



The Civic Courier

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

Volume XIII- Issue 9
May 2024



From the President's Desk

Nancy Stovall

Dear Members:

Phenomenal - very remarkable; extraordinary. On April 8th, people were able to experience the solar eclipse, also known as the Great North American Eclipse. Many members of our club purchased special glasses and some even traveled far to ensure they got the best view of moon totally covering the sun. Comments ranged from "Amazing", "Thousand Miles Above My Expectations" and "Beyond Wild". When I think about the Women's Civic Club and what they accomplish, I can apply the comments made about the eclipse to our club.

Our May Business Meeting and Luncheon is a time for celebration and a time to take care of business.

We will show appreciation to the current officers; install the 2024-2026 Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer; honor member's years of service and review our accomplishments. The Treasurer will present the proposed 2024-2025 budget developed by the current and incoming officers for your approval.

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members." Coretta Scott King

Nancy

"A Successful Year for The Women's Civic Club!"

The Women's Civic Club of PCB is a working club and we certainly have proof of that this year. Each year a budget is prepared with the goal of raising funds to give back to the needs in our community and those budgeted funds are distributed at the December luncheon. The end of our fiscal year (April) is nearing and we have had such a successful fundraising year that we have additional funds to distribute. At the March luncheon meeting our membership approved to amend our 2023-2024 budget to include additional distributions in the amount of \$26,550! The recipients of these additional funds are:

- Backpack Blessings \$10,000
- Boys & Girls Club \$550
- PCB Police Citizens Assisting Police-Canine Unit \$2,000
- We Care (Woodlawn Church) Food Pantry \$1,500
- The Church at the Beach Food Pantry \$1,500
- Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church Food Pantry \$1,500
- Girls Inc. \$5,000
- Salvation Army Domestic Violence \$2,000
- School Projects \$2,500

Our organization has so many moving parts working all year to accomplish our goal. So the next time you solicit items for the silent auction, sell tickets to the annual dance, distribute flyers for the arts & crafts show, dip your hand in icy cold water to serve a beverage for a special beach event, stand in the rain for hours to support athletes running in a marathon or prepare your favorite food for the kitchen sales, just remember these additional distributions are your fault!!! Thank you!!!

Sue Jiles, Treasurer

Member Committee Sign-up for 2024-2025

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.

Committee sign-up sheets will be available at the May general luncheon meetings and are to be submitted by the May general meeting. The sign-up sheets are also available on our website wccpcb.org under the forms tab. Complete and sign the form, attach your \$30 dues and give to the Membership Chairman Arlene Klaas. You may also mail your form and check to Women's Civic Club, PO Box 9759, Panama City Beach, FL. 32417.

"April Fashion Show and Luncheon!"



**Sara Green, Pam Sanders, Alisa Walley,
Deb Kesinger, Sharon Mayberry, Susan Lydon**



**Bobbi Griggs, Jayn Collins, Rhonda Senkbeil,
Sharon McDonald, Deborah Lowry, Carol Adams**

Chic and Stunning: A Recap of our Fashion Show Extravaganza

We're thrilled to share with you the highlights from our recent fashion showcase featuring the fabulous ladies of WCC rocking their glamorous Chico outfits. The array of styles on the runway left the audience mesmerized, and we extend our congratulations to Bobbi Griggs and her team for the outstanding job they did.

Chico's manager, Debra Glass gave a description of our ladies and their outfits as they owned the runway, flaunting the latest collections with flair. From effortlessly stylish outfits to statement accessories, each woman infused her own personality into her ensemble, striking a perfect balance between comfort and style.

We were so happy to have Jane Nendick be able to attend. Jane has been a veteran Fashion Show participant and due to health reasons was not able to participate this year....but she was there and helping out! So glad she was able to be with us.

THANK YOU! Of course, the event wouldn't have been complete without the delectable offerings from Harpoon Harry's and we extend our gratitude to Roberta Bernhardt for securing the venue and overseeing the preparations for the event.

Special thanks also go out to Donna Schlosser and the Gulf Beach Garden Club for the stunning flower arrangements that graced the tables and were generously provided as door prizes for the lucky winners. Thank you again! They were beautiful.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our members and guests who joined us and participated in our April luncheon.

