



## Orange Blossom Notes

August 2011

The Springfield Improvement Association  
& Woman's Club

210 7th Street West, Historic Springfield, FL 32206

Phone 904-633-9308 President Marguerite Feldmann

[www.springfieldwomansclub.org](http://www.springfieldwomansclub.org)

### August SIAWC Meeting

Please join us on Tuesday, August 16th at the Springfield Improvement Association and Woman's Club for our August meeting—6:30pm social time, meeting begins at 7pm.

This month is 'Bring a Friend' month, with a great prize given to the member that brings the most guests (see page 3). Also, Susan Rogers of **The Well at Springfield** will be talking about her work in Springfield as well as a back-to-school event planned for later in August.

A door prize is given away at each meeting, so bring a friend or neighbor, and remember to bring an appetizer and/or bottle of wine to

### August Holidays

#### 2 – National Night Out

7 – Friendship Day

15 – Assumption Day

19 – National Aviation Day

26 – Women's Equality Day

Birthstone – Jade, Peridot

Flower – Gladiolus

Astrological Sign: Leo: July 23-August 22

Virgo: August 23 - September 22



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

to

**Margaret Gloag—Aug 1st**

**Cynthia Fisher—Aug 28th**

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### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Hello, again! The summer has flown by and so have the activities and events in which the Club has been involved.

Building a Strong Rental Program has been our major focus since we came on board. This is necessary to ensure that all operating expenses will be covered and that a strong program to support mission statement activities is possible. To this end we have repaired the roof, fountain and a number of maintenance items; the grounds have been significantly improved at the direction of Alicia Dorsey working with Curtis Walker; the interior and exterior of the Club shines due to the efforts of Irene Hodges; and, the rental forms have been reviewed, revised and expanded to include a customer feedback segment to provide suggestions for improvement, advertizing sources and referrals. And due to the creativity and tenacity of our Rental Coordinator, Grace Justiss, seven new events representing \$3922.95 in revenue have been scheduled in just six weeks with five serious client appointments coming up this week.

Partnering with other Springfield community groups is high on our list of priorities as well. We have had two outstanding presentations conducted at our general membership meetings, as we work to make the meetings an event in themselves. I was intrigued as Christina Parrish presented an entertaining and informative pictorial account of our parks— past, present and future— in June and just last week Bill Hoff, representing SPAR, and Christina, representing SIAWC and SAMBA, conducted a Springfield Traffic Workshop with high interaction among Springfield residents and organization members in attendance.

Community Outreach may be the last mentioned but certainly not the least in importance. The Christmas in July event was a tremendous success... not only because of the beautiful decorations, delicious food and drink, and beautifully orchestrated program brought to us all by the hard work and leadership of Leta Lair-Steve and her Committee, but also because it provided the perfect setting to invite new friends to the Club. Not only did a beach loving Santa show up but so did a number of previous rental clients; a number of students who are potential interns with our Club; the grand-daughter of a member who wants to work with us in putting together the internship; previous Club members returning to join; and, some folks new to the *(Continued on page 6)*

The Springfield Improvement Association and Woman's Club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 210 7th Street West at 6:30 p.m. Please join us. Everyone is welcome! Call the Woman's Club at 904-633-9308 or visit [www.springfieldwomansclub.org](http://www.springfieldwomansclub.org) for more information or to rent the club .

## August Speaker and Community Back-to-School Event

*By Christina Parrish*

Reverend Susan Rogers of The Well at Springfield will be our August speaker. Susan will share information about The Well and upcoming events, including an effort to provide school supplies for neighborhood children.

Supplies will be distributed at a picnic and back-to-school festival to be held in Liberty Park on Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. SIAWC members and guests are invited to enjoy lunch prepared by The Well.

**Please consider bringing school supplies from the following list to the August membership meeting:**

hand sanitizer/soap	glue sticks	solid colored folders with pockets pen and prongs
pencil erasers	steno pads	pink rectangular erasers
plastic sandwich bags	crayons (16 and 24 count)	marble composition books
boxes of tissue	no. 2 pencils	
wide ruled notebook paper		

Did you hear the news?!?! Huh? Huh? Did ya'?

**Dog Days in the Park is September 24<sup>th</sup> at  
Confederate Park in Springfield.**

Be sure your owner visits [www.sacarc.org](http://www.sacarc.org) for more details!!!!



