



The Civic Courier

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

Volume XIV- Issue 2
October 2024



From the President's Desk

Nancy Stovall

Dear Members:

The Women's Civic Club was established in 1965 which means in 2025, we will be celebrating 60 years of fulfilling our mission to give aid to worthy projects in the Panama City Beach community. If I would identify one word that would be the key to the longevity of our organization, I would say *responsibility - the state of being accountable.*

As an organization we are responsible for ensuring we meet our mission and not infringe on the mission of other organizations in our community. We are responsible for protecting our fundraising efforts by our standard of excellence. Our conduct should represent the club in a positive and respectable manner to our charities, to our donors and to the members of the organization.

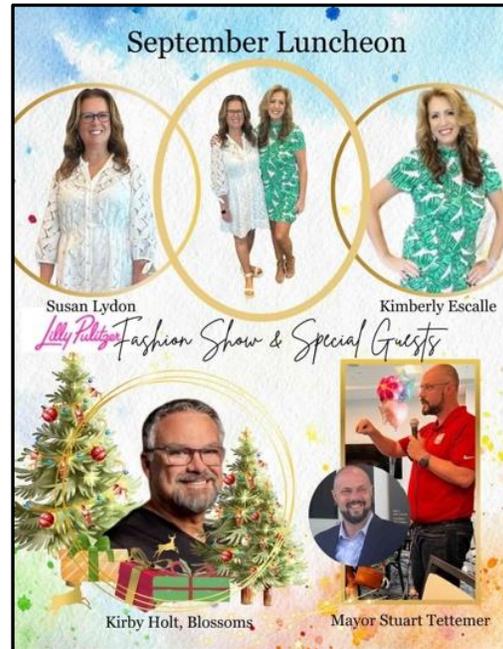
Taking responsibility helps us learn from our mistakes and helps us to make better decisions; helps us build trust and collaboration with others; helps us to achieve our goals; and strengthens the survivability of our organization.

October and November have several opportunities for each of you - Pirates of the High Seas and Renaissance Fest, Kirby Holt's Christmas Showcase, the Fall Fling Arts and Craft Fair and Home for the Holidays. Please support each of these events.

"The price of greatness is responsibility."
Winston Churchill

Nancy

"September Luncheon"



What a fantastic way to start the new year! A beautiful new venue, delicious food, an incredible turnout of wonderful ladies, stunning models, a talented local decorator and floral designer, and even our mayor joining us! We could not be prouder to begin the year with such excitement, energy, and enthusiasm.

We were thrilled to welcome Kirby Holt, owner of Blossoms and a nationally recognized designer, along with his son Brad Holt, to our event. Kirby captivated the audience with a live demonstration of crafting a stunning Christmas wreath, while also sharing exciting details about his upcoming Holiday Decorating Showcase in Chipley, FL, on Tuesday, October 29th. In addition to gifting the gorgeous wreath as a door prize, Kirby generously brought several bottles of locally made wine and a beautifully decorated pumpkin, which were also given away. Stay tuned to Member to Member announcements for more updates on this exciting Showcase.

We had the honor of welcoming Panama City Beach Mayor Stuart Tettermer as our special guest speaker at the luncheon. Mayor Tettermer shared exciting updates on the city's innovative plans to improve road safety and ease traffic by repurposing the tram lane along Front Beach Road for golf carts and other low-speed vehicles (LSVs).

The proposal includes dedicating six feet of the current tram lane to LSVs, with four feet reserved for bicyclists, separated by a one-foot buffer to ensure safety for all. The lane markings will also change from

red to green, aligning with national standards for bicycle lanes. As Mayor Tetterer explained, "It would allow us to get those golf carts off of the car lane, so you would not be stuck behind a golf cart anymore." This strategic move is expected to reduce congestion along the busy Front Beach Road, allowing faster-moving vehicles to flow more smoothly.

We were thrilled to have Mayor Tetterer's mother, Janet Tetterer, as a special guest of Carol Lynn at the luncheon. Her presence truly added a warm and personal touch to the occasion.

Mayor Tetterer concluded his presentation by outlining the city's next steps, including determining costs, finalizing contracts, and setting timelines for the project. His talk provided an optimistic view of Panama City Beach's commitment to improving infrastructure and enhancing the overall experience for both residents and visitors.

Our luncheon was made even more special with a mini fashion show featuring our gorgeous models, Kim Escalle and Susan Lydon. Under the expert direction of Bobbi Griggs, these ladies lit up the room in their stunning Lily Pulitzer dresses, showcasing vibrant style and grace. Their runway presence brought an undeniable touch of glamour, inspiring everyone with the latest fashion. A lovely Lilly Pulitzer tote bag, generously donated by The Pink Narcissus, along with a beautiful beach towel from Kim Escalle, was given away as a coveted door prize.

