



# The Civic Courier

The Women's Civic Club  
of Panama City Beach,  
Inc.

Volume XII- Issue 8  
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**Diane Vitale**

## From the President's Desk

Dear Members:

The time is here for some decision making, consideration to renew memberships and look at which committees to be a part of. In addition, the opportunity to serve further as Committee Chair or Co-Chair.

I've spoken to a few of you in terms of how well you've done with the current committee you serve on. A further thought was choosing the same position for next year. Sometimes there is a desire to try something different and test other capabilities, very admirable.

All committees are a little different, some requiring more meeting and planning time, others more limited.

It is highly suggested for new members or those who have not attended a new member orientation previously to join us on April 13th for more in-depth information. In addition, I encourage all of you to learn more about our club and its committees by attending a Board meeting. All are welcome.

My very fitting quote this month is from Ethel Barrymore. " Each time we sense the possibility of a new direction, we are being given a chance to grow."

*Respectfully, Diane*

## "Foundations of the Club"

The April edition of The Civic Courier, "Foundations of the Club" is highlighting Rowan Quave and focusing on one of our supported organizations, J.R. Arnold High School Culinary and Hospitality Programs.



**Rowan Quave**

Rowan Quave was born and raised in Greenwood, Mississippi. She moved to the Mississippi Gulf Coast in 1957 when she married Jerry, her husband of 65 years. They lived in Biloxi and then moved to Ocean Springs in 1969. After losing their home and possessions in Hurricane Katrina in 2005, they moved to Panama City Beach. They chose Panama City Beach because their son Jay and their three grandchildren Oliva, Molly and Douglas lived here. They enjoyed being close to them and to be able to participate in their activities.

Rowan met Nan VandenBerg through her daughter-in-law and over lunch, Nan told her all about the Women's Civic Club and everything they did. Rowan wanted to join the club to meet new people and to see how she could contribute. She was installed in December 2007. She also really likes Nan and has remained friends ever since their first lunch.

Rowan is not a stranger to volunteering. She oversaw a food pantry in Ocean Springs for several years and wanted to do much more in Panama City Beach. As part of the Fashion Show Committee, she has participated in the planning and modeled for Fashion Show. Rowan has also served on the Silent Auction and Dance Committee working many of the events. Unfortunately, several years after joining the club, she had a stroke which limited her ability to do as much as she wanted to. When three years later she had another stroke, it kept her from participating in many of the club events. Although she feels guilty at not being able to serve in a greater capacity, she continues to attend meetings, solicit donations for the silent auction, stuffs bags for Ironman and attends and supports the club's fundraisers. Her daughter Julie Sanders, who retired and moved here in 2011, ensures that Rowan gets to each meeting and many of the events. After Julie became a member in March 2020, they were able to serve together on the silent auction, arts and crafts and lunches and programs committees and most recently started going to Bunco which she enjoys.

The best memories Rowan has of the club are all the wonderful people she has had the opportunity to meet and work with as we contribute to so many worthwhile groups on the beach. She also enjoys sharing the time with her daughter Julie.

## J.R. Arnold High School Culinary and Hospitality Programs



J.R. Arnold High School serves the Panama City Beach community as a comprehensive high school for students in grades 9-12. In addition to providing students with rigorous academic classes leading to college credit, our Marlins also have the opportunity to take advantage of Career Technical Education, CTE, courses and acquire industry certifications from the National Restaurant Association.

The National Restaurant Association ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification is nationally recognized. Earning the certification tells the industry that they know food safety and the critical importance of its role—and enables the student to share food safety knowledge with every other employee.

Through ServSafe Food Safety Program, they will master sanitation, the flow of food through an operation, sanitary facilities, and pest management. ServSafe is the training that is learned, remembered, shared, and used.

The Culinary and Hospitality programs at J.R. Arnold High School serve as a direct career link for students interested in some of our community's most important commercial industries. These programs are designed to be completed in four years, but all students must take and pass the ServSafe exam during their first year in the program. The ServSafe exam is the food industry's test to make certain people preparing and serving food can do so in a safe and healthy manner, so the public is protected from foodborne illnesses.

The Culinary and Hospitality programs are led by Chef Billy Redd. Under his leadership, J.R. Arnold's Culinary and Hospitality programs have been award-winning during local competitions, and they were asked to cater the Bay District School's Employee Recognition program. Graduates of Arnold's Culinary and Hospitality programs are sought after by

area businesses proving these Marlins have the knowledge, skills, and ability to continue providing visitors to the Emerald Coast fine dining experiences and superior hospitality. The students of J.R. Arnold High School Culinary Program are employed all over the panhandle of Florida.

