

January 2017 Newsletter

Saint James City Civic Association
3300 Fourth Ave, St. James City, FL 33956

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Got News? Email: sjccanews@gmail.com

January Members' Meeting and SJCCA Board of Directors Elections

Monday January 16: 6:00pm Potluck 6:45pm Members' Meeting and Elections 7:00pm

Speakers: George and Tim Spyrnal of Spyrnal & Associates, Inc.

Topic: Financial Security. Spyrnal & Associates, Inc. has been servicing Pine Island for twelve years. The president and founder, George F. Spyrnal, has been in the financial services industry for 42 years. George and his son Tim will discuss Social Security, Medicare, long term care costs and retirement income planning. Our fabulous potluck supper starts at 6pm, bring a dish to share and don't forget your place settings.

SJCCA Board of Director Elections to be held Monday, January 16, 6:45pm

The General Membership meeting agenda will be to meet board of director candidates and elect new board members.

Board Members are elected for a 3-year term on a rotation basis. Nominations will be taken from the floor. We will elect 4 new members for the SJCCA Board of Directors. Nominations may also be made from the floor at that time. Please come and support this important event.

The following members have expressed a willingness to serve on the SJCCA Board:

Barbara Covitz, a happy resident of Pine Island Cove and an active member for 3 1/2 years, worked previously as an administrator of a veterinary hospital in Connecticut. "I felt especially welcomed at SJCCA, when I first arrived and joined the Friday night bridge group and would like to help continue the positive experience for others." Barbara co-chairs the Monday bridge group.

Daniel Foote came to Pine Island with wife, Claudia Binter, in 2005 from the western suburbs of Chicago. A former financial officer for school districts, Dan now enjoys having time for bicycling, card games, choir, reading, line dancing and volunteering at SJCCA events, like the holiday dinner.

Claudia Binter, a former teacher and assistant principal, happily married partner of Dan Foote, arrived with him in 2005. She enjoys mah jongg, working outdoors, kayaking, and boating. They travel in their RV to visit sons in Wyoming. Both Dan and Claudia are excited about carrying on the wide variety of activities at SJCCA, while identifying interests and promoting new activities for our community of Pine Islanders at SJCCA.

Sue Ann Germani relocated to Bokeelia from Maryland in 2016. After retirement from AT&T, Sue Ann worked as a communications contractor with Aberdeen Proving Ground and as commander of the Patapsco River Power Squadron. She enjoys boating, creative writing, cooking, crafts and horses. "I would like to contribute to the preservation of our island lifestyle."

Carlos Gomez, new member and resident of Bokeelia, is co-owner of CW Fudge Factory in Matlacha and a mortgage consultant for Wells Fargo. "I hope my business experience and love of Pine Island will enable me to make a contribution to the board as needed."

Tom Revercomb is a retired police officer.

Judi Revercomb, as a decorative and talented artist enjoys teaching acrylics. Tom and Judi are long time Matlacha residents and have expressed interest in working on expanding membership for SJCCA, as well as helping with secretarial needs.

Heather and Dean Schwartz, owners of Olde Florida Out Post and new members of SJCCA, are excited to be settling on Pine Island. They relocated from the Ft. Lauderdale area. Dean works in management for a major building products company in Ft. Myers. Heather may be found at Olde Florida Out Post using her skills at locating interesting items and greeting customers. "We want to support our community and hope to use our business experiences and creative skills in a positive way for SJCCA."

If you would like to serve on the SJCCA Board, contact Paula Bruckner at 516-729-3382 or email paulabrucknersjccapi@gmail.com

In December, **Island Crafters** enjoyed making some beautiful holiday decorations. We meet every Wednesday from 9-11:30. Lots of talent here, come join the fun, learn a new craft, or share one you know. All are welcome.

Mark your calendar: February 15, 2017 is the date for the **Annual Valentine Card and Game Party**. Just \$15.00 for continental breakfast and a light lunch. There will be table prizes and door prizes galore. Tickets will be available shortly. Check the bulletin board for more information.

