

## KEY WEST WOMANS CLUB



**PRESIDENT, AUNDREA WAGNER**



Hello Dear sisters of the Key West Woman's Club!

I hope everyone had a wonderful July—get ready for an awesome August! It has been a busy month here at 319 Duval Street, and I have some fantastic updates to share with you.

First up, I am so excited to announce our new partnership with Ernest Hemingway Museum, Key West Wedding Planners! Did you know our club is one of the few venues in Key West that offers both indoor/outdoor space and a kitchen? Our beautifully restored Eleanor is the perfect setting for events, and this partnership will help us promote our historic clubhouse and museum as a Key West premier event venue .

Our incredible membership department has been hard at work testing new software designed for nonprofits like ours. The program, Volunteer Impact, will make it easier for you to stay informed about upcoming events, sign up for volunteer opportunities, and track your volunteer hours more efficiently. We hope this will streamline our volunteer process and enhance our club membership involvement. More details coming soon!

We were delighted to host Leadership Monroe County for the second year in a row. The mix and mingle event was a success, bringing together local leaders and building community connections. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our clubhouse, share our history, and talk about the volunteer work we do for our community.

Once again, we welcomed the Literacy Volunteers of America to our front porch during the annual Hemingway Days street fair. It was a hot Saturday, Duval Street was busy with vendors, tourists, and "Ernie" look-a-likes. We were honored to open our club and Eleanor's porch, providing water and a cool break from the heat to the Literacy volunteers and our Key West officers in uniform.

Get ready for the event of the century—Our **Historic Days Celebration** is officially on the calendar! The Key West Woman's Club is pulling out all the stops for an epic four-day bash marking 110 incredible years of us! This event is going to be HUGE, and we want everyone to join in the excitement. Mark your calendars now for April 3-6, 2025. You will not want to miss this unforgettable celebration!

A big KWWC thank you goes out to our club sister, Dr Penny Walker for hosting July Girls' Night Out and donating all the proceeds from this fun event to our club. Your support and continuous dedication are truly appreciated, Penny!

Last but not least, the new 2025 Key West Woman's Club cookbook is nearing completion! Many thanks to our dedicated members Marlene Thorn, Roberta Isleib, Joann Garzarella Boyle, and Fran Decker for all the hours and hard work you girls have invested in creating what promises to be the best edition of our historic cookbook yet. In case you haven't heard, our cookbook will be the official cookbook for Key West's newest and hottest tourist attraction—the Key West Cooking School. Yes, every single recipe cooked at the school will be from our very own Woman's Club cookbook. How amazing is that?! This new publication has been made possible by the generosity of Historic Tours of America (HTA) and Ed Swift. Thank you to Ed and his partners Chris Belland and Piper Smith for underwriting the cost of the cookbook, and to Piper for her invaluable help in bringing this book to print. I can not wait for the world to see our finished product!

I miss seeing everyone together, and can not wait until October 2nd when our 2024-2025 club season starts. We have so many exciting things coming our way!!



*Sending love,  
Aundrea*

Aundrea Wagner, Edwin O Swift, III and Marlene Thorn

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**NEED VOLUNTEER HOURS?  
WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!**

## **BE A HOSTESS FOR WOMEN & WINE**

**THIS IS A VERY CASUAL  
GATHERING AND A FUN WAY  
TO EARN HOURS OF  
VOLUNTEER SERVICE  
TOWARDS YOUR YEARLY  
10 HOUR MEMBERSHIP  
REQUIREMENT.  
IT IS A SIMPLE PROCESS AND  
JUST REQUIRES YOU TO  
HELP SET-UP,  
BRING 1 APPETIZER,  
1 DESSERT  
(FINGER FOOD IS BEST)  
AND 2 BOTTLES OF WINE  
(LARGE - 1.5 LITERS,  
1 WHITE & 1 RED)  
FOR ALL TO SHARE,  
AND CLEAN-UP AFTERWARDS.**



**IF YOU CAN HELP HOST  
WOMEN AND WINE  
ANY MONTH  
OR ON  
SEPTEMBER 4TH  
5:00-6:30**

**PLEASE TEXT OR CALL**

**ROXANNE WOOD  
562-716-2786**

## **YOU CAN BE A KWWC DOCENT!!**

The word is out!! We are now a very popular tourist attraction thanks to our wonderful docents!!! We are always looking for volunteers to join our docent team and it is a great way to get your volunteer hours! It's fun and easy to be a docent, and you'll have the joy of spreading the rich history of Key West. If you're unsure about what to say or the history aspect, feel free to come by, be a porch sitter and take it all in. If you love history, enjoy meeting new people, and want to share the fascinating stories of our historic home, consider becoming a docent.

