

# COMMUNIQUÉ



December 2007 • Connecting Women Personally, Professionally and Philanthropically

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THE ALLIANCE OF PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

### Executive Director

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## Boldreach Gala Raises \$140,000 To Benefit TIAW, The Alliance Foundation And Friendship Bridge

**The 2007 Gala was SOLD OUT!!** Guests enjoyed an evening that was entertaining, fun, gastronomical and educational. Those **Alliance Foundation** members and friends who survived the somewhat harried bus ride up the mountain on a very narrow two-lane road were rewarded at the top with an evening like no other. The beautiful house shimmered in the setting sun and was bursting with people, food, martinis, and entertainment. The fundraising efforts for microcredit, an economic breakthrough enabling the poorest of the poor to become self-sufficient, did not take a backseat and were a huge success raising over \$140,000.

"We're proud to say this was the largest and most successful Village Bank fundraising event we've ever hosted," says **SHARI LUTZ**, president of the Alliance Foundation. "It will allow **TIAW**, the **Foundation** and **Friendship Bridge** to open about **20 new Village Banks**. Each Village Bank helps between 25 and 50 women to start or expand a business. That means that 500 to 1,000 women will receive loans. The Foundation is excited to be opening Village Banks in Ghana, Peru and Afghanistan."

Through the Village Bank program the micro loans are paid back at an average rate of 98% plus interest; the money we raised will cycle many, many times. The beauty of microcredit is that each bank will re-loan the initial funds impacting thousands of people over time. Your support for the establishment of multiple village banks will make a difference for tens of thousands of women, men and children in desperate need of loans to begin sustainable businesses in their developing communities.



Cindy Rold, APW Member



APW Executive Committee Members Elizabeth Moore and Cathy D'Atilio

The Alliance would like to **thank Deloitte & Touche, Kutak Rock LLP, Stern Elkind & Curray LLP and Wells Fargo** for their generous support of the event. We would also like to thank everyone who attended. Please look for more information on our new Village Banks in upcoming issues of the Communiqué.

# CONNECTING PERSONALLY

## Leadership

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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*The Alliance is a member of  
 and proudly supports:  
 Colorado Women's Lobby, and The  
 International Alliance for Women*

## Red Light, Green Light: The Secret For Happy Holidays!

Red Light, Green Light was one of my least favorite childhood games. I found it difficult to stop on a dime on "Red Light!"; and I was too apprehensive to make a full out run to get to the end when it was "Green Light". I never won and never got to call the shots. This game was great training, however, on how to be joyful during the holidays. In my adult version, I get to call the shots and win myself fabulous and fun holidays. Let's play!

**Red Light.** Count how many holiday gatherings you have been invited to or are hosting, including school and work functions. On average, people get from 4-6 total invitations. There are almost 7 weeks in the typical holiday season from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day. When card writing, shopping, cooking, grooming for the parties, coordinating babysitting and family visits, and every day chores are added in, the number of free hours is less than the time needed to accomplish everything. This does not even account for those people who are mini-Marthas and go over the top in any one category.

**Green Light.** What compels you to say yes to all the parties? Do you truly enjoy every function you attend? What would happen if you declined some invitations this year? We continue on a path of craziness because some need is met by continuing the same behavior each year. Find out what need you are trying to meet and find a less stressful way of filling it. Even too much of a good thing is not healthy.

**Time Out!** Divide and Conquer. Prioritize the parties and attend only 2-3 the entire season. To decline an invitation, send a nice note with your regrets and an invitation for coffee in January or February. Or, plan a party with 1-2 friends and divide or share the responsibilities of cleaning, decorating, and cost. Make it a themed potluck or hire a personal chef to cater the party in your home. Limit the number of guests you invite.

**Red Light.** How many Christmas cards do you send? How impersonal have they become? Many people have tried to manage cards by making newsletters and printing labels with addresses. However, over the last few years, the yearly newsletters are the size of short books and have better graphics than many small business brochures. No matter how good the intention, chances are the long newsletter goes in the "I'll read it when I have time" pile. Do you really need to lose sleep over cards?

**Green Light.** What happens during the year that keeps you from engaging more thoughtfully with the people you send the newsletters? Do you use the newsletter to ease the guilt for not making time for communicating during the year? Your good friends do not need a daily blog of your thoughts and there are other ways to report on your family and personal highlight reel. If sending cards takes more energy than it is worth to you, don't send them. Nobody has ever melted for not sending cards.

