

Friends
Meeting
Friends
Since 1929



SPWC Happenings



May 2026

*Join us for our
Spring Tea*



*Friday, May 8
at 1:00 pm*



2026 Officers

President ~~ Barbara Sundholm

Past President ~~ Cathy Allen

VP Programs ~~ Susan Rosenbaum

VP Membership ~~ Cynthia Guillaume

VP Daily Operations ~~ Cathy Allen

VP Capital Expenditures ~~ Cathy Allen

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Corr. Secretary ~~ Donna Dugan

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Evening Group ~~ Tyler Kornatowski

Publicity ~~ Josephine Spinelli

Social Director ~~ Liz Pacheco

Editor ~~ Carolyn DeFreitas

2026 CSP Chairpersons

Arts & Culture ~ Marianne Snyder

Civic Engagement ~ None Listed

Education & Libraries ~ Joyce Taylor

Environment ~ Jennie Jamison

Health & Wellness ~ Annette McComas

Mark Your Calendars

Fri, May 8, 1 pm — General Meeting / Hosted by VP Membership

Tues, May 12 — Evening Group (6:45 pm)

Fri, May 15, 10 am - Board Meeting

Fri, May 22, 7 pm – Bunco

Ladies' Night Out—Last Friday of the month unless otherwise noted.

Health & Wellness—every Wednesday from 1-3

Mahjongg—every Monday from 2-4 pm; Alternate Thursdays also available

Bridge—Dates are dependent on clubhouse availability . Time is 12:30 pm. See note inside.



Message from the President

“Inspired to Serve”

Only one more meeting until our summer break, believe it or not! This May meeting promises to be very special, so I hope you all will make every effort to be there!! Our VP of Membership, Cynthia Guillaume, is very creative, so you will be glad you came! Speaking of meetings, if you missed the April meeting hosted by VP Jennie Jamison and her Environment CSP, you really missed a good one! So informative and interesting! The Environment CSP hasn't always gotten the attention it deserves although it is just as important. I think that is going to change this year!

We have some important events coming up and I hope our club shows some enthusiastic support, especially for the District 14 Workshop taking place on Saturday, May 16 at the Bradenton Clubhouse. Registering is easy if you use the QR code on the announcement and you can send payment of \$20 which includes coffee and a delicious brunch. The workshops are casual - they suggest wearing your club shirt if you have one, bring a little cash for 50/50 or opportunity baskets. Our new GFWC President, Terry Reese has designated a hands-on service initiative benefitting our local firefighters. All are invited to participate, and I will provide more information as soon as I get it. Part of the program will be a review of the Convention in Orlando and a recap of awards given in Orlando. Also, I get to have about 5 minutes for President's Brag time, where I get to recognize the hard work you all have been doing! Deadline for registration is May 8 at 5:00 PM and parking is even worse than ours so try to carpool if possible. Please let me know (barbsun54@gmail.com) if you're going so we can coordinate transportation.

Barbara Sundholm, President



© Can Stock Photo

Membership

Cynthia Guillama, VP / Cathy Parks, Assistant, Jennie Jamison, Liaison

May 21st is International Tea Day!

"Anchored in the United Nations General Assembly's designation of 21 May as a Global Day of Recognition, this observance seeks to celebrate tea not only as a cherished cultural tradition, but also as a vital contributor to sustainable development, rural livelihoods, and intercultural understanding." -World Development Foundation

SPWC Membership is celebrating by hosting "Tea Around the World" for the May 8th General Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Join us in an immersive, educational, and cultural experience! Learn about the legends of the origins of tea in China and India as well as the history of tea innovations in America! Deepen your appreciation for tea as we celebrate the diversity of cultural expression and sustainable livelihood.

Please join us in welcoming our Speaker, Amanda Nickolay. Amanda is a British native and the President of the Junior Women's Club, who is passionate about giving back to her community.

Known for her signature tea parties, she has raised over \$20,000 for nonprofit causes by bringing women together for charming afternoons of conversation, camaraderie, and cake. Amanda will share how the English cultural love affair for tea began; became a social phenomenon; and proper afternoon tea etiquette-English style!

Tea from China, India and FLORIDA will be showcased with food pairings to tantalize the palate! And yes, Evelyn's tea will be served at the member tables in honor of Evelyn Wilty, former SPWC member!

Members are invited to wear your best international outfit if the spirit moves you!

WELCOME MARCH/APRIL NEW MEMBERS!

