SPWC Happenings

GFWC St. Petersburg Woman's Club

March 2026

March celebrates International Woman's Day

Join us for a Potluck Lunch at our March Meeting on

Friday, March 13 at 12:00 pm

2026 Officers

President ~~ Barbara Sundholm
Past President ~~ Cathy Allen
Parliamentarian ~ ~Shannon Bailey
VP Programs ~~ Susan Rosenbaum
VP Membership ~~ Cynthia Guillaume
VP Daily Operations ~~ Cathy Allen
VP Capital Expenditures ~~ Cathy Allen
VP Fundraising ~~
Recording Sec ~~ Nanci Odom
Corr. Secretary ~~ Donna Dugan
Financial Officer ~~ Becky Crosson
Treasurer ~~ Carol Tillis
Bookings Treasurer ~~ Beth Timberlake
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

Tues, March 10 — Evening Group (6:45 pm)

Fri, March 13, 1 pm — General Meeting / Potluck Lunch at Noon

Fri, March 20, 10 am - Board Meeting

Bunco—3nd Friday each month at 7pm

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 . See note inside.

Message from the President

"Inspired to Serve"

Well, it looks like 2026 is getting off to a running start! February flew by and March is here already. The holidays didn't slow us down and we have accomplished so much this year already. We just participated in the Magic Yarn Project, prepared and served meals at Mission Dei, volunteered with the Mirror Lake Cleanup, donated handmade quilts, neck pillows and the like to a nursing home and Ronald McDonald House. There are so many opportunities to serve the community, it isn't hard to find projects that need our helping hands and you ladies are experts at finding those opportunities and inspiring us to pitch in and get the job done. These are the things that attract caring individuals who want to make a difference.

Speaking of attracting new members, our club has been recognized by the GFWC for signing on 23 new members between November '25 and January '26, placing second among participating clubs across the nation! Congratulations to our VP of Membership and all the other members who helped us reach this impressive number! Thank you for your dedication!

Barbara Sundholm, President

March General Meeting

Friday, March 13th
St. Petersburg Clubhouse

Membership

Cynthia Guillama, VP; Roseanna Costa, Assistant; Jennie Jamison, Liaison

We now have **209** members, which includes **13 new members,** since January 1st! Let's keep up this trend – maybe reach out to a friend that you think might enjoy our club.

Our February general meeting was attended by 61 members and 6 guests. New Members Sara Dubbeld and Mellynda Hartell were officially recognized and received their SPWC Welcome Bags.

The next **new / prospective member meeting** will be held 1 hour prior to the **March 13 general meeting at NOON** upstairs in the "sewing room". You are welcome **to attend as many times as you wish** and have an opportunity to get to know some of the new members. There will also be a **reserved "NEW MEMBER"** table set up at each meeting and **reserved New Member** seating at each table. Please feel free to sit wherever you feel comfortable. Our members are eager to welcome you!

New to the SPWC and ST. PETE? Want to learn more about our beloved storied city?

Join us in a New Member Mingle on the Star Trolley Tour, *Mysteries of Jungle Prada: Rumrunners, Spaniards and Natives* on March 21st. This is a public tour limited to 30 people. All SPWC members are welcome!

Meets at St. Petersburg Museum of History (335 2nd Ave NE, St Petersburg, FL)

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM / 29.00 USD+ Fees

https://www.star-trolley.com/tours/ Utilize the calendar to access Saturday, March 21st. Book it!

Members must purchase their own tickets for this public tour.

SPWC Members are requested to utilize the Sign-Up Genius Link below to advise your ticket has been purchased. Additionally, you may reserve to attend the SPWC Lunch Social at Doc Fords restaurant at the conclusion of the tour. This is a wonderful opportunity to promote our beautiful city, its history, and the SPWC! Consider inviting a potential member to join us!

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544AFAD2AA0FBC16-62432217-newmember

Welcome New Members:

Sherran Blair

Kimberly Mendoza

Diana Ritzler

Jo An Thomas

Welcome Previous and Returning Members:

Marcia Barasia

Monica Taylor

Daily Operations

Cathy Allen, VP; Diane Dudley, Assistant

Many thanks to Diane Dudley and Adam for handling Fire Extinguisher and Health Dept inspections during my flu episode.

