



August 2021

the **NEWSCOMER**

CITRUS NEWCOMERS CLUB



◀ **The President's Message** ▶

Dear Members,

I have heard that writing this column is every President's least favorite job and that will probably not change with me...but, here I am writing away. I don't need to remind you of the horrors of 2020-2021 but it is a new year and, I'm hoping, a better one. I want to welcome returning members and new members to Citrus Newcomers. We hope you enjoy the club and participate in all the activities and special interest groups. That participation will be the best way to get acquainted with other members and with the opportunities for fun in the surrounding areas.

The Board members have several ways of communicating with you. Our newsletter has information on all activities so please make sure you read it when it arrives by email. If there is a need to communicate quickly, Jackie Moore will send out an E-blast. Cathy Uvanni handles our media needs, including our web and Facebook sites. You can access the web page through Citrus Newcomers, but you need to email Cathy Uvanni and ask her to allow access for you on Facebook. You will receive an emailed copy of our membership list so you will have email addresses for all members, including Cathy's.

Finally, I want to address some of the problems we are encountering this year. If you have been grocery shopping, you have seen the rising costs. The restaurants where we meet have those same problems. So, when meeting at Citrus Hills, we will encounter higher prices and those costs will have to be passed on to the attendees. At other venues the luncheon cost will likely remain at \$20. In any case, the Board has directed that the cost be as close to \$20 as possible. Neither luncheon nor activities will satisfy everyone but some venues are not up and running yet, or have closed during the quarantine. Just know that we are doing our best to make it a successful year and we hope you will work with us to do the same.

Bonnie Groves
President
jabongro@gmail.com

Luncheon Meetings

We love our luncheons!

With friends, interesting programs, and delicious food, who wants to miss one of these luncheon meetings!

Luncheon September 16, 2021

ROYAL OAK

11220 SW 69th Cir, Ocala

DOORS OPEN AT 11:00

Hot--- Tossed Salad
Home Made Lasagna

Cold--- Antipasto Salad
Italian Wedding Soup

Rolls & Butter

Dessert – Cannoli for all

**GLUTEN FREE AND VEGETARIAN AVAILABLE
ON REQUEST**

NO SAVING SEATS PLEASE

**Take Home Bags will not be allowed at any
Buffet Luncheons. "Take what you can eat, eat
what you take."**

September's Program – Meet and Greet

Ice Breaker Game will be played.

Make luncheon reservations by
mailing your check to:

Cyndi Sheftel
1278 N Cherry Pop Drive
Hernando, Fl. 34442
860-541-1795

for more information. She can also be contacted at
Cyndiksheftel@gmail.com

Members \$20 / Guests \$25

**Effective September 1, 2018 there will be a surcharge
of \$1.00 for all luncheon payments by credit card.**

Checks MUST be made payable to:

**CITRUS NEWCOMERS CLUB – CHECK MUST BE
SIGNED BY MEMBER. IF SIGNED BY SOMEONE ELSE,
THEY MUST HAVE YOUR NAME ON THE MEMO LINE.**

**Choice of meal on check. If not, you will receive a hot
meal**

**NEW !!! Deadline for reservation is
Thursday before the luncheon.**

A RESERVATION EXISTS WHEN YOUR CHECK HAS
BEEN RECEIVED. Cancellations may be made prior to the
deadline and a full refund will be provided, but after that
date, you will only receive a refund if **we can "sell" your
lunch**. If, at the last minute, you find you cannot attend the
luncheon, call Cyndi Sheftel. There is the possibility she
has a waiting list and will be able to "sell" your reservation.

**NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINK IS
ALLOWED AT ANY LUNCHEON**

PLEASE NOTE: The Country Clubs do not allow
denim to be worn. Also, we have no control of the AC,
so please bring a sweater

ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, September 29th - LUNCH BUNCH - Lunch Bunch will be at Amy's on the Avenue on. For details, contact Ruth Merk at rmerk8@tampabay.rr.com.

Tuesday, November 9 - SANGRIA UNIVERSITY at Three Bridges Bar and Grill at Villa del Lago at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort. This class is an interactive experience where guests taste all four of the in-house sangrias, learn about the history of the fruity cocktail, enjoy a light bite prepared by the chefs and discover the connection between Walt Disney and Sangria. The final test of your knowledge comes when you have the opportunity to mix your own sangria.

Following this, the group will proceed to Disney Springs for dinner and/or shopping.

Cost for this exciting day is \$75.00 which includes round trip bus transportation. FOR INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS, contact Barbara Greco at bgrec519@gmail.com.

Thursday, October 7, Kane's Cattle Co. 6:00 PM – Join the Dinner Bunch at Kane's Cattle Co., 508 N Citrus Ave in the historic district of Crystal River. The menu includes Steak, Surf, Turf and Pasta. This steakhouse combines its casual atmosphere with fine dining. Come along or bring a guest or spouse.

Contact Irene Magerman at Irene.Magerman@gmail.com. Note that RSVPs made and not cancelled by October 5 will be subject to a \$10 charge.

More to come.

