

APRIL 2025

GFWC St. Petersburg Junior Woman's Club



THE JOTTINGS

• HAPPY •
April



From the President

AMANDA VIRANI

What a fabulous month March was! We kicked things off with our business meeting and Bee Kind Junior Night Member Retention and Recruitment event, where we welcomed new faces and strengthened our connections. A huge thank you to Jennifer for organizing such a fantastic evening; everyone was engaged at the various activity tables, making it a fun and productive night!

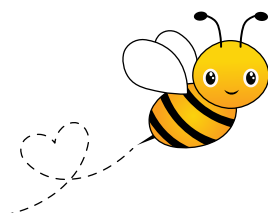
Celebrate Outreach brought us together to support those experiencing homelessness, and we were honored to serve dinner at Fisher House, giving back to Veteran families. Our members had a wonderful time and even got to decorate an Easter tree, adding a festive touch to the evening.

A special thank you to Erica and Lauren for arranging our social night at Spitfire Comedy! It was a fantastic evening filled with laughter and a great way for members to connect and unwind.

We are closing out the month with two incredible service projects: Adopt-A-Mile, where our members helped keep our community clean, and the SPCA Pet Walk (on the 29th), supporting animals in need. We're grateful to all participants.

As we step into April, we all want to send our love and best wishes to Erica as she prepares to welcome her daughter. We are thrilled for her and can't wait to celebrate this special moment with her!

Thank you all for making March such a wonderful and impactful month. I can't wait to see what's ahead for us in April!



UPCOMING EVENTS

4/5

Boyd Hill

4/10

Babycyle Sip and Sort

4/24

Dining Out for Life

5/13

Fisher House Dinner

5/17

NAMI Walk

Happy Birthday

4/1

Krysta Messier

4/19

Diana Zolner

MEETING

Tuesday, April 1st

40 Snell Isle Blvd NE,
St. Petersburg, FL 33704
6:30 p.m. pre-meeting social
7:00 p.m. meeting start

Greeter: Audra

Inspirational Reading: Jillia

Refreshment: Amy

Raffle: Jillia



President cont.

GFWC Florida Annual Convention – Don't Miss Out!

Mark your calendars for an unforgettable weekend at the GFWC Florida Annual Convention, happening April 25-27th in Orlando! This is our chance to come together, celebrate our achievements, and be inspired by incredible speakers. From the excitement of the awards ceremony to the fun of Bingo Night, there's something for everyone!

I will be attending and would love to have more of our members join in on the experience. If you're interested or have any questions, feel free to reach out to me! More details can be found on the State Convention Call Sheet (click [here](#)). We can't wait to see you there!

1st VP Update

JENNIFER MASTERTON

Membership News

Catch the buzz! Thomas Hood famously said, "When was ever honey made with one bee in a hive?" It takes all of us! St. Pete Juniors is growing so keep telling your friends about our amazing club. Ask them to come join the beehive, where in the hive of life, Juniors will be kind. Continue to invite your friends and neighbors to a Junior Night, meeting, social, or project to learn more about our club.

We just held our first exciting Junior Night and it was sweet as honey! The next Junior night will be held over the summer so mark your calendars for the following quarterly events:

- *Tuesday, June 24th, 6:30 pm:*
Junior Night New Member Recruitment/Member Retention Ice Cream Social and Trivia (please sign up [here](#))
Note: This is a date change, as the Clubhouse was not available on the original date.
- *Monday, August 25th, 6:30 pm:*
Junior Night New Member Recruitment/Member Retention Photo Scavenger Hunt (please sign up [here](#))
- *Monday, October 20th, 6:30 p.m.:*
Junior Night New Member Recruitment/Member Retention Halloween Potluck (please sign up [here](#))

Thank you to everyone who helped at the March Junior Night! Special thanks to Crystal who assisted with refreshments and to all of the table leads: Kellie, Anita, Liz, Crystal, Brooke, Lauren V, Amanda, Diana, and Sheri.



