



Zonta Zephyr

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Zonta Club of Pikes Peak Area

Member of Zonta International

The United Nations by Karen P, Legislative Awareness/Advocacy Chair

I am writing to ask you to please find a place in your heart for the United Nations. While most of you already support the United Nations, I am asking you to do more than that, I am asking you to keep the United Nations in a very special place so that when negative attacks are hurled against it or prominent politicians question its relevancy, such attacks and questions will tug at your heart in such a way that you feel compelled to defend it in the same manner that you would defend a dear friend.

I am well aware that some people have misgivings about the United Nations. We have all heard the disapproving remarks: "It's corrupt", "We don't need someone from a foreign country telling us what to do or spending our money", and "It doesn't really do anything." Admittedly, I have been lax in defending the United Nations with the vigor that it deserves. Let's face it, the United Nations does have its faults, and sometimes, it's not easy to defend it. When, however, politicians begin to question whether the United States should remain a member of the United Nations and have gone so far as to question its relevancy, it is time that we speak up and let our voices be heard.

It is absolutely appropriate to question whether the United Nations is effective or needed, a healthy debate based on facts is always welcomed and encouraged. What troubles me, however, is that often decisions are not being made based on facts but are being made based on sound

bites taken from politicians who use negative statements against the United Nations as a means to energize their constituents or are taken from radio talk show hosts or cable pundits to boost their ratings. My worry is that if something is said often enough, it becomes familiar, and then that familiarity begins to sound like the truth even though it is not.

Furthermore, the news networks rarely cover the positive aspects of the United Nations. Instead, the coverage is generally about a disgruntled leader from a rogue country using the UN platform as a means to make derogatory and mean-spirited statements against the United States or about a country ignoring a UN Resolution for the umpteenth time. These pictures are powerful tools and become embedded in our psyche such that if you are not familiar with the good work of the United Nations, it is far too easy to jump on board the "Let's Get Rid of the UN" train.

Looking back, we are reminded that the United Nations was founded in 1945 in the aftermath of a devastating war by 51 countries that were committed to maintaining international peace and security. The founding member states, however, understood, that for peace and security to exist, it was necessary to concurrently develop friendly relations among nations and to promote social progress, better living standards and human rights. These wisdoms are captured in the Preamble where the Member States proclaimed:

Continued on page 2.



The United Nations continued

WE THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED

- to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and
- to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and
- to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and
- to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

AND FOR THESE ENDS

- to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors, and
- to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and
- to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest, and
- to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS

Accordingly, our respective Governments, through representatives assembled in the city of San Francisco, who have exhibited their full powers found to be in good and due form, have agreed to the present Charter of the United Nations and do hereby establish an international organization to be known as the United Nations.

Consistent with its Preamble the stated Purposes for the United Nations are:

1. To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace;
2. To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace;
3. To achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion; and
4. To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.

Today, the United Nations provides a forum for its 192 Member States to express their views, through the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and other bodies and committees. This alone is invaluable, for countries, like people, sometimes just want to be heard. Moreover, through these voices, problems can be identified and through the United Nations, we can begin to work towards successful resolutions, and perhaps, avoid unthinkable consequences.

The work of the United Nations reaches every corner of the globe and while it is best known for its peacekeeping missions and humanitarian assistance, there are many other ways that the United Nations affects our lives and makes our world a better place. Because of the breadth of its Preamble and stated Purpose, the United Nations, together with Non-Governmental Organizations ("NGO"), and their agencies, funds and programs, have made significant advancements on a broad range of fundamental issues from human rights, gender equality and the advancement of women and children, to promoting education, health and the expansion of food production, to protecting the environment, and by providing access to clean water. Also, the United Nations has been instrumental in providing a more peaceful and secure environment through conflict resolution, counter terrorism, disarmament and non-proliferation and by providing protection to our refugees, protection of our air and sea travels, and by clearing landmines.

For more information, please visit our web site: <http://zontapikespeak.org/un.docx>



Human Trafficking Symposium

Zonta can be proud of the support that they provided the Human Trafficking Task Force of Southern Colorado with their donation and actual service hours on September 25th! Once again, the community responded in a positive way to these efforts to bring information to them concerning Modern Day Slavery - what it is, and how to help stop it!

There was not a sound, nor a breath taken it seemed, while Theresa Flores rendered her account of being a trafficked teenager while living at home, and attending school. The cruelty and brainwashing reflects the stories that we have read about many times, but hearing them from a victim affected us all. If you missed her story, you can read her book, *The Slave Across the Street*.

There were over 250 people there to hear her story and other inspiring messages - touching encounters with victims here and abroad, law enforcement reports of actual cases, local efforts of the Task Force concerning service provider networks and domestic minor sex trafficking, and what is happening with our homeless youth.

Many reports have come back to us from attendees who have indicated that day changed their lives. One woman actually went to the office of a Task Force member to say just that. One student felt so deeply touched by Theresa's story that she made a speech in her high school class, and is now working with me to bring a program to an assembly at the school. She wants them to know what modern day slavery is, and what they can do about it!

Pikes Peak Area Zontians! Your service work with human trafficking is appreciated!! *-Betty E.*



A Personal Experience.....

We like to think that our city is safe and that human trafficking doesn't happen here, but as a recent news story reported*, a teenage girl was kidnapped in Colorado Springs, taken to Denver and coerced into prostitution there. The good news is that the three traffickers were caught, and have been charged with numerous felony counts, including trafficking in children. But, no longer can we tell ourselves it doesn't happen here.

