

KEY WEST WOMANS CLUB



PRESIDENT, AUNDREA WAGNER

HELLINGS CURRY MUSEUM



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

*It feels so good to be back on the island, and I am thrilled to share some incredible news with you all! The Bricks and Mortar grant that I wrote and submitted to the Tourist Development Council (TDC) back in April has been approved! Words can't express how excited I am! Not only did the Monroe County Tourist Development Council grant us \$17,000 last month towards advertising support for our huge upcoming **Historic Days Event**, but we have also been awarded \$191,000 to build much-needed storage facilities and further the restoration of our historical shutters. This grant is especially necessary as we currently have no adequate storage space. I am so very grateful to the TDC for their incredible generosity and continued support of our mission **Saving Eleanor**. Thank you Marlene Thorn and Gayle Veltrop for your input to help us receive these funds.*

Although I wasn't there, I heard nothing but wonderful things about the Women and Wine event and the 2nd annual Pride Parade Viewing Party in June. Thank you everyone who attended and contributed to making these gatherings so special. It would not happen without YOU! It feels good volunteering and working for the betterment of our community. A big thank you to all of our members and volunteers. Your support and dedication are the foundation of our club, and I am so proud to be part of this incredible organization.

We miss those of you that haven't been able to join us lately, and hope you can be with us for the many upcoming exciting events this season. (I can hardly wait!) We are going to have great times, and want YOU to be a part of them. I am always available for you. Bring your ideas, your energy, and together, we will make this season the best one yet. Wishing you all a beautiful 4th of July! I look forward to seeing everyone and welcoming our snowbirds back to the island soon.

*Much Love,
Aundrea*

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Women & Wine

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

**WE WISH THIS TO
BE A VERY CASUAL GATHERING
AND FOR YOU TO ALSO ENJOY
WHILE EARNING 4 HOURS OF
VOLUNTEER SERVICE TOWARDS
YOUR YEARLY
10 HOUR MEMBERSHIP
REQUIREMENT.**



**IF YOU CAN HELP HOST
WOMEN AND WINE ANY MONTH
OR ON
AUGUST 10, 5:00-6:30
PLEASE TEXT OR CALL**

ROXANNE WOOD 562-716-2786

YOU CAN BE A KWWC DOCENT!!

We are always looking for volunteers to join our docent team. Word is out!! We are now a very popular tourist attraction thanks to our wonderful docents!! It's 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. It's a fun and rewarding experience! Thanks so much to our amazing Docents for braving the heat, the rain, and the construction this past month. These mighty souls are: P.J. and Paul Eaton, Patti Carey, Robin Nilsson, Peggy Guidotti, Mary Ann Finlay, Teo Chapa, Jody Gross, Nancy Romain, Beth Howe, Joanne Garzarella, Marlene Thorn, Francine Gittins, and Eileen Kawler! Also, thanks to our substitute Docents, Christine Ambrose, Vicki Golay, Kathy Torre, Edina Nagy-Sadnazi, and Linda Tuffey for filling in where needed. With most of the construction finishing up, it's a pleasure to show people around the house and tell the story of Eleanor, her family, and the other people who lived or worked here. If you're interested, please reach out to Jane Teitelbaum at jteitelbaum@pacbell.net or 415-308-0236 for more details.



POINCIANA GARDENS

**MONTHLY ICE CREAM SOCIAL SECOND
THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH,
JULY 11TH FROM 6-7 PM.**

**WE WILL BRING CHEER, DESSERTS, AND
SOCIALIZATION TO THIS FINE COMMUNITY.
THERE WILL BE A SIGN UP SHEET IN THE CLUB
WORK ROOM. BELOW IS AN ONLINE SIGN UP
LINK FOR THIS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY.
[HTTPS://SIGNUP.COM/GO/QUPTSU](https://signup.com/go/quptsyu)**

NOTES & EVENTS

WOMEN & WINE

We will have our monthly
Women and Wine get together
Wednesday July 10th
5:00-6:30
Hosted by

Valeria McCall

Sheila Cullen

Claire Keller

Michelle Riske-Morris

Joyce Benavides

July



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

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 community with other amazing women.

Mocktails will also be available
HOPE TO SEE YOU GIRLS THERE !

