

Community Foundation Honors Unsung Heroes



The Community Foundation of the Florida Keys (CFFK) is shining the spotlight on the good deeds of 89 volunteers who have given their time and talents to nonprofits in the Florida Keys. The Community Foundation will honor the Volunteers of the Year this Friday, January 29th, at the 16th

annual Unsung Heroes Luncheon at the Marriott Beachside Resort.

Unsung Heroes celebrates volunteerism and community service. Monroe County charitable organizations nominated their volunteers to be recognized for their good work. Since 1996, CFFK has been work-

ing with nonprofits, volunteers, and donors to build philanthropy and support the important work of nonprofits in making Key West and the Florida Keys a better place to live now and in the future.

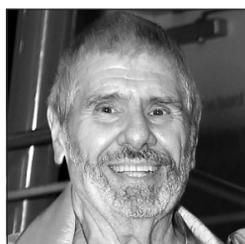
The 2016 Unsung Heroes are ...



Habitat for Humanity of the Middle Keys:

Jill Bell

Jill accepted the role of Board President in 2015, after spending four years as a volunteer Board Director. She is at every event, represents Habitat around the community, and has worked side-by-side with partner families on every project, including landscaping and painting.



Tropic Cinema:

Ed Flack

In addition to working at the box office every Friday night and being there every Saturday morning in the summer for the kids' movies, Ed fills in when needed at a moment's notice. He promotes the Cinema at every opportunity and is truly a Tropic Cinema ambassador.



Southernmost Coconut Castaways:

Marc Hollander

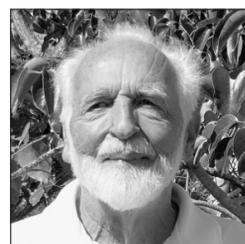
As Vice President, Marc works tirelessly to ensure the organization's success. He lives the club motto of "Serving Community Roles with Caribbean Souls" through meticulous organization, backbreaking labor, and a cheerful attitude. Largely because of Marc's efforts, the Club has raised over \$65,000 for local charities and contributed over 1,300 hours of volunteer work.



Monroe County Homeless Services CoC:

Esneider Gomez

Esneider is the Director of Quality Control for AIDS Help, one of the provider agencies for CoC providing services to homeless and at risk community members. He has developed a sound expertise in the MIS system and volunteers his time to provide support and technical assistance to all providers.



FAVOR Florida Keys:

Leon Elder

Leon is a great role model for other volunteers and has been involved in a number of activities for more than 23 years, including removing invasive plant species from National Wildlife Refuge Lands, placing marker buoys in Great White Heron NWR, installing signs on refuge lands, and helping with education and outreach.



The Studios of Key West:

Mary K. Clapp

MK is an invaluable member of the volunteer team. This year she went above and beyond – not only being in attendance and helping at countless events, but also undertaking an enormous amount of behind-the-scenes work in preparation for the gala. This important event could not have happened without her.



Tennessee Williams Key West Exhibit:

Anne Shaver

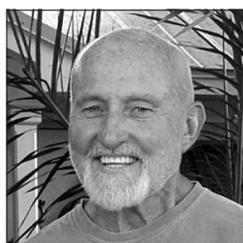
A dedicated founding member of the board of directors, Anne established and coordinates the volunteer program and is helping with the first Short Story Writing Contest offered during the March Birthday Celebration. Anne's intellect, creativity, leadership, and good humor are invaluable in preserving the legacy of the great playwright, Tennessee Williams.



Special Olympics Florida – Monroe County:

Ruth Holland

Ruth has single-handedly resurrected Special Olympics Monroe County and guided it to the forefront of community organizations. Her tireless energy in organizing and implementing a host of programs for athletes and staff is surpassed only by the size of her helping and caring heart. Because of Ruth, everyone in Special Olympics is a winner.