Contact

Jane Teitelbaum at  
[jteitelbaum@pacbell.net](mailto:jteitelbaum@pacbell.net) or  
415-308-0236 for more details.



**Volunteer Docents**

**Teo and Mary Ann, Hanging out on  
Eleanor's beautiful front porch, ready to  
share our Woman's Club and Hellings  
Curry Museum history with visitors from  
around the world!**

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## WOMEN & WINE

We will have our monthly  
Women and Wine get together  
Wednesday August 7th  
5:00-6:30

*Hosted by*

**Kathy Van Fleet**

**Kathleen Moody**

**Michelle Ricke-Morris**

**Roxanne Wood**



**Be sure to Join us for our Women and Wine Monthly Event at the Key West Woman's Club!**

**You may also bring a friend who might be interested in joining our organization.**

**Enjoy a welcoming atmosphere, fun conversation. Wine and appetizers generously provided by our member hostesses**

**It's a perfect opportunity to unwind, and celebrate the spirit of our organization and community with other amazing women.**

**Mocktails will also be available**

**HOPE TO SEE YOU GIRLS THERE !**



**DON'T FORGET**

**POINCIANA GARDENS**

**MONTHLY ICE CREAM SOCIAL  
SECOND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH,  
AUGUST 8TH FROM 6-8 PM.**

**THIS MONTH WE HAVE BINGO!  
COME AND ENJOY BEING WITH THESE  
WONDERFUL SENIORS FOR ICE CREAM AND  
BINGO. WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE AS MANY  
VOLUNTEERS AS POSSIBLE, YOUR  
PRESENCE ADDS TO THE EXCITEMENT OF  
THE EVENING.**

**QUESTIONS CONTACT EILEEN 305-304-4439  
OR SANDY 305-797-6992**



# WOMAN OF THE MONTH

***We are delighted to shine a spotlight on one of our exceptional members, Penny Walker as our Woman of the Month for August 2024!***

Penny is approaching her 2nd year with the Key West Woman's Club, her dedication and contributions to our club and community have been nothing short of extraordinary. Penny has earned this recognition due to her ongoing commitment and remarkable impact on our organization. When asked about her reasons for joining the Key West Woman's Club, how long she has been in Key West, her hobbies and interests, important causes she supports, and if there's something personal she'd like to share Penny said:



**DR. PENNY WALKER**

***Where are you from and How long have you been in Key West?***

I was raised in Chicago and lived there until 2005, then I spent 15 years in New Orleans. I have been in Key West since 2017.

***How long have you been a member of the Key West Woman's Club?***

I was honored to join the Key West Woman's Club on December 6, 2023

***What inspired you to join our club?***

The history of the Woman's club in supporting the origins of the Public Libraries in Florida, achieving Woman's Suffrage, and the advancement of women's rights inspired me to consider joining the KWWC. However, it was the inspiring leaders, Aundrea Wagner, Susan Mitchell and Gail Montani, who wrapped their loving arms around me and supported me in this journey that were my deciding factors.

***What is your favorite aspect of being a part of the Key West Woman's Club?***

My favorite aspect of being a part of Key West Woman's Club is the sisterhood. The KWWC has the most diverse and supportive group of women that I have ever met. I feel embraced, loved, and welcomed.

