



THE SEA BREEZE

Sawgrass Women's Club Monthly Newsletter

April, 2024

Message from the President



The earth laughs in flowers.
Ralph Waldo Emerson



Years ago, I started growing flowers and vegetables~ from seeds. It is an overwhelming feeling of hope to place a small seed in soil and nurture it into a seedling and watch it grow to produce something extraordinary and beautiful. The process is full of expectation and hope. Spring is a season of hope and joy.

Our Spring Fashion Show is sure to bring us joy! Thank you to Casey Robyn and everyone who has been working so hard to bring us an exceptional event. Registration filled up in a few days and we have a wait list; please let Casey know if you registered and find you cannot attend the event.

April has a lot going on in the Sawgrass Women's Club. Come to some of our ongoing activities that you haven't tried yet! We hope to see you there—Games, Storied Lives, Mah Jongg, Happy Hour!

I'd like to give a special thanks to Barbara Maletz for her efforts in giving us three amazing day trips in the last several weeks. A lot of work goes into planning and executing these events and we all truly appreciate those efforts!

I hope to see you at the Fashion Show in your flowery best!



Nan Healy

SWC Annual Fashion Show

Spring Awakening –
Fashion in Full Bloom

Wednesday, April 10th, 2024
10:30 a.m.
Doors Open at 9:30 a.m.

Event sold out ~ To get on the wait list,
go to

<https://www.sawgrasswomensclub.com/event-sign-up>



After Hours

Katie Tartt

Bunco

Date: **Tuesday, April 9th**
Time: **6:00 - p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**
Location: **Caroline Edding's home (4 Spy Glass Lane)**
\$10 to play and light snacks provided. BYOB!
Email Katie at katherinetartt@me.com



SWC Happy Hour!

Date: **Thursday, April 18th**
Time: **5:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m.**
Location: **Beach Club Pavilion**



No RSVP required, just show up!

Needlers

Joyce Miller

If you enjoy and know how to knit, crochet, or any other kind of needlework, bring your project to the Needlers! We meet on the second Wednesday of every month, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Beach Club. The next meeting will be April 10th. For more information, kindly contact Joyce Miller at joyceamiller@me.com.

Mahjongg

Cathy Edge /
Betty MacGilvray

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 welcome.



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 April prompt:

Our prompt for this month is your favorite summer vacation or staycation as a child.

Ah, summer vacation as a child... the excitement of the last day of school, the buildup to the summer activities or a family trip. Share with us your favorite memory of that special summer.



We will meet at the Beach Club Pavilion at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 15th to skip down memory lane. There's a dual benefit...you get to spend an hour laughing and reminiscing with some awesome women and you can secure your table early for Burger Night.

Please remember you don't need to be a writer to have an amazing time with this fun 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.

Book Club

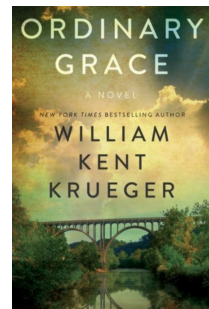
Anne Morgan /
Jill Mountan

Join the SWC book club for our **April 23rd** gathering. In **April**, we will be discussing *The Island of Missing Trees*, a best-selling novel written by Elif Shafak. Set against the 1974 Greek and Turkish conflict in Cyprus, the book spans multiple timelines. It follows the love story of Greek Cypriot Kostas and Turkish Cypriot Defne, their eventual migration to London, and the impact of their past and their history on their daughter Ada, whose only connection to Cyprus is the fig tree in her garden. Elif Shafak is an award-winning British-Turkish novelist, whose work has received a number of accolades and awards,



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 **May**, we will be discussing *Ordinary Grace*, by William Kent Krueger. Frank begins the season preoccupied with the concerns of any teenage boy, but when tragedy unexpectedly strikes his family—which includes his Methodist minister father; his passionate, artistic mother; Juilliard-bound older sister; and wise-beyond-his-years kid brother—he finds himself thrust into an adult world full of secrets, lies, adultery, and betrayal, suddenly called upon to demonstrate a maturity beyond his years.



Told from Frank's perspective forty years after that fateful summer, *Ordinary Grace* is an unforgettable novel about discovering the terrible price of wisdom and the enduring grace of God.

For more information, contact **Jill Mountan** at jillmountan@yahoo.com or **Anne Morgan** at Peteandannemorgan@gmail.com.

Games, Inc.

Elly Stephens

GAMES, INC meets the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays.**



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, Sawgrass CC from Bridg 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.**

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

**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



Bridge Lessons

Sharon Lindberg /
Christine Costello

Taste of Bridge-For Beginners- No Experience Required!

Bridge is a terrific way to exercise your brain while making new friends. If you've thought about trying to learn bridge at Sawgrass, now is the time. I've found a great teacher who is eager to start you on your journey.