A heartfelt thanks to these wonderful ladies for their contributions to our luncheon. The charming table décor provided by Kim added an extra delightful and memorable touch to the event.

THANK YOU: We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our members who joined us and participated in our September luncheon at Hyatt Place. A special thank you to all who contributed to making our luncheon such a great experience.

OCTOBER LUNCHEON: We can't wait to see everyone at our October 3rd luncheon, which will be held at Hyatt Place, 15727 Front Beach Road, Panama City Beach, FL. This time, we will be meeting on the 1st floor at Hyatt Place Coconut Charlie's instead of the 2nd floor conference room.

Please watch for your emailed invitation to the luncheon and respond by the deadline to help us reserve your spot and provide the venue with an accurate count. We don't want you to miss out, so your timely response is greatly appreciated!

OCTOBER GUEST SPEAKER: Our October luncheon will feature Dr. Kimberly Peacock as our esteemed guest speaker. Dr. Peacock holds a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, along with a Master's Degree in Counseling and certification as a health coach. She specializes in lifestyle modifications to optimize health, with a research focus on using nutrition to combat chronic diseases and helping individuals integrate healthy habits into their daily lives. We are excited to welcome Dr. Peacock and eagerly anticipate her insightful presentation.

Looking forward to seeing y'all on October 3rd!

Jane Fillingim, Lunches and Programs Chair

Fashion Show

The WCC Fashion Show Committee luncheon "mini" show for October will be showcasing Sol Shine Casual Boutique. Sara Green and Sharon McDonald will be presenting their selections of comfort, style and every day casual wear for your enjoyment. Please join them in wearing your favorite pieces and accessories from your closet.

Sara Green shares her interest to participate with the Fashion Show Committee because "it is fun and brings smiles to our members faces". Sharon McDonald participates by saying, "I love clothes and it helps educate our community about the wonderful shops we have in Panama City Beach".

October is also celebrated as Breast Cancer Awareness month, known as Pinktober. Feel free to show your support by wearing pink and displaying pink ribbons to support breast cancer prevention and early detection. Go Purple is recognized during the month of October in acknowledgement of Domestic Violence. Purple promotes awareness of domestic abuse and healthy relationships to validate the importance of victims and survivors of domestic abuse within our community.

Bobbi Griggs, Fashion Show Chair

"Welcome New Member"



**Sponsor Bobbi Griggs, Tammy Ruehrwein,
Membership Chair Arlene Klaas**



Tammy Ruehrwein

My name is Tammy Ruehrwein. I've been a resident of Panama City Beach for 3 years now, I'm a Covid transplant! Prior to moving to PCB I lived in Milford, Ohio, a suburb of Cincinnati. While living in Cincinnati for over 30 years I married my husband, Russ. Had two boys, Collin & Clay and I taught primary school children for 28 years. We decided to move to Panama City Beach once both our boys were out of the house making us empty nesters. I'm using my teaching skills to help educate others about Real Estate as a Realtor here in Florida. I volunteer at my church, Destiny Worship Center and now I'm blessed to be part of an organization that's making a difference in the community. A BIG thank you to Susan Lydon, who invited me to meetings prior to summer where I got to witness all the GREAT work being done through the Women's Civic Club. Another BIG thank you to Bobbi Griggs, who sponsored me and educated me about the club. I'm honored to be part of an organization touching lives in the community.

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

Raising Funds

Arts and Craft Shows

COMING SOON!

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!

Julie Sanders, Chairman

Ironman

Registration for Ironman is open. If you have not yet done so, please register to volunteer for Bag Stuffing on October 29th and for Athlete Registration on October 30th, 31st and November 1st. The link is:

<https://ironman.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=80412>

Also, save the date for the Panama City Beach Marathon which will be held on Saturday, December 7th. We anticipate manning the water stations again this year. Sign-up sheets, providing station locations and shifts, will be provided soon!

Kelly Bertin, Ironman Chairperson

Save the
DATE
Diamond Jubilee
Gala



Dear Members,

Get ready! 2025 marks a truly special occasion for us as we celebrate 60 years of caring, sharing, and giving back to our beloved community! To commemorate this incredible milestone, we are thrilled to announce our Diamond Jubilee Gala - a night of dance, entertainment, dinner and auction, with proceeds benefiting the charitable causes we hold dear.

With over 300 guests expected to attend, we invite you to be a part of this extraordinary evening! Please mark your Calendar for Saturday, February 1, 2025, from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. at the Boardwalk Beach Hotel and Convention Center.

We kindly ask for your support in making this Gala a huge success. The dance and auction is a vital fundraiser for our charities and your participation can truly make a significant impact. Let's work together to make this event an unforgettable evening of celebration and giving back to our community. There will be plenty of opportunities to contribute your ideas and talents. Be on the lookout for more details and how you can participate in the weeks to come!