***Background, Hobbies, Interest***

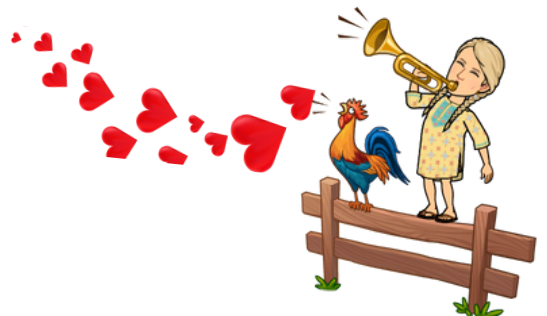
*I have been an Executive Physician, A Non-profit community health TV host, a Culture Facilitator, an Emergency Physician, and a Registered Nurse. My hobbies are rescuing dogs. I currently have 4 loving fur babies. I also support Sea Turtle Conservation. If I am not with my dogs or walking the beaches for turtles, you will find me in my Conch cottage cooking and gardening.*

***What causes are important to you?***

Woman's Rights, The Health of our Big Blue Planet, and Autism Awareness

***Fun fact about you, something unique or favorite book, movie, travel destination etc..***

*I hand-built an 18 foot reproduction of a Louisiana Skiff from a stack of wood. It launched it's first and only time on the water in Key West before I donated it to the Lake Pontchartrain Maritime Museum.*



# CLUB HAPPENINGS

## Marlene Thorn

Vice president, Marketing chair

### Key West Historic Days Celebration



The next draft schedule will be sent to KWHDC Committee

Members soon after this newsletter. We have confirmed some schedules with our Event Partners and continue to finalize others throughout the summer.

We are excited to announce that the Key West Art and Historical Society will be collaborating with us on walking tours and presentations. The Curry Mansion will host group tours, coordinated by our own P.J. Eaton. Additionally, Barbara McShea and her team of volunteers are diligently working to ensure the KWWC 110th Anniversary High Tea is a great success.

Committee members are encouraged to confirm participation with the event partners they suggested and to begin planning accordingly.

Captain Hellings and Eleanor's great-great-granddaughter, Nicole Jones, will be attending the celebration. Wendy Purcell, who possesses some of Eleanor Curry's personal items and has family genealogy information, will also be present. Family heirlooms will be on display.

We are also planning a large vendor festival for Saturday of the event. Eleanor's Boutique will be set up to sell decorated hats, gloves, brooches, and other accessories to be worn at the High Tea event on Sunday. The festival will feature food, music, children's activities, and more. Members interested in setting up their personal arts, crafts, paintings, books, etc., should contact Marlene at [thornmarlene26@gmail.com](mailto:thornmarlene26@gmail.com) or Aundrea [kwwcpresident@gmail.com](mailto:kwwcpresident@gmail.com)

## Stacie Gleason

Communications VP

Book Club & Movies



We had a great discussion about "Looking for Jane" at our July meeting. On Aug 20th we will meet to discuss "Ordinary Grace" by: William Krueger.

We will be skipping Septembers book club meeting. In October we will be reading "The Frozen River" by: Ariel Lawhon. For Nov and Dec, we'll be selecting a topic and exploring it from two different perspectives. If you have any suggestions for topics and books, please email me at [kwwcstacie@gmail.com](mailto:kwwcstacie@gmail.com).

The New York Times came out with a list of their top 100 books of the 21st Century.

If you go to the website from your computer (not your phone) you can click on the ones you want to read or have read and it will create a storyboard for you.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactiv/e/2024/books/best-books-21st-century.html>

**Movies - Tropic Cinemas will be doing free movies for locals on Tuesdays & Sundays for the month of August. Just bring your local I.D. & remember anyone can post on our KWWC Social Page on FB if they are going to see a movie and want company.**

STACIE

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

## KEY WEST WOMANS CLUB

KIM GORDON

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP



For decades, we members tracked our own volunteer hours. At the end of every monthly meeting in season we would each go to a big, old-school binder we kept in the pantry to write in our monthly totals. Back then we had about 125 members, not the 250 we have now, and there were fewer things to volunteer for. As you can imagine, a few years ago this book became obsolete. We needed a 21st century solution that would let us all log our volunteer hours, sign up for future activities, and communicate easily with our event and committee chairs. After an in-depth search, we're excited to announce that in October we'll adopt a popular, easy-to-use desktop program and mobile app designed specifically to help nonprofit organizations like ours serve our volunteer members. It was created for users of all ages, so if you can use Facebook or the calendar on your phone, you're all set. The first time you sign in you'll create your own member profile. Then you can discover all the fun activities and events you can volunteer for. You can sign up, see your schedule, log your hours, and check how many hours you've already served. Or you can cancel something you've volunteered for and instantly alert the event chair. You can do a quick check-in on your phone or computer to see exactly what time something starts and the correct location. And it will help the club gain the information we need to qualify for grants and provide a true picture of the many hours we all donate to support our community.

