

# WOMEN'S NETWORK

A DIVISION OF THE COLUMBIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# News from Women's Network

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Ashley Furniture Home Store Presents:

***“Your Favorite Things”  
Holiday Party***

***Kick-Off Celebration to  
Women’s Network 30th Year***

*This year marks the 30th year Women’s Network has been serving Chamber members, and we’re kicking off a year-long celebration with some of our favorite things!*

*Throughout the evening, we will raffle off fellow Women’s Network members’ “Favorite Things” — donated by you (see form inside).*

### Thursday, December 9, 2010

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. • Stephens College Kimball Ballroom  
Cost is \$10 • Drinks and light hors d’oeuvres will be provided

Registration Deadline: Thursday, December 2

To register: visit [www.ColumbiaMOChamber.com/WomensNetwork](http://www.ColumbiaMOChamber.com/WomensNetwork)  
call (573) 874-1132; email [kstull@ColumbiaMoChamber.com](mailto:kstull@ColumbiaMoChamber.com)



This event is made possible by our sponsors:  
**Presenting Sponsor — Ashley Furniture Home Store**  
**Gold Sponsor — Delta Systems Group**  
**Location Sponsor — Stephens College**

### Steering Officers

Kelley Marchbanks  
President  
MU College of Veterinary Medicine

Jennifer Thoma  
President-Elect  
Boone County National Bank

Sherry Waddill  
Past-President  
Boone County National Bank

Chris Steuber  
Secretary  
Landmark Bank

Michelle Mountjoy  
Treasurer  
Boone County National Bank

### Steering Committee

#### 2008-2011 Term

Cara Christianson  
Kate Grant  
Izzy Leatherman  
Kelley Marchbanks  
Michelle Mountjoy

#### 2009-2012 Term

Kerrie Bloss  
Heather Hargrove  
Melanie Karrick  
Kylene Richardson  
Nancy Allison

#### 2010-2013 Term

Shatenita Horton  
Amy McNulty  
Chris Steuber  
Marissa Todd  
Lili Vianello

### Committee Co-Chairs

#### Business Leaders Forum

Angela Holloway  
Tana Benner

#### Changing the Odds

Barb King  
Christina Walker

#### Membership Development

Shelly DeVore  
Elisha Koenig

#### Marketing & Communications

Laura Harris  
Kate Stull

#### Monthly Program

Jessica Macy  
Carrie Spicer

#### Special Events

Amanda Tilford  
Debra Montague

#### Budget and Finance

Michelle Mountjoy  
Shatenita Horton

## Letter from Women's Network President

### Being blown away!



I've mentioned China in my last couple of articles but only as a secondary character in the stories. This month, I am inspired to share a little more about my recent experience in China - keeping with my adventure theme.

I love to travel and have many destinations on the list of places I plan to go. China was never at the top of that list. However, when the Chamber trip was presented, it was too good of a deal to pass up. Though I had no idea what to expect, there must have been some preconceived notions I carried because China exceeded all of my expectations. Every day provided another experience that

absolutely blew me away! Nearly everything I saw and nearly everywhere I went displayed startling and amazing contrast. Ancient and contemporary were seated side by side. Vast structures built with the most intricate and delicate details. Wealth and poverty were crammed in the same space coexisting together in harmony. People...SO many people, literally on top of each other. There was high-rise after high-rise overlooking endless miles of wild mountain terrain.

To have walked where so many have walked before was an experience like none other. To see things so foreign to our western way of life made me realize that, even in our small world, we are worlds apart from so many. I feel blessed that my journey has taken me places that have tested my preconceptions and I hope those experiences will serve a greater good. Yet, I also realize that as amazing as it is to travel to the other side of the earth, there are things right here in our own back yard that, if we take the time to notice, can blow us away as much as any Chinese palace. We might not share the depth of history or the intense contrasts of China but we can share in the splendor. I hope we can all broaden our horizons but never lose sight of the amazing things around us. Find something today that totally blows you away!

May our adventure continue...

President, Women's Network  
MU College of Veterinary Medicine

## Athena Nominations Are Due

It's time to think about the astonishing professionals you know!