GLEE Community Garden:

Stuart Strickland

Stuart's contributions include securing the Garden's boundaries with flashing to keep out the iguanas, pruning, disposing of waste, organizing, building, setting up compost bins, coordinating projects, and much more. Stuart is an amazing volunteer with many skills and talents. He goes above and beyond what is required as a gardener and board member.



Classical Impromptu Concerts of Key West:

Judith Zabar

Judy has been a long-time financial and moral supporter. She and her husband, Stanley, are amazed how Impromptu can bring the magnificent musicians to Key West and still keep subscriptions and ticket prices so low. It is people like Judy and Stanley that make that happen.



One Human Family:

Steven Pribramsky

Steven has been essential to the organization's success for years by donating his time to help with taxes and finances. One Human Family is very appreciative of his generosity and skills.



Bahama Village Music Program:

Larry Baeder

Larry has enhanced the program greatly through his board leadership and education of young teachers in music theory and improvisation. He has tirelessly donated countless hours in the classroom and at events, sharing his musical gift and elevating the curriculum. His wildly popular Jazz Ensemble is a treat for the students, teachers and audience.



The Basilica School:

John O'Neill

John serves as the Basilica's school and parish finance manager. He has generously provided the parish and its many ministries over 3,000 hours of volunteer service since 2014. His selfless gift of time, talent and treasure has contributed to the 40% growth in enrollment the school has experienced over the past two years.



Southernmost Homeless Assistance League:

Rosemary Enright

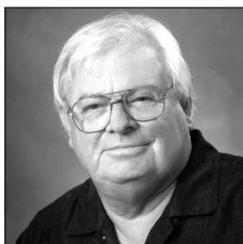
Rosemary has been an effective advocate for homeless in Monroe County for many years both professionally and as a leader of many community organizations. During her tenure with SHAL, she worked tirelessly to help fulfill the mission to improve the quality of life for all members of our community.



Zonta Club of Key West:

Molly Ersay

Molly has been an integral member of Zonta for 28 years. She has been involved in every Zonta fundraiser and service project during that time. Her passion for helping the community is evident and a wonderful example for our newer members whom she mentors.



Fishermen's Hospital Foundation:

Marv Schindler

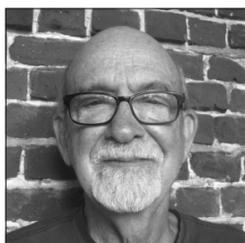
Marv officially retired this year after 25+ years of service to both the Hospital and Foundation boards. He is a founding member of the Foundation and has provided inspiration and guidance. Since 2013, the Foundation has acquired 352 donors and raised nearly \$700,000. Marv is now "Director Emeritus" and will be missed by all.



Monroe Association for ReMARCable Citizens:

Jo Socha

Jo joined the MARC Board and immediately became an active member of the fundraising committee. She has worked tirelessly to increase fundraising efforts. She worked diligently to make a 100-mile bike ride event succeed. She is a true advocate for MARC.



Key West Garden Club:

Stan Baxter

Stan arrived just when the Garden Club was losing all of its snowbird volunteers. He has volunteered to do every kind of job, consistently helping over the hot summer months when the gardens are desperate for gardening help. Stan is an angel, tending to all the plants and walkways with love and skill.

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Key West Writers Guild:

Lisa Mahoney

Lisa has been a member of the Writers Guild since January 2014, and Secretary since March 2014. She expertly records the proceedings and produces detailed and accurate minutes. Lisa is one of the most reliable attendees and contributors. She routinely has writings of her own to read, and offers excellent critique of others' works.



Rotary Club of Key West Foundation:

Rebecca Horan

Rebecca is a worker bee. She is quietly and constantly working in the background with any and every thing that is needed. Last year she was one of the Co-Chairs of the Keystock Concert and handled it with ease and flawless execution. Rotary recognizes Rebecca for all of her hard work and efforts.



