

FEBRUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Mark your Calendar

General Meeting
February 10 @ 7 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church
3333 Duffield Ave.
Loveland, CO
****Facility will open at 6 p.m. for
committee meetings.**

February hostesses: Mo Reilly,
Florence Doksansky, Rita Harden,
Lindsey Smith

March hostesses: Jan Lanting, Debbie
Riley, Terri Johnson

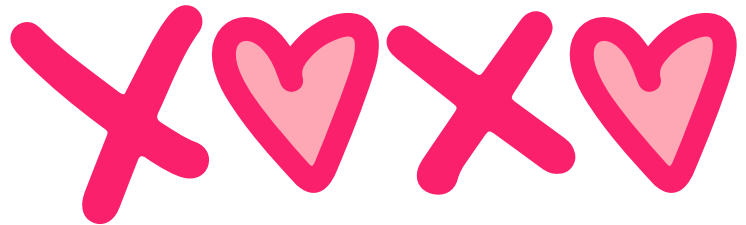


Share Your News

Deadlines to submit information for
future newsletters:

MONTH	CONTENT DEADLINE
March	February 21
April	March 21
May	April 24

Please send your submissions to
philopublicity@gmail.com. Thanks!



Officers

- President:** Lorie Smith - lorie.smith@me.com
- Vice President:** Terri Mulford - mulfordterri@gmail.com
- Recording Secretary:** Ruth Sprain - rsprained@comcast.net
- Treasurer:** Peggy Pellizzari - peggy_loveland@comcast.net
- Corresponding Secretary:** Amy Black - blackamyb@hotmail.com
- Past President:** Ruth Swanty - ruthswanty@gmail.com

President's Message

Happy Febrrrrruary!

Our unseasonably warm weather has given way to some genuinely chilly days. As I write this in late January, we have a light dusting of snow, with a bit more expected. While I'm grateful for the beauty and moisture the snow brings, I admit I accept the accompanying cold a bit more grudgingly. I've often thought of gray February as a month to "just get through"—with spring just around the corner, we simply hang on.

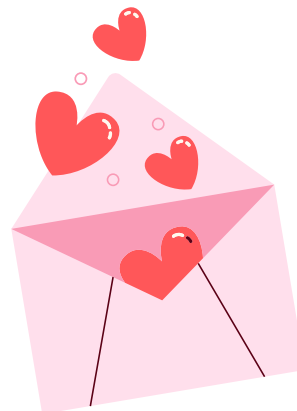
But then I remember that we live in Loveland, the Sweetheart City. Each February, we send Valentines all over the world with our famous cards and cachet. Our streets are lined with red hearts expressing love for family, friends, and even the occasional dog or cat. What might otherwise feel like a short, quiet month is instead filled with visible reminders to appreciate, care for, and connect with one another.

As a community, we truly celebrate Valentine's Day all month long. February is also Black History Month, a time to recognize, honor, and reflect on the courageous and influential individuals who have shaped our country and continue to inspire progress. In addition, February is Heart Health Month, reminding us to care for our physical well-being as well as our emotional health.

And February keeps on giving. February 17 brings a trifecta of celebrations: Random Acts of Kindness Day, Mardi Gras, and the Lunar New Year—each offering its own invitation to joy, generosity, reflection, and renewal.

For a gray and chilly month, February offers abundant opportunities to practice friendship, service, love, harmony, kindness, and forbearance—the very hallmarks of our Philo sisterhood. May we embrace the season fully and continue to share warmth, compassion, and connection with one another and our community.

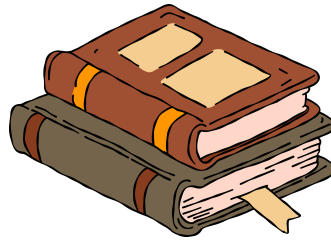
With Love,
Lorie



Integrated Early Childhood

We will be having our last book sale of the year before and after the March meeting. All proceeds will go towards the Spring Literacy Fair. We are busy collecting books to hand out to the preschool students at the Literacy Fair. If you have any books you want to donate, please bring them to the next meeting.