MAY LUNCHEON: Our May luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 2nd at Dee's Hangout, 527 N. Richard Jackson Blvd., Panama City Beach, FL 32407. The program will be the Installation of our 2024-2025 Officers. Ya'll come!

Jane Fillingim, Lunches and Program Chair

Jane Nendick



Sharon Williams

Doris Bayliss

Roberta Bernhardt

You've heard the phrase "boots on the ground". On April 4, it was "Pumps And All That!" for the Fashion Show Committee. The "Fashion Runway" show featured top models from the Women's Civic Club PCB who proudly presented the latest Chico collections. The fashion flair event was presented by Master of Ceremonies, Debra Glass from Chico's Boutique. The stunning event showcased a variety of clothing, accessories and jewelry worn by Carol Adams, Jayn Collins, Sara Green, Deb Kesinger, Deborah Lowry, Susan Lydon, Sharon Mayberry, Sharon McDonald, Pam Sanders, Rhonda Senkbeil, and Alisa Walley.

All members of the committee, including Soula Dortch, Kimberly Escalle, Susan Major, Donna McElroy, Jane Nendick, Carole Ohlemueller, Rhonda Pace, Monica Thomas, Diane Vitale, Flo Watson and Rhonda Zartman, joined together and contributed to the success of the show with admirable enthusiasm and motivation.

Table decorations with beautiful floral arrangements were donated by the Gulf Beach Garden Club PCB. Harpoon Harry's venue provided a most memorable beachfront view of the Gulf of Mexico. WCC members and guests participated by wearing their favorite fresh and new spring looks or vintage Chico's selections. It was a most memorable and enjoyable day for members and guests!

Thank you everyone in attendance who supported this "fun and favorite" event sponsored by The Women's Civic Club of PCB.

Bobbi Griggs, Chairperson

"New Member Installation"



Membership Chair Arlene Klaas

Kris Saddoris

Sponsor Kelly Bertin

"Welcome New Members"



Kris Saddoris

Kris and her husband Jerry relocated to Panama City Beach in May of last year, after 60 years of living in Iowa and raising two children. Their daughter Kelsey is a pediatrician who lives in Cincinnati, and son Jordan is an attorney in Ft. Lauderdale. They are expecting their very first grandchild in August of this year!

Kris retired from full-time real estate development in 2023 and currently does consulting work for several clients working throughout the US, as well as serving on several housing and development boards. Her husband is a CPA who is still practicing part-time. She continues her passion for volunteering through several local organizations and has developed a strong love for pickleball and of course, time on the beach. She looks forward to meeting and working with all the members of the Women's Civic Club.

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

Raising Funds

Arts and Craft Show

SAVE THE DATES!

When: Saturday, November 9, 2024; 9 AM - 3 PM

What: **Fall Fling Juried Arts and Crafts Show and Sale**

Why: Get a jump on your holiday shopping with unique gifts handcrafted by local artisans!

When: Saturday, March 8, 2025; 9 AM - 3 PM

What: **Spring Fling Juried Arts and Crafts Show and Sale**

Why: Get a jump on your graduation and wedding shopping with unique gifts handcrafted by local artisans!

Julie Sanders, Chairman

Ironman

Ironman 70.3 Is Coming to the Edgewater Conference Center!!!

I am looking forward to seeing you at Ironman bag stuffing on May 8th and athlete registration on May 9th and 10th.

It's not too late to join in the fun! You can register at: <https://ironman.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=74268>

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Monica Thomas - WCC Ironman Chair

Special Beach Events



**Monica Thomas, Doris Bayliss, Lynn Padgett,
Patty Rocco, Susan Major, Sheryl Lewis**



Faye Culpepper, Joyce Kippes, Jayn Collins

The Special Beach Events Committee organized staff for another very successful UNwined on April 6 at Aaron Bessant Park. Not only were our members and special guests busy pouring samples of craft beer, seltzer, wine, champagne, and more, they were enjoying the event patrons in their lovely spring attire and hats. This is a perfect event to attend if you like to people watch. Many thanks go to Karen Demeester who assisted with soliciting volunteers for this event!!! This was a huge event for the WCC to staff and we are extremely grateful to all of you who supported us at UNwined!