## Springfield Traffic Workshop

*By Christina Parrish*

Thanks to everyone who attended the July membership meeting and participated in the traffic workshop sponsored by SIAWC, SAMBA and SPAR. The turnout was great and discussion was lively.

We learned about a number of traffic related initiatives, including a proposal to return Main Street to two-way traffic between State and Union Streets; the Florida Department of Transportation's proposed reconstruction of an historic Klutho Bridge; and an initiative to close Newnan/Hubbard Streets at Confederate Park. An update was provided on efforts to reduce heavy truck traffic on residential streets. The primary focus of the meeting was the need for traffic calming to reduce speeding and accidents in the historic district. Several ideas were discussed with the majority of those in attendance agreeing that four-way stops are needed (except where there are existing roundabouts) at 1st, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> streets.

### SIAWC OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	<b>Marguerite Feldmann</b>	<b>1st Vice President</b>	<b>Christina Parrish</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Lisa Zimmer</b>	<b>2nd Vice President</b>	<b>Susan Noonan</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Cindy McVay</b>	<b>3rd Vice President</b>	<b>Leta Lair-Stever</b>

## **August Calendar**

- 1 CPAC, Rm 110, Ed Ball Bldg, 5:30pm**
- 2 National Night Out, see page 5**
- 5 First Friday, The Bridge, 6:30pm**
- 11 SAMBA, 6—8pm**
- 15 Block Captains, 1321 Main St., 7pm**
- 16 SIAWC, 210 W 7th St., 6:30pm**
- 19 Mommies Group Family Dinner, 6:30pm**
- 22 SPAR Board Mtg., 1321 Main., 6pm**
- 23 SHADCO, 1st & Ionia, Kennedy Ctr, 6pm**
- 24 Historic Preservation Committee, 3pm 214 Hogan**
- 24 Holiday Home Tour Committee Mtg., 6:30pm**
- 25 Garden Club Mtg., 7pm**

## Know (Y)our Springfield Houses



Far left 24 2nd Street East just before the move. Middle, the house today as it stands at 1131 Laura Street. Now the home of Fresh Ministries. Joel McEachin was there when it moved. He said that it was placed on the lot from the back, across the land on Main. Thank you Robert Wheeler and all who moved houses.

The following article appeared in The Florida Times Union in January of 1987

### Uprooting planned to save Springfield's oldest house

Robert Wheeler will be taking a five hour trip tomorrow. But he's not going to Atlanta or Miami, he is moving -- a block and a half. Wheeler will be uprooting Springfield's oldest house\* -- a three story, Eastlake Victorian design on Second Street, and slowly carting it across Main Street to a lot on Laura. "I am glad to save this house from being demolished", he said yesterday. "If it were torn down it would be a terrible loss to this neighborhood". Wheeler, 36, vice president of the Springfield Preservation and Restoration Society, has documented the house on an 1884 map of the area and has traced its original ownership to Robert N. Ellis\*\*, the architect who designed many of Jacksonville's first buildings, most of which burned in the devastating 1901 fire. SPAR has documented all the houses in Springfield, he said, because it is seeking historical district status. "There are files on every house in the neighborhood with information on when it was built, who built it, what style it is" he said. "The state has already approved us as a historical district. Now it's going through red tape with the (U.S.) Department of the Interior. "We should get the announcement next month". Wheeler was given the house by Ron Peterson, a car dealer who owns Jax Car Sales on Main Street. Peterson owns the property and needed the lot for a parking lot\*\*\*, but he hated to tear down the house, Wheeler said. Peterson offered to give away the house under the condition that the person taking it would pay to move it and restore it. Wheeler, who has restored one home in Springfield knows a good deal when he sees it, and his total cost for moving and settling in, including electric, water and cable hookups, will be \$25,000. Even though the house will be moved on an 18-Wheeler in order to save the old structure, it will have to be moved so slowly it will take five hours to go only 1 1/2 blocks. "It's a great deal. It has seven bedrooms. It used to be a boarding house and it had 11 bedrooms, but I'm going to make it a single family house again," Wheeler said. "I'm going to put in another \$ 50,000 to restore it...It's just a wonderful home. The house has a fireplace in the master bedroom, a balcony off a sitting room on the second floor and oak floors throughout. Wheeler a floral designer, plans to open an antique shop and flower store on the first level and live on the second and third levels. So at 9am tomorrow, Wheeler, his friends and neighbors plan to take part in a moving day parade and party as they block off Main Street and move his house, inch by inch.

