

**CELEBRATING OUR
2022 FLORIDA KEYS
UNSUNG HEROES**



The Community Foundation of the Florida Keys is shining the spotlight on our community's tireless volunteers who are the stars of our nonprofit organizations. Volunteers help supply food to children and families in need, perform in and staff theatrical productions, act as tour guides and docents, foster animals, mentor students, assist at homeless shelters, and so much more throughout the Keys.

This year's 22nd Annual Unsung Heroes celebration is sponsored by the Lower Keys Medical Center and promotes community service.

David Clay, CEO of Lower Keys Medical Center, said, "The not-for-profit organizations and their volunteers being recognized are so vital to the health and well-being of our communities, providing food, shelter, financial assistance and health and human services to our residents in need. The Unsung Heroes event is our chance to celebrate the giving nature of the Keys and the people who work tirelessly to help their neighbors."

Charitable organizations based in and serving the Florida Keys nominated their Volunteers of the Year to be recognized. Congratulations to our 2022 Unsung Heroes.

Your smiling face could be on these pages next year. To learn about our local charities and find one or more that interest you, visit cffk.org/nonprofits



ANNE BARNETT
LOWER KEYS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Anne Barnett is a vital member of the Lower Keys League of Women Voters board of directors where she serves as Communications Chair. Anne led the development of the League's Women's Voters Centennial webpage that celebrates exemplary women past, present and future.



LIZ BONNESS
HISTORY OF DIVING MUSEUM

An active volunteer, member and supporter of the History of Diving Museum for eight years, Liz Bonness brings spirited enthusiasm to projects and events. Using her creative energy, Liz customizes clever products to donate to the Museum Store and sponsors several programs. We are extremely grateful for all she does.



DANIELLE ALBURY
DOLPHINS TO STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (LIVING SPRINGS COUNSELING)

Danielle is so enthusiastic and energetic. Her warm personality draws people to get to know her and things like Living Springs Counseling that she truly cares about. Not only is she an ambassador for our nonprofit, she has joined our Board and helps with every activity from grunt work to helping to plan a memorial service.



MRS. NANCY AMLING,
KEY WEST IMPROMPTU CLASSICAL CONCERTS

Nancy has been a continuing supporter of our concert series and has given generous financial support over many years. Always modest, her participation comes from the heart with no thought of recognition. Nancy has been a true friend to Impromptu and we thank her with this honor.



MS. JERILYN BARACK
ZONTA CLUB OF KEY WEST

Jerilyn has enthusiastically led our organization with dedication and heart. She has kept our spirits high in the face of obstacles brought on by the continued threat of COVID, that have significantly reduced our ability to fundraise and gather together in fellowship. The best part about Jerilyn's leadership is that she is always the first to thank you for your efforts and give you a warm hug of affection.



ERIKA BIDDLE
THE STUDIOS OF KEY WEST

During the pandemic, we would not have been able to keep on top of everything without Erika's hard work and dedication. She was always willing to show up at a moment's notice and jump in. She is such a treasure to The Studios of Key West.



SHAYNE BRINDISI
SAMUEL'S HOUSE

Shayne Brindisi is a gifted elementary school teacher and recently launched her own organization business SOS (Shayne's Organization Solutions). This incredible board member has given countless hours donating her time and skills to support our mission. Shayne is always willing to help, no matter how daunting the task. She goes above and beyond to make our community a better place.



ROBERTO ALONZO
GOOD HEALTH CLINIC

Roberto has served as a tireless board member for Good Health Clinic for 3 years, 2 years as Chairman. He gives of his knowledge, time, and praise endlessly. He inspires a productive and cohesive board and encourages all the organization's staff at every interaction. He is a positive force for Good Health Clinic and causes he puts effort into.



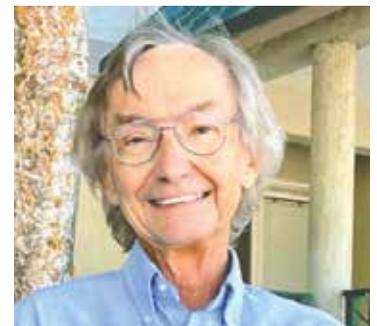
PHIL & NANCY AMSTERDAM
WESLEY HOUSE FAMILY SERVICES

Nancy has been a long-time Board member for Wesley House. Both she and Phil have worked tirelessly for Wesley House. They have hosted the Valentine's Gala for 40 years and continue to volunteer their time, sponsor, and donate various items throughout each year. "No" is not in their vocabulary and we appreciate them so much!



