



September 2022

the NEWSCOMER



CITRUS NEWCOMERS CLUB

◀ The President's Message ▶

I hope you all had a great summer. I embarked on a long summer's journey with the intention of solving several family problems. I managed to accomplish two of them but the others were a disaster, culminating in a semi-truck's tire lug nut smashing my window in southern North Carolina. Couldn't wait to be back to my own muddled life.

We had a board meeting on August 8, hoping to get ready for our September meeting. We realized we had a lot of new members who needed to be brought up to date on the many things about our club that we more established members of the club take for granted. I'm going to do a "quick and dirty" of them but you will find little nuggets of details elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter. Please try to read them as they will make your time in the club much easier.

First: Our luncheon price as of September 1 is \$25. As of January 1, we will need to increase that to \$28. If you've been to the grocery store lately, you can understand the reasons. Even at those costs, we will be subsidizing your luncheon costs. As Joanie Cellana said at our board meeting, she refused to pay \$8 for a bag of potatoes. No problem, she says she's lost 2 pounds. We can't promise you that benefit!

Second: You need to make reservations for each individual luncheon. The details as to the venues, the menu, the program and the cost is in our newsletters. Please don't just show up at the luncheon venue. We cannot add you to the luncheon list as the venues need to order their food one week ahead of time, based on our count at that time. If you can't make the meeting after you've made reservations, please don't tell someone to come in your place because we may have a waiting list if we have limited seating. Please don't ask someone to pick up your lunch, the venues do not provide "to go" service.

Third: You will notice some new larger venues which provide speakers with more media equipment and more space for our members. The Central Florida College and the Kellner Auditorium do not allow alcohol. We hope you enjoy the new venues and the food. We'd like feedback so please feel free to speak your minds.

Fourth: We need help, not every meeting, necessarily, but we'd love to have you volunteer. You can help with selling Share the Wealth tickets, collecting food donations in October and toy donations in November and with decorating help throughout the year. And, yes, we are collecting the food and toys one month earlier than usual. It just allows us to accommodate our recipients a little better.

Finally, please join me in welcoming our new members:

Continued on Page 4

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.

Please, no denim and you may want to bring a sweater. No outside food or beverages are allowed.

September Luncheon Thursday, September 15, 2022

College of Central Florida Charles S. Dean Building

3800 S. Lecanto Highway
Lecanto, FL: 34461-9026

DOORS OPEN AT 11:00 **Sign Up Deadline – 9/08/22**
By 4 PM
Cost \$25 / \$30

Luncheon Buffet

Salad Mixed Greens, House Dressing, Sweet Chili Chicken, Roast Pork Loin w/Gravy on side, Squash & Zucchini Casserole, Mini New Potatoes w/butter and parsley

Yeast rolls and butter

Dessert: Yellow cake with icing

Tea, Coffee & Iced Tea

Take Home Bags will not be allowed at this Buffet Luncheon. "Take what you can eat, eat what you take."

A reservation exists when your check has been received. Cancellations - May be made by the Thursday prior to the luncheon date. Your check will be returned to you or voided. If a cancellation is made after the deadline date you will forfeit your luncheon payment unless there is a waiting list and we are able to sell your reservation seat. For last minute cancellations please call **Joan Cellana at 727-804-7830. Please do not send a friend in your place. Your meal is not transferrable.** No-Shows will forfeit luncheon payments and meals. **Walk-ins are not allowed. We cannot guarantee you a seat.**

October Luncheon Thursday, October 20, 2022

Kellner Auditorium

102 Civic Circle
Beverly Hills, FL 34465

DOORS OPEN AT 11:00 **Sign Up Deadline – 10/13/22**
By 4 PM
Cost \$25 / \$30

Rolls w/ Butter

Salad – Caesar Salad

Lemon Pepper Chicken, Top Round of Beef

Broccoli & Cheese Casserole, Corn Soufflé, Rice Pilaf

Dessert: Chocolate Cake w/ Icing

Beverage Bar – Coffee & Ice Tea, Water

PAYMENT REMINDER

Checks must be made payable to:

CITRUS NEWCOMERS CLUB or CNC – The check must include the name of the person attending the luncheon. If paying for an additional member/guest, please provide their name on the memo line. Also, please designate your choice of cold or hot food, as well as any special dietary requirements.

