

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

# Outreach



**Volume 17, No. 2**  
**December, 2009**

## Governor's Message

Greetings to all D12 Zontians!

It's been a little over one month since many of us gathered in Denver for the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual District 12 Conference. I don't know about you, but I'm still reflecting on the wonderful few days we had together even with the heavy snowfall that we experienced that week!

Special thanks are in order to the Conference Coordinating Committee: Sheila Davis, Judy McNerny, Mary Benoit, Judy Bederman, Evie Ashmore, Nikki Headlee, Kathy Hyzer, Dorothy Swindt, Beth Mundell, and Carroll Allen. The Conference was a reflection of their individual and collective talents and commitment to Zonta International. Thanks to all the BEES for the time and effort they devoted to the planning and organizing of this Conference. Your ability to work with the challenging weather conditions we experienced was most impressive!

It was a pleasure and honor to have our International Representative Maria Victoria Vergel de Dios from the Zonta Club of Mandaluyong in San Juan, Philippines, attend the Conference.

She provided remarks and shared those additional comments from ZI President Beryl Sten. President Beryl's comments will be made



available to the D12 members.

The theme of "Get the Zonta Buzz: Caring and Sharing," was reflected throughout the conference including the breakouts on the following: "Caring—for Your Financial Health," led by Carol Williams-Craigie and Marilyn Force; "Sharing—Birthing Kits for Women in Africa," organized by the Zonta Foothills Club of Boulder County; as well as the session entitled "Get the Zonta Buzz for Advocacy." The advocacy guest panelists Ann Hefenieder, Susan Lythgoe, Ellen Marshall, and Bev Morrow provided valuable information and insights regarding advocacy (definitions for advocacy and lobbying, opportunities, challenges, ideas/tips) and answered questions posed by the audience. AJ Steele also provided an update on the Polaris Project and Michele Haney presented "Finding Meaning, Balance, & Health in Your Life."

The "Get the Halloween Buzz" provided everyone an opportunity to dress for the occasion! Take a look at the photo gallery put together by webmaster Susie Nulty! Thanks, Susie for capturing this evening and the entire conference! Check the website out at <http://www.zontadistrict12.org/2009conf/index.html>

The entertainment that evening featured Tom Noel who spoke on "Colorado's Creepy Past."

The "Black and Gold Zee-Bee Ball" was an elegant evening. We enjoyed Legendary Ladies, celebrated with the Zontians of the Year, and celebrated ZI's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday along with birthdays

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### 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** ..... Priscilla Young Romkema  
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**Lieutenant Governor** ... Kathryn L. (Kay) Meyer  
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**ZAP Institute / Leadership Development**  
..... Mary U. Benoit  
mary@mathiaslockandkey.com

**Webmaster** ..... Susie Nulty  
nulty@csdco.com

**Nominating Committee—**  
..... Beverly J. (Bev) Morrow, Chair  
..... [and Immediate Past Governor]  
doughbev@bresnan.net  
..... Beverly J. (Bev) Ambrose  
bambrose@rushmore.com  
..... Jane A. Page  
janep@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)  
605-224-7554 (W) 605-224-0282 (FAX)  
anitazastrow@pie.midco.net  
anita.zastrow@sdbar.net  
amzastrow@aol.com

## ZI Foundation Report

Have you made your personal Foundation gift ... a gift that will stretch internationally to support the Status or Women worldwide? It's not too late, and this is a perfect time for your 2009 tax deductible donation!

As you know, the Foundation has its ongoing programs: the Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund, the Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Fund, Young Women in Public Affairs Fund, the Rose Fund, ZISVAW (or Zonta International Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Women) plus the International Service Fund. Your gift can be to a single fund or to all; it's your choice!

There is also an Endowment Fund but Zonta International President Beryl Sten has requested that we not give to the Foundation Endowment Fund at this time. As she states, "in these difficult times, times when our investments have declined, we encourage all members to donate to active funds they like to support and not to the endowment fund." The Endowment Fund was initiated with the intention to support our projects perpetually; in these economic conditions, it just makes more sense to invest our gifts in those funds that are actively working to support the Status of Women.

Our International biennium goal of \$4,020,000 was nearly half way met as of June 2009 at \$1,929,464. Funding of the Zonta International Foundation is not limited to our clubs. This support can become an annual (or monthly) personal tax deductible gift. You can write a check or you can enroll in electronic deductions from your account or from your credit card. It's up to you! It's easy. Just complete the enrollment form on the Zonta International website.

If you have questions about the Foundation or need help with a program for your club please call me at 605-347-2562 or email me at [denise.larue@fib.com](mailto:denise.larue@fib.com). I look forward to hearing from you!