**Time Out!** KISS. Keep it simple silly! I think inserts in cards are great, it saves time for a 1-2 line hello in the card itself. Most people have attention spans the size of postcards. You can fit 5 lines or 7 bullet points on a postcard. Prioritize what was most interesting in your year and share. You will get more calls back asking for more information, thus, creating the contact you desire. Better yet, write a postcard to the tune of a carol or meet with your local Send Out Cards representative!

# CONNECTING PERSONALLY

## Communiqué Committee

Mary Carr, Co-Chair  
Amanda Robison, Assistant  
Sandy Smith, Co-Chair

## Sustaining Alliance Members

Peggy Anderson  
Anne Vitek  
Deb Armbruster  
Kathleen Bowen  
Bonnie Busekrus  
Monica Thompson  
Charlene Wilson

## Communiqué Sponsors

Sandy Smith/Alexander Smith Design  
www.alexandersmithdesign.net

## Editor Notes

### From The Editor

The deadline for submitting articles for the COMMUNIQUÉ is Noon on the **15th** of each month. All submissions must be **electronic**. The COMMUNIQUÉ provides stories of interest & information to Alliance members.

Please send **ideas, comments, contributions, and questions** to [execdir@apwcolorado.org](mailto:execdir@apwcolorado.org)

## Red Light, Green Light: The Secret For Happy Holidays!

Continued from Page 2

**Red Light.** When was the last time you finished the holidays with zero debt? This is a terrible way to start the new year. On average, people wind up with about \$3,000 in bills that come due in the dark and cold month of January. Happy New Year!

**Green Light.** Why do you overspend? If you can afford extravagant gifts, hats off to you! Most people can't. Do you plan your shopping or shop as you go? What compels you to buy gifts for everyone? Only give gifts out of love, not guilt or obligation. Presents will not cure the guilt. Obligation creates resentment.

**Time Out!** Triage. Make a list of the people you want to gift. Divide them into 3 categories. Tier 1: these people will be at your deathbed. Be thoughtful with these gifts. Thoughtful does not mean expensive. The gifts should reflect how well you know them. Tier 2: these people will attend your funeral. Make a small snack, make up a great name for it, and package it nicely with items that can be found in places like the Container Store. It is amazing what packaging can do for TMI (The Most Incredible) Cookies\* or Truffles Wannabe. Send me an e.mail for these quick and easy recipes. Tier 3: these people will hear about your demise and feel sad for a few hours. Send your fabulous and fun card to these people with a note saying what they mean to you, no more is necessary.

My wish for you is the most joyful and stress-free holiday season ever! Put behind you, the burnt turkey, and the post-Thanksgiving 5 a.m. lines for the \$19.99 DVD player you did not get. Instead, pay attention to the lights this season. They make everything lighter and brighter in more ways than one. Happy Holidays!

*Elaine DeBassige D'Amato, NCC, LPC, has a coaching, consulting, and counseling private practice in Glendale, CO. **Champion Consulting** builds champions through performance training, leadership development, and stress mastery. Contact Elaine for a free consultation at [720] 240.7433 or [elaine@bethechampion.com](mailto:elaine@bethechampion.com).*

### TMI (The Most Incredible) Cookies\*

1 stick unsalted butter (softened or room temperature)	½ c. walnuts (ground in food processor)
¾ c. dark brown sugar	½ tsp. baking powder
¼ c. sugar	½ tsp. baking soda
2 eggs, lightly beaten	½ tsp. salt
2 tsp. vanilla	½ c. dark chocolate bits (melted in microwave at about 1 minute)
1 ¼ c. oats (ground in food processor)	1 c. dark chocolate bits
¾ c. flour	1 tbsp. instant espresso coffee powder
¼ c. rice flour (can be substituted for whole wheat or regular flour)	

Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Cream the butter with the sugars until fluffy, about 30 seconds. Beat in eggs and vanilla for 30 seconds. In a second mixing bowl, sift the oats, flours, ground walnuts, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Slowly add this mixture in at low speed over 30 seconds. Fold in the melted chocolate. Add the whole chocolate bits, espresso powder, and chopped walnuts. Use a small scoop onto greased or parchment lined cookie sheet 3 inches apart. Bake for 20-22 minutes. The longer the time the more crispy the outside of the cookie. Let them sit for about 1-2 minutes and remove. Place them on a paper bag or parchment paper to cool.