During their four-year education they receive training in professional knife skills, cooking principles, baking and pastry, soups and sauces, fruit and vegetable carving just to name a few. The education they receive at J.R. Arnold High School prepares the student for a successful career in the Culinary and Hospitality industry. The students are also prepared to enter the post-secondary Programs to continue their education at colleges from Keiser University in Tallahassee to Pensacola State College in Pensacola, Florida. Our goal is to prepare the student for employment straight out of high school or to continue their education at a school of their choice. All in all, a student of J.R. Arnold High School Culinary is prepared for success in life!

### ***"Members and Guests Enjoy the March Luncheon"***

Stephanie Somerset of "Friends of Shell Island" shared Shell Island's history and the future of Shell Island with members and guests at the March Luncheon Meeting. Shell Island is a pristine barrier island off the coast of Panama City, Florida that has been treasured by Bay County residents and visitors for over 100 years as a unique getaway destination. Members and guests also enjoyed a delicious lunch served by Cap't Jack's Family Buffet.



### ***SPRING FASHION SHOW!!***

Looking for the latest styles and accessories to update your Spring wardrobe? That is exactly what you will see at our Women's Civic Club Fashion Show, April 6, at Harpoon Harry's. This is one of our most looked forward to member events which will take place during our monthly luncheon meeting scheduled at 11:00 a.m.

Our very own Club members will be modeling the newest Chico's and Soma line of spring wear, summer wear, sleep wear, casual wear and accessories to include jewelry, scarves, ruana wraps and much more. Debra Glass, Master of Ceremonies from Chico's Boutique, will showcase each outfit the models will be wearing. WCC Fashion Show committee members who are not modeling, will be assisting in the dressing room and mingling throughout the event to answer any questions you may have and make sure you are comfortable with your viewing of the show.

All WCC members are encouraged to wear something Chico's from your closet, accessories, or jewelry box. Invite your choice of guests to support Chico's and include them with your RSVP to the monthly meeting luncheon.

## Library Collections for the April Luncheon

1. Card stock – specifically tan, brown, light orange, light yellow, light red and any other flesh tone colors to be used for making hands for our summer reading program and want to be inclusive of all races/skin tones.
2. Cotton swabs
3. Clothes pins
4. Popsicle sticks both regular and giant size
5. Google eyes – medium and large size
6. Gallon plastic bags – used for our Take and Make craft kits
7. Paper plates both white (large size) and colored small plates
8. Paper lunch bags
9. Craft paint – washable all colors
10. Sponge paint brushes
11. Pipe cleaners
12. Both paper and plastic straws
13. Bulletin board paper – light blue, dark blue, green-blue, yellow and green – used on our display board in the children's section of the library

## *"Fulfilling Our Mission of Improving Life in Panama City Beach Community"*

### *Raising Funds*

#### **Spring Fling Juried Arts and Crafts Show and Sale**

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Spring Fling a success. We had a full house with 35 vendors and a wide variety of creations. About 400 people came to shop and vendor feedback has been positive. Thank you to the Marketing Committee for getting the word out about our event. The Kitchen Committee served up delicious foods and sold out of many items! All of our volunteers, including four students from Arnold High School, did an amazing job with set up, greeting people, assisting vendors, and clean up. The vendors appreciated the help we provided. Thank you to my co-chair, Roberta Bernhardt, who coordinated our volunteers. I hope you all had a chance to come out and shop - I know I put a dent in my checking account! We are now gearing up for our Fall Fling, so mark your calendars for Saturday, September 30! Same location! Vendor applications will be available soon!



**Bobbi Griggs and Tonia Sampson**



**Vendor's Showroom**

"Dixie Divas"



Sue Jiles



Cheri Leistner

Deb Kesinger, Jackie Logan



Diane Vitale, Arlene Klaas

The Kitchen Committee served delicious sandwiches and homemade desserts to the attendees of the Arts and Craft Show. We would like to thank each committee member for their efforts to make the "cafe" a big success.

*Arlene and Patty*

**Ironman**

Ironman 70.3 will be here soon! We need your help volunteering for this event which will be held at the Edgewater Conference Center:

May 10th - Athlete Packet and Bag Stuffing  
May 11th and May 12th - Athlete Check-in

Please go to the following link to sign-up for the above activities:  
<https://ironman.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=69320>

Please let me know if you have any questions. *Monica Thomas* - WCC Ironman Chair

**Special Beach Events**

**Todd Herendeen Show**



Todd and Angel Herendeen have again agreed to sponsor a dinner and show as a fundraiser for the WCC! This is always a fun evening for our members and friends. It will take place on April 22 at the Herendeen Theatre on Front Beach Road. Doors will open at 6:30, dinner at 7 and show at 8. A special dinner catered by Texas Roadhouse has been arranged! Tickets are \$39.95 and are available on our website, [www.wccpcb.org/events](http://www.wccpcb.org/events). There will be a 50/50 raffle, door prizes and an auction of an autographed guitar. Grab your family and friends and come out to support the WCC and our charities! A very special thanks goes out to Todd and Angel for making this evening possible!! Also, many thanks goes out to the Kitchen Committee for helping to pull together desserts, drinks and more!