*Denise (Dedi) LaRue*  
Foundation Ambassador, 2008-10

## From the Camera's Eye

For those of you who attended the District 12 Conference in Denver, or if you want to see what you missed, go to <http://ZontaDistrict12.org/2009conf/> to view the 270+ photos.

You can also see the 21 Conference Board Reports at [http://ZontaDistrict12.org/2009\\_conf\\_reports.html](http://ZontaDistrict12.org/2009_conf_reports.html). The Financial Reports are available on our new password protected web area. Access may be obtained from your Area Director or please contact me - [nulty@csdco.com](mailto:nulty@csdco.com).

Remember to register on the Zonta International site at [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)!

—Susie Nulty, District 12 2008-10 Webmaster

## 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> kcathcart@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—

Pikes Peak Area .....	<i>Laura Stamp</i> stampfamily4cs@msn.com
Prowers County .....	<i>Linda Hawkins</i> flowers@ria.net
Royal Gorge.....	<i>Nancy Billings Gerlock</i> n.gerlock@bresnan.net

# What's Going On In Your Area?

## AREA 1

Hello Everyone and Happy Holidays,

I have been busy visiting clubs this fall and have had the so much fun meeting everyone. Area 1 clubs are very busy. Each club has a main fundraiser, but they work on many hands on service projects. All the clubs are also working on ideas for recruiting new members. I am looking forward to hearing from all the clubs at the Area 1 Meeting which will be hosted by the Zonta Club of the Southern Black Hills in Custer. Save the date (April 30 & May 1, 2010) for the Area 1 meeting. Here are my goals for the rest of the biennium:

- Continue to work with clubs to recruit and retain members.
- Encourage officers to utilize the Zonta International website.
- Work with members to understand the importance of officer positions and how they not only enhance the club but also personal and professional development.
- Continue to stress the importance of ZI projects and educate members on these projects.

### **Zonta Club of Billings**

A new exciting project is arranging a visit by Jessica Jackley, one of the founders of Kiva Microfunds. Kiva is an online site that is headquartered in San Francisco. The site uses the internet to facilitate micro finance loans around the globe. One of the members has arranged her visit, and they are partnering with other organizations to help finance it. She will discuss microfinance, and how it is improving the lives of women around the globe. It is expected her visit to have interest for people outside of Billings and they are excited to be the lead organization bringing this to their community.

### **Zonta Club of the Black Hills**

The Zonta Club of the Black Hills recently held its 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Zonta EXPO which is their main fundraiser. Over 1000 women attended; the guest speaker was humorist Juli Burney. The Expo includes a food court, style show, silent auction, and over 100 vendors. The club also participated in the Miss Wheelchair America Pageant held in August. They helped with the event and with fundraising.

### **Zonta Club of Gillette**

In the past the club has presented a Women's Conference. It has been post-phoned this year because there was not a facility available to host the event. They are looking at ways to revamp this project and move it towards becoming a major club fundraiser. They are hosting a Farmers Market and looking at ways to develop other smaller fundraisers as they work on the Women's Conference. The club recently installed three Zonta Club signs that are highly visible at Gillette's three interstate exits.

### **Zonta Club of Pierre-Fort Pierre**

The Zonta Club of Pierre-Fort Pierre prepared and served a meal for the Community Banquet to approximately 300 low-income individuals on September 24, 2009. The club

just finished their annual Holiday Craft Fair in November. This is one of two craft fairs the club does as a fundraising project. The other craft fair is in the Spring.

### **Zonta Club of Glendive**

I am looking forward to visiting Glendive in January. They just finished their annual Zonta Bazaar in November.

### **Zonta Club of the Southern Black Hills**

They are busy putting the finishing touches on their Monthly Business Planner and Telephone Directory. This is the club's major fundraiser and is very well supported by the community. They are also involved in helping with the new community food bank.

### **Zonta Club of Spearfish**

The club just finished their annual fundraiser, the Festival of Trees, which is held at the end of November. Businesses and individuals decorate wreaths and trees that are auctioned off to lucky bidders.

### **Zonta Club of the Sturgis Area**

They recently changed their meetings to evenings in an effort to attract more members. They also finished their annual fundraiser of decorated/painted pumpkins which are on display at local businesses.

—Tracy Manning-Egge, Area 1 Director

## AREA 2

I can't believe another year is coming to a close and it is time to assess what Area 2 has accomplished and what we want to achieve in 2010.

In 2009 all four clubs (Cheyenne, Converse County, Ft Collins and Laramie) have focused on fundraising, increasing membership, advocacy and supporting international and local service project to advance the status of women.

