



Apollo Beach Woman's Club

Hibiscus Newsletter



President's Holiday 2020 Message

Hello There,

Again, your board has been meeting on Zoom, trying to carry on with business as usual. It's been a very difficult year to get Club members involved. We've tried to Zoom our programs to you but participation has been very low. Most of the participation has been the board and a few members. If you haven't participated, the programs have been very interesting and enjoyable.

It's evident from the low participation that we are not getting enough interest in the Apollo Beach Woman's Club. Only 22 members helped out our Angel Tree this year; 20 of which are board members. I know it's hard for some of us during this time but our community also needs us. I feel that if we don't start meeting in person following all the CDC guide lines, our Club will decline from what we've built in the past years.

We will begin having in person Club meetings in January! The board will meet on Jan 6th and we'll have our luncheon on Jan 13th, noon at Apollo's Bistro. We will take temperatures at the door and provide sanitizers, and you must wear a mask! 2 prizes will be given for the 2 best

masks! We will again go in the side door and not through the restaurant. We will be spaced out according to the number of people attending. If you walk around to get coffee or use the restroom all masks must be on. We will take all precautions to keep you safe.

Barbara DeOca will email you all the information. Those of you without email, will be receiving a phone call. As always you must RSVP so we know you are coming. The Apollo's Bistro banquet manager is new, but they are excited to see us return. It will be good to get back to our meetings.

Thank you for your support this year and helping us to support our scholarships and community. I hope more of you will respond to our needs in 2021.

Wishing you and your family a very happy holiday and best wishes for a wonderful 2021.

The board and I look forward to seeing you in January.

Hugs, *Claudia*

If you have any questions please call me at 352-258-4580 or

email: 2020abwc@gmail.com

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Friendship is a horizon which
Expands whenever
We approach it



Board & Committee Chairs 2020-2021

Executive Board

President:	Claudia Gasset	352-258-4580
1st V.P. Programs:	Jeanette Doyle	813-310-8738
2nd V.P. Membership:	Liz Pedersen	813-777-8215
3rd V.P. Member Mtgs:	Barbara DeOca	813-892-1219
Secretary:	Sandy Dobratz	813-641-7117
Treasurer:	Sheila May	847-514-1475
Past President:	Katherine Cintron	813-527-6198

Committee Chairs

Ads for Newsletter	Sally Coupal	585-734-1646
Bake Sale	Barbara Lamneck	813-641-7469
Book Club	Sandy Dillmuth	813-642-0425
	Cyd Charrow	813-645-3959
Bridge Club/ Other Games	Sharron Brunk	813-672-3553
Chaplain	Barbara Lamneck	813-641-7469
Community Service	MaryLou Cunningham	813-644-7849
	Rebecca Crotwell	813-922-3033
Culture Club	Grace McKee	813-766-5040
	Phyllis Elsberry	813-545-2872
Garden and Craft Club	Sara Dottellis	813-992-4235
	Gloria Brown	813-672-9018
Hospitality	Kate Winch	813-645-1676
	Joan Kelly	813-922-4733
Newsletter	Kim Alkins	813-672-4462
Parliamentarian	Tonda Parish	813-624-9662
Publicity	Kim Alkins	813-672-4462
Raffles	Marcia Ward	813-677-9993
Scholarship	Sharon Vasquez	813-641-7856
Sunshine	Tonda Parish	813-624-9662
Ways & Means	Peggy Palmeri	813-645-1695
	Barbara Lamneck	813-641-7469
Website	Pat McChesney	813-317-3324

Fundraisers

Bake Sale 2021

Ladies,

The annual bakeless bake sale has been moved to January and February when we can all be back together at our monthly meetings (hopefully). As this money goes for scholarships, we hope you can all contribute in the new year. We hope to have our regular fall bakeless bake sale event next year. Have a wonderful holiday and enjoy all the holiday sweets.