Thanks so much,
Melissa Rutt



Blood Drive

The next Philo Blood Drive is March 3rd.

Thanks to the 7 members who signed up to donate and many of our regulars, we have a full slate.

Cheers!
Florence and the Blood Drive Team



Alternatives to Violence

ATV is once again requesting donations to fill Fresh Start baskets that will be delivered in May. There is a list of needed items below.

Our next big event is to attend ATV's Purple Ribbon breakfast Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at the Embassy Suites. Our goal is to fill 5 tables this year. Carol Booth will have a sign up sheet at our general meetings.



Thank you,
Carol Rieser, Chair



Items needed for Fresh Start Baskets

- Dish soap for hand washing dishes (medium sized)
- Kitchen towels and dish cloths
- Cleaners for kitchen, bath, or all purpose (medium sized)
- Small pack of sponges
- Paper Towels
- Laundry soap – powder or liquid (medium sized)
- Twin Sheet sets
- Bath towels, hand towels and wash cloths – sets of 2 would be great!
- Toilet paper
- Hand/Body soap – can be bar or liquid.
- Hairbrushes/Combs
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Sanitary Products – pads or tampons
- Lotion

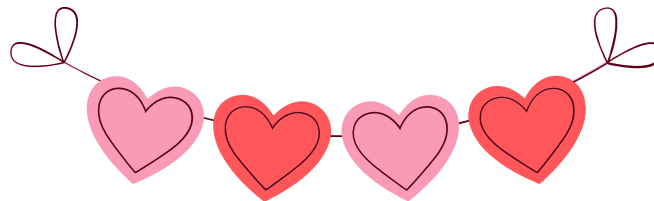


Scholarship



The Philo Scholarship application period opened on January 7 and closes on March 1. Thanks to continuing donations from Philo members, and everyone's great work on the 2025 Golf Tournament, we have \$40,500 to award this year. The Committee will begin reviewing community applications in early March, followed by applications from Thompson School District students later in the month. We will share the names of the lucky students with the full membership in late May 2026!

Thanks,
Mo Reilly, Chair



Rotary Duck Race

Well we didn't get the tickets as planned for our January meeting. Julie, our Rotary contact, apologized. The tickets should be ready on the 26th of this month so hopefully we have them for our February meeting. Remember 60% of the funds go to our general fund and the other goes to Rotary. 7 tickets for \$20.

Hope to see you there.
Judy Gangle, chair



New Member Spotlight

Noel Caryl



Hi my name is Noel Caryl (the “y” is silent). I grew up in Colorado, spending most of my time in Loveland. I spent my school years in Loveland, and eventually came back to Loveland High School to teach. I had an opportunity to work for AT&T Wireless in 1995, and that is when I moved to Seattle, Washington. I spent 30 years in the Pacific Northwest – I was a trainer at AT&T, worked as a children’s minister at our church and was able to spend most of that time being a mom. I spent countless hours volunteering at my son’s schools, in my community and in my church. I love reading, scrapbooking and traveling.

Due to circumstances outside my control, I decided to move back to Colorado – back home. When my dear friends Jeanne Findley and Dona Menzies knew I was moving back, they encouraged me to join Philo. I enjoy volunteering and am excited about the way Philo is passionate about helping those in our community.



New Member Spotlight

Susan Keil

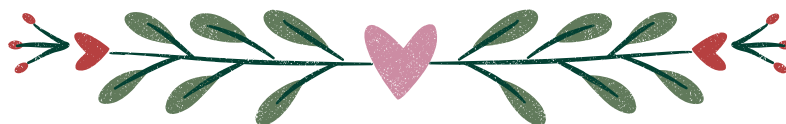


Philo is a wonderful organization. I had been looking for opportunities to volunteer in Loveland and am thankful to Carre Warner for introducing me to Philo.

