



THE SEA BREEZE

Sawgrass Women's Club Monthly Newsletter

February, 2024

Message from the President



The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched—they must be felt with the heart.

Helen Keller

February is Heart Month:

Valentines and Heart Health Month and Matters of the Heart (Leap Day, February 29th, is said to be the day when a woman can propose marriage to a man and he can't refuse!). Valentine's Day is the busiest day of the year for florists; 250 million roses are grown each year for sale on this day. February 13th is the busiest sales day for gourmet chocolatiers.

Remember the decorated shoebox with an opening at the top? The boxes would be lined up on the classroom counter awaiting deposits of envelopes. You would take them home and reread the messages that were specifically chosen just for you by your classmates. Friendship is one of the most powerful things in the universe.

We have so many opportunities to share in with your friends. Barbara Maletz has planned a day trip to Walk the Historic Riverside Community (heart-healthy exercise, too!). Sign up for our annual Bus Trip to the charming village of Mt. Dora, Florida; Sharon Jones and Elly Stephens have put together a wonderful day! If you haven't tried some of our regular activities, seize this opportunity to do something new—Bunco, Games, Inc, Fun with Flowers...or just show up for Happy Hour and meet some amazing *new* friends!

Gail Nangle will be chairing our Nominating Committee this year. If you have an interest in making a difference and joining the fun on Executive Board, please contact her at ggnangle@gmail.com.



You don't need fancy flowers or gourmet candy or a lavish meal to convey love. In the spirit of Helen Keller, you can send a kind word or gesture that will brighten the heart of someone you know!

Nan Healy

SWC February Program
Monday, February 12, 2024
10:00 a.m. Social ~ 10:30 a.m. Program
Reservations are required ~ Reserve on-line at
<https://www.sawgrasswomensclub.com/event-sign-up>

Dana Doody, Executive Director
Jacksonville Arboretum and Botanical Gardens



What can you do with an old strip-mining site turned illegal dump? Why,

establish an arboretum, of course! Join us on February 12th to hear how a group of volunteers gathered in 2004 to accomplish the improbable and create a community gem! Called "the hidden jewel" in Northeast Florida, the Jacksonville Arboretum & Botanical Gardens opened in November 2008 – covering 120 acres, offering 7 natural trails through 13 distinct ecosystems. Jacksonville Arboretum's Executive Director, Dana Doody, will also fill us in on the group's Master Development plan, including an interactive Children's Garden.

Dana Doody became the Arboretum's first Executive Director in 2018, bringing with her more than thirteen years of nonprofit experience. Most recently, she served as Director of Development with the North Florida Land Trust. She grew up on the Westside of Jacksonville, attended Florida State College at Jacksonville and is a Florida Master Naturalist (Uplands Graduate). Reservations are required so that we can prepare seating. If you have registered and find you cannot attend, please contact Cindy Feeley so that we can update the guest list.



To extend the camaraderie, why not arrange to go out to lunch with friends after the meeting?

After Hours

Katie Tartt

Happy Hour

SWC After Hours Happy Hour! No RSVP required, just show up!



Date: Thursday, February 8th

Time: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Beach Club Pavilion

Bunco

Date: Thursday, February 15th

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Ana Reye's home, 303 Deer Valley Drive, PVB (Nocatee)

Cost: \$10 to play. Light snacks provided. BYOB!

Email: katherinetartt@me.com



Needlers

Joyce Miller

If you enjoy knitting, crocheting, or any other kind of needlework, join the Needlers! We meet on the **second Wednesday of every month, from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Beach Club. The next meeting will be February 14th.** Good chance that there will be chocolate since it's Valentines Day. For more information, kindly contact Joyce Miller, joyceamiller@me.com.

As for my recent projects, this skein on the left called to me (that's my story, and I'm sticking to it), reminding me that I "needed" a Christmas cowl. Now, I'm swatching my Valentine's Day cowl. Is a Needler's work ever done?



Mahjongg

Cathy Edge /
Betty MacGilvray



welcome.

SWC Mahjongg players meet **at the Beach Club (Topsider) Mondays from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** for drop-in games. Beginners to advanced players are

Interested in group mahjongg lessons? Please contact **Cathy** at catherineaedge@gmail.com or **Betty** at emarymac3@gmail.com to receive current information.

Canasta

Sara-Ann Gomez



Canasta is here and thriving. We are playing on **Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Oceans Edge South at the Beach Club.**

If you are new to the game or the Sawgrass Rules for Canasta, please contact **Sara Gomez** at **914-393-9681** or email gomezaraann@gmail.com. She is willing to teach and help anyone get started.



