



Smoke Signal



Inside this issue:

<i>President's Letter & January Birthdays</i>	2
<i>General Meeting at American Legion</i>	3
<i>Service Opportunities</i>	4
<i>Amelia Earhart Dinner Info</i>	5
<i>Fund Raising Committee</i>	6
<i>Nomination Form for 2005-2006</i>	7
<i>Upcoming Calendar events</i>	8

Poverty and HIV/AIDS Update

HIV/AIDS is a disease that affects the health, social, and economic status of women. Women now account for almost half of all cases of HIV/AIDS. In countries with high prevalence rates, young women are at higher risk of contracting HIV than young men.

Research shows that limited access to information and low income levels dramatically increase the risk of HIV infection, particularly among women.

The West African nation of Niger is the second poorest country in the world, according to UN Human Development Indicators. More than 50 percent of the population lives in absolute poverty, on less than US 40 cents per day. The majority of women's labor in the home and fields is unpaid, and the rural poor have little access to banking or credit facilities.

Because only 4 percent of Niger's land is arable, men seek work in neighboring countries for a portion of each year; then return home for a portion of each year often with

HIV/AIDS. In the Bouza District of the Tahoua Department (state) in Southern Niger more than 80 percent of households take part in this massive migration. The impact of HIV/AIDS is so devastating here, the district is known as "the Valley of the Widows" because of the high number of young married men who have died in recent years.

Zonta International's Response

CARE International Mata Masu Dubara (Women on the Move): Microcredit and Health Education for HIV/AIDS—Affected Women in Niger

Recognizing that HIV/AIDS and poverty are inextricably linked, CARE International is working to reduce that spread of HIV/AIDS while providing care and support for those affected, and to find lasting solutions to wider social and

Women of Niger



We see our husbands with wives of men who have died of AIDS. What can we do? If we say no to sex, they'll say pack and go. If we do, where do we go to?

economic problems that exacerbate the AIDS crisis.

Through financial support from the Zonta International Foundation, the CARE project in the Bouza District of Niger will focus on reducing the



(Continued on page 3)

- Special Points of Interest this month:
- Teen Mom Blanket Project at our Regular meeting
- Amelia Earhart Dinner/ Silent Auction

President Linda's January Message...

Happy New Year!!! I wish 2006 to be the best year yet for you and our Club!!!!

We get off to a great start. January 12 we will be making blankets for our DKI Teen Mom's. This is always a fun event that encompasses many of our objectives: advancing the status of women, being of service to others and enjoying the company of our fellow club members in a non-meeting atmosphere. I hope you all will be able to come. We do need a quorum, as we will have a VERY BRIEF meeting to approve service grants.

Our next fun event is the Amelia Earhart Dinner hosted by the Jefferson County Club on January 19 at the Lakewood Elks Club, 1455 Newland Street. (1 block East of Pierce and Colfax) They have a great speaker lined up which you will read all about in the invitation which should be in the mail now. The cost is \$30. Our fundraising committee will have items to sell at the dinner. This is a fun evening and nice time to see members from other clubs.

Every member of our club gets to have a chance to serve on the board. Due to our size and the blessing of longstanding members, most new members get to learn fast on the board early in their membership. Our nominating committee is starting the slate of officers for next year. Please

give Cynthia Herndon, Diane Twinning or Evie Ashmore some input on who you think would serve our club well. You may even let them know you are interested. Our nominating committee always does such a great job and I know they would love to hear from you.

This is the time of year we set personal goals. I spend a full day writing great detail about what I want the year to look like. And I am specific about the action I will take. I then create a Prosperity Board to hang in my office. I cut pictures and words from magazines and use pictures I have taken and paste them on a 12 x 12 sheet of paper. This prosperity board then hangs above my desk and as a constant reminder of my focus. We know what we want but sometimes are afraid to dream it or plan it because we do not know how we can do it all. Take a leap of faith and make a prosperity board. Get wild with your pictures!!!! Have fun with it. Let me know your successes as the year goes on. The first time I did this in 1987 I put a picture of a Subaru I thought I liked. I owned it 2 weeks later because the engine blew in the car I was driving.

While visioning the year, be sure to vision yourself at our club meetings, service projects, Area, District and International meetings. This is how we really learn all the joy there is in Zonta.