SALLY BINARD
BAHAMA VILLAGE MUSIC PROGRAM

Sally is a true treasure to BVMP! She is always ready and willing to help and contribute in any way she can with no questions asked. She has been a tremendous force on our board and keeps a fresh pair of eyes to all situations. We are blessed to have someone like her working with us and for the children of the Bahama Village Music Program!



BRUCE BUSH
KEY WEST ART & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bruce donates his time as a docent at the Key West Museum of Art & History, Custom House every Monday and Friday like clockwork! His love of Florida Keys history enhances our visitor experience exponentially and his weekly time spent at the museum is a great asset to the Key West Art & Historical Society.



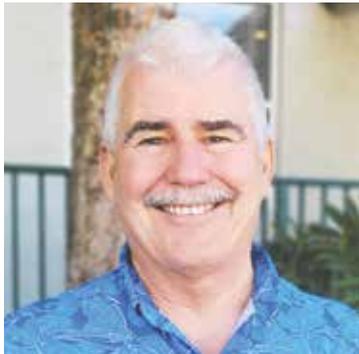
**KENDALL CAMERON
FRINGE THEATER KEY WEST**

Kendall Cameron took up the mantle of Light Designer for Fringe Theater with no experience but lots of enthusiasm. In the last two years, she has learned the principles of design, the mechanics of a light plot, and the programming of a very complicated light board. Fringe would literally be in the dark were not for this unsung and very talented Hero!



**JOHN JOHNSON AND TAMMY COLLINS
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF THE MIDDLE KEYS**

John Johnson and Tammy Collins have been instrumental in our successes and leading us as Board President and Board Secretary, respectively, throughout the pandemic years. Their leadership and dedication to our mission have been such a Blessing as we embark on our largest build to date. As they come to the end of their tenure as a Board Directors, we want to thank them for a wonderful 7 years.



**ROBERT H. CARDENAS
REEF RELIEF**

Bob Cardenas has served Reef Relief for 10 years as a Board Member and past President. Due to his 43 years in the real estate business, and his formal education as a Marine Biologist, he is well qualified to see and understand all of the factors, economic and environmental, that are affecting our Coral Reef system.



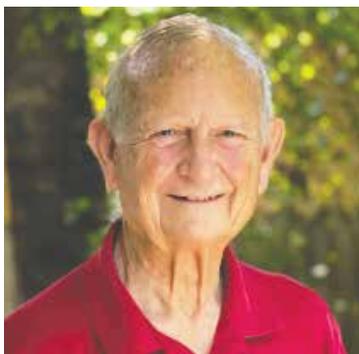
**JAMES CORDELL
KEYS AHEC HEALTH CENTER**

James Cordell from Baptist Health has served as the Keys AHEC Board Chair for the past 3 years. During this time, he has encouraged staff in their work to expand medical services, open new sites and supported efforts to build a brand new children's dental program. His leadership with the Board and staff has guided AHEC to better serve medically needy children in the Florida Keys.



**MARYLOU DESMARAIS
KEY WEST TROPICAL FOREST & BOTANICAL GARDEN**

Marylou Desmarais came to the Garden as part of its Docent Training program in 2015. In the last 6 years she has led visitors on guided tours sharing her knowledge of the Garden's native endangered plants and ecosystem. As a volunteer Garden Guardian, she works to help trim, weed and care for the many plants.



**TOM CLEMENTS
FRIENDS OF THE
KEY WEST LIBRARY**

Up until his retirement last year, Tom Clements volunteered on the Friends of the Key West Library board, serving as treasurer for 27 years. He was responsible for initially computerizing the organization's financial and membership records. Tom established and shepherded an investment account which allows the Friends to make a generous annual donation to support the library.



**MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM
GUIDANCE/CARE CENTER**

Michael Cunningham has been a volunteer for years on our Community Action Council. This past year has been exceptional as he has provided COVID testing to our clients & employees which included test kits and staff to administer on site. He facilitated connections to organizations with the goal to increase access to and funding for behavioral health care.