We are hoping the ADA bathroom will be completed by the end of March. This will help with our event bookings as well as our General Membership.

Grass and shrubs are suffering from drought. Watering schedule had to be cut back due to City regulations. Things should green up when rainy season begins.

Our Sound System was replaced thanks to a donation from Beth and Bob Timberlake. We appreciate all you do for our club. Bob is also installing the new locks on the kitchen cabinets.

Thank you to Lupi Coffin, Janine Lewis, Diane Dudley, Judy Lee and Joyce Taylor who came and helped on club cleaning day. We were able to clean windows and wipe down doors and kitchen cabinets. Your volunteer efforts are appreciated.

New blinds in tearoom have been installed and solar chargers added to upper window blinds in the ballroom.

If you would like to join the Daily Operations committee, please email me at cathy@allenhomedesign.com. Right now we only have 5 members and it would be nice to have a larger representation of the club. Thank you.

Donation Requests

Please contact Emily Knight at 727-219-3745 if you have any questions about this list or CASA. All items for CASA's 100 bed emergency shelter go directly to survivors – not our thrift store. Items must be new and unopened. Please do NOT bring items to the CASA thrift store.

Full Size Blankets
Twin Bed Sheets
Full Size Bath Towels
Shampoo
Conditioner
Bodywash
Body Lotion
Laundry Pods
Individually Wrapped Kids Snacks
(think items like goldfish, popcorn, granola bars, fruit snacks etc.)

Social Events

Liz Pacheco, Chairperson

Club Calendar

Friday, March 6, 10:00 a.m. - It's time to hop on the Mexican Train that boards promptly at 10:00 a.m. at the Clubhouse. We will play the game until Noon and then we will go by car to lunch. Won't you join us??? It's a lot of fun. Just let me know if you plan to attend. P.S. for those of you who are unfamiliar, Mexican Train is a board game, and if you don't know how to play, it's very easy to learn, and we will be happy to teach you.

ATTENTION: PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DAYS AND WEEKS FOR BUNCO AND LADIES' NIGHT OUT.

Tuesday, March 17, 6:00 p.m. – Ladies' Night Out - ST. PATRICKS DAY - This year we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day and the wearing of the Green at Harvey's 4th St. Grill. This is always a fun day. There will be a prize for the guest who demonstrates the most Irish Spirit. Just let me know if you plan to attend.

Friday, March 27, 7:00 p.m. - Bunco - Hello Bunco Buddies -It's Bunco Time!! For those of you who don't know, Bunco is a friendly and sociable dice game. If you don't know how to play, we will be happy to teach you, and it is very easy. There are a lot of prizes every month for both winners and losers. All you have to do is bring a snack to share and your own beverage to drink. And, of course, let me know if you plan on attending.

LIZ'S THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH – Ladies, as some of you know, I recently turned 80. I'm now at the age where my mind still thinks I'm 29, my humor suggests I'm 12, while my body mostly keeps asking if I'm sure I'm not dead yet.

Liz Pacheco, Social Director

727-481-4821

lizpacheco02031946@gmail.com

Evening News

Tyler Kornatowski Chairperson

CASA (Community Action Stops Abuse) needs volunteers for their fundraising gala "Unmasking Hope" on Saturday March 28. Click here to sign up to assist CASA with Event setup, Guest support during the event and Breakdown and cleanup.

The Evening Group has a team looking into dates to shop, prepare and serve a meal to **Ronald McDonald House** guests.

The **Evening Group Book Club** will gather on March 17 @6:30 PM @ SPWC Clubhouse to discuss "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans. All are welcome.

We're reaching out a little early with a request from Emily Knight @ CASA. (Community Action Stops Abuse) Their 100 bed shelter has a list of items they need urgently! The complete list is in this newsletter. If you're able, please bring items to our meeting and Emily will deliver directly to the shelter for us.