Stay tuned for all the details!

## HELLINGS CURRY MUSEUM

PATRICIA NEYRA

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP



The support of our business community assists the Hellings Curry Museum, home of the Key West Woman's Club, fulfill its mission of preserving the history of the museum and the culture of the Florida Keys for visitors from around the world to experience and enjoy. The Hellings Curry Museum would like to welcome our new Gold Business Member Ocean Key Resort and Spa.

Ocean Key Resort & Spa has the distinction of having Zero Duval Street as its address. Overlooking the Gulf of Mexico, every room comes with a view. Adjacent to Mallory Square in historic Old Town Key West, they have a long history of hosting artists, authors, and characters of all kinds. All of the guest rooms and suites at Ocean Key Resort are designed with your ultimate relaxation in mind. Featuring local art and eclectic hand-painted furnishings, each room comes with a private balcony and view of the Gulf of Mexico or Key West's historic Duval Street. From fine dining to poolside lounging, they have you covered. Enjoy the best of Florida and Caribbean cuisine at one of their three restaurants – Hot Tin Roof, LIQUID, and Sunset Pier. Unwind at SpaTerre – their boutique island spa. Specializing in exotic Balinese treatments and Thai body rituals, this is the place to indulge in a one-of-a-kind respite for mind and body. For more information regarding Ocean Key Resort and Spa go to [oceankey.com](http://oceankey.com).

For information as to how your business can become a business member please contact KWWC Board Member Patricia Neyra at 954-684-8805  
[KWWCmarketingdirector@gmail.com](mailto:KWWCmarketingdirector@gmail.com).



OCEAN KEY  
RESORT & SPA  
KEY WEST | A NOBLE HOUSE RESORT

# JULY HIGHLIGHTS

*think Miracle Leaf!*







# Women and Wine

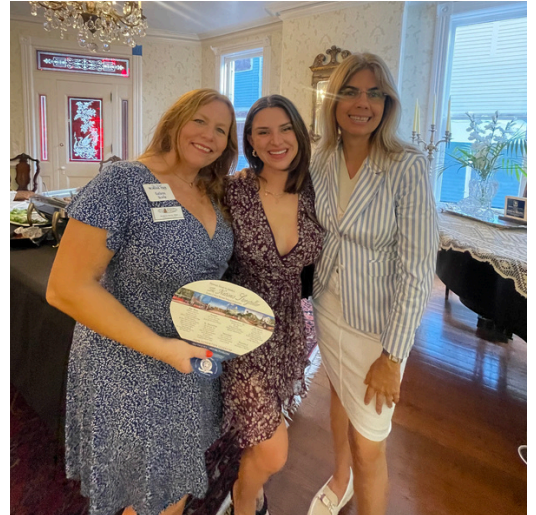
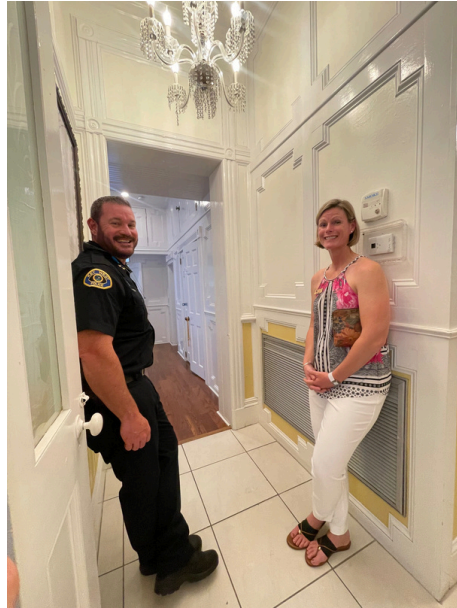


# LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA



# LEADERSHIP MONROE COUNTY MIX AND MINGLE

The LMC program is aimed at community residents who are active in leadership roles in the private sector, government, or community organizations.



