



Many moments to celebrate and embrace while sheltering

So much continues to happen since our last Newsletter. That just goes to show that nothing stops the 100 Ladies, not even the COVID pandemic. So many of us have been blessed to receive the vaccine. There just aren't enough words to express our appreciation to **Colonel Brodes Hartley** of the DEF Foundation Board for the assistance he provided. Thank you so very much.

2021 is off to a strong start with 7 new members. On January 21st we held our first General Meeting of the new year by Zoom. Participation was impressive with 25 signing on. February's General Meeting focused on a more social aspect with our second "Name that Tune" game night. **Barbara Bass's daughter, Allison**, graciously agreed to host once again. Big winners of the night were, team **Nina & Michelle**, with **Carole Wright** not far behind. Next time we may try for



Trivia Night with all things Deering being the topic. Stay tuned! All in all, it was such a fun night.

We've also hosted two Sunrise Coffees on January 26th and February 23rd. This is proving to be a popular event since we can safely gather, while maintaining all the rules of social distancing. And what a perfect way to start the day watching the sun rise over Biscayne Bay. Attendance in February was our best yet with 14 ladies joining us. The sunrise was spectacular. We plan to continue this once a month, with our next dates scheduled for **March 23rd, April 27th and May 25th**. Of course, this couldn't happen without the assistance of the **Nina, Michelle, Jennifer and the Deering Estate Staff**. Thank you all!

We are so excited to be honoring one of our own. Congratulations to our past President, **Maria McDonald**, who was selected to be the recipient of the 2020 Deering Estate Foundation's **Volunteer of the Year Award**. I didn't write these words, but it certainly sums up perfectly what Maria represents;

"It's more than what you do, it's what you do it for that makes something worth celebrating."



We're honored to be celebrating you, Maria! Thanks for all you've done. Thank you for all you continue to do.

Congratulations are in order, too, for **Becky Matkov**, and her outstanding leadership over the past two years as she steps down as President of the Foundation. Also, she was honored as the first recipient of the **Charles Deering Conservation Award** presented by the Deering Foundation Board. The leadership of our 100 Ladies is impressive. Who better to replace Becky as the next Foundation President than our 100 Ladies Past President, **Liede DeValdvielso**. No doubt she will do an outstanding job. I look forward to us working together, Liede!



*Congratulations to
Deering Estate Foundation
Volunteer of the Year
Maria McDonald.
Thank you for all that you do
for 100LOD and
the Deering Community*

On February 3rd our new Legacy, **Dacia Steiner**, joined **Liede** and **me** as we accompanied **Jennifer Tisthammer** and a small group on a field trip into the Estate's natural areas on Day 2 of the **Deering Estate's 1st Annual Deering Symposium on World Wetlands Day**. It was a fascinating hike to one of the archaeological sites on the Estate and certainly gave me a totally different perspective and understanding of what this land represents. If you ever have the opportunity to go on one of these adventures, jump at the chance. The Deering Estate is a treasure just waiting to be explored. There is so much to be learned from this land.

In honor of **WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH** this **MARCH**, the 100 Ladies will run a full page ad in two community newspapers; the **Palmetto Bay News** and **Pinecrest Tribune** celebrating women in their commemorative issue. In addition, we have been invited to join Miami Community Newspapers in their studio for a 30 minute "Facebook Live" interview. This is a great opportunity to bring higher profile to the 100 Ladies, The Foundation and the Deering Estate.

I am pleased to announce that initial draft work with the Estate has begun for **docent training**. Through a joint effort and exchange of ideas between the Estate Staff, namely **Tamara McDonald** and **Bethany Gray**, and us a training document is in the works. For those who signed up, formal training will begin soon. More details will follow soon.

Finally, we are excited to announce that the **100 Ladies now have their own Zoom Account**. Going forward, we will now be setting up our own meetings for all Committees. If you missed the training session recently provided, please contact me (**nancymiami@aol.com**) or Elizabeth Battaglia (**elizbattaglia@gmail.com**) for further instructions.

Thank you for all you do. Warmest regards.

~ Nancy Egglund, President

PS: Many thanks to Pam Garrison's friend and photographer extraordinaire, Darryl Larson for the wonderful Sunrise shot.





Featuring A Longtime Educator and Friend of Community

When Linda Johnson joined 100 Ladies of Deering through the encouragement of her sister Kay Pardee, she brought with her a lifelong Miami heritage and 50 years of personal involvement in the preservation of beautiful old homes. Born at Jackson Memorial, Linda went to Miami Springs Elementary, Ponce Junior, and Coral Park High School. She lived in Gainesville while attending the University of Florida, graduating with a BS in physical education, followed by a master's in educational media (MED). During that time, she married Charlie Johnson, and they returned to Miami when Charlie completed law school.



