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Cedar Key Woman's Club 2017 Fall Market fills the house and yard with fun



Cedar Key Woman's Club's First Vice President Eileen Senecal (left) and President Jane Moore accommodate a visiting journalist's request for a photo opportunity of the top two leaders of the club in 2017. All of the officers and members of this club are thoughtful, polite and friendly to guests. This and other traditions are bound to be part of the formula for the group's success.

Story, Photos and Video By Jeff M. Hardison © Nov. 25, 2017 at 8:27 p.m.

LEVY COUNTY -- People driving along State Road 24 near the Sumner area of Levy County once again saw a hubbub of activity as the Cedar Key Woman's Club's 2017 Fall Market on Saturday (Nov. 25) showed this annual affair continues to be a thriving festive occurrence that provides many treasures and treats, jewelry, fabulous artisan shopping, flea market vendors, home baking, a snack bar and more.

This was the 12th year for the annual event that brings joy to shoppers as well to participating club members.

The club has approximately 50 members and there must have been about 20 of them on the grounds and in the big yellow two-story house on SR 24 Saturday helping with this annual event.

Traditional cornerstones for this Fall Market were present.

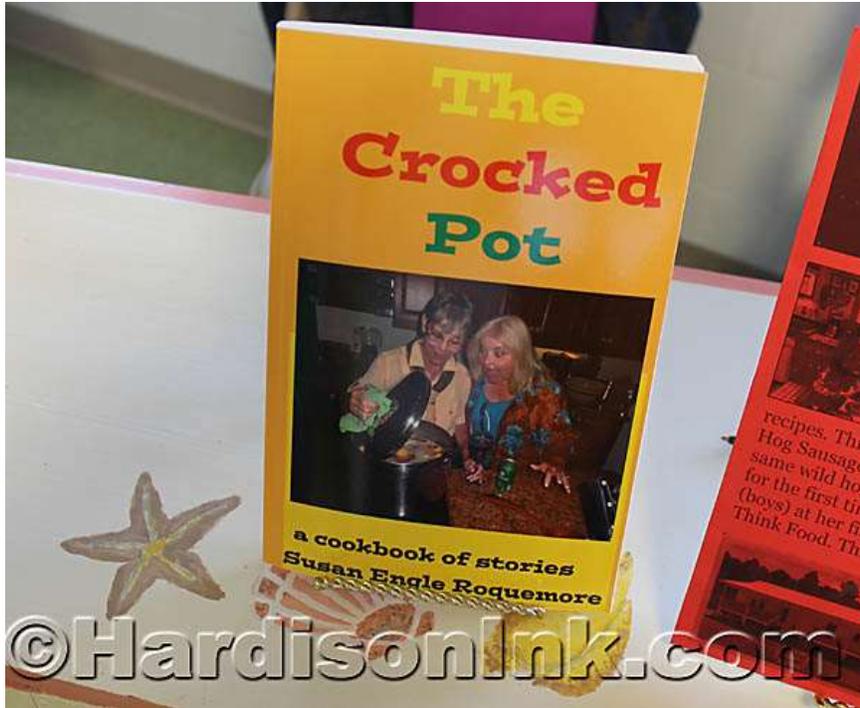
There was the snack bar, where members provided guests with the following meals that included baked beans and chips with each of the main course meals of -- pulled pork sandwiches for \$6, chili dogs for \$5, hotdogs for \$4. Soda pop drinks and coffee were selling for \$1.

Granny's Cupboard was the place for patrons to purchase homemade breads and many, many other baked goods. This bake sale aspect of the Fall Market helped add to the mix of donations from volunteers to aid the Cedar Key Woman's Club in its efforts to raise money for the community of Cedar Key.

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This bake sale extravaganza helps finance the scholarships that the Cedar Key Woman's Club awards. In the past, the club has given a \$1,000 scholarship to a deserving female graduate from Cedar Key School.

There were other things beyond baked goods at the Fall Market -- as there are each year.