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Jeanne Beller | Michelle Bigara | Courtney Chubb | Andrea Grutman |
| Sara Heerens | Bess Kennedy | Cynthia Mealy | Kimberly Mendoza |
| Sara Needles | Danielle Pancer | Diana Ritzler | Janeel Shulmister |
| | Jo-An Thomas | | |





Program Highlights

Susan Rosenbaum , VP Programs

- May 1** Big Red Bus Blood Drive
- May 7** [Sea Turtle Rehab Center Field Trip](#)
- May 8** General Meeting - Membership Tea hosted by VP of Membership
- May 16** VOLUNTEER-Painting in the Park
- May 17** Radio Daze Musical Comedy Show
- May 19** Lunch & Learn - Education Mentoring
- June 16** [Docent-Led Tour of the Florida Holocaust Museum](#)

Check out the Club calendar, <https://www.gfwc-spwc.org/events> for more details.

Website Review - Friday, May 8 - 11:30 am-12:30 pm

Discover the main features of our website and unlock a variety of volunteer, educational, and social opportunities offered by our Club. Together, we'll explore the site to learn how to

- Register for events
- Access our newsletter and Facebook page
- Find essential Club information

Reserve your spot at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544AFAD2AA0FBC16-63621019-howtoget#/> or email gfwcspwc@gmail.com.



Education & Libraries CSP

Joyce Taylor, Chairperson; Barbara Creamer; Assistant

REMEMBER: To bring your cereal donations to the May 8th, General Meeting. It is for summer for Woodlawn Elementary needy families.

We are happy to announce the winners of the SPWC Spirit Scholarship: Rachel Ruffing is the recipient of the Arts Scholarship (Gibbs High), Mary Noga is the recipient of the Medical/Science Scholarship (St. Pete High) and Preslie Culton is the recipient of the Education Scholarship (St. Pete Collegiate). The scholarships will be presented to the young ladies at their school assemblies. The money is sent directly to their future colleges.

Mark your calendar for May 19th to attend the Lunch and Learn from Noon to 1:00 pm. Donna Ross has planned a training session by the Pinellas County School to let us know what is needed to volunteer at Pinellas Schools. I hope you will be able to attend this meeting at the club. Please bring your lunch and drink.

Have a wonderful summer and we will see you at our September Meeting - collecting school supplies and uniforms.

Correspondence

Donna Dugan

Ladies, I am happy to report that this has been a healthy time since our last newsletter. Please continue to send me any news of our friends and members that would like a call or card reflecting our caring and support.

Please keep me informed of those that need cards, calls and support. donnadugan444@gmail.com. 727-822-1172

Have a happy, healthy and blessed summer.

Donation Requests

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES CSP (Joyce Taylor) for a more complete list)

Box tops for Education (now done on line)
Campbell Soup Labels
Cereal for summer in May (large boxes)
School supplies in September

HEALTH & WELLNESS CSP (Annette McComas) for a more complete list)

Large Shampoo for Sallie House
Soap /Body Wash for Sallie House
Big colorful buttons for fidget muffs
Flannel, Pellon, Eyelash yarn
Small toiletries for Welcome Bags

EVENING GROUP (contact Tyler Kornatowski)

Toothpaste & toothbrushes, Tampons / pads
Disposable razors; soap and lotion
New or gently used T-shirts (Large & X-Large); socks
Ball gowns and cocktail dresses for Goodwill's "Belle of the Ball"

Book Club News

Mary Braisted

If you want to read a very good memoir, "Find Me Unafraid" is the book for you. Authors Kennedy Odede and Jessica Posner dedicated their lives to making changes in Africa. Everyone in the book club had a chance to tell what they thought and felt about the book at our meeting.

This is what we are reading next:

May 12th – "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi

June 9th – "The Borrowed Life of Fredric Fife" by Anna Johnston

We welcomed two new members to the club, Courtney Chubb and Janeel Schulmister, bringing our total members to 39. We meet at the club at 10:30 am on the second Tuesday of the month and go out to lunch afterward (the restaurant is chosen the day of the meeting). We will NOT be meeting during the months of July and August. If you would like to join the book club, please email me at braisted636@gmail.com

Social Events

Friday, May 1, 10:00 a.m. - Time to hop on the Mexican Train that will be arriving at the Clubhouse on time at 10:00 a.m. We will be on the train from 10:00 until Noon and then we will be heading to lunch (location to be determined at that time). Just let me know if you plan on being on board. Thanks.

Friday, May 22, 7:00 p.m. - It's Bunco Time! Time to enjoy a fast and friendly sociable dice game called Bunco. It's easy to learn if you don't know how. And there are prizes. New prizes almost every month. Several winners as well! Just let me know if you plan to attend. Just a heads up -- Beginning in June, we will start playing at 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m.