Book Club News

Mary Braisted

Here is what the book club will be reading next:

March 10 – "The Lion Women of Tehran" by Marjian Kamali

April 14 - :Find me Unafraid" by Kennedy Odede and Jessica Posner.

We will be meeting at the club at 10:30 am. We will try to choose a book for May and June at the upcoming March meeting. If you would like to join the book club, please email me at braisted636@gmail.com.

Program News

All GFWC-SPWC events welcome every member, so you don't need to belong to a CSP committee to join in!

Save the Date

March 3rd Coastal Cruises Boat Ride

March 13th Tech Talk - Learn how to find and sign up for volunteer, educational & social events on our website. No sign up required.

March 13th General Meeting - Guest Speaker: Alison Barlow, CEO St. Petersburg Innovation District - Hosted by VP Programs

March 14th VOLUNTEER - Mirror Lake Clean-up

March 17th Embracing Our Differences Docent-led Tour

March 17th Ladies' Night Out - St. Patrick's Day Celebration

March 18th "Fish and Chips" Movie Viewing and Alzheimer's Association Program

March 21st New Member Mingle - Star Trolley Tour

March 27th VOLUNTEER-Archaeology Lab at Weedon Island Preserve

April 1st VOLUNTEER-Annual Easter Egg Service Project

For more event details, go to https://www.gfwc-spwc.org/events. Scroll down to the Member Calendar and click/tap on the date.
Click/tap on the underlined events to sign-up online via SignUpGenius.

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. Our next game will be on Friday, January 30. Please contact Joan Jaicks (727-896—5097 or Elizabth Hammer (727-92-4402) if you are interested in joining us.

Environment CSP

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

March activities:

Committee Meeting 3/12 @ 10:30. All welcome, please join us! RSVP to Jennie

Volunteer opportunity: 3/14 9-11 am. Keep Pinellas Beautiful Mirror Lake Clean-up. No need to sign up online, RSVP to Katharine.

Volunteer opportunity: 3/27 1-3 pm. Volunteer Archaeology Lab at Weedon Island Preserve. Free but sign up online to save yourself a spot. These can fill up so reserve your spot. RSVP to Jennie.

Eco Insights: Environment CSP

Recycling: Some items that cannot be recycled and why

Recycling saves resources and energy, reduces pollution, and minimizes landfill waste. Too often people put things into recycle bins that cannot be recycled, making the processing of legit items difficult.

1. Plastic bags: Please take them to the grocery stores as many have places to put used bags.
Plastic bags cannot be recycled because they get tangled in recycling equipment, making entire batches unable to be processed. Plastic bags are not made of the same plastic resin as plastic bottles and tubs that can be recycled.

2. Yard waste: This is organic material and contaminates paper, plastic, and metal that gums up sorting machines. Yard waste is best composted, mulched, or bagged and picked up for disposal. Please never put yard waste into storm drains.

3. Food waste and soiled containers: Residues and oils from food and their soiled containers contaminate entire batches of recyclable plastic, paper, and metals.

Correspondence

Donna Dugan

"Sympathy" cards were sent to Lisa Bradley on the loss of her mother, to Luanna Scharkozy and Winnie Pfister on the loss of their husbands, and Lisa Klatt on the loss of her sister. We extend our heartfelt condolences to each family. "Thinking of You" cards were sent to Marilyn Lanctot, Cathy Parks, Barbara Creamer, Barbara Sundholm, Cynthia Guillama, and Grace Harrison. Let's wish them all well.

Please continue to keep me informed of any members that may like a card letting them know we are thinking of them. My email is donnadugan444@gmail.com and my phone number is 727-822-1172.

Happy upcoming St. Patrick's Day . Many of us will be wearing of the green with our Irish eyes smiling.