Board of Directors Meetings:

Zonta Club of Denver 2005-2006 Board of Director's Meetings

The board will be meeting at President Linda Rhea's home on the 4th Thursday of each month.

January 26th
February 23rd
March 23rd
April 27th
May 25th

"The dawn of a new year gives us a precious window of time to reflect upon what matters most to our hearts."

Flavia

January Birthdays

Jan 7th
Wendy Henry-Moraskie
Jan 15th
Marjorie Pickett



(Continued from page 1)

risk of HIV/AIDS and its physical, social, and economic consequences for at least 3,600 women and their families in the Bouza District of Niger by the year 2006. The project will provide HIV/AIDS education, self-esteem and negotiation skills training, and support networks of female peers, centered on the establishment of all-female savings groups.

Until there is a cure, strategies such as increasing women's income, status and

decision-making power are the most powerful weapons in the fight against AIDS.

See Zonta International's web site for additional information on this service project.

http://www.zonta.org/site/PageServer?pagename=zi_isp_hiv#update



and any marking implements that will work on fleece. Also happening this evening: Vote on the recommended Service Grants for this year!!!

Please bring non-perishable items for area food banks (in place of adopting a family a Christmas)

Menu

- Fruit Salad
- Pasta Salad
- Green Salad
- Chicken fingers with ranch dressing
- BBQ Beef Sandwiches
- Chips & Salsa

Permanent Reservation list—Should your name be listed here?? If so, call Cathy.

- Judy Allen
- Evie Ashmore
- Mary Benoit
- Julie Bradley
- Cathy Conley
- Linda Corssmit
- Sheila Davis
- Robin Forti
- Nikki Headlee
- Cynthia Herndon
- Dottie Jenkins
- Nancy Koontz
- Kate Linscott
- Dolores Lowery
- Judy McNerny
- Beth Mundell
- Marjorie Pickett
- Linda Rhea
- Dorothy Swindt
- Diane Twining
- Joetta Williams