**DR. GERALDINE DIETHELM
MARATHON WILD BIRD
CENTER**

Since the day she landed in the Florida Keys in 1997, Dr. Geraldine Diethelm has been a board member and the veterinarian for the Marathon Wild Bird Center. Dr. Diethelm has provided medical advice for thousands of wild birds, from bald eagles to baby birds. Having recently retired, Dr. Diethelm now shares her love of gardening and painting with the bird center.



**ROBERTA DEPIERO
SISTER SEASON FUND**

Roberta DePiero is a photographer at heart and during the pandemic shut down she was seen about town taking shots of Key West. She teamed up with other photographers in town to create a coffee table photography book entitled: *Isolated Island: The Key West Covid-19 Spring of 2020*. The profits were donated to Sister Season Fund to assist their mission here in Key West during this hardship time.

RED BARN ACTORS STUDIO

Roberta DePiero is a highly motivated person that has used her powers for good! Since she knows this island's businesses like the back of her hand, she has pulled together our program sales and has matched sales from years ago before the pandemic. She goes above and beyond by securing sponsorships and trades, because she cares about the Barn and everyone else she works for.



**DENISE DOWNING
JUST OLDER YOUTH**

Denise is one of the founders of Just Older Youth. Denise first connected Keys To Peace with the founders of JOY, and has since served as the Vice President of JOY, and a board member at large. She is gifted at seeing the threads that bind and strengthen the people of the Keys, and she is a master at weaving us together to support the things that make us great as a community.



**DONALD DOTZAUER
A.H. OF MONROE COUNTY**

Donald is a man who never took no for an answer as the 2021 team leader of the Key West Mile Markers for The SMART Ride, which benefits HIV/AIDS Agencies in Florida. Without a single public fundraiser, his passion and compassion inspired his teammates and community to rally and gather over \$240,000.

**FRIENDS OF THE
AIDS MEMORIAL**

Donald served as a board member and treasurer for FOAM for 3 years. In that short period of time Donald worked tirelessly to manage the finances of the board, and to seek out and acquire grants to enable the Key West AIDS Memorial to function and make improvements.

JOIN US IN BUILDING
A BRIGHTER FUTURE
FOR THE FLORIDA KEYS...
IN PARADISE FOR GOOD.

FIND OUT HOW AT
CFFK.ORG OR CALL
305.292.1502.



**PETER DSWONYK
SOUTHERNMOST HOMELESS
ASSISTANCE LEAGUE**

Peter Dswonyk, a formerly homeless Marine Corps veteran and passionate voice for the rights of unhoused people in our community, was instrumental in facilitating the transfer of shelter management responsibilities to Key West's new operator, and contributes to SHAL's evolving mission of advocacy for improved quality of life for all members of our community.



**LINDA FALK
FLORIDA KEYS CHILDREN'S
SHELTER**

Linda has provided continuous support and advocacy as one of our most involved Board of Directors for the Florida Keys Children's Shelter over the last several years. Linda Falk is such a tireless worker on our behalf, whether it is resourcing for a current need, or just being there to hold a hand, Linda is our most treasured resource!

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**NAJA GIRARD AND
ARNAUD D'ALBISSIN
LAST STAND**

Thank you to Naja Girard and Arnaud d'Albissin for their continued support and advocacy to protect the fragile Keys environment and the quality of life for all of our residents. Their tireless advocacy to promote, preserve and protect the Florida Keys is the embodiment of Last Stand's mission statement and consonant with the day-to-day goals of our board of directors.



**ELLEN EISCH
FLORIDA KEYS HISTORY
& DISCOVERY CENTER**

Ellen Eisch has been a volunteer since 2014 at Keys History & Discovery Center, serving as a docent and greeter. A part-time resident of Islamorada, she makes volunteering at the museum a top priority whenever in town. She serves with great enthusiasm and happily helps educate visitors about the vast and unique history and ecology of the Keys.



**CHRISTOPHER & RYAN (NOT
PICTURED) ELWELL
FLORIDA KEYS COUNCIL
OF THE ARTS**

Christopher & Ryan Elwell continue to promote the Arts community throughout the Florida Keys with both their time and generous financial support. We honor and celebrate the Elwell Family for 10 years of ongoing sponsorship of the Arts Council's Connections Project: A Mosaic of the Keys.