Arts & Culture CSP

Marianne Snyder, Chairperson; Nanci Odom, Assistant

Embracing Our Differences is a Southwest Florida nonprofit celebrating individuality, shared humanity, and inspiring kindness and respect through art and education. The annual juried exhibition features thought-provoking artwork from around the world, sparking conversations about understanding and acceptance. We have planned a private tour on **Tuesday, March 17th from 10 to 11 am.** Arrival should be at 9:50. We will meet near the circular drive in front of USF-St. Pete's Harbor Hall located at 1000 3rd Street South. There is street parking along 3rd Street South and paid parking in various lots. To support their educational programs, a **$5 donation** (or more if you'd like) per person is suggested. Limit is 20 persons and we will keep a wait list in case we have any cancellations. And, of course, we will plan on going somewhere for lunch after the tour if you are interested! Questions: **MarianneSnyder233@gmail.com**

Please use the link below to sign up:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544AFAD2AA0FBC16-61731982-embracing

There is a volunteer opportunity with **The Mainsail Art Festival**. The dates are **Saturday, March 28th from 9 to 11:15 and Sunday, March 29th from 10 to 12:15**. We requested the hospitality tent where we can sit, and it is shaded. If you would like to sign up, please email **MarianneSnyder@gmail.com**

The **Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts at The Mahaffey Theater provides Live Performances and BAM Events**. We volunteered, along with the Education & Libraries CSP, for **18** hours in January. You can contact Judy Hunt if you wish to volunteer. **Judy-Hunt@outlook.com**

You may be interested in attending the **Museum of Fine Arts** for their **Art in Bloom** exhibits. They take place on April 16, 17, 18 and 19. We are not planning to go as a group, this is just an "art" event we wished to tell you about!

The next meeting for the **Arts & Culture CSP meeting** will take place after the general meeting on Friday, March 13th. All are welcome to come and help us plan some future events!

Mahjongg

Mahjong is always from 2:00 to 4:00 at the clubhouse. We meet every Monday and also on Thursdays (with sign up as noted below).

Beginner & Review Mahjong Lessons

Our next lessons are on Thursday, March 12th. If this is your first lesson or you need a review, use the link below.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544AFAD2AA0FBC16-59507707-mahjong#/

Beginner Mahjong Supervised Play

If you would like to participate in supervised play for beginners use the link below. This is not a lesson – questions will be answered as you play on these Thursdays: February 26 / March 5-12-19-26

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544AFAD2AA0FBC16-59678310-members

Experienced Players can also play on Thursdays from February through May

Since there has been limited turn out on Thursdays, we are asking you to sign up if you plan on attending. By doing this, others can check the sign up and see if there will be other ladies to play with. Please use the link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544AFAD2AA0FBC16-59678310-members

Any questions can be answered by **MarianneSnyder233@gmail.com**

Health & Wellness CSP

Annette McComas, Chairperson; , Assistant, Margit Smith

We make and collect charitable donations

We had a fantastic time welcoming 25 people to The Magic Yarn Project workshop on February 11th! We crafted character wigs for cancer patients aged 2-12, and together, we donated $280 for future supplies. It was a wonderful event, and we're planning another workshop in the fall.

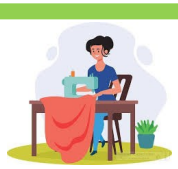
We'd be thrilled if you could join us for The Empty Bowls event on **March 14th at 11:00 am** at The Clay Center of St. Petersburg, benefiting Daystar Life. You'll receive a handcrafted bowl and a warm meal. Tickets are $30 and can be purchased at **https://web.charityengine.net/EmptyBowlsTickets**. Every ticket bought sends a clear message that no one in St. Pete should face an empty table alone.

On **March 18th at 1:00 p.m.** at the clubhouse, we'll be hosting guest speaker Kristie Wallace from the Alzheimer's Association and screening the short film "Fish and Chips," starring our very own SPWC member, Dorothy Keville. Come learn more about the warning signs of Alzheimer's Disease.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the annual Easter Basket and Egg community service project on **April 1st at 1:00 p.m.** Please bring a bag of jellybeans and small stuffed animals or items we can put in children's Easter baskets. Filled eggs and baskets go to Sallie House, Children's Village and Ronald McDonald House.