January General Meeting

When: Thursday, January 12th

5:30 pm. cocktails

6:00 p.m. dinner

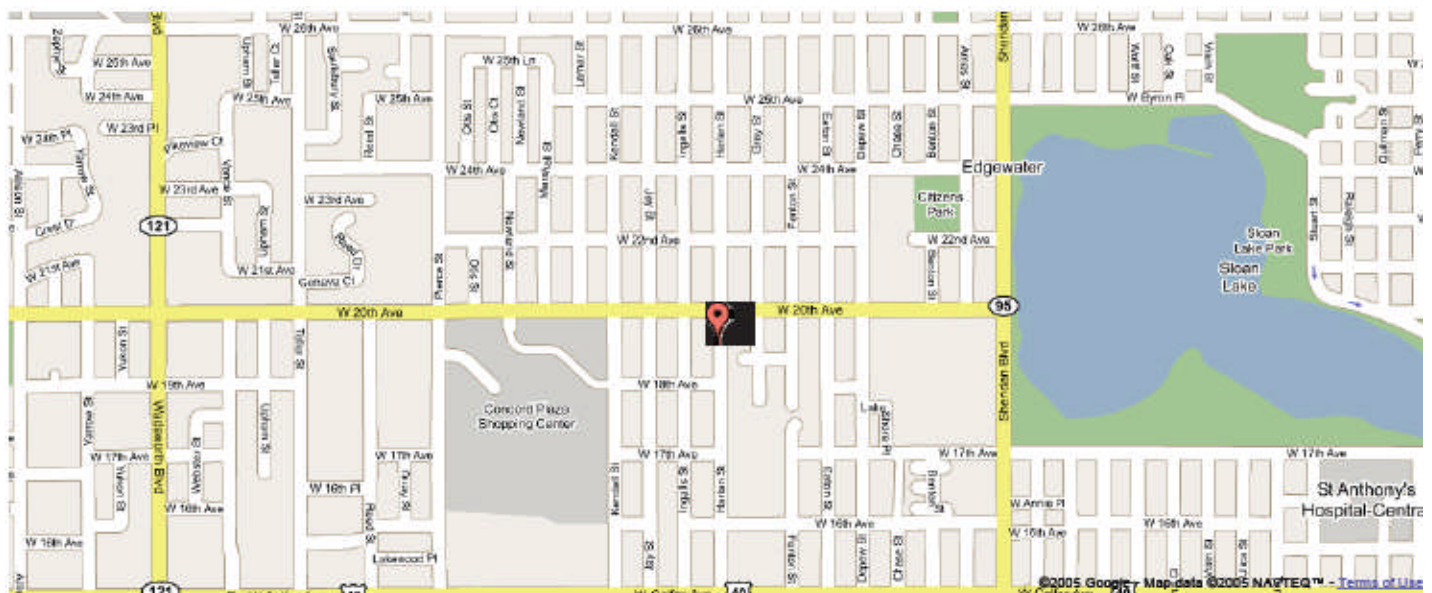
Where: VFW 1901 Harlan St

Cost: \$20.00

Program: Service Project—making baby blankets for Teen Moms at Denver Kids.

Call Cathy Conley at 303-691-6926 or Julie Bradley by Sunday evening to let us know if you will be at the meeting.

Please bring short rulers or yard sticks, scissors (with your name labeled on them)



VOLUNTEERING IN 2006!



Thank You to all who rang bells for The Salvation Army—we raised \$1,020 for the army!!!

THE GATHERING PLACE

Some of you may know we have been having an ongoing discussion about whether our serving lunch at the Gathering Place is truly serving the Zonta Mission. While rewarding, might there be another way to help the women at this agency that truly enhances the status of women, other than serving lunch? Additionally, the Gathering Place is going to be expanding in the near future, consequently, their volunteer needs may change and they may have temporary needs during that time of transition. Beth Mundell recently accepted an invitation from the staff at the Gathering Place to meet with them on January 18th to discuss future volunteer needs (transitional and permanent) that may work better for our busy Zonta Club of Denver members. I will provide a full report in the February *Smoke Signal* and we can discuss changes at the February membership meeting.



RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

January 16th (Martin Luther King Day)

Needed: 4 volunteers, one of which will be coordinating. **Call Beth Mundell to sign up for this opportunity.**

The staff at Ronald McD said that our meals are the "best!"

Additional upcoming dates:

February 20th

March 20th

SANTA CLAUS SHOP

Thanks to those Zontians who gave their time to this terrific project!!



BONFILS

Please remember that our Zonta Club of Denver is registered with the Bonfils Blood Center as a donor group. We will get recognition in the Bonfils printed list of donors. Please give our registration number 5675 or mention Zonta when asked if we are donating in the name of a group.

Bonfils website (www.bonfils.org) has information about blood drives, donor centers, eligibility, recipient stories and how to make appointments. If you have questions about eligibility, please call 303/363-2202

SERVICE/ STATUS OF WOMEN COMMITTEE NEWS

Beth Mundell will be presenting the recommendations for service grants to the general membership at the January "Blanket" meeting on January 12th, 2006. Come hear who we are supporting and help make a blanket!!!

IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Currently, there are 275 kids enrolled: 269 from Head Start and 6 that are paid for by the membership for gifts. During December, it became apparent that no



one had yet received a book. Robin Forti spoke with Imagination Library and due to a "glitch" in their system, our group had not been activated. The books will be mailed in January. The City of Denver representative was notified by Robin and we will report on follow-up at the January 12th meeting.

I would like to extend a Happy New Year and THANK YOU to all of you Zontians who have volunteered often, and eagerly, during 2005. I know we had more projects than members, but everyone deserves a huge helping of gratitude for their work. Please, Please, PLEASE, for those of you who need to turn in service hours... contact me so I can help to make that happen! - Beth

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)

Amelia Earhart Dinner

Date: Thursday, January, 19, 2006

Time 5:30 pm Social Hour & Silent Auction

6:30 pm Dinner & Speaker

Where: Lakewood Elks Club

1455 Newland Street

Lakewood, CO

(2 blks East of Pierce,
2 blk South of Colfax)

*** see page 7 for map**

Cost: \$30 per person (cash bar)

RSVP: Deadline: January 14, 2006

(Pre-Registration Only)

The Menu

Dinner Rolls, Butter, Coffee, Tea,
Iced Tea

Tossed Green Salad w/ Choice of
Ranch or Italian Dressing

Choice of Entrée:

Beef Prime Rib, Chicken Cordon
Bleu, Pork Loin Roast or Salmon

Dessert: Lemon Round Cake



The Amelia Earhart Fellowship Awards

(a permanent project since 1938).