**ERIKA GOODMAN AND KRISTINA HELMS
PRESENTS IN PARADISE**

Together they manage to enter over 500 children onto Santa's list., helping to provide educational toys, musical instruments, sports equipment, clothing and shoes to families in need during the holidays. They provide tireless hours making sure each individual wish list is met.



**KRIS GRIFFIN
KEY WEST GARDEN CLUB**

Kris Griffin is truly the Energizer Bunny with a fun personality that keeps everyone happy and a work ethic that just keeps on going. In the propagation area of Key West Garden Club, her energy is focused on making new plants and keeping them weed free and beautiful for the public. She is one of the gems of Key West Garden Club.



**STEPHANIE HELLSTROM
ANNE MCKEE ARTISTS FUND
OF THE FLORIDA KEYS**

Stephanie Hellstrom is a past President, perennial auction volunteer and loyal Fund supporter. In addition to her duties as President, she was responsible for the publicity and press releases for the call to artists, auction and the grant submissions and awards. She has been a loyal volunteer at the annual auction for many, many years - always with a smile and positive attitude.



**JILL FRIERY AND MELINDA SAMPLE
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF KEY WEST AND THE LOWER KEYS**

Jill Friery and Melinda Sample came to us one day intending to donate items and stayed to donate their time in so many ways. From fund raising events like the Habitat Photo Safari and Trivia Trek to the organizing and set up of the Habitat Warehouse Store, their efforts have been dedicated to extending Habitat's outreach into the local community.



**DR. WILLIAM AND
DR. BEVERLY GOLDNER
MONROE COUNTY
EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Dr. Bill and Beverly have mentored collectively five Take Stock in Children scholars since 2007. Dr. Goldner also devotes his time to serving on the Monroe County Education Foundation board of directors, further contributing his support and passion of education and scholarship opportunities for under-represented youth in our community.



**EVAN HASKELL
MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S
SCHOOL OF KEY WEST**

Evan Haskell has served on our board of directors for 8 years. During this time he has worked tirelessly as President and Treasurer. Evan's leadership and involvement have carried us through hurricanes, program growth, COVID constraints, property expansion, SBA loans and all things big and small.



**MATTHEW HELMERICH
PERFORMING ARTS CENTERS
OF KEY WEST TENNESSEE
WILLIAMS THEATRE**

Matthew Helmerich epitomizes the phrase "unsung hero". As a long time supporter of the arts and Tennessee Williams Theatre, Matthew and his family steadfastly stood ready to help us grow, to help us sustain, and to help us reimagine our important role in the arts and culture world of Key West. His caring, generosity, and commitment are without equal.



**JANETT HERNANDEZ
KIDS COME FIRST IN THE
FLORIDA KEYS**

Since 2007 Janett has volunteered, organized, worked fundraisers, was chair secretary for 3 years, and Christmas cannot be completed without her. She keeps track of who receives what gifts and where to deliver. My best volunteer, my sister, my best friend & the best boss of any job ever.



**ROBIN JARVIE
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF
THE UPPER KEYS**

Robin is our dedicated ReStore volunteer - and she's been with us for over a year now. She's at the store twice a week, and always brings a smile and a laugh. Her dedication to the ReStore, Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys organization and the team is outstanding and deserves recognition.



**LOUIE LARSON AND PETER O'CONNELL
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
(COOKING WITH LOVE PROGRAM)**

When Pete and Louie not only cook most every week but they find extra volunteers every week to help with various kitchen jobs. They show up to work in a hot kitchen during a hot Key West day armed with their own cooking equipment and a whole repertoire of jokes!



**SUSAN MITCHELL
CORNERSTONE RESOURCE
ALLIANCE**

Susan Mitchell was one of the original volunteers to run food to the homeless shelter back in 2014! Since then, she has faithfully and cheerfully delivered meals to the Key West Homeless Shelter. Susan also coordinates and trains other volunteers to do the food delivery. Everyone is happy when they see Susan pull up!