Highlight for the month - Kayaking

Message from Mary Lerman regarding Newcomers Kayaking

Introducing Lina Argote, Coordinator for Kayaking Citrus Newcomers Club

This year, Lina Argote has stepped up to coordinate our club's kayaking activity, while I step down. Lina brings fresh energy and ideas, as well as years of CPA experience to keep your payments in line. Please give Lina all the support and spirit that you showered on me over the past few years. I already have a couple of favorite tours that I plan to attend.

Our Guide Company for the tours.....

Our Kayaking guide is Jodi Lanier, Nature Coast Eco Tours, same as 2019 before the pandemic. As you may remember, Captain Jodi Lanier is a Florida native who is very familiarized with the area. She is a Florida Master Naturalist with wilderness experience as well as a certified lifeguard to ensure a fun and safe adventure. She is also a USCG Master Captain.

Schedule for 2021-2022

Lina, Jodi, and I have scheduled paddles on familiar rivers beginning in September 2021 and ending in June 2022. All launches are on the third Monday each month, except for Feb 15th, a Tuesday. Most launches start at 9:00 am. Check out our draft of the Kayak Schedule for 2021 -2022, and let Lina know if you have questions or concerns. This season, we are introducing a couple of new tour variations, and we hope you will enjoy them.

Lina Argote's contact info: Mobile: 954-551-0123 linacpa@tampabay.rr.com

Overview of Citrus Newcomers Kayak Outings with
Captain Jodi Lanier, Nature Coast Eco Tours

When:

Kayak outings for members are scheduled on the **3rd Monday morning each month** from September through June 2022, except for Tuesday, Feb 15. See attached Schedule 2021-2022.

Where:

Our members launch from a different scenic river each month. (see locations below). We rent our kayaks from Nature Coast ECO Tours who transports the kayaks to our launch site, and owner, Captain Jodi Lanier, guides us through the entire outing.

Fee:

\$45 includes kayak, paddles, vests w/ whistle, and guides. All kayaks are Sit-On with comfortable seats with backs. This is a fantastic price because we guarantee a number of outings each year. Unfortunately, paddlers are no longer permitted to bring their own kayaks, because Jodi, our guide, is responsible for all participants, and she can't reduce fees for personally owned kayaks.

A separate check for \$45 is required for each outing, even if you plan to enroll in several. Checks are made payable to Nature Coast Eco Tours with outing date noted in memo. Payment is due 2 weeks prior to an outing date and must be received by Lina Argote. There are special two outings that require an additional fees (approximately \$10-12).

Paddler Limits:

We are limited to 12-15 paddlers per outing. Weight limit per person is 300 Lbs. Paddlers may sign up ahead for those outings that they can commit to, but preference is given to those whose checks have been received 2 weeks prior to launch date. Each outing must have a separate check.

Who is Eligible:

Members and significant others of our Newcomers Club are eligible to join us, however, it is expected that all paddlers know how to keep control of their boat: how to paddle, turn, stop, etc. For safety reasons, paddlers must be able to keep up with the group and be on the water up to 2 ½ hours, although we stop midway for a break. Outings generally launch and end at the same point, so we spend half the time paddling upstream, then relaxing downstream at the end. This year we are offering a couple of variations and will notify everyone closer to launch dates. Each river outing is rated in difficulty on the attached schedule, and most are fine for anyone with basic paddling skills. However, no one with medical issues should consider paddling.

At least a week prior to each outing, directions and launch information are emailed to those who have signed up and paid. We also have a carpool from CVS, Norvell Bryant Hwy, Hernando, for those who want to ride together. Following our morning paddle, most members like to meet at a restaurant near the launch site for a relaxing lunch.

Questions or concerns should be address to Lina Argote, Mobile: 954-551-0123
linacpa@tampabay.rr.com.

3rd Monday		Planned Launch Sites	Rating
MON - Sept 20	9:00 AM	Rainbow River. KP Hole to Head Springs	B
MON - Oct 18	9:00 AM	Weeki Wachee River, downstream 2.8 miles from Springs to new output. \$12 additional fee for launch and transport back to Springs.	I
MON - Nov 15	9:00 AM	Ozello Tour at Pirates Cove	B//C
MON - Dec 20	9:00 AM	Hog Island Boat Ramp, Bushnell	B/I

Membership 2020-2021

Applications for the 2021-2022 membership year is available on our website.

The current up-to-date Membership Directory can be found on our website at www.citrusnewcomers.org under the "Meet Us" tab.

The Directory requires a password that has been previously sent out by email. If you do not have the password please contact VP of Membership, Cathy Schafer at catschafer@gmail.com.

In addition to viewing the Membership Directory on our website, an email with an attached PDF of our Membership Directory, that can be downloaded and printed, will be sent out once a month.

IMPORTANT: Please share the Password with current Club Members only. Our directory is not to be used to promote business in any manner.

Joanie Cellana
Diane Burton
Cathy Hickman

Eileen MacKrell
Ellen Saunders
Misty Boyers

Stephanie Gardner
Irene Swanton
Laura Fitzgerald

Citrus Newcomers Club
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