

**DISTRICT 12
21 Clubs
in
Colorado
Montana
South Dakota
Wyoming**

Outreach



**Volume 17, No. 1
August, 2009**

Governor's Message

SAVE THE DATES!

It's not too early to get out your calendars! The 58th Conference of Zonta International District 12 will be held in Denver on October 30, 31 and November 1, 2009. Our Conference theme is "Get the Zonta Buzz" and I have every reason to believe that you will (get the Zonta Buzz) if you attend!

Let me provide you with a sneak peak of the Conference ... The Zonta Club of Denver will serve as the host club for the 2009 District Conference and they will be assisted by the Zonta Clubs of Boulder County, Denver II, Douglas County, Foothills of Boulder County, and Lakewood-Golden. In addition to a number of business items, we are pleased to host our ZI International Representative Maria Victoria P. Vergel de Dios for the entire conference. The agenda will also include a number of interesting sessions to help us enhance our understanding of how to more effectively *take care of others and ourselves*. (Specific information as to these sessions will be found in the *Call to Conference* that you will receive in late August! Stay tuned!)

In addition to a fun Friday evening event, we will hold the traditional Saturday banquet to honor our Zontians of the Year (and others)! As time has been set aside for the Zonta Store, I

encourage your Clubs to be thinking about what you may want to sell and/or raffle. And, of course, there will be plenty of time for socializing with your fellow D12 Zontians!

Location, location, location! The Conference will be held at the Red Lion Hotel that is "minutes from downtown, minutes from the mountains, surrounded in comfort." The hotel is located close to Denver International Airport and just off of I-70 and offers a convenient location for this Conference.

So, what will you gain by attending? In addition to the fun and fellowship, you will have the opportunity to expand your knowledge and understanding of Zonta International and experience the collective "Zonta Buzz." Conferences provide the venue for individuals and Clubs to learn from others, discuss their perspectives, and brainstorm ideas that can be taken back and shared. Our goal is to see the "buzz" at work in Denver and then for all attendees to return home energized, enthused, and more fully engaged in their respective Clubs.

As I reflected over the first year of the biennium, when I recently prepared the Governor's Report for Zonta International, I was impressed by the "buzz" that is already occurring in clubs across District 12. Let's build on that by getting together for the 2009 D12 Conference in late October. So, have you marked your calendar yet? See you in Denver!

—Priscilla Young Romkema
2008-10 District 12 Governor

Zonta International District 12 Mission Statement

Zonta District 12's purpose is to build, develop, and maintain strong clubs through support, leadership, and communication in order to further the mission of Zonta International.

2008-10 DISTRICT 12 BOARD

Governor	<i>Priscilla Young Romkema</i> romkema@rushmore.com	Public Relations	Elizabeth (Liz) Whitham whit.home@gmail.com
Lieutenant Governor ...	<i>Kathryn L. (Kay) Meyer</i> kay@meyergould.com	Scholarships / Awards	<i>Heidi Lukowski</i> hlukowski@1stnationalbank.com
Treasurer	<i>Evelina (Evie) Ashmore</i> jeashmore@comcast.net	Service / Z Club / Golden Z	<i>Phyllis (Lou) Gaspers</i> lgmadisons@yahoo.com
Secretary	<i>Carol J. Leffler</i> cleffler@hollandhart.com	Legislative Awareness and Advocacy	<i>Ann Hefenieder</i> ahefenieder@mt.gov
Parliamentarian	<i>Sheila Davis</i> shedavis@comcast.net	UN / International Relations .	<i>Tommie Atanasoff</i> tatanasof@aol.com
Area 1 Director	<i>Tracy Manning-Egge</i> tmanningegge@yahoo.com	ZI Foundation Ambassador	<i>Denise (Dedi) LaRue</i> dlarue@firstwesternbank.com
Vice Area 1 Director	<i>Jocelyn (Jo) Prang</i> jprang@rushmore.com	ZAP Institute / Leadership Development	<i>Mary U. Benoit</i> mary@mathiaslockandkey.com
Area 2 Director	<i>Patricia (Pat) Kiovsky</i> patkiovsky@aol.com	Webmaster	<i>Susie Nulty</i> nulty@csdco.com
Vice Area 2 Director	<i>Mary K. Walker</i> mkw1901@aol.com	Nominating Committee—	<i>Beverly J. (Bev) Morrow, Chair</i> [and Immediate Past Governor] doughbev@bresnan.net
Area 3 Director	<i>Diane Twining</i> dcuttwin@q.com	<i>Beverly J. (Bev) Ambrose</i> bambrose@rushmore.com
Vice Area 3 Director	<i>Marcy O'Toole</i> marcy.otoole@360.net	<i>Jane A. Page</i> janep@pie.midco.net
Area 4 Director	<i>Rosalie J. Dorland</i> rjdorland@abundanceps.com		
Vice Area 4 Director	<i>Betty Hudson</i> bchudson1944@msn.com		
Database / Directory / Outreach Editor	<i>Anita M. Odens Zastrow</i> anitazastrow@pie.midco.net		

Review – Register – Re-examine – Report

REVIEW the updated version of the District 12 website: <http://zontadistrict12.org/>. See What's New; suggest new Links; read our Goals. Follow the link to Zonta International – <http://zonta.org/> – to **REGISTER**. You may use your latest Zontian magazine to find your Member ID. The goal is 23,000 and we are more than half way there! **RE-EXAMINE** your club's listing and **REPORT** any updates, changes, or corrections.

