

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

FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

Happy Valentines Day from the Blind Community Center!

“Try and be a Rainbow in someone’s cloud.” Maya Angelou

“Count your age by Friends, not years. Count your life by smiles, not tears,” John Lennon

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/>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Sharlene Ornelas, Blind Member: president@bccsd.org

Vice President: Ethel Kirtley, Blind Member: ekirtley45@gmail.com

Secretary: Claude Edwards, Blind Member: secretary@bccsd.org

Treasurer: Brook Logan, CPA, Associate Member: treasurer@bccsd.org

Past President: Gwendolyn Edwards, Blind Member

Directors:

Resource Development and Marketing: Lion Christie Greene, Associate Member: christie@bccsd.org

Diane Hall, Blind Member: dianehall73@yahoo.com

Eric Linebarger, MD, Ophthalmologist, Associate Member

Magdalena Guillen, Blind Member: nenag6610@gmail.com

Lion Mary Manning, Associate Member: edandmarym@cox.net

Rochelle Harris, Blind Member: rdjharris@gmail.com

Yvette Lee, Blind Member

Lions Optometric Vision Clinic Representative: Marcia DeRuntz

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER, LION MARY MANNING!

We are pleased to announce that Lion Mary Manning has accepted a Director's board position with the Blind Community Center. Mary is an Associate member of the BCC. She is the secretary of the Harbison Canyon Lions Club and is the project chair for the Lions District 4L6 Student Speaker Contest. Mary is a long-time supporter of the BCC and its programs. She has volunteered for parties and December Nights, donated hand crafted quilts and jams and is looking forward to further helping the BCC by serving on the board of directors. Prior to our temporary building closure, Mary was a regular volunteer for our free lunch program at the BCC and is well-liked by all. The Blind Community Center Board of Directors welcomes Lion Mary.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Happy Valentine's Day! The BCC will be making a delivery on February 13th thanks to the generosity of some of the BCC's friends. Members of the

Board of Directors are planning the entertainment for our Membership Meetings. If you have any ideas, I'm sure they would appreciate suggestions. January's speakers were from the Blind Stokers Club. If you want more information their website is BlindStokersClub.org. Remember about the support group with the California Council of the Blind's Ageing and Visually Impaired support group on Fridays. Also, the American Council of the Blind has a variety of programs daily. The Braille Institute is having virtual activities. I will have more information at the Membership meeting.

Stay safe, Sharlene.



Picture of Sharlene's Seeing Eye dog. "COVID has caused rules to be broken. She is allowed on the couch at home because I spend so much time there".

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT:

Hello, here is something that might be of interest. This program is on every week, and is repeated a few times on ACB radio. It is all about small kitchen appliances blind and visually impaired people can use and where to purchase them. Even some recipes.

Ethel

It's Electric: 7pm ET, 4pm PT, 2pm HT

Connect with us for current info about those small kitchen appliances we love so much: Instant Pots, air fryers, slow cookers, and more! Let's share our favorite appliances, tips, resources and recipes!

Listen on ACB Radio Community:

www.acbradio.org/community

Or ask Alexa to, “Open ACB Community.”

Join the call:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86953351998?pwd=SFZUR09sTWEwSHh4RIR6c24wc2pkdz09>

One tap mobile: +13126266799,,86953351998#

Phone: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 869 5335 1998

Passcode: 694167

Open Mic Night: 8pm ET, 5pm PT, 3pm HT

Come share your talent, music, poetry, stories, etc. with our fun and awesome community! Your performance material can be up to 10 minutes in length! Please keep performances family appropriate with no profanity!

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., QUOTATION

Submitted by: **Vice President, Ethel Kirtley**

“In a real sense all life is inter-related. All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”— **Martin Luther King Jr.,**

ONLINE BLIND COMMUNITY CENTER CRAFTS FUNDRAISER

Gifts for everyone

All hand made by BCC crafters and Friends of the BCC.

New Item - Beaded Easter Egg Lamps- Suggested Donation - \$25

New Item - Beaded Bunny Lamps - Suggested Donation - \$25

New Item - Small Beaded Bunny - Suggested Donation - \$12

Beaded Lamps - Penguin, Santa, Mrs. Santa, Snowmen,

Pink Elephants - Suggested Minimum Donation - \$25

Beaded Mary Lou Angels - Suggested Minimum Donation - \$12

Beautiful Handmade Quilts – Suggested Minimum Donation - \$60

Shades of Pink, Blue or Gray Soft Scarves – Suggested Minimum Donation - \$25

Loop-it Yarn Soft Blankets - Suggested Minimum Donation - \$25

Hand Made Crocheted Slippers - Many colors to choose from

Suggested Minimum Donation - \$12 per pair

Beaded Candy Canes and Beaded Icicles – \$2 each – Buy 5, get one free.

For questions or orders, please email info@bccsd.org.