1st VP Cont

New Member Installation

We will have a new member installation at the May meeting. All provisional members who have joined since January will be installed on May 6th. Any new members who join between May and December will be installed in December. We will hold a new member orientation prior to the May installation. If you are planning to join and would like to be installed in May, please mark your calendars for April 29th and plan to attend our New Member Orientation at 6:30 p.m. Sign up [here](#).



If you know anyone who would like to join the club, the application and payment info is included below. Click [here](#) for the new member application. New member annual dues of \$50 can be paid via check (payable to St. Petersburg Junior Woman's Club), Zelle (payments@spjwc.org), or Venmo (@SPJWC).

Don't forget to share the SPJWC website with friends and family (gfwc-spjwc.org). The website links to our Google calendar, making it easy to share events. All upcoming events are on the website's calendar and there are links to all the Google sign-up sheets. This is an easy way to share our calendar with prospective members. Remember, if you know anyone who is interested in learning more about SPJWC please have them email info@spjwc.org. If you have any questions, please reach out to me.

2nd VP Update

ANITA LECAIN

Thank you everyone for all you continue to do to give back to our community. Just a reminder that if you chaired a project in the first quarter, please complete the reporting information at the bottom of the project sign-up sheet.

We are looking for a volunteer for our last Adopt-A-Mile; you can choose the date in April or May. At our March meeting we decided we will be writing cards to Veterans at our Dine Out For Life dinner for our Federation Day project.

Please see the event calendar for information about our upcoming projects!



Year-long Project

Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House - Sheri



Pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) will be a year-long project for 2025. By recycling these tabs, you're contributing to the RMHC mission of keeping families close to their children as they receive medical treatment. Gather your pop tabs from soda cans, soup cans, or pet food cans—any aluminum tab will do. Please bring your tabs to our monthly business meeting or coordinate with me for pick up. Each tab contributes to providing critical support for families with children facing medical challenges. The funds raised from recycling these tabs go directly to helping RMHC offer comfort, care, and a home-away-from-home to families during their toughest times. The sign-up sheet can be found [here](#).



Upcoming Events



BOYD HILL PROJECT (AUDRA)

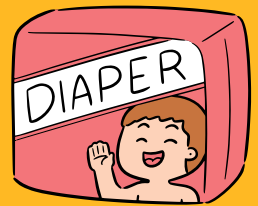
SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH, 9-11:30 A.M.

Join us at Boyd Hill Nature Preserve (1101 Country Club Way S, St. Pete) to remove non-native plants. Wear closed-toed shoes, pants, and long-sleeve shirts. Also bring gloves, a water bottle, and hat/sun protection. Please sign up [here](#).

BABYCYCLE SIP AND SORT (JILLIA)

THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH, 6 P.M.

Join us at Babycycle Diaper Bank (6543 46th St N, Pinellas Park) to organize items and wrap diapers, all while having fun! Babycycle is Pinellas County's only community diaper bank. They provide diapers, wipes, and children's essentials to low-income families throughout Tampa Bay. Sign up [here](#) to join us!



DINING OUT FOR LIFE/FEDERATION DAY PROJECT (LAUREN)

THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH, 7 P.M.

We'll be dining out to support Empath EPIC through the Dining Out For Life event. Participating restaurants donate a portion of the night's proceeds to EPIC, a local organization supporting services for people living with HIV/AIDS in the Tampa Bay Area. Please sign up [here](#) to join us at Gratzzi (211 2nd St S, St. Pete). Gratzzi will be donating 25% of the proceeds this year.

Since this event overlaps with Federation Day, during the dinner we'll be writing cards for Veterans. The cards will be passed out during "Mail Call" on the first all-female Honor Flight taking place on March 11, 2026. If you're unable to attend the Dine Out For Life event and still want to write a card, they will be available during our April meeting.

LOFT 181 - ONE MORE CHILD'S BOUTIQUE (AUDRA)

BY THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH

Racquel Sturgis, GFWC Florida Director of Junior Clubs, is using this time and opportunity as a platform to be an advocate for foster and adoptive children and families, through her project "Building Families". Loft 181 is a clothing boutique for teenage girls ages 13-18 with a special focus on supporting foster care youth and trafficking survivors. Each visitor selects from a curated collection of new and gently used clothing, all provided free of charge! We are collecting clothes, which will be taken to GFWC FL to donate to Loft 181. Donations by Thursday, April 24. Click [here](#) for more information.





