

AMELIA EARHART COMMITTEE REPORT
NOVEMBER 6, 2010

Well, it has been a busy time frame... reading books, watching various television programs, searching the internet, sending out News Articles to the clubs, and this may sound odd, but I even put together a model airplane (thought it was together, but it was a do it yourself kit). I have given a presentation about Amelia to a local collector's club (am a member and they always want new topics). This was also a Public Relations program as I was wearing my Zonta sweatshirt and I told about the ZI Fellowships. I may do a book review at our local library in the spring about Amelia.

I went through our club's history boxes and made copies of the old Zontian magazine articles dealing with Amelia or winners of the Amelia Earhart Fellowship winners. Now when someone wants to know what some of the winners did after completing their studies, I can show them.

Anyway, much has been learned about Amelia, early and current days of aviation, the subject matter is never ending. Her own book - *The Fun Of It: Random Records of My Own Flying and Of Women In Aviation* is interesting, as is the book George Putnam wrote in 1939- *Soaring Wings*. After reading about the 1929 all women's Powder Puff Derby, I learned that air races are still held in Reno, Nevada each year. There are a great number of aviation clubs - open to both genders and all ages.

Scholarships are offered through a variety of organizations, but one does have to search several sites for them

The variety of items for sale on EBay is endless... new books seem to appear regularly, you can buy vintage advertisements for Amelia Earhart Luggage and even old luggage. If you want a piece of her flight jackets or of the material used in one of her Lockheed planes you can try to win a very tiny, tiny, tiny piece. If you liked the most recent film about Amelia, you may want to get the 1994 television version. Apparently, she was even in one of the *Night At The Museum* films - at least you can get a McDonald's toy of her in an airplane.

Museums around the country have much to offer the tourists - the internet can guide you to dozens of museums. Simply pick a region, go to a museum and learn about the old and new aspects of flight and space travel.

Women pilots are still making great strides in aviation and outer space - the books *Upon Silver Wings* and *Upon Silver Wings 2* tell about recent Around the World Flights.

It's even good to check your own house - I didn't know I had two Old Lux Radio Shows from 1937 for the last week of June and the first week in July - show host Cecil B. DeMille mentions Amelia as a "planned guest" and then that her husband "still has hopes to find her and Fred Noonan on an island".

Research continues and more monthly articles are planned - as well as a joint Areas 3 & 4 AE Program in January. Topics to cover are *Wings Over LeRoy* (the Friendship connection) and the 1929 Powder Puff Derby.

Mary Yunker - USA Chair