I grew up as part of the fifth generation on a dairy farm and apple orchard in Vermont. My three sisters stayed in Vermont (or moved back after some time in other states). But, I had wanderlust and moved first to Rhode Island then to Northern California. Business opportunities moved us to Colorado Springs, Seattle, Albuquerque and San Diego. About 6 years ago years ago we moved from New Mexico to Loveland so my husband could enjoy the last years of life near his brothers. We were so privileged to live in interesting areas and took advantage to explore history, special sites, music and politics in each one. We also travelled extensively both in the United States and abroad.

My work was mostly in Human Resources for such diverse industries as High Tech, Hospital and related medical fields, and a Junior College. Each was a unique challenge to understand the business, develop change management techniques to enhance the culture, conduct management training, mentor employees, and negotiate benefit programs.

My family is three sisters, two brothers-in-law and their wives and children, a stepson and his wife, two grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.



Bulletin Board

Our **Loveland Community Kitchen** could use your help! Visit the link below to find ways to support this valuable community resource.

lovelandcommunitykitchen.org

Mark your calendar:



Bunco

We play the first Thursday of the month at 6 pm at various members' houses. See below for more information.

Contact Dona Menzies at dmenzies123@gmail.com to get your name on the Bunco list.

Together Time

Why does Terri have "Together Time"?

I believe that women need their own community. When we feed ourselves, we are stronger to feed others. Gathering for a relaxing and fun time together is one way I take care of myself. These events also give Philo members the chance to meet "other" women, who may eventually become Philo members. Also, you may always invite any lady you want, just be sure I have the # for the event.

If you want to be added to the invitation list, please text me your request and I will add you. Don't worry about if you can or cannot come; some people just want to know what I am presenting. A yes or no response is always requested. Also, each person is sent a personal text, there is not a "whole group blast". Our correspondence is just you and me. I also take suggestions for events. I hope that helps you want to join us on our next adventure.

Thanks,

Terri Dimond
(303) 884 1366

January Minutes

PHILO MISSION STATEMENT – The Philomatheon Club of Loveland is a women’s organization that supports charities and educational needs in the Loveland/Berthoud communities.

PHILO GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held at Trinity Lutheran Church 3333 Duffield Ave Loveland, CO on **January 13, 2026** – 7 pm. Doors were open at 6pm for committees to meet.

Attending Officers: Lorie Smith, President; Terri Mulford, Vice President; Peggy Pellizzari, Treasurer; Amy Black, Corresponding Secretary; Ruth Sprain, Recording Secretary; Ruth Swanty, Past President.

AGENDA:

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

A **thank you** was given for refreshments served by our hostesses Odile Lynch, Terri Dimond, and Barbara Gieseey

Our Guest Speaker, Caterina Hall was introduced and spoke about the Loveland Community Kitchen.

The Loveland Community Kitchen is open every single day for hot meals and take-away meals. Each year 800-900 volunteers help with the meals.

Cat moved to Colorado only recently. She grew up in Hong Kong. She originally worked with LED lighting. As she was transitioning to other work, Cat volunteered with a food non-profit. After that experience, she moved to Loveland to work with the Community Kitchen. Cat finds her passion with the work they do.

About 100 hot meals are served every night at the Community Kitchen. People come because it’s “low barrier,” so they can come every day. The Landing is a partner which gets its meals from the Community Kitchen. Salvation Army uses their take-away meals. SafeFamily is another group that benefits from a partnership with Loveland Community Kitchen. The Hub (rented space in First Baptist) is the place where volunteers put together take-meals with protein sources.

The Loveland Community Kitchen is 100% funded with community donations. There are three paid employees. The kitchen works with the food bank and with local groceries for perishables. Restaurants donate food. Local foundations donate money. The Kitchen has been open for 30 years. Many clients are from Loveland and grew up in Loveland. When clients are doing better, they come back and volunteer.

The Forks and Fury is an upcoming benefit event where chefs can participate on May 14, 2026.

Philo Guests: Danna Cobbett, Janey Warren, Ashley Hubble were introduced.

