

For Immediate Release

For further information, Robin Kreimeier, publicity chair, 813-645-0550.

ABWC to honor members

Retired Tampa Bay-area newspaper columnist Judy Hill will address members of the Apollo Beach Woman's Club during a meeting Wednesday, Jan. 13, that also will honor seven ABWC members.

Honorees during the meeting will be Marjorie Ellis and Marlene Hall, 20-year members; Georgina Collins, Joanne Gadek and Sherri Pasqua, 15-year members; and Diane Schehl and Shirley Taylor, 10-year members.

Hill, who worked for both *The Tampa Tribune* and the *St. Petersburg Times*, has titled her talk, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Retirement...." The meeting will be held at the Summerfield Crossing Golf Club in Riverview, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Luncheon tickets are \$16. Reservations may be made by calling Regina Lesnau, 813-642-3305.

ABWC is open to all women in the Apollo Beach community. In addition to raising money for college scholarships for Apollo Beach high school graduates and participating in many community outreach activities, members enjoy Book, Bridge, Culture and Garden group activities.

For membership or contact information regarding any of the club's activities, contact Judy Peck at 813-746-1072 or by e-mail: judypeck@tampabay.rr.com.

ABWC Aids Needy Families at Christmas

Christmas will be much brighter for two Apollo Beach families who will open presents selected especially for them by members of the Apollo Beach Woman's Club.

ABWC members purchased gifts of clothes, shoes and toys for the two families, one with children at Apollo Beach Elementary School, and the other with children at Doby Elementary, also located in Apollo Beach.

The Christmas giving effort was led by Barbara Lamneck and Rosemary Kolodziejczak, who co-chair community service activities for the more than 150 ABWC members.

One of the families has five children, ages 2 through 10 years; the other family includes six children ages 1 through 12 years.

More than 65 packages were wrapped and delivered to the December ABWC meeting. In addition, some members contributed gifts of cash, which was used to purchase supermarket gift certificates for the two families.

"I was so impressed by the lovely gifts that came in for the families; they are going to have such a nice Christmas," Kolodziejczak said.

"I can't get over what our members have done. It is amazing," added Lamneck.

Guidance counselors at each of the elementary schools selected the two families for the Christmas service project based on need. Many of the children have so little that they concentrated their Christmas gift lists given to ABWC members on clothing rather than toys.

This is the latest community service project sponsored by the ABWC. In November, member Sonja Davidson coordinated a bake sale that raised \$1,000 to be used for college scholarships for graduating Apollo Beach high school seniors.

The club's largest fund-raising effort will be held Wednesday, March 3, at the Riverside Golf and Country Club, 2550 Pier Drive in Ruskin. The show will feature a trunk show by Accessories and More of Sarasota with clothing items available for purchase. The event will also include a silent auction, vendor tables and catering by

Riverside Bar and Grille. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by calling Marianne Blanchard at 813-641-7448.

The club's next meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 13, and will feature retired newspaper columnist Judy Hill, who worked for both the *Tampa Tribune* and the *St. Petersburg Times*. Hill's talk is titled, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Retirement..." The meeting will be held at the Summerfield Crossing Golf Club in Riverview, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Luncheon tickets are \$16.

ABWC is open to all women in the Apollo Beach community. In addition to meeting each month, the club offers special interest activities sponsored by the Book, Bridge, Culture and Garden clubs.

Dues are \$20 annually and can be sent to Judy Peck, vice-president/membership at 6639 Cambridge Park Drive, Apollo Beach, FL 33572. For membership information or for contact information regarding any of the club's activities, contact Peck at 813-746-1072 or by e-mail: judypeck@tampabay.rr.com.

ABWC to Hold Thanksgiving Bake Sale

Homemade cookies, pies, breakfast breads, cakes and other homemade goodies will be sold by members of the Apollo Beach Woman's Club on Wednesday, Nov. 25, just in time for Thanksgiving festivities.

The bake sale, held annually in front of Apollo Meats, 226 Apollo Beach Blvd., Apollo Beach, is a community favorite as those stopping by the butcher to pick up their Thanksgiving turkeys and trimmings yield to temptation and take home a freshly baked treat to share with family and friends on Thanksgiving Day. Tables will be set up beginning at 8 a.m.