GNO & **MIRACLE LEAF** 

TO SPONSOR

KEY WEST WOMAN'S CLUB

Thank you to our wonderful and dedicated member,

Dr. Penny Walker, owner of **Miracle Leaf Key West**,

On July 16th, *Girls Night Out*, will be hosted at Miracle Leaf, 126 Duval Street, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. All proceeds go to support the Key West Woman's Club

It's a perfect chance to Learn about alternative health and wellness benefits with Dr Penny and her staff. Refreshments and appetizers will be served. come out and enjoy a fun evening with friends.

Member Update

Rita Eaton

We wanted to let everyone know that our longtime member and past board member, Rita Eaton, is currently residing at Otterbein Nursing Home. Rita would really appreciate hearing from her fellow members. With her birthday coming up on July 24th, it would be wonderful if everyone could send her a birthday card to brighten her day. Let's show Rita how much she means to all of us!

Address:

Otterbein Nursing Home
9400 North Shore Blvd
Marblehead, Ohio 43440

WOMAN OF THE MONTH

We are delighted to shine a spotlight on one of our exceptional members, *Betina Justice* as our Woman of the Month for July 2024!



BETINA JUSTICE

Betina is approaching her 3rd year with the Key West Woman's Club, her dedication and contributions to our club and community have been nothing short of extraordinary. Betina has earned this recognition due to her ongoing commitment and remarkable impact on our organization. Her leadership as the founder of Eleanor's Boutique and her role as a volunteer docent are just a few examples of how she embodies the spirit of service and community engagement. 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

Betina said:

- 1. I have been a KWWC member since October 2022.*
- 2. I am originally from Tennessee and Key West has stolen my heart. I have lived in the Keys since 2018.*
- 3. My dream job and hobby is fitness. My interests are community outreaches.*
- 4. I was attracted to the KWWC to develop new friendships and build strong relationships with like-minded women that serve our "One Human Family" philosophy. We are LOVE!*
- 5. I am passionate about pollution in our oceans and preservation of the Hellings-Curry House because the KWWC is the heart of Key West. Our beautiful home is always open to everyone in our community, especially those in need.*
- 6. My favorite travel destination was the French Polynesia islands.*

My favorite movie is "Pay it Forward",

My favorite saying/quote, "When I give freely, without expecting anything in return, I always receive more than I give!!"

*My fun fact is I love to dance (especially wearing a TuTu)...
Happy feet gives you a happy soul!!*



**Thank you, Betina,
for your exceptional dedication
and positive impact to our club and
community!**

CLUB HAPPENINGS

Marlene Thorn

Vice president, Marketing chair
Key West Historic Days Celebration



Planning for this Historic Event and the advertising and publicity around the Event for Outside and Inside our County is getting exciting! President Aundrea has secured a \$17,000 Tourist Development Council Destination Grant to promote the **Key West Historic Days Celebration**. A big thank you to Gayle Veltrop for her help on the grant submission and to everyone who contributed.

The Key West Woman's Club and Hellings Curry Museum will be leading this inaugural event, partnering with other local organizations and museums to celebrate Key West's rich history. The festivities will include cultural food, drinks, music, and opportunities to meet new friends and supporters. We'll also mark the KWWC's **110th anniversary** with a special membership celebration on the final day.

In early July, Aundrea, Cori Conventito (Historian), Kim Livingston (Director of Membership), and I (Marlene) will begin drafting the event schedule. Once the schedule is set, it will be announced to everyone, and committee chairs can start detailed planning.

Information will be available on the KWWC and Hellings Curry Museum websites. Additionally, Kathy Hemmesch is developing a dedicated website for the **Key West Historic Days Celebration**, which will be announced when live and regularly updated.

Many KWWC members have already volunteered to help plan and execute this four-day event, but we need many more volunteers. Please consider where you'd like to assist and join us in making this celebration a success!

Marlene

Stacie Gleason

Communications VP



I hope everyone is having a fabulous summer! We had a good turn out for book club this month considering so many people have left town. We read a very good book called The Women (pic below). On July 16th we will be discussing "Looking For Jane" by Heather Marshall & on Aug 20th we will be discussing "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Grueger.