On April 21, 2011, Women's Network will present the prestigious ATHENA Award to an individual in our community. This award is presented to one who has attained and embodies the highest level of professional excellence in his/her business or profession, has devoted time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community and actively assists women in realizing their leadership potential.

On this same evening, Women's Network will present the ATHENA Young Professional Award to an emerging leader in our community. The recipient is one who demonstrates professional excellence in his/her business or profession, devotes time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community and serves as a role model for young men and women personally and professionally.

Both of these exceptional individuals will be selected from YOUR nominations.

If you know a business man or woman who fits the description of an ATHENA or an ATHENA Young Professional recipient, please take the time to honor her/him by filling out the appropriate nomination form.

Nominations are due to Kate Stull, Women's Network Director, by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 14, 2011.

## *“Your Favorite Things” Holiday Party Kick-Off Celebration to Women’s Network 30th Year*

Donate some of your favorite things for this year’s holiday event to be of the raffle items given to fellow members.

Fill out the form below and return to Kate Stull at the Chamber (300 S. Providence Road) along with your “Favorite Thing” by Monday, December 6, 2010. Any baked goods must be delivered to the Chamber by 12:00 pm, December 9.

Ideas: your favorite... books, CDs, recipes and baked goods, DVDs, ornaments, scarves, handmade goods, lotions, and more.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Item: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason why it is your favorite thing: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional information (e.g. list of ingredients): \_\_\_\_\_

## Honoring Dr. Muriel Battle

Recently, the passion of a past Women’s Network president, Dr. Muriel Battle, was remembered as the new Battle High was officially named in her honor. Muriel was the Women’s Network president from 1994-1995. Soon after, she received the ATHENA award in 1996 for excelling in her profession, outstanding community service, and opening doors for other women to follow. In addition, Muriel and her husband Eliot were the 2000 recipients of Columbia Chamber of Commerce Citizens of the Year Award.



**“She shared her time and talents not only with Columbia Public Schools but with the entire community.”**

“I believe that my success has been a win for the city, the school district, state and more importantly for the children,” Muriel said on receiving the ATHENA award. “I take some credit for removing some of the barriers of gender and race when administrators and leaders are selected.”

Muriel was active in many national, state and local groups. She was a past board member of Downtown Columbia Rotary Club, and an Ambassador of the Columbia Chamber of Commerce. She participated in national education forums and Blue Ribbon Schools around the United States. As a consultant for the US Office of Education, she has met with four sitting presidents.

Having worked closely with Muriel, Karen Taylor remembers what a great contribution she made to this community. “I can’t think of any person, or family, that deserves this honor more than Muriel Battle. She shared her time and talents not only with Columbia Public Schools but with the entire community.”

Battle High, to be located off St. Charles Road, is scheduled to open in fall 2013.

The older I get, the more I realize how important traditions are for children. When asked about my favorite childhood memories, the first things that come to my mind are the holiday traditions we fulfilled as a family. Family traditions are so important for a multitude of reasons, the most important of which are:

1. Family traditions create good feelings and positive emotions in each member, that will last a lifetime.
2. Family traditions give each family member a stronger sense of belonging.
3. Family holiday traditions allow parents to show their children the importance of stability and predictability. In addition activities that are observed year in and year out become a means by which family members can build trust and security.

Many Women's Network members responded to our request to give us their favorite holiday traditions. Following are the responses we received:

1. We always have egg nog.
2. Reading my childhood copy of *A Visit from St. Nicholas* to my family on Christmas Eve.
3. Lighting the tiny light in the manger that my Grammy willed to me.
4. Having dessert/coffee at a nice restaurant after Christmas Eve service at church.
5. On Christmas Eve we get together with all of my husband's family. The highlight is an ornament exchange, which is especially great for the kids because, by the time they are grown with Christmas trees of their own, they will have a nice collection of ornaments, each with its own 'story' and memory.
6. Each year each member of our family makes part of the meal. We have a "meeting" the week before to plan what we are going to have, and who will be responsible for each part.
7. Before the holiday meal, we go around the table where each person tells what he/she is thankful for.
8. We help serve dinner to the needy on Christmas Day.
9. We open one present on Christmas Eve.
10. Attend Christmas Eve midnight service.
11. Driving around and looking at Christmas decorations.
12. Trimming the tree with ornaments that we have collected throughout our lives, including the paper chain that our children made when they were three and six years old.