\* At that time the Gato/Mann house at 11th and Silver was probably older.

\*\* Ellis designed the Water Works.

\*\*\* Springfield lost many houses due to the expansion of the types of businesses which arose on Main St.

### Presidents Message *(continued from page 2)*

the community, as their commitment to serve as sole sponsor of the 2011 Holiday Home Tour! Thank You, Wells Fargo!!!

Not all of us can be so generous as to donate \$5,000 to the Club and its mission but we all have something of great value to contribute...our special interests, time and talent. So give this some thought and think about what special piece of yourself you're willing to share. Come join us at the August Membership Meeting and bring your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers, too. August is Membership Month and we will be hosting a special program on that topic and we look forward to seeing you then!

### \*THANK YOU CORNER\*

- 1) John Fabriano: Loan of designer bridal decorations
- 2) Pat LaMountain: Delicious wedding cake
- 3) Alex Stremetzter: Continued computer support
- 4) Donald Monnier: Donated complete power washing of exterior of Club
- 5) Curtis Walker: \$50 donation of beautiful plants
- 6) Drew Hunter: Fabulous Holiday tour wreath & graphics design work

*August is Bring-A-Friend Month!*

**Tuesday, August 16th**



Come to the SIAWC with me in August; we will have a great time and I might win **dinner for two** at a nice restaurant!

*The member that brings the most guests*

*(4 or more) wins a great prize!*

### Christmas in July

Thank you to all who attended the Christmas in July event on the 16th, where we unveiled the theme, route and homes for this year's Springfield Holiday Home Tour scheduled December 9th & 10th. We also announced that our new business neighbor, Wells Fargo, will be supporting the tour with a \$5000 sponsorship. Thank you Wells Fargo. A spectacular wreath designed and created by artist Drew Hunter and including mirrored silhouettes of iconic Springfield architectural details was displayed. This wreath will "travel" as we visit RAM, Art Walk and other venues to sell tour tickets this fall. Drew also created the logo for this year's tour. This is the 25th Anniversary of the Holiday Home Tour, so think all things silvery, shiny, sparkly and shimmery. The theme is "Reflections on Springfield" and the route is a tight figure eight walking tour 7th to 5th Streets between Walnut & Liberty. The tour will begin at Don Justice Karate &

Fitness Studio at the corner of 7th & Liberty, which will be transformed into a "Winter Wonderland". The tour currently includes seven homes and Three Layers where Santa will be visiting both evenings of the tour. We hope to add two more homes. The tour committee hopes for lots of street action - strollers in vintage costume, antique autos, musicians, carolers, choirs, story-tellers and more. We need LOTS of volunteers. Look for more information and pictures coming on the tour Face book page (<http://www.facebook.com/SpringfieldHolidayHomeTour>) and on the SIAWC website.



DECEMBER 9TH & 10TH

*Leta Lair-Stever*



Meet Mia, a sweet young girl who needs your help. Although Mia is very loving, she requires extra attention to keep her entertained and happy. Without a foster home to meet her needs, SACARC is paying to board Mia at a local facility. We are committed to finding her the right forever home, but the funds to cover boarding expenses are coming out of the budget for vet care of our rescued animals. SACARC officers have donated personal funds to help cover this cost, putting an extra strain on them. If you think you could provide a foster home for Mia, please contact us at [group@sacarc.org](mailto:group@sacarc.org). Even if you can't provide a foster home, you can help with boarding costs by donating at [www.sacarc.org](http://www.sacarc.org). Be sure to include a message with the donation to let us know it is for Mia's boarding costs. As always, SACARC thanks you for your support.



# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



## 2011

### Tuesday August 2nd @ 7pm

### Liberty Street Block Party - b/t 8th & 9th St

We cordially invite you and your neighbors to take part in the

### “28th Annual National Night Out”

a unique crime/drug prevention event that strengthens neighborhood spirit and community-police partnerships.

Join our local JSO officers, City of Jacksonville, and Springfield leaders as we enjoy music, refreshments, & your neighbor's cooking. It's potluck, bring a dish!

**Dog friendly - Family friendly - Fun friendly - Crime not so friendly**