Sharon Carter is certified as a Master Teacher by the American Bridge Teachers Association, an American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) Best Practices Teacher and Presenter, and an Audrey Grant certified teacher.

She can't teach all aspects of bridge in three lessons, but it is my hope that Sharon can get you to the point where you can understand the basics, and shuffle and play. We need a **minimum of 8 people** to hold the class and can take a **maximum of 32**. We will meet on **May 3, 10, and 17 from 10 to 12 in Oceans Edge South**.

The **cost will be \$75** for instruction and materials. **Signup on Sawgrass Women's Club event registration will be April 5**. Questions? Call or email Sharon Lindberg 315 559-5691, Lindbergsharon@gmail.com

Special Event

Elaine Stephens /
Sharon Jones

SWC 2024 Bus Trip to Mount Dora

Registration for the Bus Trip to Mount Dora, FL is full. However, if you missed the deadline and still hope to join us, please go online and register under the 'Wait List' button. The list is generated on a first-come first-serve basis. Upon receiving a cancellation, the first person on the wait list will receive an email from Peg Babcock with a link to pay for their registration for the trip. We hope you are able to join us!

Day Trippers

Barbara Maletz

Cummer Museum Tour and Lunch



Docent-led tour of Cummer Museum to include special exhibit "Sporting Fashion: Outdoor Girls 1800 to 1960" followed by lunch at Cummer Cafe.

Date: **Friday, April 5, 2024**

Time: **Tour at 11 am; lunch to follow,**

Place: **829 Riverside Ave, Jacksonville, FL**

Cost: **\$45.40 (\$25 for tour (includes all-day admission), \$20.40 for lunch)**

Maximum number: **20**

Registration Deadline: **Thursday, March 28th**

Lunch Around

Lisa Grabeman



Mark your calendars for our next "Lunch Around", **April 25th at the Argyle Restaurant**. The Argyle provides a swanky and welcoming atmosphere for a modern dining experience. Members will order from the provided menu and will be responsible for the cost of their own meal. Sign up will begin the of March. Please email Lisa Grabeman with any questions at grabeman@msn.com.

Time: **12:00 p.m.**

Location: **254 Alta Mar Drive**

Maximum Number of People: **20**

Registration: **Begins March 25th and ends April 23rd**

STORIED LIVES

Kula Vizuri

In 1996, my husband and I took our kids, aged 16, 15 and 10 at the time, out of California, for a two year adventure to Nairobi Kenya. Packing up all of our belongings and purchasing items we knew would be difficult to find in East Africa, I added an American sized refrigerator, a washer and a dryer to our 40 ft. container. . The size, safety and location of properties appealing to expatriates were very limited. After two months of staying in a small apartment with no air-conditioning, no washer or dryer and limited space for cooking for my ravenous children, we were desperate.

One Sunday,, we happened upon a gate with a piece of paper attached, listing the home for rent. The large gate was locked but the lush landscape revealed a magical stone house set amongst blooming jacaranda trees. As soon as we saw it my husband and I gasped. Fortunately, a worker on the property was onsite and allowed us to view the inside of the house. We were so gobsmacked at the acreage and hoped the interior would suffice. The glass doors led us into a downstairs salon and dining room with gorgeous wood floors . The children dashed upstairs and cited their approval. My husband and I were giddy with excitement over the house, until we walked into the kitchen which was very primitive. As most expatriates and almost all the tenants that had made this house their home, they never cooked a meal themselves. Most homes had full staff, including cooks and the kitchens were not built to be used by the homeowners. My jaw dropped to the concrete floor when I observed the broken cabinets. I thought that was the worst of it, until I realized there wasn't even a sink inside the kitchen. I was literally sitting outside the house, though in a covered space with water inputs. I was crestfallen but, we loved the rest of the house so much we decided to contact the owner to negotiate a kitchen to be built.

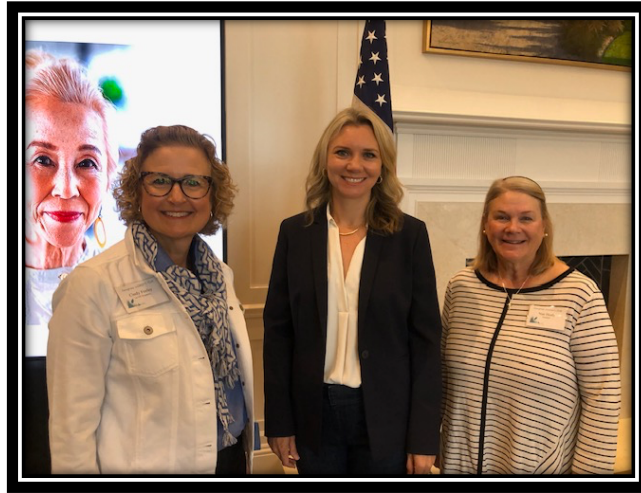
We contacted the Somali owner and after much back and forth, got his approval to rent the house and to have a new kitchen built to western standards.. Fortunately, we had some friends who lived in Nairobi that were well connected and able to provide us the name of an American man, formerly a priest, who had left the church and married a local woman We contacted him and we figured out an agreeable plan. The contractor, John, helped me put a stove and fridge in the dining room and I unpacked the kitchen necessities to work a meal making station. One morning, a small open bedded truck appeared at the gate with 6 African men holding on for dear life, Another truck arrived with cinder blocks dumped onto the outside patio. The workers chiseled, pounded and ground for days and the noise of their activities drolled on and on, chipping with dulled hammers and knives to form the concrete into workable bricks. After what seemed like weeks, the shape of a new kitchen was formed.