Waterfront Playhouse:

Dennis Beaver

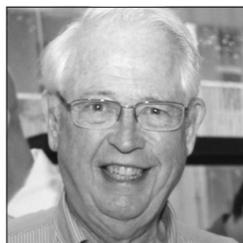
Among all of his many philanthropic endeavors, Dennis finds the time to be a tireless supporter. In addition to creating successful "Diner" Party Fundraisers, Dennis, with his partner Bert Whitt, curated an extraordinary exhibit of memorabilia to help celebrate Waterfront's 75th Anniversary. The exhibit wowed audiences for months with its depth, creativity and intelligence.



Florida Keys SPCA:

Maggie Webster

Maggie has a heart of gold and her generosity never ceases to amaze. She has been a loyal shelter volunteer for five years, doing everything from walking dogs to fostering sick rabbits. Her commitment to the animals is unsurpassed. The FKSPCA is lucky to have her.



USCGC Ingham Memorial Museum:

Bill Porter

Bill has been volunteering faithfully for over 10 years on the USS Mohawk and the USCGC Ingham. Bill has tackled the hard problems, such as dealing with government bureaucracies, city government and Naval and Coast Guard authorities. He has been the chief problem-solver and always manages to succeed. Thanks, "Brave Zulu."



Keys to Be the Change:

Robert James, Jr.

Robert is a coach, teacher, volunteer, mentor, and true friend. Whenever the Youth Leaders have to go anywhere, Robert is there. Whether it is a trip to Tallahassee for PeachJam at Florida State University, to Miami, or to Marathon, the organization can always count on him.

2016 UNSUNG HEROES/VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



Friends of the AIDS Memorial:
Derrick Traylor
 Derrick has served on the board since 2006, serving as Secretary from 2007 to 2014. He feels the Memorial Park provides a beautiful place of reflection and remembrance for the families of those honored there. Derrick has lived in Key West for 13 years with his partner, Terry Paulson.



Anne McKee Artists Fund:
Eric Grahl
 A graphic designer and illustrator, Eric has been a board member for four years and integral to creating the new look for the Art Auction, from updating the website, to creating the poster, ads and program. He's also the parking lot and gate guru. Eric is quiet and understated and always gets things done.



United Way of the Florida Keys:
Maria Jones
 Maria is a tireless advocate for families. Through her leadership and dedication, she can be counted on to attend every event, volunteer project, or opportunity to interact with and serve the community. She is the embodiment of United Way's mission to be "the leader in community caring," demonstrating her passion and kindness in every interaction.



Cornish Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church:
Ellavise Forbes
 Ellavise is an 81-year-old who has more energy than a 21-year-old girl. She can be found at the church cleaning, cooking, participating on various programs, coordinating fund raisers and anything else that needs to be done. Ellavise is the oldest active Deaconess and leads the younger members in worship and praise.



WomanKind:
Mary Anne Wachter
 Mary Anne has done it all at WomanKind! She's written press releases, researched topics from sex education legislation to coffee machines, put up posters all over town, written thank you letters, put together donation bags, volunteered at events, performed patient surveys--and even stood in the rain directing bike traffic during a 5K!



One Island Family and Florida Keys Outreach Coalition:
Joy Brown Taylor
 Joy has been the heart and soul of One Island Family, doing everything from serving as President to serving on committees, chairing fundraisers, teaching religious education, and hosting and providing food and supplies. Joy is also an incredible asset through her volunteer work at the Neece Center for Homeless Recovery. She is a shining example of how a volunteer can enhance the mission of an agency.



Red Barn Theatre:
Patty MacLeod
 For three years, Patty has shared her extensive event planning skills by Co-Chairing the annual Red Barn Gala and other fundraising parties. She is that special volunteer who takes initiative and thoroughly immerses herself in a project from beginning to end.

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American Legion Auxiliary Marathon Unit 154:
Jeanette Goggans Clavier
 "Nettie" contributes as the current Vice President. She designs and sews reusable shower kits for the homeless from canvas remnants, she contributes monies earned from cutting hair to the Fisher House organization, and she is the Bugler for the only Color Guard group in the Florida Keys.