—Susie Nulty, District 12 2008-10 Webmaster

DIRECTORY UPDATES

The efforts of the Directory Chair continue to be focused on **encouraging active Club level reporting of members' information**. The continued expansion of the Directory is designed to enable all Zontians in District 12 to develop networking contacts. **[It is especially important to provide the most current, workable e-mail addresses so that members can receive the District 12 Outreach in a timely manner.]** Please continue to forward up-to-date information on a regular basis to:

Anita M. Odens Zastrow, Directory Chair
314 W. Elizabeth Street, Pierre, SD 57501-1633
605-224-2559 (R) and (B) 605-222-9618 (Cell)
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2009 NORTH AMERICAN SUMMIT

Why get on a plane and travel to Cleveland, Ohio, to learn more about Zonta? We have Zonta right here at home, and we are doing just great!

Since I needed more Zonta information and a Zonta fix, my good friend and sister Zontian, Betty Edwards and I traveled to Cleveland. We learned a lot. I would like to share some of what we learned. I hope to share more in future months.

There were breakout sessions on Creativity, Generational Diversity, New Social Media, Fundraising, Legislative Advocacy, ZI Foundation, Public Relations, Zonta Vision, Future Club Success, Leadership/Consensus Building. I wanted to go to all of them! I will share information from those sessions in the future, but for now, I want to share information from the general session titled, The Future of Zonta.

Lynn Goodhue, Director, Kerry Dixon-Fox, Director, Gloria Stootman Wristen, Treasurer, Dianne Curtis, President-Elect presented The Future of Zonta. Each made a presentation on their position, job, assignments, current issues, and the future. They took questions, which was great.

I feel the biggest concern of Zontians in the trenches at the club level is the Zonta International Foundation. How everything happened and now why there is just one board of directors for both ZI and ZIF. There is concern about money and the security of money you and your club have donated. I know that several of you have visited the ZI Headquarters in Chicago. It is a beautiful, historic and very old building. It was a wise investment at the time it was purchased. But like many things, it is a victim of time and change. What worked well for a long time is not a viable option now. This is not only true in Zonta but in all of our lives. As I move through this narrative, you need to realize that there are things that members of the International Board are legally bound not to talk about.

Diane Curtis, our President-Elect, took us through the events that shook our organization to the core. She was very candid. She never thought that holding office would bring her to the places she has been. Diane is very concerned about the anger our members have. A lot of complacency on the part of everyone concerned has brought us to this point. As of right now, the old ZI Headquarters has been sold, an office condo was purchased by ZIF and is now on the market, and Zonta International Headquarters is located in Oak Park, Illinois. The purchasing of the office condo was the event that brought a bad situation to a head and caused the dismissal of the ZIF Board. The ZI Board feels that the Oak Park location is ideal for ZI.

Gloria Wristen explained many whings that Zonta is doing to save money. There was a hiring and salary freeze instituted in 2007. ZI has hired a new outsourcing

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2009-10 Club Presidents

Area 1—

Billings.....	<i>Anne-Marie J. Wade</i> annemarie.wade@rbc.com
Black Hills	<i>Jocelyn (Jo) Prang</i> jprang@rushmore.com
Gillette	<i>Mary Downs</i> droffice@mdrealty.us
Glendive.....	<i>Janna McCormick</i> mdufcu@midrivers.com
Pierre-Fort Pierre	<i>Laurie Gustafson</i> Laurie.Gustafson@state.sd.us
Southern Black Hills.....	<i>Sherry Raffaell</i> custervet@gwtc.net
Spearfish.....	<i>Jana Selk</i> jbselk@rushmore.com
Sturgis Area	<i>Teresa Forbes</i> tlarueforbes@hotmail.com

Area 2—

Cheyenne.....	<i>Kathy Cathcart</i> kathcart@wslc.com
Converse County	<i>Arlene Ekland-Earnst</i> eklandearnst@yahoo.com
Fort Collins.....	<i>Marcie Woolworth</i> marcie@woolworthandcompany.com
Laramie	<i>Nancy M. English</i> nmenglish@aol.com