Thank you
Barbara Lamneck
Bake sale chairman



Diamond Tours 2021

Hello Ladies!

I have heard recently from Diamond Tours, regarding a trip for 2021. I am not sure if we would safely be able to do this in April, but if it would be possible, and have enough people signed up, we would be ready to go. As you know this would be a great fundraiser for our scholarship funds.

The trip for 2021 is going to be the Biltmore Estate. It is the same itinerary as the 2020 planned trip. The date would be (Sun to Fri) April 18 - 23, 2021. Remember you may invite family, neighbors, husbands, or your boyfriend. The more the merrier.

Diamond Tours has extended the payment to February. By then we should know if we would be able to make the trip a go. I am sure by then we would all be ready to start traveling. The price is the same as last year, \$556 per person for a double room and \$720 for a single room. Insurance for a double is \$45 per person and single is \$69. It is up to you if you would like to purchase the insurance (highly recommended).

What I would like to do is get the names, phone numbers, and email of anyone that would be genuinely interested in going on the trip. Please send me a email at palmerimpeg43@yahoo.com or call me at (586) 255-5958.

I hope to hear from eager travelers soon.

—Peggy Palmeri

Fundraiser



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AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support our Club every time you shop, at no cost to you. **AmazonSmile** is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the **Amazon** Shopping app for iOS and Android phones.

Here's how to sign up for AmazonSmile:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials
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4. Start shopping! (You can add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.)

You can also find the Club directly by using this link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-3539727>

If you are signed into your Amazon account and it is linked to another charity, a message will appear asking if you want to change your charity to Apollo Beach Womans Club. If you aren't signed into Amazon you will be taken to a page that looks like the top box.

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SCHOLARSHIP



Chair: Sharon Vasquez



As you know, one of the objectives for the Apollo Beach Woman's Club is to provide scholarships for seniors attending a Florida college or university who are deserving and have financial need. Providing scholarships for students at East Bay and Lennard High School will be a challenge this year for the ABWC! Because we were unable to meet as a group and have fundraising events, our scholarship funds are limited.

The College and Career Counselor at East Bay High shared that the students are overly stressed about testing and what their freshman year of college will look like and quite a few are asking about local scholarships.

Our members have always been very generous with their time and finances to make sure that the students who need help receive it! We are receiving donations from members that are helping fulfill this need. If you would like to help, please send your donation to Sheila May, Treasurer.

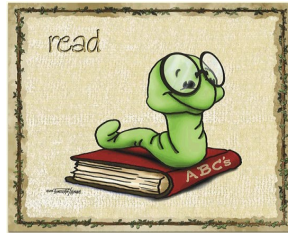
Our Club activities will be resuming in January, 2021 and we look forward to doing some activities to help raise some money for worthy students. — *Sharon Vasquez*



BOOK CLUB



Chair: Sandy Dillmuth



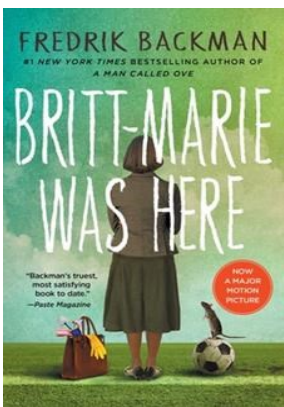
Chair: Cyd Charrow

The ABWC Book Club is continuing to have monthly meetings with book discussions. We must thank Cyd Charrow for bringing us together via Zoom.

In **November** we coordinated with the monthly membership meeting. Frank Cassell, author of Suncoast Empire, was the speaker. His insights and additional information made reading our monthly selection a richer experience.



Screenshot from November Zoom Book Club meeting.



In **December** we will read Britt Marie Was Here by Frederick Backman. The reader is introduced to a woman who has more imagination, bigger dreams and a warmer heart than anyone around her realizes. After leaving her husband of a 40 year marriage, she finds employment as a director of a community recreation center with an untalented children's soccer team. She soon finds herself challenged, surprised and coaxed out of her comfort zone.