Upcoming Events, Cont.

FISHER HOUSE DINNER

TUESDAY, MAY 13TH, 5:30 P.M.

Join us on Tuesday, May 13th at 5:30 p.m. at Fisher House (10000 Bay Pines Blvd, St. Pete) to cook dinner for the families staying at the St. Pete facility. Fisher House Foundation builds comfort homes where military and Veteran families can stay free of charge while a loved one is in the hospital. These homes are located at military and VA medical centers around the world. Sign up [here](#). Please indicate whether you'll be cooking or just purchasing items. The meal we'll be preparing will be decided closer to the date.



NAMI WALK (LIZ)

SATURDAY, MAY 17TH, 8:30 A.M.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) walk will be at England Brother's Park (5010 81st Ave N) in Pinellas Park. NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization. They provide awareness, support, and education to those in need. Please sign up to walk, volunteer, and/or donate [here](#). You can join the SPJWC NAMI Walk team [here](#).

AR WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, MAY 24TH, 2 P.M.

Join us at AR Workshop (2807 Dr. MLK Jr. St N, St. Pete), a charming boutique studio offering hands-on craft classes. We'll be doing a private DIY candle pouring class. Cost is \$40 per person. The club sign-up sheet is [here](#). Please register with AR Workshop [here](#). The password to access the sign-up is "LV52425".





3rd VP / Treasurer Update

AUDRA

Keeping up with SPJWC – Weekly Emails

In 2025 we are going to try to consolidate emails to one weekly email. Click [here](#) to complete the information form by Sunday of each week. The club will receive a summary email each Monday. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Storage Unit Donation

The club is seeking donations from members to cover the cost of the storage unit. We pay \$89 per month to store important club documents. Any amount would be appreciated! If you're interested, please send your donation via Venmo (@SPJWC) or Zelle (payments@spjwc.org).



Ways and Means Update

MELISSA

Mother's Day Raffle Basket

Our next quarterly raffle basket is Mother's Day-themed. We will draw live at our May 6th meeting. Our last basket was a big success and, with your help, we can make this one even better! We are still in need of additional donation items to fill out the basket; think gifts you've received recently that aren't fully your taste but would make a great re-gift! Reminder: the items must be new/unopened/unused.

Some basket item suggestions: scented lotion, shower gel, bath bombs, face masks, and personal pampering items such as nails, lashes, etc.; on-trend costume jewelry, sunglasses, and scarves; candles or infusers; journals and books; gift cards to nail salons, yoga, coffee, online shopping, local restaurants, etc.; bottles of wine or other liquor; gardening supplies including pots, decor, seeds, etc.; items that can be used at the beach/around the pool including Stanley/Tervis-type cups, beach attire, inflatables, etc.

All items will be combined to make a cohesive themed basket. We need your help selling tickets so we surpass our inaugural basket draw of 44 tickets sold!



Social Update

ERICA & LAUREN

April Social

For our April social, we'll be dining out to support Empath EPIC through the Dining Out For Life event. The restaurants participating in the event donate a portion of the night's proceeds to EPIC, a local organization supporting services for people living with HIV/AIDS in the Tampa Bay Area. Please sign up [here](#) to join us at Gratzzi (211 2nd St S, St. Pete) on April 24th at 7 p.m. Gratzzi will be donating 25% of the proceeds this year.

Since this event overlaps with Federation Day, during the dinner we'll be writing cards for Veterans. The cards will be passed out during "Mail Call" on the first all-female Honor Flight taking place on March 11, 2026. If you're unable to attend the Dine Out For Life event and still want to write a card, they will be available during our April meeting.

Social Update Cont.

May Social

Our May social will be hosted at AR Workshop (2807 Dr. MLK Jr. St N, St. Pete), a charming boutique studio offering hands-on craft classes. Join us for a private class for just our group! We'll be doing a DIY candle pouring class on Saturday, May 24th from 2-3:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 per person. The club sign-up sheet is [here](#). Please register with AR Workshop [here](#). The password to access the sign-up is "LV52425".

