

BLIND COMMUNITY CENTER OF SAN DIEGO

1805 Upas Street San Diego CA 92103

Phone: 619-298-5021 website: <https://bccsd.org/>

Donate with Credit Card or PayPal at <https://bccsd.org/>

Email: info@bccsd.org

NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE

Although we won't be able to celebrate at the BCC this year, we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and will celebrate with a special delivery from AT&T Pioneers and the Blind Community Center.

BCCSD MISSION: To enrich the lives of blind and visually impaired adults preparing them for a normal, active life in a society that is principally sighted by encouraging independence.

The Blind Community Center of San Diego gives blind and visually impaired people in our community an opportunity to socialize and interact. It helps members build skills, confidence and self-esteem through our various social and recreational activities. During the pandemic, we are featuring virtual experiences where participants can join by telephone and/or computer.

BUSINESS HOURS:

In order to keep our community safe, our building is temporarily closed following the extended 'Stay at home order'. We will keep you informed in this newsletter when the time is right to re-open. Please stay safe and follow all recommended guidelines.

CONTACTS:

We are here for you:

President Sharlene - phone: 619-298-5021 ext. 208

email: president@bccsd.org

Board Director Christie - christie@bccsd.org

BCCSD email: info@bccsd.org

Website: <https://bccsd.org/>

From President Sharlene Ornelas:

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. This is a crazy year with COVID and all of the wildfires. In spite of everything, we have things to be thankful for. We have learned a new skill of how to join webinars. We have been able to keep connected through the web. We are staying healthy. As far as I know, none of our members, participants and volunteers have caught COVID-19. We have received special deliveries letting us know people are thinking about us. Remember how bad things look, there is sunshine at the other end of the tunnel. So have a Happy Thanksgiving and let's look forward to what 2021 has in store for us.

DECEMBER NIGHTS turns into NOVEMBER and DECEMBER DAYS

With:

ONLINE BLIND COMMUNITY CENTER CRAFTS FUNDRAISER

The Online Craft Fundraiser started on September 1, 2020 and is approaching its third month of sales. The highlights are as follows- Approximately 60 units of handmade products have been sold including loop-it blankets, knitted goods, and a variety of beaded crafts. Over 30 loop-it blankets have been sold. The first blanket was shipped to Louisiana and one order went to New Jersey. Some orders for beaded crafts, baby wear, and loop-it blankets have been mailed to Los Angeles. The majority of the sales are coming through social media advertising, word of mouth, and individuals who have previously donated. The gross profit to date is approximately \$1,800. As the weather cools, we will market more of the knitted beanies and scarves. And, as we head further into the Holiday Season, we'll continue to promote all of the beautiful pieces made by BCC Crafters or Friends of the BCC.

Goods that are not sold online will be part of the inventory in the BCC Craft Store and Display Case when the building reopens.

BCC Crafters

Loop-it yarn crafters: **Jill Coleman, Joyce Porter**

Knitted wear (baby clothes, hats, scarves): **Marianne Winship, Cindy Caler, Lyn Gwizdak**

Beaded Items: **Nena Guillen, Diane Hall, Elia Gonzales, Suchin Loggins, Esther Mesa-Jones, Francis Chavez, Sharlene Ornelas, Lee Mortin-Martin, Bobby Nuno, Sal Dominguez**
Wreath: **Ethel Kirtley**

Friends of the BCC

Quilts, hats, and other craft products: **Lion Mary Manning**

Scarves: **Marty Slawson**

Hot glue and finishing work on beaded items: **Dora Plese, Christie Greene**

Talk with an Ophthalmologist

We are doing a final tally of the dollars raised for the 'Talk with an Ophthalmologist' fundraiser and hope to announce the results next month. We are confident we will come close- if not meet- Dr. Linebarger's donation match offer of up-to \$5,000.

PLEASE SIGN UP WITH AMAZON SMILE AND SUPPORT THE BCC EVERY TIME YOU SHOP ONLINE

Did you know that Amazon donates 5% of the price of eligible items to the non-profit of your choice if you shop through their special donation portal at **smile.amazon.com**?

To enroll in the program, go to **https://smile.amazon.com/**. The enrollment process couldn't be easier and takes less than five minutes. The BCCSD appreciates your support of our programs through all channels, including shopping.

WEEKLY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

MONDAY

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. **BEGINNING SPANISH** led by **Nena**

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **ADVANCED SPANISH** led by **Nena**

TUESDAYS

11:00 a.m. – noon **MICROWAVE MUG RECIPES AND CRAFTING**
led by **Christie**

Almost anything can be microwaved in a mug – chocolate cake, macaroni and cheese, omelet in a mug, vegetable lasagna and overnight oatmeal. Tell me what's in your fridge and cupboards, and we'll use the internet to come up with a recipe for you.