Let me tell you my story. I was having lunch with a friend at La Baguette on West Colorado Avenue sitting at a sidewalk table, when two young boys who weren't even teenagers yet, came to our table carrying large boxes of candy. We declined to buy anything, but as I sat there and watched them move along the street, I began to feel that something wasn't quite right about such young kids selling candy to strangers - this definitely wasn't the boy-scouts with their popcorn sales, or even the band-candy kids. I watched the boys as they went over to a car across the road and decided that I couldn't just sit there. It was time to "do something". I went over to the car and asked the couple who were in the car if they had any information about the organization for which the boys were selling candy. The man became defensive, almost belligerent, and answered that they were with him, that he had their parents' permission and that they were with "Fountain Teens". I asked again to see information - he opened the glove compartment and came up with a well-worn looking card that he flashed under my nose - so that I did not have time to read it and claimed that he was registered with the Secretary of State. He then asked me if I had bought candy from the boys and when I said that I hadn't because I wanted to know more, he accused me of wasting the boys' time - they could be out on the streets selling more - and asked me to apologize to the boys for wasting their time. I declined, but did ask the boys if they were getting paid for what they were doing. They told me that their parents were getting help with buying school clothing and supplies and with paying rent. Hmm? The man's attitude and our conversation left me with a bad taste in my mouth. I stepped away from the car and made a show of writing down the license plate number.

When I got home, I looked up "Fountain Teens" - there was no record of such an organization on the Secretary of State's web-site. I then called CoNEHT and reported what had happened. A couple of days later, at a Task Force meeting, I spoke to a local police officer, telling him my story and giving him the license plate number. He assured me he would visit the man and "have a conversation" with him. As far as my involvement, that was the end of it, but I still have suspicions and continue to wonder - was this "modern-day slavery" or was I mistaken? *---Helen S.*

*KKTV 8/18/2010 "Grand Jury Indicts Group for Child Trafficking and Prostitution"



Zonta Pikes Peak Area Calendar 2010

November 8	Nut Packing
November 11	Board Meeting 5:30pm
November 18	General Meeting 5:30pm
December 5	Holiday Gathering
December 11	Book Club
December 13	Board Meeting 5:30pm
2011	
January 6	Board Meeting 5:30pm
January 11	Amelia Earhart Day
January 17	New Z Meeting 5:00pm
January 17	General Meeting 5:30pm
February 5	5 th Annual Glass Slipper Ball
February 12	Board Meeting 5:30pm
February 21	New Z Meeting 5:00pm
February 21	General Meeting 5:30pm
March 8	International Women's Day
March 14	Board Meeting 5:30pm
April 1-2	Area 2 Meeting - Cheyenne
April 9	Area 3 Meeting - Boulder
April 11	Board Meeting 5:30pm
April 15-16	Area 4 Meeting - Royal Gorge
April 20	New Z Meeting 5:00pm
April 20	General Meeting 5:30pm
April 29-30	Area 1 Meeting - Spearfish
May 11	Board Meeting 5:30pm
May 16	New Z Meeting 5:00pm
May 16	General Meeting 5:30pm
May 21	Planning Retreat

Women's Expo



Zonta Club of the Pikes Peak Area

PO Box 7924
Colorado Springs CO 80933

“ADVANCING
THE
STATUS
OF
WOMEN
WORLDWIDE”

Our Mission...

To advance the status of women and serve our community through local and international contributions, and to achieve personal and professional growth in a nurturing and supportive environment.

About Our Organization...

The Zonta Club of the Pikes Peak Area has been serving our community since 1949 by advancing the status of women. Our club has devoted funds to scholarships for women returning to the workforce as well as to high school seniors seeking to further their education in Public Affairs or Aeronautics and other highly technical fields. Many funds as well as hands-on service hours and mentorships have been dedicated to TESSA, Intercept, Full-Circle, and support of the locally-placed Liberian refugees.



Dear Friends of ZONTA,
Right now we are in the midst of planning our biggest fund-raising event of the year--***The Glass Slipper Ball to be held Saturday, February 5, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Colorado Springs.*** It's an extravaganza of delicious food, wine, music and decor. This is our fifth year, and we're very proud of how the event gets better every year. BUT, it's an enormous amount of work for an all-volunteer group such as ours and we need the help of all those who share our passion for improving the lives of women around the world.

HOW YOU CAN HELP. There are a myriad of ways to help, but here are a few thoughts. Please let us know if you have other suggestions.

*We need **corporate sponsors**--businesses who will make a contribution and receive recognition in all our publicity and marketing materials. Do you own a company or know of a company that we might contact?

*We need **silent auction items**--merchandise and services that is donated to be sold during the event. Do you have a service, own a vacation location where time could be donated, know merchants from whom you could solicit goods, etc?

*We need **program ads**--do you know someone who could buy or sell an ad for our keepsake program? Ads are \$100 for half-page or \$200 for full-page coverage. It's a great way to target marketing to 500 potential customers.

*We need **ticket sales**--our "Early Bird" rates of \$90/person or \$850 per reserved table of 10 are in effect till the end of December, 2010. Please come, bring your friends and tell others about the fun they can have while supporting an important cause.

*We need **publicity**--Visit us on Facebook: Zonta Pikes Peak. "Like" the posts that correspond to the GSB. Go to our website at www.zontapikespeak.org and forward information to your email contacts, hang a poster at your place of business, etc.

Contact me (SRoggy@comcast.net) with your thoughts and ideas. I know that together we can achieve great things!

Sharon R, President
Zonta Club of the Pikes Peak Area



Zonta International

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide



Find out more about Zonta:

ZontaPikesPeak.org

Member Information

Nearly 31,000 members belong to more than 1,200 Zonta Clubs in 66 countries.

Fulfilling our mission locally and globally.

For membership information, please contact Pam: info@ZontaPikesPeak.org