Charlie's ancestral home in Richfield Springs, New York (twelve miles from Cooperstown), has now been in his family for over 100 years. Build in the 1880s, the Italianate home is two stories with seven bedrooms, a square cupola on top, and exterior ornamentation modeled on 16th century Italian Renaissance buildings. During World War II, when Charlie's father was stationed in Iowa to train troops, Charlie's mother turned the home into a B&B. Linda and Charlie have a sign in their kitchen today from the B&B in the '40s. A few years ago they had a bathroom put in downstairs for the first time.

Life in Miami for Linda, on their return from Gainesville in '74, began with teaching at Coral Park Middle School as media specialist, math teacher, and coach. After taking time



off when Melissa and then Jeremy were born, she returned to be the media specialist at Trinity Episcopal School (later merged with Palmer to become Palmer Trinity). One of Linda's accomplishments is that she started four school libraries in her educational career – first at Trinity, then at St. Philip's, then one at Ocean Reef, and another in Key Largo.





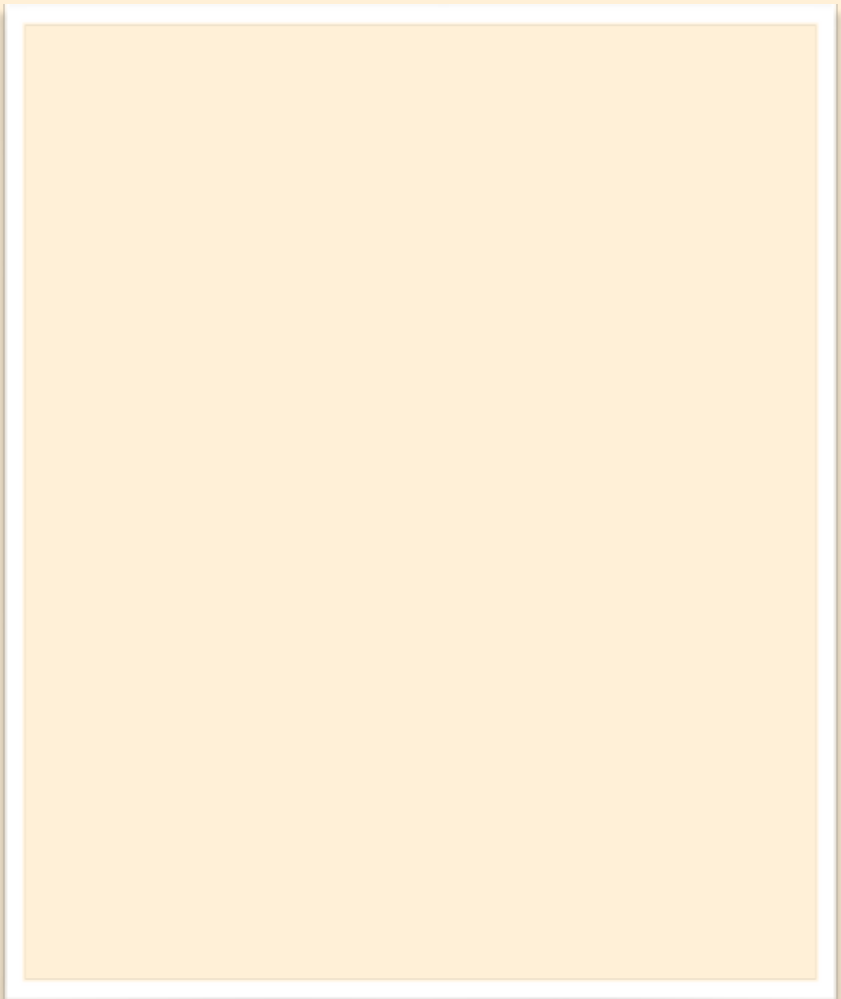
Her love of books took her on another venture for eight years, when she and her friend Joy McIntosh opened the bookstore *Cover to Cover* in Tavernier. The daily drives of 65 miles each way to the Keys and back eventually brought Linda back to Miami for work. Initially going to St. Thomas Episcopal School as consultant for yet another library, she was soon appointed Development Director, a position she held for 16 years until she retired in 2019.

Linda was active in the community all this time – a member of Junior League; past treasurer and president of Beaux Arts; a choir member, along with Charlie, first at St. Philip’s and then at St. Thomas, including choir tours in Europe; a member of the Florida House board; and a supporter of Orange Bowl events with Charlie, who serves on the Orange Bowl Committee.