Here is the cover of the book *The Crocked Pot*, authored by Susan Engle Roquemore.

One donation of 20 books showed how a thoughtful author gives to the club. Club member Susan Engle Roquemore, author of *Turn Left at the Big Osprey Nest*, donated 20 copies of another book she penned – *The Crocked Pot*. This cookbook has a story with each recipe.

The Crocked Pot is selling for \$20, and all of the proceeds from the 20 books bought from The Cedar Key Woman's Club will go to help the community.



(from left) Vicki Crumpley, Cedar Key Woman's Club Publicity Chair Teri Brennan, Gini Barss and Club Treasurer Susan Hollandsworth pause for a moment near the legendary 2018 calendar. (Not pictured are Cindy Leiner and another 45 or so Woman's Club members who all help in the club to varying degrees and in differing manners.)

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CALENDAR SALES

One hot-selling item again this year is the 2018 calendar. Vicki Crumpley was among the many calendar cohorts at a table this year.

Crumpley has been a champion of the club's calendar efforts for years now. Joining her for one momentary snapshot on the spot were Cedar Key Woman's Club Publicity Chair Teri Brennan, Gini Barss and Club Treasurer Susan Hollandsworth.

Photos for the 2018 calendars came from many contributors who are club members and other photographers. Calendars are selling for \$10 each. These calendars sell like hotcakes.

They are available at various island locations. The best first place to visit is the Cedar Key Chamber of Commerce Welcome Center in beautiful, relatively historic downtown Cedar Key. Even after the calendars sell out from that location, the Chamber folks are very friendly and can direct calendar buyers to other locales.

As has been noted, this successful project, like the other ventures by the club is a combined effort that takes everyone's input.

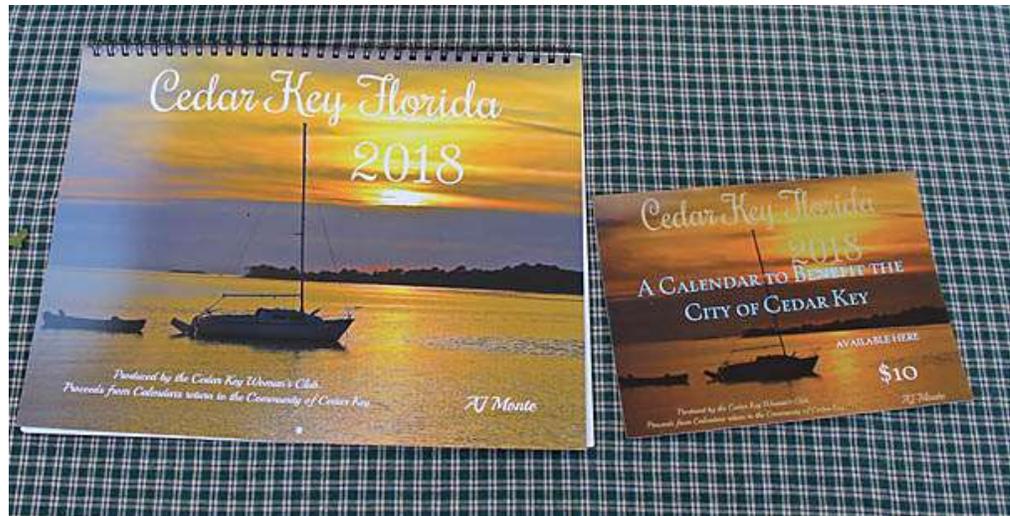
This is the cover of the calendar for 2018, as well as a promotional card to show it costs a mere \$10.

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Proceeds from the calendar all return to the island city, supporting causes such as the Cedar Key Relief Fund, the Cedar Key School, the Cedar Key Food Pantry, the Cedar Key Public Library, the Cedar Key Volunteer Fire Department, and the arts center program for children.

Work on the calendar continues all year.

The support from businesses which carry the calendar is an important partnership for the Cedar Key Woman's Club and is very appreciated by the club.



