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ODAY'S CHICAGO WOMAN

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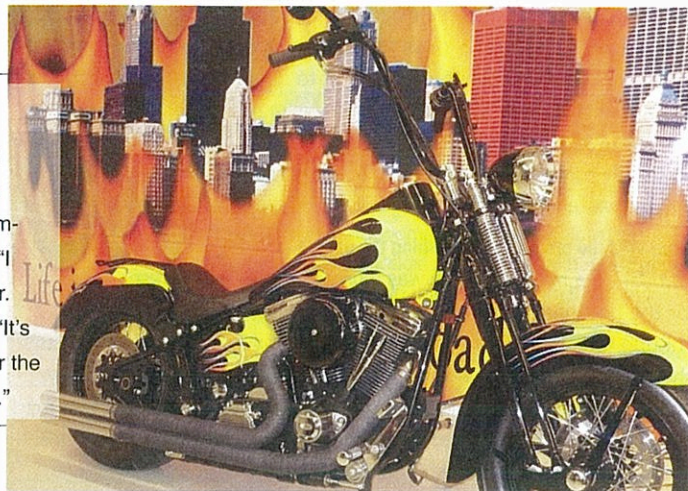
**FASHION**  
**DREAMS & EXTREMES**

# WOMAN ABOUT TOWN Ring in 2009 by making a difference.

By Rebecca Michuda

## RECOGNIZING THE RIDE

TCW wants to recognize and thank Wild Fire Harley-Davidson/Buell for lending its Crossbones bike for the January fashion spread. The flame-detailed motorcycle is actually custom-built for the dealer principle, Ozzie Giglio, who is a U.S. Naval Commander; Special Ops CDR Counter-Intelligence/Counter-Terrorism Officer in Iraq. "I think the flame bike inspires my husband to get home safe and sound from the war. He's ready to ride," says Jill, Ozzie's wife and general manager of the dealership. "It's more than a motorcycle to him. In fact, he and several of his guys use their love for the ride on a good ol' American Harley to keep their spirits up and reason to get home."



## CHARITABLE ACTS

### CHARITY POKER CHAMPIONSHIP

Play for a chance to win a seat at the World Series of Poker at the Charity Poker Championship on Thursday, January 22 at the River East Art Center. Funds raised support Children's Oncology Services. \$250 to play and dine. \$50 for dinner and drinks. [www.onestepcamp.org](http://www.onestepcamp.org)

### MCA ART GALA

Listen to live entertainment and view great pieces of art at the Museum of Contemporary Art's Art Gala on Saturday, January 24. \$5,000 per couple. [www.mcachicago.org](http://www.mcachicago.org)

### PARAMOUNT THEATRE'S MASQUERADE BALL

Paramount Theatre's Masquerade Ball is on Saturday, January 24 on the stage of the Paramount Theatre in Aurora. Proceeds benefit the theatre's Dreams Do Come True Program. \$150 VIP; \$50 after-hours.

### GRAND CHEFS GALA

Award-winning chefs of Chicago bring you an evening of marvelous food and wine at the Grand Chefs Gala on Friday, January 30 at the Fairmont Chicago. The gala benefits the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and features the Jean Banchet Awards for Culinary Excellence. \$400. [www.grandchefsgala.com](http://www.grandchefsgala.com)

### BLACK CREATIVITY GALA

The Museum of Science and Industry's Black Creativity gala is on Saturday, January 31. Proceeds benefit the Black Creativity program. \$350.



MARGOT PRITZKER

## Five Minutes with Margot Pritzker

### ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER WAY TO HELP

With each new year come those tricky New Year's resolutions, whether it be to lose weight before June or organize your home office (for real this time). The start of a new year also brings the opportunity to give back. At this time it might be more difficult to write a check to your favorite nonprofit organization than it was last year. But if making a donation is out of your budget, that doesn't

mean you can't make a difference. WomenOnCall.org allows you donate time and

expertise, instead of your wallet. Margot Pritzker, founder and president of WomenOnCall.org, launched the site in 2005 after realizing the time and commitment it took to sit on boards, as well as the limited resources nonprofits had to find help. "Limited resources meant that if [nonprofits] needed an accountant or PR person, they either had to find the money or beg for pro bono work," Margot says. "After seeing this for many years, it occurred to me that you could put these two things together — nonprofits that needed the professional skill set and women looking for volunteer opportunities." Today, WomenOnCall.org has about 315 nonprofit organizations and 565 volunteers in its network. Women with professional expertise in various areas donate two hours at a time to organizations specifically seeking their help in areas such as art, health, law, accounting and many more. Through the site, organizations post what type of help is needed and volunteer members can accept or decline, depending on compatibility of skill and request. TCW spoke with Margot Pritzker about WomenOnCall.org and ways you can donate time and experience in 2009.

### What's the benefit of donating time, instead of money, to nonprofits?

They need you more than ever. As this financial crisis continues, many of the nonprofits are being squeezed to the breaking point. There are a lot of nonprofits that will fold in these times.

### What's WomenOnCall.Org's New Year's resolution?

My New Year's resolution is to make us better — making [WomenOnCall] more efficient. There's a big push to get us more known to make sure we're fulfilling the niche I think we have carved out. Eventually, the idea is to have a WomenOnCall in every state. And I think towards the end of next year we will be ready to go to another state.

### What New Year's resolution do you hope Chicago women are making in 2009?

They should look at their experience and skill set to find ways of connecting with nonprofits, whether it's with WomenOnCall or somewhere else. But not to think they can't volunteer because they don't have the same amount of time or a day off. They can do a lot in an hour or two. They shouldn't let their busy schedules stop them from volunteering. ■