

## KEY WEST WOMANS CLUB



**PRESIDENT, AUNDREA WAGNER**

### HELLINGS CURRY MUSEUM



Welcome to June, Ladies!

I hope this email finds you happy and healthy, wherever you are!

Even though our regular meetings are on pause until October, there's still plenty happening here, I am excited to share special thanks, updates, upcoming events and volunteer opportunities with you in this newsletter.

We started May off with a Women and Wine collaboration with GNO! Huge thanks to our hostesses Jamie Gwidt, Susan Mitchell, Tunie Hamlen, Maxine Pollack, Barbara McShea, Cindy McClausland, Stacey Graham, Kathryn Norris, and Roxanne Wood, along with Sue and Amy from Girls' Night Out! You girls made it happen and it happened BIG!

The Key West Songwriters Festival on May 4th was unforgettable. We enjoyed dishes from our 1949 KWWC Cookbook, thanks to the new HTA Key West Cooking School, and six talented female musicians who serenaded us on our porch. Special thanks to Gail Montani, Jennifer Trapani, Sherri Mackenzie-Richie, and Susan Mitchell for donating their homes to make this event possible! It was a perfect day!

Our "Art from the Attic" event was a great success, benefiting our club and the Anne McKee Artist Fund. Kudos to Jody Gross, Fran Decker, and Roberta DePiero for organizing this amazing event, and thanks to all who contributed appetizers for the opening night reception and donated their beautiful artwork for the event.

We have made significant progress in saving Eleanor! Most recently, we installed new porch flooring and ceilings on upper and lower levels. However, we faced serious termite damage during the restoration. We replaced the damaged wood and applied a fresh coat of paint. Eleanor is looking better than ever, but ongoing care is essential to preserve her historic beauty! Thanks to the Monroe County TDC for their continued support in helping us restore our old girl!

Thank you for your dedication and service to our club and community. You ladies are the heart and soul of everything we do! Wishing you a wonderful June and looking forward to seeing you soon!

*With Love,*  
*Aundrea*

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## DID SOMEONE SAY DISCO



PRIDE MONTH IS HERE!  
HUSTLE ON DOWN TO OUR DISCO-THEMED,  
ANNUAL PRIDE PARADE VIEWING PARTY IN  
ELEANOR'S FRONT COURTYARD  
THIS WILL BE A FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT  
**JUNE 9, 2024 PARADE STARTS AT  
5:00**

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH  
APPETIZERS/DESSERTS OR TO ASSIST WITH  
CHAIR SETUP AND CLEANUP.

IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE TO LEND A HAND,  
PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE WORKROOM OR  
REACH OUT TO OUR CHAIRWOMEN  
DIANA DAVIS AND NANCY MOULTON  
VIA PHONE OR TEXT AT 703-626-0600.



## July Women & Wine

NEED VOLUNTEER HOURS?  
WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

IF YOU CAN HELP HOST  
WOMEN AND WINE ON  
**JULY 10, 5:00-6:30**

PLEASE TEXT OR CALL

**ROXANNE WOOD 562-716-2786  
OR AUNDREA 423-304-8982**



DON'T FORGET POINCIANA  
GARDENS MONTHLY ICE CREAM SOCIAL  
THURSDAY,  
JUNE 13 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/QUPTSJU](https://signup.com/go/quptsyu)

Calling all hands on deck! Let's hit the streets  
together to pick up litter and show our love for  
our beautiful island. Our upcoming plogging  
event is just around the corner, and we need  
your help to keep our island sparkling clean. Join  
us for a morning of fun and community spirit.

Date: Friday, June 7th  
Time: 6:30 a.m. for set-up & clean-up,  
followed by Plogging

### How You Can Help

**Food Donations:** We're serving a continental  
breakfast post-plogging. If you can bring fruit,  
doughnuts, bagels with cream cheese, or other  
treats, drop them off in Eleanor's kitchen on  
Thursday. Your contributions will fuel our  
volunteers!