*Cheri and Nancy*

## UNwineD



Sony Edwards, Carol Lynn



Sharon McDonald, Gail Claffey, Kelly Bertin, Dena Roewe



Lynn Padgett, Sharon Williams



Doris Bayliss, Joyce Kippes

UNwineD has come and gone. We had over 30 members and their family registered to volunteer and pour samples of wine and craft beer. This is always a favorite event for the Special Beach Events Committee to work on! Thanks to all who gave their time for this fundraiser!! *Cheri and Nancy*

## *"Supporting the Community"*

### Community Outreach



A sincere thank you to the members who brought their gifts of large print word search books/magazines, large print spot the differences books, small packages of cookies, small bags of chips and monetary donations to support local assisted living residents to the March Luncheon.

*Luciann Jacobs and Jackie Logan*

## **Food Pantry**

First let me thank those members of the Women's Civic Club who are volunteers for the Food Pantry. They like us, depend on volunteers to fulfill their commitment to the community. Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church has another similarity to our organization; they only serve those who live on Panama City Beach.

In January and February, the pantry served 448 clients which equals 4,032 meals. Besides supporting the pantry with volunteers, we also collect food and money for the pantry at four of our monthly business meetings. At the February meeting our club members donated \$83. That, combined with the collection of cash received at our other meetings this year totals \$571 that our Club has donated to the pantry in addition to our annual grant made at the December luncheon.

Thank you, members, for your continued support to the food pantry. You are the best!

*Gloria Turner, WCC Liaison*

Food Pantry Donations will be collected at the May Business Meeting

## **Member Committee Sign-up for 2023-2024**

Committees are essential to the success of the Women's Civic Club. Each active member is required to complete a committee sign-up sheet yearly. The member is required to sign up for a minimum of three (3) committees. At least one (1) of the required committees should be a fund-raising committee. As a committee member you are expected to support your committee by responding to correspondence and phone calls from the committee chair(s), attend the committee meetings and support your events. All members are expected to support fund-raising events. Located on pages 19-23 in the club's yearbook are descriptions and time estimates for each of the committees which will help you in the selection of your committees.

Committee sign-up sheets will be available at the April and May general luncheon meetings. The sign-up sheets are also available on our website [wccpcb.org](http://wccpcb.org) under the forms tab. Complete and sign the form, attach your \$30 dues and give to the Membership Chairman (Nancy Stovall) or place in the member sign-up sheet box located at the general luncheon check-in table at the May General Meeting. You may also mail your form and check to Women's Civic Club, PO Box 9759, Panama City Beach, FL. 32417. Note: The bylaw changes approved in September 2022 changed the dues from \$20 per year to \$30 per year.

## ***"Spending Time Together"***

### **Member to Member**

#### **New Member Orientation**

This special event is especially for the new members installed this year, as well as the members installed last year who were unable to attend the orientation. The Board believes that it is very important for all members to learn as much as they can about the committees that they have to select from for their yearly commitment. Chairs will be there to discuss their committee responsibilities, expectations, and time commitments.

A light dinner will be served by the Member to Member Committee. There will also be a game with prizes! This will take place on April 13 at the Gulf View United Methodist Fellowship Hall on 245 Wisteria Lane and will begin at 5pm. This is also a great opportunity for prospective members who may be thinking about submitting an application to learn more about our club! Any questions, contact Patty Rocco, Lynn Padgett or Cheri Leistner

## *"Recognizing our Members"*

### Happy Birthday Wishes!!

#### April

05 Rowan Quave  
05 Ginny Schmertmann  
10 Corinne Crowley  
15 Jane Fillingim  
15 Carole Ohlemueller  
15 Monica Thomas



*"Anyone who keeps the ability  
to see beauty never grows old!"*

## *"In Appreciation"*

**From: Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church Community Food Pantry- Beth Reedy**

Many thanks to the members of the Women's Civic Club for your continued support of our Community Food Pantry. Your consistent generous donations of food and money are so greatly appreciated. We cannot express how these donations help us to continue our mission of helping those in need in our community. Again, we cannot thank you all enough for your unending generosity.

Please share with all of your members our sincere appreciation for all you do to help support our Community Food Pantry.

May the Lord Bless and keep you and yours, making us all ever mindful of the needs of others.

## *"Upcoming Events"*

- April 6 Fashion Show and Luncheon at Harpoon Harry's-12627 Front Beach Road, 11AM
- April 13 New Member Orientation, Gulfview Methodist Church, 245 Wisteria Lane, 5-7PM
- April 22 Todd Herendeen Dinner Theatre Fundraiser-8010 Front Beach Road, 7PM
- April 27 Board Meeting at Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 309 R Jackson, 10AM
- May 4 Officer Installation and Luncheon Meeting at Dee's Hangout-529 N R Jackson, 11AM
- May 25 Board Meeting at Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 309 R Jackson, 10AM