Area 3—

Boulder County	<i>Beth Parish</i> monktong1@aol.com
Denver	<i>Elizabeth (Beth) Mundell</i> zonta_diva@comcast.net
Denver II	<i>Patricia (Pat) Congleton</i> pcongleton@firstamreo.com
Douglas County	<i>Christie Thakur</i> servingwithheart@aol.com
Foothills Boulder County	<i>Marta Lindrose</i> martalindrose@comcast.net
Lakewood-Golden.....	<i>Cecilia Long</i> ceciliaponder@yahoo.com

Area 4—

Canon City/Royal Gorge ..	<i>Nancy Billings Gerlock</i> nancbilgerl@aol.com
Pikes Peak Area	<i>Laura Stamp</i> stampfamily4cs@msn.com
Prowers County	<i>Linda Hawkins</i> flowers@ria.net

What's Going On In Your Area?

AREA 1

Our group of 4 rode together to Glendive, Montana, for the annual Area 1 Meeting on April 24 and 25. After wine and hor's dovoures at the get-together Friday night at the motel, our hostesses escorted us to the newest museum in town. In fact, the 20,000 sq. ft. museum is the second largest in Montana. The Glendive Dinosaur & Fossil Museum has been built by FACT (the Foundation Advancing Creation Truth). Over 23 full-sized dinosaur, mammal, marine reptile and other fossil replicas are arranged according to their environments, specially designed by noted Montana artist and zoologist Melanie Richard. Although not to be opened for 2 more weeks, we were given a guided tour and had the whole gift shop to ourselves!

The next morning, we arrived to breakfast and coffee served by the Glendive Club. Kay Meyer, Lt. Governor from Boulder, Colorado, had a slideshow playing of Zonta projects around the world. Kay (dressed as a bee) also reminded us that we need to attend the District 12 Conference in Denver this fall over Halloween! Governor Priscilla Romkema from the Zonta Club of Spearfish spoke about keeping focused on the ZONTA vision and what ZONTA means to our communities. And if we haven't yet heard much from ZI, remember that ZI just got moved, it's going to take awhile for them to get back in the "swing" of things. Gov. Romkema also encouraged clubs to use Legislative Awareness and Advocacy as the name for what once was our Status of Women Committee.

Foundation Ambassador Denise LaRue from the Sturgis Area Club spoke about the different funds of the Zonta Foundation. She gave out a fun quiz about the 2008-2010 Zonta service projects. We were then introduced to Dena Hoff, who is a spokesperson for the La Via Campesina (International Peasant Movement) and lives on a ranch outside Glendive. She explained that the greatest threats to the farmer today are "free trade" and "land grabs". She attends La Via Campesina rallies around the world, and because she speaks English, she is often called upon to get the message out to the press. Dena is the National Family Farm Coalition vice-president and serves as the North American co-chair of Via Campesina and denounces the WTO for failing to promote sustainable agriculture policies. She states: "We have a food crisis, water crisis, climate crisis, but the WTO continues to promote export-oriented agriculture that only leads to increased deforestation, land concentration, soil erosion, bio-

diversity destruction, and water contamination. Farmers producing food for local domestic markets have now been replaced by agro-export industries such as cut-rate flowers in Kenya and Colombia and devastating agrofuel plantations in Brazil and Indonesia producing sugar, soya, and palm oil instead of actual food to feed their citizens. Here in the U.S., this has led to monoculture production of corn and soybeans and factory farms instead of diversified farms producing healthy food for local markets." She has other amazing stories, and you can join her fight at www.viacampesina.org.

After a wonderful lunch again served by Glendive, we were entertained by two young ladies from the local Z Club. They sang a few lovely songs for us and told us what they'd like to do after high school. It was a great vision of what girls make up a Z Club; they were very busy girls! After the lunch program, the clubs present were asked to give a brief report of their club's accomplishments through the past year. Billings, Black Hills, Glendive, Pierre-Fort Pierre, Spearfish, and Sturgis Area all gave reports. Not present were Gillette and Southern Black Hills.

Our last speaker was Mutt Dickson, a doctor from Glendive. She told us of the many fulfilling career changes that she has made throughout her life. I lost count after 10 different careers! She was funny, determined, entertaining and is the mother of two adopted Marshall Island children. Her final career choice was medical school in her 40's and she started out in psychiatry before choosing to settle in Glendive and open her own family practice. Her exploration of all the careers one could have in life teaches us that no matter where we are, we shouldn't be afraid of change. If we are honest, hard-working, and have "true grit," we will make it.

Thanks to the Glendive Club for a wonderful Area 1 Meeting!

