



Apollo Beach Woman's Club

Hibiscus Newsletter



President's Summer 2020 Message

Hi Ladies,

The 2019-2020 year for the ABWC has flown by and ended quite differently than we all expected. I have missed all your happy faces and hugs. I hope you are all well and taking care of yourselves.

We have a new board to introduce to you and some new faces for you to remember! I am excited to be your President again for the 2020-2021 year.

I want to welcome Barbara DeOca, Tonda Parish, Rebecca Crotwell, MaryLou Cunningham, Sally Coupal, Grace McKee and Phyllis Elsberry to various positions on the board as well as the returning board members and committee chairs. I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

I do want to thank Beverley Brooks for her leadership as 1st Vice President of Programs, Carol Koch for chairing our Culture Club, Marsha Ward and Beverly Fletchall for chairing our Community Service and Judy Pieper as our Parliamentarian. I am sad to see them leave their positions as they did an excellent job. Thank you, ladies, for a job well done!

This was a difficult year to raise monies for scholarships, so we will need to work extra hard next year. Please if you have any ideas for fundraisers that you know would be successful and if you want to help in the planning of any

fundraisers, I hope you will step up to the plate and help us. Send me an email with any suggestions and we will get committees together to raise money for our Scholarship Program and for Community Service for our area. Our community is counting on us and I am counting on you to help.

We did give 13 scholarships to students who were very needy and this will help them fulfill their dreams. We provided gifts for students and families at Christmas, Donations of food for the backpacks, Donations to Mary Martha House, Mission Smiles, CATE Foundation, Supplies for the School Nurses, Gift cards for Thanksgiving to needy families.

I do want to thank all our current board members and committee chairs for a great job this year. I also want to thank Nancy Ducharme and Sandy Memoli for the beautiful flower arrangement for our luncheons. To every member of this wonderful organization I want to say:

You touch our lives with your kindness, you know just what we need.

Your loving heart shows its caring in your every thought and deed.

Thank you for a wonderful year with Apollo Beach Woman's Club!

Sincerely and Hugs,

Claudia Gasset

claudiagasset@me.com

352-258-4580

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Friendship is a horizon which
Expands whenever
We approach it



Board & Committee Chairs

ABWC Board 2019-2020

President:	Claudia Gassett
1st V.P. Programs:	Beverley Brooks
2nd V.P. Membership:	Liz Pedersen
3rd V.P. Member Mtgs:	Sharon Vasquez
Secretary:	Sandy Dobratz
Treasurer:	Sheila May
Past President:	Katherine Cintron

Committee Chairs 2019-2020

Ads for Newsletter	Jeanette Doyle
Bake Sale	Barbara Lamneck Sonja Davidson
Book Club	Sandy Dillmuth Cyd Charrow
Bridge Club/ Other Games	Sharon Brunk
Chaplain	Barbara Lamneck
Community Service	Beverly Fletchall Marcia Ward
Culture Club	Carol Kock
Garden and Craft Club	Sara Dottellis Gloria Brown
Hospitality	Kate Winch Joan Kelly
Newsletter	Kim Alkins
Parliamentarian	Judith Pieper
Publicity	Kim Alkins
Raffles	Marcia Ward
Scholarship	Sharon Vasquez
Sunshine	Sonja Davidson
Ways & Means	Peggy Palmeri Katherine Cintron
Website	Pat McChesney

New ABWC Board 2020-2021

President:	Claudia Gassett	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

New Committee Chairs 2020-2021

Ads for Newsletter	Sally Coupal	585-734-1646
Bake Sale	Barbara Lamneck Sonja Davidson	813-641-7469 813-690-3179
Book Club	Sandy Dillmuth Cyd Charrow	813-642-0425 813-645-3959
Bridge Club/ Other Games	Sharon Brunk	813-672-3553
Chaplain	Barbara Lamneck	813-641-7469
Community Service	MaryLou Cunningham Rebecca Crotwell	813-644-7849 813-922-3033
Culture Club	Grace McKee Phyllis Elsberry	813-766-5040 813-545-2872
Garden and Craft Club	Sara Dottellis Gloria Brown	813-992-4235 813-672-9018
Hospitality	Kate Winch Joan Kelly	813-645-1676 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	Sonja Davidson	813-690-3179
Ways & Means	Peggy Palmeri Barbara Lamneck	813-645-1695 813-641-7469
Website	Pat McChesney	813-317-3324

**New to the board and/or position.*

Scholarship News



The Apollo Beach Woman's Club (ABWC) was able to award \$18,700 in college scholarships this year due to the hard work of its members and donations from Eileen Sengstock, Catherine Goodrich, and the Estate of Betty Fay. All recipients are from East Bay and Lennard High Schools. Twelve recipients who are attending a 4-year Florida University received \$1500 and one recipient who is obtaining a 2-year degree at a community college received \$700.