Amelia Earhart was a Zontian from 1928 to 1937. She was a member when she disappeared in 1937 while attempting to circle the world by air. These Awards (valued at US\$6000 each), were established in her memory and are given for advanced study in aerospace-related sciences and engineering. Since 1938, 843 awards totaling US\$4.2million have been given to 547 fellows in 51 countries of the world.

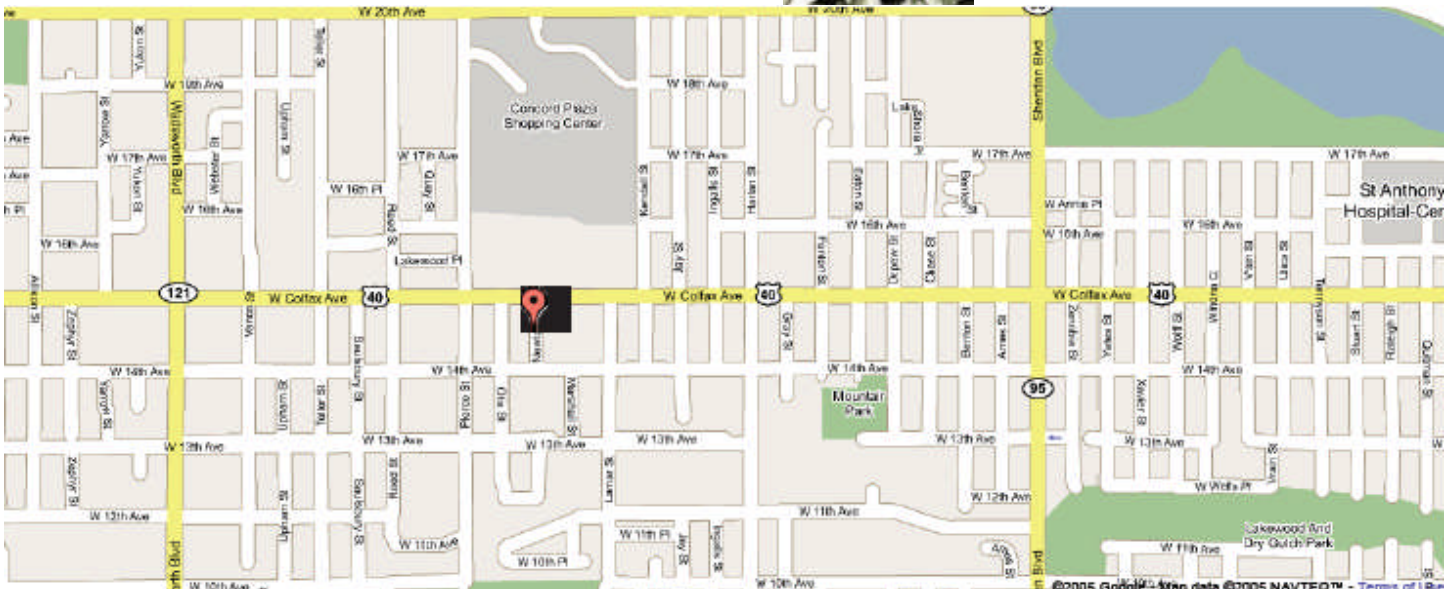
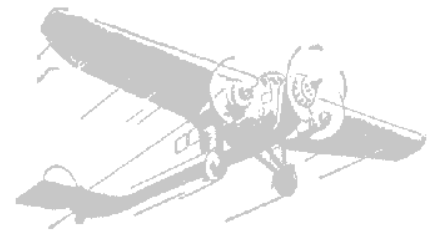


Invitations will be in the mail shortly to confirm specifics. Please make it a point to save the date for an inspiring and informational meeting which will be fun besides!



Hosted by Zonta Club of Jefferson County

Editor's note: I have always loved attending the Amelia Earhart dinner for the fellowship of Zonta members as well as the great speakers!



Amelia Earhart Dinner; Elks Lodge at 1455 Newland St in Lakewood.

Fund Raising Committee

Fall Shopping Spree

A summary of the vendor and member surveys will be emailed or US mailed to all members along with this month's Smoke Signal.