Girl Scout Council of Tropical Florida:
Debra Jo Clem
 Debbie has been a leader in the Keys for over 14 years. She is an inspiration to the young girls in her troops and she helps coordinate activities for all scout troops. Debra leads by example. She makes a difference in the lives of the girls, their families, and the community.



Kids Come First:
Mark Todaro
 Mark has served on the board since the organization was formed in July 2010. In his third term as President, he has been largely responsible for strengthening the program. KCF relies on the board and volunteers to ensure that Monroe County youth have school supplies, clothing and other basic necessities.



Last Stand:
Jan Edelstein
 Jan, former counsel to the Energy and Commerce Committee of the US House of Representatives, worked tirelessly this year to provide the research and legal strategy for Last Stand's efforts to help state and local officials recognize the impacts of shallow well wastewater disposal on the fragile marine environment.



Historic Florida Keys Foundation:
Patty Tiffany
 Patty's work as a volunteer tour guide at the Historic Key West Cemetery is invaluable to the Historic Florida Keys Foundation. The donations she raises are used for education and restoration at the cemetery. She is a gifted educator and her enthusiasm is contagious. Patty is also a skilled speaker and writer.



Habitat for Humanity of Key West & the Lower FL Keys:
Linda Spencer
 Linda is a positive person with lots of energy and has created a book department at the Habitat ReStore, which shoppers love. Linda's dedication and outlook inspires the whole team to work towards the standards she naturally possesses. Habitat is lucky to have Linda as she is an indispensable team member.



Take Stock in Children:
Larry Plummer and Prudence Churchill
 As mentors in the Take Stock in Children Program and fundraising leaders for the Monroe County Education Foundation, Larry Plummer and Prudence Churchill have worked tirelessly for many years to offer guidance, college scholarship assistance, and hope to deserving middle- and high-school students in need.



Key West Woman's Club:
Mary Ann Finlay
 Mary Ann's smiling face can be found working at almost every event and meeting of the Woman's Club, and indeed there are many. Her strongest influence can be found in her weekly activities as Chair of the Docent Committee. Take a Tour of the Hellings House Museum with Mary Ann soon!

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Domestic Abuse Shelter:
Donna Hoffman
 Thanks to Donna, who has been on the Board of Directors for the past four years, serving in the capacity of board treasurer. Donna also helps with DAS fundraisers, such as the No Name Race 5K and the Beacon of Hope.



Navy League, Key West Council:
Jerry Bolduc
 Since becoming Treasurer, Jerry has been integral in converting the bookkeeping system to QuickBooks, thus streamlining accounting practices, as well as helping create the newly-adopted budgeting process. He has also handled state and federal filings on a volunteer basis, and increased passive revenue through wise investing.



Canon John H. Reece Scholarship Fund:
Joycelyn West Spreight
 Joycelyn is an active board member. She has dedicated countless hours by taking an active role in the biennial College Workshop and setting up the organization's website. She has been an asset as well as a valuable information resource to the organization.



Friends of the Key West Library:
Mo Clopton
 Mo is that dependable volunteer every nonprofit organization needs. She comes in on schedule year-round to do what's needed at the Key West Library. Mo diligently shelves books, CDs and DVDs every week, helping ensure that the library collections are available to Key West residents and visitors.



Southernmost Post 3911 VFW of the U.S.:
Peter Dswonyk
 As the Post Service Officer, Peter helps veterans obtain military records, VA records, and other information. He helps veterans connect with services at the Veterans Affairs Office in the Harvey Government Center, the Key West VA Clinic and the Miami VA Hospital. Peter also works with homeless veterans at Volunteers of America.