We will be skipping Sept and picking back up on Oct 15th. For Oct, Nov & Dec we are going to pick books focused on the same subject or time period but seen from different view points. If you have any suggestions please send an email to me at

kwwcstacie@gmail.com



STACIE

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Key West Womens Club



**KIM GORDON
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

Happy July, ladies! Before you know it, it will be time for our October meeting, which kicks bringing you some exciting new programs and

opportunities to become even more involved with your club. Spoiler alert... One of these will be the kickoff of a brand-new volunteer group called KWWC Sisters. Stay tuned for more about that in October.

Our club has been growing by leaps and bounds. So let's get to know each other! Each month in this column, I will be introducing you to a long-term member who has made a positive impact over the years. Some of them you may know and others you will want to get to know better.

I'll start with a dear friend and superb member who has also supported fundraising efforts within the club for many years, Lou Ferris. A member since 2007, Lou served as our club treasurer for six years while at the same time owning and running seven H&R Block offices in the Keys. Lou also loved volunteering for Fantasy Fest and going to the nursing facility on Stock Island to help with special events for the residents. And her community service doesn't stop there. She has been President of Zonta, an Ad litem for the foster children program and has served on the Marc House board.

Lou says, "The Woman's Club has been a family for me since I came to Key West many years ago. The heartfelt donations from the club's fundraisers for our community are very important to me."

Lou inspires us all to volunteer. If you are a prospective member and would like to be inducted in October, this is a great time to complete your volunteer hours. There's a brand-new membership application form on our club website for you to complete online then print out for signatures. If you need any help, you can always reach me at KWWCmembership@gmail.com.

Kim Gordon

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, Fogarty Builders.

Fogarty Builders is a full service high-end residential construction company. They offer custom contracting services to help their clients realize the home of their dreams. Founder Chris Fogarty has over 25 years of experience serving Key West and the lower keys. You can see his work firsthand as Fogarty Builders has recently worked on the restoration of the Hellings Curry Museum porch and side stair.

To transform your space contact Chris at 305-304-1115 or chris@fogartybuilders.com.

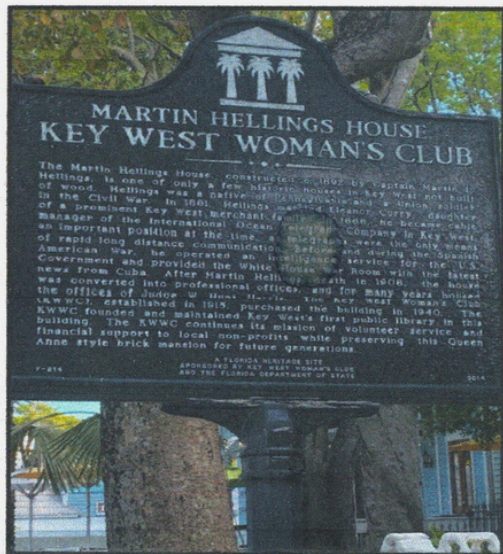


For information as to how your business can become a business member, please contact KWWC Board Member Patricia Neyra at 954-684-8805 KWWCmarketingdirector@gmail.com.

KWWC FEATURED IN WOMEN'S CLUB OF WISCONSIN NEWSLETTER

Discovering Key West Woman's Club

By Kathleen Arenz



On a recent trip to the Florida Keys with my husband, our favorite stop was definitely Key West. In addition to places like Hemingway's home and the Truman Little White House, I was delighted to discover the Key West Woman's Club (KWWC). I enthusiastically took advantage of a tour and enjoyed it all the more when the club member leading it said she was a snowbird from Minocqua, Wisconsin!

Sue from Minocqua is one of the 200 members of the club which was founded in 1915 and which is a member of the General Federation of Womens Clubs. Its mission is to provide funding for local charities and one international organization. Members work diligently to discern needs within the community and to take action.

The KWWC clubhouse is a stately Victorian red brick home built in 1892 for Captain Martin Hellings and his wife, Eleanor Curry Hellings, two prominent early Floridians, and is lavishly furnished with the original furniture and decorative objects. Since 1940 this historic home has been the clubhouse for the Woman's Club.

Although club meetings are held at the house, its main purpose is as the club's revenue source. The house is ideal for weddings and events, and the large kitchen is known for its fine food. The day I was there an elaborate bridal shower was being set up. While not a reciprocal club due to the absence of dining or sleeping facilities, KWWC welcomes visitors interested in touring the house which is a Florida heritage site. It's definitely worth a look the next time your travels take you to Key West.