Storied Lives

Deb Holton

Our February prompt:

Share a favorite story about a home improvement project that you or your family did.



We've all done home improvement projects. Some went smoothly and some went away from the get go. Please share with us your favorite story around a home improvement project that you or your family did, and why it was hilarious, nerve racking, or special.

We will meet on **Monday, February 19th, at 4:00 p.m. at the Pavilion.** Join us for some laughter and some reminiscing. Also, stay for Hamburger night.

Please remember you don't need to be a writer to have an amazing time with this awesome group of women. A quick one pager with your thoughts is really a conversation starter!

For more information, contact [Deb Holton at debholton@gmail.com](mailto:debholton@gmail.com).



Please....We need your help!

We are receiving an excessive number of duplicate Event registrations! This creates big issues with our event attendance numbers, which we rely on for the venue headcount. Because duplicates are happening so frequently, it is taking a lot of our administration time to continually review and delete the duplicates. When you register for an event, you immediately receive a confirmation email. Please save that confirmation, write it on your calendar, do whatever works for you! Please don't register again.

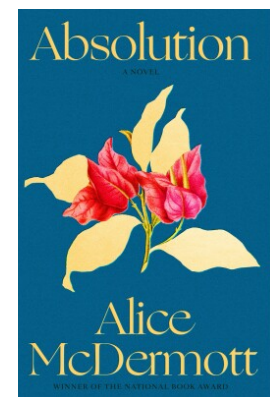
Book Club

Anne Morgan /
Jill Mountan

Join the SWC Book Club for our **February 27th** gathering. In February, we will discuss *The Bird Hotel* by Joyce Maynard. *The Bird Hotel* is a sweeping saga, the story of Irene and the journey her life takes from growing up in New York in the 1970s, to the losses she experiences that lead her to the small Central American village of La Esperanza, to owning and running the hotel La Llorona. We meet in the **Miller Room at the Sawgrass Clubhouse at 4:00 p.m.** Arrive early if you'd like to get a drink from the pub. Be sure to RSVP on the event sign-up page of the SWC website so we have enough chairs for everyone. We look forward to seeing you there!



In March we will be discussing *Absolution* by Alice McDermott. In Saigon in 1963, two young American wives form a wary alliance. Tricia is a starry-eyed newlywed, married to a rising oil engineer "on loan" to US Navy Intelligence. Charlene is a practiced corporate spouse and mother of three, a talented hostess and determined altruist on a mission to relieve the "wretchedness" she sees all around her. *Absolution* takes the form of memories shared between two American women some 60 years after they left Saigon.



For more information, contact [Jill Mountan at jillmountan@yahoo.com](mailto:jillmountan@yahoo.com) or [Anne Morgan at AnneMorgan@gmail.com](mailto:AnneMorgan@gmail.com) or Peteandannemorgan@gmail.com.

Games, Inc.

Elly Stephens

GAMES, INC meets the **2nd** and **4th** **Wednesdays** of the month. In February, we will meet on the **14th** and **28th**.



Join us for a wide variety of games among a growing group of ladies ~ grab your favorite card or board game, your favorite beverage and take a seat for a couple hours of laughs. GAMES are provided for your enjoyment ~ popularity of the games new to this crowd is exploding, and no prior knowledge of any game is required ~ simplicity is the rule, and we promise you will learn any of these games quickly.

We hope to see you in the **Miller Room at Sawgrass Country Club** from **4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

Contact **Elly Stephens** with any questions at elainestephens96@gmail.com or **843-540-0156**.

Day Trippers

Barbara Maletz



Riverside Walking Tour and Lunch

On **Wednesday, February 28th**, please join us for a **2-hour walking tour of Jacksonville's Riverside neighborhood**. This is the area that stretches along the St. John's River from the Cummer Museum to Avondale and includes Memorial Park and the area called Five Points. The walk will be led by popular guide Gary Sass of AdLibTours who has led several DayTrippers tours for us in the past. **We'll have lunch afterwards at the Blue Orchid Restaurant.**

Date: **Wednesday, February 28th**

Time: **Tour: 9:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.**

Lunch: 12 noon - 1 p.m.

Meeting Place: **Parking lot of Blue Orchid Restaurant, 1551 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville.**

Transportation: **Car pool with other tour participants.**

Cost: **\$20 per person for the tour, separate checks for lunch on the day of the event.**

Registration/Payment Online: **Begins Wednesday, February 7th and ends Wednesday, February 21st**

Please join us! **Contact Barbara Maletz at 551-580-0039 (voice or text) with your questions or concerns.**



Fun with Flowers (and Keith!)