Chess Players Wanted: People who know how to play chess (beginners to advanced) who want to play chess regularly at the SJCCA building. Contact Gabriele for details and registration: 952-239-2755

New format for **Exercise Class** this year!!! Exercise Class continues on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 am to 9:45 am. Class begins with a wonderful warm up and a stretching/ toning/ balancing workout with Jodee, followed by a 25 minute DVD workout with Miranda Esmonde White, founder of Classical Stretch/Essentrics. We end with the use of small weights and incorporate floor exercises as time permits. This years objective: Keep your body moving no matter what age you are!!! Hope to see everyone again for this 11th year of Exercise Class at the SJCCA.....and if you're new to the island or SJC, please join us. Jodee Nelson 283-4790

The **Diversity Interest Group AKA DIG** will meet in the St. James Civic Center the first Wed. of every month from 68 pm. The purpose of creating the DIG is to foster an awareness of and appreciation for diversity and to promote inclusion in our community. We are excited for our inaugural meeting and hope that all members will join us. Please invite your friends as well. For our first meeting we plan on getting together to exchange ideas on what matters to everyone. Please help make this a success and we look forward to seeing you all. For questions, contact Paula at (516) 729-3382 or paulabrucknersjccapi@gmail.com.

Starting February 1, 2017

The **Booster Club** has raised \$1,420.00 to date. The money is ear marked to rehab the floor in our building.

Raffle tickets for gift certificates for Pine Island Restaurants are being sold at all the Big Breakfasts. They are \$10.00 or 3 for \$25.00. We have also distributed jars for loose change to most of the Civic Center activities. We appreciate your support. BJ Skribiiski

Concert Series:

Sunday, Jan. 22, **Uproot Hootenanny** at 6 pm. Check out their website: uproothootenanny.com/ Last Year's show was a huge success! A mixture of folk, country, rock and original tunes.

Sunday, Feb 12: **American Pie Revisited** featuring John Reno performing songs form the 70's. John Denver, Neil Diamond, Jim Croce, etc. John's Croce Tribute last year was great. This show promises to match it!

Winter Harmonizing Concert

Sunday, Jan 8 4-6 pm Fusion ensemble of Fred Mayer (Viola D'Amore) , Ndakhte Ndiaye (African Drums), Brothers Greg and Warren VanKirk (Monokotra string instrument and Bass) , and Misty Ramsey (vocals) will perform mesmerizing harmonizing music on rare instruments in celebration of the winter season and earth's elements.. Event will include performance w/ intermission, Art exhibit by award winning artist Marilyn Hedlund, Dinner, beverages and social meet'n greet. Tickets: \$20 advance sales only (Includes everything) Contact: Ndakhte Ndiaye 293-7885 Email: sharingafrica@yahoo.com

Ping Pong every Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30. Singles and doubles. Come join the fun, whatever level player you might be!

The **Cribbage** group will start Thursday, January 5th, at 6:45. All players are welcome. Come out and have some fun.

The **Hotshots Pine Island Photography Club** will meet on January 9 at the SJCCA at 7pm. Regular meetings will follow on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of each month during the season. The Club is planning a Photo Expo on February 25 at the SJCCA that will include an photo contest similar to the previous years as well as "booths" for photographers to sell their work. Anyone interested in more information can contact Andy at andyvox@comcast.net.

New IPAD / Electronic Tablet Activity The Computer Tutor Activity has narrowed its scope from past years, and will focus on Tablet/ iPads and peer to peer support. We have renamed ourselves the **iPad Club**. We will begin meeting every Thursdays from 10:30am to 12:30pm in the big room at SJCCA. Our first meeting will be on Thursday January 5th. Fees will now be only a \$2 association fee since no FORMAL tutoring will be offered. Instead we will meet as a group and share tips and web site practice and exploration of our electronic tablets. Members with no experience are encouraged to attend and receive help from friends. We expect many members will have received a tablet as a holiday gift and need the group's help. Call Shelley for information 239-910-3203

Mah Jongg meets at the Civic Center every Thursday at 1:00 pm. We play by the National Mah Jongg League rules, not for money but for beads to keep track of our wins. Everyone is welcome. We are always willing to teach

newcomers. If you ever wondered about Mah Jongg, come by for a friendly welcome and a chance to see how it is played.