Friends of Old Seven:
Sherri and Perry Hodies
 Sherri and her husband, Perry, were the primary forces behind the successful effort to host a Gala Dinner honoring the 102nd Anniversary of the Flagler Railroad and the Old Seven Mile Bridge. They organized the schedule, the mail-outs, and the volunteers. Shari was particularly helpful with the silent auction and all related activities.



Key West Literary Seminar:
Ruth Reiter
 Ruth has been an annual volunteer for many years. She has served in a number of positions, including assisting with registration, serving as an usher and selling merchandise. She is not only reliable, conscientious and hardworking, but also has a contagious, positive outlook that makes her a standout among a wonderful group of volunteers.

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St. Peter's Episcopal Church Women:
Ossie Clarke
 Ossie has been a member of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) for decades, holding the position of Treasurer. Ossie works hard to keep the books in an orderly manner. She is an asset to the nonprofit and has worked tirelessly to ensure the success of any activity that the organization pursues.



Key West Community Sailing Center:
Jerry Manchester
 As a retired Navy Veteran, Jerry has donated a tremendous amount of time fixing sailboats for the Community Sailing Center. He has attended many work parties to clean the grounds and the boats. His big smile is always ready to greet visitors and help answer any questions they might have.



Fringe Theater Key West:
Bob Rowand
 Bob has been a Fringe volunteer for several years doing whatever needs doing. This year he took on the challenge of helping the Fringe purchase expensive new lighting equipment, spending countless hours researching, sourcing and now learning the system's capabilities to become the theater's lighting designer.



AARP Chapter 1351:
Margaret Gil
 Vice president of the local chapter of AARP, Margaret is constantly looking for ways to give back to seniors. She decorates the senior center, coordinates parties and is always on hand to serve in any way she can. Margaret is a joy to work with and an asset to AARP and to this community.

2016 UNSUNG HEROES/VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



Samuel's House:

Jackie Herbst

When you think of Jackie, words of integrity, joy and guidance come to mind. Always with a smile, she accomplishes the goals and gets others to say, "Yes, I would love to help you!" She is full of energy and has chaired the fund raising committee for three years, leading her team to raise \$325,000.



Florida Keys History and Discovery Foundation:

Phyllis Mitchell

Phyllis is one of 13 Board members, serving as secretary since its inception in 2013. In addition to her Board duties, she single-handedly has recruited and scheduled volunteers to keep the doors of the Discovery Center open four days a week, 52 weeks a year, for more than 400 shifts annually.



Key West Orchid Society:

Jay Pfahl

Jay became interested in orchids in 1980, and is now president of the Orchid Society. In 1997, he started writing the internationally acclaimed Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia [www.orchidspecies.com], presently with 18,525 orchid species represented with photos. He spends as much time as possible in the mountain forests of Colombia photographing orchids to promote conservation.



Paradise Ballet Theatre Presenters:

Andrea Spottswood

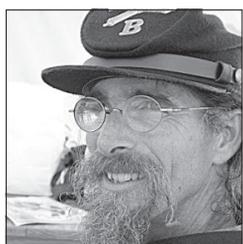
For the past three years, Andrea has donated her time to keep the financial records of "Nutcracker Key West" in tiptop order and teach our staff QuickBooks. Efficient and patient, she is a treasure for "Nutcracker Key West" as well as the community.



Literacy Volunteers:

Hon. Peary Fowler

Peary is the hardest working volunteer at LVA. She brings joy, enthusiasm and a sense of purpose to everything she does. Whether it's holding a fundraiser or raising community awareness for the importance of literacy, Peary takes on all tasks with humility and grace. She has tremendous energy and leads by example.



Friends of Fort Taylor:

Rick "Deadeye" Wheelus

Rick "Deadeye" Wheelus volunteers at Fort Taylor as a tour guide, re-enactor and carpenter. His knowledge of the Fort's engineering makes his tour of the fort a special treat. Rick is currently building wood shutters for the barracks building. The Friends are grateful for his time and talents.