**Set-Up & Clean-Up Crew:** We need a couple of  
volunteers to assist with setting up and cleaning  
up at 6:30 a.m. on the event day.

Let's make a difference together!  
Please RSVP to Betina 423-618-8284



# EVENTS

## WOMEN & WINE

We will have our monthly  
Women and Wine get together  
Wednesday June 5th

5:30-7:30

Hosted by

June

Dianne DiBlasi  
Maxine Pollack  
Nancy Romain  
Roxanne Wood



GNO AND **MIRACLE LEAF**  
TO SPONSOR   
KEY WEST WOMAN'S CLUB

Thanks to our wonderful  
member, **Dr. Penny Walker**,  
owner of **Miracle Leaf Key  
West**, we have an exciting  
event coming up!

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  
"Saving Eleanor"

It's a perfect chance to support  
the Key West Woman's Club  
and enjoy a fun-filled evening  
with friends. Don't miss out!

## REAL MEN DO DRAG

Will have one woman doing

**FREDDIE MERCURY!!**

Let support our wonderful

Past President

**SUSAN MITCHELL**

on Monday, June 3, at

AQUA

711 Duval Street

6-8pm

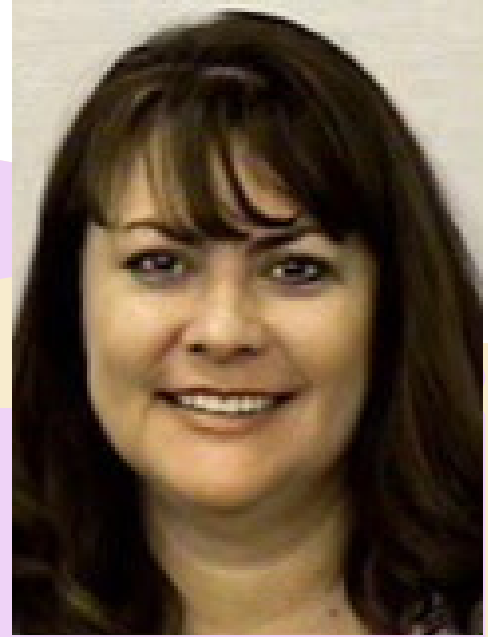
**100% of the money raised  
will go to local charities  
which serve our people  
with desperately needed  
health care and housing.**



# WOMAN OF THE MONTH

***We are delighted to shine a spotlight on one of our exceptional members, Roxanne Wood as our Woman of the Month for June 2024!***

Roxanne is marking her 7th year with the Key West Woman's Club, and her dedication to our organization is truly commendable. Roxanne was chosen for this honor because of her commitment and outstanding contributions to our club. Her leadership as Women and Wine Chairwoman and a volunteer docent 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 Roxanne said:



**ROXANNE WOOD**

**How long have you been a member of the KWWC?: Since 2017**

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

**I was originally born in Dearborn, Michigan. Moved to Palm Springs, California for my school years and graduated from Palm Springs High. Then in Southern California (Huntington Beach) where I lived, worked and raised my family for over 40 years.**

**We have been coming and going to Key West for over 20 years, each time staying a little longer and fell so much in love with the area and community. We moved to Key West proper full time permanently in 2015.**

**Background:**

**I worked for a fortune 500 Oil & Gas corporation for 30 years as a paralegal in the Human Resources Department.**

**What initially attracted you to join the women's club?:**

**The beautiful historical building, finding out that the Women's Club was the owner of the building and their mission to assist the community.**

**What are some causes or issues that are important to you?:**

**Quality of life for locals within the community, keeping Key West Beautiful, and water sustainability. Also, I have a passion for the local Tropic Cinema art house, to maintain it's character as we all enjoy the movie arts.**

**What's your favorite Book/Move/Quote?: Shawshank Redemption (I'm a sucker for the smart underdog who learns and overcomes life challenges)**