**GINETTE HUGHES
LEADERSHIP MONROE
COUNTY**

Ginette is CEO of Marine Resources Development Foundation/MarineLab and LMC Class XIII graduate. Since 2006, MarineLab has been integral for the LMC Environment Session as participants gain exposure to our Keys' coastal ecology and the MRDF staff interacts and educates community leaders. The generosity and leadership she exemplifies inspires the next generation of scientists.



**GIDGET JOHNS
NAVY LEAGUE KEY WEST
COUNCIL**

Gidget organizes and operates all information technology and audio and video for Navy League, including meetings, zoom and guest speakers. She also sets up and maintains the Navy League web page and Facebook account, organizes and maintains the League e-mail account, and maintains the volunteer program.



**MARY ANN MATTER
HISTORIC FLORIDA KEYS
FOUNDATION**

Mary Ann Matter has initiated the Save A Grave program at the Historic Key West Cemetery. This program was met with generous public support and resulted in the restoration and stewardship of numerous abandoned gravesites. In addition, she is instrumental in the Cemetery Strolls, which raise funds for restoration and publication of a self-guided tour brochure.



**SHELLEY MCINNIS
LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF
AMERICA MONROE COUNTY**

When LVA asks Shelley to help, she never says no! Shelley can be seen every day supporting literacy in our community. Whether organizing the silent auction for our annual Benihana celebrity chef cook-off, or helping build little conch house libraries for our CFFK Project Synergy program, Shelley is dedicated, dependable, and always has a smile on her face.



**NICOLE NAVARRO
PAWSITIVE BEGINNINGS**

Nicole founded this organization in March 2020, which has no employees, after volunteering at the MCSO Sheriff's Animal Farm in Key West for years and being introduced to two foxes that reside there. After doing much research, she realized the need for experienced sanctuaries to be able to take in foxes being saved from the fur trade.



**ADRIAN HUNT
KEYS TO BE THE CHANGE**

Adrian has been a mentor with the Kids Win program sponsored by Keys to Be the Change for over 5 years. Since his retirement from the US Coast Guard in 2020, Adrian has recruited 18 JIATF personnel to volunteer their time to mentor high-risk youth at both HOB Middle School and Key West High School.



**JORDAN LOMBARD
SPECIAL OLYMPICS FLORIDA
MONROE COUNTY**

Jordan has worked tirelessly for the past 7 years to grow our programs in all the schools in the Upper Keys. Jordan is also a Unified Flag Football and Soccer Coach for Key Largo School, taking his team to state games at ESPN Wide World of Sports for the past 5 years.



**KIMBERLY MATTHEWS
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF THE FLORIDA KEYS**

Kimberly Matthews has volunteered with the Community Foundation for over two years. She facilitated our board retreat and helped create and monitor success of our amazing 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. Kimberly also teaches nonprofit strategic planning at the Community Foundation's Leadership Success Academy, receiving the highest rating of all 2021 instructors.



**SHAYNE MESSINA
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**

During COVID-19 the American Cancer Society had to let go its only employee in the Florida Keys and Shayne started doing most of the responsibilities as a volunteer including managing a major event.



**MARIONICA NOEL
WOMANKIND**

A current Biological Sciences student at FAU, Marionica volunteers at Womankind as a medical assistant and interpreter for Haitian Creole speaking patients, gently guiding them through their intake and examinations. With goals of earning an MD and becoming an OB-GYN, Womankind hopes volunteering is just the first step of a long relationship with Marionica.



KERI O'BRIEN
ONE ISLAND FAMILY SOUTH-ERNMOST UNITARIAN UNIVER-SALIST CONGREGATION

Keri O'Brien has served as Vice President of our board for 2 years, always preparing in advance and contributing thoughtful proposals at our meetings. She also initiated a special collection when our Director of Religious Education moved out of the area and our members could not meet in person due to the pandemic.



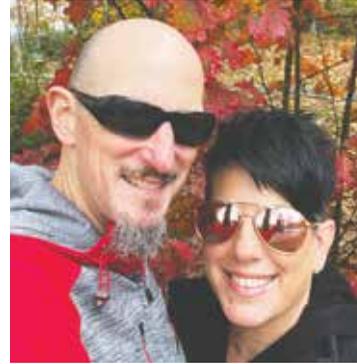
ARIEL POHOLEK
BOYS SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Ariel Poholek was a Boy Scout growing up and has since been a unit leader in the Keys for the last nine years. During this time he has continued to help youth build character and empower each individual with lifelong skills through the Scouting program. Ariel actively engages youth in local food bank efforts, coastal clean ups, and other various environmental conservation programs.



