



Smoke Signal



Latest News on Niger's Women Entrepreneurs...from International Headquarters

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On the hard, arid terrain of Southern Niger, there is little to find but vast plains of stone. But journey to the small village of Tama, located in Tahoua Department, and you will discover an abundance of a rare commodity: women entrepreneurs.

Meet Sahia, Azumi, Ashiza, Rabi, Dijé, Rahamaou, and Halima -- Nigerian women who have opened their own small businesses through CARE's savings and loan program Mata Masu Dubara or



"Women on the Move." The program trains groups of 25-30 women (many of whom are widowed due to the effects of HIV/AIDS) to leverage their collective savings and launch income-generating activities that improve their financial standing, health, and social

status. In a country where women have an 8% rate of literacy, live only to their forties, have minimal access to credit and limited decision-making powers within their communities and families, these women are extraordinary examples of how women can help women change their lives for the better.

Sahia (standing at far right) brews and sells a traditional beverage, raises sheep and bought two donkeys that she rents to farmers who need to haul heavy loads.

Azumi and her sister Ashiza have become adept goat- and sheep-raisers, while Rabi Bouta deals exclusively in sales of rice and beans.

Dijé sells vegetables and Rahamaou sells ground cassava, both rare and desired commodities in the marketplace.

And Halima (seated near center in white shawl) regularly travels by bus to a local town; where she buys cooking gear and brings it back for resale.

(Continued on page 3)

Zonta International Web Site Info!

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



8 MARCH 2005

Web site Registration



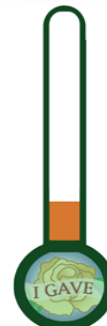
Rose Fund Giving:

Biennium Goal

US\$ 3,620,000

Raised through Jan 31, 2005

\$683,717



Special points of interest:

- More Tsunami from Governor of District 17
- Web Site Registration!

as of Mar 5th, updated daily

President: Diane Twining
Editor: Julie Bradley

Area 3 Director: Barb Nelson

Governor Dist 12: Evelyn Haskell



President Diane's March Message...

Greetings Fellow Zontians,

I first want to take a moment to thank all of you for a very smooth running and enjoyable February meeting. When we award our annual Service Grants, it reflects so positively on the efforts that all of you have put forth through the year. February 10 was a visual and verbal confirmation of all of your good work.

I hope you are all ready for spring, as it appears to be "busting out" all over. The early flowers are up and I have seen crocuses already blooming around the Metropolitan area. I imagine you are looking through the gardening catalogs preparing ready to plant for

longer and warmer days. Life resembles our gardens; we plant seeds, fertilize and water, hoping for a crop of beautiful flowers and tasty fruits and vegetables. As Zontians we also plant the seeds of hope and opportunity through our planning efforts, financial contributions and hands-on service activities. I'm hoping for "bumper" results from our cumulative efforts through this year.

As you know, nothing ever happens without thorough planning, so if you have not already taken the time, please register on the Zonta International web site and complete the on-line Member Survey. The deadline has been extended to Friday, March 4, 2005. Closer to home, we have several interesting items to discuss and vote on at our upcoming meeting on March 10th. Several fundraising activities are being planned and will be presented at the meeting.

Additionally, another special opportunity for the Denver Kids Teen Mom Program is being set in motion and your ideas and approval are needed. We hope to see you there so you can be involved in these local planning efforts.

In closing, don't forget that March 8th is Zonta Rose Day and the United Nation's "Day of the Woman". Won't you do something extra for a special woman close to you? Our Club has several special women we will recognize; Sheila Davis will report at our March meeting. And finally, please add April 9 to your calendar for our Area 3 Conference being held @ the Spice of Life Ctr. in Boulder. Hope to see you all soon.

Yours in Zonta,

Diane



Congratulations to the following Zonta Clubs.