Elise Beard

Please join us for our last session of Fun with Flowers & Keith: **Spring has sprung edition!**



We will make a beautiful arrangement that screams SPRING! and learn cool things about flowers. All with your favorite friends. You are also invited to stay afterwards for social time at the Sawgrass Pub.

Registration begins Monday, February 19th & closes Tuesday, March 20th at 4:00 p.m. - or after we reach 40 ladies. Register early and avoid the waitlist!

Date: Sunday, March 24th

Location: Miller Room at Sawgrass Country Club

Time: 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Maximum Number: 40

Cost: \$41.50 (all supplies included)

Registration/Payment Online: Begins Monday, February 19th and ends Tuesday, March 20th.

**A message from Historian,
Anne Morgan**

There are great SWC gatherings happening weekly! If you take photos while attending an event, please send them to Anne Morgan, so she can post them to the SWC website, archiving them for the future. Send them to her email: peteandannmorgan@gmail.com

SEND IN YOUR PHOTOS!

Special Event

Elaine Stephens /
Sharon Jones

SWC 2024 Bus Trip to Mount Dora

Enjoy a day of fun with your friends in scenic Mount Dora, traversing its shopping and restaurant



district. Relax and enjoy the company of friends for just two hours and fifteen minutes on our luxury bus trip to Mount Dora, FL. Departure is **8:00 a.m. sharp**, and we will return to Sawgrass no later than **6:30 p.m.**

Mount Dora's shopping district offers a wide variety of boutique shopping featuring apparel, shoes, gifts for your home and loved ones, and housewares. You will also have the opportunity to explore a bookstore, the history museum and stores featuring arts and crafts created by local artists. Restaurants are conveniently located throughout the downtown area. Also nearby are popular antique stores. Mount Dora has transportation by private golf cart to get you where you want to go!

Bus Tour registrants will receive an email notifying them when registration has opened for a one-hour private Historic Trolley Tour, beginning at 1 p.m. And if a second trolley is needed, another tour will begin at 2:00 p.m.

Date: Wednesday, April 17th

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$78

Maximum Number: 56

Registration/Payment Online: Begins January 2nd and ends February 1st.

For more information, Contact [Elly Stephens at elainestephens96@gmail.com](mailto:elainestephens96@gmail.com) or (843) 540-0156 or Sharon Jones at spoag@comcast.net or (904)613-4950

STORIED LIVES

A CHRISTMAS TREE IN AUSTRIA

Two years of my life after college were spent in Germany. My husband was an officer in the Army and I taught American children on the military base of Crailsheim, Germany. We spent every free moment travelling in Europe. An exciting opportunity.

One of the highlights of my childhood growing up in Idaho was the proximity of our town, Twin Falls, to the world-famous resort of Sun Valley. The resort was built by Union Pacific to lure summer and winter visitors. They especially welcomed Hollywood stars and other famous people such as Ernest Hemingway. Sun Valley was fashioned as a Tyrolean Village and many of the ski instructors were from Austria.

I was lucky to be given the means to ski by my parents. A new and exotic sport at the time. I took to it immediately and pursued the sport through the years. Our days spent skiing at Sun Valley as teenagers were memorable.

While in Germany one Christmas, we arranged to ski at St. Anton, Austria, in the Tyrolean Alps. We stayed at a small Inn in the charming village. A magical setting for a holiday. Christmas eve dinner at the Inn was followed by a tree lighting ceremony in the hotel reception area.

To our amazement, the tree had real candles which were carefully lit. A most beautiful sight. Staff and guests were led in singing Christmas carols. Truly a unique experience. And we could look forward to skiing on Christmas day!



Event Happenings



Day Trip to the Supervisor of Elections



Elly and Sharon



Cindy



Dr. Alfredo Quinones-Hinojosa



Barbara

MAYO CLINIC

A Journey from Migrant Worker to Exploring Migration in the Brain

Alfredo Quiñones-Hinojosa, MD, FAANS, FACS (he, him, his)

William J. and Charles H. Mayo Professor
Monica Flynn Jacoby Endowed Chair
Chair Department of Neurologic Surgery
James C. and Sarah K. Kennedy Dean of Research

www.DoctorQMD.com
www.missionbrain.org
[@DoctorQMD](https://twitter.com/DoctorQMD)

