



# ZONTA

CLUB OF  
DENVER

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
EMPOWERING WOMEN  
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

## Smoke Signal - March 2018

### 2017-2018 Zonta Club of Denver

#### Officers

Julie Bradley, President  
Marian Lee, President-elect  
Mary Lou Edwards, Vice President  
Penny Burke, Secretary  
Barb Pellegren, Treasurer

#### Directors

Liz Savage  
Mary Benoit  
Carol Mangold  
Wendy Moraskie

#### Foundation Officers

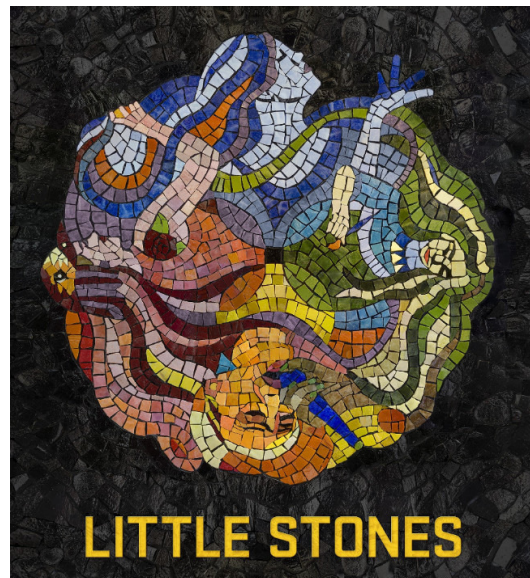
Julie Bradley  
Mary Lou Edwards  
Marian Lee  
Barb Pellegren

#### Foundation Trustees

Evie Ashmore  
Judy McNerny  
Liz Cameron  
Pam Dumonceau

Please send your newsletter submissions  
to Judy McNerny, Marian Lee, and Wendy  
Moraskie.

visit us online at [www.zonta-denver.org](http://www.zonta-denver.org)



Tenth Annual Zonta's Day of Film

Saturday March 31

Buy your tickets [here](#)! Price increases March

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### March Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 8th

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Fresh Fish Company  
7800 E Hampden Ave

Celebrate International Women's Day!

RSVP to Liz Savage at

[esavage2017@gmail.com](mailto:esavage2017@gmail.com) by noon on

Monday, February 26th.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year has so swiftly progressed for our Zonta Club! We have had changes of some of our officers, wished farewell to Gwen as she left for her new adventures in Tanzania, and our fundraiser is almost upon us!

Have you bought your tickets to the Day of Film??? Price goes up on March 3<sup>rd</sup>! Have you promoted this to all your friends and family? This is a film that will be great for ANYONE. Some years we have people who say that the film is too graphic for you. This is NOT that type of film. The film is uplifting and good for ANYONE and ANY AGE. They will love the film. Please consider going online right away to purchase your tickets. Make sure you forward your friends an email about the film. We really want to make sure that EVERYONE can attend our film and that it is sold out!

Hope you all enjoyed the grants meeting in February at the Rendezvous Restaurant. I know that some of you loved it. It was great to meet all our grant recipients and hear of all the wonderful things that they are accomplishing and will be accomplishing from our grants. Did you know? The money raised last year is what funded our grants this year? Money raised at this year's film will go to fund grants next year and I am sure you want to have as much as possible to give out to worthy organizations.

As members of Zonta we all said we would support our club fundraisers whole heartedly, so we would like to see 100% participation. Whether by buying a ticket (or two or three), or being a sponsor of the film, or just helping on the day to pass out programs or direct filmgoers to the theatre. We want to make sure this film is a great success. Just make sure you purchase before Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup> so you get the lower ticket price.

FYI – our Nominating committee has been hard at work and the slate of proposed officers for NEXT year appears in this issue of the *Smoke Signal*! Make sure you strongly support the slate of candidates as it will be presented in March for vote in April and installation in May!

See you at the March meeting.

Thank you all for EVERYTHING you do.

~Julie Bradley

### Minutes of February Meeting

Go [here](#) to read the minutes of the February 8, 2018, club meeting.

## Advocacy Works

On Thursday February 15 Carol Mangold and I were fortunate to attend the Human Trafficking Day at the State Capitol. This event was organized by the Human Trafficking Task Force of Southern Colorado. That organization was founded 10 years ago by my dear friend and sister Zontian, Betty Edwards. Betty is a member of the Pikes Peak Area Zonta Club and a former District 12 governor. [Read more here.](#)

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## Committee Reports

### MEMBERSHIP

Our March club meeting is back at The Fresh Fish Company at 7800 E. Hampden Avenue. BUT, at the request of many club members, the Membership Committee has researched four new potential venues for our monthly club meetings, and prepared a survey with information on each of them and Fresh Fish Company. Enough people have said they like FFC and don't want to change that it made sense to include it as an option on the survey. To review and vote, please click on this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LYRY3W8>. **VOTING WILL CLOSE ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7 AT NOON.** The winner will be announced at the club meeting on Thursday March 8, or we will do a run-off vote if necessary on that date. Please make your vote count! Thanks!