Yields 4 dozen cookies.

# CONNECTING PROFESSIONALLY

## Strategies For Handling Difficult Conversations

By Maureen Kanwischer

We've all been there – the need to initiate a conversation with employees, your boss, your spouse or your friends about something that you're not particularly comfortable with. And unfortunately, the usual action is no action. We put off having the conversation hoping the issue will resolve itself or simply go away. But it doesn't, and there comes a point when you know you have to suck it up and begin communicating.

A difficult conversation does not have to be a horrible experience. There are strategies that you can use to create a positive outcome and reduce the adversarial or uncomfortable feelings associated with difficult conversations. Following are a few strategies that you can use to mitigate the fear of initiating and following through on a difficult conversation.

**Prepare Yourself** The first step in tackling a difficult conversation is to prepare yourself. If you go into the conversation already convinced it is going to go badly, then it probably will. Take some time to think through your motives and establish what you hope to accomplish. Try to get to the point where you can begin the conversation with a supportive and positive tone. You have more control of the situation than you think- work to maintain your supportive and positive tone in order to avoid the conversation becoming adversarial.

**Initiating the Conversation** Start out by asking questions. Get the other person to share as much as possible about their point of view. Be curious, listen and let them talk until they are finished. Resist the temptation to interject your opinion about their statements. In this phase, you should be listening and learning all you can about the situation. You may be surprised to learn that your preconceived thoughts on how the other person views the subject may be different than what you expected. By allowing them to share their thoughts, you will gain a keener insight as to how to approach your points.

**Acknowledgement** As you learn in any sales or negotiation training, you have to be able to understand where the other party is coming from. Don't confuse understanding their point with agreement on your behalf. You must make sure the other person knows that you heard and that you understand their position. Acknowledge what you heard from them.

**Your Turn** Keeping the same tone from the Acknowledgment phase, bring up some points from your perspective. Clarify your position without minimizing theirs. Maintain control of your emotions and do not become adversarial. One of the biggest influencers in the outcome of the conversation is how you deliver your message. If you are supportive, understanding, and centered, you will have a much better outcome. Avoid punishing, condescending or critical statements.

**Problem Solving** Try to get agreement with the other person about how you got to this point. You don't have to agree, but you both have to recognize the intentions and events that got you to this point. Remind yourself of the original question: What do you hope to accomplish by holding this conversation? Bring yourself back to the original intent. At this point, both parties should be introducing options to address the situation, trying to find solutions that meet both sides' interests. You should also lay the groundwork for ongoing steps: communication, reports, etc.

Integrating these strategies into your conversation will help drive toward a successful outcome. If the conversation becomes contentious, remember your original intent and get yourself back to a supportive stance. Begin your conversation in a friendly, inquisitive manner. Be an empathetic listener. Don't let fear of a bad episode prevent you from engaging in a critical conversation.

**Maureen Kanwischer** is the owner of **EFW International** ([www.ewfinternational.com](http://www.ewfinternational.com)) providing professionally facilitated peer advisory groups for professional women in Downtown Denver, Boulder, Longmont, Broomfield, Westminster, Thornton and surrounding areas in Colorado.

### Resources:

*Difficult Conversations*, by Douglas Stone, Bruce Patton, and Sheila Heen  
*FAQs about Conflict*, by Judy Ringer. ([www.judyringer.com](http://www.judyringer.com))

# CONNECTING PERSONALLY



## Dear Dana: Taking The Stress Out Of Getting Dressed

Dear Dana,

How can I put together an updated holiday look using something I already have in my closet—like one of my 10 pairs of black pants? Also, what should I avoid when dressing for the holidays this year?

Dear Holli,

I like your line of thinking! Wearing separates is a great way to get mileage from your clothing without breaking the bank. Instead of buying a new little black dress, why not consider a “little black sequined skirt?” Then pair it with pieces you already own. The key to updated dressing this season is mixing up your textures, and this skirt can be worn at least 3 ways:

**First**, I love mixing dressy items with casual pieces. Consider combining the skirt with a black, cashmere sweater, black tights and black, high boots. Again, it's all about mixing up textures that make this modern look interesting. This is a dressy look that's not over-the-top. It would be perfect for an office party, a holiday luncheon, a dinner party or dinner out at a romantic restaurant.