Every member of the following clubs successfully registered a username and password with the Zonta International Web site. Each member will receive a Zonta International/ Zonta International Foundation liquid mouse pad for their efforts to *Make the Connection* online with members worldwide.

- Marquette Area, Michigan USA
- Bundaberg, Queensland, Australia
- Taipei I, Taiwan
- Taichung, Taiwan

Member New Information:

Judy Allen has a new position. She is a Tour Revenuer. She works for Globus and Cosmos a tour broker & seller of tours to travel agents! Her company address is: 5301 S Federal Cr.; Littleton, CO 80123
Direct phone: 303-703-7358.
Email: jallen@globusandcosmos.com

Julie Bradley has moved to Erie, CO. Her new address is:
2179 Pinon Cir; Erie, CO 80516
Home: 720-890-0125
Cell: 720-841-7728 (work contacts & emails remain the same).

(Continued from page 1)

The women meet on a weekly basis learn, pool their collective savings, provide seed money to their peers and gain valuable training in improving their businesses.

Recently, CARE field agent Hadjia Jermaine Hessou (standing, center) visits the group to introduce a new component to their meetings -- learning how to prevent, find support for, understand, and advocate for health services to counter HIV/AIDS. Hadjia's visit is just one component of

the project funded by the Zonta International Foundation for the 2004-2006 Biennium. Across Niger, nearly 200,000 women are members of more than 6,000 Mata Masu Dubara groups in six of the country's seven departments (or states) an extensive all-female network to begin reaching women infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.



March Meeting Info...

When: Thursday, March 10th

Where: Sheraton Four Points
I-25 & Hampden

Time: 5:30 p.m. social hour; 6:00 p.m. dinner

Cost: \$25.00

Invocation: Kathy Hyzer

Greeter:

Please RSVP to Kathy Hyzer at 303-282-1062

and leave a message. Remember—you must make your reservation by Monday, March 7th at noon. If you are on permanent reservation list you must call to cancel by noon Monday.

Program of General Meeting:

Sandra Stemmler will be talking of her new book!! Congratulations Sandra.

March Birthdays!

March 9th: Beth Mundell

March 22nd: Nancy Koontz

Zonta Traveling Book Suitcase:

Due to lack of traffic it was decide to make the traveling book suitcase a lending suitcase. You bring your books or take books to read (no more cost). Enjoy the interesting books!



Program Updates:

International Service:

Coming Soon on the web site, the final report for the 2002-2004 phase of the Anti-Trafficking project in Bosnia & Herzegovina is now available. This project continues in the 2004-2006 Biennium.

Preventing Violence Against Women:

An announcement on the changes to the ZISV AW program for the 2004-2006 Biennium is now available on the web site. Hard copy will be available at club meetings

Permanent Reservation List

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

MENU

Green Salad with Cucumbers, Carrots, Peppers & Tomatoes with Balsamic Vinaigrette
Braised Beef Steak Hunter Style with Mushroom Sauce
Buttered Egg Noodles
Vichy Carrots & Garden Peas
Pear Helene with Vanilla Ice Cream & Chocolate Sauce

Board of Directors Meetings: Zonta Service Opportunities: Qualified Organization & Activities

<p>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.</p> <p>March 24th (at Julie Bradley's house)</p> <p>April 28th (at Judy Allen's house)</p> <p>May 26th (joint board meeting)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issachar Community 303-839-5198 • Komen Race for the Cure 303-576-8705 • Providence Network (Joy House) 303-860-8404 • Mi Casa 303-573-1302 • Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic 303-290-0873 • Ronald McDonald House 303- 861-1754 • Salvation Army 303-861-4833 • Samaritan Counseling Center 303-639-5240 • Share Our Strength (SOS) 303-892-8480 (Operation Front Line & Taste of the Nation) • Volunteers of America 720-264-3323 • Women's Bean Project 303-292-1919 • Women's Wilderness Institute 303-938-9191 • Young American's Bank 303-321-2265
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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)

Upcoming Service Opportunities

• **Ronald McDonald House**

Monday, March 21, 2005

Linda Rhea: coordinator
rhea@solucian.com

Cynthia Herndon
cherndon@4edisp.net

Robin Forti rforti@rmininc.com

Myrna Rivera-
myrna_anahi@hotmail.com

Beth Mundell
bdiva53@yahoo.com

• **The Gathering Place Lunch;**

Need 1 more person to serve lunch 11:00-1:00

on Wednesday, March 30 with Myrna Rivera.