**What's your favorite travel destination?: Hopscotching the Caribbean Islands**

**Is there a fun fact or something unique or interesting about yourself that you'd like to share?:**

**I was in several beauty pageants when I was just 17 and now I'm Miss Conduct (agent name) with the Conch Republic Military CIA (Cuties In Action) each April. LOL**



**YOU ROCK ROXANNE!!**

# CLUB HAPPENINGS

## Marlene Thorn

VICE PRESIDENT, MARKETING CHAIR



The Key West Woman's Club will host a Key West Historical Days Celebration from April 3-6, 2025, celebrating our 110th anniversary. The event will cover three themes: The history of Key West during the construction of the Hellings Curry Museum House, the story of Captain Hellings and Eleanor Curry, and the Key West Woman's Club's accomplishments since 1915. We will showcase Key West's rich culture, including art, music, theater, culinary arts, and literature. A highlight will be the launch of a new KW Woman's Cookbook, with recipes featured throughout the event. Activities include walking and bike tours, historical presentations, and panels, with special guests like Eleanor Curry's great-granddaughter.

Key West community partners, such as the KW Art and Historical Society, Historic Tours of America, and Key Lime Bike Tours, will join in. The event will be family-friendly, ending with a Sunday High Tea organized by Barbara McShea and her team. Our planning committee is hard at work, and will finalize the schedule and partnerships this summer. Updates will be shared via our newsletter and a special website by Kathy Hemmesch. Stacie Gleason is the Project Manager, with Francine Gittins handling advertising and publicity. A grant proposal by Aundrea and Gayle Veltrop will help us advertise widely. We are so excited about the KW Historical Days Celebration and will keep members updated on how to get involved. This event will take a village, and the KWWC is that village!

Marlene

## Stacie Gleason

Communications VP



**JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY BOOK CLUB MEETING AT 4PM IN THE WICKER ROOM. THE NEXT BOOKS ARE "THE WOMEN" BY KRISTIN HANNAH ON JUNE 18 AND "LOOKING FOR JANE: A NOVEL" BY HEATHER MARSHALL ON JULY 16.**



## **IN OTHER NEWS:**

WE ARE WORKING ON UPDATING THE KEY WEST WOMAN'S CLUB WEBSITE AND THE HELTINGS CURRY MUSEUM WEBSITE. SO STAY TUNED!

## **RESTAURANT CARDS**

Thank you to everyone who has purchased a card this year. Please remember to tip on the price of the original bill before the discount. With the sales from last years cards we were able to help 42 organizations. To see a full list visit <https://keywestwomansclub.org/restaurant-card/>

STACIE

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

*Key West Womens Club*

**HELLINGS CURRY MUSEUM**



**KIM GORDON**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

**Happy summer!**

**With everyone coming and going on exotic vacations, visiting family or heading north, it's great to know**

**there are still lots of fun ways to get together with our friends right here. Our club is a lovely place for fun and friendship as well as community service. We kick off June with Women and Wine on the fifth from 4 to 6 PM. And don't worry if you prefer not to drink alcohol, since the food is always delicious. You can even volunteer to bring a pitcher of lemonade or iced tea to share! Come and enjoy and bring your women friends, as guests are certainly welcome. Want to help keep our community clean and beautiful? Join us for breakfast and plogging – a combination of jogging and picking up litter – on June 7 from 7 to 10 AM. It always draws a great crowd of terrific women. Then keep the spirit going and meet your friends at the clubhouse at 4 o'clock on June 9 to view the Pride Parade. Volunteer to help out or simply come and and enjoy the best view in town. Whether you've been a member for many years or are a prospective member earning your volunteer hours, join us at the Poinciana Gardens Ice Cream Social. It's a chance to show your volunteer spirit and share some sunshine with lovely folks from 6 to 7 PM on June 13. The final fun member event is on the 18th at 4 o'clock when our wonderfully popular book club will meet to discuss The Woman.**