If you haven't already, make a holiday tradition your tradition this year and for years to come. Your family will love you for it!

## Voices from the Past



I became a member of Women's Network in 1988, on the suggestion of a co-worker. She was a member of the Steering Committee and President-Elect. I remember my first meeting as if it were yesterday. I met so many people I left wondering what it was I had gotten myself into. After several more meetings, my question was answered.

I attended Leadership Columbia in 1992 along with Sabrina McDonnell. Sabrina was President-Elect of Women's Network at the time. I mentioned to her my interest in chairing a Women's Network Committee, specially the Manager's Committee. After chairing that committee for a year, I became a member of the Steering Committee. Several years later, I was asked to be President-Elect. I actually served as President for a term and a half as Susan Yesilada, then President, relocated to Oregon.

I served as President from 1997-98, and am most proud that during that time Steering Committee voted to begin the "Changing the Odds" program. It makes me proud to see how the program has evolved over the years. Since its inception hundreds of women have been served by the program.

When you attend a Women's Network monthly luncheon, make it a habit to sit at a table where you don't know anyone. Do this every time and you'll be amazed after a few months all the people you have met. Some of those people may turn out to be your best friends. You will have built a network of people in no time. It's even better if you decide to get involved with the organization. There are numerous opportunities waiting for a volunteer. Learning from others is priceless. I was fortunate to have had Muriel Battle, Linda Arnold and Vicki Dunscombe as mentors.

I encourage you to get involved in the committee of your choice. Take a leap out of your comfort zone and know there are others in the organization just like you. Be the first to say, "I want to join a committee." I guarantee you won't regret it.

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### Changing the Odds Fall Event Was a Success

On October 30, 2010 the Changing The Odds committee held the 24th free job seminar for women in the Columbia area. Twenty-eight women participated in the event with approximately 15 volunteers from Women's Network. It was a very successful day focusing on interviewing skills, résumé writing and a career development exercise facilitated by Janice Dawson-Threat with the Missouri Division of Workforce Development.

The women enjoyed a light breakfast, lunch and a fashion show put on by the Assistance League of Mid-Missouri, who provided each of the women with a \$25 gift certificate to Upscale Resale. Results from a survey given at the end of the event showed all the 28 women felt they received useful tools for their job search.

**Our next seminar is scheduled for April 30, 2011.**

# WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

## Sherry Bare

Columbia EDP Center, Inc.  
PO Box 1423 | Columbia MO 65205-1423  
(573) 474-8431 | sbare@columbiaedp.com

## Claire Chitwood

Tiger Institute  
27 S. Tenth St | Columbia MO 65201-6520  
(573) 876-8706 | claire.chitwood@tiger-institute.com

## Cara Christianson

The Club at Old Hawthorne  
6221 E Broadway | Columbia MO 65201-8762  
(573) 442-5280 | cara@oldhawthorne.com

## Amy Cox

Labor Ready  
1900 E Vandiver Dr | Columbia MO 65202-1913  
(573) 874-8916 | aacox@laborready.com

## Liya Kharabora

Northwestern Mutual Financial Network - Turner  
2024 Cherry Hill Dr Ste 201 | Columbia MO 65203-5921  
(660) 473-1288 | liya.kharabora@nmfn.com

## Jill Womack

TRYPs Children's Theater  
2300 Bernadette, #918 | Columbia MO 65203-3475  
(573) 449-4536 | tryps@me.com

## This Month's Member Milestones

Send in your milestone to share with other Women's Network members!

- **Brooke Berkey**, Stoney Creek Inn & Conference Center, was promoted to Sales Manager.
- **Bondi Wood**, Wood Writing and Consulting, has been named to the Columbia Public School Foundation's Hall of Leaders for her more than 20 years of volunteering in the Columbia Public Schools.
- **Amanda Burfield Tilford**, Stephens College Events, married Jeremy Tilford on October 16.