—Jo Prang for Tracy Manning-Egge, Area 1 Director

AREA 2

The biggest effort this spring was the planning of the Area 2 Meeting held April 3–4, 2009. Working closely with the Zonta Club of Converse County, we created an exciting agenda with various venues. We had 40 members registered and had speakers scheduled to speak on Human Trafficking. These included representatives from Polaris, the Zonta Club of Cheyenne, and the Cheyenne Z Club. All were looking forward to meeting. On Friday the snow

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started falling and continued till Sunday mid-morning. As a result we had cancellations from Laramie, Cheyenne, Polaris, and our entertainment, with only 30 in attendance. What a surprise as we started the meeting Saturday morning with an ice breaker exercise, to learn that we had a very diverse group of highly professional and accomplished women who could fill the agenda with descriptions of projects they were working on in their profession or their community. It was an exciting day, and we had a great time as the snow continued to fall. The meeting and snow created an opportunity for us all to get to know each other and to bond. As we left Sunday morning, we formed a car caravan and drove down Interstate 25 on the newly opened icy road. Sticking together we talked on cell phones and waved goodbye as we separated at different points. Although we were a small group, our joint efforts included a donation of bedding and kitchen equipment (enough to fill a minivan) to Jubilee House, a halfway house for women incarcerated in the Lusk Facility for Women; raised \$205 for the District 12 Scholarship Fund, and contributed \$798 to the District 12 Conference Fund. Not bad for a snowy weekend!

—Patricia (Pat) Kiovsky, Area 2 Director

Human Trafficking in District 12!

Wyoming is not immune to the horrors of human trafficking. Mary Julia Wilson, co-president of the Zonta Club of Converse County and owner of two hotels in Douglas, was in need of employees. She contracted with an employment agency specializing in using foreign workers. Mary Julia would pay the workers' wages directly to this agency, and they in turn would pay the employees, find housing, and provide transportation. The Philippine workers arrived in Douglas in the late fall of 2008. Everything seemed to be running smoothly at first. At Christmas time Mary Julia noticed that even though they were working full time, they seemed to be lacking in basic household supplies. She surmised that the employees probably had no hope for a nice Christmas. Mary Julia also noticed that they were living in cramped quarters, often with several families to one apartment. To address the concerns, the Zonta Club of Converse County collected money and bought gift cards for these families so they could buy exactly what they needed or wanted and Mary Julia found more appropriate housing for her employees. In the following months it was exposed that these families were victims of human trafficking and the head of the employment agency was arrested and charges were filed. Mary Julia was quoted in the local papers and will testify. This is an example of how insidious human trafficking is and how advocacy can help women and children at the local level.

—Arlene Eklund-Earnst
2009-10 President, Zonta Club of Converse County

UN / INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Update on action taken as defined by 2008-10 Goals

Goals:

- 1) To communicate with UN/International Relations Chairs as a resource between the ZI UN/International Relations Committee chair and members and to provide information on activities and ideas for clubs to implement.
- 2) To raise awareness re: our special relationship with the UN and its efforts to ratify CEDAW.

Actions:

- 1) Sent information on speakers and sessions at the 61st Conference on World Affairs, University of Colorado, Boulder, ranging from the future of the UN, CEDAW, human trafficking, and status of women issues.
- 2) Forwarded a template clubs could use to encourage Senators and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to ratify the CEDAW treaty that Jackie Shapiro sent as ZI UN/International Relations Chair.
- 3) Sent ideas for clubs to do to support Equal Pay for Women.
- 4) Forwarded a template clubs could send to their state representatives and senators supporting HR 2410 that included provisions to prevent child marriages and to make the new office on Global Women's Issues.
- 5) Forwarded a letter that clubs could use to urge the Department of Health and Human Services to withdraw regulations that effect women globally as funding to fight aids, TB, and malaria.
- 6) Continued work on the Birthing Kit assembling for the District Conference by collecting donations needed with the help of the Boulder Zonta Foothills Club, Evelyn Haskell of the Laramie Club, Sheila Davis and Judy McNerny of the Denver Club, and Mary Lou Edwards of the Douglas County Club.

Plans for 2009:

- 1) Continued work on birthing kits for the District Conference and how to get some publicity on this event.
- 2) Continue to share activities and ideas for ZI UN/International Relations Chairs.

—Tommie Atanasoff, District 12 2008-10
UN/International Relations Chair



2009 District 12 Conference

The 2009 District 12 Conference, hosted by the Zonta Club of Denver, will be the event of the year! All Zontians in District 12 are invited to join together to “Get The Zonta Buzz.” We will focus on “Taking Care of Ourselves and Taking Care of Others.”

WHO

Featured Speakers & Events—

Dr. Michelle Haney, President of Red Rocks Community College, our Saturday lunch speaker, who will focus on stress management.

Carol Williams-Craigie, a financial planning specialist who will be speaking about personal financial planning on Friday afternoon.

A Birthing Kit Service Project in which attendees will assemble 1000 clean birthing kits for women in Africa on Friday afternoon.

