



# Smoke Signal



## Zonta International / Zonta International Foundation Respond to Tsunami Disaster in South Asia and East Africa

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Mary Ellen Bittner, Zonta Int'l President 2004-2006

### Dear Zontians and friends of Zonta,

As you know, the earthquake and resulting tsunami in South Asia and East Africa have caused enormous devastation in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, India, and Malaysia, among other countries. There are Zonta clubs in all of these countries except Indonesia. The human loss, the challenges of meeting the basic needs of survivors, disease prevention and economic loss

are of course severely affecting all of these countries. Zontians in many countries may have lost friends and family members. Hundreds of thousands of people have lost loved ones.

We express our deepest condolences and concerns for all those affected by this extraordinary human tragedy.

As this tragedy continues to unfold, the need for international aid is enormous. We are receiving many inquiries on how we can all be of assistance, in addition to our normal service support to our own communities and to programs funded by our Foundation.

*The most expedient and effective way for us to help is to donate money to support the relief efforts of charities on the ground in these countries. These organizations are best equipped to function effectively in disaster situations.*

At this time, cash donations are best. Donations of clothes, blankets and other items pose logistical challenges and may be costly to get to where they are needed. With cash donations, disaster relief organizations can purchase needed items where transport is most efficient.

Our donations directly to the charities best positioned to deliver aid in this situation is the most immediately effective means of helping, and provides for simplicity of payment with the least amount of bank and processing fees (and may provide tax benefits to the donor).

There are a number of well-qualified charities already making a responsible and immediate impact with donations they receive Here are just a few.

### Smoke Signal Takes on a new look!

After many years of looking the same, your newsletter editor decided to go radical! I'm changing the look, and layout, but maybe that will mean that everyone will read it again. I know that sometimes, we only glance at the menu or the program for the month and never see the new and different arti-

cles, or service opportunities, etc. So now you will HAVE to look and read and enjoy the new things in store for you in this issue and many more! Next up in the following months is a new look for the web site along with sign up online for those 'clipboard' moments.... Julie

*(Continued on page 3)*

### Special points of interest:

- International's response to worldwide tragedy
- New format for the Smoke Signal Newsletter
- Amelia Earhart Dinner takes on a new look



## *President Diane's January Message...*

Greetings Fellow Zontians,

My hopes are that all of you, your families and friends have a happy, safe and prosperous New Year. Now that the holiday season is almost behind us I can't believe how many opportunities we have as Zontians to improve our communities, our world and ourselves. May we succeed in all of our endeavors and strive to bring joy to all of the people we meet in 2005! I certainly have many personal resolutions to work on through this next year!

The Zontian news for this month is the annual Amelia Earhart Dinner being held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January. As usual, we are foregoing our standard January General Membership

### *No General Membership Meeting in January!*

Due to the Amelia Earhart Dinner which is held every year in January there will be no general membership meeting! See the article on the next page for Amelia Earhart particulars.



Dorothy Swindt, Diane Twining and Cynthia Hernon show off baby blankets made by members in December

Meeting so you can attend this special event. Plan on a Casino Night format unlike the usual gaming night offered by other organizations! Wouldn't you like to collect some free "play money" and combine it with your own dollars to gamble on winning special door prizes! But wait there's more; there will still be opportunities for buying items direct from the Area Clubs. All of the Clubs will receive a percentage of the house "profits" to use in their own service activities. Doesn't this sound intriguing and new? Please mark your calendars for a fun evening!

I hope all of you had a wonderful time at our Holiday Party at Landry's. Thank you to Kathy Hyzer and Linda McBurney for setting up a wonderful evening. I also want to thank Mary Benoit for installing our five new members. What a special occasion, welcoming our new members, enjoying the season with friends and collecting all of the donated gifts for our Adopt-A-Family project.

Our Baby Blanket Project for the Denver Kids Teen Moms has been a great success! We had a 'match & tie' evening where numerous Zontians came together and cut and tied their chosen blankets. I cannot describe the fabulous colors and designs and how soft and cute the blankets turned out. I predict that many of these will become someone's special "blanket" in the coming years. These blankets were given to Denver Kids for distribution to their teen moms. Another 'match & tie' evening is being

planned for early 2005; no skills are necessary; we have proven trainers available to assist any interested Zontians. I'm very pleased to inform you that 100% of the 15 high school seniors in the Teen Mom Project are graduating from school this spring. What a great accomplishment by these young ladies! .