Theater Event – Valentine Fundraiser

The Female Odd Couple will be playing at the Littleton Town Arts Center during February. This play, also by Neil Simon, changes the gender of his characters but promises to be just as funny as the original play, if not funnier. Tickets will be sold for the Sunday matinee on February 12th at 2:00 p.m. Prices are \$30 for center section, and \$24 for side seating.



Take your sweetie, best friend, fellow Zontian, or whom-ever, to a special fondue dinner following the show at the Melting Pot restaurant. Details to follow.

Order forms for this event will be available at the January dinner meeting, and will also be emailed to all members next week.

Ticket orders must be into Sheila Davis by January 22nd.



Amelia Earhart Sales.....

Our club will have two tables of items this year. Note cards, cookie mixes, and several afghans will be for sale. We will also have two items in the silent auction.



Garage Sale

Start saving your garage sale items now! A spring sale is planned for Saturday, May 20th at Cynthia Herndon's house.

February 16-- Download registration & cosponsorship forms

17th Annual Legislative Breakfast on Women's Issues

at www.denvergov.org/women .

Click on "Events" at Colorado History Museum.

7:00 – 9:30.

\$14. individual; \$35. cosponsor, includes one registration.

Panel of Legislators and keynotes by Gretchen McComb-Women's Foundation & Lorraine Granado-Cross Community Coalition 303-592-3988 or

womenslobby@hotmail.com



Zonta Club of Denver
Nominations for 2006-2007 Officers and Directors



It is time again for Denver Zontians to indicate their preference for officers and directors for the coming year and to guide the nominating committee in preparing the slate for the coming year. Only classified members are eligible to hold offices and directorships.

I suggest the following Zontians as officers of the Zonta Club of Denver for the 2006 to 2007 fiscal year (more than one name for each office will be appreciated):

President Sheila Davis—elected in 2005

President-Elect _____

Vice-President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

I suggest the following Zontians as directors for the two year term of 2005 to 2007 (two must be elected; if a director whose term has not expired is nominated for an office, there will be a need to elect a director to serve the unexpired one year term),

Directors

Julie Bradley - Elected 2005 for 2 year term 2005 - 2007
Dottie Jenkins - Elected 2005 for 2 year term 2005- 2007

I suggest the following Zontians to serve as members of the nominating committee for the 2005 to 2006 fiscal year.

One Past President must serve on the Board of the Zonta Club of Denver, see Bylaws.

If you are interested in serving on the Board, please include your name and interest on the appropriate line.

Nominating committee: Evie Ashmore, Cynthia Herndon, & Diane Twining

Please return this form or the info by **February 15th** to one of the members of the nominating committee.

Zonta Club of Denver

Zonta Club of Denver
PO Box 2665
Denver, CO 80201

*We're on the Web! Visit us at
www.zonta-denver.org*

Improving the status of women worldwide



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

Jan 12th	General Membership—Work Meeting making Baby Blankets for Teen Moms at the American Legion Lodge	Mar 24th	Smoke Signal Deadline
Jan 16th	Ronald McDonald House Dinner	Apr 13th	Zonta Regular Meeting—elections
Jan 19th	Ameila Earhart Dinner— at Elk's Lodge at 1455 Newland St , Lakewood 6:00	Apr 17th	Ronald McDonald House Dinner
Jan 26th	Zonta Board Meeting at Linda Rhea's house	April 22nd	Area 3 Meeting—hosted by Zonta Club of Douglas County—featuring additional info re: trafficking and
Jan 27th	Smoke Signal Deadline	Apr 27th	Zonta Board Meeting
Feb 9th	General Membership—Grant Recipients	Apr 28th	Smoke Signal Deadline
Feb 12th	“The Female Odd Couple” theatre event at Littleton Arts Town Center with dinner at the	May 11th	Annual Meeting—installation of officers
Feb 20th	Ronald McDonald House Dinner	May 13th	Day of Caring for Breast Cancer Awareness
Feb 23rd	Zonta Board Meeting	May 15th	Ronald McDonald House Dinner
Feb 24th	Smoke Signal Deadline	May 25th	Joint Board Meeting
Mar 9th	General Membership Meeting	May 26th	Smoke Signal Deadline
Mar 20th	Ronald McDonald House Dinner		
Mar 23rd	Zonta Board Meeting		