Fundraising has included antique shows, women's night out, fashion shows, the sale of roses, Zonta jewelry, tee shirts and vests.

Membership has increased and a project was started this summer by Kay Meyer, Lt. Governor to establish a new club in Greeley, Colorado.

Advocacy in the form of human trafficking programs were instituted in Cheyenne and Fort Collins clubs. Converse County actually identified a human trafficking ring in their community and worked with the legal system to prosecute the ringleader. Laramie advocated for victims of domestic violence through silent court watches.

Zonta International programs and projects have been supported by club donations. Our donations helped District 12 to rank 11<sup>th</sup> in total donations to ZI. Birthing Kits a project started by the Laramie Club is a local hands-on project that has provided safe and clean deliveries to thousand of women and infants internationally. It also inspired the Boulder Club to bring Birthing Kit Assembly to the District 12 2009 Conference. We were all surprised how quickly we finished nearly 1000 kits to be sent to My Sore India, Haiti and CURE Project in Denver.

Local projects have included scholarships to local

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women, brown bag lunches to discuss women in the work place issues, wage discrimination education, dressing women for success and donations to local organizations to support women and children.

To reflect on all this activity is to realize how many service hours, dedicated personal time, expertise and professionalism has been put forth by Area 2 Zontians. They have made significant contributions to their communities and have had the joy of working together to make a difference.

2010 will find Area 2 clubs working together to strengthen leadership, establish a new club in Greeley, CO, build membership for the existing clubs, and host the 2010 District 12 Conference.

The Area 2 meeting will focus on the important components of strong leadership which hopefully will result in increased members for existing clubs and will have the foundation built for the Greeley Club. The more we are the more we can stand up to address issues that advance the status of women.

Area 2 is looking forward to 2010 District Conference. This will be a great year for our Area to showcase the dedication, teamwork and style the four clubs have to produce and hostess the 2010 Conference in Laramie, Wyoming at the newly opened Hilton Garden Inn UW Conference Center. We are excited to welcome all D12 Zontians the weekend of September 30 to October 3, 2010. Hopeful the weather will be beautiful NO SNOW!!!

Please save this date and COME TO LARAMIE!!!!

#### SNOW BOUND CLUBS DELAYED SERVICE REPORTS

The Zonta Club of Converse County and the Zonta Club of Laramie, snow-bound and unable to get to Denver, were not present to give their Service Report. Converse County had 62 service hours and donated \$2200 to local organizations. Laramie had 693 service hours, donated \$5400 to local projects and donated \$2800 to ZI Foundation. Total dollars donated \$8200 and the percent of dollars donated to ZI was 34%. Good Job!!!!

—Patricia (Pat) Kivovsky, Area 2 Director

## AREA 3 GOALS

### Promote at least one Advocacy activity

- The Area co-sponsored the 20th Annual Women's Legislative Breakfast on 2/18/09; plan to continue this support for 2010.
- Several Area Clubs promoted Women's issues via film events in honor of International Day of Women-participation in a national screening of the film "A Powerful Noise", and Zonta Denver held their first "Zonta Day of Film" by screening "A Walk To Beautiful."
- The 2009 Area 3 Advocacy Project was successfully completed with the passage of Colorado Senate Bill 68, which provided funding for domestic violence treatment programs. The Bill was signed into law in May 2009 and will provide approximately \$1 million dollars annually for DV programs in Colorado.
- Participated in Pay Equity Day on April 28 on the steps of the Colorado State Capitol; succeeded in

getting Zonta named as a supporter of the Rally.

- Area 3 Clubs and members will promote and participate in the 2009 Pay Equity Day Rally.
- Other Advocacy projects may be supported based on input from the Area members and Clubs

### Identify and outline each Area 3 Club's structure & operational processes.

- The Club Presidents continued to share their individual operational processes. Topics discussed have been: Nominating Committees, Long Range Planning, and Service Project Selection, Fund Raising, Succession Planning.
- Outstanding Topics include: Finance and Advocacy.
- The 'Best Practices' handbook is still being compiled to assist the Area Clubs in gathering ideas and if desired, improving their individual processes. Due to a change for Area 3's VAD this project is delayed.

### Improve communication in the Area between Clubs & members & highlight service and advocacy projects @ combined meetings.

- The Area 3 web page has been updated.
- Area Presidents' Meetings continue to be held every other month fostering greater support of each Club's events and improving mutual support. Plans are underway to update the structure and have a greater participatory format.
- Work is being completed on establishing a meetup.com site for the Area Clubs, promoting their meetings and activities to younger, more web connected potential members and improving communication amongst Area members.

