



PRESIDENT REPORT

Pat Robitaille

Last month, we again had many great accomplishments.

1. We proposed changes to our Bylaws and sent them out for vote. We had a 100% approval and are, therefore, adopting the changes. The bylaws will be published in the upcoming directory.
2. Thanks to the efforts of **Sharyn Blongiewicz**, we put together an application for a Coronado Community Grant. Two years ago, we requested \$980 to cover the cost of the Nautilus Room for our Gala. Sharyn learned that we can request up to 50% of our budget for an event. We are, therefore, asking for \$18,000 this year. Fingers crossed. We will know by July the amount approved.
3. The Coronado Cays Yacht Club is getting up and running. They are welcoming Welcome to Spring and a time when most of our members are fully vaccinated! We are thrilled to be able to start seeing each other again and have several upcoming events planned.
4. The Coronado Cays Yacht Club is getting up and running. They are welcoming
5. us back for our monthly Board meetings and any other events we desire. Our board meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 10am. Let me know if you would like to be added to our agenda and attend.
6. We are making some progress on updating our Logo and Website. We have a committee of **Vicki Bernitt, Sharyn Blongiewicz** and myself working with Inflection Point. We are currently reviewing options for logos as well as a template for our website. We will have updates to share with you very shortly.

Upcoming:

1. We would like to see a sell-out event for the upcoming Wine Tasting Event (see Fundraising report) and we relaunch in-person events. Please plan on attending and inviting a fellow or potential new member.

Thank you so much for your tremendous support and hope to see you soon.

Sharyn Blongiewicz

ATTENTION! TWO IMPORTANT THINGS!

April 15

Wine Tasting at the big and beautiful Vom Fass tasting room at the Coronado Landing. Your invitation came to you in your email. We will be welcoming groups of 10-12 at a time due to current 25% maximum occupancy protocol. Please make your reservation early. The invitation gave you the opportunity to select the time slot of your choice. Maybe you want to put a group of friends together during same time slot?? If you need the invitation re-sent, please let me know ASAP. sharynb@focus-sdkids.org



June 12

Rummage Sale at Coronado Cays Homeowners Association parking lot (CCHOA) Please start saving your gently used items for donation. Roger Clapp is the chairman again this year ... thank you Roger!!

roger.clapp@sbcglogal.net

Thank you for marking your calendars and planning to support these events. Fundraising has been virtually impossible and we need your help to recover from 2020!!



RUMMAGE

SALE

Toys, Dishes,
Glassware, Linens,
Sporting Equipment,
Fishing Gear,
Boating Items,
Jewelry, Bikes, Baby
Items, Patio
furniture, etc....!!!

Saturday, June 12

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Coronado Cays

HOA Parking Lot
505 Grand Caribe Causeway

DONATE:

We will gratefully accept your gently used items at the Grand Caribe Room, CCHOA

Thursday June 10 *and* Friday June 11

Hours: 10 AM - 4 PM

Sorry ... No clothes or Old Electronics accepted

SHOP FOR GREAT BARGAINS:

June 12, Saturday 7 AM - 12:00 PM

Please put these dates on your calendar and remember...

ALL Proceeds Help San Diego Disadvantaged Kids.

FOCUS is an all volunteer 501 (c)(3)

Donation receipts will be available upon request.

www.focus-sdkids.org

questions? Roger Clapp

roger.clapp@sbcglobal.net

We reserve the right to decline unusable, broken and / or un-saleable items.

PROJECTS

Barbara Donahue & Carin Cross

A Thank You letter from Angels Foster Network:

9295 Farnham Street, Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear FOCUS Members,

Please extend a huge thank you to all the members of the FOCUS group who made this gift of possible. Everything arrived from Amazon and we are truly grateful for your generosity.

Throughout San Diego County, there are roughly 2,000 children in foster care and of that number nearly 950 are newborn to five years of age. Currently we have 100 families able to provide caring and stable foster homes for young children in the foster care system.

Please visit our website at www.angelsfoster.org to learn more about the critical role our families play in the lives of infants and toddlers. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 619-283-8100 ext. 10 or at smcclain@angelsfoster.org.

We are grateful for the support.

Warm regards,

Suzanne McClain
Director of Development





Sharon Shelton
FOCUS Financial Report

FOCUS Financial Report for Feb 2021

Balance as of 1 Feb 2021	=	\$74,366.97
Deposits		+ 7,536.78
Expenses (projects/grants)	<u> </u>	- \$5,518.30
Balance as of 26 Feb 2021	=	\$76,385.45

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO DESIGNATE **F.O.C.U.S** AS YOUR CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION WHEN USING AMAZON.SMILE FOR ALL YOUR ON-LINE PURCHASES.



MEMBERSHIP
LORNA PEREZ-CASTER

MEMBERSHIP

A big **THANK YOU** to all who have renewed their membership for 2021! We currently have 101 paid members. As you know, FOCUS dues are essential to our mission of assisting San Diego County children in need.

Active Members: 56

Patron Members: 45

**Please welcome our newest member, Aileen Oya.
We are so happy to have Aileen join FOCUS!**

There are still many past members who have yet to renew. We hope we can count on you to continue your support of FOCUS by renewing soon.

We love new members and encourage all of you to assist us with growing our membership. If you know of anyone who has the desire to assist underprivileged or disabled children, please share with them the great work of FOCUS and invite them to join us. They can learn more about FOCUS by going to the **ABOUT** section of our website – **www.FOCUS-SDKids.org**.

