

Zonta Announces Peek Proceeds of Nearly \$70,000

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The early numbers are in, and the Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva is pleased to announce another fabulous success. In a challenging economy, the 9th annual “A Peek at the Unique” home tour on March 13 raised approximately \$69,000, just shy of last year’s record-breaking amount but still cause for celebration.

“Again, we are happy to say we received island-wide support, including some new advertisers and sponsors,” commented co-chair Orlene Shimberg. The club thanks in particular the home owners who opened their unique houses to more than 500 “Peekers,” and the following generous sponsors: U.S. Trust/Bank of America; Hahn Custom Builders; and Sanibel Captiva Trust Company with Bob Wigley. Principal advertisers in the keepsake program book were: Gulf Breeze Cottages; Island Styles Remodeling; Fresh Express; Bailey’s and The Grog Shop; and BB&T Insurance Services. In addition: Through the Lens Gallery; Floral Artistry; Suncatcher’s Dream; ShopOnSanibel (RLR Investments); Doc Ford’s Sanibel; ‘Tween Waters Inn; Island Pharmacy; The Beach House Swimwear; SoonCome Contract Hauling; and R.S. Walsh Landscaping.

“We also received generous support from more than 100 additional advertisers, plus contributors to our ‘Peek Perks’ discount coupon package, many benefactors and numerous ‘friends of Zonta’ who found creative ways to contribute financially and otherwise to the event,” said Ms. Shimberg. A complete list can be found at the Zonta web site, www.zontasancap.com.

A feature introduced in 2009 involves asking “Peekers,” those who attend the tour, to bring items of non-perishable food for the pantry at F.I.S.H. of Sanibel. This year, Peekers were very generous and the club thanks those who participated.

Members gathered March 24 at the home of club President Carolyn Gray for the traditional “post-Peek” potluck dinner to relax and enjoy the success of their efforts over the preceding months. Every member of the club, 70-strong, is expected each year to contribute her time, influence and talent to the event. More than two dozen members headed up the various areas, including food & beverage, sponsors & marketing, printing, transportation, publicity, ticket sales, home base logistics (special thanks to the Sanibel Community Church), bus guides and

parking. Several Zontians were posted at each unique home to serve as docents and assist each arriving tour group.

Funds raised by the Peek go toward programs that enhance the status of women, and over the next few months the club will determine exactly how this year's proceeds will be distributed.

The Zonta Club of Sanibel/Captiva is an award-winning 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.



Lynne Campean and Phyllis Gresham