# SAVING ELEANOR





Old rotten fence....out of here! It took three truck loads to carry off all the junk that was back there!



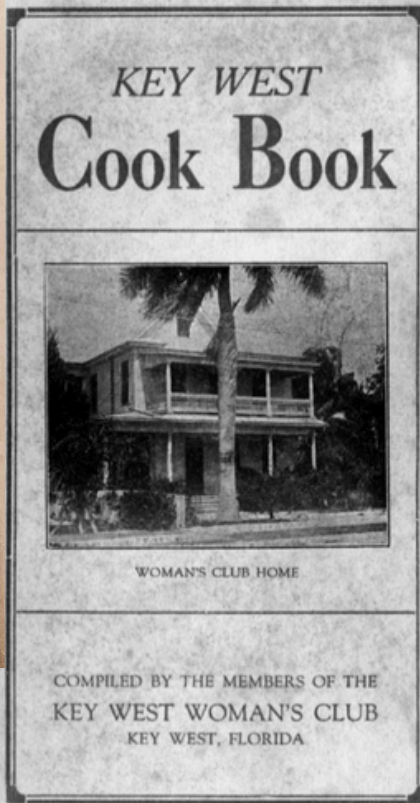
NICE AND CLEAN READY TO BE BEAUTIFUL

# CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY

## Club's Favorite Recipe

Take some human nature, as you find it,  
 The commonest variety will do,  
 Put a little graciousness behind it,  
 Add a lump of charity, or two,  
 Squeeze in just a drop of moderation,  
 Half as much frugality, or less,  
 Add some very fine consideration,  
 Strain off all of poverty's distress.  
 Pour some milk of human kindness in it,  
 Put in all the happiness you can.  
 Stir it up with laughter every minute,  
 Season with good will toward every man.  
 Set it on the fire of heart's affection,  
 Leave it till the jolly bubbles rise,  
 Sprinkle it with kisses for confection,  
 Sweeten with a look from loving eyes.  
 Flavor it with lots of merry chatter,  
 You must not wait to cool it—there's the rub.  
 Put it on a friendship garnished platter  
 And serve it to each member of the Club.

MRS. ANDREW MILLER  
 (With Apologies to the Author)



TO MRS. WILLIAM RICHARD WARREN,  
 Beloved President of this Club 1925-1929, whose tact and inherent sweetness brought order out of chaos and welded many discordant factions into one harmonious and effective whole, this book is lovingly dedicated.  
 "Tis ever the pure womanly leadeeth us on."  
 KEY WEST WOMAN'S CLUB

## FIRST PRINTING OF THE KEY WEST WOMAN'S CLUB COOKBOOK 1929

## The New York Times Book Review

MARCH 27, 1949

Copyright, 1949, by The New York Times Company.

SECTION 7

## SECOND PRINTING 1949

### SPEAKING OF BOOKS

By J. DONALD ADAMS

KEY WEST, Fla. SO far as this department is concerned, a vigorous movement to inundate most of Florida north of the Keys and Cape Sable would meet with no determined opposition. Although there are no dikes that could be opened, the conversion of this fantasy into fact should not prove to be an impossible feat of engineering, since the highest point of land between the Everglades National Park at the base of the peninsula and the northern gateway at Jacksonville is in the neighborhood of ten feet above sea level. In carrying out this submergence of a good part of the Sunshine State, a few exceptions might charitably be made, in sharply restricted areas, thereby extending the Keys northward to the new south coast of Georgia.

There's a spot or two on the Florida west coast, I understand, which merits preservation (I've seen only Marcos Island); on the other, a reasonably sound case can be made for retaining St. Augustine; Palm Beach, I gather, is gradually being deserted for Hobe Sound anyway, so that presents only a minor problem; it would be unfairly ruthless, in my opinion, to let the warm waters roll over Boca Raton, for if that were done, where else could the hard-pressed nabobs of the movies and the radio have the privilege of spending \$150 a day for a balcony suite at the Boca Raton Club, which is, after all, the most beautiful example of restraint and taste allied to opulence that I have ever seen. Finally, there's a patch or two in the Marjorie Kinman Rawlings country which, they tell me, should remain undisturbed.