~ Liz Savage



### FUNDRAISING

The Fundraising Committee is finalizing plans for our Day of Film event March 31, 2018. We seem to be all ready, except for the selling tickets part. Donations have been coming in, but we need every member to get involved right now in order to make this event successful. **If every member buys just 1 ticket we cover our expenses, but if every member sells more tickets, we can make**

**the money we need to finance our grants for next year.** Please remember to buy your tickets before March 2 to get them for \$45.

"Little Stones" is a wonderful movie. It is currently being shown at events around the world. It was voted Best of the Festival at the Zonta Film Festival in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada and will be shown at the Commission on the Status of Women next month in NYC. We believe we have a great film this year, but the success of the event depends on all of you.

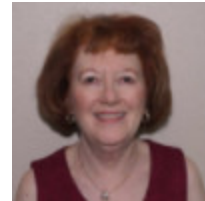
Our next Fundraising Committee meeting will be Monday, March 12 at Cynthia Herndon's home, 4 pm.

~Mary Lou Edwards

## SERVICE

For all of you that were at the Grants Dinner, I hope you enjoyed it. It was fabulous to meet our grantees and hear about how our grants dollars will be used. Right now the service committee is working on collecting information about volunteer opportunities and items of the month that these organizations might need. You will hear more from them in the future months as they are scheduled to be guest speakers at our meetings. If you have already read my article "*Advocacy Works*" then you will understand when I speak of passion. The needs of our grant recipients are many and it is not all about the money that we give them. Of course the money is a huge part and without the money their worlds would be more difficult. Did one of these organizations stir your passion? Do you have ideas that you would like to share with them? Our four grantee organizations offer all us a wealth of opportunities to make a difference. And we can make a guided difference, not just doing something random and hoping it helps. Please contact me if you want to share your passion with one of our grantee organizations. Watch for opportunities to make a difference, they will come soon.

~Mary Benoit



## PUBLIC RELATIONS

Why do we want the Turnhalle full-to-overflowing on March 31? For the good movie? For the fun of seeing friends and people with like interests? The champagne brunch? Sure, we love those. And let's remember the ultimate goal: continuing to provide funds to our grantees who help support women at their most vulnerable so they can reclaim their lives and become self-sufficient --and even give

back to the next generation. Tell your friends and other invitees about these women. [Read about some women our grantees have helped here.](#)

The Day of Film movies are always inspiring. It's great to see that Zonta is part of a strong worldwide sisterhood advocating for women's empowerment. But we don't just want people to enjoy the film and walk away. We want to share these success stories with as many people as can fit in the Turnhalle and inspire people to contribute so more women can succeed.

This is why we invite people to our Day of Film. Remember, there's the suggested language and attached flyer in your email. Just hit "forward."

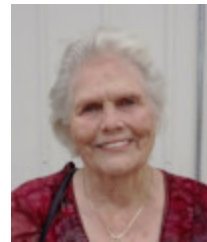
Standing-Room Only, anyone? Who can you invite today?

~ Wendy Henry-Moraskie

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## TREASURER

I am requesting that anyone who wants a check deposited or wants to be paid for an expense they have incurred, use the appropriate voucher with the backup for your request. The forms are posted on the members only section of our website, under "Other Documents." For reimbursement, use the Excel or PDF Voucher form; to deposit a check, the Excel or PDF Deposit Details form.



Your treasurer will NOT pay or deposit anything without out one of these two forms. No exceptions.

~ Barb Pellegren

## NOMINATING

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of candidates:

President: Marian Lee  
President-Elect: Mary Lou Edwards  
Vice President: Jeannette Scotland  
Treasurer: Evie Ashmore  
Secretary: Tricia McNerny  
Directors 2018-2020: CJ Long, Veronica Hoegler

Nominating: Julie Bradley, Kathy Hyzer, Judy McNerny

Carol Mangold and Wendy Henry-Moraskie continue as directors for 2018-2019.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy McWhirter and Nikki Headlee

## ZONTA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION



President Julie Bradley, right, presents the club's 2018 donation to the Zonta International Foundation to District 12 Foundation Ambassador, Mary Benoit.