The Advocacy Panel, a group of women from various organizations, who will discuss advocacy opportunities and issues on Saturday afternoon.

Maria Victoria Vergel de Dios, our Zonta International representative from the Philippines.

The Legendary Ladies, our Saturday night entertainment. They are a performing troupe of famous and infamous women of the wild west.

Shopping at Northfield Mall on Saturday afternoon after the Conference. A shuttle runs every ½ hour to and from the hotel. It is one of the newest malls in the Denver area and very close to the hotel.

WHY

The District Conference is a yearly event held to provide information on local and global Zonta projects currently underway to improve the legal, political, economic, educational, health, and professional status of women. District business will also be conducted.

WHEN

Friday, October 30, 2009 through Sunday, November 1, 2009

Registration information will be sent out at the end of August.
Contact Sheila Davis at shedavis@comcast.net with questions.

WHERE

Red Lion Hotel Central
4040 Quebec Street
Denver, CO 80216-

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company to do the many accounting and admin jobs that the previous one did. This one is just cheaper and all work is done in the US. The new location is saving a lot of money in terms of technology. There is a Marriott Hotel located a short shuttle ride away along with restaurants in a large shopping center another short shuttle ride away. This saves a tremendous amount of money in hotels, taxis, and meals since ZI has negotiated with the Marriot on both meals and room charges.

Lynn Goodhue is an IT professional and extremely knowledgeable. Everything related to technology at the old ZI Headquarters on Randolph was a nightmare because of the age of the building. With the move to Oak Park, complete upgrades were possible and very cost effective. Each member of the Zonta staff now has a new Dell computer. There is a new phone system that is currently hard wired but can be easily converted to voice over IP. The new and very much improved website should be up and running in November.

Kerry Dixon-Fox is an architect in her career and was assigned to evaluate the feasibility of the office condo that was purchased. It was decided it was not user friendly or Zonta friendly. If ZI had moved to the condo there was no room for the current furnishing, art, archives. It took seven semis to move to Oak Park. She helped in the choice of the Oak Park location. She assisted in the choice of design and décor of the Oak Park location.

This is a condensed version of my notes from the meeting. If you have further questions or concerns, I will do my very best to help. Please let me know.

—Mary U. Benoit, District 12 2008-10 ZAPI Chair

Zonta Foothills Club of Boulder County Members Work on Birthing Kits

Members of the Zonta Foothills Club took time off from their busy summer to help cut 3,000 strings needed for the assembling of the birthing kits at the District 12 Conference to be held the end of October. One thousand birthing kits will be assembled at the Conference by Zontians. The kits will be sent to Africa for midwives to use for clean births of expectant members. The kits contain scalpels, strings to tie off the umbilical cords, latex gloves, drop cloths for delivery, soap bars, and gauze.

In the photo, Ann Hodgeson, Barb Lawson, Michelle Medal, Wynne Simpson, and Tommie Atanasoff can be seen cutting the strings.



—Tommie Atanasoff, District 12 2008-10 UN/International Relations Chair

Summertime's the Perfect Time for ADVOCACY 'Brainstorms'

Take advantage of the summer break and plot your advocacy strategy for next year. Now is the perfect time to brainstorm some ideas for action. By doing a little planning now, your club can find a great fit for its advocacy time and disposition.

If you haven't got an on-going project, the first step is to consider Zonta's objects, which can be found here: http://www.zonta.org/site/DocServer/Zonta_Objects.pdf?docID=23724. Start with the first object, "to improve the legal, political, economic, health and professional status of women through service and advocacy." Your club's service projects have to align with this object, so it's familiar territory. Too, the time of year might suggest a focus. Here are some ideas to get you started:

September rings in the new school year. Does your community have a place where scholarship information is gathered? Can you help in that effort to insure that young women have access to scholarship information? Do you offer the Zonta "Young Women in Public Affairs Award" to local high schools? Even if your club can't offer a huge award, did you know that the District awards \$1,000?

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Consider a proclamation from your mayor or governor, if one isn't already done. For specifics, contact the mayor or governor's office. Once the proclamation is signed, publicize it with a letter to the editor. Add in facts from your state's criminal law enforcement authorities about the nature of the problem where you are.

November and December feature the 16 Days of Advocacy Against Violence Against Women. What educational resources does your local rape crisis center have? Is there advocacy training available for court companions for rape victims? (I heard last week that a Club in Area 2 does this—please share your information!)

November is also set aside to honor veterans. The national Business and Professional Women's organization has done lots of research into the transition needs of women veterans leaving the service. Not surprisingly, women veterans receive less support than men, and have more difficult transitions. You can read the BPW report on-line: <http://www.bpwfoundation.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=5368>

Looking ahead to 2010, think about National Wear Red Day for women's heart health, February 5, 2010 (<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/educational/hearttruth/materials/wear-red-toolkit.htm>); International Women's Day, March 8, 2010, a good day to recognize equal human rights; Equal Pay Day, April 20, 2010 (<http://www.pay-equity.org/day.html>); and Denim Day (April 21, 2010), sponsored by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (the 2009 website has lots of information about the origins and advocacy ideas, <http://denimdayusa.org/>).