SUCH reflections as these, any Key West addict will at once recognize, are merely the result of this department's first exposure to the charms of our southernmost city. There are people, I am reliably informed, who, after one look at Key West's undulating sidewalks and frequently paint-starved houses, turn their

backs on it forever and flee precipitately to the concrete block stucco (CBS to Floridians) wastes of the north. In my present state of mind, I am very sorry for them, for I find the mixture of Bahaman design with Southern and, yes, New England Colonial which distinguishes Key West architecture, one of the most pleasing aspects of the metropolis of this blood-stained archipelago.

Remembering in the nick of time the heading that stands above this tripod, I must turn now to the consideration of certain items of local literature which have so far not made themselves felt much beyond these precincts. Ernest Hemingway, whose house, though no longer occupied by him, still appears on the local maps and in the guidebooks, wrote his least successful book ("To Have and Have Not") with its setting hereabouts. But rather than raise the unquiet ghost of Harry Morgan, I suppose we turn the pages of "They All Called It Tropical" and the "Key West Cook Book."

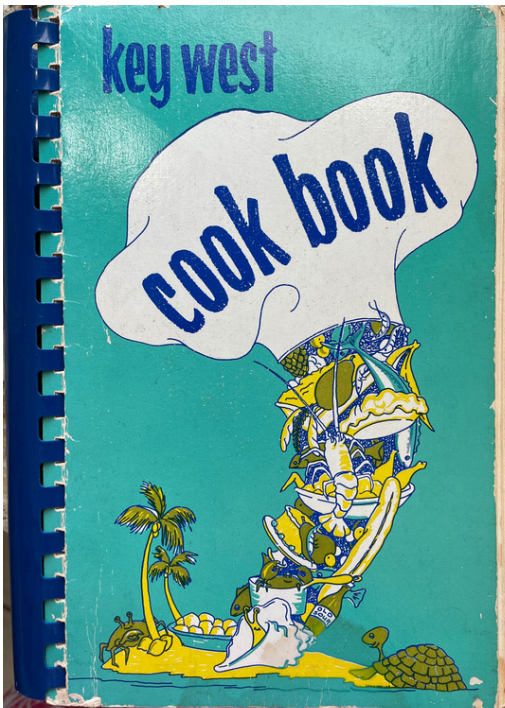
BOTH of these are paperbacked; the first, written by Charles M. Brookfield and Oliver Griswold, is published by the Data Press at Coconut Grove, Miami. It is a rather haphazard but nevertheless interesting round-up of the melodramatic history of the Everglades, Cape Sable and the Florida Keys—a corner of our history as yet insufficiently explored, and I would guess that the books that will eventually be mined from it will multiply rapidly in the coming years. It is a history replete with drama and crowded with colorful characters: Audubon, whose monument the newly created Everglades National Park might be said to be (it is, I suppose, the greatest sanctuary of wild life on the North American Continent), Commodore Porter, who cleaned out the pirates who once

infested the Keys, the prodigious Lieutenant Colonel Harnet, who tracked down Chief Chekika in the heart of the Everglades, the dauntless Dr. Perrine, and many more.

Whether it is because of this abundance of material, or the enchanted moonlight at Key West, or, more practically, the comparatively low cost of living, which has brought writers in increasing numbers to these streets that cross from the Atlantic to the Gulf, I venture no hard-and-fast opinion. But one may be sure that among the contributory elements are the very real pleasures and almost unlimited potentialities of Key West cookery.

THESE are engagingly and most informatively set forth in the cook book which I have already mentioned. Not only has it the distinction of being, so far as I know, the only book published by a woman's club (the Key West Woman's Club); it is among the most amusing and attractive of its genus that I have seen. The book was a cooperative undertaking, in which the resident artists of the community (of whom there are many) joined forces with the most cuisine-conscious matrons of Key West, each of whom has contributed her favorite recipes.