**For all out glam**, the LBSS can be paired with a really dressy, trendy, satin, sleeveless top. For this look, I'd shed the tights and change to strappy, sparkly sandals. It's truly a fun look that will go to any dressy occasion except for all but the most traditional, black-tie affair.

**Since sequins and shine** are such a big trend for fall/winter, not just holiday, the skirt can be worn more casually and well beyond the holidays. For the third look, pair the skirt with a smooth, long sleeved black t-shirt, a black blazer and the same tights. (Charcoal or aubergine tights could be cool, too.) Belt the waist with a black patent belt and change to short, suede boots. Very fashionista!

These are just a few ideas. For a look that's “you,” go to your closet, see what you have, and start playing dress up to create looks that work for your personal style and lifestyle!

If a black sequined skirt isn't your style, consider adding a satin brocade blazer or a pair of velvet pants to combine with items already in your closet. And black isn't your only option, there are plenty of sophisticated metallics, winter whites and festive brights on the market.

And to answer your second question, Holli...The thing to avoid for holiday (and in general,) is being too matchy-matchy. Avoid a brocade jacket and matching skirt. Avoid velvet on velvet. Avoid anything with embroidered holiday motifs. And avoid the Holiday outfit your mom or husband bought you and has been expecting you to wear for the last 10 years!

Warmest Holiday Wardrobe Wishes,  
**DANA LYNCH**, Elements of Image



**Dana Lynch** is an image consultant who specializes in “taking the stress out of getting dressed!” She can be reached at [303] 463-4839 or [dana@elementsofimage.com](mailto:dana@elementsofimage.com). Please visit [www.elementsofimage.com](http://www.elementsofimage.com) for more information and to sign up to receive the monthly e-Style Tip of the Month.

# MEMBER NEWS & INFORMATION



## Alliance Networking Opportunities, Events, Activities & More

**WHEN: DECEMBER 5TH, 2007 5:30P**

**WHAT: OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WHERE:** Whole Foods, Tamarac Square

**RSVP:** **MEGAN WEGNER 1-800-340-5653** x52760 or  
megan.Wegner@jnli.com

**WHEN: DECEMBER 6, 2007, 11:30A – 1P**

**WHAT: DECEMBER HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

**Don't miss our annual Holiday festivities!** We will be honoring our **Corporate Member of the Year, Great-West** and all attendees will receive a special gift and a chance to win fun holiday entertainment packages through our business card drawings!

**WHERE:** THE Brown Palace Hotel, 321 17th St.,  
Denver, CO 80202 Downtown

**COST:** \$45 APW Members; \$50 Non-Members if RSVP'd by Mon, Dec 3rd, \$50 APW Members; \$55 Non-Members RSVP'ing after Mon, Dec 3rd

**RSVP:** Register on-line at [www.blacktie-colorado.com/rsvp](http://www.blacktie-colorado.com/rsvp) and enter event code **apwdec07**. On-Line Pre-Registration is REQUIRED for this event.

**When you RSVP**, please select one of the following entrees. All entrees will be served with Butternut Squash Bisque Mascarpone w/ Sun Dried Cherries to start and Flourless Chocolate Cake with White Chocolate Framboise Mousse and Guava Coulis for dessert:

- Southwest Rocky Mountain Trout served w/Roasted Corn Cream **OR**
- Chicken Breast Filled w/Rosemary Bagel Stuffing and served w/Cranberry Jus Lie **OR**
- Artichoke Mascarpone Agnolotti a spinach pasta w/grilled zucchini, basil and extra virgin olive oil.

**For more information call [303] 368-4747.**

**PARKING:** Valet parking available for \$10 – access Brown Palace valet on Tremont. Lot parking available adjacent to Wells Fargo accessible from Lincoln (between 17th and 18th streets) at \$7.

**You can now find an RSVP link to upcoming Alliance Events on our homepage!**

Go to **[www.apwcolorado.org](http://www.apwcolorado.org)**

and click on the bold RSVP link – it will take you directly to the **BlackTie RSVP** page for the event!

**WHEN: DECEMBER 13TH, 2007 11:45A – 1P**

**WHAT: NETWORKING / EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WHERE:** Wild Oats, Colorado Blvd

**RSVP:** **DANA LYNCH, (303) 463-4839**  
dana@elementsofimage.com

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

will not be meeting in December due to the holidays. They will resume their regular schedule in January.