### Update the Area Club's Bylaws and other 'housekeeping' chores.

- Completed, however, additional support is needed by some Clubs in establishing their Foundations (see operational processes above.)

### Establish collaborative activities with other like-minded organizations.

- With new guidelines from ZI, plans to collaborate w/ other greater metro area women's organizations are pending further review.
- Due to seasonal time constraints the development of a joint Colorado Legislative communication network is on hold.

### Other Activities

- Past Area 3 Vice Director, Mary Lou Edwards and Douglas County Zonta successfully held an Amelia Earhart Dinner with funds being sent to the ZI AE Scholarship Fund and District 12's's AE Fellowship winner was presented with her pin and certificate.
- A new, more modern approach for the Area 3 AE Celebration is underway and we anticipate much improved attendance, expanding the attendance beyond Zonta members.
- A successful Area 3 Meeting focusing on Literacy, "Learnin' n Luvin It", was held on 3/28/09 with a total of 41 attendees.
- Planning has begun for the 2010 meeting, continuing w/ a Panel format and focusing on women's health.

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for Prowers County and Pikes Peak!  
Congratulations to all of the *Zontians of the Year*  
and to the clubs that are celebrating milestone  
birthdays!

Prior to the final session on Sunday, a special  
memorial service was led by Kay Meyer, Lt.  
Governor. This time was devoted to remembering  
Zontians who passed away this year and reflect  
on their commitment to their families,  
communities, and Zonta International.

Elections for D12 offices for the 2010-2012  
biennium were held. [See the story elsewhere in  
this issue.] Also, in addition to the reviewed  
financial statements, several items were voted  
upon this year: a) dues increase (motion passed  
to increase dues by \$2.00 each biennium  
effective with the June 1, 2010, billing, until  
amended at a future District Conference); b)  
*District 12 Proposed Amendments to ZI Bylaws  
and Rules of Procedures* (motion passed and the  
document was forwarded to ZI for review); c) and  
the *Proposal for District Conference Procedures  
Changes in District Policy and Procedures  
Manual*. This latter document was not voted upon  
at the Conference; rather, a redline version of the  
document will be prepared and mailed to the D12  
membership (hopefully) prior to January 1, 2010.  
The redline document will enable the members to  
see the current version along with the proposed  
changes. Voting instructions will be included  
when this document is sent to the membership.

While there is so much more to share, I hope  
that the above provides you with a snapshot of  
the Conference. Again, thanks to all of you who  
attended and those who made the entire  
Conference so meaningful. Please mark your  
calendars for the Area meetings to be held  
across D12 this spring. You'll want to attend your  
respective Area meeting to continue the "Zonta  
Buzz" experience!

Best wishes in this Holiday season!

—Priscilla Young Romkema  
2008-10 District 12 Governor

## UN / INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The highlight of my term as Chair has been to  
meet all the dedicated Club chairs and Presidents  
and to hear your reports of what your members  
have done in terms of projects dedicated to  
improving the lives of women in your communities. I  
would like to thank all those who helped at the  
District Conference in Denver for assembling  
birthing kits. In 3 hours we stuffed 945 kits with a  
birthing tarp, scalpel, string, soap, gloves and gauze  
into small packs. These kits have been forwarded to  
Haiti, India, and Africa. I consider this our  
contribution to helping women in underdeveloped  
countries who face death in childbirth. As our Zonta  
International Representative, Virma, said, "500,000  
women die each year during childbirth in  
underdeveloped countries.

For my remaining term as chair, I have  
contacted all Presidents and chairs and will continue  
to provide information on updated projects from the  
UN as the latest on UNite to end Violence Against  
Women. I will also continue to be a liaison for Zonta  
International on these topics.

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

The delegation  
from the Zonta  
Club of Pierre-  
Fort Pierre  
worked together  
on the project!



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An addendum meeting, to be held after the Area  
Meeting, is being planned to promote Leadership  
Training w/ The White House Project, another  
women's organization.

- As part of our review of operational processes  
membership-related topics, such as, Recruitment,  
Leadership, Succession, Goal Setting, Conflict  
Resolution, etc. were deferred and a series of Area 3  
Leadership Workshops is in development. Planners  
are: the AD & VAD, Mary Benoit, District ZAP Chair  
and Pam Malzbender from Zonta Foothills Boulder.  
Work will proceed the last quarter of 2009.
- 100% Annual Reports from the Area 3 Clubs to  
District and ZI!
- I continue to attend Area 3 Clubs when asked and  
present information based on the topics requested by  
the Club's President.
- Education for each year's new Club Presidents and  
Board members is an on-going challenge. An annual  
'Zonta Training' President's Meeting is planned w/  
the Best Practices Handbook a key component for  
that meeting.