September – Members \$25, Guests \$30
October – Members \$25, Guests \$30

Mail your check to:

Joanie Cellana
2141 N. Heritage Oaks Path
Hernando, FL. 34442
727-804-7830

For more information contact
icellana@msn.com

September luncheon

Don't miss our September luncheon! We'll be in a new venue - the College of Central Florida - with Audio/Visual capabilities we've never had before. We'll be highlighting our Club - members, past and present - and the wonders of living in Citrus County.

Our **Activities** Leads, Barbara Greco and Nancy Harney, will showcase the exciting adventures and events they have planned for the year. Our new **Special Interest Groups** leads, Marcia Schunemann and Lori Priselac, have been seeking your ideas on new interests to add to the current line-up. At the September luncheon, they'll reveal the expanded list of Special Interest Groups you can join.

October luncheon

Our October program will feature Melissa Bowmaster, from **Jessie's Place**, a children's advocacy center in Citrus County. We'll learn about the important investigative and support services the center provides on behalf of abused children.

We'll also hold our **annual food drive** to benefit **CUB (Citrus United Basket)**. For over 36 years, CUB has assisted Citrus County families facing temporary hardship.

NEW MEMBERS (Continued from Page 1)

Linda Allen	Phyllis Coulter	Lisa Keeley	Robin Radecki
Angie Atkinson	Tracey Cousineau	Debbie MacLean	JoAnn Rininger
Lori Barlow	Debra DeCordova	Dottie Mansfield	Phyllis Riley
Sally Benson	Nancy Dolley	Barbara McKinnon	Vickie Robinson
Debby Blackie	Sherri Funk	Lorie Miller	Yvonne Rodgers
Peggy Brenner	Patricia Ganno	Christine Morrow	Aileen Scharl
Bonnie Burgess	Joann Garner Richards	Susan Newell	Susan Siwek
Michelle Burnett	Lynda Gentz	Elaine Nielson	Annie Tank-Nielsen
Jeri Celentano	Janet Haight	Mary Nowlan	Odelie Volz
Peggy Clark	Joyce Doty Haynes	Patricia Olson-Hoffmann	Melinda Walnoha
Betty Connell	Beverly Harris	Enid Pierson	Carol Williamson
Sandra Copenhaver	Michaeleen Hurley	Helene Price	Elli Zeigler

ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER? THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE NEWCOMERS CLUB

BUSINESS/FINANCIAL INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Our fiscal year begins on **June 1st** of the current year and ends **May 31st** of the following year.
- We are a 501(C7) organization under federal law which is a not-for-profit SOCIAL organization. As such we are exempt from federal taxes.
- We are NOT exempt from state taxes. We pay state taxes.
- Our club maintains our accounting records on a CASH BASIS, much like you run and record your household income and expenses. We record money in as Income and money out as Expenses.

Whatever is left over at the end of each year is our SURPLUS, what we all want or a DEFICIT, which is spending more than you take in as income.

- While we are considered a not-for-profit, we are allowed to use the SURPLUS to maintain a reserve for operating costs (ideally 2 years-worth or more).
- Our monies should come from MEMBERS in dues, fees, or assessments.
- Non-member monies must be tracked separately and may be taxable if a certain threshold is reached.

Your Program team is currently in the process of booking speakers/entertainers for next year, from September through May. If you have suggestions or topics you'd like to learn about, please send them to Linda Belanger at lindab-jewels@sbcglobal.net. We can't promise all of them will happen, since we only have 9 luncheons and lots of good ideas, but we will consider them all!

Wanted: Talented Newcomers!

For our March luncheon, we're planning a talent show. If you can sing, dance, play a musical instrument, write poetry, do stand-up comedy, or whatever artistic gift you may possess, we want you!

Please contact me if you'd like to take part in the show. Let me know what talent you'll be sharing with our members, so we can be sure to have some variety.

Don't be shy.....it'll be fun!! As someone with no artistic gift whatsoever, I can assure you that I - and the rest of us - will be in awe of your abilities.

