



February 2024



the NEWSCOMER

CITRUS NEWCOMERS CLUB

◀ **The President's Message** ▶

Mary Alice Tillman wrote a wonderful oped article in the Citrus Chronicle intitled, "Is this getting older a conspiracy?" Mary Alice has a wonderful sense of humor and she was addressing the "conspiracies" concerning growing old. She suggests that things are being rigged so that we think we're becoming more infirm. As you know from previous articles, I'm a big advocate for just keeping on rolling along, trying new experiences, staying physically active, mentally active as well. I guess that could be called, "refusing to face the facts," but I prefer to think of it as positive thinking.

Her first conspiracy was that we don't really lose strength as we age, manufacturers just keep making packaging more and more difficult to open. When I mentioned this at dinner with a group, I heard stories of being bombarded with yogurt, being splashed with orange juice and spilling soft drinks or having to throw cans away because pop-tops break off before they can be removed. I, myself, have resorted to pliers when the seal on the orange juice could not be removed by hand. Who thinks of some of these designs?

Mary Alice also believes that buttons are being made smaller so we have trouble manipulating them. Or, maybe the buttonholes are being made too small for the buttons. I think that is a possibility...it can't possibly be my arthritic thumbs. And, forget about zippers! That's why spandex was invented.

One of my theories of a conspiracy to make us feel older is visiting younger relatives for the holidays. Here in Florida, I'm surrounded by intelligent, active women who are active both physically and mentally. We fill up activity trips as soon as they're announced, we play competitive games and we're always on the go. When I visit my granddaughter, I have to threaten harm if she doesn't stop trying to take my arm when I go down the stairs. I like great-grandchildren. They really believe that I have no trouble getting down on the floor to play with them. Or back up!

Newcomers works hard to provide programs which expand your mind, keep you moving, laughing and enjoying each other's company. We hope our members find these pleasures in our group.

Now please join me in welcoming our new members:

Mary Kay Bugman
Stephanie Chapin
Linda Chearmonte
Ginna Langevin
Michelle Zubrzycki

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.

February Luncheon Thursday, February 15, 2024

College of Central Florida Charles S. Dean Building

3800 S. Lecanto Highway
Lecanto, FL 34461-9026

DOORS OPEN AT 10:30 **Sign Up Deadline – 2/8/24**
By 4 PM
Cost \$28 / \$33

Mixed Salad – **Served plated**
Sliced Roast Beef Carving Station w/ Creamy
Horseradish Sauce
Chicken topped w/ sun dried tomatoes & prosciutto in
a White Wine Cream
Green Bean Almandine
Rolls w/ Butter

Dessert: Cheese Cake w/ topping some Strawberry's
– Carmel Drizzle

Beverage Bar – Coffee & Ice Tea, Water

March Luncheon Thursday, March 21, 2024

Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club

505 E Hartford St, Hernando, FL 34442

DOORS OPEN AT 10:30

Sign Up Deadline – 3/14/24

By 4 PM

Cost \$28 / \$33

Rolls w/ Butter

Hot Meal

Tossed Green Salad
Meatloaf **or**
Baked Stuffed Flounder
Mashed Potatoes
Veggie of the Day

Cold Meal

Cup of Soup - Tomato Bisque
Grilled Chicken Wrap
Potato Salad

Dessert: Carrot Cake
Beverage Bar – Coffee & Ice Tea, Water

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.**

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.

February – Members \$28, Guests \$33

March - Members \$28, Guests \$33

Mail your check to:

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

For more information contact

icellana@msn.com

February Luncheon

Detectives Richley and Kelly of the Citrus County Sheriff's Office Major Crime division will be discussing Human Trafficking. February is the month of love. Bring your loved one whether it is your spouse, parent, sibling, neighbor, or friend to this interesting and informative talk.

March Luncheon

"SAVING PAWS TO CLAWS". Sue Silber from the Athenas Wildlife Sanctuary Inc. Report injured wildlife at 480-427-9244.

April Luncheon

Patricia's Boutique in Brooksville has agreed to provide CLASSY CASUAL clothes for the April fashion show. Thank you to everyone who agreed to model.