**WHEN: JANUARY 10TH, 2007, 11:30A – 1P**

**WHAT: JANUARY NETWORKING LUNCHEON**

**WHERE:** Maggiano's, 7401 S. Clinton, St., Englewood,  
CO 80112 (DTC)

**COST:** \$25 APW Members; \$35 Non-Members – Join at the luncheon and receive \$25 off annual membership dues!

**RSVP:** Register on-line at [www.blacktie-colorado.com/rsvp](http://www.blacktie-colorado.com/rsvp) and enter event code **apwjn08**. On-Line Pre-Registration is REQUIRED for this event.

**PARKING:** Maggiano's free lot

Her products have been featured in Oprah, Redbook, and InStyle. **STACEY EDGAR**, founder and CEO of Denver-based **Global Girlfriend** ([www.globalgirlfriend.com](http://www.globalgirlfriend.com)) runs a fair trade fashion boutique that buys handmade products from more than 20 disadvantaged women's groups throughout the world. Their mission: to provide women worldwide in need with economic security. As our **January Networking Luncheon featured speaker**, the APW is excited to offer you the opportunity to learn more about Stacey Edgar's valuable work.

Enjoy family-style dining at Maggiano's, including salad, entrees and desserts!

Continued on Page 7



### Tumbleweed Soap Company

keeping it natural.

Give naturally with Tumbleweed Soap Company's natural products.

10% of your purchase will be given back to APW to support a family in need during this holiday season.

Shop at our online store and when checking out use the following coupon code: **APW10**

Place order by December 1st, 2007

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:**  
[www.tumbleweedsoaps.com](http://www.tumbleweedsoaps.com)



# MEMBER NEWS & INFORMATION

## Alliance Networking

Continued from Page 6

**WHEN: FEBRUARY 14TH, 2008, 11:30A – 1P**

**WHAT: FEBRUARY NETWORKING LUNCHEON**  
**Sponsored By Waddell & Reed, Speaker BARBARA MILLER: A Valentine Does Not Equal A Financial Plan!**

**WHERE:** Izakaya Den, 1518 S. Pearl St., Denver, CO 80210  
 (owned by and across the street from the Sushi Den near Platte and Washington Parks).

**COST:** \$25 Members; \$35 Non-Members. Join the APW at the luncheon and get \$25 off annual membership dues!

**RSVP:** Register on-line at [www.blacktie-colorado.com/rsvp](http://www.blacktie-colorado.com/rsvp) and enter event code `apwfeb08`.  
 On-Line Pre-Registration is REQUIRED for this event.

**PARKING:** Free street parking and parking in lot on south side of Izakaya Den.

SAVE THE DATE –

*April 25, 2008*

**5TH ANNUAL**  
**Alliance Foundation Fundraiser**  
**Passport to Italy**

Wine, gastronomical delights, cooking demonstrations,  
 live entertainment, silent & live auctions

Have we tempted your palate yet?  
 Look for more details soon!

## APW Totes FOR Sale – Proceeds Benefit Alliance Foundation!

We are currently taking orders for APW Tote Bags given at the September Membership Appreciation Luncheon! The tote measures 17" wide by 14" high by 3" at the bottom seam, wide enough to accommodate legal sized folders. It is made out of thick nylon canvas. The tote has a zipper closure; inside there is one main pocket and three mini pockets for items like cell phone, pens, business cards, etc.



## New Members

**REBECCA MOORE-LEACH**, President,  
**Socially Responsible Investment Strategies, LLC**,  
 [303] 912-4431, [rmoore-leach@fwg.com](mailto:rmoore-leach@fwg.com).

Rebecca's business is designed to help individuals, businesses and non-profits to align their investments with their social and environmental values. She helps people invest in companies, funds, stocks etc. that are both socially and environmentally responsible while helping to attain their own financial goals.

**DANA SMITH**, Finance/Accounting Consulting,  
 [303] 324-8964, [dana2004@comcast.net](mailto:dana2004@comcast.net)

**SHERE CHAMNESS**, Owner, **REALART**,  
 [303] 797-2821, [shere@planet-realart.com](mailto:shere@planet-realart.com).

Since 1985 REALART has helped business owners communicate what's wonderful about their products and services. Through the multiple dimensions of hand-crafted websites, printed words and images, and fine art, REALART offers new realms of possibility in communication.