Please email me at lindab-jewels@sbcglobal.net

Membership 2022-2023

Our membership form for the 2022-2023 membership year is available on our website at www.citrusnewcomers.org under the "Join" tab. Also, you can view the up-to-date Membership Directory 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 Membership VP Cathy Schafer at catschafer@gmail.com. In addition to viewing the Membership Directory on our website, a printable PDF of our directory is emailed to members once a month. **IMPORTANT: Please share the Password with current Club Members only. Our directory is not be used for other organizations, businesses, or solicitation purposes.**

ACTIVITIES

You must pay by check, made out to CNC (Citrus Newcomers Club.) **You do not have a reservation until your check is received.** There will be a sign-up table at all luncheons and details of activities will be listed in the monthly newsletter, or sent out by e-blast, so you can sign up by mail. Members are accommodated before guests. No refunds if cancelling after the deadline date. Lunch and Dinner Bunch participants must deposit a \$10.00 check, refundable if they attend.

If carpooling - SHARE THE RIDE, SHARE THE COST

Tuesday, September 13, 2022 – Buffet Lunch cruise aboard the **Calypso Queen in Clearwater**. Cost is \$70.00 which includes cruise, bus, buffet lunch, soft drink or rum punches and gratuities. This trip will leave the Inverness Walmart Parking Lot at 10:00 a.m. and return at approximately 4:30 p.m. Contact Barbara Greco at bgreco519@gmail.com. **SOLD OUT**

Thursday, September 22, 2022 - LUNCH BUNCH - at Bonefish in Ocala at 12:30. So happy they are open for lunch. Looking forward to the Bang Bang Shrimp and their usual delicious meals. Sign up at our meeting with Ruthie Merk, bring a \$10.00 and a big smile.

October - Dinner Bunch will resume in October. Irene Magerman will have details at the September meeting.

Wednesday, October 5, 2022 - Buffet Lunch cruise aboard **the 2nd Calypso Queen in Clearwater**. Cost is \$70.00 which includes cruise, bus, buffet lunch, soft drink or rum punches and gratuities. This trip will leave the Inverness Walmart Parking Lot at 10:00 a.m. and return at approximately 4:30 p.m. Contact Barbara Greco at bgreco519@gmail.com. Mail your check to Barbara Greco 519 West Olympia Street, Hernando, FL 34442.

Thursday, October 6, 2022 – Show Evita - for the luncheon matinee at noon. Cost - \$70.00 Limited seating, please email me as soon as possible to make a reservation. bgreco11@gmail.com Once your reservation is accepted, mail your check made payable to *Citrus Newcomers Club* to Barbara Greco 519 West Olympia Street Hernando FL 34442. **SOLD OUT**

Monday, October 10, 2022 - SINGING RIVER PONTOON - 11:00 am or 1:00pm
Join us for a hour and forty minute pontoon ride on the Rainbow River. During the journey, our guide will explain the ecosystem of the river and take us to the site where the river empties into the Withlacoochee River. See this amazing phenomenal and rare site. Witness the sighting of the amazing wildlife and serene setting of our local rivers. Learn the cycle of water from rain to river, the aqua fir and how toxins enter our drinking water. The journey ends with our guide singing local folklore. Two tours will be offered, with optional lunch at the Blue Gator. Spouses are welcome. Cost is \$24.00 and covers excursion and tip. Event coordinator is MonaLisa Young

Wednesday, October 12, 2022 - BEGINNER KUMIHIMO BRAIDING - 10:00 am - 111 West Main St, Inverness - TRY SOMETHING NEW - This class is for learning the basic round cord. You will learn how to prepare the braiding disk and bobbins, you will learn the steps for braiding the cord and work until the completion of a 24 inch cord. You will learn more to take the finished cord off the disk and secure the ends with a magnetic closure.

Cost \$40.00 per person- includes your braiding disk and Bobbins, 16 yards of braiding cord and a magnetic closure.

Cruising Time:

ROYAL CARIBBEAN GIRLS CRUISE - OCT, 2022

Please join us for the 7-day Eastern Caribbean cruise,

Sunday October 30th to Sunday - November 6th on

Royal Caribbean's *HARMONY OF THE SEAS*.

Ports include: St. Kitts; St. Thomas; Coco Cay, Bahamas (private island); and 3 days of cruising.

The ship leaves from/to Port Canaveral, roughly 2 hours from Citrus County. Driving and parking at the port are easy. Yankee Trails offers bus service from The Villages with free parking at their office.