**Deb Kesinger, Lisa Nicholson, Kris Saddoris,
Kelly Bertin**



**Monica Thomas, Karen Demeester, Jeanette
Poland, Nancy Stovall, Carol Adams**

The Special Beach Events Committee has also been asked to provide staff to sell beverages at the upcoming Gulf Coast Air Show on May 3rd, 4th and 5th. Due to the short advance notice for this event, we are reaching out to the entire WCC for workers. We are looking for a minimum of 32 workers each day for a 3 hour shift. This is a great fundraising opportunity for the WCC as we will not only be paid for the hours work, but we will be receiving bar tips. There will be no heavy lifting as the Visit PCB staff has arranged for others to keep our bars fully stocked. And our locations will be shady and located directly in the center of the airshow! Family and friends are also invited to work with you! If you can assist with staffing this event, please contact Sue Jiles at ssjiles@aol.com or 770-364-5890.

Sue Jiles and Cheri Leistner
Special Beach Event Chairs

"Supporting the Community"

Boys and Girls Club



Cheri Leistner, Latina Reed



Boys and Girls Club Members

The Boys and Girls club members were thrilled with all the games and art supplies that were collected at the February Luncheon. A check was also presented to Latina Reed, Club Director to purchase other needed items.

Community Outreach

Backpack Blessings



Sharon McDonald, Jeanette Poland, Lynn Sears



Karen Demeester, Denise Rentz, BB Volunteer, Tonia Sampson, BB Volunteer, Sharon McDonald, Jeanette Poland, Carol Adams, Susan Lydon, BB Coordinator Lynn Sears, Susan Major, Donna McElroy, Sharon Burnett, Jane Fillingim, Kelly Bertin, Pam Davis, Gloria Turner, BB Volunteer

Several of our club members, not only helped pack bags for Backpack Blessings, but also joined Sharon McDonald and Jeanette Poland when they presented Lynn Sears, Panama City Beach Backpack Blessings Coordinator, with a check on April 11th.

Girls Inc.



Executive Director Catherine Glover, Dena Roewe,
Donor Relations Manager Brittany Pace

Domestic Violence



Director Kimberly Garbett, Sharon Williams

Food Pantry

Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church



Gloria Turner, Coordinator Beth Reedy

The Church at the Beach



Music Minister Barry Fish, Sharon Williams

Thank you for your continued support for the food pantry at Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church. Like all food pantries they service a large population of needy families and homeless on the beach. For the months of January, February and March 2024 the Presbyterian Church served 164 patrons that equates to 1,476 meals. At our May business luncheon we will again be collecting for the food pantry, both donated goods and cash.

As we go through the summer, please think about donating food, money or volunteer time to our church run food pantries. The following are their hours and the times to donate cash or drop off food.

Gulf Beach Baptist Church on Hutchinson: Tuesday thru Friday 9-12

Wood Lawn Church on Alf Coleman: Tuesday 1-3, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30-11:30

Gulf Beach Presbyterian on Hwy 79: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9-12

If you specifically want to help with food for the homeless, the pantries give out fruits and vegetables in cans with pull off tabs, packages of peanut butter crackers, packaged cookies or energy bars, pre sliced bread and bottled water. Additional items needed for the homeless are hygienic products (small containers) and sun block.

Again, thanks to the generosity of our Club, other “community” organizations and businesses, our food pantries continue to meet the growing needs of the less fortunate families and individuals on the beach.

Items to be collected at the May Luncheon Meeting

- Cereal
- Canned Tuna
- Canned Mixed Vegetables
- Water (please leave in your car and coordinate with Gloria for transfer after the meeting)

Gloria Turner, Food Pantry Liaison

Library



Picture on the left:

Another amazing Chapter Chat Book Club with WJHG-TV's Jessica Foster and Mel Zosh at the Panama City Beach Library. WCC Member Gloria Turner is the 4th person from the left. Mel Zosh and Jessica Foster are the 2nd and 3rd persons in the front row and Library Manager Laura Laspee is the last person in the front row.