KENIE RODRIGUEZ
MARRVELOUS PET RESCUE AND ADOPTIONS

Kenie Rodriguez has been working tirelessly on many different MPR projects. She is the Chair for our signature fundraising event, the Spayghetti & No Balls Gala which was more successful than ever this year! She has also been the point person for our new Rescue House. Kenie sits on our Volunteer Rescue Board as Vice President, and she puts her whole heart into the Rescue and helping the pets.



CHARLES AND DENISE ROSENBALM
FLORIDA KEYS HEALTHY START COALITION

Pastor Charles Rosenbalm and his wife Denise Rosenbalm at First Baptist Church of Key Largo have been huge supporters and helpers to the Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition over the years. This past year they hosted a diaper donation box and helped contribute to us exceeding our goal of 10,000 diapers! We are incredibly grateful for their support.



JUDY SHAW
MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

Judy Shaw coordinates community plant clinics every 3rd Saturday of the month. She also chairs the White Heron Award, and co-chairs the Grounds Committee that maintains the Marathon Garden Club. Judy also led the effort to clean up and restore gardens after Hurricane Irma, bringing them back to their previous splendor!



JAMIE PEARSON
MAY SANDS MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Jamie Pearson is the parent volunteer every school hopes for. Her dedication to our school goes above and beyond. Jamie always finds the time to create and support a sense of community at the school. Her honest enthusiasm and authentic energy make her the perfect ambassador for our tuition-free Montessori school.



SUE ANN PUSKEDRA
THE SALVATION ARMY

Sue is on the Advisory Board Of The Salvation Army and volunteers hundreds of hours each year sorting, pricing and displaying merchandise at the Key West Thrift store. She also donates the balance of her estate sales each week to the Salvation Army Thrift Stores throughout the Florida Keys.



PABLO RODRIGUEZ
KEY WEST POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

Sergeant Rodriguez is always one phone call away when something is needed for the PAL organization. He has dedicated endless hours to making sure the new PAL gym behind City Hall is taken care of and has devoted his time to making sure the youth programs with the Key West Police Athletic League succeed.



PAT RUSSO
UPPER KEYS HUMANE SOCIETY

For the last seven years Pat Russo has been coming three times a week to the Upper Keys Humane Society to walk our dogs. She has also fostered dogs for us. Pat is a huge asset to our organization, she gives our animals socialization and leash skills that they wouldn't normally get.



JANET SMITH
UNITY OF THE KEYS SPIRITUAL CENTER

Janet Smith is a tireless, creative, imaginative, and brave behind-the-scenes volunteer in our beloved community. She is always the first to volunteer of her time and her talents to any event, program, ceremony, or service. Janet loves to learn and even when faced with tasks that intimidate the best of us, she perseveres.



DESIREE PEREZ
LOWER KEYS ROTARY

Desiree (Desi) Perez has served on the board for the Lower Keys Rotary for years and is the current Public Information officer. Desi is there at every event, pitching in and helping where needed. She is literally our boots on the ground in the community to find out where our Rotary club can best serve others in our area.



ANNETTE ROBERTSON-CURRY
THE FLORIDA KEYS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (THE COLLEGE OF THE FLORIDA KEYS)

Annette began her association with The College of the Florida Keys more than 11 years ago. Her fundraising expertise has guided numerous fundraising events from Shark Expo to the Foundation's annual Seaside Soiree. Each effort has generated substantial support for CFK students and programs.



KIM AND BOB RONEY
MOTE MARINE LABORATORY

Kim & Bob Roney are champions of our local ecosystem. They take pride in their stewardship of our local reef ecosystem by providing free or low-cost options for local divers and non-profit organizations to do invaluable work underwater to protect, conserve and rebuild our reef.