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### Club Calendar

#### Club Meetings

**March 8, 2018**  
5:00 p.m.  
Fresh Fish Co.

#### Committee Meetings

**March 12, 2018**  
Fundraising Committee  
4:00 p.m.  
Cynthia Herndon's home

#### Board Meetings

**March 22, 2018**  
5:00 p.m.  
Mathias Lock & Key  
1123 Delaware

### Special Events

#### **2018 Day of Film**

**March 31, 2018**  
Tivoli Center, Auraria Campus

#### **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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## THANKS

Dear Fellow Zontians -

Thank you for the kind words of encouragement, cards, and emails following my trip and fall that resulted in a broken wrist. When I think about how many of you reached out to me, it is incredibly humbling and makes me feel so fortunate to be part of such a wonderful group of women. You all are a constant source of inspiration and I, again, must extend my gratitude to you. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Penny Burke

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**29 JUNE – 3 JULY 2018**

**Registration for the 2018 Zonta International Convention in Yokohama, Japan is now open! Go to the convention [website](#) to register, and for details on the conference schedule, programs, tours, and travel arrangements.**

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## **MINUTES OF ZONTA CLUB OF DENVER**

### **GRANT AWARDS MEETING**

**2-8-2018, Rendezvous Restaurant, Aurora, CO**

Members enjoyed a social hour at the restaurant. President Julie Bradley called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, and everyone was invited to enjoy their dinner.

Carol Mangold, Advocacy Chairman, gave us an Advocacy Moment. She reminded us of two dates: February 15, Legislative day, 11:30 – 12:30 at the Capitol building; and February 27, Colorado Women's Legislative Breakfast, 7 am at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 1370 Grant St., Denver. Carol then reminded us of why women participate in protest marches. Historically we march because all of the freedoms modern day women enjoy have grown out of the protest marches.

Service Chairman, Mary Benoit, presided over the presentation of our service grants:

1. Nancy McWhirter and Debbie Gridley introduced Ashley Lewis from DVI who received a \$10,000 grant. DVI was founded in 1986 as a direct advocacy group for women. Over the years it evolved into DVI for Women with Disabilities which is its legal name. They advocate for all women and men and have created an organization to advocate for an abuse-free culture for all. Ashley said that the direction they are going is immediate intervention (getting victims into safe housing and then finding them permanent residences. They will use our money to guarantee their safety and deposits for permanent housing. They also provide cell phones.
2. Linda Rhea and Kathy Hyzer introduced Amy Livingston and Tara Malinkovich from the Global Health Foundation who received a \$9000 grant. Amy is the founder and oversees Family Planning & Reproductive Health. She said they are targeting the sexually active population. Tara coordinates with Denver Health in School Based Health Centers to provide all kinds of health care to kids who need it, including birth control and counseling. She said that the School Based centers have had a huge impact on low income population health care, including family planning.
3. CJ Long introduced Juliana Nelson, Executive Director of Friends of the Haven who received a \$7000 grant. Juliana said that their mission is to fund the Haven and Baby Haven and to advocate for the women and kids there. During a woman's stay at the Haven, they take a deep dive into the reasons for their substance abuse – many have underlying mental health issues. She is proud of the fact that the babies born at baby Haven do not go into foster care. Our grant to them makes us part of the solution, (i.e. providing exercise for the women who need to learn and re-learn healthy lifestyles and how to enjoy life without substance abuse.) To that end, they are introduced to new cultural experiences such as ballet and theater.
4. Nikki Headlee and Lori DiSaia introduced Matria Ramos, Director and Theresa Mezza, volunteer coordinator for Hope House of Colorado who received a \$4500 grant. Matria said they began by providing shelter for teen moms. They require all teens to choose a form of contraception, and they urge them to get their GEDs. The goal is to empower teen moms to achieve self-sufficiency, to give them the confidence to succeed. They served 183 moms last year and the goal is to serve 200 this year. Our grant will help them pay for

GED fees, transportation, child care, meals for moms and kids, a graduation ceremony and college application help. Theresa said they have need of volunteers to help with tutoring, driving and at their early learning center.

5. Our club gave \$10,000 to ZI to fund one full Amelia Earhart Scholarship. And the remaining \$7,880 was divided between ZISVAW and ZI's current international projects.

President Julie then gave grant recipients the option of leaving while we have our business meeting and all of them opted to leave.

Minutes of the January meeting as taken by Mary Lou Edwards for Secretary Penny Burke were approved as read.

Treasurer Barbara Pellegren reported on the monies taken in for the Day of Film and on the progress of Pouch sales.

Membership Chairman, Elizabeth Savage, reported on a potential venue change as we have almost outgrown The Fresh Fish Company. The committee has researched alternatives and those will be forwarded via email to all members who are asked to vote for the one they want.

Mary Lou Edwards, Fundraising Chairman, reported on the progress of our Day of Film. We have gotten approximately \$5000 in sponsors to date along with approximately \$1000 in ticket sales and \$55 in donations. This takes us to about halfway of the money we budgeted to raise for this event, so everyone needs to concentrate on selling tickets/getting sponsors during the month of February while tickets are still \$45. Wendy said that the Curious Cork would not donate champagne this year, so we need to find another donor for that. Let Mary Lou know of any possibilities.

