



THE FLORIDA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
MEMBER GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

5-31-95

Charlyne Carruth
FFWC Centennial Chairman
6960 Willow Lane
Miami Lakes, FL 33014

Dear Charlyne,

I recently attended a Centennial Tea at the St. Petersburg Woman's Club and was so excited I had to share the news with you.

The guest speaker for the afternoon was Jim Schnur, a graduate history student at the USF, Bayboro Campus in St. Petersburg. He gave an excellent lecture about the history of the St. Petersburg Woman's Club in its early days. I am sending you a copy of it. What was so exciting is that he lives at the Woman's Club and is a sort of resident scholar. They usually have a married couple as custodians. Earlier this year they found themselves without custodians and commenced to interview. According to club president, Mona McKiernan, they did not find an acceptable candidate so they went to the nearby USF campus. Jim Schnur was hired to live at the clubhouse and "help out." They also have a cleaning service. While there he studied the club records and archives and wrote the lecture. Can you imagine? A woman's club with a resident scholar!

The other bit of exciting news is that the archives of the St. Petersburg Woman's Club are so excellent. They have and displayed at the Centennial Tea every yearbook since the club started in 1913. It was so inspiring when so many clubs archives are virtually non-existent. They even had the first yearbook of the Evening Woman's Coterie group which was an evening division the St. Petersburg Woman's Club started in the fifties. The evening division is now the Gulfport Coterie Woman's Club. Included in this marvelous display was also scrapbooks with newspaper articles from the 1920's, etc. Who knows what else the club archives hold! When I asked Mr. Schnur where he received all the information he had in his lecture he stated the archives of the club were the source and that they are so well preserved. The St. Petersburg Woman's Club was built in 1929 and this is surely the reason. The building is on the state and national historic register.

I hope you share my excitement at this find. I just had to share it with you!

In Federation,
Sue Potter
Sue Potter
GFWC-FFWC District 14
Centennial Chairman

cc: Bert Alberti
Mona McKiernan