—Diane Twining, Area 3 Director

## Legislative Awareness and Advocacy Update

Hello, advocates! As we slip into the final months of the Zonta biennium, it's time to assess the progress made on advocacy and legislative awareness goals.

My goals for the 2008-2010 biennium were to: catalogue past advocacy projects by District 12 clubs; continue work on CEDAW ratification efforts; explore advocacy topics and methods with clubs, looking for right fit for each club; distribute ZI advocacy guidelines; encourage District-wide "16 Days" participation; and encourage District 12 club's commemoration of Zonta Rose Day as a day of advocacy.

How did I do?

Well, right off the bat, I can tell you that I failed to take any steps to catalog past advocacy projects in the District. District 12 did advocacy before it was cool! Many club held service events, sponsored speakers, and contacted legislators about topics before advocacy was added to the ZI mix. I'd still like to get that history.

Also, that Zonta Rose Day as a day of advocacy – another failure on my part. As you know, Zonta Rose Day – March 8th – is also International Women's Day. Initially a celebration of working women from the early 1900's, the day has broadened to build support for women's rights and participation in political and economic arenas. Often, Zonta Clubs use Rose Day to honor women of courage and determination. I'd love to hear about your Rose Day observance. On the plus side of the report card, I've bombarded you with e-mails highlighting club activities (if I heard from a club) and providing ideas for advocacy. I hope those have been of some help to clubs in determining advocacy projects. In two of those e-mails, I included requests for District 12 clubs to contact the White House and their Senators to request passage of CEDAW. I sent information regarding a website to monitor Congressional activities. I distributed the links to ZI advocacy guidelines in October, 2008 and again in June, 2009.

Finally, my favorite project: "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence." In 2008, I sent daily e-mails highlighting the lives and issues of 16 women who saw a problem, and took steps to make a change. I hoped that their stories would be inspirational for Zontians. This year, my focus turned to the issue of rape, and misogyny. I hoped that these stories would lead to action by Zontians. If your club took an advocacy action during the 16 Days observance, please let me know.

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

## 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 for carrying his or her materials. 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!**

## Notes from the Treasurer

### Membership

One of my goals for this biennium is to act as a resource to District 12 Club Treasurers. With this in mind, I continue to assist clubs in membership issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I would be happy to help you.

This is a reminder that it is half-year dues time! Half-year dues refer to the dues paid by new members that join during the time frame December 1–May 31. Total half-year District 12 dues are \$17.50. I recently sent out an email with specifics along with the document Club Treasurers—Frequently Asked Questions. Please refer to this document as it contains a wealth of information on membership.

### District Board Efforts to Contain Costs and Donations

The District Board has made great strides in reducing costs and has implemented use of e-mail and conference calls, thereby eliminating the District Winter Board Meeting. Secondly, the Board voted on November 1 to pay their own Registration Fee to attend the District Conference. In addition, for the year June 1, 2008–May 31, 2009, the District Board donated a total \$2,681.40. To date (June 1, 2009–November 17, 2009), the Board has donated \$1,772.47. These donations were in lieu of requesting reimbursement for approved costs from District funds.

We plan to continue to look for ways to reduce expenditures.

### Dues Increase

In an effort to eliminate having to increase dues such as was the case in 2007 by \$13, the Board felt that the prudent course of action was to increase dues in smaller amounts making it easier to be absorbed by members. Therefore, a \$2.00 dues increase each biennium (\$1.00 per year) was approved by a vote of the delegates at the District Conference held in Denver. This will be effective with the June 1, 2010 billing and will be in place until amended at a future District Conference.

### Use of Funds

It is very important to remember that each club should maintain two accounts. One is for the operating account that is funded by collection of dues. The second account should be used for monies collected for service. If you have any other funds that are restricted, they must be used for the purpose for which they were established. You cannot move these funds around and use them for just any purpose. Please keep this in mind.

Please let me know how I can be of help to you!  
—Evelina (*Evie*) Ashmore, District 12 2008-10 Treasurer

### Pros and Cons of Establishing a 501(c)(3)

As District 12 Treasurer, I have received several inquiries on whether a club should establish a 501(c)(3) entity. District 12 is very fortunate to have two very talented women to provide information in this area - Elise Marylander, Zonta Foothills Club of Boulder County and Judy McNerny, Zonta Club of Denver. Each of these clubs has established a 501(c)(3) entity. They have supplied the following information:

First and foremost, any Club considering forming a 501(c)(3) entity will need to consult an attorney knowledgeable in the area. This article is not intended to give legal advice to clubs – only to convey information.