Non-members are cordially invited to join us. View the up-to-date health/COVID protocols on the Royal Caribbean website.

We will be booking the cruise with Julie Boulanger-Taylor of Taylor Elite Travel, not directly with RC. They have a group on this sailing and have cabins reserved in each category. Here are some sample per passenger cruise fares including taxes and port fees:

INSIDE CABIN - \$687.66 - OCEAN VIEW - \$1,029.66 - OCEAN BALCONY - \$1,159.32

There are multiple fares within each category and prices can change before booking. The sample fares above do not include any past Royal Caribbean guest discounts or cabin upgrades within each category to which you may be entitled. If you are interested in a cabin alone, the above fares are roughly doubled, less port charges and taxes for one person. Please be sure to ask Julie about travel insurance for your trip. Insurance is based on age and cabin category. TAYLOR ELITE (a Virtuoso travel agency) will provide a \$75 shipboard credit per stateroom, that will be divided on your shipboard account. They will make all dining reservations for us. My plan is for us to dine together if possible. Shore excursions may be booked online.

Because we are going with Taylor Elite, the deposit is completely refundable until final payment in August. A \$250 deposit per passenger or \$500 for a solo cabin locks in the price. If you know with whom you'll be sharing or are going solo, go ahead and call Julie. If you want to go and need a share, please contact me and I'll do my best to hook you up. You will need to give Julie your passport and vaccination information at time of booking. As of April, we have 13 going.

Please don't hesitate to call if you have questions. Ellen Saunders 352-527-6556 To book, call Julie Boulanger-Taylor, Taylor Elite Travel 754-732-1902 Her email is Julie@taylorelitetravel.com Please let me know if you book as well.

Harmony of the Seas Overview

Launched in 2016, *Harmony of the Seas* is still one of the world's largest cruise ships. You would be hard pressed to take part in everything on offer on the 5,479-passenger *Harmony of the Seas* in a week. The sheer number of entertainment offerings is bewildering.

The ship is organized into a "neighborhood" concept, with activities grouped into different areas on the ship. There's a Boardwalk; Central Park, with real trees and plants; the Pool and Sports Zone for outdoor activities, and the Royal Promenade for shopping and entertainment.

Highlights include:

- *Adults-only Solarium
- *Ice-skating rink and shows
- *25 restaurants and lounges
- *Stand-up comedy club
- *Broadway at Sea musicals
- *AquaTheater performances
- *14 complimentary dining options

Saturday, November 5, 2022 – Scavenger Hunt

A rare Saturday adventure discovering how the citizens of Citrus County honor their deceased loved ones. Form a team of two to six individuals to find specific information on the gravestones throughout the unique cemeteries of Citrus County.

The kickoff will be in the Walmart parking lot on Route 44 in Inverness at 10:00 am. Directions to each graveyard will be provided along with the list of deceased individuals that will answer each and every question. You will be amazed what you will learn about citizens of central Florida.

Everyone will meet back at the home of Barbara Greco at 519 West Olympia Street at 4:00 pm to check the results and enjoy a catered meal. Prizes will be awarded for the team with the most correct answers.

Contact Carolyn Moss ckmoss@tampabay.rr.com or Barbara Greco bgreco519@gmail.com

Wednesday, November 9, 2022 - Your Activity Host, Nancy Harney - We are going holiday shopping at the International Mall in Tampa. Cost is \$30.00 which includes bus and driver's gratuities. This trip will leave the Inverness Walmart Parking Lot at 9:00 a.m. and return at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 7:30 - *Straight No Chaser* is a very popular professional American male acapella group who dance and sing popular music without the use of any instruments. They are kicking off Their 25th Anniversary Celebration tour and will be performing in Orlando at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts on. Shows typically last about 90 minutes. They will have you laughing, singing and dancing. Tickets are selling fast! **The cost is \$87 for tickets, taxes, fees and bus transportation.** Checks made payable to **Citrus Newcomers** need to be mailed to **Denise Larner, 245 Green Street, Fairhaven, MA. 02719**, my summer address. If the check is in the mail, text (508 685-1646) or email (dlarner@gmail.com) so I'll have an accurate count. You won't regret it! **SOLD OUT**

Citrus Newcomers Club
P.O.Box 418
Lecanto, FL 34460