Julie Bradley updated us on ZI International Convention news. The hotel they posted is now full and the Japanese Zonta club in Yokohama is looking for another one for us. If you haven't registered and plan to go, you might want to make your reservations as soon as possible.

Evie Ashmore told us to watch for Dana Crawford's show on PBS tonight. We hosted the author of a book about Dana Crawford at one of our meetings last year.

Debbie Gridley won the 50/50 raffle.

Julie Bradley said our two birthday ladies were not at the meeting: Kate Linscott has been a member for 32 years and her birthday is February 14. Dawn Bali is a newer member and her birthday is February 18.

There being no further business before the club, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Lou Edwards, for Penny Burke, Secretary*

*Dates to Remember:*

*Febr. 22                      Board Meeting at Mary Benoit's office – 5 pm*

*March 8                      Regular meeting, Fresh Fish Company, 5 pm*

***March 8                      International Women's Day and Zonta Rose Day***  
***March 22                    Board Meeting at Mary Benoit's office – 5 pm***  
***June 20 – July 3, 2018   International Convention in Yokohama, Japan***

## ADVOCACY WORKS

On Thursday February 15 Carol Mangold and I were fortunate to attend the Human Trafficking Day at the State Capitol. This event was organized by the Human Trafficking Task Force of Southern Colorado. That organization was founded 10 years ago by my dear friend and sister Zontian, Betty Edwards. Betty is a member of the Pikes Peak Area Zonta Club and a former District 12 governor. Back in the day, when this organization was founded, very few had ever heard of human trafficking and the ones that had heard of it were convinced that it only happened in far-away Asian countries and never touched the shores of the US. How shocked all of us were to find trafficking happening in our own backyards. That is a collective backyard of America including big cities, small towns, families, high schools and colleges. That shock still resonates as it is a crime so horrific and unbelievable that we still have problems wrapping our brains around it. Much to Betty's credit, instead of bemoaning what was happening, she chose to do something about it. She became passionate about human trafficking and started the organization. The rest is history.

The day at the capitol was titled "*Surviving Trafficking*". Ten years ago I'm not sure that title was anything any of us could have imagined. The day began with everyone invited to observe the State House and Senate in session. Everyone was encouraged to make appointments with their legislators and speak with them about the importance of stronger laws to prosecute the perpetrators of this crime and to advocate for the rehabilitation of the victims. There was a display by iEmpathize, the theme of which was "*The Apathy Effect Exhibit: Igniting Empathy to End Child Exploitation*". About noon there was a gathering in the west foyer. There was quite a crowd. We were welcomed by the chair of the event, Tamara Farah. Tamara introduced Governor John Hickenlooper. Governor Hickenlooper gave encouraging words of support for all the hard work and dedication. He also spoke about the future and his hopes that human trafficking will be eradicated. After that there were three brief panel discussions from law enforcement, legislators, and a survivor. It was all very informative and hopeful. As we learn more we grow stronger and more resolute. Coincidentally, one week later on February 22<sup>nd</sup> the Colorado State University put on their first human trafficking symposium.

I remain amazed by the impact this movement has had in the last 10 years. It is a fact: advocacy works. I encourage all of you to feel your passion. Take your passion and turn it into action. We are so lucky to belong to an organization of like-minded individuals that have one purpose in mind, to improve the status of women. What a great guiding light when choosing meaning full action.

Mary Benoit

A woman is trying to overcome her drug addiction. With a child to care for it's nearly impossible to focus on fighting that disease. **The Haven** offers a space in a residential facility and Qualistar-rated childcare to accompany the evidence-based treatment to help her reclaim her health and confidence.

Vanessa first used alcohol at the tender age of 8. She dropped out of school in 10th grade and became a mom at age 16. Unfortunately these are common realities for young women growing up in generational poverty. At **Hope House**, she earned her GED and explored a variety of career options. One activity included a drive-along with an Arvada police officer. This experience completely changed Vanessa's perspective, and she now wants to become an attorney. Hope House's Learning Lab will give Vanessa practical support as she enrolls in college to pursue her dream.

Our grant to **The Initiative** helps women with disabilities recapture control of their lives after many kinds of abuse. Direct services help with immediate safety, self-sufficiency, victim counseling, and criminal justice support. Currently they serve victims of sexual assault, human trafficking, elder abuse, stalking, and caregiver abuse. They also help survivors develop self-care plans and refer to affordable housing opportunities, therapy, food and clothing banks, legal advocacy and assistance, domestic violence shelters, and more.

A woman finds a **Global Health Foundation** brochure at a health clinic that describes the *Just Talk About It* program. When she attends her first session, she finds other 18-29 year-old women who are open about what they know about sexual and reproductive health, and trained counselors to guide them in finding out more and becoming confident about protecting themselves.