On the same day we're putting together our Easter Basket project, we'll also be gathering items for auction basket(s) to support the Nina Harris Exceptional Student Education Center. This center helps students with intellectual disabilities and autism spectrum disorder, and many of them also have other challenges like physical disabilities, speech and language issues, visual and hearing impairments, and various medical conditions. We're looking for merchandise, products, services, gift cards/certificates, handmade items, and anything else that can help make the baskets. We'll also need to know the approximate value of each donated item. The money from the auction will help get student materials, special equipment for the students, and fun events and experiences for them.

The next Health & Wellness Committee Meeting is on Wednesday, **March 4th, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.** We'll be finalizing our plans for the Alzheimer's Association event, the Easter Basket community service project, and everything else we're planning for the spring.



A Stitch in Time

The Wednesday Sewing Group

If you're interested in sewing or learning to sew, crochet, or knit items for donation, we'd be thrilled to have you join us every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. upstairs at the clubhouse. We've got some new members that have brought some new ideas. We have also started teaching newer members solid sewing and quilting techniques. In February, we delivered quilts, toys, and books to Ronald McDonald House, children's clothes and quilts to Alpha House, and quilts and neck pillows to Palm Gardens Nursing Facility. Right now, we're looking for toiletry bags for St. Pete Free Clinic. These can be knitted, crocheted, or sewn, with handles or drawstrings so they can be tied closed; any size works, but 8x10 is great for more than just toiletries. We can also use zippered cosmetic bags if you have any from past purchases. If you have any questions about the Wednesday Sewing Group (Oh, and we're looking for a catchy name if you would like to put in a suggestion), please contact Annette McComas or Margit Smith.

Photo Gallery

Another great SPWC General Meeting with 60+ members in attendance! In celebration of Library Month, Tricia Smith, Outreach and Partnerships Coordinator for the St. Petersburg Library System, shared highlights on library locations, programs, services, and the newly renovated main library. She even issued library cards! NOTE: Public Relations team is looking for someone to take pictures at some of club events and general meetings.

On March 14th, several of the ladies went to Weedon Island Preserve for the tiny Wildlife Experience.

Thought of the Month

Never iron a four-leaf clover, because you don't want to press your luck.

— Unknown

Photo Gallery

A beautiful day ...Keep Pinellas Beautiful – Stewards of Urban Lakes at Mirror Lake!

SPWC members showed their love for the environment by helping clean up Mirror Lake. Volunteers could choose from several tasks—replanting, weeding, cleaning drains, picking up lakeside trash, or even cleaning the lake by canoe. Our group tackled shoreline weeding, making a difference for our community. Huge shout-out to our helpers: Katherine Magrann, Terri Russo, Joyce Taylor, Lupi Coffin & AnnaRita Razzetti.

Club Calendar

Friday, March 13th : *Club Day Meeting at 1 pm.*
President's Choice

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: Bridge

Every first Fri at 10 am: Games followed by lunch

Every second Tues 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
March 2026

Happy Birthday!

Mar 01—Barbara Sundholm
Mar 03—Eileen Held
Mar 07—Carolyn DeFreitas
Mar 12—Barbara Sotos
Mar 14—Sally Marshall
Mar 14—Donna Ross
Mar 14—Poe Yoachim
Mar 15—Tricia Leach
Mar 17—Pat Franks
Mar 17—Linda Grasso
Mar 23—Cheryl Martin
Apr 01—Nita Deason
Apr 01—Barbara Virelli
Apr 02—Paige McCready
Apr 06—Susan Rosenbaum
Apr 07—Christine Agee

Apr 08—Lupi Coffin
Apr 09—Gisela Torres
Apr 11—Becky Crosson
Apr 11—Ellen Hays
Apr 11—Deneen McQueen
Apr 13—Jeannie Chapman
Apr 16—Roseanna Costa
Apr 21—April Fraulo
Apr 22—Janine Brown
Apr 23 Chrissie Laird
Apr 23—Robin Wood
Apr 25—Wini Pfister
Apr 26—Judy Cunniff
Apr 27—Joan Heelan

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