Florida Keys Council of the Arts:

Susann D'Antonio

The Council honors Sue for her ongoing commitment and passion for all of the Arts in all of the Keys. Her dedication and leadership of the County's Public Art program promotes local artists and enhances the airport and other public buildings for visitors and the community. Sue's creativity and talent is inspiring.



Lower Keys League of Women Voters:

Sandra Bergin

Sandy has been the treasurer since its inception. She's filed numerous State and Federal forms, established banking and credit processing accounts on our behalf. She works tirelessly on tasks few would care to tackle and has done it in a most professional manner.



Matecumbe Historical Trust:

Justine Fine

Justine has helped shape the organization to a new level with her knowledge and expertise in advertising and promotional awareness. She is always working behind the scenes to assure success in the education and preservation of Florida Keys history and to build the future Irving Eyster Museum.



MCC Cooking with Love:

Stu Shippereit

Stu is the kind of volunteer any agency dreams of having. Whatever needs to be done, ask Stu and be assured it will be done with excellence and a ready smile. He does everything from substituting as the Program Coordinator to purchasing and receiving food for the grocery bags, to delivery of meals and groceries.

BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE OF THE FLORIDA KEYS

The **Community Foundation of the Florida Keys** was founded in 1996 to preserve for current and future generations the unique heritage, culture and lifestyle of the Keys, thereby improving the quality of life for our residents and visitors.

We serve the Florida Keys community through our donor services, not-for-profit support, leadership development and community stewardship. Over the last 20 years, we've achieved a solid history of successes including:

- With the generosity of our donors, we have distributed more than \$20 million in grants and program services that have impacted thousands of lives throughout the Florida Keys.
- Since 2004, the Foundation and its donors have awarded 1,700 grants to 277 nonprofits and 167 scholarships and awards to students and teachers.
- The Community Foundation has established 135 Donor Funds, and grown investments from \$1 million to almost \$15 million today.
- Unsung Heroes event has recognized over 1,000 volunteers in our community.

This year, we are celebrating our 20th anniversary and have just launched "**Vision 20/20**," our plan that sets a clear path for the future and will dramatically increase our outreach and impact across the entire Florida Keys community.

One important component of "**Vision 20/20**" is the establishment of a new fund - the **Florida Keys Future Fund**. This unique grant making fund will increase our ability to give back more to the community through collective giving.

The **Florida Keys Future Fund** is only one way to partner with us to make your generosity and giving more effective. Our new **Foundation Society** provides the opportunity to support our ongoing efforts to serve the needs of our community. The **Legacy Society** allows donors to create a lasting legacy that will impact future generations. And our **Donor Funds** provide the means to make a personal, meaningful and lasting difference in our community.

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Please visit www.cffk.org for more information on all of these community investment opportunities.

Together, let's build a better today and a better tomorrow for the Florida Keys.



Upper Keys AARP:

Pam Martin

Pam is the driving force behind the Upper Keys AARP. Pam organizes the programs and speakers, recruits new members and encourages current members to attend meetings. She shares important and timely information to educate members on import issues affecting the membership. Pam is a true Unsung Hero of the community.



RPM Nautical Foundation:

Michael Blades

Michael has been an invaluable volunteer for the last ten years. In addition to holding the positions of Treasurer and Secretary, Michael has spent countless additional hours volunteering by assisting with organizing the internship program, offering logistical support, and more.



Florida Keys Educational Foundation:

Ruth Stoky

Ruth is an invaluable supporter and friend of higher education. Ruth's enthusiasm and "friend-raising" have allowed FKCC to reach significant fundraising goals, and her work is providing a bright future for the Upper Keys. She makes it a pleasure for donors to support the goals and dreams of local college students through education at FKCC.



Lower Keys Women's Club:

Abelina Oglesbee

Abby is an Unsung Hero in recognition of her outstanding leadership and tireless efforts not only in raising funds, but also in securing tangible items for local charities.