Please e-mail Linda Corssmit:
hobmom@hotmail.com

• **Bonfils Blood Bank**

If you, family or friends donate blood at Bonfils, please be sure to mention- Zonta Club of Denver. We are recognized in their newsletter as a contributing organization.

• **9Health Fair**

Zonta Club of Denver will be helping at the 9Health Fair on Saturday April 16th.. Pick from 2 shifts---6-11:00am or 10:30am to 4:00pm. Breakfast will be served.

The sign-up sheet will be available at the Mar General Meetings If these times don't work for you, feel free to sign-up on your own.

If you can do that Saturday, though, we'll have fun being there together.

• **Excelsior Youth Center**

Excelsior has asked for help in several areas.

So far we have offers to work in the clothing store, sharing experiences (for those over 55), tutoring, and sharing cultural experiences. We will also be collecting house wares on a continuing basis for their emancipating teens. Please e-mail Linda Corssmit if you'd like to help at Excelsior in these or other areas.

Membership Committee Reports!

Membership has inducted 5 new members so far this year - thanks to all of you for your diligent efforts to bring in great women who are interested in service.

Sandra Stemmler has volunteered to assist Cynthia Herndon and the rest of the committee in finalizing the New Member Handbook, which we hope to have completed by May.

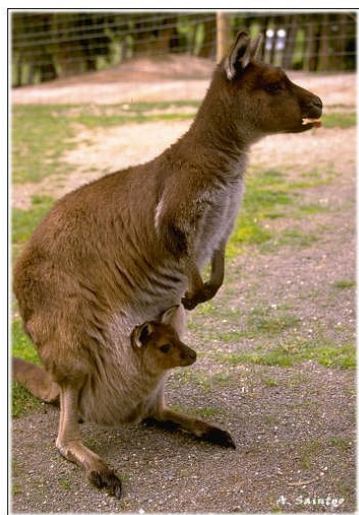
In addition, we negotiated a new contract with the Sheraton through the end of the year, at only a \$2 increase for our diners.

Magnets will be available at the March meeting. For a cost of \$4 you can purchase magnets to be placed on the back of your nametags!

NO MORE PIN HOLES!

Zonta prepares for International Convention in Melbourne!
Save your money to go!!

Melbourne



- Plan your holiday of a lifetime—come early, stay later!
- Look for your Call to Convention published September 2005
- Registration opens 12 noon, Friday June 23, 2006
- Action begins 8:30 am Saturday, June 24, 2006
- Save your money and enjoy a lifetime experience in Australia.

58th International Convention
 "International Understanding, Justice and Peace"
 District 23, 24 & 16 hosting.



In honor of Zonta International's 85th Anniversary, we will highlight 85 Zontians who have made vital contributions to Zonta, their communities and the world. Please read *The Zontian* magazine and visit this page frequently to learn about these memorable and influential women.



Mary Jenkins
 Zonta Club of Syracuse, New York, USA

Mary Jenkins was the first president of the Confederation of Zonta Clubs from 1919-1921. A pioneer in the field of journalism, she became owner and president of the Syracuse Herald in 1903. Dedicated to civic service, she was a

founder of Camp Hillcrest, a home for undernourished, crippled and convalescent children, and the trustee of the Huntington Foundation, a club for working girls and

women. In 1945, Jenkins received an honorary degree from Syracuse University from Chancellor William Tolley, who said of Mary, "Your sincerity of purpose, ideals, and service have made you an inspiration to all who know you."