Kayaking Schedule for the Year

Day	Date	Time	Launch Site	River Rating
Monday	2/12/24	9 am	Hog Island – Bushnell	B/I
Monday	3/18/24	9 am	Ray Wayside Park-Silver/Ocklawaha Rivers	B/I
Monday	4/15/24	9 am	Waccassasa River-Inglis	I/C
Monday	5/20/24	9 am	Bennett's Creek-Yankeetown	I/C
Monday	6/17/24	9 am	Dunnellon Public Boat Ramp to Goldendale-One Way Paddle	B/I
Monday	7/20/24	7:30 am	Full Moon Paddle - Chassahowitzka	B/I
Monday	8/5/24	7:30 am	Bioluminescent Tour-Safety Harbor, FL	I/C

River Rating: B=Beginner I= Intermediate C= Challenging
Duration for all paddlers is 2-2.5 hours with breaks s needed

Contact Lina Argote for more info or to request an outing
linacpa@tampabay.rr.com Mobile: 954-551-0123

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Special Interest Groups with random schedules:

Simple Suppers (Couples) - We share meals in members' homes. Each group of 3 couples determines the date, time, and place for suppers. *Cyndi Sheftel 860-316-5481*

Singles Group – Meet other Newcomers to attend activities, game nights, lunches and more. *Bonnie Groves 352-527-3577*

Pinochle or Mahjong Lessons – at Chris Harvey's home. *Chris Harvey 352-228-9501*

Rummikub Lessons – *Marcia Schuneman 845-224-4042*

If you love playing board games, **Mexican Train, Rummikub, cards**, really any games, please join us at Game "Night" the first Tuesday of the month.

The Wine & Dine Book Club typically meets on the first Thursday of each month. However, for March, they will be wining and dining on the 14th (second Tuesday) instead.

Interest Group Coordinators: *Linda Belanger 860-518-1613* *Gloria Frank 931-338-1770*

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st week of the month		Game "night" (Co-ed) 2:00-4:00 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Linda Belanger 860-518-1613</i>	Mexican Train 11:00-2:30 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Barbara Fincher 615-406-4598</i>	Beading & Jewelry 1:00-3:00 Jan Bauer's home Pine Ridge <i>Jan Bauer 352-249-7543</i> \$5.00	Beading & Jewelry 1:00-3:00 Jan Bauer's home Pine Ridge <i>Jan Bauer 352-249-7543</i> \$5.00
		Dinner & A Movie 4:00 (approx., depending on movie) Regal in Inverness or Epic in Ocala Dinner to follow <i>Stephanie Gombrelli 352-613-6111</i>	10,000 Dice Game 1:00 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Inverness <i>Jan Minik 352-513-4189</i> \$5.00	Murder & Munchies Book Club II 1:15-3:00 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Marilyn Felmer marilynfelmer861@gmail.com</i>	Pinochle 1:00-3:30 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Barbara Pankosky 352-270-8013</i>
				Wine & Dine Book Club 4:00 In people's homes <i>Michelle Seith 301-335-0866</i>	
2nd week of the month	Mahjong Players 1:30 At Pam Depew's home in Citrus Hills <i>Pam Depew 352-249-7031</i> \$3.00			Bunco Afternoon 3:00 At Pam Depew's home in Citrus Hills <i>Pam Depew 352-249-7031</i> \$5.00	Murder & Munchies Book Club 1:00-3:00 In people's homes <i>Carolyn Moss 352-746-6445</i>
3rd week of the month	Kayaking Typically morning launch, followed by optional lunch. Paddle locations vary by month <i>Lina Argote 954-551-0123</i> \$50.00 per single kayak	Bunco 2.0 10:00-12:00 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Carolyn Robertson 352-249-6215</i> <i>Kathy Kuehn 908-619-2956</i> \$5.00			
4th week of the month	Mahjong Players 1:30 At Pam Depew's home in Citrus Hills (Note: last week of the month) <i>Pam Depew 352-249-7031</i> \$3.00		Garden Goddesses Typically, 10:30-12:00, followed by optional lunch. Locations vary, depending on the topic of the month. <i>Lori Priselac 352-586-2828</i> <i>Cathy Hickman 952-913-6074</i>	CCNC Book Club 1:30 Lakes Regional Library Druid Road, Inverness <i>Judy Herron 352-860-0232</i>	

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. Dinner and Lunch Bunch participants must deposit a \$10.00 check, refundable if they attend.