WAYNE RUSSANO
SOUTHERNMOST VFW POST 3911

Wayne Russano, a retired 37yr. Air Force veteran, is now serving his 3rd year as Quartermaster for VFW Post 3911. Wayne consistently rises above and beyond his Officer duties by continuously and enthusiastically volunteering to contribute his time, and effective business and organizational skills to all Post endeavors in helping veterans and causes in our Key West community.



JEAN SHANNON
OLD ISLAND RESTORATION FOUNDATION

Jean has volunteered for over a decade in various positions associated with Old Island. Most recently she has served multi terms on their Board and Co-chairs OIRF's Annual Home Tour Event.



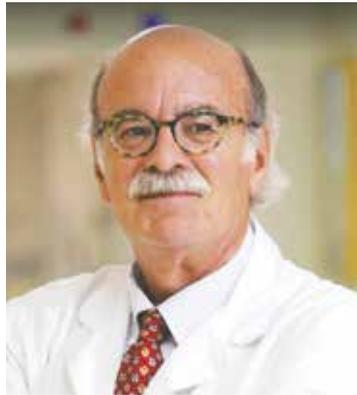
LOIS SONGER
KEY WEST ART CENTER

Lois Songer has been an invaluable member of the Key West Art Center for many years. She served as Gallery Director and has also held multiple positions on the Board of Directors, including President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Lois organized and ran the Craft and Old Island Days street shows for more than ten years.



RICHARD TAMBORRINO
UNITED WAY OF COLLIER AND THE KEYS

Richard has been a hard-working asset to our local United Way since joining the board seven years ago. He helped immensely during the merger creating United Way of Collier and the Keys, and was tireless in his efforts as UWCK served the Keys community through Hurricane Irma and the COVID-19 pandemic.



ROCKY (NORMAN) TINGLE
ANCHORS AWEIGH CLUB

Dr. Rocky has been a long time supporter of Anchors Aweigh Club offering care, kindness, and concern to individuals in recovery and to the community at large. For that we are very grateful.



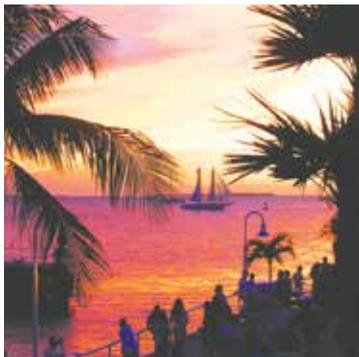
RUSS VICKERS
KEY WEST COMMUNITY SAILING CENTER

Russ Vickers has volunteered thousands of hours of his time, resulting in a new level of participation (surpassing 200 members). Under Russ's leadership, the Center's administration and board of directors have been strengthened, full-time professional staff has been hired, the organization is financially sound, the facility is improved, and the fleet of boats is growing.



ROSI WARE
AMERICAN RED CROSS

The spirited volunteer and philanthropist Rosi Ware might well be the Unsung Hero for any one of a dozen Keys not-for-profits. Rosi was the Florence Spottwood Humanitarian of the Year for the Red Cross in 2013. Her continued work for arts and human welfare organizations in the Keys personifies the values of the Red Cross.



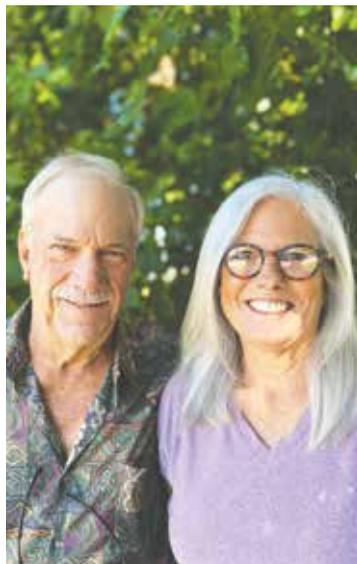
RYAN STIMERS
KEY WEST CULTURAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

We are proud to honor Ryan Stimers for his unfaltering dedication and devoted support. A full-time wire sculptor, Ryan still finds the time to do a lot of the work behind the scenes that is rarely glamorous nor creative. But as any true artist Ryan keeps coming up with innovative ideas to make Sunset Celebration the best event it can be.



