



# OCEAN REEF PRESS

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A Unique Way of Life

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## Seven Days Until All Charities Weekend Start the Bidding Today

By Sarah A. Cart



When it comes to All Charities, everyone who cherishes The Reef can embrace the spirit of giving. And every little bit helps, as Bella Herz demonstrated at last year's Saturday daytime event (with a little help from her dad Steve).

All Charities Weekend enables everyone near and far, young and old, to embrace the spirit of giving. You can start by exploring the enclosed All Charities Silent Auction Catalog, then dream, scheme and make your plans for how you are going to take part.

### **To show your support in person:**

If you're on The Reef, come by Heron Hall:

- Between 4 - 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8
- Between 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9

- Call the All Charities office (305-367-5996) TODAY to purchase one of the few remaining tickets for Saturday evening's Black Tie dinner and Live Auction in Town Hall (cocktails beginning at 6 p.m.).

### **Three Events**

Friday's Opening Night (\$25 at the door, or included with your weekend ticket) will be an opportunity to view and bid on Silent Auction items and help select the Members' Choice wines for the coming year, as well as visit with neighbors and friends, and meet new friends, too. The wine-tasting features a popular vote where you can vote early and often for your favorites.

During the day Saturday, come share in the camaraderie, catch up with your neighbors and friends, and explore all the items being offered while enjoying delicious (free) nibbles; beverages will be available, too. Show your pride in our Ocean Reef community and all that we do to support not only our own charities here on The Reef, but also a multitude of organizations in the communities where so many of our

Associates and their families live.

And as for Saturday night's black tie, if that's not your thing, no worries! Anyone can have a positive influence on the weekend's success: Take advantage of the opportunity Friday evening or Saturday daytime to drop a bill or two in one of the collection boxes (or enter your Member Number on a chit and your account will be billed accordingly). Five dollars or fifty, all such donations will remain confidential, no matter how large or small.

### **To Support the Cause from Afar:**

Even if you're not able to be physically present at Heron or Town Halls Feb. 8 and/or 9, you can participate in this amazing event, and we hope you will.

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# Weekend

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If you can get to the internet, you can bid on items in the Silent Auction via your Smartphone, touchpad or computer. In other words, you can keep track of all the weekend's goings-on and bid using the same device you use every day to check your email, make phone calls or browse the web.

## Online Bidding From Near Or Far:

For everyone's security, the Auction is password-protected:

- **Anyone attending in person** will receive a personal bid number and password at Registration (remember to bring your Auction Bucks scratch-off ticket\* – it's located in today's edition of the Ocean Reef Press).

- **Anyone checking in from elsewhere** (or wanting to bid before Friday, Feb. 8) can obtain a personal bidder number by contacting Lesa Crayne at 305-367-5996.

Once you have your bidder number and password, go to the

auction-dedicated website, [www.bidORC.org](http://www.bidORC.org), and enter your information as prompted.

Browse categories, look up specific items by name or number, explore (have fun!). When you're ready to make an offer, hit the "Bid" button and the bid amount box will automatically fill in with the lowest bid you can place. You can also enter a maximum bid, in which case the system will outbid other bidders for you until it reaches the maximum you have entered.

Once you've placed a bid, you can keep track of the items that have tripped your fancy and how they're faring.

Sign out at any time by clicking on the "Sign Out" button.

The website will be open and available for your use from today, Friday, Feb. 1 through 5 p.m. next Thursday (Feb. 7). It will reopen at 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8 and remain open until the gavel is lifted for Saturday night's Live Auction (around 7:30 p.m.). You will have a final opportunity to check your bids from the Live Auction's final gavel (around 9:30 p.m.) until 10 p.m. Saturday night.

## It's a Win-Win

All Charities Weekend provides myriad opportunities for anyone to embrace the spirit of giving. The easiest way to demonstrate your support: Contribute however you can, by dropping by or checking in, and BID (and remember, when you win, all our charities win, too!)

You do not need to be present to win, but remember, when everyone joins in, everyone's a winner – the person who wins the bid as well as all those whose lives are improved by the charities we hold dear.

*The monies raised via All Charities Weekend celebrate and support the combined charities of Ocean Reef (the Academy, Art League, Cultural Center, Medical Center, Community Foundation and Conservation Association) and community organizations in Key Largo, Florida City and Homestead that address basic human needs, environmental conservation, and youth-, health-, and culture-related enterprises.*

\*BE CAREFUL: Auction Bucks ticket only valid if it is scratched off in the presence of an Auction Representative during event registration at Heron Hall.

# What is Gluten? Where is Gluten? ... And Why Do I Keep Hearing About It???

Angelina Andreoni, ORC Wellness Manager and 15 year veteran of living gluten-free, will discuss the basics of gluten and how it might be affecting you. Whether you are doing it for the health benefits or if you suffer from something more serious like gluten intolerance or celiac disease, this class will introduce you to the not so obvious places gluten hides and how to find safe and tasty substitutes. Complimentary presentation is Wednesday, Feb. 6 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the Fitness Center.

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## Attention All You Tri-Delts

It's time again for our delightful "happy hour" get together. Save Wednesday, February 13 for just that! Can't believe how many of us are coming out of the woodwork all of a sudden! It's truly a more than fun discovery of one another from across the U.S. Call **Jane Battles** @ 610-420-4969 for specifics and we'll see you there.