American Legion Auxiliary Post 28

Michele Morgan

Michele has been President for the past 4 years and has provided excellent leadership, spearheading many fundraising ideas. She is always on hand despite working a full and a part-time job. Always looking for ideas to support Veterans and their families, Michele is cheerful, inspirational, hard working and very dedicated.



American Legion Post 28:

Chris Hawks

Chris joined in 2008 as a member and quickly rose to the position of Squadron Commander. He currently serves as Finance Officer/Adjutant. Chris has been instrumental in increasing membership, creating events, planning parties, and cooking in the Legion kitchen. Chris' creation of the Legion Cinema creates fun and helps provide donations to charities.



FIRMKEYS:

Robert Gold

Bob is the driving force behind FIRM's strategic planning process. He has led the organization to a clear understanding of its goals and supported the development of concrete plans to reach them. He has refined and formalized FIRM's communication policies and processes to keep the message coordinated, timely and pertinent.



Key West Art & Historical Society:

Sally Wernicoff

A talented artist, Sally has been a dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer over the past years. She exudes a warm and welcoming presence to all guests coming into the Custom House Museum. Sally has also been flexible to help whenever needed. She is an advocate in the community helping the Society to grow its volunteer team.

Continued on next page

2016 UNSUNG HEROES/VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



Boys & Girls Clubs of the Keys:
David Motter
 David has been the force behind the Club's Holiday Float for several years. His flare at design and detail has often made the Club's float a work of moving holiday art. He makes the Parade special, donating DoubleTree cookies to all the children who participate in the parade.



American Cancer Society:
Bob and Julie Marshall
 Bob and Julie Marshall are the dynamic duo of the Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of the Florida Keys. They have brought the mission to the Upper Keys, increasing cancer awareness while raising funds for the fight against breast cancer.



Old Island Restoration Foundation:
Steve Black
 Beyond his multi-year efforts serving as Treasurer, Steve is a tireless volunteer. There is no job too large or too small for Steve. From policy-making to hands on construction, he is a major part of what makes the Foundation a strong and vibrant organization.



Leadership Monroe County:
Dianne Weitz
 Generous, caring, committed, and selfless, Dianne has been a Board director since 2008. She also serves on the Boards of United Way, FKEC Charitable Trust and Fishermen's Community Hospital Foundation. She demonstrates leadership that makes a genuine contribution and impact to make Monroe County a better, healthier place to live and work.



Good Health Clinic:
Rob Stober
 Rob is a tireless supporter, continually connecting the Clinic to people and resources so it may provide free healthcare to low-income Keys residents. Last February, he became the 4th annual Big Kahuna winner by raising more than \$42,000, setting a new record in both financial contributions and community awareness.

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Key West Police Athletic League:
Richard Thomas
 Rich is a coach and mentor in the Police Athletic League. He has created a jiu jitsu program for children in the community and helps those children make positive, life changing decisions every single day. He donates countless hours to this program and to the community.



Key West Montessori Charter School:
Craig Reynolds
 Craig began his volunteer service in 2011 on the Board of Directors. Utilizing his professional expertise, Craig continues to serve as chair of the House & Grounds Committee, and co-chair of the Planning & Development Committee. The transformation of the outdoor environments is a result of Craig's planning and influence.



Coral City Elks Temple 400:
Marlyn Menite
 Marlyn is one of the movers and shakers at the Elks Club. Mother and grandmother, she is very active in her community. Marlyn finds great joy in helping others whenever she can, including organizing fundraisers, decorating, cooking, and serving. Helping the less fortunate is her main goal in life.



Growing Hope Foundation:
Dale Martin
 Dale was one of the first people to volunteer in restoring the Grimal Grove. From the beginning, he was fixing the Grove's tools, which broke frequently, while giving blacksmithing lessons to the community. This year, he was instrumental in restoring the Grove, clearing the remainder of the property and saving the nonprofit thousands of dollars.