Friday, May 29, 6:00 p.m. Ladies Night Out - This month we will be hanging out at The Hangar Restaurant and Flight Lounge, 540 1st St. S. As usual, please let me know if you plan to attend this Night Out. Thanks!

Liz's Thought for the Month - When life gives you lemons, make orange juice, and leave the world wondering how the heck you did it.

Liz Pacheco, Social Director
727-481-4821

lizpacheco02031946@gmail.com

Thought of the Month

Wishing you a day
that's full of
relaxation, love, and
your favorite dessert.





Arts & Culture CSP

Marianne Snyder, Chairperson; Nanci Odom, Assistant

We had 13 volunteers for the **Mainsail Art Festival** on **March 28 and 29th** and we know they appreciated our help!

We had 7 attendees at the Museum of Fine Arts **Art in Bloom** exhibition on **April 16th** and Stacy Sullivan arranged a private docent tour for us that was wonderful! This annual spring tradition at the MFA features over thirty floral designers interpreting selected artworks from the museum's collection. Six of us had a lovely lunch together after viewing the exhibition.

Empty Bowls, that benefitted St. Vincent DePaul, took place on **April 18** and four of our members volunteered at this worthwhile event.

Mark your calendar for **Painting in the Park** at The Museum of Fine Arts on **Saturday, May 16th**. Painting in the Park is the MFA's biggest, free community event of the year. It is an outdoor celebration of all things art, featuring colorful, creative, messy, and marvelous activities for **children** that are inspired by the artworks inside the museum. This year marks both the museum's 16th Painting in the Park event and the 61st anniversary of the MFA. To access the MFA volunteer page please click <https://mfastpete.org/join/volunteer/> to volunteer for a shift. (hint - it's cooler in the morning!) When filling out the volunteer form, write St. Petersburg Woman's Club under "Volunteering with Others". Please let us know you are coming by signing in to **SignUp Genius at this link:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544AFAD2AA0FBC16-63620805-volunteer>

Questions can be addressed to MarianneSnyder233@gmail.com

Please join us for **Radio Daze** – Remembering the golden age of radio! Step inside a 1940's radio station. Enjoy the zany high jinks of a group of radio performers as they attempt to keep their financial woes with a two-bit gangster a secret from the station owner. The performance will take place at The Sunshine Senior Center, 330 Fifth Street North. It is a "Comedy with Music" in two acts. The date is **Sunday, May 17 at 2:00** and tickets are \$10 each. You may wish to park at the center and then take the short walk to meet us at **12:45 for lunch** at the café at the Arts & Crafts Museum at 355 4th St. N. You can purchase tickets ahead of time using this link, but you have to create an account with Parks & Rec:

https://www.stpeteparksrec.org/parks_facilities/ssc.php Please use this **SignUp Genius** link to let us know you are attending and play and/or lunch:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544AFAD2AA0FBC16-63620557-radio>

Questions can be addressed to Luanna Scharkozy at scharkol22@yahoo.com Luanna is also willing to go the day before and purchase tickets if you wish her to do that for you as they rarely sell out.

Tuesday, June 16th at 10:00 we will have a private tour at **The Florida Holocaust Museum** located at 55 Fifth Street S. The tour of the renovated **museum** now includes Thor, a boat that saved Danish Jews from Hitler. We plan on going to a nearby restaurant for lunch following the tour. Please use **SignUp Genius** to register for this event and indicate if you will be joining us for lunch:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544AFAD2AA0FBC16-63603367-docent>

Any questions can be sent to Gisela Torres - gisela.torres.pr@gmail.com

All members are welcome to participate in our CSP – **more minds can create more ideas!** Contact:

MarianneSnyder233@gmail.com

Mahjongg

Mahjongg takes place from 2:00 to 4:00 at the clubhouse every **MONDAY**. We are **eliminating play on Thursdays until further notice** – there were really very few ladies that attended that day unless they were there for lessons or supervised play. We will be **SUSPENDING ALL TEACHING AND SUPERVISED PLAY until SEPTEMBER.**

Environment CSP

Jennie Jamison Chair, jamisonj@mac.com;
Katharine Mcgrann Assistant Katbormag@yahoo.com

- The Sea Turtle Rehab Center field trip at Apollo Beach is May 7th, leaving the clubhouse at 9 am. Please use sign-up genius.