One finds not only as enticing a lot of exotic dishes as were ever encountered outside Antoine's of New Orleans; one learns that "Every spring, we have to weed out the groves of young olive trees which have sprung up where wantonly tossed olive pits have fallen"—this from the section on "Canapes, Appetizers and Hors d'Oeuvres." My own explorations at first hand are in the primary stage, but I can testify to the insidious qualities of bollos (succulent morsels composed of black-eyed peas, bird peppers, garlic and salt, fried brown in hot, deep fat) and I find my imagination stirred by Caribbean chowder, Garbanzo and Seafoam soups, conch fritters and breaded turtle steak. And now to lunch.



ing Gazette  
 INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE (INS) \* WIRE  
 R. MASS., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1948

Off

human. Mrs. an, "top off" ed the menu her delicious

s as well as any follow a with creamed in enchilada might be the one prefers (scamp) and the "arroz con rice seasoned, and tomato- s, and tomato- s, guava tart fee.

dding Spanish sically. New es say! There be meal with le apple pulp- e that de- dent's sweet

king powder

apples

recans

la

id sugar and Sift flour, salt together mixture. Add nuts. Pour -lined pan.

Key West Cook Book

RECIPES FROM DEEP SOUTH—One of Mrs. Harry S. Truman's pudding recipes is included in a cook book recently published by the Woman's Club of Key West, Fla. The collection has favorite dishes of residents in that area. The cover is shown above.

Key West Woman's Club Announces

Thank you for reading

## Mark Your Calendars

Aug 7	Wednesday	Women & Wine	5:00 – 6:30pm
Aug 8	Thursday	Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social	6 – 7pm
Aug 20	Tuesday	Book Club – “Ordinary Grace” by William Kent Krueger	4 – 5pm
Sept 4	Wednesday	Women & Wine	5:00 – 6:30pm
Sep 12	Thursday	Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social	6 – 7pm
Sept 26	Thursday	BOD	3:30 – 5:00
Oct 2	Wednesday	Membership Meeting	noon
Oct 10	Thursday	Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social	6 – 7pm
Oct 15	Tuesday	Book Club – “The Frozen River” by: Ariel Lawhon	
Oct 16	Wednesday	Women & Wine	4:30 – 6:00
Oct 24	Thursday	BOD	3:30 – 5:00
Oct 26	Saturday	Fantasy Fest Viewing Extravaganza	TBA
Nov 6	Wednesday	Membership Meeting	noon
Nov 7	Thursday	Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social	6 – 7pm
Nov 11	Monday	Veterans Day Parade watch & Potluck	TBA
Nov 19	Tuesday	Holiday House Decorating	10 – 2pm
Nov 19	Tuesday	Book Club - TBD	4:00 – 5:00
Nov 20	Wednesday	Women & Wine	4:30 – 6:00
Nov 21	Thursday	BOD	3:30 – 5:00
Nov 21	Thursday	Museum/Docent Celebration	5:30pm
Dec 4	Wednesday	Membership Meeting	noon

Dec 8	Sunday	Holiday Open House	TBA
Dec 12	Thursday	Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social	6 – 7pm
Dec 18	Wednesday	Women & Wine	4:30 – 6:00
Dec 17	Tuesday	Book Club – TBD	4:00 – 5:00
Dec 19	Thursday	BOD	3:30 – 5:00
Jan 8	Wednesday	Membership Meeting	noon
Jan 10	Thursday	Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social	6 – 7pm
Jan 18	Saturday	Bougie High Tea	4:00 – 7:00
Jan 21	Tuesday	Book Club	4:00 – 5:00
Jan 23	Thursday	Silver & Gold Celebration of Friendship	TBA
Feb 5	Wednesday	Membership Meeting	noon
Feb 13	Thursday	Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social	6 - 7pm
Feb 18	Tuesday	Book Club	4:00 – 5:00
Mar 1	Saturday	Denim to Diamonds	TBA
Mar 5	Wednesday	Membership Meeting	noon
Mar 13	Thursday	Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social	6 – 7pm
Mar 18	Tuesday	Book Club	4:00 – 5:00
Apr 2	Wednesday	Awards/Membership Meeting	noon
Apr 3-6		Historical Days Event	
Apr 10	Thursday	Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social	6 – 7pm
BOD = Board of Directors			