A donation to a 501(c)(3) organization can be deducted as a charitable contribution. A donation or other payment to a 501(c)(4) organization is NOT deductible as a charitable contribution, though it may be deductible as a business expense.

The big benefit of having a 501(c)(3) entity is that such an entity can do fund-raising and its donors can deduct their contributions (at least the amount that exceeds the value of what they receive, like the cost of a meal if the fundraiser involves a meal).

A Zonta Club is a 501(c)(4) entity and to obtain the benefits of 501(c)(3), would need to form a separate entity example – Zonta Club of Denver Foundation – and obtain the exemption for that separate entity. Unless the services are donated, there will be a fair amount of legal and accounting expense involved in setting up the entity properly, obtaining the exemption, and filing annual tax returns. The club should, therefore, consider whether the additional money they expect to be able to raise will justify the expense. It is estimated that in Denver, the legal fees might be \$5,000 or more. In addition, the 501(c)(3) corporation should be sure NOT to fund membership activities of the club or any other expenses incurred with respect to purposes out of its charitable scope, and to get legal or accounting advice before funding advocacy expenses.

Content provided by  
Elise Marylander and Judy McNerny



## D12 Nominating Committee News

by Beverly J. Morrow, Nominating Committee Chair  
[Committee Members: Bev Ambrose and Jane Page]

It has been a very busy, productive and satisfying year for the Nominating Committee, which has a very specific role to play. Clearly, the overall goal of this Committee is to find inspired leadership for District 12, and we are proud that this goal was met for the next biennium (2010-2012). This success is demonstrated by the following roster of officials for the upcoming biennium, as newly-elected at the District 12 Conference on October 31:

### Governor Kathryn L. (Kay) Meyer

(Zonta Foothills Club of Boulder County)

### Lt. Governor Sheila Davis

(Zonta Club of Denver)

### Treasurer Bridget L. Masters

(Zonta Club of Fort Collins)

### Area 1 Director Jocelyn (Jo) Prang

(Zonta Club of the Black Hills)

### Area 1 Vice Director Denise (Dedi) LaRue

(Zonta Club of the Sturgis Area)

### Area 2 Director Mary K. Walker

(Zonta Club of Cheyenne)

### Area 2 Vice Director Heidi Lukowski

(Zonta Club of Fort Collins)

### Area 3 Director Marcy O'Toole

(Zonta Club of Denver II)

### Area 3 Vice Director Debbie A. Squires

(Zonta Club of Boulder County)

### Area 4 Director Laura Stamp

(Zonta Club of the Pikes Peak Area)

### Area 4 Vice Director Nancy Billings Gerlock

(Zonta Club of Royal Gorge)

### Nominating Committee

#### Priscilla Young Romkema, Chair

(Zonta Club of Spearfish)

#### Kathryn (Kathy) Dean

(Zonta Club of Denver II)

#### Patricia (Pat) Kiovsky

(Zonta Club of Laramie)

Congratulations to all of these fine Zontians, and many thanks to them for making a commitment to District 12 service. I know that they will lead our clubs with professionalism and enthusiasm.

### **Goals for the Remaining Months of the 2008-2010 Biennium**

The Nominating Committee's work is pretty much done for this biennium. However, if any D12 Board officer or committee chair vacancies occur during the remainder of the biennium, the committee will assist in finding suitable candidates to fill those vacancies, at Governor Priscilla's direction. My final goal will be to pass on any useful materials and information that I have collected to the next Chair of the D12 Nominating Committee, Priscilla Romkema, at the Board's transitional meeting in June.

Many thanks to my wonderful committee members, and to everyone who assisted with this biennium's nominating process!

## District OMC Report

Governor Romkema asked us to report on Biennium (7/08—10/09) **Accomplishments.** This is somewhat a dilemma for the District OMC (aka 'Membership') Chairperson. Although she did these **activities:**