Picture on the right:

Librarians Debbie Davidson and Lindsay Frost join Library Manager Laura Laspee to show their appreciation for the items collected for the library at the April Luncheon Meeting.

School Projects

The School Projects committee says "thank you" to you all for your exceptional fundraising efforts! It has been our honor and privilege to be able to deliver checks for an additional \$500 to each of five elementary schools in PCB! The administrators wanted us to extend to you their extreme thankfulness and appreciation!

The schools have reported that some of the funds are going to be used for special end of year activities; some to subsidize field trips for those students who are unable because of financial reasons to attend; some to buy snacks for the kids that come to school hungry; and some to provide clothing for students who come to school in ripped clothes or even their pajamas! One principal mentioned that they bought track shoes for a student that wanted to participate in a field day but didn't have appropriate footwear.

Jeanette Poland & Denice Dare - School Projects Committee Chairs

Hutchinson Beach Elementary



**Pam Davis Tonia Sampson, Principal
Glenda Nouskhajian, Carol Benson**

West Bay Elementary



**Pam Davis, Kelly Bertin, Jeanette Poland, Principal
Deniece Moss, Karen Demeester, Jayn Collins**

Patronis Elementary



**Principal Brooke Loyed, Admin Lisa
Fish, Deb Kesinger, Jeanette Poland**

Breakfast Point Academy



**Admin Ms Llorens
Admin Ms Carmichael
Jeanette Poland
Principal Clint Whitfield
Carol Benson**

Walsingham Academy



**Jeanette Poland
Principal Amy Harvey**

"Spending Time Together"

Member to Member

New Member Orientation

The Member to Member Committee hosted the New Member Orientation on April 18th. Ten of our new members along with three potential members listened to presentations from each of the committee chairs, learned about our fundraising activities, where the funds raised are distributed, a bit about the history of our club and about how much fun we have as club members, all while serving our community. And speaking of fun - Nancy Stovall hosted "Knowledge Showdown", a family feud styled game to test how well each of the new members were listening to the presentations. We learned that we have quite a few "competitive" ladies in this group!!

Many thanks go to the Member to Member Committee Members who served a delicious dinner of sandwiches, salads, cheeseballs, chips, desserts, drinks and more.

Many thanks also go to all who made the presentations. We heard many positive remarks from the new members about how much they learned about our organization.



Carol Adams, Lisa Nicholson



Donna Schlosser, Michelle Coombs



Rhonda Blankenship, Pam Davis



Sharon Burnett, Cathy Schnader

Member Appreciation Picnic

Saved the Date: May 19th for a Member Appreciation Picnic to be held at The Camp Helen pavilion. The details are being finalized and more information will be coming.

Cheri Leistner
Member to Member Chair

"Recognizing our Members"

Happy Birthday Wishes!!

May

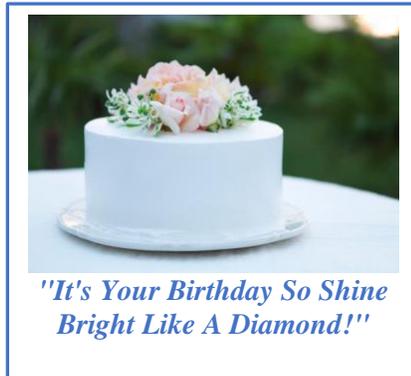
- 08 Kay Vider
- 23 Sherrill Kelley
- 23 Glenda Densmore

July

- 01 Pam Kremm
- 02 Karen Demeester
- 05 Natalie May
- 16 Gail Claffey
- 17 Deborah Lowry
- 19 Debra Fazzone
- 21 Jenna Hall
- 21 Sharon Williams
- 21 Shirley Williams
- 26 Judy Hardegree
- 29 Sony Edwards

June

- 05 Brenda Bryson
- 05 Jeanette Poland
- 08 Becky Farmer
- 13 Patty Rocco
- 17 Darlene Dial
- 18 Pam Davis
- 19 Carol Lynn
- 23 Diane Vitale
- 27 Alisa Walley
- 28 Denise Rentz
- 29 Sharon Mayberry



August

- 01 Cherie Lagace
- 06 Peggy Lowery
- 09 Doris Bayliss
- 11 Deb Kesinger
- 12 Diane Pickering
- 13 Eloise Cox
- 17 Lisa Nicholson
- 19 Cheri Leistner
- 20 Mary Herst
- 26 Debbie Wood
- 29 Jan Schott

"In Appreciation"



Arlene Geneva



Judy Hardegree



Nan Vandenberg

Arlene Geneva, Judy Hardegree and Nan Vandenberg may not be able to attend our meetings or participate in club activities on a regular basis, but they continue to support the club through financial donations and words of encouragement. Ladies, the club thank you for your years of service and for your continued support.