You never know what you'll stumble upon in a newsletter!

While our long time member, *Linda Tuffey* was in Wisconsin, she discovered a wonderful mention of us in the Woman's Club of Wisconsin newsletter!

A big thanks to Linda, for spotting it, sharing it and for always keeping an eye out for us!



Thank you to our wonderful docents who continue to keep our Key West History alive!! Keep spreading the word!!

CLUB HIGHLIGHTS



Celebrate diversity with us!

Key West Woman's Club

Disco Parade Viewing Party!

319 Duval, Sunday
4:30 p.m., \$10,
Prize for best Costume!

free Disco Beads, seating, appetizers, clean bathrooms, and shelter if it rains!

William Weech Post 168
AMERICAN LEGION
(803 Emma St, Key West)

(Drinks also available)



2ND ANNUAL PRIDE PARADE VIEWING PARTY



A HUGE SHOUTOUT TO THE
KEY WEST VOLUNTEER
PLOGGERS!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR
INCREDIBLE EFFORTS IN
KEEPING OUR ISLAND HOME
CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL!
YOUR DEDICATION AND
HARD WORK TRULY MAKE A
DIFFERENCE, AND WE
COULDN'T BE MORE
GRATEFUL!



Thank you Key West Woman's Club!

For hosting the 2024 Plogging the Keys group clean-up on Friday June 7th at Duval Street and Rose Lane. The cold wonderful air conditioning, breakfast and juice were a great way to end our clean up along with the fellowship! We appreciate your continued support.

Stats for the day: 32 volunteers in 1 hour picked up 3.5 gal. of cigarette butts, 73 lbs. of trash and 25 lbs. of recycling.

Year to date: 1223 volunteers picked up 93.75 gallons of cigarette butts, 6669.5 lbs. of trash and 507.5 lbs. of recycling off of Key West beaches, streets, sidewalks and parks.

Thanks for helping us to Keep Key West Beautiful!



Hellings Curry Museum
HOME OF THE KEY WEST WOMAN'S CLUB

Women and Wine



**DIANE, ROXANNE, MAXINE AND NANCY
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HOSTING !**

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY



Photo of The Key West Woman's Club/Monroe County public Library
(prior to 1959)



Recognize this room?



