

Zonta Club of Grand Rapids
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Zonta NewZ



Helping improve the legal, political, economic, health, education and professional status of women and girls locally and internationally.

VOLUME IV, ISSUE I

SEPTEMBER 2011

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GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GRCC DIVERSITY

2011-2012

Lecture Series XVII

Half the Sky Author Appearance



Nicholas D. Kristof - September 26, 2011

Author, Columnist, Journalist

Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women

Nicholas Kristof, is the author of *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women*, which outlines an agenda for the world's women and three major abuses: sex trafficking and forced prostitution; gender-based violence including honor killings and mass rape; and maternal mortality, which needlessly claims one woman a minute. Kristof, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner and columnist for *The New York Times* since 2001, is widely known for bringing to light human rights abuses in Asia and Africa. Many reviewers suggest that *Half the Sky* stands to become a classic, igniting a grass-roots revolution.



Jeannette Walls - October 26, 2011

Author, Journalist, Columnist

The Glass Castle: Demon Hunting and Other Life Lessons

Jeannette Walls is author of the memoir *The Glass Castle*, which has been on the *New York Times* best-sellers list for over three years. The book details Walls' life growing up in extreme poverty and describes the unimaginable obstacles she faced. From the desert of the Southwest to her parent's later homelessness in New York City, Walls' account of an impoverished life is a compelling testament to what it means to be poor. Jeannette Walls is also a journalist whose work has appeared in *New York Magazine*, *Esquire*, *USA Today*, and *MSNBC*.



Maziar Bahari - November 9, 2011

Journalist, Filmmaker, Former Political Prisoner

Then They Came for Me: A Family's Story of Love, Captivity, and Survival

Maziar Bahari, Iranian-Canadian journalist was arrested in Tehran on trumped-up charges of espionage in the aftermath of the contested 2009 election. Held in solitary confinement for 118 days, enduring physical and psychological torture, he chronicles his story in, *Then They Came for Me: A Family's Story of Love, Captivity, and Survival*. As a correspondent for *Newsweek*, Bahari is an expert on Iran yet also embraces a wide range of subjects as a filmmaker, from Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany, to Iraqi child prisoners and AIDS in South Africa.



Jeff Johnson - February 15, 2012

Author, Journalist, Social Activist

Everything I'm Not Made Me Everything I Am

Jeff Johnson is renowned both for his conversations with world figures in the political, business and entertainment arenas and his grass-roots work seeking to inspire the next generation of leaders. Johnson is a trailblazing social entrepreneur and authentic voice for change. Sometimes called the "conscience voice" of BET Networks, Johnson looks for ways to merge the worlds of politics and popular culture, through broad-based communication, including as a contributor to the *Tom Joyner Morning Show*. He is the author of *Everything I'm Not Made Me Everything I Am*.



Naomi Wolf - March 14, 2012

Author, Social Critic, Political Activist

Beyond Victimization: The Beauty Myth Revisited

Author of seven books, including the *New York Times* best seller *The Beauty Myth*, Naomi Wolf focuses on gender equality, pervasive inequities in society and politics, the defense of liberty in America and internationally, and body image. She is the cofounder of the Woodhull Institute for Ethical Leadership, which teaches ethics and empowerment to young women leaders. In *Give Me Liberty: A Handbook for American Revolutionaries*, Wolf argues that breathtaking changes take place when ordinary citizens engage in the democratic system the way the founders intended, through civic engagement.

For more information, please call (616) 234-3390.

- * All lectures begin at 7:00 p.m. at Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI
- * Free and open to the public
- * On-campus parking \$3.00 (with discount pass)

Bob and Alecia Woodrick
 Diversity Learning Center
 Grand Rapids Community College

Service and Advocacy Committee

Upcoming Service:

November 10, 2011, 6-8pm
Degage Ministries
144 S. Division Ave
www.degageministries.org

We will be hosting a bingo night for the women in the Open Door Program. Open Door is a drop-in center which provides a safe haven during the overnight hours to adult women in crisis. Bingo will be complete with prizes

and a fun dessert during the game. More information will be provided at the October business meeting.

Cancer caps/Mastectomy

Pillows:

29 pillows will be donated at the upcoming District conference to the American Cancer Society along with several other district clubs who opted to participate. Yards of fabric have been pur-

chased in anticipation of future sewing dates. In addition, any scarves that haven't sold and aren't already adorned with sparkle will be sewn into cancer caps/scarves and donated locally.

Continuing Education Opportunity

Basic Grantwriting:

October 5, 2011; 1-5pm
GVSU Johnson Center for Philanthropy
201 Front Ave SW, GR
\$40 members/\$45 non-members
<http://www.gvsu.edu/jcp/nonprofit-services-114.htm>

Learn the basics of grantwriting from the experts. Join other grant seekers in a four-hour workshop designed to give you an introduction to proposal development and tips on grantwriting language and writing styles. Participants are encouraged to bring an idea for a grant pro-

posal so that this workshop can serve as an opportunity to get a jump start.