Normally, the students are presented the scholarships at ABWC's May luncheon. Due to the present circumstances, this was not possible. Certificates were mailed to each recipient with a letter wishing them much success in their college experience and career. They have all worked very hard and deserve this award!

The scholarship awards are subject to funds available. To be eligible, the scholarship applicant must be assigned to attend either East Bay or Lennard High Schools, plan to attend a Florida college or university and submit a complete application by the deadline. All applicants must meet the club's stated scholarship criteria: show financial need, outstanding scholastic accomplishments, extracurricular activities, leadership roles, 2 recommendations, a 500-word student essay, and the required community service hours.

Thank you to the ABWC Scholarship Committee: Sharon Vasquez, Chairperson, Brenda Fricks, Brenda Harewood, Eileen Sengstock, and Yolanda Sullivan. And thank you to all club members and the community for supporting efforts fundraising for the benefit of the ABWC Scholarship Program.



2020 Scholarship Recipients

East Bay High School

Ashley Aagard, University of South Florida (Biomedical Science)

Gabriela Chitica, University of Florida (Finance)

Vivian Do, University of South Florida (Accounting)

Daniela Dominguez, Hillsborough Community College (Child Psychology)

Saphyra Dulcio, University of South Florida (Psychiatry)

Ada Liu, University of Florida (Ob-Gyn)

Aya Rahmani, University of South Florida (Biology Research)

Madison Tuch, Florida State University (Child Psychologist)

Lennard High School

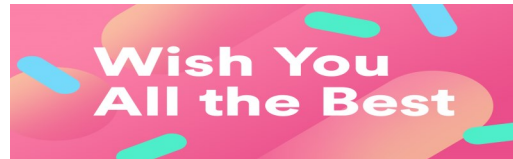
Willow Morgan, Florida Atlantic University (Social Studies Teacher)

Marisol Neri-Baxcajay, University of South Florida (Nursing)

Rosalba Neri-Baxcajay, University of South Florida (Nursing)

Kelsy Arteago, Florida State University (Computer Engineering)

Michael Antonio Lowery, University of South Florida (Political Science)

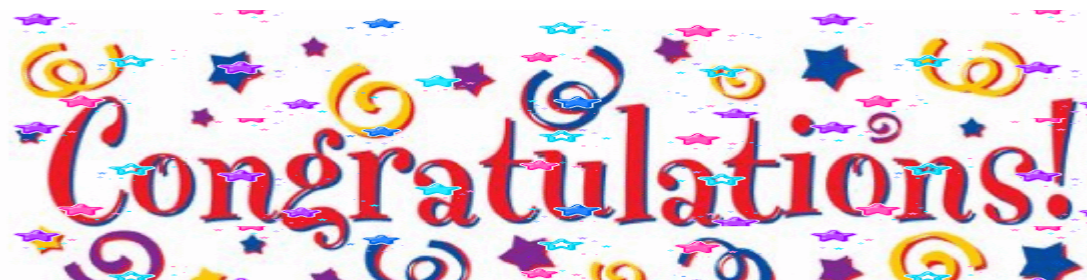


(College major in parentheses)

East Bay High School Recipients



Screen capture from 2020 East Bay High School Brave Spirit Awards Ceremony via YouTube



Remember to mention to the advertiser that YOU SAW their advertisement in The ABWC Hibiscus

What Have You Been Up To?

What a different time. I have been doing a lot of housework, reading, working jigsaw puzzles and going to church online. Hope to see everyone soon. -Barbara Lamneck

I've been doing what most others have...walking my old girl Harper (a lot!). Gardening. Reading (a LOT) and doing a little yoga & crosswords daily. I think living alone makes the sanity thing more difficult, so I'm consciously trying to reach out to at least 2 people a day who I know are also alone or who have other issues. You'll hear this a lot, but the longer this goes on, the harder it becomes...the closer to the surface people's emotions are.

-Phyllis Gannon



I have been working from home for the past few years, so I didn't experience the shock of not being in an office although it has been tough not being able to attend company meetings and such. Virtual meetings are OK, but I miss the interaction. Fortunately, my industry, real estate, has been deemed essential so I've been able to continue conducting business-with proper precautions! I am getting small jobs done around my house and have begun laying the groundwork to start a new business that will complement my real estate. I look forward to resuming our ABWC meetings! -Sherri Southwell

I have been so blessed to sew face masks for my family and friends in New York.