South Florida Council, Boy Scouts of America:
Leanne Rutten
 Leanne has been instrumental in expanding Scouting in the Upper Keys. As Cubmaster of Pack 912, she leads nearly 50 boys through the program, ensuring them plenty of fun events and learning opportunities. Due to the success of her Pack, a new Troop was founded to serve the older boys, which she helped establish.



Save Our Pines:
Meri Thommen
 Meri is a devoted Board member and takes her duties very seriously. In addition to being an excellent correspondent day to day, she is responsible for organizing several annual events, including the picnic at Fort Zachary Taylor and the MARC Christmas Tree Auction. For her tireless dedication behind the scenes, Meri is our Unsung Hero.



Key West Art Center:
Mary Blackman
 The Art Center loves Mary for over seven years of dedication to the Board, and for organizing food, beverage and volunteers at nearly all events during that time. Mary continues to volunteer, although she has left the board and now focuses on her artwork, showing at the Art Center and the Artists in Paradise Gallery.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church:
Bruce Hageman
 Bruce is the Verger, essentially Master of Ceremonies. He is faithful in his duties in lining up participants for liturgy in worship. His leadership inspires others to fulfill their mission and ministry in St. Paul's and the Key West community. His dependability is a great asset to the paid and volunteer leadership within the church.

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Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition:
Paul Moczynski
 For 6 years, Healthy Start has counted on Paul. As an integral member of the child safety team, he works tirelessly to install car seats or refer families who may need assistance. Paul is passionate about ensuring children in the Keys are safe. The Coalition is grateful for Paul's assistance.



Key West Southernmost Runners:
Elizabeth "Taz" Davis
 Taz is a familiar face in Key West and especially at the organized races for charities. Often unseen, and taking on thankless jobs, she volunteers in assisting in all aspects of the organization of races. Full of energy, she invigorates those who she comes in contact with.

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Wesley House Family Services and Key West Parrot Head Club:
Julie Waters
 Julie serves on the Board of Wesley House and as a member of the events committee. She was the Queen of the Conch Republic 2015 and raised over \$4,000. With Julie's leadership as President of the Parrot Head Club, proceeds from fundraising events more than doubled. Julie donates many hours volunteering with a kind and loving heart.



Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden:
Constance Miller
 Since 2004, Constance has brought her exuberance, clinical herbal knowledge, and lend-a-hand attitude to all she does at the Garden. She has created and expanded the Garden's interpretive signage program, works with the Garden Guardians and brings renowned conservationists to educate the public via the Garden's Speaker Series.



Frederick Douglass School Black Educators' Project:
Detra Fisher
 Detra has been a Steering Team member for 5 years, serving as Secretary, and for the past year as the liaison between the Project Facilitator and the President. In both roles, she has answered the "call to serve" with grace, care, and an unwavering commitment to the work of the Project.



Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of the Florida Keys:
Mary Grusin
 Mary has volunteered at fundraising events and in the office, but her passion is being a patient care volunteer. She has held patients' hands, read to them, worked puzzles with them, walked down memory lane with them, and provided rest for their caregivers. Mary has cried with our patients, their families, and our nurses.



AIDS Help:
David Chesnet
 David has produced the Fantasy Fest Royal Coronation Ball since 2012, but his contributions to AIDS Help have extended into the Fundraising committee, plus assisting with 'Taste of Key West' and the Art Auction. Yet it's on Coronation night that he truly shines. For his behind-the-scenes showmanship, David Chesnet is AIDS Help's Unsung Hero.



Experimental Aircraft Association, Chapter 1241:
Ed Waldorf
 Regarded by many as Mr. Aviation, Ed is a founder and director of the chapter, which now has 200 members. He's a leader behind the development and operation of Marathon's Air Museum. Ed has organized and flown hundreds of youngsters in the Young Eagles program. He's coached kids and adults towards their private pilot certificates.