WEEKLY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

MONDAY

PLEASE USE OUR WEBEX NUMBER FOR SPANISH CLASSES

Join by phone

+1-510-338-9438 USA Toll+

Access code: 623 586 039

Join by computer

<https://riosassociates-dfc7.my.webex.com/meet/pearl.a.mecenas>

Meeting Number: 623 586 039

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

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **INTERMEDIATE SPANISH** taught by **Nena**

TUESDAYS

FOR TUESDAY ACTIVITIES, PLEASE USE OUR ZOOM NUMBER:

Join by Phone

1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4949968569>

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

11:00 a.m. – noon **Are you interested in learning about the BCC and assisting with ideas for new programs?** Led by **Christie and Ethel** In January, topics included BCC History, fundraisers, programs from yesteryear and potential new programs. Please join the fun and help the BCC at the same time!

WEDNESDAYS

PLEASE USE OUR WEBEX NUMBER FOR WEDNESDAY CLASSES

Join by phone

+1-510-338-9438 USA Toll+

Access code: 623 586 039

Join by computer

<https://riosassociates-dfc7.my.webex.com/meet/pearl.a.mecenas>

Meeting Number: 623 586 039

12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

BLIND RHYTHM led by **Shon**

12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

OPEN MIC led by **Pearl**

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

TRIVIA led by **Pearl**

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

NAME THAT TUNE coordinated by **Shon**

THURSDAYS

10:00 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.

BLIND COMMUNITY CENTER WRITERS WORKSHOP with **CLYTIE**

Please call Clytie for instructions. 760-271-8138

FRIDAYS

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

10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. **INTERMEDIATE FRENCH** taught by **Theresa**

11:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. **TIME TO SOCIALIZE**

PLEASE USE OUR WEBEX NUMBER FOR ABOVE ACTIVITIES:

Join by phone

+1-510-338-9438 USA Toll+

Access code: 623 586 039

Join by computer

<https://riosassociates-dfc7.my.webex.com/meet/pearl.a.mecenas>

Meeting Number: 623 586 039

FOR BINGO, PLEASE USE OUR ZOOM NUMBER:

Join by Phone

1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4949968569>

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

12:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.

BINGO led by **Christie**, with a bingo caller app and sighted volunteers.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, February 9 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

To Join, please use the ZOOM number below:

1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4949968569>

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday February 23 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

To Join, please use the ZOOM number below:

1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4949968569>

Meeting ID: 494 996 8569

WELLNESS CALLS

Please let us know if you would like to sign up for a weekly phone call from a friendly BCC volunteer.

Are you lonely? Do you just need someone to talk to once in a while? Do you want to share thoughts about how we all are doing while many of us are home bound during the pandemic? Would you like to hear a funny story that might help cheer you up? We care about you! Please send Ethel an email if you would like to participate and she will match you up with a volunteer. Ethel's email: ekirtley45@gmail.com

OTHER OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST

You don't need to be a member to participate.

1. The **California Alliance on Aging and Vision Loss** is the newest affiliate of the California Council of the Blind. Our purpose is to deal with the problems of aging and vision loss. Each week we have a weekly support call in which a number of us get together to share our daily experiences.

We meet every Friday at 10 am PST and the program lasts an hour. All that is discussed is strictly confidential.

Please reach our Support Group by calling 669-900-9128. The ID number is 850 6089 0230. Password is 222638. Just follow the prompts and you should be just fine.

2. **Looking for something to do? The American Council of the Blind** is holding community events every day throughout the day on a wide number of topics. If you would like a list of the daily programming, please send an email to Join the Community Events email list for a morning email with that day's schedule:
<http://acblists.org/mailman/listinfo/acb-community-events>

Read our expectations for participating in community events:
<https://acb.org/community-event-expectations>. You don't need to be a member to join.

You can listen to the different streaming stations and get schedule information for them on this number: Phone ACB-radio: (518) 906-1820

- 3. Valuable information for the blind and visually impaired may be found on the National Federation of the Blind website at nfb.org**

THANK YOU

**Everyone who supported BCC Fundraisers
North Park Lions Club
AT&T Pioneers
Chula Vista Harbor Lioness Club
Chula Vista Host Lions Club
Harbison Canyon Lions Club
San Diego County Employee's Charitable Organization (CECO)
National Charity League
Foundation for Delta Gamma at San Diego State University
Rancho Bernardo Lions Club
Oceanside Sea Lions Club
UCSD Pre Optometry Club
San Diego Association of Insurance Professionals
University of San Diego
COSTCO**

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, **Marianne Winship** for the new Talking Microwave for the **BCC!**

HELP PROTECT AGAINST THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 VIRUS EVEN IF YOU ARE VACCINATED!

- Step 1: Wash your hands**
- Step 2: Wear a face mask**
- Step 3: Avoid touching your face**
- Step 4: Disinfect frequently touched surfaces**
- Step 5: Practice social distancing**
- Step 6: Wash your hands**

**BE SURE TO GET VACCINATED!
AND THEN FOLLOW-UP WITH THE SECOND VACCINATION!**

BE WELL

BE SAFE

TOGETHER WE CAN GET THROUGH THIS!