- Sent 8 e-mails to OMC Chairs & Club Presidents (Subjects: new membership tools on the ZI website, ZI membership goal-setting questionnaire, a query for the District workshop, member retention, handling stress, Membership Matters, an End-of-year checklist, and a new Zonta year welcome).
- Stayed in e-mail contact with Bea Weaver & her successor, Jane O'Brien (ZI Membership Chairpersons)
- Followed-up on 5 referrals of potential members from ZI.
- Wrote article "Human Rights Treaties: Global Progress Depends on Local Education & Action," highlighting Zonta involvement, published in ICOSA Magazine. Helped develop full-page color Zonta ad for publication in same magazine.
- Attended October 2-3 of District 30 Conference in Pforzheim, Germany.
- Assisted with 2008 & 2009 D12 Conferences by coordinating awards presentations, memorial services, & first-time attendees' reception. Due to new streamlining procedures, the District PR Chair (Liz Whitham) includes a PR release to the local papers announcing the District awards.
- District 12 membership trends were analyzed and shared at the 2008 District OMC workshop.
- Continued discussions with Area Directors regarding starting new clubs in their areas.
- Met with Area 2 Director & Club Reps regarding membership growth strategies on June 24 & October 7 to form Area 2 SOM Committee in order to launch a Zonta Club of Greeley.
- Started dialogue with Area 4 leaders about first steps to launch a Pueblo 2.0 Club.
- An Outreach article and 3 e-mail messages were written, with ideas from the June'08 Board membership discussion.
- Sent 44 personalized welcome letters to new Zontians.
- Wrote 'Zonta: Value-Added' article for *Outreach* district newsletter, February '09 edition.
- Wrote 'A Sense of Urgency' article for *Outreach*, August '09 edition.
- Attended all Area Meetings and presented 'Zonta Past, Present, Future' at each meeting.
- Presented update on ZI at May meeting of Denver II Club.

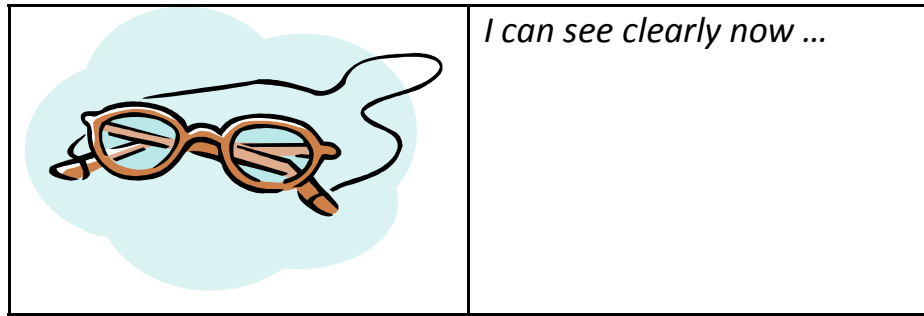
The demonstrable **accomplishments** (aka 'results') coming out of this effort are 'a mixed bag' ... Between June 1, 2008 and April 11, 2009, District 12 grew from 544 to 635 members (+91). As of June 2009, membership numbers decreased back to approximately 575 (-60). (Net growth = 31)

This fall we are building membership numbers once again. And I recognize that 'accomplishment' in Membership is probably more of a **Team effort** than in any other Zonta matter. So, ... **Team:** let us each communicate ideas & energy & *do something* toward membership **accomplishment.**

My 'value-added' focus for December '09—June '10 is currently planned as—

- Helping Area 2 launch & charter a new club in Greeley, CO.
- Helping Area 4 organize to launch a new club in Pueblo County, CO.
- Attending the Area Meetings to visit with club leaders.
- Developing & distributing a member survey.
- Following-through on the R&R Prizes.
- Implementing a new 'Welcome to District 12' postcard.
- Getting D12 promotional/gift item for Convention or other events.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathryn L. (Kay) Meyer, OMC Chairperson



**MICROFIBER LENS CLOTHS WITH THE DISTRICT 12 LOGO & WEB ADDRESS ON A CAMEL-COLORED CLOTH.**

District 12 will be offering a supply of these that will be available by mid-March for \$1.<sup>00</sup>/each. You can use them at the ZI Convention as 'trade items', or you might wish to use them as favors locally. To keep ordering & shipping simple, we will accept **one order from a Club and/or single member orders of 50+.**

**Your Area Director will be in touch regarding further details!**

**Everyone Can Advocate: The D12 Conference Panel**

by Beverly J. (Bev) Morrow, ZI LAA Committee

I was privileged to be a presenter in the Advocacy Panel workshop at the 2009 Zonta District 12 Conference, held in Denver on October 30 through November 1. Besides me, there were three other well-qualified panelists, in addition to D12 Governor Priscilla Romkema (Spearfish Club) and Judy McNerny (Denver Club) as moderators. The panel consisted of:

- Ann Hefenieder (Billings Club) District 12 LAA Committee Chair
- Susan Lythgoe Executive Director, The Learning Source
- Ellen Marshall (Foothills Club of Boulder County) Good Works Group
- Beverly Morrow (Cheyenne Club) Zonta International LAA Committee Member