For more information or if you would like to get involved, please reach out to any of the chairs. Your 2025 dance committee chairs, Jane Fillingim, Julie Sanders, and Soula Dortch. Auction committee chairs, Tammy Haight-Galloway and Kelly Bertin.

Looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Special Beach Events

Pirates of the High Seas and Renaissance Fest

It's time for the fun to begin! Our first event for Visit Panama City Beach will be Pirates of the High Seas at Aaron Bessant Park coming up October 11-13. Instead of staffing one beverage tent, they have added a second beverage tent and we will be staffing both. We will need 12 volunteers for each time slot to cover both tents. The times for which we will need volunteers are:

Friday, October 11 - 3:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 12 - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 12 - 3:00 p.m. to 8:00p.m.
Sunday, October 13 - 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In addition to the beverage tents, they have also asked us to staff the merchandise tent at the festival. We will need 4 volunteers for each time slot and the times for which we will need volunteers are:

Friday, October 11 - 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 12 - 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 12 - 3:00 p.m. to 8:00p.m.
Sunday, October 13 - 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

There's a little something for everyone. The beverage tents are pretty fast-paced at times and require some physical strength. The pace at the merchandise tent is a little slower and not as physically demanding. If you would like to volunteer for any of the positions, please contact Cheri Leistner (502) 296-3205 or email at cheri@advantagesoutheast.com or Sue Jiles (770) 364-5890 or email at ssjiles@aol.com and we will send you a link to register online. If you would like to bring your spouse, friend, neighbor, family member, they will need to register separately online and you can just share the link with them.

This is always a fun event and a great way to help raise funds for the club!

Cheri Leistner and Sue Jiles, Special Beach Event Chairs

"Supporting the Community"

Community Outreach

Superior Residence of Panama City Beach



Doris Bayliss, Roberta Bernhardt and Sharon Williams helped with the cakewalk at Superior Residence of Panama City Beach on September 12th. The residents were very appreciative.

Please join us at the following events:

Backpack Blessings - 8:30am on October 10th and 17th at Hospitality Depot, 158 Griffin Boulevard.

Superior Senior Residences Halloween Tea Party - 1:00pm on October 16th. Please help us get this new project started. Costumes a bonus! Location is 95 Grand Heron Drive.

Charter Red Hat Tea Party - 2:00pm (set up), 2:30pm start on October 22nd. Come join the celebration. Red hat appreciated but not required.

Girls Inc. Popcorn and Left-Right-Center Party - 1:30pm on October 23rd, 300 Clara Avenue.

Dena Roewe and Gloria Turner, Community Outreach Chairs

Domestic Violence

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Domestic violence affects millions of people in the United States each year. Two in five women and one in four men have experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. What is alarming about these stats is that this includes teen dating sexual abuse, college campus sexual abuse and senior sexual abuse (women over the age of 50).

We will be collecting items at our October luncheon for use at the Bay County safe house. The safe house is a home for women, single and with children, who no longer have a safe environment in which to live. Most often, by the time these women have reached this point they have nothing but the clothes they carry with them. At the safe home, their room is furnished with just the basic necessities. When they can safely move, they take these items with them. The basic necessities are what we are asking you to bring to the October luncheon are:

Laundry Detergent
Dishwasher Soap
Dawn Dish Soap
Clorox Wipes
Windex
Kitchen Cleaner

Bathroom Cleaner
Feminine Hygiene Tampons/Pads
Body Wash, Spray or Lotion
Toothpaste
Full Size Shampoo
Full Size Conditioner

Deodorant
Razors/Shaving Cream
Shower Caps
Pillow Protectors
Shower Curtains & Liners
Bath Mats

Sharon Williams and Roberta Bernhardt, Domestic Liaisons

School Projects



Natalie May, Karen Demeester, Donna McElroy

Thank you to all who
donated to support our
schools!!!

Jeanette Poland
School Projects Chair

Hutchinson Beach Elementary



Cindy Brost, Jan Schott, Lisa Nicholson, Tonia Sampson

Patronis Elementary



Principal Brooke Loyed, Deb Kesinger

A Walsingham Academy



Kelly Bertin, Elise Kirk, Pam Davis

Breakfast Point Academy



Carol Benson, Scott West, Cheri Wroblewski, Jeanette Poland, Lisa Davies

West Bay Elementary



Becky Farmer, Donna McElroy, Pam Sanders, Natalie May, Karen Demeester, Jennifer Jimenez, Kelly Dean



"Spending Time Together"

Member to Member

Kirby Holt's Holiday Decorating Showcase

The WCC will be taking a bus trip on Tuesday, October 29th to Kirby Holt's Holiday Decorating Showcase in Chipley, FL. We will be leaving PCB at 3pm for the 1½ hour ride to Chipley. Kirby has arranged for 1901 on Main to open for us to grab a light dinner and drink (if you want!). We will walk 3 blocks to the Spanish Trail Playhouse for the Showcase, which will run from 6 – 8 pm. We will then walk 3 blocks back to Kirby's showroom at Blossoms, where we will be able to shop at a 25% discount on products that Kirby has demonstrated as well as other things in his shop. The bus will load no later than 9:30 to return to PCB.

