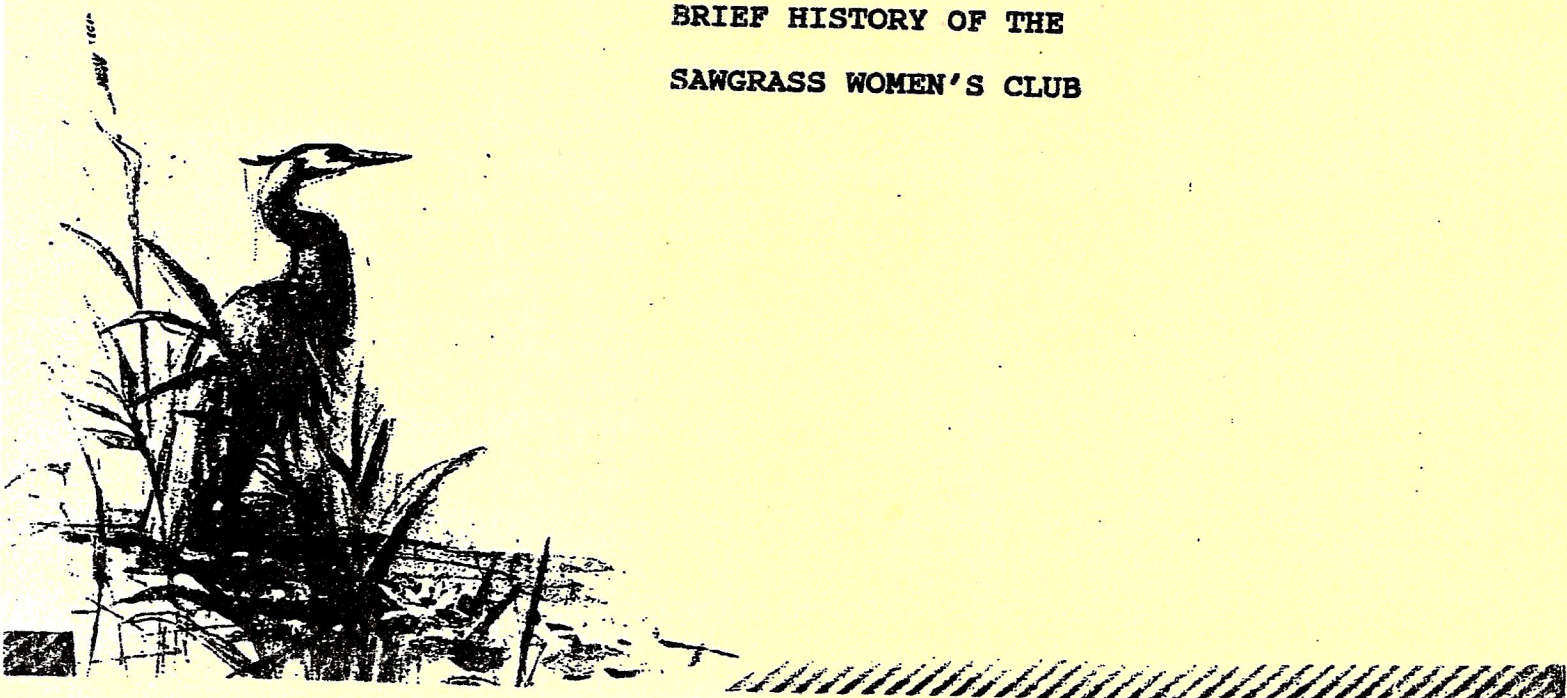


BRIEF HISTORY OF THE
SAWGRASS WOMEN'S CLUB



This brief history of the Sawgrass
Women's Club is written by Pat Bright.

The first officers were:

President: Peg Swain
Vice President: Mary Mitchell
Secretary: Marie Sikes
Treasurer: Rosalie Hamilton
Board Members: Virginia Hayes
Ginny Graham
Flo Rollins



Peg Swain

IN THE BEGINNING

The Sawgrass Women's Club was formed in the 1980-1981 period. The name of the fledging group at that time was Sawgrass Women's Social Association, and the first president was Peg Swain.

Peg Swain and her husband Ted drew up the original set of bylaws. The first meeting was held November 3, 1980 at a Stockton-owned condominium in Quail Point 1. It was an organizational planning meeting.

Flo Rollins was another resident who helped promote the idea of forming a Sawgrass women's club. Flo posted a sign in the Golf Club and persuaded the Stocktons to publicize a recruiting notice in their monthly newsletter to the residents. She also placed an ad in a Ponte Vedra paper trying to drum up interest in forming a ladies' bridge group.

Claire Stoopack talked briefly about her experience with the women's club. At the beginning, there were only condos such as Rough Creek, Deer Run, and Quail Point 1. The first house was built on Osprey Point, followed by the Vetere house on Preston Trail West. Tifton Cove and Fisherman's Cove were built in 1979, and at this time, Claire and her husband moved into one of the first patio homes built, Garden Homes 1.

Claire said the women's club in the 1980-1981 period was not the highly organized group that it is today, and in fact was quite loose in its infancy. Claire was asked by Anna Mae Evans and another woman if she would accept the role of an officer of this fledging woman's club. She agreed, and at the next meeting she attended, was astounded when they announced that the next president would be: Claire Stoopack! Claire served for two years (1982 to 1984). At that time, everyone knew everyone else.

Ann Sims also attended the first meeting in Quail Point I, where she and Mal lived while building their present home on Preston Trail W. Ann mentioned that the first get-together was an organizational meeting, held for approximately 10 women, and the attendees sat in the empty unit on folding chairs.

Sawgrass Women's Club has come a long way. One of the original purposes was to organize various social activities, besides tennis and golf, for the women residents. The need for a bridge group, a needlers' group, a book club, some lunch arounds, theatre outings, etc. were all primary objectives for the women seeking social outlets. All of these group activities are now accepted parts of the current club.

Membership has risen from 10 women in 1980 to 288 /?/ as of March, 2003. These numbers alone show the increasing interest in what is now an active and robust women's club. The informative subjects presented at the monthly meetings, held September through May, have become a driving force in the continual addition of new members. A monthly newsletter keeps members informed of the current and future events.

It is no small task for each year's program chairman to conceive ingenious ideas for speakers who can excite and promote the curiosity and attention of the members. The ever-increasing membership totals reflect that this is, and has been, a job well done. The officers and various committee chairmen have worked hard to meet and exceed expectations.

The past presidents of the club are listed inside the back cover of the membership directory. Mildred Kelly is the current president for 2002-2003.