On a tragic note, please read and act on the letter from Mary Ellen Bittner, President of Zonta International, regarding the catastrophe from the earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, India, Malaysia, and other countries. The letter is in this month's Smoke Signal. I cannot even begin to fathom the gargantuan needs of the peoples and countries devastated by these events. I am certain that whatever contributions you can give will be used to help those in need and further our mission.

Please remember that our one-time and on-going service projects can always use "helping hands" and your participation in all Zontian activities is encouraged and welcomed. May 2005 bring you many rewards and friendships.

Yours in Zonta,

*Diane*

#### **Member address update:**

**Nikki Headlee;** 35296 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Drive; Watkins, CO 80137-7197

Hm: 303-367-2401

Hm: Fax: 303-366-1208

*Zonta International / Zonta International Foundation Respond to Tsunami Disaster in South Asia and East Africa continued....*

*(Continued from page 1)*

**Care International:** you can select a national affiliate through which to donate <http://www.care.org/>

**Doctors Without Borders:** an independent humanitarian medical aid agency <http://www.msf.org/>

**International Federation of the Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies:** visit your national Red Cross or Red Crescent affiliate [http://ifrc.org/helpnow/donate/donate\\_response.asp](http://ifrc.org/helpnow/donate/donate_response.asp)

**UNFPA:** a United Nations

agency calling on governments sister UN agencies & other humanitarian agencies— priorities: emergency obstetrics, health facilities & equipment <http://unfpa.org/support/index.htm>

**UNICEF:** United Nations Children’s Fund <http://unicef.org/>

When visiting these Web sites, keep in mind that they will all be experiencing heavy traffic and therefore may be exceptionally slow to load. For more options, try visiting the Web site of your local news media; they often provide a list of

organizations accepting donations for specific relief efforts.

We know that you all share our concerns for Zontians in these countries. We have written to the District Governors of Districts 17 and 25. As we learn more, we will provide updated information on this Web site.

Please join us in wishing for a speedy and effective international response to this crisis, and for a better world and peace in the New Year.

*Mary Ellen Bittner*

President, Zonta International



*Amelia Earhart Dinner develops a twist and turn!*

**DATE:** January 27th

**LOCATION:** Denver Police Protection Agency— 2105 Decatur St, 80211 (I-25 & 23rd)

**EVENT COST:** \$45 pp

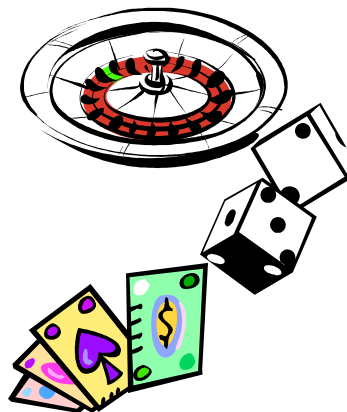
**WHO’S INVITED:** Area 3 Zonta Members, their guests and spouses

This year’s Amelia Earhart Dinner has a changed format. As opposed to conducting Silent Auctions, we will have a CASINO NIGHT! Each participant will receive a small amount of “play money” as part of their registration. Additional amounts can be obtained in exchange for donations. Throughout the evening participants can exchange their “Play money” for tickets for the door prize drawings. The

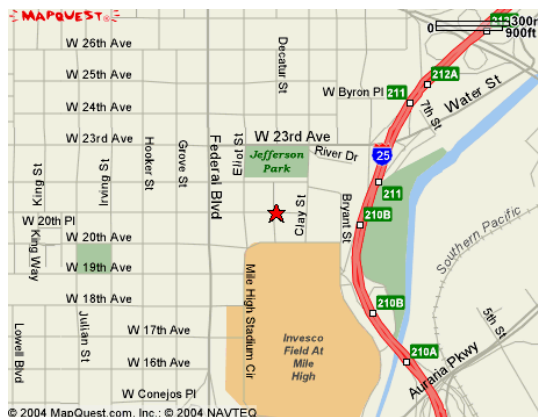
event will conclude with the drawings. We will keep track of the donations made on behalf of each of the Area 3 Clubs. At the close of the event, the donated funds will be distributed to the Area Clubs based upon their percentage of the donated funds. The Clubs will be free to allocate the service funds as they see fit; however it will be highly recommended that the funds be dispersed to the Amelia Earhart Fellowships which support graduate study by women in aerospace-related sciences and engineering.