**Look for more event and volunteer info throughout this newsletter. A beautiful June stretches ahead of us. I can't wait to see you.**

**Kim Gordon**



**PATRICIA NEYRA**  
**BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP**

**Support from 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 Bronze Business Member NEYRA Construction. Patricia Neyra, born and raised in Key West, has been a Certified General Contractor since 1996. NEYRA Construction is a full-service construction company that does major residential renovations, builds ground up houses and specializes in commercial buildouts. Her office is located in Key West in the beautiful historic Building 21 located in Truman Annex next to the Truman Little White House. Ms. Neyra is very involved in the Key West community. She has received the Key West Chamber's prestigious Appelrouth Award and was awarded the Key West Woman's Club Woman of the Year Award. Patricia is on the Board of the Key West Woman's Club, a past officer of the Key West Chamber Board and Executive Committee and member of the Key West Business Guild. For more information regarding NEYRA Construction go to [neyraconstruction.com](http://neyraconstruction.com).**

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

**Patricia Ali Neyra, President  
NEYRA Construction, LLC**



# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

LIVE TERMITE SWARM

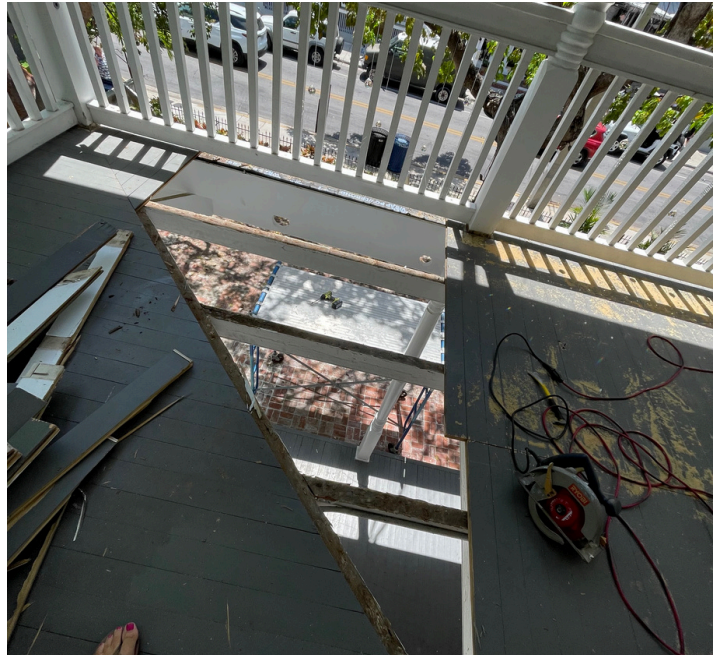


REPLACEMENT OF ROTTEN WINDOW WOOD



# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

## PORCH FLOOR RESTORATION





# CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY



JUNE 8, 1881

25 YEAR OLD ELEANOR (ELLA) CURRY  
36 YEAR OLD MARTIN LUTHER HELTINGS

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

I, a my person legally authorized to solemnize the Rites of  
Matrimony, do hereby certify that the said Martin L. Hellings  
and Eleanor Curry  
were by me united in Holy Bonds of Matrimony at the law directs, to wit,  
on the 8th day of June A.D. 1881  
at the City of Key West Florida

Witness my hand and seal of Office at Key West this 8th  
day of June A.D. 1881

(sd) Chas. Knight Clerk

Executed the foregoing License, as therein authorized, this 8th  
day of June A.D. 1881

WITNESSES

Wm. J. Delaney and Charles Stewart  
Chas. Curry Rector of St. Paul Church  
Key West

Only recorded this 15th day of June A.D. 1881  
Chas. Knight  
Clerk

# CLUB HIGHLIGHTS



# WOMEN AND WINE WITH GIRLS NIGHT OUT



