

## Pensacola Camellia Club - Thekla "T" Morris Scholarship



You would not expect a woman who lived with motion sickness to join the Navy, but the determination of Thekla "T" Willemenia Morris was not going to let anything slow her down. She received her RN at Georgia Baptist in 1944 and graduated from Holy Names in Oakland, CA, in 1951 - the same year she joined the Navy. Throughout her 27 years as a nurse in the Navy, she continued her studies at every station. She retired with the rank of Commander from Pensacola Naval Hospital in July of 1978, receiving so many accolades she could have saved money on wallpaper.



Miss T packed her life with insatiable curiosity which was revealed in her myriad of hobbies. Suiseki, bonsai, golf, calligraphy, painting, ceramics, wood working, numismatist, candle making, traveling, minerology, bird watching, national park enthusiast, square dancing, and bowling to name some. She could mirror write the same sentence simultaneously with both hands. T was a regaling historian with a warm-hearted humor.

The Pensacola Camellia Club, The Pensacola Daylily Club, Fort Walton Beach Bonsai Society, Bonsai Kai (founder), the Pensacola chapter of the Navy Nurse Corps Association, and Japan-American Society of Northwest Florida, will find it impossible to fill the vacancy she leaves. T strived to attend every meeting and support every event. Her Navy Recruiter skills shined as she actively recruited members for local clubs, the American Camellia Society, Bonsai Societies of Florida, and Bonsai Clubs International (BCI editor 1983-1986).

T Morris went to eternity on January 22, 2021, at the age of 97. The Pensacola Camellia Club Foundation and the Pensacola Camellia Club have established the Thekla "T" Morris Scholarship, a scholarship in support of Plant Science students at the University of Florida at Milton in the spirit of her life long journey of learning. The scholarship is distributed each Spring and the funds awarded at the Pensacola Camellia Club annual banquet held in March.

Applications are available from the UF Milton scholarship committee.

**Pensacola Camellia Club - Thekla "T" Morris Scholarship Application - Spring 2025**

**Due March 1, 2025**

**Funds awarded for Spring 2025**

The Pensacola Camellia Club has established the Thekla "T" Morris Scholarship as a memorial to honor "Miss T", a long treasured member and supporter of the Pensacola Camellia Club. This \$1000 scholarship will be available to a Plant Science student attending the UF program at the West Florida Research and Education Center. Scholarships are given to students with GPA higher than 3.0 and who have completed at least one semester at UF. Scholarships are awarded based on many factors including grades, participation in UF Milton activities, and service to the greater northwest Florida community.

All information on this application is confidential and is solely used for the purpose of determining eligibility of applicants. PLEASE include your name on all pages of the application and return to [conniebspencer@ufl.edu](mailto:conniebspencer@ufl.edu) .

Name:

Date:

Email Address:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone #:

Current county of residence:

County of most recent graduation:

Grade Point Average (indicate institution - UF or other):

Program of Study:

Credit hours enrolled this semester:

Describe any previous/current jobs or internships related to your major.

Describe any extracurricular activities (including membership or specific activities and roles with any UF student clubs) or other volunteer work in the community.

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Name:

Briefly state your future plans after graduation:

List any additional honors or awards you have received.

In 100 - 250 words, describe why you should be considered for a scholarship.