Formal invitations will be mailed shortly, RSVP’s to Bonnie Bell Bond at

[bonnie.bell@sendwass.com](mailto:bonnie.bell@sendwass.com)



“Courage is the price that Life exacts for granting peace.”  
Amelia Earhart





Zontians raised \$890 at Park Meadows Nordstrom's for Salvation Army Kettles this year!

Board of Directors Meetings:

Zonta Club of Denver 2004-2005 Board of Director's Meetings

The board meets regularly at member homes on the 4th Thursday of each month.

- January 27th
February 24th (at Sheila Davis's house)
March 24th (at Julie Bradley's house)
April 28th (at Judy Allen's house)
May 26th (joint board meeting)



Gifts for the Adopt-a-family spread tons of cheer! Thank you Zontians for your support!

Upcoming Service Opportunities

The members of Zonta Club of Denver are committed to the support and well-being of our community, our club, and ourselves, by improving the status of women and children and upholding the Objects of Zonta International. ZONTA CLUB OF DENVER MISSION STATEMENT (Adopted Nov, 13, 1997)

Ronald McDonald House

Jan 17, 2005
Judy McNerny, Coordinator
Kathy Hyzer 303-765-1514
Cathy Conley 303-691-6926
Sheila Becker 303-296-2220x19
Could use one more person. Call Judy McNerny

Feb 21, 2004
Need, Coordinator
Sheila Becker 303-296-2220x19
Need Coordinator & 3 more people, contact Linda Corssmit at 720-234-4035 or hobbmom@hotmail.com

The Gathering Place Lunch;

1535 High St, Denver
80218 303-321-4198
11:00-1:00
Thurs Jan 6th
Donna Hultin 303-405-8169
Margaret Fomer 303-773-1787

Tues Feb 8th
Sheila Davis 303-721-9325
Marj Ellinof (Sheila's neighbor)

Service Hours NEEDED

We should have LOTS of December Hours with bell ringing, Santa Claus Shop and baby blankets in addition to the usual activities. Please notify Linda Corssmit of hours.



Margaret Fomer wins \$1,000 raffle prize

Margaret Fomer was presented with a 'large' check (and a real one too!) for \$1,000 after her name was draw at the 'Let's Party' fundraiser at Metro State in November. Margaret was out of town at the time and was greatly surprised and wowed at the money. Margaret said, "At last

all those years of buying raffle tickets at the Fashion Show and this new fundraiser has paid off!" Margaret is not sure of what exciting thing she will do with the money...lunch with 40 or 50 friends Margaret??

*Zonta Club of Denver's Holiday Party at Landry's Restaurant was a great success! New Members!*



*Good friends relaxing and enjoying a fun holiday atmosphere together!*



*New Members: Sheila Becker, Susan Davenport, Beth Mundell, Myrna Rivera, and Robin Forti*



# Zonta Club of Denver

Zonta Club of Denver  
PO Box 2665  
Denver, CO 80201

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*We're on the Web! Visit us at  
[www.zonta-denver.org](http://www.zonta-denver.org)*

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Improving the status of women worldwide



## *Calendar Events upcoming.....save the date!*

Jan 6th	Serving Lunch @ The Gathering Place	Mar 24th	Board Meeting at Julie Bradley's house
Jan 13th	General Membership Meeting	Apr 9th	Area 3 Meeting at Spice of Life Center in Boulder
Jan 17th	Ronald McDonald Dinner see p. 3	Apr 14th	General Meeting
Jan 27th	Amelia Earhart Dinner & Celebration see page 3	Apr 18th	Ronald McDonald Dinner
Feb 8th	Serving Lunch @ The Gathering Place	Apr 28th	Board Meeting at Judy Allen's house
Feb 10th	General Meeting	April 30th	Day of Caring
Feb 21st	Ronald McDonald Dinner	May 12th	General Meeting
Feb 24th	Board Meeting at Sheila Davis' house	May 16th	Ronald McDonald Dinner
Mar 10th	General Meeting	May 26th	Joint Board Meeting
Mar 21st	Ronald McDonald Dinner	June 9th	General Meeting
		June 20th	Ronald McDonald Dinner
		June	Board Meeting (Retreat)