**JENNIFER McPEEK**, D.O., Physician,  
**Jennifer McPeek, D.O.**, [303] 979-0342, [dr\\_jmc@msn.com](mailto:dr_jmc@msn.com)  
 Doctor McPeek is a licensed physician, board certified in osteopathic neuromuscular manual medicine. She provides gentle hands on treatment that works with the body's natural capacity to correct balance and heal itself. Dr. McPeek is able to help with: pain relief, chronic fatigue, fibromyalgia, healing the trauma cycle, aid immune function, help common pediatric problems such as ear infections, colic, learning and behavioral problems, contribute to healthy pregnancy, delivery and postpartum as well as neurotrauma.

**BARB MILLER**, Financial Advisor, **Waddell & Reed**,  
 [303] 770-5511 x146, [bmiller02@wradvisors.com](mailto:bmiller02@wradvisors.com).  
 Barb helps educate and empower women to make great financial decisions for themselves and their families.

**AMANDA TAYLOR**, Creative Director, **Amanda Taylor**,  
 [303] 738-0508, [oystahgirl@qwest.net](mailto:oystahgirl@qwest.net).  
 Amanda Taylor creates design and art direction for small to large businesses including: graphics, corporate ID, web and exhibition design, branding consulting and strategies from consulting to full integrated design programs, direct mail and broadcast strategies.

**SANDRA ABEYTA**, Independent Agent, **Mountain Storm Insurance Co.** [303] 759-5751, [sandra@mtnstorm.com](mailto:sandra@mtnstorm.com)  
 As your agent, Sandra will help you with property, casualty, life and commercial insurance.

# MEMBER NEWS & INFORMATION

## New Member Profiles

1. **Why did you join the Alliance of Professional Women?**
2. **What are your hobbies?**
3. **What is your position/business?**
4. **What is something that few people know about you?**

We misspelled JANET SQUIRE's last name in our November issue. Our apologies to Janet – we'd like to introduce her again, with the correct last name!

JANET SQUIRE, Liability Management Advisor with **Gulfstream Financial**, [303] 790-9631, janetsquire@gulfstreamteam.com

1. **Joined APW:** To meet new people, make new connections, learn, grow, have lunch at places I don't normally frequent and possibly make new friends.
2. **Hobbies:** hmmm... who has time for hobbies? I'm very interested in horses and follow thoroughbred racing quite significantly. I also am a volunteer at the Friends of Horses Rescue and Adoption mucking stalls and cleaning after horses. If anyone knows of a smoking hot, 40-something single rancher, please introduce me.
3. **Occupation:** I have a full time job working nights at Comcast where I'm the supervisor over a group of telephony repair technicians. I also contract for Gulfstream Financial Corp. where I am Liability Management Advisor Gulfstream has a program that will help homeowners get out of debt in an accelerated fashion). Both of my positions keep me very busy, but that's by choice- I love to meet new people and learn new things.
4. **Most People Don't Know:** I'm a very girly girl, but underneath I'm a big tomboy and oftentimes feel as if I'm still 10 years old jumping in mud puddles and climbing trees. In addition to being a horseracing fan, I'm also a huge fan of boxing and Ultimate Fighting.

SANDI BRANCIO, Business and personal coach with **Send Out Cards**, [303] 632-0911, www.sendoutcards.com/brancio

1. **Joined APW:** I enjoy meeting and creating relationships with other professional women in the area. It is very refreshing and fun.
2. **Hobbies:** I am a freelance artist- I am in a volunteer professional clown troop that travels around the world.
3. **Occupation:** Business and personal coach with Send Out Cards.
4. **Most people don't know:** This is difficult. I am an open book with friends and family, not much under the bushel that most do not know about.

WILHELMINIA (WILLIE) RIPPLE, Author/Event planner, **Oakbrook Publishing House**, 303-738-1733, willie@whatdiidobooks.com

1. **Joined APW:** I Joined the Alliance to meet other professional women who are respectful and honest.
2. **Hobbies:** My hobbies are reading for sure, spending time with friends, yoga, creating and leadership, helping others, movies, hiking, my family and GOD.
3. **Occupation:** I am an award-winning author of holiday and kids party books. I am also an event planner that prides myself on perfection from the beginning to the end.
4. **Most People Don't Know:** Few people know that I was a spokesperson for Hasbro last year helping them to promote their Twister Dance DVD game.

### Receive a Free Ad for referring new members to The Alliance!

In an organization like The Alliance, we depend on referrals to increase our membership. As a small thank you for referring a new member to The Alliance, you will receive a complimentary business card ad in the Communiqué.