Today, the Zonta International Foundation legacy program is named for Mary the Mary E. Jenkins 1919 Society now numbers 39 women and men who have notified the Foundation of their intention to provide for Zonta programs through their estate.

Fund Raising Events

Upcoming!

Zonta Club of Denver will discuss at our March meeting several Fund-raising events for the upcoming year.

Garage Sale in May—SAVE YOUR STUFF!

Theatre event spring or summer

'Let's Party' in October—help us find a location!

Trivia Bowl—Fund-raiser for Z.C. of Douglas County

The Zonta Club of Douglas County will be hosting their 2nd Annual Trivia Bowl on Saturday, April 2nd, at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Castle Rock.

This is their yearly fundraiser, and tickets are \$25 per person with dinner provided by the Outback Steakhouse. Spouses and

friends are welcome to join Zontians for this event. Many of our club members attended last year and it was a lot of fun! Tables are comprised of six players each, and there are ten rounds of trivia questions on various subjects. Prizes are given for each round, and there is a \$600 cash grand prize.

Our club has reserved two tables this year, so there is still plenty of room left for more people. Signed up so far are Judy Allen and Richard Starlin, Steve & Sheila Davis, Mandy Ziegler, and Sheila Becker.

Please email Sheila Davis if you would like to attend this event.

Zonta Rose Day & International Women's Day



Several current and former members of our club will be honored for their extended service with the Zonta Club of Denver to celebrate this year's Zonta Rose Day and International Women's Day, Tuesday, March 8th. All Zontians worldwide will be celebrating this day utilizing the symbol of a yellow rose. The yellow rose denotes friendship, and the objectives of this day are to increase the visibility of Zonta and Zonta International, and to promote support for local and international service projects and issues affecting women.

A single yellow rose

along with a thank-you note will be delivered to each woman's home or office on the 8th to recognize their contribution to Zonta. Those being honored include Marjorie Pickett, Norma Bettinger, Dorothy Swindt, Dolores Lowery, Minnie Lundberg, Barb Pellegren, Louise Frohlich, Jackie Freudenstein, Phyllis Jacques, Jennifer Lamb, and Clem Spainhower.

Our club will also honor several women in the community we have met through service project work. These women are Tamra Ryan at the Women's Bean Project, Elise Spain and Barbara

Thorman at the Day of Caring for Breast Cancer Awareness organization, Erin Lantz at RAAP, and Pam Witaaker at the Ronald McDonald House. In addition, we will recognize women who work with us on our finances including our accountant, Elaine Gilley. Our financial contacts that will be acknowledged include Eileen Sharkey at Sharkey, Howes, & Javer INC., along with several women in her office who assist on our account. Amy Forss, who supports our monthly dinner arrangements at the Four Points Sheraton, will also receive a yellow rose for her ongoing support of Zonta.

Zonta Club of Denver General Meeting Minutes February 10th

Meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m.

Invocation was provided by Sandra Stemmler.

Guests were introduced

Day of Caring: Elise Spain & Barb Thorman

Excelsior: Kathy Graveley & Carol Gianfransico

Hope Communities: Chad Klawetter

Rape Awareness & Assistance Project: Beth Mundell & Kevin Higgins

Women's Bean Project: Tamra Ryan

Work Options for Women: Dana Rinderknecht

The Conflict Center: Michele Binkowski was unable to attend.

Janell Will, Past Pres. of Zonta Club of Douglas Co.

Tamara and Bea Frisceta, friends of Nikki Headlee.

November minutes were approved as printed in the Smoke Signal.

Jacki Sammons presented the Zonta Moment letting the membership know of Zonta International's task force that she is a part of as well as mentioning that members should participate in the survey which will give Zonta International a direction for restructuring.

