

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

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

BLIND COMMUNITY CENTER CELEBRATES 72 YEARS



1949 =====> 2021

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: president@bccsd.org

phone: 619-298-5021 ext. 208

Vice President Ethel: ethel@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: ethel@bccsd.org
Secretary: Claude Edwards, Blind Member: secretary@bccsd.org
Treasurer: Brook Logan, CPA, Associate Member: treasurer@bccsd.org
Past President: Gwendolyn Edwards, Blind Member
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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

FROM PRESIDENT SHARLENE ORNELAS:

HOW TIME FLIES

"Believe it or not, the calendar year is half over. That means the BCC's physical year is ending. The 2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP FEE is due July 1st. We may not be able to provide all of the perks of membership, but the fee also shows the support of participants by becoming members. You've heard the saying, "Every penny counts". Well, when you pay your MEMBERSHIP FEE, it helps with getting donations from other sources. Which looks more supportive, 30% or 70%? The BCC is a unique organization in that we don't have a rehab program to teach Blind Skills. Most programs throughout the US are like the Braille Institute and the San Diego Center for the Blind, they evolve around teaching Blind Skills. We give people that are blind, programs and activities based on enjoying life. There are several ways to pay. You may pay your 2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP FEE through the "DONATE" button on our website and putting 2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP FEE in the instructions. You can call me

at (619)298-5021 Ext. 208, I remotely check my messages so be sure to leave your first name and best number for returning the call. You can also call Christie or Dora. You may mail a check made out to BCCSD or Blind Community Center of San Diego. Please put MEMBERSHIP FEE in the memo portion of your check.

Mail to:

BCCSD,
1805 Upas St.
San Diego CA 92103.

We also have sighted ASSOCIATE MEMBERS who support the Center. Their MEMBERSHIP FEE is the same, \$40.00.

WHILE CLOSED

While we have been closed, not being in the office and meetings being virtual, I've been able to attend conferences and meetings representing the BCC. I've been able to learn about important concerns of people that are blind or visually impaired. I will write an article for a future newsletter regarding the ones I have attended.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR

The San Diego Fairgrounds will hold an event "HOME • GROWN • FUN June 11th-4th. It won't be the same as the Fair. Tickets will only be sold in advance, no at the gate ticket sales. There will not be regular exhibits like Home and Hobby where we enter your craft projects. Everyone will be required to wear masks and social distance. They are still planning on what it will include.

Be safe
Sharlene

FROM VICE PRESIDENT ETHEL KIRTLEY:

Air fryers are all the rage, but what do you actually do with one? This **Braille** special edition, **Allrecipes** and **National Braille Press Air Fryer Recipes for \$12**, answers all those questions with the 89 recipes that get saved and loved the most on Allrecipes.com. Who knew you can make

Steak and Mushrooms, Banana Cake, Italian Stuffed Tomatoes, and even Lobster Tails in an air fryer? We've also included the site's most popular air fryer recipe: Air-Fried Crumbled Chicken Tenderloins. Includes sections on choosing an air fryer, accessories, tips, and basics for air fryer cooking.

[Order the book and read the table of contents here.](#)

National Braille Press

Telephone: Toll Free: 888-965-8965

FROM SECRETARY CLAUDE EDWARDS:

North Park Lions Deliver Happiness to BCCSD members

I enjoyed the experience of helping two North Park Lions deliver goody bags to homebound BCCSD members on Saturday, May 15. Steve Hazelhorst drove Doctor Denny Coughlin and me, taking us from downtown San Diego into City Heights, then back through North Park before returning to the Center. He and Doctor Denny took turns calling ahead from our assignment sheet.

Though I may know my way around much of San Diego, we went to places I had never visited before, making turns here and there, pausing momentarily to present not just one, but two bags filled with donated goodies. Every stop lasted just a minute or two, but the happiness we brought was sure to last much longer. Thanks go to board member Christie Greene and volunteer Dora Plese for their monumental efforts to organize and orchestrate this month's gift bag deliveries. They had help from other volunteers like board member Mary Manning and North Park Lions James Knott and his father Dr. Knott.