Sonja Davidson, bake sale chair, said all proceeds from the event go to the ABWC Scholarship fund. The fund supports graduating high school students in Apollo Beach who have excelled academically and need help in meeting tuition costs at both two- and four-year colleges and universities in Florida.

Even as the ABWC prepares for the bake sale, members are awaiting the biggest scholarship fund-raiser of the year—the annual luncheon and fashion show to be held Wednesday, March 3. Tickets for the event, to be held at Riverside Golf Club in Ruskin, are \$25 and will go on sale at the ABWC meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 9.

The December meeting will feature the East Bay High School Choral, "The Sounds of Time," performing a medley of holiday music. ABWC meetings are at the Summerfield Crossing Golf Club in Riverview, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

ABWC is open to all women in the Apollo Beach community and now numbers over 150. In addition to meeting each month, the club offers special interest activities sponsored by the Book, Bridge, Culture

and Garden clubs.

Dues are \$20 annually and can be sent to Judy Peck, vice-president/membership at 6639 Cambridge Park Drive, Apollo Beach, FL 33572. For membership information or for contact information regarding any of the club's activities, contact Peck at 813-746-1072 or by e-mail: judypeck@tampabay.rr.com.

ABWC Activities in Full Swing

Community and fund-raising activities are in full swing for members of the Apollo Beach Woman's Club who in October celebrated the Tampa Bay area's Cuban roots with a luncheon that raised money to support the club's ongoing efforts to provide scholarships to college-bound graduating high school students.

The fund-raising luncheon, organized by ABWC Book Club chair Seel Lundy, featured Jack Fernandez, a retired USF chemistry professor who has written three novels that center on Ybor City and the Cuban culture. Books sold after Fernandez' talk raised \$170 for the scholarship fund. An estimated \$400 was raised from ticket sales to the event.

Eighty women attended the luncheon, which featured a traditional Cuban meal of chicken with black beans and yellow rice, salad and flan.

Maria Esparza, a flamenco dancer who has been dancing for 20 years and who performs at the Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City, performed during lunch and afterwards discussed the origins of her art with club members.

Despite the challenges of the current economic slowdown, the Apollo Beach Woman's Club has continued to grow and now has more than 148 members. In addition to awarding scholarships to Apollo Beach students, the club is committed to supporting the members of its community in other ways.

Most recently, Barbara Lamneck and Rosemary Kolodziejczak co-chairs of Community Service, used club funds to purchase underwear and belts for children in need at Apollo Beach and Doby elementary schools, both of which serve the Apollo Beach community.

For Thanksgiving, grocery store gift certificates in the amount of \$100 each will be given to four families in need, two each from Apollo Beach and Doby elementary schools. During the Christmas holiday season, the club will adopt two families, one each from the two elementary schools. A sign-up sheet will be passed at the November

luncheon so members may sign up for needed gift items for these families.

Lamneck and Kolodziejczak also are collecting Box Tops for Education and Campbell Soup labels that later will be redeemed to help provide supplies for school classrooms.

The next ABWC fund-raising activity is the annual November bake sale slated for Nov. 25, in front of the Apollo Meats store on Apollo Beach Boulevard, the day before Thanksgiving. Proceeds from this event also support scholarship and community activities. The event is being organized by Sonja Davidson, who is looking for volunteers to set up, sell items, and bake cakes, pies and cookies.

In addition to its philanthropic work, members of the club also enjoy enrichment activities which include:

Book Club: The book group meets monthly in members' homes to discuss the latest novel members have read. The Nov. 19 meeting will feature the book "Loving Frank" by Nancy Horah.

Bridge Club: Bridge players meet the fourth Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at the Apollo Beach Golf Clubhouse on Golf and Sea Blvd. Players contribute \$2, with half of the proceeds contributed to the scholarship fund.

Culture Club: Activities are organized monthly to introduce members to the wide variety of places of interest in the Tampa Bay area. On Nov. 9, a free tour by tram of Port Manatee is planned. On Dec. 1, there will be an English High Tea at the Southern Comfort Inn in Ruskin at a cost of \$29.95.

Garden Club: The group meets the third Wednesday of each month for various activities that include talks by horticulturists or visits to nearby garden or horticultural spots. In November, members will travel by carpool to the Florida Botanical Gardens.