WEDNESDAYS

12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. **BLIND RHYTHM** hosted by **Shon**

12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. **OPEN MIC and VARIETY SHOW** hosted by **Pearl**
On the days where talent is not scheduled, **Shon Mackey** from Blind Rhythm will DJ and you can call-in with song requests.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. **TRIVIA** hosted by **Pearl**

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **NAME THAT TUNE** hosted by **Shon**

THURSDAYS

10:00 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.

BLIND COMMUNITY CENTER WRITERS WORKSHOP with **CLYTIE**

We do not meet on the first Thursday of each month.

Zoom only allows us 40 minutes so we take a break and resume at 11:00 AM

FRIDAYS

9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. **BEGINNING FRENCH** led by **Theresa**

10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. **ADVANCED FRENCH** led by **Theresa**

12:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m. **BINGO** led by **Christie**, with a BINGO Caller and volunteers **Dora, Marty, Theresa**, members from the **NATIONAL CHARITY LEAGUE, NCL**, and occasional other community volunteers.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, November 10 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

There will be a Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. using the web platform we use for other activities. Everyone is welcome to attend.

There will be no Board Meeting or Membership Meeting in December.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday November 24 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Use our regular WEBEX connection

We will have David Eisner from Kaiser Permanente, present on the relationship of food to eye health and diabetes. Time allowing, Eshwar Kapur, also from Kaiser Permanente will do a follow-up and answer your questions about COVID-19.

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR BCC MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS
(BCC volunteers will call you with more information)

FALL FOLLIES PRESENTED BY NATIONAL CHARITY LEAGUE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

10:00 a.m. – NOON

Calling all talent:

Sign up now to sing a song, play a musical instrument, read a poem or perform another talent for about two minutes.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

AT&T PIONEER AND BCC VOLUNTEER THANKSGIVING SURPRISE

THANK YOU

Chula Vista Host Lions Club

Chula Vista Harbor Lioness Club

North Park Lions Club

Harbison Canyon Lions Club

Oceanside Sea Lions

AT&T Pioneers

National Charity League

Foundation for Delta Gamma at San Diego State University

U.S. Navy

University of San Diego

San Diego County Employee's Charitable Organization (CECO)

Please visit our web site at <https://bccsd.org/> for more information about our wonderful supporters and find out how they contribute to the Blind Community Center of San Diego.

Thank you Dr. Linebarger for your generous donation and informative talks on the eye and eye disease. We all learned a lot and appreciate the

time away from your busy schedule to help us learn more about the causes of blindness and what new research and techniques are being worked on.

Thank you, National Charity League for our Halloween Spooktacular Surprise! The decorated, tactile pumpkins and goodies were just the spirit lifters we needed on Halloween!

Here are some thoughts from a few of our grateful participants:

“Loved the pumpkin, he is sitting in the middle of my table. I could feel his eyes, nose and decorations.”

“Thank you, National Charity League. You always think of us.”

“Yummy, yummy in my tummy.”

“Please thank National Charity League for everything they do for us, including help with Bingo.”

Thank You BCC Birthday Card Angel!

Have you received a Birthday card during the pandemic? Apparently, there is an Angel out there who wants to let you know that the BCC cares about YOU and reaches out on your birthday. Thank you, Angel!

If you did not receive a birthday card, maybe the Angel does not have your address. Please let us know. Email: info@bccsd.org

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

ANYONE CAN DONATE AT ANY TIME AND WITH ANY AMOUNT

Here's how:

1. Go to www.bccsd.org and click on “donate”
2. Once on the donation page, click on “donate” again
3. Enter the donation amount and then click on “donate with a debit or credit card”
4. On the next page, you can choose whether you'd like this amount to be donated on a monthly basis.
5. Immediately after that, there is a section where you can type instructions and designate what the donation is for. For example, if a donation is for the Craft Fundraiser, please type “Craft Fundraiser.”
6. Complete the rest of the form and provide your email address to receive confirmation of your donation.

Don't have a computer or access to one? Want to make a donation? No problem. If you're comfortable providing your credit card information over the phone, we can have a volunteer help. Or you can mail a check or money order to:

BLIND COMMUNITY CENTER OF SAN DIEGO or BCCSD
1805 Upas St.
San Diego, CA 92103.
Due to the pandemic, checks are deposited twice per month.