NORTH PARK LIONS is sponsoring monthly '**We-Are-Thinking-Of-You**' food deliveries for the BCCSD.

DUE TO SCHEDULING CONFLICTS, WE WILL NOT HAVE THE JUNE DELIVERY, BUT WILL RESUME IN JULY.

Please let us know if you have any questions about the deliveries.

Thank You.

christie@bccsd.org

FROM BOARD MEMBER CHRISTIE GREENE:

Hang in there everyone I miss you all! Every day we are getting closer and closer to normalcy. I hate the isolation away from everyone but I love the increased one-on-one phone conversations and the virtual events where everyone can join, even when you don't feel well. Trivia, Name that Tune, Blind Rhythm and Bingo are still a lot of fun, every single week. Thank you to Pearl, Shon, Dora, Marty, Sharlene, and all of the participants and guests. Who would have thought you would ever learn French or Spanish during a pandemic? Many of you are doing just that, Thanks to Nena and Theresa!

I would like to give a special thank-you to all of our 'In This Together' gift bag project packers and drivers. The project started in September of 2020 and will continue until we re-open the center. Many wonderful volunteers have offered their time and monumental efforts to make sure groceries and gifts are delivered in a timely manner. AT&T Pioneers, National Charity League mothers and daughters, Lions Club members, and Friends of the BCC volunteers have all participated. Thank you, Dora, Mary, Marty, Pat, Jane, Kathryn, Jeanie, Theresa, Eileen, Kerri-Ann, Judy, Cindy Lou, Steve, Jim, Claude, Ranga, Julie, Norma, Donna, Bud, Helen, Dr. Knott, and Dr. Denny. If I forgot someone – please let me know and we'll get your name into the newsletter twice next time! Thank you everyone!

You are invited to join us every Tuesday at the 11:00 am meeting to talk about programs, fundraising and other hot BCC topics!

Talk to you at Bingo!

Christie

NEW LINE OF SEE'S CANDY OFFERED FOR ONLINE FUNDRAISER

Cool New Summer line of SEE'S candies offered for sale at our BCC fundraiser. Featuring Jelly Beans, Caffe Latte Little Pops, Salted Nuts and \$25 gift cards. Our sale for traditional See's candy will last through December. The price is the same as you would pay in the store, but if you buy from us, SEE'S will donate 20% of each item sold to the BCC. For example – if you buy \$65 worth of candy – the BCC will receive \$13. If you combine orders and spend over \$65, shipping is free.

Please forward the following fundraiser links to your friends and family. We appreciate everyone's participation and a percentage of every candy purchase will go directly to the BCC. All candy will be shipped directly from See's to your home. Thank you.

SEE'S ORIGINAL FUNDRAISER LINK

[https://www.yumraising.com/secure/blindcco blind community center of san diego4/candy?h=Chr_Gre3967](https://www.yumraising.com/secure/blindcco%20blind%20community%20center%20of%20san%20diego4/candy?h=Chr_Gre3967)

OFFICE SUPPLIES FUNDRAISER benefitting the BCC and the LOVC

Thanks to a generous donation from the San Diego Executive Lions Club

If you are interested in any of the following items or have questions:

Please send an email to info@bccsd.org

Available for pickup at BCC by appointment.

First come – first serve

1", 2", 3" and 4" Binders for sale: 2 for \$1

Staplers: \$5 each

Scotch tape dispensers: \$5 each

Wire In-basket trays – 10"-12": \$5 each

Fujitsu 6130 scanner: \$300 (new on Amazon for \$1195)

Fujitsu 6230 scanner: \$300 (new on Amazon for \$1195)

3-hole punches:

Keyboard – Microsoft wireless 6000: \$10

Keyboard – Lenovo Ku0225: \$10

Keyboard – Lenovo Kb1021: \$5

Keyboard – Lenovo sk8825 (L): \$20

Keyboard – Microsoft Natural Ergonomic: \$40

Keyboard – HP SK2960 - \$20

Canon Printing Calculator MP250: \$20

Canon Printing Calculator MP21DX: \$40 (new on Amazon for \$79)

Canon Printing Calculator MP21D: \$10

Heavy duty 3-hole punch - \$10

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 send an email to info@bccsd.org.