Ways & Means Committee

Poker Nights: Our next Poker fundraiser will be at TJ's (6211 S. Division) on Thursday, October 6-Sunday, October 9. Please sign up for a shift by contacting Allsion if you haven't already.

Mark your calendar for the 10/30-11/2 Poker fundraiser.

Branded Merchandise: We will be selling our new wrapping paper at District conference coming up in October. In addition we will be receiving PR for

donating paper for the conference speaker gifts in the program. We will also sell current inventory of sparkle appliques and shirts. We will take orders for sparkle wear should we sell out.



President's Message

Welcome to the start of our new year. We begin with a lot of exciting changes. Thank you all for your enthusiasm and support in voting in the changes recommended by the board. We are hopeful that we will spend more of our valuable time, energy, and resources on increasing our membership and service work. The main changes will be:

Dinner/Meetings held 4 times/year on the 2nd Thursday of October, January, April, and June
\$100 (\$25 per dinner) paid at the beginning of the year for each of the dinner meetings (for this year we will owe only \$50.00 for the last 2 meetings due to Maggie/Mary Ellen's hosting the October meeting). Please plan on paying that to Shannon by the October business meeting.

We are also working in committees. A representative from each committee will give a report at the membership meetings. If you haven't signed up for a committee yet, please do so soon by contacting the committee chair that you wish to serve on. The following have graciously agreed to chair:

- Service – Kate
- PR/Newsletter – Darcie
- Ways & Means – Allison
- Membership – Cindy
- Endowment – Lisa R.
- UN – Vicki
- ATNOZ – Maggie

Any ideas you have will be welcomed by anyone serving on the committee.

Also keep us informed of any interesting upcoming events, interesting books, etc. and we can add those to our monthly newsletter.

Our goal is to have a couple of events scheduled each quarter (service, ATNOZ, Ways & Means) so that we are still gathering together each month. Please give the board your feedback throughout the year as we work find the best balance for our club. If anyone has any questions on the changes, please feel free to give me a call.

See you at Mary Ellen's on October 13th.

-Vicki



Zonta International District 15
40th Annual
2011 Fall Conference
"The Sounds of Zonta"
October 14 - 16, 2011
at the beautiful
Dearborn Inn,
Dearborn, Michigan

Registration before October 1st \$195.00
Registration after October 1st \$220.00

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE NOW!](#)

Hosted by: Zonta Club of Southfield



Zonta Club of Grand Rapids

Member of Zonta International

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

Next Business Meeting:

Thursday, October 13, 2011

5:30pm Social

6:30pm Dinner

7:00pm Business Meeting

MaryEllen Denton's Home

5590 W Irving Rd, Hastings, MI

Directions: Take M-37 S from GR; continue straight through Middleville approximately 6 miles to W Irving (just past Barry County Fairgrounds); turn left on Irving; 1.75 miles to Denton's.

Please RSVP to Maggie at: maggieb@grar.com or 269-945-2448 Office; 269-795-0089 Home

Upcoming Business Meetings:

Thursday, January 12, 2012

Thursday, April 12, 2012

Thursday, June 14, 2012

Important Dates

- October 6-8, Poker Fundraiser, TJ's
- October 14-16, District 15 fall conference, Zonta Club of Southfield, Marriott Dearborn Inn
- October 24, United Nations Day
- October 30-November 2, Poker Fundraiser, TJ's
- November 10, 6-8pm, Degage Bingo Service Night
- November 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- May 5, 2012, Area 2 Spring Workshop hosted by ZGR

2011 Grand Rapids, Michigan **GiveCamp**

@GRGiveCamp Non-profit #4: @C_SNP. To be able to complete their project, we need developers to volunteer at <http://t.co/6Wzq3ZGD>

About GiveCamp 2011 Get Involved Non-Profits Sponsors

Non-profits

Does your non-profit need a new website? Time to escape those Excel spreadsheets and get a real donor database? Trying to figure out how to build your social media presence? GiveCamp is for you.

Join us for a weekend-long event that brings together nearly 100 technology professionals committed to providing your organization with solutions, strategies, and tools that can help you continue your good work... hopefully even more effectively or efficiently.

From designers, web developers and database administrators to marketers and web strategists, GiveCamp assembles a team of experienced professionals – all you need to do is apply, tell us about your desired project, and if your non-profit is selected, we'll work with you to shape it into a project that can be successfully completed during GiveCamp.

GiveCamp will be happening October 21-23. Don't miss this opportunity to check a project off your technology wish list.

Applications for GR Givecamp 2011 are closed.

GiveCamp 2011

GiveCamp 2011

Get Involved

Non Profits

Sponsors

Participants

Venue

Schedule

GR GiveCamp 2011 Statistics

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| NON-PROFIT APPLICATIONS | 35 | Closed |
| VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS | 57 | Sign up to Volunteer |
| POTENTIAL VALUE TO LOCAL NON-PROFITS | \$273,600.00 | |

I am very pleased to announce that ZGR has been selected as a GiveCamp 2011 non-profit participant. We will receive professional IT help in re-vamping our website to publicize the endowment and solicit donations, attract new members and maximize utilization of social media.