—Ann Hefenieder, District 12 2008-10 Legislative Awareness and Advocacy (LAA) Chair

A SENSE OF URGENCY

It is somehow astounding that a populace can get very excited, anxious, and attentive about the Superbowl/World Series/Masters/March Madness/Wimbledon or 'American Idol', but it can't seem to rouse such for water shortages, global warming, or human impoverishment. Is it the old metaphor of frogs simmering?

No matter how one views it—unless it's from the power base of a dictator or an ayatollah—the status of women presents a similar and related dilemma. Millions of women are living their lives in slavery, poverty, and degradation. It has been estimated that whole economies are missing a significant percentage of their productive/creative potential because their women are underemployed. The earth is burdened with a growing population while women are powerless to produce fewer, healthier children. Instead, they are sold, stoned, and otherwise abused.

But, feeling a sense of anger and urgency about this, well, that's not considered 'cool', or 'ladylike', 'sexy', or 'sophisticated'. After all, the US Senate can putz around for 30 years on a basic treaty concerning women's rights. (*What's the rush??*) I submit that the Senate would never procrastinate like this on a weapons deal.

So, where is Zonta & where are Zontians in all this? (In many ways, I know i'm 'preaching to the choir' here...) However, sometimes we find it hard to really focus on our mission & what it means. Our efforts become scattered; our goals, diffuse. We may become—as one observer put it recently—"a bunch of rich, old, white women who sit around & talk about doing good."

That (above) kind of organization does not feel a sense of urgency to deal with the ongoing global problem of discrimination against women. That kind of group is irrelevant and will wither & die. However, Zonta's mission is just as relevant as it was in 1919, although some of the battlefronts have shifted. If Zontians feel a sense of **urgency**, we will recruit new members to help us meet the 2010+ challenges in our communities and beyond.

We **need** 'all hands on deck' as important team members to—

- Mitigate sexual assault
- Ratify CEDAW & change cultural norms that demean the personhood of women
- End child marriage, genital mutilation, & Sharia
- Increase that 17% representation in Congress
- Help every girl get the education she deserves
- Gain a level playing field in wages & the boardroom
- Fight human trafficking
- Put pornography back on the shelf
- Ensure that women have access to healthcare ...

Now these contests are the ones to get excited, anxious, and attentive about!

—An Unpaid Editorial from your OMC Chair—

—*Kathryn L. (Kay) Meyer*, District 12 2008-10 OMC Chair

Scholarships and Awards

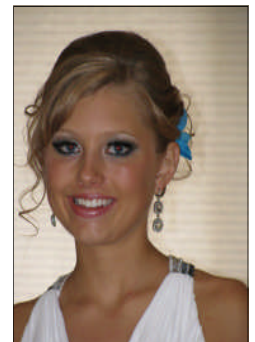
Young Women in Public Affairs

I am happy to announce that seven YWPA applications were received this year. Each of the applicants was impressive. In the end, however, the winner was Kayla Spriggs. (See photo to the right!) Kayla was submitted by the Zonta Club of the Black Hills. Her application has been sent to International, and Kayla will receive a \$1000 award.

The ZI winners have not been announced at this time.

Jane M. Klausman

The applications for JMK were due July 1. A committee has been formed and will have reviewed the applications by July 23. An e-mail will be sent to the Zonta Presidents once a decision has been made. Five applications were received.



—*Heidi Lukowski*, District 12 2008-10 Scholarships and Awards Chair

A Note to The Club Treasurer

Items to Keep in Mind

The new club year begins and Treasurers are very busy! First of all, thank you to all of our Club Treasurers. You have taken on the duties of a very important job in the club. I want to take a few minutes to list some items that will be happening in the next few months.

IRS – FORM 990 – Zonta International’s Fiscal Year ends May 31, which means Zonta Clubs must prepare the annual filing for the IRS by October 15.

All clubs must submit the Form 990, Form 990 Spreadsheet for Group filing OR the NEW Form 990-N (e-Postcard).

The factor in determining what you file is based on whether your total gross revenues are greater than \$25,000 or if the total gross revenues are \$25,000 or less.

Gross revenues of \$25,000 or less should complete the NEW Form 990-N (e-Postcard).

Those clubs having total gross revenues greater than \$25,000 should complete the Form 990. You can choose to file as part of the Zonta International Group filing or you can choose to file the club’s Form 990 separately. Please keep in mind that filing as part of the Zonta International Group filing DOES NOT COST the club anything!