After dinner Linda Corssmit presented the guests who received the service grants this year. She noted that there were 18 grant applications of organizations who support our mission of advancing the status of women. Her committee then made site visits and after deliberation the following organizations were chosen to receive grants and will speak briefly tonight before receiving their checks.

- **Denver Kids** 35 year partnership with Zonta
- **Day of Caring** 24 year old organization with 18 seminars, art gallery, theme this year "The Art, Passion & Power of Survival"
- **Excelsior** Zonta is sponsoring after care program for emancipated girls. 32 year old organization.
- **Hope Communities** Project Strive, teenagers tutoring young elementary students in 5 points area.
- **RAAP** 24 year old organization, we are sponsoring personal safety skills classes and preventative education.
- **Women's Bean Project** 15 year old, we will help with mentoring program
- **Work Options for Women** Culinary job training, 7 year old organization.
- **The Conflict Center.** Unable to attend

Treasurer's Report: Judy Allen stated that financial statements are available for June through September.

Membership: Linda McBurney stated that we have a new contract with the hotel. The cost of the dinners will rise to \$25. We will have a monetary penalty if we are over or under by 2 or 3 confirmed attendees.

Fund Raising: Linda Rhea wanted to thank all members, we had more than 90% membership supporting the 'Let's Party event'. Survey's have been turned in by 11 people. 90% members loved it, 90% vendors loved it. We will have a discussion in April about location for next event.

Nancy Koontz discussed possible other fund-raisers, Bowl-a-thon, Garage Sale, Theatre events. We will have additional ideas at the March meeting.

Service: Sheila Davis passed the clipboard signups. Gathering Place will take leftover food from catered events. Our participation in International Towne is Feb 16th

Status of Women: International Women's Day and Zonta Rose Day is March 8th. We will be honoring past club members, some current members, financial advisors and others with rose bud vase on the 8th. Our Goal is to promote Zonta Clubs and Women's service to the community.

New Business: none

Announcements:

- We are selling 'Chocolate & cookies' as well as silent auction baskets in the foyer.
- Amelia Earhart night had 8-10 members from our club attending with approximately 77 people in attendance.
- Summit of Americas will be held June 24-26. Invitations will be going out. District 3 is planning the program and District 12 is hosting the venue. Possible tour on Friday in Downtown Denver, Reception Friday night, brunch Sunday. This is being held in the off year to Convention. The purpose is to share ideas in core service projects.
- Area 3 meeting will be held on April 9th at the Spice of Life Center in Boulder.
- RAAP is sponsoring a fund-raising event at "Vagina Monologues" in February.
- Legislative Women's Breakfast is being held tomorrow Feb 11th at the Colorado History Museum between 7-9.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

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!

Mar 8th	Zonta Rose Day	May 7th	Teen Mom appreciation luncheon at King Penthouse/ mother's day baskets
Mar 10th	General Meeting	May 12th	General Meeting
Mar 21st	Ronald McDonald Dinner	May 16th	Ronald McDonald Dinner
Mar 24th	Board Meeting at Julie Bradley's house	May 20th & 21st	Zonta Garage Sale at Cynthia Herndon's house (more details to follow—save your stuff!)
Apr 2nd	Zonta Club of Douglas County Trivia Bowl	May 26th	Joint Board Meeting
Apr 9th	Area 3 Meeting at Spice of Life Center in Boulder	June 9th	General Meeting
Apr 14th	General Meeting	June 20th	Ronald McDonald Dinner
Apr 17th	Canine Classic Race to benefit Mesa Sexual Assault at Boulder Reservoir (Area 3 event)	June 24—26	Summit of Americas in Denver—our club helps Past Gover- nor Mary Benoit in hosting
Apr 18th	Ronald McDonald Dinner	June	Board Meeting (Retreat)
Apr 28th	Board Meeting at Judy Allen's house	Sept 29—Oct 2nd	District 12 Conference (in Boulder at Broker Inn)
April 30th	Day of Caring		