-Brenda Harewood



I am back in Canada, we are under stricter rules, signs reminding us TO STAY HOME. I have signed up to call lonely Seniors to help them through this. Hoping the border opens up and I can return next November. -Ginny Burrow

Being in Ohio during this time is even more difficult since it is too cold to be outside. The bright spots are talking to friends I have from the ABWC as they make my day. Each day I am challenged by which sweats to wear--the black, grey, or navy ones. Stay healthy and I wish I could be there to see you all soon. Also want to mention that ABWC is such a wonderful organization and filled with such wonderful ladies.

-Stephanie Betz

Nothing exciting here. Usual trips to the grocery store, doctors appointments, Zooming with family. I enjoy trying new recipes and reading. Pretty boring. Hope you and your family are well. Stay safe. -Beverley Brooks

We did spend 3 days in St. Augustine, visiting my sister. I actually did participate in distributing donated masks, housework, reading and learning bridge on line. Plus even have been binge watching an Acorn soap opera--A Place called Home. -Sharron Bunk

I bike frequently in my neighborhood. Every once & awhile I say hi to Barbara Lamneck on her bike tour. I discovered a coconut palm on our street with a lot of coconuts. -Jeanette Doyle

What Have You Been Up To?

The Coronavirus has been an eye opener for me. I do not need to have every minute of every day busy!! It has been fun playing house!! I have cleaned drawers, closets, and rearranged rooms. Found items I forgot I had and lost items that I was sure I had.....In my craft room, it amazed me the "things" I have purchased and never had time to use. Creating greeting cards, making masks, and sharing with my neighbors, we have become closer friends. I have become very friendly with the refrigerator & pantry; a sign now reads "You are Bored...Close the Door". It has been a scary time, and it is not over yet, but I have learned to slow down and find peace and quiet. Thinking of all of you with loving thoughts and prayers. -Eileen Sengstock



I've been sewing face masks and scrub caps to donate. So far, I've done about 200 masks and 15 scrub caps. Will start on more next week. The remainder of my spare time I spend doing what I love to do, garden. -Sara Dottellis.

During this pandemic I have been drinking a lot of wine !!!!! Well only when I'm reading one of my murder mystery books!!! And of course always need a snack to go with it. But my favorite thing to do is playing with my 2 cats --- Max and LadyBug -- and my dog Miah. -Marie Wiegmann

My main focus has been emotionally supporting people during this crisis- using Skype, FaceTime, Zoom and phone to connect locally and around the country. Taking care of me includes long walks every morning, on-line exercise classes, temple classes and singing. Nighttime is for TV bonding with my hubby. Will be so nice to see everyone - in person - again! -Cyd Charrow

I've been sewing masks, making new cushion covers for my outdoor patio furniture, reading, completing a few home dec projects, eating healthier and quilting. -Yolanda Sullivan

In addition to the usual, taking care of & spending time with my dad, exercising, and working which I already was doing from home, let's just say, I've contributed a lot to the ABWC scholarship fund via Amazon Smile. An intervention may be needed. -Kim Alkins

I have been out and about three miles every morning walking with a good friend. We have many nice places to walk where we are now living, Freedom Plaza. -Beverly Fletchall

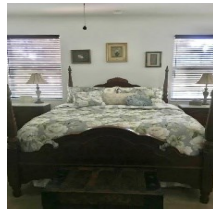
We have been isolated since March 14. I have played lots of online mah-jong and Words with Friends. Happily, May has been an exceptional month for my online skincare business; I love educating and assisting my clients. And I just completed this painting for my back porch update.

-Grace McKee



What Have You Been Up To?

I've been busy redecorating the house. I am recovering my dining room chairs and painting the new globes. While shopping on-line, I replaced a maroon tapestry comforter with fresh floral decor ensemble. –Patricia Hosler



I have not been doing much. Organizing. I did separate some of my mothers' pictures into stacks and mailed to various family members. I have also started walking 3 miles a day 6 days a week. So very boring stuff. So glad we can get outside more. –Sheila May

Funny how time flies when you really aren't doing what you thought you had planned when you woke up! I have cleaned drawers out, rearranged my craft room and watched more TV in a few months than I have all year! The last few months have breezed by and I hope I can stay well as I attempt to venture out in the next few months! Go away Covid-19! –Claudia Gasset