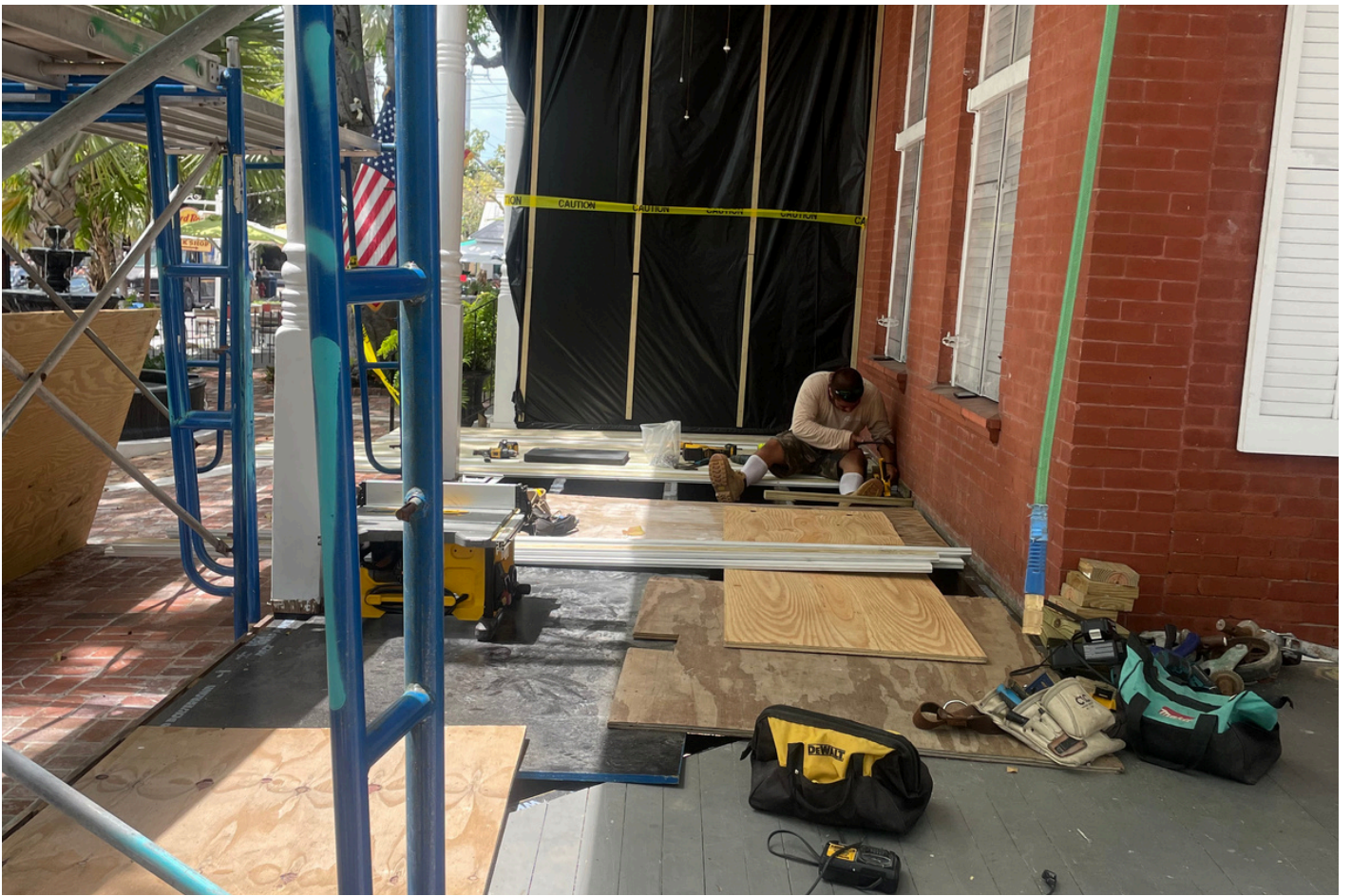
Our current Library

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



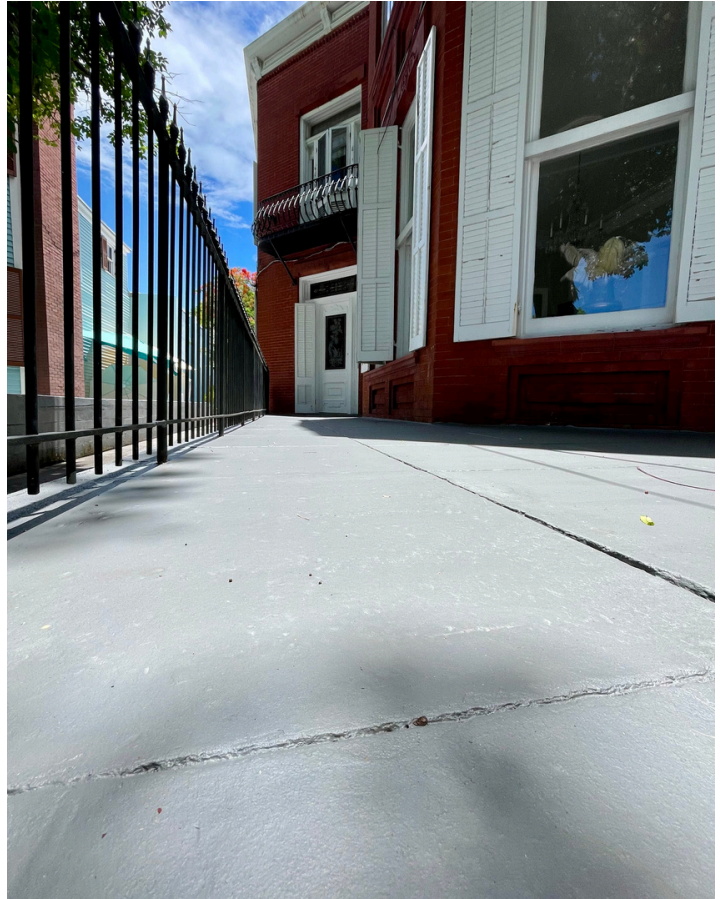
NEW PORCH FLOORS UPPER AND LOWER





CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

PORCH FLOOR RESTORATION



**Knock your socks off beautiful!!
Smooth as silk !!**



Thank you for Reading!