Tickets to the showcase are available at

<https://spanishtrailplayhouse.com/upcoming-shows/2024/10/29/holiday-decorating-showcase>. Tickets will be emailed to you. The Box Office will NOT be open the day of the showcase to sell tickets!

To insure that the WCC of PCB receives Kirby's donation of \$10 per ticket sold, PLEASE add WCC to the Comments section right below your address!! The playhouse will sort ticket sales with this designation and send us a donation check.

To secure a ride on the bus, please email, call or text me with the number of seats you would like to purchase. Bus tickets are \$22. To ensure a full bus, we are not limiting the number of guests that you may invite. Seating will be on a first come, come first serve basis, so please reserve your spot ASAP!

The bus will be making 2 pickups – one centrally located to those attending in PCB and one around Margaritaville. We will also try to arrange members to pick up anyone that would prefer not to drive from the pickup location in the dark.

Should you have any issues purchasing tickets for the showcase, just let me know and I can assist you! Also, any questions?? I will be happy to help with that as well !

Thanks much for your support of this fun event and fundraising opportunity. This is a new learning experience for all involved so your support and patience as we work though any bugs is GREATLY appreciated!

Cheri Leistner, Member to Member Chair

"Recognizing our Members"

Happy Birthday Wishes!!

November

- 02 Sara Green
- 17 Carol Benson
- 18 Rhonda Zartman
- 26 Carol Adams
- 27 Nan VandenBerg
- 29 Jayn Collins



"Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity and strength!"

Sunshine Committee

Please contact the Sunshine Committee sedwa53@gmail.com to help celebrate, comfort, or support our members after an illness, loss, or happy occasion. Each member is important to us.

Sondra Edwards, Sunshine Committee Chair

"In Appreciation"

From: Ed Nendick

Thank you for all your love and support for my Jane. We had an amazing life together.

From: Phil Willcox, Boys & Girls Club

We are so grateful for your investment of \$550 we recently received. People like you enable us to keep our movement alive and continue to serve the children of our community that need help the most. Thank you so much for your support. We appreciate you!! All the best.

From: Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church

Dear friends of the WCC: We send many thanks once again 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 (\$1500+) are so greatly appreciated. We cannot express how these donations help us to continue our mission of helping those in need in our community. This food and monetary donation for April is so greatly appreciated and goes a long way in our efforts to feed the increase of customers that we are experiencing. We have given over 2500 meals for March and 2500 meals for April. In addition, we certainly appreciate all the continued support from Gloria Turner, our liaison. She is most help to us.

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.

"In Memory"



Rowan Quave, who passed away on September 2, 2024, 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.

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 felt guilty at not being able to serve in a greater capacity, she continued to attend meetings, solicit donations for the silent auction, stuff bags for Ironman and attend and support the club's fundraisers. Her daughter Julie Sanders, who retired and moved here in 2011, ensured that Rowan got 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.

Please remember Julie, her family and the Quave family in your thoughts and prayers.

"Upcoming Events"

- Oct 3 Luncheon and Business Meeting at Hyatt Place, 15727 Front Beach Road, 11AM
- Oct 11-13 Pirates of the High Seas & Renaissance Fest at Aaron Bessant Park
- Oct 23 Girl's Inc - Left, Right, Center Game and Popcorn Party, 1:30PM
- Oct 29 Ironman Bag Stuffing at Aaron Bessant Park, 9AM-2PM
- Oct 29 Kirby Holt Showcase in Chipley, 6-8PM
- Oct 30 Ironman Athlete Check In at Aaron Bessant Park, 8:30AM-1PM and 1-6PM
- Oct 31 Ironman Athlete Check In at Aaron Bessant Park, 8:30AM-1PM and 1-6PM
- Oct 31 Board Meeting at Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 309 R Jackson Blvd, 10AM
- Nov 1 Ironman Athlete Check In at Aaron Bessant Park, 8AM-12PM
- Nov 7 Luncheon and Business Meeting at Hyatt Place, 15727 Front Beach Road, 11AM
- Nov 9 Fall Fling Arts and Craft Show at Frank Brown Park, 9AM-3PM
- Nov 21 Board Meeting, Location to be determined, 10AM
- Nov 22-23 Smore's Kits Production
- Nov 29-30 Home for the Holidays at Aaron Bessant Park

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

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