Active Membership - \$75 annually

Patron Membership - \$150 annually

To renew or join online please use the link below:

You will be instructed to first complete the membership form and then click on the link for payment. Please note that online payments may be made through PayPal or with Visa/MasterCard.

If you prefer to pay by check please be sure to complete the FOCUS membership form through the above link and then mail your payment to:
FOCUS P.O. Box 180023 Coronado, CA 92178

This year we will return to printing a membership directory, with an expected completion date of mid-April. Please watch for future updates on the delivery of your directory.

Questions? Please contact Lorna Perez-Caster, 2021 Membership Director lcaster@focus-sdkids.org

March Birthdays

Ethel Kallsen 3/3
Carol Sommer 3/9
Paul Granger 3/9
Lucile Fleming 3/15
Donna Sorensen 3/31

April Birthdays

Sharyn Blongiewicz 4/20
Mona Millioti 4/20
(They share the same date of birth date!)



Members in "The Spotlight"

JEAN and GENE BAUER

By Don Swanson

Many years ago, 1957 to be exact, Art Linkletter wrote a book entitled "Kids Say The Darnest Things." Such sayings as, "Give Monny a lot of real sweet food so she'll get fat--that's how you get a baby," were reiterated in the book. Gene and Jean Bauer have not only heard many of those darnest things spewed by kids, but both of them have also seen many of the darnest things kids have done.

Gene and Jean Bauer were elementary school teachers for a combined 46 years. Gene taught for 35 years, and Jean for 21 years. And with both of them, FOCUS is all about the kids. They have served FOCUS for so many years because it gives them the opportunity to directly support kids.

Not just put money in an envelope, and send it to a charitable organization, but it allows them to actually visit the many agencies that support youngsters, and see, and experience the fruits of their labor.

Jean gets a little choked up when she sees the St. Jude's Hospital ad on television with all the little kids.

They have raised money for kids. They have put together backpacks for kids, as well as delivered these backpacks to agencies which distributed them to youngsters. Jean described it this way, "We started off like the Brady Bunch, and kids have always been in our lives."

And she was absolutely right. When they got married in 1973 Gene, a widower, had four youngsters, two boys and two girls, while Jean, a single mom, had a boy and a girl of her own. They were both teaching at an elementary school in Fullerton, California when they met. They dated, and eventually got married. Their large house consisted of six bedrooms, and four bathrooms, and was as hectic as one can imagine. Teaching school, making lunches, driving to and from sporting practices and events, buying food, cooking food, buying clothes and mending clothes, were just a few of what needed to be done.

"When Julie, the youngest, was about 5 or 6," Jean recalled, "I always made them make their beds everyday before anything else was started. One day Julie was pulling a mattress down the stairs, and I stopped her, and asked what she was doing. She said she was tired of making her bed and was getting rid of the mattress."

Jean Lunenschloss was born in Richland Center, Wisconsin. Her dad, a dairy farmer, had nine brothers and sisters. Jean has one sister who resides in Phoenix, Arizona. The family moved to Arizona when Jean was still a youngster. She attended Catholic grade school, and then an all girls Catholic high school. She graduated from Arizona State University (ASU) and moved to the Los Angeles area to begin her teaching career.

Gene was born, and raised in Hamilton, Ohio, located 20 miles north of Cincinnati. He attended Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. It was the first university chartered by an act of Congress (1804), and opened its doors to students in 1809. Gene was in the ROTC and served two years in the army after his degree in Elementary Education. After leaving the army he too moved to Los Angeles.

Both Gene and Jean have their master's degree in Education Administration.

It was in 1989 when the couple moved to the Coronado Cays. Their realtor, Dawn Ross, was a FOCUS member, and encouraged Jean to join, which she did. Gene did not become a member until men were accepted in 2009. They both have been active throughout the years, helping where needed, and when needed.

Gene recalled a time when an agency for boys needed a basketball hoop installed at the agency's facility. The task entailed a hole being dug for the pole, cement poured, and a basket hoop attached to the pole, and then the pole with the hoop heisted into position. He then realized that the net had to be secured to the hoop, which meant another trip, on another day, with a ladder, to hook the net unto the loop.

Gene has served as a Boy Scout troop leader for two of his boys while they were growing up, and whom eventually advanced to the rank of eagle scout. One of the boy's eagle scout project was to raise money, and obtain a seeing eye dog for a young man who was vision impaired. Girl Scouts also was the calling of a couple of the Bauer girls as well, and Girl Scout cookies can still be found in the Bauer's house. With seven grandchildren it is almost inevitable

And it may be the first, but the Bauers now have a granddaughter living in Carlsbad who is also a FOCUS member. Danni Fredricks, the granddaughter, also believes FOCUS, and kids go hand in hand.

The Bauers have traveled all over the world. They are not the type to join a tour group, and on one adventure, rented a car in Amsterdam for six weeks, and toured a good portion of Europe. With no given agenda, they traveled many a road, and at the end of the day, never failed to find lodging for the night.

They are both avid readers. Gene reads both fiction and non-fiction. Jean enjoys a good mystery. During the pandemic they have put together many jigsaw puzzles. Jean is an excellent interior designer and has never taken any classes in design. Their home could easily be an inspiration to many want-to-be designers. Their master shower has no doors, one main entrance, and no raised barrier to step over-- a tribute to their talents..

With six kids, and 47 years of marriage, the Bauers still strongly support FOCUS, and have enjoyed seeing the many benefits derived from their efforts, and encourage all FOCUS members to remember, "It is all about the kids."