- The next committee meeting is on May 21st at 10:30 at the clubhouse. We will draft the rest of the year's activities.
- Opportunities to volunteer at the Wild Space Gallery for the FL Wildlife Corridor Foundation are coming for the summer. I am discussing these with the organization.
- As always, all are welcome to participate, and details are on the online calendar.

Eco Insights: Environment CSP

Grass versus ground cover:
How do we want to go forward?



Ground covers such as Twin Hammock need little water, fertilizer, or herbicide. It can be mowed like grass and sports beautiful small purple flowers in the spring.



- **50% of Tampa Bay's drinking water is used to water grass.**
- Grass is a cultural norm that has been sold to us over time.
- St. Augustine grass is popular, but it needs frequent water and nitrogen fertilizer.
- Herbicides (a category of pesticides) cause water pollution as they run off into stormwater drains, the leading source of water pollution.
- Excess nitrogen increases algae such as red tide, harms seagrass needed by manatees, and creates dead zones without oxygen in the water.
- St. Augustine grass gets attacked by bugs almost as soon as it is installed, requiring herbicides to kill them. The use of pesticides harms pollinators.
- People living in residential areas use more water than those in high rises because of watering lawns.
- Residential areas use more water per acre than farms.
- Pools are not the culprit in our water shortages; it is lawns.
- Reclaimed water is not the solution you might think as its infrastructure is costly, salt content is high that damages plants, and the water contains elevated nitrogen, phosphorus, and bacteria. Reclaimed water can leach into groundwater and stormwater drains going directly into our water supply.
- Astroturf needs no water but does not provide habitat for pollinators, so it is not environmentally friendly.
- Consider what it means to be pro-environment. Our current water shortage is a good time to consider what is best going forward.

Main sources: tampabaywater.com and tampabaywaterkeepers.com



Health & Wellness CSP

Annette McComas, Chairperson; , Assistant, Margit Smith

We make and collect charitable donations



First off, the Health and Wellness committee would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who participated in the Easter Egg Basket Project for Sally House and Ronald McDonald House. We had a great turnout with 35 attendees! We delivered fifty Easter baskets and 300 filled Easter eggs to Sally House, so the children could enjoy an Easter egg hunt. For Ronald McDonald House, we delivered fifteen filled baskets, 100 filled eggs, and 15 empty Easter baskets for their Easter egg hunt.

We also want to thank everyone who donated to the Nina Harris Exceptional Student Education Center auction baskets. We contributed three baskets and around \$350 worth of donation items.

Next, the Health and Wellness committee will meet on May 6th at noon at the clubhouse. After the meeting, we'll be filling bags with toiletries for St. Pete Free Clinic. We're asking for **donations of travel size body wash, shampoo, conditioner, lotion**, and any empty cosmetic bags you might have. If you're into crocheting or sewing, we're making bags that are no bigger than 8"X10" with some kind of closure.



A Stitch in Time Thread and Yarn Stitchers

The love of stitching is our common thread.

Thread and Yarn Stitchers is a wonderful group of people who get together every Wednesday at the clubhouse from 1-3:00 pm to share our love of sewing, knitting, and crocheting. We all pitch in to create handmade items for various charities, and we also enjoy teaching each other new techniques. We'd love for you to join us any Wednesday at 1:00 pm!

We're still hard at work making and delivering pillows, toys, bibs, and quilts for Hospice, Ronald McDonald House, and Palm Garden Nursing Center. We're also crocheting and sewing 8" X 10" bags with a closure for the St. Pete Free Clinic toiletry project with Health and Wellness CSP.

We're excited to have a guest speaker from Quilts of Valor on Wednesday, April 29th, at 1:00 p.m. We're hoping to collaborate on a group quilt and donate some patriotic quilts to veterans in this program. If you're interested in creating a square, please come to the meeting on April 29th.

Photo Gallery

On April 1st we held the Egg Basket Project for Sally House and Ronald McDonald House. We had a great turnout with 35 attendees!



Our General Meeting was on April 10th and was hosted by Marley Fuller – from the Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation



The Thread and Yarn Stitchers continue with their projects very Wednesday from 1-3pm



In Memorium



January 13, 1953 to March 26, 2026

What a sad loss for our Club. Monica Taylor passed away from Merkel Cell Carcinoma last month. Truly one of the good ones, Monica was a retired teacher but not only in the classroom. She continued to teach us all. From worldwide trips designated by her ten grandchildren as they each turned 12, to helping start our popular Mahjongg group. She had a brilliant mind and was always searching for more knowledge. She was in several book clubs and even memorized the current Mahjongg card. Having raised three sons, she was also active in sports. A tennis player who turned to "new" pickleball and loved games of all sorts. Monica meant so much to so many. We miss you, friend!