Trying to stay sane during the pandemic. Not always successful! I spent time reading, cleaning out closets and drawers, yoga, bike riding, walking, and Bible study. Using Zoom a lot with groups and family. A whole new world! Missed having our May luncheon and presenting scholarships to students! Hope to see everyone in September! – Sharon Vasquez

My husband and I are well and we went and got tested for the COVID-19 virus. We had no symptoms just the reassurance that we were okay. We homeschool our two grandsons while their parents work, and have learned a lot about the way they do things and learn everything on the computer. It has truly opened our eyes to the way learning is done these days. We have kept up our walking every day and wear our masks when going out to stores and other social places. Have a great week, take care of yourself and be safe. –Juanita Hansen

This is what I have been doing: 1. Finally got on unemployment! 2. Now, got a chance to clean and redecorate the house (i.e., throwing things away) and organized a couple of closets so far. 3. Read four books so far. A favorite so far is IT ALL COMES BACK TO YOU by Beth Duke. I hope this finds you well and staying healthy and getting projects done as well. I look forward to hearing from you and reading your findings. Best wishes. –Nancy Ducharme

I have been homeschooling my grandkids. My granddaughter is in 7th grade she is good on her own. But my grandson is in 5th grade; I have to actually sit with him and make sure he knows what to do every day. Going on Zoom calls with the teachers and trying to learn the stuff before I can explain it. 😊 So glad school is coming to an end. –Katherine Cintron





Chair: Beverly Fletchall

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Chair: Marcia Ward

Members of the Community Service team chose two organizations to receive donations.

Mary & Martha House provides emergency and transitional housing and support services to homeless women, victims of domestic violence and their dependent children.

The C.A.T.E. Foundation (Conquering Addiction Through Education) is a community effort to diminish the impact of substance-use disorder and the stigma associated with this disease. We are very happy to be able to help these two worthwhile organizations in achieving their missions.

If ABWC members have suggestions regarding support of Community Service opportunities, please contact one of the team members. We are happy to serve in this important outreach.

Beverly Fletchall & Marcia Ward, Former co-chairs

Rebecca Crotwell & Mary Lou Cunningham, co-chairs, 2020-2021



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Liz Pedersen

Our membership total is 147.

Members can mail their \$40 membership dues to:

Liz Pedersen
5813 Hidden Falls
Apollo Beach, FL 33572

Please Make Check Out to ABWC

Please have your dues paid by June 30th to have your information included in the membership handbook.

IF YOUR ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER (s), or EMAIL HAS CHANGED PLEASE NOTIFY ME.

CORRECTIONS

Please add the following corrections to your handbook:

Tonda Parish
**Email Change*

Teresa Wittmer
**Address Change*

**Home/Email addresses removed for the website.*



SUNSHINE NEWS



Chair: Sonja Davidson



Hello Sisters,

Cards were sent for all the April and May birthdays. I am going to be sending all my sisters who have birthdays in June, July and August Birthdays cards.

So, be sure and check your mailboxes!

Get Well cards sent to:

Norma Woodward. She fractured her hip but is now in rehab at Plaza West in SCC and due home soon.

Lucy Marx also fell and broke her hip. She was in St Joseph's Hospital.

We had a death in May, long time member **Lynn Lucido.** A sympathy card was sent to her family.

Remember, anyone who is sick, or in need of a card, please call me at (813) 690-6479.

Loving thoughts to all our sisters!

Sonja Davidson



June:

Ming Ashton
 Debbie DeLorenzo
 Marlene Hall
 Mary Jackson
 Karen Kelsey
 Carol Kock
 Marion LoVerde
 Ann Mastroianni
 Sheila May
 Kathleen Osik
 Dee Strawser
 Linda White



July:

Linda Benz
 Texie Davis
 Nancy Ducharme
 Sylvia Gordon
 Dr. Brenda Harewood
 Lyn Hodgson
 MaryLou McPherson
 Joan Patel
 Helene Reich
 Jennifer Stendahl
 Barbara Talaska
 Nina Tross
 Marsha Ward

August:

Joan Andersen
 Connie Brewer
 Sandra Dillmuth
 Mary Haggart
 Roz Hensor
 Judith Pieper
 Janet Pizzichetti
 Yolanda Sullivan
 Nancy Turco
 Martha Weschrob



September:

Joan Bolla
 Jeanne Bush
 Dottie Drouin
 Bonnie Easler
 Nancy Grubb
 Mary Haggard
 Barbara Hamel
 Donna Keach
 Helen Monte
 Donna Pierce
 Sherri Southwell

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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
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