In retirement, Linda golfs regularly, and she returned to quilting as the pandemic began. Inspired Linda by a quilt store in Upstate New York and the purchase of a new sewing machine, she has thrived in quilting creations this past year, which include baseball quilts for her older grandsons and a “woodlands” quilt for the newest grandson. Another favorite activity is attending grandsons’ baseball games. And her involvement with 100 Ladies of Deering brings her love of an old home in Upstate New York right down to Miami, where she can contribute to significant restoration projects here.

Written by Linda Johnson’s longtime friend Ann Rose.

Ann Rose is retired from fulltime teaching at Miami Dade College for 35 years and from part-time teaching at St. John Vianney College Seminary for 11 years. A resident of Palmetto Bay, she is a member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church.





A big hurrah for our exciting, new Legacy members

COURTNEY REEDER: I am a Miami native and grew up living very near the Deering Estate my entire life.

I remember, even as a very young child, riding bikes with my family to the People’s Dock.

In 2007 I married my high school sweetheart, Trey Reeder. Growing up, we spent most of our Valentine’s days together working a booth at the Deering Valentine’s concert. We currently live very close to the Deering Estate with our three awesome children, Mackenzie (9), Steele (8) & Reagan (5). My kiddos are also big Deering fans. In addition to attending Deering Camps, they also love exploring the trails on the property and going to the boat basin for a fun picnic and to check out the manatees. Those may all be fun routine experiences, but their favorite Deering experience is working in our Golden Rule Seafood booth at the Deering Seafood Festival.

My parents have been involved with the Foundation for many years. My father Walter Flores is a Past President of the Foundation and my mother Pamela Mullins is the Treasurer of the 100 Ladies of Deering. Being part of the Deering Seafood Festival Committee was my first exposure serving on the Foundation. I joined the Seafood Festival Committee in 2005 and have been involved ever since. This year I am proud to be the Chairwomen of the event. I have also been involved on many other committees over the years with one of my favorites being Wine on Harvest Moon. I officially joined the Board of Directors in 2018. In addition, I also serve as the Chairwoman of the Nominating Committee for the Foundation Board. This has given me the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people.

My involvement in Deering has given me the opportunity to learn so many things and has presented me with many wonderful experiences. The best of all are the wonderful people I have met that have become dear friends. I am really looking forward to the new experiences & friendships in this next step of joining the 100 Ladies of Deering. Thank you for this opportunity!

KELLY FEINTECH: She has a progressive career in Strategy and Business Transformation, currently serving as Bacardi North America’s Director of Strategy. She has guided Fortune 100 companies, family owned privately held companies, as well as start-ups through multiple transformations by supporting organizational and employee readiness.

Kelly is passionate about helping organizations and people unleash their potential to find all that is within them to grow and achieve their goals. She is also committed to giving back to her community. In addition to joining the 100 Ladies of Deering as a “Legacy” member, she serves on the Board of the South Florida chapters for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention as well as her alma mater, Wellesley College.

Kelly lives in Palmetto Bay with her husband and two young boys (ages 2 and 5). When she’s not playing firefighter or in a Zoom call, she enjoys stirring up a cocktail, yoga, swimming, and daydreaming of her next great travel adventure. ~ Continued on page 6





MEG WALLACE: She is a Miami based artist native to South Florida. She is currently beginning her Artist-in-Residence at Deering Estate to expand upon her multisensory solo exhibition Mother Mangrove shown in the Stone House Museum Summer Exhibition 2020. She is interested in the interconnections between people, art, community and their environment. As an artist she explores the nature of human emotion through sound, movement, photographs, texture, color, and light. The organic movements and images within her paintings engage imaginative dialogue and challenge perception. Wallace interweaves her passion to empower humanity with her penchant to preserve nature.

Exhibitions include the Coral Gables Museum, the Lowe Art Museum, Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Wynwood Art District, the Artisan Lounge, Downtown Art Walk, Miami Beach Convention Center, and Pinecrest Gardens. Her work was featured on PBS's *Art Loft*, and on the season one set of *David Makes Man*, a drama series from Oscar winner Tarell Alvin McCraney (*Moonlight*) on OWN. Her work has appeared in *For Women Who Roar*, *Sacramento Poetry Center's Tule Review*, *The Grief Diaries*, and *The Menteur* in Paris.



Meg is a mother of three amazing children and has been married to her soulmate since 2002. She has two spunky miniature dachshunds and loves them dearly. She has volunteered and advocated for over 20 years with various organizations in Miami that provide help and resources to abused children and women. Family, faith, preservation and community are integral in her life and art practice. She is honored to be a legacy member of 100 Ladies of Deering and looks forward to participating in the mission of preserving the Deering Estate and Charles Deering's legacy of community, conservation and culture.

