flyers, earned publication in YourHub, and posted the details at facebook, Linked in, MeetUp, and in numerous other sites and web-based calendars that the PR team collected and researched. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the service committee, too, whose members checked in with our grantees to get our events mentioned or linked on their sites as well.

And I wish the new chair a successful year! I'm sure she'll have a great...[what?--oh right--that's me]. Ahem. If you'll allow me to do a little internal PR for this coming year's committee, then I'd like to ask that you consider joining PR. As we ride the calendar (bucking, swerving and slaloming) into another Zonta year, PR will need help getting the word out about our successes.

At my last count, our club has more than 50 committee slots that need to be filled every year. With only 40 members, that means at least a quarter of our members regularly step up to fill more than one function. Bless you! If you can do that, and fill a slot on the PR committee, the club and the women we serve will benefit from your input.

Thanks again, everyone, for your support of the PR functions and the club. Happy Zonta Year 2018-19!

~ Wendy Moraskie

Club Calendar

Club Meetings

June 14, 2018

5:00 p.m.

Fresh Fish Co.

August 9, 2018

5:00 p.m.

Spero Winery

Special Events

Zonta International Convention

June 29-July 3, 2018

Yokohama, Japan

District 12 Governor's Seminar

October 5-6, 2018

Lamar, Colorado



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MINUTES

ZONTA CLUB OF DENVER MEETING

5-10-2018, 5 pm

FRESH FISH COMPANY

The meeting was called to order at the Fresh Fish Company Restaurant by President Julie Bradley at 6:00 pm. Area 3 Director Michele Medal was welcomed and guests were introduced. Marian Lee introduced her guest, Gabrielle Palanca, an attorney; Cynthia Herndon introduced Nona Kirk and Pam Staves, our newest member after tonight. _____ introduced Audrey Sawaya whose grandmother was a former member, and two of her friends, Lara Buelow and Briony Maxwell. Deb Gridley introduced Ashlee Lewis and Madison, our guest speakers for the evening from The Initiative.

Ashlee and Madison talked about DVI's rebranding to "The Initiative" primarily to be more inclusive to the population they actually serve. Ashlee showed us their new brochure which features their mission statement "Creating an Abuse-free culture for all." The Initiative values Safety, Accommodation, Compassion, Inclusivity and the Freedom from Abuse to Thrive. Madison is in charge of outreach. They are creating a video which will screen for traumatic brain injury. The majority of their clients have both traumatic brain injuries and PTSD. Ashlee informed us of a gap in DV services in Denver and she is working with other non-profits to try to solve the problem. Shelters apparently do not honor family (anyone besides spouse) violence and 63% of violence happens via family members. Those victims are not eligible to enter shelters. And safe houses will not take victims with medical issues – they are not equipped for that. They thanked us for our donations for the evening and said their clients could also use internet friendly cell phones and beauty hotel/motel items.

Minutes of the April meeting were approved as read, and Treasurer, Barb Pellegren thanked everyone for using proper financial procedures during her brief term.

Mary Benoit, Service Chairman, thanked her committee for a good job done during the past year, and said that JMK Scholarship applications are now due in. Sheila Davis, Nancy McWhirter and Deb Gridley will look over the applications to find our winner.

Liz Savage, Membership Chairman, said that her committee was considering hosting quarterly social meetings outside of our regular meetings so that members can get to know each other – probably in the August/September time frame. Suggestions for the outing include wine and painting – the committee will appreciate your suggestions.

Mary Lou Edwards, Fundraising Chairman, thanked her committee for their hard work on the Day of Film and said that the club has one more fundraising event – the garage sale at Cynthia's home. Friday, May 18 will be organizing day and May 19 will be the actual garage sale. Julie Bradley will send out the Sign-Up Genius list to remind members of the times they signed up to work the event. She also reminded members to buy our pouches to take to International to trade and that Mary and Sheila also have District 12 items to purchase for the same purpose.

Carol Mangold, Advocacy Chairman, was not there, but Mary Lou read her report. Carol advised members of two upcoming events: (1) The 40th Colorado Feminist Luncheon, Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at the Denver Athletic Club, 1325 Glenarm Place, Denver. The guest speaker is Judy Winnick whose book "Irena's Children" tells the true story of the woman who saved 2500 children from the Warsaw Ghetto during the Nazi Holocaust. Tickets are \$35 including lunch. Reservation deadline is Thursday, May 17. RSVP to Heather Neyer at Hneyer@brainbalance.com or 303-667-8836; and (2) The Women's foundation of Colorado Annual Luncheon will feature Billie Jean King as speaker this year. The luncheon will be held at the Colorado Convention Center, exhibit Hall D from 11:30 – 1:30 pm. Ticket prices start at \$75. Register on The Women's Foundation of Colorado website: wfco.org

After dinner, the club voted to send ZIF a \$100 donation in honor of former member, Clem Spainhower. The motion was made by Judy McNerny and seconded by Cathy Conley and unanimously voted in favor by the members present.

Michele Medal then installed the club's new officers for the upcoming year: President, Marian Lee; President-Elect, Mary Lou Edwards; Vice-President, Jeannette Scotland; Treasurer, Evie Ashmore; Secretary, Trish McNerny; and Directors, CJ Long, Veronica Hoegler, Carol Mangold and Wendy Henry-Moraskie; and the Nominating committee, Kathy Hyzer, Julie Bradley and Judy McNerny.

Liz Savage and Evie Ashmore then initiated our newest member, Pam Staves and everyone welcomed her to the club.

Jeannette Scotland told us about the Woman to Woman concert put on by the Hebrew Chorale of Colorado on Wednesday, May 23, 7 pm. The cost is \$18 and will benefit a battered women's shelter in Jerusalem.

Michele Medal drew the ticket for the 50/50. Bev Meyers won and received \$42.

There being no further business, President Julie closed the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Edwards

Acting Secretary for Penny Burke

Yes, It Happens Here.

It's 2018 and still, there are practices in the US that horrify anyone who purports to protect children. And they're not barbaric acts imported from other countries, no, we invented them here and defend them in the name of "morals."

As reported in the *New York Times*, our State Department protests child marriage in Africa and Asia (worldwide, a girl 14 or younger is married every 11 seconds, according to Save the Children), but every state in America allowed child marriages. That has finally changed. Last month Delaware became the first state to ban all child marriages, without exception.

"This is a historic moment for women and girls, where we're finally ending this relic from a sexist past that is destroying girls' lives," said Fraidy Reiss, who runs an organization, ***Unchained at Last***, that fights child marriage. "It shouldn't have been this difficult."

Read the rest of the *Times* article [here](#).

There is information about marriage laws in District 12 [here](#).

~ Wendy Moraskie

The United Nations Association of Denver will present its 4th Annual United Nations Association Film Festival on June 30 at the SIE FilmCenter.

Conceived in 1998 at Stanford University by film critic and educator Jasmina Bojic in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, United Nations Association Film Festival (UNAFF) screens documentaries by international filmmakers dealing with topics such as human rights, environmental themes, women's issues, children, refugee protection, homelessness,

ZCD is the sponsor of the film, *I Am Evidence*, a searing, lucid film that exposes the alarming number of untested rape kits in the United States. The film is a character-driven narrative, bringing much needed attention to the disturbing pattern of how the criminal justice system has historically treated sexual assault survivors and seeks to send a clear message to survivors that they matter and that their perpetrators will be held accountable for their crimes.

There are 10 free tickets for this screening. For more information about the film, go [here](#). To reserve one of the free tickets, email [Alexis Newton](mailto:Alexis.Newton).