PETRENA TAYLOR
FLORIDA KEYS SPCA

Since joining the Florida Keys SPCA in March of 2019, Petrena has been an invaluable asset to our volunteer team. Petrena shows up twice every week to clean and disinfect the cat rooms, do laundry, scrape litter boxes, and feed and care for all of our adoptable cats. Through Petrena's tireless efforts, all of our cats' lives are improved as they await their forever homes.



MIKE AND JERRY TINNELL
FRIENDS OF THE LOWER KEYS

This husband and wife team organizes their community to stop shallow sewage wells at Cudjoe Key and elsewhere around the Keys to help improve and protect water quality.



JAY VILLAVICENCIO
CONCH REPUBLIC MARINE ARMY

Jay has been an integral part of the community after Hurricane Irma decimated the area. Jay and his Winn Dixie staff have fed over 1,000 of the Conch Republic Marine Army volunteers over the past few years helping the CRMA remove 188 tons of marine debris from shorelines. Jay plays a major role in the future of the CRMA and our community.



MAGGIE WHITCOMB
FLORIDA KEYS COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

In addition to \$2 million of start-up funding, she founded the Community Land Trust after Hurricane Irma and spent countless hours with her organization, Conch Republic Housing Alliance, to purchase land for additional workforce housing.



JOHN SWANN
OLD ISLAND RESTORATION FOUNDATION

John Swann is one of the most humble, dedicated and selfless people we have on the Board of OIRF. He currently serves as our Treasurer and bookkeeper among other things. He is the first to raise his hand to volunteer for whatever task needs to get done.



DORTHE THURE
SAVE OUR PINES

Dorthe was instrumental in keeping Save Our Pines organized for a number of years. An excellent graphic and web designer, she lent her considerable skills to enhance the representation of the Australian Pines at Fort Zachary Taylor State Park. Dorthe went above and beyond to keep our organization running and her managerial mindset was a huge asset to our team.



MARY TURNER
RURAL HEALTH NETWORK OF MONROE

Rural Health Network is proud to have Ms. Turner as one of our Medical Providers for the past three years as she goes above and beyond to ensure patients get the care that they need. She is such an asset to the health care community with her stellar leadership and commitment to serve the community.



BRUCE WARD
MONROE ASSOCIATION FOR REMARKABLE CITIZENS

Bruce Ward is a Special Education teacher with 20 years experience and the creator of Grow Brains Games. He volunteered in MARC's Special Needs classroom several days a week for two years during the Covid-19 crisis. He worked with each client encouraging them to play games, learn new skills as well as socializing with each other.



MICHELE WHITE
FIRMKEYS

Michele has served on the FIRMKeys Board since 2014, serving as Treasurer since 2020. She was instrumental in transitioning the organization's donation collecting and technology to a more streamlined system. Michele shepherded FIRMKeys through the First Horizon Foundation grant program, resulting in three years of successful grant funding for our work with the flood map appeal and Risk Rating 2.0.

CFFK: IN PARADISE FOR GOOD

The Community Foundation of the Florida Keys is celebrating a milestone – 25 years of connecting people, resources, and needs through philanthropy.

Working together with generous donors, we're meeting community needs, including:

- providing food and housing assistance;
- assisting in times of disaster, including relief from the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery following disasters like Hurricane Irma;
- supporting health care services for those in need;
- protecting the environment;
- preserving the unique cultural heritage;
- promoting educational opportunities through scholarships and programs, and so much more.

Want to help provide food for the hungry? Interested in preserving our coral reefs? Whatever your interest, you can join our efforts! We have funds that serve the Upper, Middle and Lower Keys exclusively. This way your charitable donations serve the communities in your neighborhood. Learn more at cffk.org/donate

You can also create your own personalized fund and start making grants to your favorite nonprofits. If you don't want to write a check now, name your fund in your will or make a gift from your IRA or life insurance. All donations to CFFK are tax deductible as allowed by law.



Check the Keys Weekly every Thursday to see which Unsung Hero is featured as our Volunteer of the Week.



\$32 million
in community grants
and program services
since 1996

Manages **156**
charitable funds

\$3.5 million+
in disaster relief
funding

Nationally accredited
since 2006

Trained **500+** nonprofit
leaders through Leadership
Success Academy board training

25 years
of experience
Your trusted resource for
philanthropy

Recognized
1,400 volunteers
through Unsung Heroes



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