Email your submission (or one for a friend) to  
laura.harris@landmarkbank.com.

## Member Profile

by *Connie McClellan, Winter-Dent & Company*

**Who:** Kathy Maxey

**Title:** Renaissance Therapy, Physical Therapist



Kathy Maxey, Physical Therapist with Renaissance Therapy, grew up in Prairie Home, MO prior to attending the University of Central Missouri (UCM) where, in 1977, she earned her teaching degree. After teaching for five years, she returned to UCM where she earned her Master's Degree in Athletic Training. In 1988, Kathy earned her degree in

Physical Therapy from Rockhurst University in Kansas City, MO. Then, in 1989, Kathy moved to Columbia where she now works as a Physical Therapist for Renaissance Therapy. Kathy's primary focus is orthopedic injuries and surgeries as well as chronic and arthritic pain

When Kathy is not at home with her husband, Robert, and twelve-year-old daughter, Leah, she is either playing golf or softball, attending Mizzou Athletic events, or rooting for Kansas City's Chiefs or Royals. In addition, Kathy is on the Board of Directors of the Missouri Physical Therapy Association, and she and her family are very involved in the Missouri United Methodist Church.

Kathy would like to let Women's Network members know that Renaissance Therapy offers fitness memberships for anyone looking for a small, casual place to exercise. Renaissance Therapy and Kathy joined Women's Network in the Spring of 2010 in an effort to get more involved in local events. Kathy feels she has been successful in that endeavor. In 2011 she is hoping to "try on" and join a Women's Network committee that is the perfect fit for her. In the meantime, she is participating in and enjoying the 2010 Leadership series.

Kathy looks forward to meeting and getting to know more of the Women's Network members and is willing and available to answer any questions regarding Renaissance Therapy and the programs and services that they offer to make Women's Network members feel better and look better.

## Ron Marley Scholarship Awarded



Each year Women's Network awards a scholarship to the Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Columbia program in the name of Ron Marley.

Ron was a Shelter Insurance agent here in Columbia who was very active in the community and the Chamber of Commerce. He truly understood the power of networking and once he discovered what Women's Network had to offer – he had the courage to become our first male member. Unfortunately, Ron along with his wife Sharon and two of his three children were tragically taken from us in a car accident in 1997. In his honor, Women's Network established a scholarship to be able to send one of our members to the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Columbia program.

We are pleased to present the Women's Network, Ron Marley scholarship for the 2011 Leadership Columbia class to Kerrie Bloss. Kerrie is the Program Director for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri. She has been a member of Women's Network since 2006, a current Women's Network Steering committee member, a graduate of Central Missouri State University, and a community volunteer. By participating in the Leadership Columbia program, Kerrie hopes to gain a more intimate look at the intricacies of our community and how all of the systems interact and work together for a greater Columbia. She wants to understand the challenges faced by the community and where priorities are to overcome those challenges.

Congratulations Kerrie and thank you for representing Women's Network in this year's Leadership Columbia program!



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Columbia, MO 65205-1016

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**MONTHLY CALENDAR**

**Wednesday, December 1**

Special Events @ 12:00 p.m. at the Chamber

**Thursday, December 2**

EPIC Holiday Party @ 6:00 p.m. at Galactic Fun Zone

**Friday, December 3**

Executive Connections Meeting @ 7:30 a.m. at New York Deli

**Tuesday, December 7**

Marketing and Communications @ 12:00 p.m. at the Chamber

**Tuesday, December 7**

Breakfast at the Movies @ 7:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Executive Center

**Wednesday, December 8**

Monthly Program @ 12:00 p.m. at the Chamber

**Thursday, December 9**

Small Business Committee @ 7:45 a.m. at the Chamber

**Thursday, December 9**

Holiday Party @ 5:30 p.m. at Stephens College Kimball Ballroom

**Tuesday, December 14**

Membership Development @ 12:00 p.m. at the Chamber

**Wednesday, December 22**

Changing the Odds @ 8:00 a.m. at the Chamber