From Your Parliamentarian

Hi everyone – I'd like to give you two updates.

As Bylaws Committee Chairman: Thank you to everyone who submitted suggested Bylaws amendments over the last several months. The Bylaws committee will reconvene this coming fall. Stay tuned!

As Parliamentarian: The nominating committee will be elected by the membership at the September general meeting. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please notify me by June 1.

If you are interested in any positions on the 2027 club Board of Directors, please complete the attached leadership talent survey. This is not a commitment; you are just indicating interest. Please return this form by June 1 to bongabailey@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Shannon Bailey, RP / GFWC Director of Junior Clubs

[General Federation of Women's Clubs](#)

[GFWC Florida](#) District 14 Junior Director

C: (727)365-7112

GFWC: Dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service

FRIDAY BRIDGE

The Friday Bridge Club is looking for any members in bridge—beginners or experienced. Dates are dependent on Club availability, and we usually play on Fridays from 12:30-3:30 pm. Please contact Joan Jaicks (727-896—5097 or Elizabeth Hammer (727-92-4402) if you are interested in joining us.

Club Calendar

Friday, May 8th: Club Day Meeting at 1 pm.
Hosted by the VP Membership

Every Monday at 2 pm: Mahjongg.

Every Wednesday at 1 pm:

Hands on projects with Civic Engagement

Twice a month on Friday at 1:00 pm: Bridge

Every first Friday at 10 am:

Games followed by lunch

Every second Tuesday at 7 pm: Evening group

Every third Friday at 7 pm: Bunco

Last Friday of the month: Ladies Night Out

Dates are subject to change if needs arise.
Contact Social Director Liz Pacheco for more info.

GFWC

St. Petersburg Woman's Club
40 Snell Isle Boulevard NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33704

CLUB NEWSLETTER

May 2026



Happy Birthday!

May 02—Pam Bergeron

May 02—Susan Fraser

May 02—Katie Klopfenstein

May 05—Carol Bonanno

May 09—Grace Matos

May 11—Linda Morgan

May 11—Lucy Raulerson

May 15—Mary Braisted

May 18—Barbara Creamer

May 22—Donna Dugan

May 23—Linda Leveen

May 24—Nancy Campbell

May 31 – Cathy Allen

May 31 – Pat Tinto

June 1 – Pat Slocum

June 2 – Connie Koons

June 3 – Elisa Reder

June 4 – Abbe Ensminger

June 13 – Carolyn Brooker

June 15 – Sara Dubbeld

June 17 – Lizzie Fitzgerald

June 22 – Ruta Petraitis

June 24 – Lisa Bradley

June 25 – Kim Norris

June 26 – Anna Razzetti

June 27 – Valerie Douty

June 29 – Lois McMullin

July 1- Mary Bruels

July 1 – Judy Zamanillo

July 2 – Jennifer Brackney

July 2 – Lisa Reimer

July 2 – Dyreese Sweeney

July 3 – Terry Hoft

July 4 – Sandy Mirabile

July 4 – Sarah Osterholt

July 7 – Shannon Bailey

July 7 – Marcia Barasia

July 7 – Michele Bigara

July 7 – Oneita Tinsley

July 11 – Ilse Kearney

July 11 – Dorothy Keville

July 11 – Joanne Walker

July 12 – Joan Jaicks

July 12 – Laurie Lombardi

July 12 – Karen Morris

July 14 – Terry Russo

July 16 – Judy Carrier

July 17 – Cynthia Kuykendall

July 21 – Jill Abrams

July 22 – Sibyl Freeburg

July 24 – Mary Jane Dann

July 28 – Melanie Thoenes

July 31 – Nancy Westphal

Aug 1 – Judy Hunt

Aug 3 – Susan Cooper

Aug 3 – Nancy Cory

Aug 6 – Diane Johansen

Aug 6 – Marilyn Lanctot

Aug 10 – Luanna Scharkozy

Aug 11 – Karen Tugendhat

Aug 16 – Jennifer Masterton

Aug 17 – Kati Forsythe

Aug 17 – Elaine Sullivan

Aug 18 – Kara Rowe

Aug 20 – Debora Moore

Aug 21 – Jackie Manning

Aug 21 –

Aug 24 – Katherine Ruetz

Aug 26 – Carolyn Zella

Aug 30 – Jo-An Thomas

Aug 31 – Cathy Mitchell

Aug 31 – Trudie Urish