JENNY AGRESS: Jennifer "Jenny" Agress was raised in Miami's Palmetto Bay neighborhood, just steps from beautiful Deering Estate. She grew up taking advantage of all her surrounding South Dade area has to offer, from playing Howard Palmetto softball and swimming at Westminster Christian School to volunteering at St. Louis Catholic Church, graduating from Coral Reef High School's orchestra magnet and (of course!) visiting Deering Estate with her beloved family—her Mom (Terri), Dad (Keith) and brother (Nick).

Professionally, Jenny is a freelance writer and editor who has spent a decade writing about hotels, destinations, luxury experiences, chefs and restaurants all over the world. She was City Editor of DiningOut Miami for four years, and has written for *Forbes*, *Fodor's*, *Business Insider*, *The Miami Herald*, *Time Out*, *Thrillist*, *Orbitz*, *Travelocity*, *Modern Luxury* and more. Driven by her passion for writing and creativity, she also does copywriting, editing, web services and social media management for a range of corporate clients in Miami and beyond.



As someone who is passionate about people and places, Jenny loves to give back to her community. What excites her most about joining the 100 Ladies of Deering is being able to spend time with and friend like-minded individuals as they host events and work together to shine a light on the true Miami treasure that is Deering Estate. If her job is any indication, Jenny also loves to travel—so if she isn't already on an adventure, she's probably scheming the next one! As long as Jenny is in Miami, however, you can find her enjoying the view at Deering Estate.

~ Continued on page 7



KATIE LANDSEA: I am so excited to be a part of this exceptional group of women! I have lived in Miami most of my life and attended Palmetto High, the University of Florida and FIU. My husband, Douglas, and I have been married for 25 years, and we are proud to have raised our two children, Rebecca and William, here in Palmetto Bay. I started a career in the travel industry in my 20's but changed paths when we had children. I have been a teacher at Coral Gables Senior High for the last 19 years, where I teach Advanced Placement History in our IB program and am blessed to truly have the most amazing students and colleagues. Outside of teaching, I am also a consultant for the College Board and spend several weeks in the summer travelling to teach and mentor other educators around the country. My favorite part of that is the week I spend at Manhattan College that includes a field trip to the Met to share my love of European art, but right now, I would take any travel, as it is one of my passions! I am always happiest exploring a new city and its history and museums. I am a member of several book clubs and have been in the Junior League of Miami for 24 years, where I am now a sustainer. I love to paddleboard whenever I can, and my favorite launch is right next to the Deering Estate, which I believe is truly one of our gems here in Miami. I look forward to becoming more involved in this group and working to showcase and preserve this incredible landmark.



DACIA STEINER: She is the Director of Development and Strategic Partnerships at the Center for Social Change. In this role, Dacia provided support and guidance to the Pay Equity Campaign, a six-month community education and awareness campaign in partnership with the Women's Fund that included designing a PR and messaging strategy, coordinating with local elected officials, media and employers, and workshops and trainings for both managers and employees.

Prior to moving to Miami, Dacia was Program Manager at the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute at Northwestern University.

Following the 2010 Earthquake, Dacia assisted 27 para-professionals in developing a community based mental health program, aimed at reducing the community's trauma associated with PTSD, in Jeremie, Haiti. She also worked with youth from the local university to conduct community listening campaigns and asset mapping projects that led to the organizing of a youth-led street clean-up project to combat cholera, the revitalization of the town square and the beginnings of a public library. For over 15 years, Dacia has worked directly with local, national and international government agencies, public institutions and nonprofits to design community-based participatory research projects, and provided training and technical assistance to them on the implementation of those efforts. All of her work emphasizes strengthening neighborhoods, engaging individuals, and connecting associations and institutions and other organizations through the design and implementation of asset-based community driven strategies.

Dacia holds a Masters in Public Administration from the Illinois Institute of Technology and is co-founder of Powerful Action for the Development of the Kadey (www.padk.org), an NGO based in the Eastern Province of Cameroon that focuses on agricultural research and economic development for area farmers and women's and girls' entrepreneurship programs. She is also an Emeritus Faculty member of the Asset Based Community Development Institute at DePaul University, 1st Vice President of the Coral Pines Garden Club and a State of Florida Master Gardener.

Editor's Note: We were fortunate that this December, seven new Legacy members were approved for membership to 100LOD. Our new Legacy members: Jenny Agress, Kelly Feintech, Katie Landsea, Beth Person, Courtney Reeder, Dacia Steiner & Meg Wallace have become active on different committees. All seven Legacy members were sponsored and their memberships fees paid by other 100 Ladies. If you know of a woman 50 years and under who would be a great asset to our group, please consider sponsoring her membership fee.