Easy Does It Line Dancing for Beginners meets every Monday, from 4 – 5:30. No experience necessary; no partner needed. For more information call Chris at 810-694- 8174. \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members

The next **Book Club** meeting is Monday Jan 9, 9:30 am to discuss C. R. Hyde's Ask Him Why. Enjoy a good read and come join in a friendly book discussion of a compelling story of a family thrown into chaos by the action of an older brother who deserts the military. The book is available as an ebook, as a hardcover or paperback, or through the public library system. Snacks, coffee and tea will be provided. For more information, please call Lynn at 239.283.4095.

GOLDEN BRUSH ART GROUP Be fearless and rediscover your artist within. Acrylics, oils, watercolors, chalks, and pencils are welcomed on Tuesday mornings from 10 to 1. In January, Golden Brush is sponsoring 3 workshops:
****Introduction to Soul Collage** with Gabriele Solterra, Jan. 10 from 1 to 4. \$30. Register with Gabriele 952 -239 2755 or Linda 239 -283- 5207 ****Acrylic/Oil Beach & Seascape** with Joan Roberts Jan. 17 from 1 to 4. \$25. Contact Linda for more information. View Joan's work at jrobertsart.com
****Big Brush Watercolor** with Roy John Fuller January 28 from 9 to 4. \$45. Register with Linda at 283-5207. View Roy's work at royjohnfuller.com

Membership Notes: Thanks to everyone who has helped with this year's membership drive. Special thanks to the volunteers who cooked and served and signed up members at the Holiday Dinner. Also thank you to the activity leaders who helped to sign up their group members and many thanks to the Booster Club who assisted at the membership table at the events this fall. We continue to seek a membership chairman or two co-chairman to carry on the membership drive into the Spring. We have lots of ideas for introducing our organization to the community and supporting our members. there is no longer any computer skills required. Please treat our new members as the special people they are and tell your friends to join too!

PHIL BUCHANAN CELEBRATION of LIFE A celebration of the Life of Phil Buchanan to be held Sunday, Jan. 15, at the St. James City Civic Association, 3300 Fourth Ave., St. James City. Time 4-6 pm.

There will be a short 20-25 min. opening program, including a 5 min. "Eagle Feather ceremony" and "wand" to pass. Speakers will only be from organizations Phil served and loved, and they will have a time limit of 2 minutes each. The balance of time will be for people to mingle and celebrate the life of Phil. There will be finger food and beverages set up around perimeter of room. The beverages will be of the type that Phil would approve.

A box will be provided for "Memory Letters" to Phil. There will be a table with a banner to collect donations for the authorization and or stewardship of a Calusa Land Trust Memorial Preserve to be named in Honor of Phil Buchanan. Each participating group (CLT, GPICA, CROW, Garden Club, MCA, SJCCA) will also publicize this event within their group.

All people who will attend the Celebration of the Life of Phil Buchanan should RSVP via email to Roger Wood at: rogerGPICA@gmail.com so the proper amount of snacks and beverages can be provided.

For Your Information: The next meeting of the Greater Pine Island Civic Association will focus on proposals and discussion of **Cape Coral's plan to annex land in Matlacha**. This plan could impact all Pine Island residents. The meeting will be held at the Elks Club on January 3 at 7pm.

Keep The Lights On **Rummages Sales** Our next rummage sale will be held on **Saturday, January 21**. Please participate in the current " Fill A Box" donation activity. If you leave donations on the porch we will be very grateful. At this sale we will not be taking large furniture or electronics. If you are willing to volunteer for the next rummage sale there is a sign up sheet in the main room

November Rummage Sale: The Keep the Lights on Committee completed their first Rummage sale of the year at the November Big Breakfast. Proceeds exceeded that of any sale we have ever had in November. I want to thank all the volunteers and those who donated items to be sold. You did an exceptional job. Thanks also to all the shoppers who were so generous in making a purchase to support our goal of paying the light bill. Many thanks again from our Chairwomen Shelley, Anne, Jackie and Paula

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