Instructions for completing the above are sent to each club in July. Please look for this.

MEMBERSHIP

Please remember to send in dues as well as a completed Member Report Form as soon as possible. Until Zonta International and District 12 receive dues for the member, they are NOT official members. Please ensure your new members receive the benefits of membership.

In addition, Delegate numbers for the upcoming District Conference that will be held in Denver are based on PAID membership to the District by September 1. More information will follow in August.

Please let me know how I can be of help in your duties as Treasurer. Please contact me!

Here’s to a great year!

—Evelina (*Evie*) Ashmore, District 12 2008-10 Treasurer

ZONTA BAGS

RECYCLING—PR—DOWNSIZING

How many times have you wondered what on earth am I going to do with another Zonta Bag? You know, those wonderful Zonta bags from District Conferences and International Conventions. Well, here is your answer. While I was at the NA Summit in Cleveland, I saw my friend Nola Theiss. Nola is from Sanibel, Florida, and is an expert on human trafficking. Nola has started her own non-profit—Human Trafficking Awareness. Her non-profit has a service partner in Guatemala that does workshops for women teachers to encourage young girls to stay in school and think about careers. The partner is also doing leadership workshops. The workshops are being held in some of the poorest regions of Guatemala where most of the trafficking victims come from. In each center where these workshops are held is a Zonta Center with learning materials, etc. She would like to have a bag for each teacher to carry his or her materials in. Of course as they teach each other they will all need bags for their materials.

If you get your Z Bags to me, I will be more than happy to send them to Nola or you can send them directly to her. Mailing information follows.

Mary U. Benoit
7566 Union Court
Arvada, CO 80005

Nola Theiss
PO Box 1113
Sanibel, FL 33957

—*Mary U. Benoit*, District 12 2008-10 ZAPI Chair



Mayan women and the first shipment of bags!



***Who do you know in Greeley, CO?
Would she/he make a good Zontian?***

We have a **Hot-shot** Area 2 Committee exploring the opportunities to start a new club there, and we need **your** help.

If you have a friend in Greeley who might be interested in being a founding member to shape a new chapter in Zonta's history, please e-mail your friend's **name, address, e-address, phone number, & occupation** (if known) to **kay@mevergould.net**

When we obtain enough names, we will send out invitations to attend an informational reception in Greeley.

THANK YOU!

(We will report back to all of you on how it's going.)

Trust yourself. Create the kind of self that you will be happy to live with all your life. Make the most of yourself by fanning the tiny, inner sparks of possibility into flames of achievement.

Golda Meir

—Kathryn L. (Kay) Meyer, District 12 2008-10 OMC Chair

Service Request

Since we are starting our new year, I want to ask for information while it's still fresh in everyone's mind. Please send me information on your favorite or most successful service project from this past year. Please include: What the project was; Who benefited and who participated (number of members and other attendees); How does it benefit other women; Money Raised; Brief description of overall success or other information you'd like to share. [It would be nice to know how much effort your club had to put forth versus how much good you did with that effort.]

Our contribution is not only in money. You all do such a fabulous job of touching others' lives. If I can get this information now, I can compile it to share with others. I will also use this information for the District Service Award in Denver. Any story of how you helped make another woman's life better is noteworthy.

Please take a moment to send this information right now. I don't care what form it comes in. Send a quick e-mail, fax a letter to me at 307-685-4119, or whatever works for you, but please do this.

Thank you all in advance for your participation.

—Phyllis (Lou) Gaspers, District 12 2008-10 Service Chair

DISTRICT 12 MEMBERSHIP STATUS REPORT as of early August, 2009

2008-09 was a **rough year** in many realms, including Zontaland, but District 12 did OK.

The District started off the 2008-09 year with 544 members. By April 2009, District 12 had added 91 members, up to 635. This was due to some great, creative membership recruiting efforts by many clubs. However, as of early August, 2009, membership numbers have been reduced by 65 down to 570 (renewing) members.

In this coming year, Zonta International looks poised to make numerous improvements (the website, for example). District 12 is going to have a fantastic District Conference, and it has great leadership in place. Our Area Directors are beginning to look for opportunities to start new clubs. **If**, in this coming year, the unemployment rate eases, and our clubs continue to reach out to recruit mission-minded people as they have this year, we will be able to grow our district membership substantially in 2009-10.

Thank you all for all you do!

—Kathryn L. (Kay) Meyer, District 12 2008-10 OMC Chair

Leadership Is In Bloom!

Over the past several months, the Zonta District 12 Nominating Committee has worked to develop an outstanding slate of candidates for the next biennium (2010-2012). Competent, committed and passionate leadership is crucial to the effective operations and vitality of our Clubs and District, as well as International activities. The nominating process at all levels is extremely important, to ensure that we have candidates who will bring the best possible leadership qualities to our efforts and mission.