Membership

Mary Jean Spegal

swcpvmembership@gmail.com

704-277-4274



We are excited to announce our SWC Membership has increased to 408 members for the 2023-24 year. 43 of these members are new. Please extend a warm welcome to our newest members: Toulia Drakatos, Enid Greenfolgel, Lisa Kaufman, Rita Meltzer, Linda Mracek, Kathy Summerall, and Nancy Webster,

Once again, the SWC Online Directory is up and running. Please note that this will be the only directory we will be using this year. If you haven't already done so, review your personal information and verify that it is correct. You may access the Online Directory by going to www.sawgrasswomensclub.com and clicking on Members Only. From there you can enter the password that has been sent to you when you joined or renewed your membership. Feel free to contact the Membership Chair, Mary Jean Spegal, if you need help getting into this directory.



2/1 Linda Kelly; 2/3 Laurie MacGregor; 2/7 Patty Burden, Mary Grace Guglielmo; 2/9 Michaela Harried; 2/12 Suzan Lopman, Kim Fleischer; 2/13 Terri Allison; 2/15 Cathy Edge; 2/17 Ingela Robinson, Connie Quinlan; 2/18 Tracy Stevenson; 2/20 Dee Humphries; 2/21 Christine Dragonetti, Shannon Lynch; 2/22 Trace Duryea, Debbie Tanzler; 2/24 Pam Cronauer, Teddi Siragusa; 2/25 JoAnn Palmer; 2/26 Carol Guglielmo; 2/27 Melanie Massey; and 2/28 Delores Adams.

Remember to always visit our Facebook page and website:

[Sawgrasswomensclubpontevedrabeach](http://www.sawgrasswomensclubpontevedrabeach.com)
www.sawgrasswomensclub.com

2023-2024 Officers

President - Nan Healy
1st Vice President, Programs - Cindy Feeley
2nd Vice President, Membership - Mary Jean Spegal
3rd Vice President, Health & Wellness - Katie Tartt
Treasurer - Martha Hayes
Recording Secretary - Mary Beth DeBrueys
Corresponding Secretary/Master Calendar - Casey Robyn
Parliamentarian - Gail Nangle
Website - Peg Babcock

Advisory Board

Book Club - Anne Morgan / Jill Mountain
Bridge, Chicago - Karla Dunham
Bridge, Duplicate - Diane Cannon
Bridge Lessons - Sharon Lindberg
Canasta - Sara Gomez
Communications - Mary Jean Spegal
Day Trippers - Barbara Maletz
Decorations - Paula Larsen
Fashion Show - Casey Robyn
Fun with Flowers - Elise Beard
Historian - Anne Morgan
Hospitality - Betty MacGilvray
Lunch Around - Lisa Grabeman
Mahjongg - Cathy Edge, Betty MacGilvray
Needlers - Joyce Miller
Newsletter Editor / Publisher - Tracy Stevenson
Social Media - Cheryl Maduzia
Special Events Trips - Elly Stephens, Sharon Jones
Storied Lives - Deb Holton

Dates to Remember

Jan. 19 Bridge Skills Review -9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Jan. 25 Lunch Around (Eleven South) 12:00 p.m.
Jan. 26 Bridge Skills Review -9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Feb. 1 Les Miserable 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 8 Happy Hour 5:00p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 12 February Program 10:30 p.m.
Feb. 14 Needlers (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
Feb. 15 Bunco 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Feb. 19 Storied Lives 4:00 p.m.
Feb. 27 Book Club 4:00 p.m.
Feb. 28 Day Trippers (Riverside Walking Tour) 9:45 a.m.
Mar. 24 Fun with Flowers 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Apr. 10 Spring Fashion Show 10:30 a.m.
Apr. 17 Bus Trip to Mt. Dora

Run Club - Tuesdays 8:30 a.m.
Open mahjongg - Mondays 1- 4pm Beach Club
Open canasta - Tuesdays 1-3pm Beach Club
Duplicate Bridge - 1st and 3rd Mondays
Games - 2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Casey Robyn maintains the Sawgrass Women's Club Master Calendar. When planning activities please contact her for date availability at: ceerobyn@yahoo.com

Send newsletter articles to: traceskier@att.net
Deadline for information to be included in the Newsletter is the 6th of the month prior to the next issue.

Sawgrass Women's Club Cares
Please notify [Casey Robyn at \(937\)623-8483](mailto:Casey Robyn at (937)623-8483) concerning Sawgrass Women's Club members who are experiencing life situations which warrant notes of sympathy or encouragement.