Book Club

Join us for the first SPJWC book club! At the April meeting, we'll draw the title of our first book, which will then be discussed in May. For the book drawing, please come prepared with a book recommendation. Each person will write down their recommendation and put it into a hat, then we'll draw what the first book will be! We'll meet in May before our normal monthly meeting to discuss the book. A few suggestions on book recommendations: no series, horror, or self-help/motivational books and please choose books less than 400 pages.



Meet A Few Newer Members!



Christina Roush

What are some of your favorite hobbies or activities?

I absolutely love sports, both watching and playing. I used to play softball as an adult competitively with tournaments on the weekend, but eventually gave that up as some old injuries lingered! I also love to go boating and hang at a sandbar!

Are you a foodie? What are some of your favorite foods or restaurants?

I love trying all different types of food! Something I didn't realize I would LOVE until I moved to Florida was sushi (Ohio wasn't exactly the place for sushi!) Now, I am down anytime someone mentions a sushi night!

What's your favorite thing about SPJWC?

I love the female friendships that have been made since joining SPJWC. And even better, it's with inspiring women that lift each other up and work to support great causes!

What's a cause you're passionate about?

I have been a Girls on the Run coach now for about 16 seasons! Girls on the Run teaches girls in grades 3-5 the importance of confidence, self-worth, positive self-talk, managing emotions, etc through running. The girls at the end of the season run a 5K together and it is one of the most inspiring events! As a 4th grade teacher myself, I see the value in this program and how badly a majority of girls in those grades need it!



Meet A Few Newer Members, Cont.



Amy Fattori

What's one thing most people don't know about you?

I wanted to be a sports broadcaster in my youth.

What are some of your favorite hobbies or activities?

Sewing, gardening, yoga, walking my dog.

Have you traveled anywhere interesting or have any travel goals?

I've been fortunate to have traveled extensively and plan to make 2026 the year I visit Africa.

What's your favorite thing about SPJWC?

The variety of activities and local causes the club supports and engages in.



Sherilyn Gomez

Have you traveled anywhere interesting or have any travel goals?

My current travel goal is to make it to all 50 states, and all 7 continents. I checked off Antarctica and South America in 2024!

Do you have any funny or embarrassing stories you'd be willing to share (briefly)?

Clumsy is my middle name. In 2024 I fell out of a parked truck, dislocating and breaking my ankle in 3 places. The funny part not everyone knows... this isn't the first time I've fallen out of a vehicle. But it was my first time breaking something and having emergency surgery when I fell!

Do you have any pets? Tell us about them!

Charley is my 14 year old dapple dachshund mix. He's an old grumpy man now, but his spunk comes out in spurts!

What's your favorite thing about SPJWC?

I love SPJWC because I feel like I have met like minded, strong women who are open, kind and fun!



Meet A Few Newer Members, Cont.



Brooke Janik

What's your favorite animal?

Dogs are my favorite, but if I could have a zoo I would!

If you could have any superpower, what would it be and why?

If I could have any superpower, I'd choose something like Poison Ivy's ability to control plants—just without the evil villain vibes. Plant manipulation would be my thing, but I'd use it for good.

What's one thing most people don't know about you?

I love Disney!

What's a cause you're passionate about?

I'm deeply passionate about supporting children at all stages, from infancy to adolescence. I believe in the transformative power of education and its ability to change lives. I'm also dedicated to advocating for vulnerable populations and striving to make our communities better places to live.



Kellie Ziemak

What's your favorite board game or card game?

Scattergories

What are some of your favorite hobbies or activities?

Hiking, traveling, and reading

Have you traveled anywhere interesting or have any travel goals?

My husband and I love to travel. I don't have any travel goals per se, but we would love to visit as many national parks as we can.

What's your favorite way to spend a weekend?

I like low-key weekends—reading, long walks, and doing things around the house.

What's a cause you're passionate about?

Foster youth



2025 GFWC Florida Administration Projects

President's Project



Director of Junior Clubs Project



Connect with us:



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Interested in learning more about a certain position?

Here is a doc that explains each position's
duties and qualifications needed!