Mvule, an African hardwood, was constructed into cabinets and installed. John arrived one day with beautiful hand cut cabinet doors and the workers set to install them. I had one set made with glass doors which turned out beautifully. After two weeks of toiling, the clay tiles were finally laid for the floor and a new sink was installed beneath large windows, looking out onto the lush blooming compound. I moved in and was finally able to utilize my new kitchen. The first meal I made was a dinner for the workers . African boys and men had toiled for us and I wanted to show them our appreciation. They settled outside on the patio and seemed to enjoy the burgers and baked beans I had prepared . Fortunately, these items were available at the local market. Meat was the thing. Any kind of meat. We also made a potato salad (which they had never seen before) and of course, bread. It felt right that these men should be the first guests we welcomed to our new home. One of the first phrases I learned in Swahali was Asante Sana, which means thank you, and the second phrase, taught by the diligent workers, was "Kula Vizuri", meaning good food.

The evening together was the right start to a magical adventure and the beginning of the challenging task to learn another new language - as in what the meaning of the Swahali name we gave our fluffy and playful new Golden Retriever Pup really meant.

But that my friends, is another story.

March Program with Emily Hicks

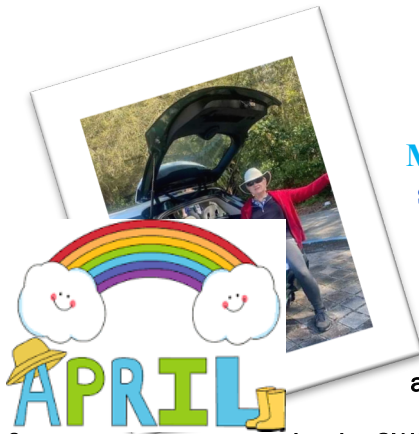


Day Trippers to Riverside



Day Trippers to Arboretum





Membership

Mary Jean Spegal
swcpvmembership@gmail.com

As we march along into Spring, The Women's Club Membership has members for the 2023-24 year. 55 of are new. Please extend a warm newest members: Karen Breakell, and Lynnette Wuebben.



704-277-4274

Sawgrass grown to 421 these members welcome to our Barbara Morgan,

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.



4/1 Mary Jean Spegal; 4/2 Nancy Blume, Nancy Elliott, Susan Reeves; 4/3 Kathleen Johnson, Frances McEntee; 4/5 Mary Jane Benoit; 4/6 Gail Nangle; 4/7 Jo-Ann Collins, Trish Dackert, Ora Vella; 4/9 Jennifer Werba, Lori Whalen; 4/10 Elise Beard; 4/12 Lisa Berlin; 4/13 Helen Beedy, Lisa Grabeman; 4/14 Celeste Burns, Karla Gillette; 4/15 Christine Baldoni, Marilyn Patton; 4/17 Elisabeth DeWitt, Judy Flynn, Nancy Webster; 4/18 Vivian Kellermann, Gail Macneill; 4/20 Janice Sur; 4/21 Cheryl Maduzia, Elena McGrann; 4/22 Dana Gillie, Marjorie Kelly; 4/23 Terre Ulm; 4/24 Ellen Walsh; 4/28 Mary Kempiski; 4/29 Marilyn Montgomery, Barbara Rittweger; 4/30 Christine Costello, MaryCarol Stearns.

Remember to always visit our Facebook page and website:

[Sawgrasswomensclubpontevedrabeach](https://www.facebook.com/Sawgrasswomensclubpontevedrabeach)
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 DeBruays
 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

Mar. 24 Fun with Flowers 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Mar. 26 Book Club 4:00 p.m.
 Mar. 21 Happy Hour 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 Apr. 5 Cummer Museum 11:00 a.m.
 Apr. 9 Bunco 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 Apr. 10 Spring Fashion Show 10:30 a.m.
 Apr. 10 Needlers 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Apr. 17 Bus Trip to Mt. Dora
 Apr. 18 Happy Hour 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 Apr. 23 Book Club 4:00 p.m.
 Apr. 25 Lunch Around - Argyle 12:00 p.m.
 May 17 Book Club 4:00 p.m.

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** concerning Sawgrass Women's Club members who are experiencing life situations which warrant notes of sympathy or encouragement.