This year, for the first time, the Apollo Beach Woman's Club has a Web site created by member Karen Benedict. The site's address is www.apollobeachwomensclub.com Those logging in to the site will find information about the club's activities, officers names and copies of the club newsletter.

The club's next membership meeting is Nov. 11 at Doc's Grill at Summerfield Crossing Golf Club in Riverview. The program will feature George Hilton, who in honor of Veteran's Day, will talk about the history of the American flag and discuss highlights of his long and varied military career. The cost of the luncheon is \$16 and all are welcome. To make a reservation, contact Regina Lesnau at 813-642-3305 or by e-mail rlesnau@lowrateonline.com.

ABWC dues are \$20 annually and can be sent to Judy Peck, vice-president/membership at 6639 Cambridge Park Drive, Apollo Beach, FL 33572. For membership information or for contact information

regarding any of the club's activities, contact Peck at 813-746-1072 or by e-mail: judypeck@tampabay.rr.com.

Author to Address ABWC

Jack Fernandez, the author of a trilogy of books centered on Ybor City, and a Flamenco dancer who performs with the Columbia Restaurant Dancers, will be featured guests when the Apollo Beach Woman's Club members meet Wednesday, Oct. 14.

The Cuban-themed luncheon is a special fund-raising project planned by ABWC members, who raise money to support the club's scholarship program for college-bound Apollo Beach high school graduates. The meeting will be held at Doc's Grill at the Summerfield Crossing Golf Club in Riverview. Members meet at 11:30 a.m. with luncheon and the program to begin at noon.

Fernandez is a retired University of South Florida chemistry professor. His books, *Conquistadors*, *Café con Leche* and *Viva Matilde*, trace the history of a fictional family from Northern Spain who move to a sugar plantation outside of Havana, Cuba, and eventually immigrate to the United States to live in Ybor City. The books will be available for purchase at the luncheon.

Flamenco dancer Maria Esparza will entertain during the event which will feature traditional Cuban dishes including chicken with black beans and yellow rice and flan. Mimosas and sangria beverages will also be served.

The luncheon is \$25 with proceeds to support the ABWC Scholarship Fund. Reservations must be made by Oct. 9 to Regina Lesnau, 813-642-3305.

In addition to its scholarship fund, the ABWC also helps groups and individuals in Apollo Beach who need assistance. Recent projects have included providing supplies for children at Apollo Beach Elementary School and Dobie Elementary School, and providing meals for families in need during the Thanksgiving and Christmas. Club members also have provided summer "camperships" so needy children can attend a summer day camp program at Apollo Beach.

ABWC members also enjoy cultural and social activities including those offered by the Garden Club, Book Club, Culture Club and Bridge Club.

Dues are \$20 annually and can be sent to Judy Peck, vice-president/membership at 6639 Cambridge Park Drive, Apollo Beach, FL 33572. For membership information, contact Peck at 813-746-1072.

ABWC to Kick Off New Year

The Apollo Beach Woman's Club will welcome new and returning members to its first meeting of the 2009-'10 year to be held on Wednesday, Sept. 9, at Doc's Grill at Summerfield Golf and Country Club in Riverview.

The meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. with socializing, followed by lunch and the program beginning at noon. The program features Apollo Beach resident Kim Warick, who will discuss the book she has written titled "Magic Ears," a children's story about a boy who is hearing-impaired. Warick is the mother of a hearing-impaired son and founder of Advocacy Referral Service for Handicapped Children.

September will herald the first meeting presided by Judy Motta, the club's newly elected president who follows Sylvia Gordon, who served as president for two years. Motta is joined by board members Louise Smith, first vice president/programs; Judy Peck, second vice president/membership; Regina Lesnau, third vice president/meetings; Sharon Vasquez, secretary, and Nancy Vance, treasurer.

The Apollo Beach Woman's Club was founded 51 years ago by a group of women who wished to contribute to community development including providing college scholarships to Apollo Beach high school graduates. Last year, the club awarded \$13,000 in scholarships to 14 college-bound students.

In addition to its fund-raising efforts to support its scholarship program, ABWC members also enjoy cultural and social activities including those offered by the Garden Club, Book Club, Culture Club, and Bridge Club.

Dues are \$20 annually and can be sent to Judy Peck, vice-president/membership at 6639 Cambridge Park Drive, Apollo Beach, FL 33572. For membership information or for other information regarding club activities, contact Peck at 813-746-1072.