WEEKLY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

MONDAYS

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 **BCC History, future program discussion, ideas and brainstorming for fundraising and new programs. Everything BCC.** Led by **Christie and Ethel** May topics will include planning for our upcoming Family Feud Fundraiser: 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

Participants share stories they have written and help each other with constructive tips on how to improve them.

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.

SATURDAYS

10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. **LIVE MARTIAL ARTS ZOOM CLASS** taught by
SENSEI JOSH LOYA

All abilities welcome. If you are interested in attending, please send an email to info@bccsd.org.

You can also message on Facebook link -
<https://www.facebook.com/Blind-Community-Martial-Arts-211126265596001>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, June 8 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

Guests are welcome. If you would like to address the board, please call 619-298-5021 ext. 208, 24 hours prior to the meeting to be added to the agenda.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday June 22 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

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETING SPEAKERS

June 22: San Diego Food Bank

July 27: USD/Blind Community Collaboration Projects

Membership Meetings are held every month on the 4th Tuesday using the ZOOM virtual link from 1:00-2:30. Members, participants and guests are all welcome to attend. Attendance shows your support and appreciation for the BCC and our generous speakers.

Please connect 10 minutes early so we can get started on time. The meetings are one way to catch up on what is happening at the BCC.

THANK YOU

AT&T Pioneers
Chula Vista Harbor Lioness Club
Chula Vista Host Lions Club
Del Sol Lions Club
Foundation for Delta Gamma at San Diego State University
Friends of the BCC
PDG Lion Rick Hannum
Harbison Canyon Lions Club
La Mesa Lions Club
Mira Mesa Senior Center Garden Club
National Charity League
Oceanside Sea Lions Club
Rancho Bernardo Lions Club
San Diego County Employee's Charitable Organization (CECO)
San Diego Executive Lions Club
San Diego North Park Lions Club
San Diego United Lions Club
UCSD Pre Optometry Club
University of San Diego

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: San Diego Executive Lions Club for making possible the **BCC – LOVC Office Supply Fundraiser.**

Our sincere thanks to the **San Diego County Employee's Charitable Organization (CECO)** for approving a grant for the BCC. We purchased 32 comfortable chairs with padded arms, seats and backs for the craft room. Crafters are looking forward to comfortable seating when pandemic restrictions are lifted and we all return to the BCC.

Thank you, Mike Brandenburg, Donna Lee, and Bud Swartz from the **San Diego United Lions Club**, **Helen Quantanilla** from the **San Diego Executive Lions Club**, and **Luis Tocco** and **Hua Jin Jeng** from the **Mira Mesa Senior Center** for bringing new containers and working on our sensory garden.

Thank you to **Elvira** for sweeping, mopping, breaking down boxes and taking trash to dumpster. She and volunteer **BCC Dora**, tackled a five-foot square area of trash and cardboard. Whew! Nice job ladies.

Thank you to **Antonio and his crew, from the U.S. Navy** for deep cleaning the BCCSD kitchen, including the refrigerator and the freezer. Thanks for spring cleaning both auditorium utility rooms. All items were removed and the rooms were swept and mopped. The shelves were cleaned and then needed items were organized and put back to make it easier to get to them. Items included chairs, tables, cleaning equipment, ladders, etc.

Thank you to **Tony from the U.S. Coast Guard** for breaking down boxes and helping us with the BCC Bus. Tony pressure cleaned the bus inside and out, jump-started the battery, checked the oil and other fluids and filled it with gas. Next, he will take it in for the smog check.

DON'T LET UP!

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 when required
- 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!**