Shannon and Darcie will be attending the workshop in October for immediate rollout.



BILL SCHUETTE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 25, 2011

MEDIA CONTACT: John Sellek or Joy Yearout
517-373-8060
www.michigan.gov/AGPress

New Human Trafficking Unit Files State's First Charges Under New Law

Detroit Man, nicknamed "Gruesome," Arrested in California; Faces 13 Criminal Charges for Enslavement, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of Two Girls

LANSING— Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced his new Human Trafficking Unit has filed Michigan's first criminal charges under its new human trafficking law. Sedrick Leman-Isaac Mitchell, 32, of Detroit, is accused of human trafficking and other crimes after the Attorney General's office alleged he enslaved two young girls, forcing them to engage in prostitution in Detroit. The charges result from an investigation by Michigan State Police and the FBI through the Southeast Michigan Crimes Against Children Task Force.

"Modern day slavery happens in Michigan every day and it must be stopped," said Schuette. "I am committed to a new fight against this enslavement of our children. This is a warning for the criminals running these operations: Your time is up."

"This case is the very first to be prosecuted under the state human trafficking law," said Jane White, Director of the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force. "We welcome the leadership and commitment of Attorney General Schuette and look forward to his partnership in the fight against human trafficking in Michigan."

"This arrest is a huge step forward in Michigan's fight to combat human trafficking," said Bridgette Carr, Director of the University of Michigan Law School Human Trafficking Clinic. "We must send the message in Michigan that all victims of human trafficking will be treated like victims and those who choose to exploit them will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The leadership of Attorney General Bill Schuette is a welcome and necessary addition to the fight to combat human trafficking in Michigan."

Sedrick Leman-Isaac Mitchell, also known as "Gruesome" and "Roc," is accused of enslaving two girls and forcing them to engage in prostitution on the streets of Detroit. The victims include 14-year-old and 15-year-old girls. Schuette alleges one 14-year-old was enslaved by Mitchell after he invited her to attend a party in July 2010. The child was then held captive in a house on Detroit's east

side for approximately two months. A 15-year-old girl was enslaved under similar circumstances from December 2010 to January 2011.

The victims were forced to engage in prostitution, with Mitchell allegedly collecting all of their earnings. When the girls did not earn enough money, it is alleged Mitchell would physically abuse the girls by slapping and punching them. In addition to the physical assaults, Schuette alleges Mitchell sexually assaulted the girls on several occasions. In one sexual assault incident, Mitchell allegedly held a gun to the 14-year-old victim's head. During another sexual assault of the 15-year-old victim, Mitchell allegedly choked the girl when she resisted his advances.

Sedrick Leman-Isaac Mitchell has been charged by Schuette's office with the following:

- Two counts of Human Trafficking – Threats of Physical Harm Causing Injury (Involving Criminal Sexual Conduct), a felony punishable by life in prison;
- One count of Criminal Sexual Conduct – First Degree (Personal Injury), a felony punishable by life in prison;
- Two counts of Criminal Sexual Conduct – First Degree (Relationship), a felony punishable by life in prison;
- One count of Conducting Criminal Enterprises (Racketeering), a 20-year felony;
- Two counts of Prostitution/Pandering, a 20-year felony;
- Two counts of Prostitution – Accepting Earnings, a 20-year felony;
- One count of Felonious Assault, a four-year felony;
- One count of Felony Firearm – Second Offense, a 5-year felony; and,
- One count of Felon in Possession of Firearm, a five-year felony.

Mitchell was arrested in Mojave, California on July 21, 2011 by local law enforcement. Schuette's office has begun the process to have Mitchell extradited to Michigan to face the criminal charges announced today.

Human trafficking is modern day slavery and it is the second-largest and fastest-growing criminal industry in the world, after drug trafficking. Victims of human trafficking are in bondage through force, fraud or coercion, solely for the purpose of sex or labor exploitation. Children are especially vulnerable. According to the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2,515 incidents of human trafficking were recorded nationwide between January 2008 and June 2010. Of those incidents, 1,016 involved the sexual exploitation of a child, 1,218 involved the sexual exploitation of adults, and 350 involved labor trafficking.

The Michigan law banning Human Trafficking (MCL 760.462a, et seq.) went into effect on August 24, 2006. The law was strengthened in 2010, with those changes taking effect on April 1, 2011. Updates to the law included: adding human trafficking to the list of predicate offenses that fall

under the state racketeering law, authorizing additional court-ordered restitution for trafficking victims, and stronger penalties.

Schuetze's Human Trafficking Unit was created by reallocating resources in the Attorney General's Criminal Division to put an increased focus on combating human trafficking in Michigan, a priority Schuetze identified upon taking office in January of this year. Schuetze expects the unit to work closely with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to uncover and prosecute cases of modern-day slavery involving both children and adults.

A criminal charge is merely an accusation and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.