

Fort Leavenworth Spouses' Club Newsletter

The Sunflower



May 2024



The Sunflower

The 2023-2024 Board Year has been nothing less than extraordinary for the Fort Leavenworth Spouses' Club. Last August, I wrote a short welcome note in our newsletter that quoted our new motto for the year; "Wherever Life Plants You, Choose to Grow!" I then went on to list our goals for the organization, which included growing our membership, growing our relationships within the community, and lastly growing in our philanthropic efforts. I can say without hesitation that as an organization we have exceeded my expectations in all three areas. As of today, we proudly sit at 307 members. Over the course of this year, we have had the honor of partnering with over 20 different organizations in the Leavenworth area, both on and off post. We made an effort to volunteer with at least one organization each month as a board and those have been some of my favorite memories of the year. After hosting our biggest fundraiser event of the year, we can announce that we successfully raised over \$23,000 to give back to our community in the form of grants and scholarships. If that's not what you call an extraordinary year, then I don't know what is.

I have to say that none of the successes we have had this year would have been possible without the dedication and leadership of the entire FLSC Board. I wish I could list every accomplishment that these board members contributed to our team, but the list would be too long for such a short article. Similar to our board members are the amazing humans who run our Sub-Clubs. I am constantly impressed with the way these leaders have gone above and beyond all year for our members. When I say this club has something for everyone, our 20 sub-clubs are a direct testament to that statement. Beyond our board members and sub-club leaders, this club would not be what it is today without the support of our fabulous members. Our members showed up and committed to our organization on a level that is rarely seen anymore within spouses' clubs. To consistently have 70-80 members at every social speaks volumes. We listened to our members and brought back the Mock Dining In this year. Not knowing what to expect, the Dining In ended up being one of our best turn outs of the entire year. Over 100 spouses came together one evening to celebrate the sisterhood (and brotherhood) that can only be found between military spouses. On top of that, we laughed and danced the night away, while quietly raising over \$1,200 in "fines!" What a night!

As this club year comes to an end, I would again like to express my gratitude to the FLSC Board, our Super Star Advisors and Honorary President, the world's best sub-club leaders and last but not least our members for a year I will cherish forever.

I will leave you with a challenge for this coming year. Whether you are staying put or getting ready to PCS, choose to grow.



Kindest regards,

Karly Gadell
President FLSC



EVENTS **2024** MAY SCHEDULE

WED
01

RUN CLUB EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 5:15 AM

THURS
2

BOWLING CLUB 12:30 PM
CROWN LANES BOWLING ALLEY

MON
6

BOURBON CLUB 6:30 PM

WED
8

RESTAURANT EXPLORERS 11:30 AM
NICK & JAKES

THURS
9

KNIT/CROCHET CLUB 10:00 AM

TUES
14

**KENTUCKY DERBY
BUNCO PARTY** 6:00 PM
220 HANCOCK AVE

WED
15

FLSC LUAU 5:30 PM
FRONTIER CONFERENCE CENTER

THURS
16

RETIREE CLUB

SAT
18

WINE CLUB 12:30 PM
WESTON WINE FEST

THURS
30

BOOK CLUB 10:00 AM



MORE INFO:



FLSC BOARD

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President- Karly Gadell
1st VP- Angela Elgin
2nd VP- Vince Afaisen
Secretary- Jeanell Hurley
Treasurer- Sarah Custer
Parliamentarian- Allison Burton

GENERAL BOARD

Honorary President-
Judy Woodward
Honorary Advisor-
Mandy Mosier & Cari Pavlichko
CGSC Representative- Christina Dieppa
Community Grants- Paula Skandis
Historian- Courtney Ricard
Hospitality- Meredith McKenzie
International Liaisons-
Anne Vaillancourt & Violetta Kopp
Newsletter- Brandy Conyers
Property Manager- Helen Prassinou
Reservations Chair- Pauline Williamson
Retiree Liaison- Katie Payne
Scholarships- Jeannette Balboni
Social Media & Marketing- Jenna Farquhar
Special Events & Fundraising Chair-
Dani Lander
Sub Club Chair- Angela Tudor
Vendor Coordinator- Jackie Williams
Volunteer Coordinator- Kendall Reese
Ways & Means-
Casey Black & Shanna Cheatham
Webmaster- Patty Taguba

Featured board members

Each month we feature a selection of our amazing board members in the newsletter!

This month our featured board members are:

Jeanette- Scholarships
Paula- Grants



Featured board members

Jeanette

SCHOLARSHIPS CHAIR



About me

I am a boy mom and a dog mom. I spend my weeks shuffling boys to football practices and all of the things. My husband, Mark and I celebrated our 15th wedding anniversary this year. I love trivia and learning new things. In my spare time, I enjoy reading, hiking and arts & crafts!



I love
Trivia &
80s movies



I can't live without...

My husband &
Coffee



HI, I'M
Paula

COMMUNITY GRANTS
CHAIR

About me

I spent my first 18 years in San Antonio, TX, but I claim North Carolina as my home. I went to college in Greensboro, NC and lived there for years afterward. My husband and I have two boys- a 3 year old and a 3month old. I am also the Coffee Club sub club leader, but I'm not really a coffee drinker. I just love the people and the vibes that it brings together! I'm more of a hot chocolate and specialty drink person. Besides volunteering, I read as much as I can, which isn't too much currently. I love jigsaw puzzles, podcasts and lifting heavy things in the gym.

Fun Facts

- I'm really into minimalist/barefoot shoes.
- I can't live without Corrected vision. I once accidentally slept in one contact lens and I woke up feeling like SpiderMan because I could suddenly see (kind of since it was only one eye).
- I used to be really into adult rec kickball. I played on two teams and even travelled from NC to Las Vegas for a tournament.





FLSC LUAAU

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS,
& 2024-25 BOARD
INDUCTION

May 15th
Doors open at
5:30

Last FLSC Social of the 2023-2024 Board Year

The night will include recognition of scholarship & grant recipients, induction of the 2024-2025 Executive Board and change of our Board and highlighting our community partners from this past year.

Attire: Luau Beach Vibes

Cost: \$32.50/person

Cocktail hour 5:30-6:00pm

Event Begins at 6:00pm

Dinner: Luau Food (Roast Pig & Sides) & Cash Bar



RSVP



OPERATION DEPLOY YOUR DRESS

ODYD is actively seeking donations of:

- *Formal & Cocktail attire (dresses & suits)
- *shoes, jewelry, handbags

All donations should be clean and free of stains, rips or tears.

Porch Pickups offered!

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Volunteer ESL Instructors needed

The English Language Support Course is looking for ESL instructors for the 2024-2025 classes which will begin in late August. This is an opportunity to meet international spouses from around the world, learn about each other's cultures, and develop friendships that will continue long after they have returned home.

For more information, please contact Jeanne Boetig, ELSC Director,
913-240-5301 or jmboetig@gmail.com



APRIL

2024



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