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Contact: Lynn Riddlehoover, 472-1927

## **PLANNING BEGINS FOR ZONTA'S 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PEEK AT THE UNIQUE**

The women of the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva are busy all year volunteering and advocating for the service projects they support, not just locally on the islands and in Lee County but also through Zonta International. Now it's time for the club's highly successful fundraising project, "A Peek at the Unique," and planning is underway. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Peek, set for Saturday, March 13, 2010, and each year the event's success has grown. This success is due to the generous support of our sponsors, island businesses, residents and visitors.

The monies derived from the 2009 Peek made it possible for Zonta to assign \$52,000 in grants to six locally based service organizations to be distributed by the end of January 2010. The six primary service projects are:

- Serving Women on the Islands (through FISH and CHR)
- Combating human trafficking
- Literacy/English as a second language
- Services to women in addiction recovery (SWFAS)
- Services to at-risk girls (PACE)
- Health care access and advocacy

A contribution of \$18,880 has also been pledged to Zonta International for its global projects designed to help improve the status of women.

A major portion of the funds raised each year comes from sponsorships and participation in the keepsake program book given to all participants. Club members are already approaching island businesses to offer early opportunities to support the event. "We really appreciate the incredibly generous support the Peek has received in years past," said Ruth Woodham, event co-chair. "Zonta is an active and effective non-profit which provides services to many groups, and in this challenging economy our aid is needed more than ever. Sponsorship of the Peek is one way in which local residents and businesses can directly help women in need."

The central event of the Peek is a guided tour of four unique island homes. On the day, "Peekers" are greeted at the Sanibel Community Church. Food and beverages generously donated by our local restaurants, caterers and supermarkets, are sampled before boarding air-conditioned buses for a three-hour tour of these delightful homes. Zonta guides facilitate the tour for the Peekers each step of the way—on the buses and at the homes. A speaker at each home describes its unique features to each enthusiastic group.

Tickets for the Peek will go on sale in January, with former Peekers being given priority. There will also be a new version of the much-anticipated raffle—A Chance at the Unique. Details will follow on prizes and ticket purchase.

The Zonta Club of Sanibel/Captiva is a service organization of professional women working together to provide hands-on assistance, advocacy and funds to strengthen women's lives on the islands, in Lee County and around the world through Zonta International. For information, visit [www.zontasancap.com](http://www.zontasancap.com).



Co-chairs for the 2010 "A Peek at the Unique" are (from right to left): Orlene Shimberg, Ruth Woodham, and Pat Holmes.