## Anniversaries

The Alliance **recognizes** and **thinks** the following women who joined The Alliance of Professional Women in December. We greatly appreciate your continued support of our organization.

- 22 Years **CHARLENE WILSON**, Anglogold Ashanti North America Inc.  
 20 Years **JUDITH LAJOIE**, MDC Holdings, Inc.  
 19 Years **MONICA THOMPSON**  
 5 Years **ROSEMARY SEIWALD**, The Holt Group, LLC  
 4 Years **NANCY THAUETTE**, US Bank  
 2 Years **DEBORAH KRIER**, Wise Women Communications, LLC  
**CATHY LECHUGA**, US Bank  
**KARI HEBBLE**, Citi Private Bank  
 1 Year **PATRICE BARBER**, Taylor Made Wealth Coaching  
**LING LAM**, Schmidt, Horen & Lockwood, LLP

# MEMBER NEWS & INFORMATION

## Alliance Thanks

The Alliance would like to **thank KATHLEEN HARRIGAN** for hosting our November Networking Luncheon at **The Palm!**

**Congratulations** to our **2007 Survey Drawing Winners** who received gift cards to the **Renaissance Aveda Spa and Salon** and a **Free Networking Luncheon**:

APW Member:

**PEGGY TOPEL** of **Gordon, Hughes & Banks, LLP**

Non-Member:

**KRISTEN L. SWEAT** of **Gelt & Grassgreen, P.C.**

## Office Space For Rent

Five offices (with two paralegal/secretary spaces) available for immediate occupancy. Located at 19th and Sherman, two blocks from the Brown Palace. Offices are fully furnished, with state of the art amenities, high speed DSL connectivity, high speed copier/scanner, approximately 184 square feet each. Large conference room with audio/video five channel surround sound capability. The available services include receptionist, telephone, copier, fax, conference room and breakroom. Contact **RODNEY BERNHARDT** at Kritzer/Zonies, LLC., [303] 393-1111 or [rodney@kritzerzonies.com](mailto:rodney@kritzerzonies.com).

## Please Help!

If you are searching for a way to give back to your community and to help make our world safer for our children and women please consider the following need. **The Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault** is looking for two new board members. They are looking for someone with an accounting/CPA background as well as someone with experience fund raising preferably in the non-profit arena. I have been told that the time commitment needed is about 10 hours per month. If either you or someone you know might be interested in joining me in working with this wonderful organization, please call me at [303] 572-3930 or email me at [jgraff@prcdenver.com](mailto:jgraff@prcdenver.com).

*Thank you for your help.*

**JUDY GRAFF**, President  
Paralegal Resource Center, Inc.

## Need Directory Photos And Information

Don't forget to submit your photo and any updates to your contact information for the 2007-2008 APW Membership Directory! Please call [303] 368-4747 or email [excedir@apwcolorado.org](mailto:excedir@apwcolorado.org) for more information. Deadline for Directory Updates is **Friday, December 7th, 2007!**

*Please join us for a lively discussion on*

**Conflict in Family Relationships**  
on **KGNU • 88.5 FM and 1390 AM**  
**Thursday, December 6**

We look forward to an active and provocative call-in radio program which will be aired on KGNU -- 88.5 FM and 1390 AM.

With the holidays at hand we can only imagine what "family issues" may be discussed.

Please tune in and call in sharing your ideas and concerns. Hope to hear from you on Thursday morning, December 6!

## Do You Love To Shop?

How about shopping for a cause? The **APW Outreach committee** needs volunteer shoppers for this year's **Adopt A Family**. This year, we are adopting four families from **SafeHouse Denver**. The committee will be collecting donations and raising funds for these families at the annual Brown Palace Holiday Luncheon. If you'd like to shop for a family member, you will be provided with a list and have a \$50 budget (reimbursement will come from the funds raised at the luncheon). For more details, please contact **MEGAN WEGNER**, Outreach Committee Chair, at [megan.wegner@jnli.com](mailto:megan.wegner@jnli.com) or 800-340-5653 x52760.

# MEMBER NEWS & INFORMATION

## **Emilie C. Ailts**, APW Member, Named Executive Director Of Naral Pro-Choice Colorado

The Board of Directors of **NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado** today announced the hiring of **EMILIE C. AILTS** as executive director effective January 1, 2008. Ailts will replace outgoing Executive Director **KATHRYN WITTNEBEN**, who is leaving the organization after a two-year tenure.