We did a switcheroo between December and January. Hopefully in January, we will have our annual party, a winter party, with good conversation, good food, games and some laughs as we rejoice being together again.



— *Sandra Dillmuth*



Chair: Sharron Brunk

BRIDGE CLUB AND OTHER GAMES



The Bridge group with other fun games is presently on hiatus during the pandemic. Just as soon as in-person social gatherings are considered safe, we hope to restart our games of bridge, Hand and Foot, Rummikub and Bingo.

Optimistically, **we will plan on meeting Monday, January 25, at the Covington Club House, 6806 Covington Garden Drive in Apollo Beach at 9:30 am and plan to meet until noon.** Members will be notified and asked to reserve a place at a game table.

In the meantime, many bridge players are enjoying the game playing on line. The website Bridgebase.com offers not only duplicate club games, it also allows users to play bridge for fun at no charge. There are tutorials to walk the novice through the various game types. Partners are provided or one can invite a partner who is also enrolled to play at the same time. If anyone would like more information for this computer based activity, please contact me at 813-672-3553 or email at sharbrunk@aol.com.

Looking ahead we will plan on our February game, Monday, February 22nd.

Hoping this newsletter finds you well and looking forward to resuming ABWC activities. — *Sharron*

B I N G O				
14	20	32	52	71
10	27	42	55	64
7	23	FREE	58	69
11	28	34	56	72
15	25	33	53	66





Chair: Mary Lou Cunningham

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Chair: Rebecca Crotwell

The Community Service Committee members delivered Publix Gift Cards for Thanksgiving to 3 families, one each at Apollo Beach, Doby and Ruskin Elementary schools, who the counselors had identified as needing and deserving of this help during this time of year.

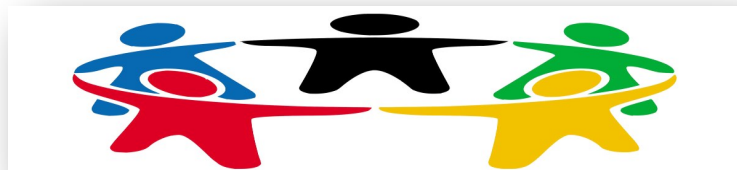
Our Angel Tree was a little different this year, as it was all done virtually, since we are not having our customary luncheons. Lists of requested gifts were received from the three elementary schools mentioned above, and gifts were assigned to those who had indicated via e-mail that they were interested in participating.

- ⌘ **At 9:30 on December 10, wrapped gifts will be delivered to Committee members at the parking lot at the Publix shopping center at U. S. 41 and 19th Ave and then taken to the schools.**
- ⌘ **Very important, gifts must be labeled with age and gender of the student, and also the appropriate school!**

We are very grateful to all who chose to participate this year, and understand that it is not "business as usual". But then, very little during this worldwide pandemic is. Thank you very much, as always, for your generosity.

In February we plan to have our annual collection of food for "Backpacks on a Mission," a program sponsored by South Shore United Methodist Church that provides food for weekends (breakfast, lunch, dinner and a snack for each day) for students who counselors have identified as being food insufficient. This program began in 2012, providing food for 25 students at one school. Currently, food is provided to 136 students at four schools. ABWC's past food collections have contributed to the success of this program and have been greatly appreciated. A list of requested foods will be distributed at the January luncheon.

Please contact Mary Lou cunninghammlc46@gmail.com or Rebecca rebecca@crotwell.net with any questions or comments



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



2nd VP Membership:
Liz Pedersen

Our membership total is 125.

**Longevity Awards will be honored at our
January 13, 2021 Meeting**
Meet ABWC members who have had fun with us
For 10, 15, 20 and 25 years.