Please consider carpooling to these activities – share the ride and share the cost.

ACTIVITY	DATE	CONTACT	COST	COMMENTS
A Day at the Races	Friday, February 9th	Carolyn Moss ckmoss43@gmail.com	\$35	Tampa Bay Downs
Beautiful	Saturday, February 17 th	Pat Sherman 352-212-1128	\$64	Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theater Hudson
Dinner Bunch	Wednesday, February 21st	Eileen Schweitzer Bulldogger99@yahoo.com		Sauced Hogs, Hernando
Lunch Bunch	Thursday, February 22nd	Ruthie Merk rmerk8@tampabay.rr.com		Mellow Mushroom, Ocala WAITLIST ONLY
Moon Over Mounds	Friday, February 23rd	Mary Murphy marymurphynewcomers@gmail.com	\$15	Crystal River Archaeological Park
Calendar Girls film screening	Saturday, March 2nd	Mary Murphy marymurphynewcomers@gmail.com	Free	The Appleton Museum of Art Ocala – Dinner at Braised Onion
Olive Grove tour and workshop	Wednesday, March 6th	Mary Murphy marymurphynewcomers@gmail.com	\$35	Olive Grove, Brooksville
Wine Glass Painting	Monday, March 11th	Denise Larner Dlarner2gmail.com	\$10	Central Citrus Community Center
Longines League of Nations Show Jumping	Friday, March 22nd	MonaLisa Young mly2puppies@yahoo.com	\$25	World Equestrian Center, Ocala
Lunch Bunch	Wednesday, March 27th	Ruthie Merk rmerk8@tampabay.rr.com		The Legacy Restaurant at Nancy Lopez Country Club
Morse Museum	Wednesday, April 17th	Eileen Mackrell emackrell@hotmail.com	\$50	Trip to Winter Park

Lunch Bunch	Thursday, April 25th	Ruthie Merk rmerk8@tampabay.rr.com		Crazy Cucumber, Ocala
Lunch Bunch	Thursday, May 23rd	Ruthie Merk rmerk8@tampabay.rr.com		EDO Japanese Restaurant, Ocala

There have been a lot of great suggestions for activities and unfortunately we cannot accommodate all of them. Newcomers is a great place to meet and forge new friendships and part of this is based on shared interests. We encourage you to get together with fellow members and venture out on your own. Here are a few ideas of places and events to explore to get you started.

Rainbow Springs Art Co-op classes and gallery in Dunnellon. Displays local artists work including some of our current and past members. There are also some great classes available including pencil drawing, water color and acrylic paints. [RAINBOW SPRINGS ART IN DUNNELLON - Home](#)

The Art Coop is holding an Arts Festival at their location March 8th between 9 and 5. Their address is 20804 W Pennsylvania Avenue in Dunnellon.

Boom Town Days and Art Festival is taking place in Dunnellon April 13 between 9 and 5 in the historic district. Food, Arts, Crafts, music, a cowboy show and kids zone are included.

Central Citrus Community Center has an unbelievable amount of activities. Check the website for a schedule. [Welcome to Citrus County \(citrusbocc.com\)](http://citrusbocc.com)

The Central Ridge Community Center at 77 Civic Center Circle in Beverly Hills has **3 Dancing through the Decades** events on February 10th, March 2 and April 13th. This sounds like fun and you can find more information on their facebook page. [Central Ridge Community Center | Facebook](#)

Nature Coast Dragon Boat Club of Citrus County. There are opportunities to join a team or come as a guest to observe. [Nature Coast Dragon Boat Club | Welcome](#)

Nature Coast Community Band is a symphonic band of volunteer musicians who perform 12 to 15 free concerts a year. More information at their web site. <https://naturecoastcommunityband.com>

Casino trips – Lamers has these periodically so check their schedule <https://tours.golamers.com/Tours/Florida-Departures-1>

Art Center of Citrus County has some great activities including live theater, a camera club, and an art gallery. It is located 2644 N Annapolis Avenue in Hernando.

ART CENTER OF CITRUS COUNTY. Education, Participation and Appreciation of the Arts 2644 N Annapolis Ave. Hernando, Florida 34442 Box Office: 352-746-7606

Coming up on **February 27th** they are hosting a **Ukrainian Pysanka Egg Dying workshop**. Check it out on their website as it looks fascinating.