Ailts previously owned a Denver planning/management consultation firm specializing in serving the public, private and not-for-profit sectors across the west. In that capacity, Ailts offered public research/management consultation, organizational development and strategic planning support, consensus building/facilitation services, and fundraising consultation.

"I am very excited to accept this position at NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado. This is an important time to join Colorado's reproductive rights and reproductive health care community," Ailts said. "We've established a solid foundation to advance reproductive health care in Colorado, where reproductive freedom for families is a mainstream value. Coloradans agree that it is critical that women and their families have access to the information and services they need to make responsible, informed decisions to prevent unintended pregnancy, bear healthy, secure children, or choose safe, legal abortion."

"I look forward to working not only with NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado, but also with our experienced and informed allies to ensure women and their families maintain access to the full range of reproductive health care options," Ailts said. "Given radical activists' current attempt to amend Colorado's constitution by granting "personhood" to all fertilized eggs, I welcome the opportunity for NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado to help educate Colorado voters about why the 2008 elections could dramatically impact all aspects of their lives, in addition to essential reproductive rights and reproductive health care policy in our state."

During Wittneben's successful tenure, NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado and its sister organization, NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado Foundation, launched a major initiative to understand – and recommend strategies to overcome — barriers and challenges to preventing unintended pregnancy in Colorado. Wittneben also directed the organization's successful 2006 voter education and mobilization efforts that resulted in the election of a record number of pro-choice officials to state offices and increasing the pro-choice majority in both chambers of the Colorado General Assembly.

### **Biography of Emilie C. Ailts**

*Emilie C. Ailts is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate in communications from the University of Colorado. In addition to her professional experience, Ailts has spoken to almost 100 audiences throughout the U.S. on many business topics for such groups as the National Parks and Recreation Association, Colorado Parks and Recreation Association, The National Park Service, The Denver Chapter of AIA, The Colorado Women's Bar Association, The Denver Chamber of Commerce, The Colorado Chapter of The American Society of Landscape Architects, and The Consulting Engineers Council, among others. Ms. Ailts has written and edited articles for publication, including a periodic column in The Denver Business Journal, has been quoted on business issues in The Rocky Mountain News, and participated in a business analysis column in The Denver Post. Ms. Ailts has presided over numerous not-for-profit boards of directors including The Lowry Foundation, the Washington Park East Neighborhood Association, the Alliance of Professional Women, the Alliance of Professional Women Foundation, Family Builders by Adoption, Community Resources, Inc., Women in Communications and Adult Care Management among others. She has served as an advisor to the Parks Advisory Group of the Stapleton Development Corporation. She was also appointed by the Colorado Insurance Commissioner to the Small Business Advisory Committee on the Affordability and Availability of Health Insurance.*

NARAL Pro-Choice Colorado (NPCC) is the political action arm of the pro-choice movement in Colorado. NPCC has more than 30,000 supporters statewide and works to develop and sustain a constituency that uses the political process to guarantee every woman the right to make personal decisions regarding the full range of reproductive health choices, including preventing unintended pregnancies, bearing healthy children and choosing legal abortion.

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

You can now find an RSVP link to upcoming Alliance Events on our homepage! Go to [www.apwcolorado.org](http://www.apwcolorado.org) and click on the bold RSVP link – it will take you directly to the **BlackTie RSVP** page for the event! See Pgs 6-7 for event information and event codes or call the contact for the event.

## DECEMBER 2007

M	T	W	T	F	S
					1
2	3	4	5 <b>HANUKKAH BEGINS</b> <b>OUTREACH COMMITTEE</b> 5:30 pm, Whole Foods Tamarac Square Megan Wegner [800] 340-5653	6 <b>DECEMBER HOLIDAY LUNCHEON</b> 11:30 am-1:00 pm, The Brown Palace, Downtown Denver Mary Carr [303] 368-4747	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 <b>NETWORKING/EVENTS</b> 11:45 am-1:00 pm, Wild Oats, Colorado Blvd. Dana Lynch [303] 463-4839
14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31

## JANUARY 2008

M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 <b>NETWORKING LUNCHEON</b> 11:30 am-1:00 pm, Maggiano's, Englewood Mary Carr [303] 368-4747
11	12	13	14	15 <b>MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY</b>	16
17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31			