*(Note: LAA = Legislative Awareness and Advocacy)*

The panel discussed answers to questions from the moderators and the audience, including:

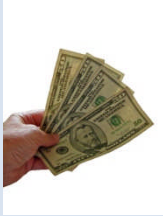
- What is advocacy and why is it important?
- How is advocacy different from lobbying?
- What are some different ways to do advocacy?
- What is important for effective advocacy?
- Are there any absolute no-no's in advocacy?
- What would you recommend not to do?
- What are the guidelines for advocacy by Zonta or a Zonta club?
- Why should Zonta clubs do advocacy?
- How can I be an advocate if I don't have very much time?
- Are there levels of advocacy?
- What should a Zonta club consider in choosing an advocacy topic?
- How can District 12 best communicate about what we want to advocate about?

Audience participants seemed to find the information very practical and useful in thinking about how they can get involved even more effectively in advocacy. This knowledge is particularly important at this time of year, as we just participated in the "16 Days of Advocacy" to End Violence Against Women from November 25 – December 10. Remember that there are great advocacy resources on the Zonta International (ZI) website ([www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)). If you have not yet signed up as a member on that website, I urge you to do that as soon as possible, because you are really missing out on some wonderful stuff! Here's how you find the advocacy information and tools in two sub-locations on the ZI website:

On the homepage, click on "Member Services" (you have to be logged in as a member)  
 Click on "Tools for Clubs"  
 Click on "Service and Advocacy" (the advocacy stuff is on the right of the page)  
**AND/OR**  
 Click on "Leadership"  
 Click on "Committees"  
 Click on "Legislative Awareness and Advocacy" (LAA)

The bottom line is that everyone can do advocacy, and you have a right to be heard. You already know how to be an advocate ... you do it for your family, you do it at work, and you do it with your friends. Just learn how to expand your advocacy skills to advance the status of women. As the Rosie the Riveter poster says, "We Can Do It!"

## R&R Prizes:



### \$\$-The 'Lotto 600' Prize

District 12 will award \$30.<sup>00</sup> to the Club that recruits member # 600 to District 12 this year. (Hint: Don't wait 'til Spring.)

### \$\$-The Best-Deal-in-Town Prize

District 12 will award \$50.<sup>00</sup> to the Club with the highest percentage of **new** members as of May 31, 2010.

### \$\$-The 'Valued-Member' Prize

District 12 will award \$50.<sup>00</sup> to the Club that has the highest percentage of **renewing** members as of July 1, 2010.



**Who do YOU know in Greeley or Pueblo County?**

**We want to find the potential Zontians there!**

Please send those names + phone numbers &/or e-addresses to [kay@meyergould.net](mailto:kay@meyergould.net)

This is a very **important** matter for District 12. Help us **move it!**

## FYI ... ☆ San Antone Convention ☆ District 12 Members

**p** The number of **delegates a club is allowed** for the ZI Convention is determined by its **membership total on March 1**. Therefore ... a club whose membership is in the high 30's could bump up to 2 delegates (twice as many votes) if it enlists a few more members to have 40+ members by March 1!

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

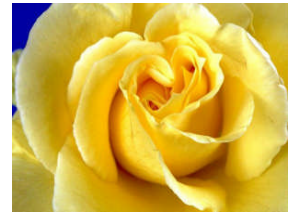
District 12 always helps to link our members who attend the ZI Conventions. This year, please remember to send your Lt. Governor ([kay@meyergould.net](mailto:kay@meyergould.net)) notice of who\* will be attending from your club.

At the District Meetings on the first day of the Convention, new District Officers will be installed, and other business (& non-business) items of District interest will be discussed. Information about these matters will be sent to those attendees who have notified Kay.

(\*This includes delegates & non-delegates.)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March	12-13	Area 2 Meeting, Laramie
March	26-27	Area 4 Meeting, Pikes Peak Area
April	10	Area 3 Meeting, Foothills Club of Boulder County
April 30 - May	1	Area 1 Meeting, Southern Black Hills



### SAVE THE DATE!

Join your fellow District 12 Zontians  
in  
Laramie, Wyoming  
for  
the 2010 District 12 Conference  
on  
September 30 – October 3, 2010

#### HAS YOUR CLUB?

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

Check out these websites:

[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)  
[www.ZISVAW.org](http://www.ZISVAW.org)  
[www.zontadistrict12.org](http://www.zontadistrict12.org)

[www.un.org](http://www.un.org)  
[www.womenact.org](http://www.womenact.org)  
[www.unifem.undp.org](http://www.unifem.undp.org)

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

