

Amazing Women of SBWC

A glimpse of the women who contributed to our club's history...

This is a series of interviews chronicling the women of SBWC, a background of their lives and contributions to women's clubs. The SBWC board has chosen several members to interview and these narratives will be posted monthly in the Buena Briefs then archived on the club website.



Ruby Browning

Ruby Browning was born in Southern Illinois on March 9, 1917. Her family moved to California when she was two years old so her parents could start new jobs in the state hospital at San Bernardino County. She graduated from Excelsior High School in Norwalk, CA. She attended Fullerton Junior College for her

undergraduate degree before transferring to UCLA to study teaching. She married Clark in January 1939 who preferred that she become a traditional homemaker and stay at home mother to raise their children. In the early seventies she bought her mother's wedding chapel in Burbank. She booked the weddings, organized the rehearsals and ran the business for ten years. She sold her business and moved to Ventura in 1983. Ruby and Clark adopted a son, Stan in 1946 and a daughter, Cindy in 1950. She has two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Ruby first joined a federated women's club around 1940. She started as a Junior member because she wanted to become a clubwoman. Juniors were younger club members under 30 years of age. She belonged to Norwalk Women's Club, Palo Verde Women's Club in Blythe and San Buenaventura Women's Club. Her involvement included serving as a board member on all three women's clubs in the positions of the corresponding secretary, membership chair and parliamentarian. She still loves to play bridge and helped Billy Ann Moore with the Bridge Marathon section at San Buenaventura Women's Club. She said that bringing new members into the club was always a challenge but an accomplishment when someone joined. Her message to young women joining the club now, "Be active, don't sit back, you will enjoy the club if you become involved."

Finally, after living almost a century, Ruby would like to share these words of wisdom for the membership, "Just love the world". Ruby will celebrate her 100th birthday with family and friends for a big celebration at Poinsettia Pavilion in March 2017. Happy Birthday Ruby! One of our club centenarians for March.