Approve the minutes of: November 2025. Florence Doksansky moved, Mary Voggesser seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report Peggy Pellizzari

Savings: \$16,688.11

Peach Sales: \$319.74

Golf Scholarship: \$47,156.61

General Fund: \$10,603.87

Business

1. Pink Philo shirt orders current status – Melissa Rutt said that one member ordered a Philo shirt, and several extras will be ordered for new members
2. Chairs prep for end of year – Lorie Smith explained that input is needed from committee chairpersons, so we can plan well for this next year. Chairpersons will receive an email with a form to be completed with committee information.
3. Hostesses- Lorie Smith suggested that we could increase the number of hostesses each month to four. By acclaim, members agreed that an extra hostess would be helpful. Lindsey Smith volunteered to help as a hostess in February.

January Minutes, con't

Committee announcements

ATV- Carol Rieser reported that 12 Fresh Start baskets and gift cards were donated to ATV. \$1,000 from Special Funds went to a fund that ATV is starting that comes with matching money. Carol Rieser asked that donations be brought for additional Fresh Start baskets that will be donated to ATV in May. Carol Booth is the organizer of Philo table hosts for the Purple Ribbon Breakfast on Wednesday, April 22. The money goes towards running the safe house. The breakfast is at no charge, but donations are requested. The speakers this year are Ruth Glenn and Irish Poe.

Blood Drive- Florence Doksansky said that the blood drive in November was the most successful that we've had in recent months.

Golf- Cindy Noble introduced the leadership team for the tournament. Their first meeting was tonight. They will meet before the Philo meetings each upcoming month. The tournament is June 12th and funds the Philo Scholarships.

Giving with Impact- No report

Holiday Giving – No report

IEC- Thank you to everyone who brought donations to the Christmas party. Preschools were so excited to receive the donations. April 23 is the EC Literacy Night. The goal is to give a book to every child who attends the evening event. Pete the Cat is the book especially recommended, if you choose to donate books. Book Haven works with IEC to fund books. The book sale for members will be at the March Philo meeting. Florence Doksansky said that they would bring materials to make sensory bottles after the February meeting. Let Florence know if you're interested in making a sensory bottle, so the committee can provide the materials.

Peaches- Terri Dimond said that Peaches will be coming this summer and more details will be given in upcoming months.

Publicity/Social Media- Lorie Smith reminded members that Margaret Crespo is posting items for Philo. You can share those items through Facebook.

Raise Right- Peggy Pellizzari reported that \$814 was raised by selling the Raise Right cards.

Rotary Duck Race- Linda Stangel explained that Rotary Duck Race tickets are sold, so that Rotary can purchase i-Pads for students. Philo keeps 60% of the proceeds.

Scholarships- Mo Reilly reported that scholarship applications were posted on the TEF website and on the Philo website. Applications through the TEF website are reviewed, so we only consider those students who meet the criteria required by Philo. Over \$40,000 of scholarships will be given out this year. Scholarship money came from the 2025 Golf Tournament. Some additional money came from donations by Philo members. Applications will be reviewed in March.

Sunshine- Mary Voggesser thanked members for staying healthy. Please contact Mary if you know of a Philo member who needs a card or other help.

Web Management- Peggy Pellizzari explained that she's working with the website. A photo directory was created to show the member's name along with a photo (probably an old black and white one). We will be setting up a method to take new photos. You can send a photo to Peggy if you have one. The Membership Directory will continue to display the other member info like phone number, address, email.

Terri Dimond has sent out an invitation to members to receive information about social events.

Adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Next meeting: February 10, 2026

Respectfully Submitted, Ruth Sprain, Recording Secretary

Sunshine Committee



Happy birthday to our Philo sisters with birthdays in February!!

2/16 Dona Menzies
2/21 Florence Doksansky



Please remember to contact Mary at mimivog@gmail.com or 970-669-2245 with any needs or concerns.

Sunshine committee,
Mary Voggesser
Diane Meuret