Well, some fantastic Zontians “stepped up to plate” of leadership, and I am very pleased to offer the following slate of candidates for District 12 offices for the 2010-2012 biennium:

<u>Governor</u>	Kathryn L. (Kay) Meyer (Zonta Foothills Club of Boulder County)
<u>Lt. Governor</u>	Sheila Davis (Zonta Club of Denver)
<u>Treasurer</u>	Bridget L. Masters (Zonta Club of Fort Collins)
<u>Area 1 Director</u>	Jocelyn (Jo) Prang (Zonta Club of the Black Hills)
<u>Area 1 Vice Director</u>	Denise (Dedi) LaRue (Zonta Club of the Sturgis Area)
<u>Area 2 Director</u>	Mary K. Walker (Zonta Club of Cheyenne)
<u>Area 2 Vice Director</u>	Heidi Lukowski (Zonta Club of Fort Collins)
<u>Area 3 Director</u>	Marcy O'Toole (Zonta Club of Denver II)
<u>Area 3 Vice Director</u>	Debbie A. Squires (Zonta Club of Boulder County)
<u>Area 4 Director</u>	Laura Stamp (Zonta Club of the Pikes Peak Area)
<u>Area 4 Vice Director</u>	Nancy Billings Gerlock (Zonta Club of Canon City/Royal Gorge)
<u>Nominating Committee</u>	(5 nominees for 3 elected positions): Kathryn (Kathy) Dean (Zonta Club of Denver II) Rosalie J. Dorland (Zonta Club of the Pikes Peak Area) Patricia (Pat) Kiovsky (Zonta Club of Laramie) Priscilla Young Romkema (Zonta Club of Spearfish) Susan Miller Sutphin (Zonta Club of Prowers County)

The elections for the above offices will be held at the 2009 District 12 Conference in Denver, October 30 through November 1. A full profile of these candidates will be included in the District 12 Call to Conference, which will be sent to all members later in the Summer.

I want to thank my committee members, Beverly J. (Bev) Ambrose (Zonta Club of the Black Hills) and Jane A. Page (Zonta Club of Pierre-Fort Pierre), for their excellent work. I especially want to thank the wonderful Zontians who made the commitment and are allowing their leadership skills and contributions to bloom by becoming nominees for District 12 positions.

RE: Zonta International Nominations ... There's Still Time!

All Club Presidents received an e-mail in March from Olivia Ferry, Chair of the Zonta International Nominating Committee and Past Zonta International President, regarding the opening of the nominating process for candidates for various Zonta International (ZI) elected positions (such as ZI President-Elect, Vice President, Treasurer/Secretary, Directors, and Nominating Committee members from various regions of the world). As Chair of the Zonta District 12 Nominating Committee, all International nominations from our District must be sent to me (and received by me) by **August 15**, so that I can send them on to Zonta International.

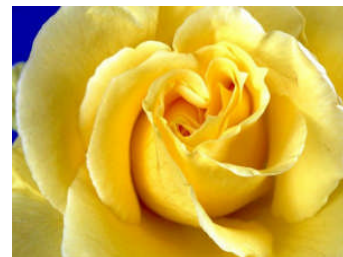
I prepared a D12 specific version of Olivia Ferry's memo, including nominating instructions and nominating form, which now includes my specific contact information for sending in any nominations for International offices. That revised package was recently sent out to all Clubs, but if you know someone in District 12 who you would like to nominate, I would be happy to directly provide you with the information. Just let me know (dougnbev@bresnan.net or 307-632-3700). I hope that I will receive some nominations of well-qualified candidates in District 12, so that we can be properly represented at the International level.

Remember ... *Blessed is the leader who considers leadership an opportunity for service.* I hope that all of you will consider the privilege of District 12 leadership for the future.

Beverly J. (Bev) Morrow, District 12 2008-10 Nominating Committee Chair

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 26	Women's Equality Day
SEPTEMBER September	Literacy Month Antique Show, Zonta Club of Cheyenne
OCTOBER	Domestic Violence Awareness Month Breast Cancer Awareness Month
October	Zonta EXPO, Zonta Club of the Black Hills
October 24	United Nations Day
October 30-November 1	District 12 Conference , Denver
November 14-15	Fall Craft Show, Zonta Club of Pierre-Fort Pierre
November/December	16 Days of Advocacy Against Violence Against Women



***“If you really want to do something, you will find the time;
if not, you will find an excuse!”***

HAS YOUR CLUB?

- Submitted a Club e-mail address to ZI Headquarters and to District 12?

Check out these websites:

www.zonta.org
www.ZISVAW.org
www.zontadistrict12.org

www.un.org
www.womenact.org
www.unifem.undp.org

**314 W. Elizabeth Street
Pierre, SD 57501-1663**