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Among the many, many vendors at this year's Fall Market are Cedar Key Woman's Club members Marie Evans and Linda Kimball. In front of and on either side of these two ladies was plenty of jewelry. One happy shopper said he found two amazing pins for his lovely and talented wife at a total cost of \$5. All of the items at the event were donated to help this club continue to thrive.

VENDORS

Inside the clubhouse, there were people selling a very wide range of items.

Once again, for the person who missed this year, it might be a good idea to be alert for the excellent opportunities at the Cedar Key Woman's Club's Fall Market coming in 2018. Thanksgiving turkey might trigger that reminder.

Another method to remind oneself about the 2018 Cedar Key Woman's Club Fall Market is to buy a 2018 Cedar Key Woman's Club Calendar and mark it on there. It is traditionally on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

YARD SALES

The turnout of people selling items in the front yard as well as inside the big yellow house on State Road 24 showed plenty of items for interested buyers.

In addition to the various aforementioned causes, the club provides assistance to the the Cedar Key health fair, hurricane preparedness, the coastal cleanup, a domestic violence shelter and weekly seniors' luncheons.

Cedar Key Woman's Club members greeted all of their visitors with the warmth for which those members are known throughout the world. They are a friendly group of ladies. They made every single shopper feel welcome.

Cedar Key Woman's Club members sincerely thanked all of their visiting vendors and shoppers too.

OTHER FUNDRAISERS

The Annual Fall Market event is not the biggest fundraiser for the club, but like it does for the other events, this woman's club puts the "fun" in fundraiser.

Several shoppers again found items they wanted for themselves, relatives, spouses, friends,

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coworkers, colleagues and acquaintances.

The other places where this club raises funds are its annual fashion show, its potluck lunch, the annual spaghetti dinner and through its participation with the Cedar Key Lions Club, which hosts the extraordinary annual Cedar Key Seafood Festival.

THE QUILT

The quilt being raffled by The Cedar Key Woman's Club this year shows an ongoing commitment to help The Fisher House, which is a facility for injured veterans' families.

The title for the quilt this year is "Serenity Under The Sea."

It is during the Fashion Show when a winning ticket is selected.

Last year's winner – Eileen Senecal – was the person who for only the second time in all of history that a Cedar Key Woman's Club member won that raffle.

Senecal was busy preparing for her part in the 2017 Fashion Show when a fellow member told her she won. She thought she had won the 50-50.

<https://youtu.be/gVbdsF45s5s>

In this video, the moment of truth is found. The Tacky Tourist – Eileen Senecal won the 2017 quilt at this year's Fashion Show.

That quilt won Best Of Show at the General Federation of Woman's Clubs District 5 Art Show. Club President Jane Moore said on Friday morning March 24 of this year that members of the GFWC District 5 leadership team volunteered to transport that quilt for entry in the GFWC State Art Show to compete at the state level.

That 2017 quilt won the 2017 GFWC State Art Show title as well. Senecal, therefore, won a multiple award-winning quilt last year.

Funds raised by the exchange of donations for tickets, go to the Fisher House in Gainesville. The Fisher House is for veterans' families as their family member is cared for at the VA hospital in Gainesville.

To stay at the Gainesville Fisher House, please contact the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center in Gainesville.

The Cedar Key Woman's Club, which was first established in 1960, is a member of the General Federation of Woman's Clubs. This club's purpose is to enhance the quality of life in Cedar Key through volunteer service; although the club's positive impact reaches far beyond the four corners of the little islands in western Levy County that are generally known as Cedar Key.

Cedar Key Woman's Club President Jane Moore said there are about 50 members now, but there is plenty of room to add new members. Becoming a member of the Cedar Key Woman's Club is relatively easy.

The process starts by a woman letting a current member know that they would like to join.

First Vice President Eileen Senecal mentioned that new members are urged to become as active as they want. The more experienced members enjoy helping new members feel comfortable in their new volunteer service to the community.