- 10 Years: Evelyn Gammon and Linda White**
- 15 Years: Jeanne Busch, Sandy Dobratz and Dottie Meyers**
- 20 Years: Norma Woodward**
- 25 Years: Ann Mastroianni and Nancy Vance**

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our luncheon on January 13, 2021.
If you have not received your ABWC Handbook, they will be available for your pick up.

(Not attending the luncheon, please call me to arrange for handbook pick up.)

**Anyone you know wanting to join our Woman's Club?
Please direct them to our website for a membership form or they can call me.**

Liz Pedersen: 813-777-8215

Website: www.apollobeachwomensclub.com



CORRECTIONS 2020 – 2021 HANDBOOK

Please add the following information to your handbook:

- Sharon Vasquez: new address
- Linda Benz: Delete home phone
- Nancy Turco has moved out of state

*For this copy posted on the ABWC website and available to the public, all phone numbers, email, and addresses have been removed.



1st VP Programs:
Jeannette Doyle

PROGRAMS

The second monthly membership meeting was again held via Zoom on Oct 14th with 24 participants. **October's speaker was Archie McKee, a Chinese ceramic and stamp collector, who graciously shared his knowledge and experience.** He explained the development of Chinese ceramics throughout China's long history while sharing examples from his collection and assisted by his wife Grace, who is also the ABWC Culture Club Committee co-chair. Archie is a local treasure and used to teach Chinese history classes at the Community Church College @4LifeLearning, Sun City Center, FL and in Freedom Plaza's graduate program.



The November Zoom program was presented by Frank A. Cassell, historian, author, and President and Professor Emeritus at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

He discussed his book *Suncoast Empire: Bertha Honore Palmer, Her Family, and the Rise of Sarasota, 1910-1982*. Frank retired with his wife - Elizabeth from the Chicago area to Sarasota. Lo and behold, he found that in her later life Chicago's Bertha Palmer became a prominent landowner and key player in building character and a stable economy for the success of the Sarasota community. 22

participants, plus a guest attended the Zoom presentation. The guest was a film producer developing a series featuring Bertha's dramatic life. The ABWC Book Club had a Zoom discussion on this book on Nov 19th.



Dec 9th @ 10:30 a.m.
A Zoom Holiday Program will be presented by the **East Bay High School Chorus** directed by Brian NeSmith. Details will be communicated in a timely manner.

Jan 13th Program will be the ABWC Yearly Longevity Awards
 Presented by Liz Pedersen - ABWC Membership Chair. We hope this will be our first in-person meeting since the pandemic. We will follow CDC guidelines.

SUNSHINE NEWS



Chair: Tonda Parish

Sympathy cards sent to: **Mary Jackson, Ila Stamper, and Dr. Brenda Harewood**

Thinking of you cards sent to: **Jo Ann Gounaud and Phyllis Elsberry**

Get well cards sent to: **Beverly Fletchall and Ginny Burrow**

If you know of anyone sick or in need of a card, please email me (tonda.parish@gmail.com) or send me a text at (813-624-9662) – *Tonda*

"We cannot stop the winter or the summer from coming. We cannot stop the spring or fall or make them other than they are. They are gifts from the universe that we cannot refuse. But we can choose what we will contribute to life when each arrives." - Gary Zukav



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Stephanie Betz
- Judy Conn
- Sara Dottellis
- Jeanette Doyle
- Juanita Hansen
- Tonda Parish
- Lucy Rafalik
- Kate Winch



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Tanya Alderman
- Kimberley Alkins
- Kate Carlisle
- Mary Lou Cunningham
- Evelyn Gammon
- Rosalie Greenland
- Diana Gross
- Lou Knight
- Barbara Lamneck
- Jennifer Looper
- Eileen Sengstock
- Kay Westerman

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Chair: Sally Coupal



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Dedicated to the Support of Our Community, Our Families, and Our Sisterhood

Apollo Beach Woman's Club

c/o Kimberley Alkins
6519 Clair Shore Drive
Apollo Beach, FL 33572