From: Laura and the Staff of the Panama City Beach Library

Dear Women's Civic Club of Panama City Beach Members,

Thank you so much for the donations of craft supplies for our children's programs. We plan to use these in our summer reading program too. We also thank you for the monetary donation. This will allow us to purchase items needed in our kids programs.

From: Girls Inc. Brittany Pace, Donor Relations Manager

Dear Women's Civic Club of Panama City Beach,

A sincere thank you for your donation of \$5,000.00 on 4/16/2024, to help support Girls Inc. of Bay County! Because of community partners like you, we are able to further our missions to inspire all girls to be strong, smart and bold. With your support, we can continue to provide educational outreach to programs throughout Bay County.

Our Centers, focusing on girls ages 6-18, are safe places to go, to be supported by peers, teachers, and mentors. They learn to value themselves, take risks, and develop confidence through research-based programming in areas such as STEM, economic literacy, health, and wellness.

Thank you so much for supporting our organization and our girls. We are so grateful for the Women's Civic Club and all of the wonderful, beautiful souls who are so giving.

From: Rhonda Zartman

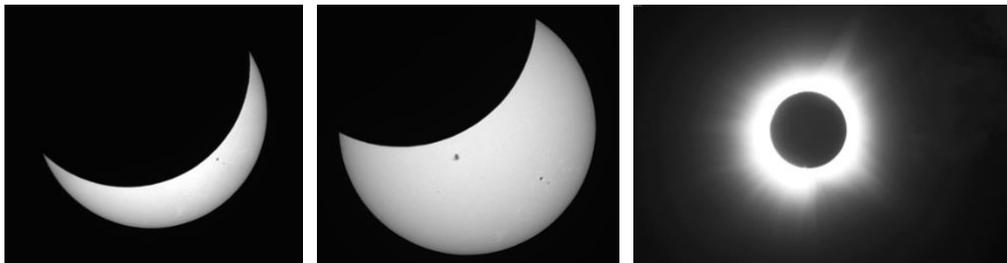
Dear Members and Friends Women's Civic Club,

My heart has been overflowing with gratitude these past couple of months. You ladies have outshined yourselves. How does one recover from major surgery?

With what you ladies provided without ceasing. Prayers. I was surrounded with cards, emails, texts. I have a huge stock that I reread constantly. Flowers - God's Beauty to keep me smiling.

I'm proud to be a member of this amazing club. Thank you will never be sufficient. I am loved by those I love.

"Phenomenal Eclipse"



Pictures Provided by Jim Vider



**Arlene Klaas
Rend Lake Campground, Illinois**



**Kay Vider and Family
Fort Worth, Texas**

"Upcoming Events"

- May 2 Installation of Officers and Luncheon at Dee's Hideout, 29 N R Jackson, 11AM
- May 3-5 Gulf Coast Salute Air Show at Aaron Bessant Park, 10AM-4PM
- May 8 Ironman Bag and Athletic Package Stuffing at Edgewater Conference Center
- May 9 Backpack Blessings at 158 Griffin Blvd, 8:30AM
- May 9 Ironman Athlete Check-in at Edgewater Conference Center
- May 10 Ironman Athlete Check-in at Edgewater Conference Center
- May 19 Member Appreciation Picnic at Camp Helen State Park
- May 20 Red Hat Tea Party at Charter Senior Living, 6012 Magnolia Beach Road 2:30PM
- May 30 Board Meeting at Grand Panama Business Center, 11800 Front Beach Road, 10AM
- August 29 Board Meeting at Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, R Jackson, 10AM

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

Contact Information

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Hashtag: #wccpcb

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