



**March 2025**



# *the* NEWSCOMER

**CITRUS NEWCOMERS CLUB**

## ◀ The President's Message ▶

So, have you ever wished you could skip a week of your life? Last week was my choice. Sunday, my oldest daughter called to tell me she was back from a week's corporate meeting and, by the way, what was the name of that clinic I was so happy with when I visited it last summer. End result: broken hand from slipping in her hotel shower.

At 12:30a.m. Tuesday morning, my younger daughter called. I figured a call at that time of the morning was trouble or a mistake. She opted for trouble. Her partner, who has been bed-ridden for three years was now incoherent. She just couldn't sleep so, call Mom.

Thursday, my youngest grandson called. He and his partner were splitting up after four years. The problem? He adores his 2 ½ year old daughter and hates the thought of being separated half time. He's also worried about who her mother may become involved with in the future and what kind of person they might be.

So many of you have told me about your own family problems and I notice that you all hurry to help. Newcomers is a family, too. Tuesday evening was game night for the Singles group and I was pooped after the three hour counseling session in the wee hours. But, off I went and was bolstered by the laughter and companionship. I made my first trip to Tampa Bay Downs the week before and thoroughly enjoyed laughing and joking with other members spending a dollar or two on bets. Please join in our activities and special interest groups. They'll help you maintain your equilibrium and perspective when other responsibilities are weighing you down. And you just laugh at those young people who announce their pregnancy with, "Well, there goes the next 18 years." 18 years, my eye!

Please join me in welcoming our new member.

Fran Holcombe

Bonnie Groves  
President  
[jabongro@gmail.com](mailto: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.**

## March Luncheon Thursday, March 20, 2025

### College of Central Florida

Charles S. Dean, Sr. Educational Center  
3800 S. Lecanto Highway  
Lecanto, FL 34461-9026

DOORS OPEN AT 10:30

**Sign Up Deadline – 3/13/25**

**By 4 PM**

**Cost \$28 / \$33**

Mixed Salad – Family Style  
Rolls w/ Butter  
Chicken Marsala  
Pork Scaloppini  
Scalloped potato  
Peas & Pearl onions

**Dessert** – Carrot Cake

**Beverage Bar** – Coffee & Ice Tea, Water

## April Luncheon Thursday, April 17, 2025

### College of Central Florida

Charles S. Dean, Sr. Educational Center  
3800 S. Lecanto Highway  
Lecanto, FL 34461-9026

DOORS OPEN AT 10:30

**Sign Up Deadline – 4/10/25**

**By 4 PM**

**Cost \$28 / \$33**

Pre-set Rolls w/ Butter (on tables)  
Summer Salad (Mixed Greens, Strawberries,  
Blueberries, Sugared Walnuts, Feta)  
Parmesan Crusted Chicken  
Beef Brisket  
Oven Roasted Potatoes  
Roasted Seasonal Vegetables

**Dessert:** Pie – Key Lime Pie

**Beverage Bar** – Coffee & Ice Tea, Water

### Reservation and Cancellation Policy:

A reservation is confirmed once your check has been received.

#### **Cancellations:**

Cancellations may be made by the Thursday prior to the luncheon date. In such cases, your check will be returned or voided. If a cancellation is made after the deadline, you will forfeit your luncheon payment.

**For cancellations, please contact Barbara Greco at 862-293-0339 or [bgreco519@gmail.com](mailto:bgreco519@gmail.com).**

Please do not send a friend in your place—your meal is non-transferable. No-shows will forfeit luncheon payments and meals. Walk-ins are not allowed, and we cannot guarantee seating without a reservation.

### 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.

**March - Members \$28, Guests \$33**

**April – Members \$28, Guests \$33**

Mail your check to:

Barbara Greco  
519 West Olympia Street  
Hernando, FL 34442  
862-293-0339

For more information contact

[bgreco519@gmail.com](mailto:bgreco519@gmail.com)

## SHARE THE WEALTH

Tickets on sale at the luncheons. **7 tickets for \$5.00.** If you buy **\$10.00's worth**, you will be asked to fill out a card with your name and phone number. This raffle will be drawn at the April Fashion Show luncheon and you will receive a Gift Certificate towards clothes.

**If your ticket wins Share the Wealth, we ask you to come up to the podium to receive your winnings and take a picture,**

## March Luncheon

**Photography in the Wild.** Gary Kuhl is an award-winning photographer who displays his work at the Franklin Anderson Gallery of Arts in Crystal River. He photographs wildlife in Florida and other areas. If you want to take a picture of a bird, butterfly, or something in the wild, ask Gary; he will be sharing his secrets.

## April Luncheon

**Cotton Club - Betsy Brims Spring Fashion Show.** Everyone feels good when Spring starts, that is why fashion is so much fun. Pick out that cute outfit or a statement piece like a bracelet, necklace, or cute bag. Come and see what's new in fashion. Cotton Club has something for everyone. Join us and have some fun.



**Please Bring non-perishable food items to March 20, 25 Luncheon**

# Citrus Newcomers Club

## Children's Food Drive

**Fighting Hunger, One Meal At A Time!**  
College of Central Florida  
Charles Dean Bldg.  
3800 S. Lecanto Highway, Lecanto Fl. 34461

**Donate non-perishable, single-serving food that is in a safe, easy to open package. Keep in mind that some of these children may not have the luxury of a can opener, utensils, a refrigerator or a microwave, with which to cook or eat these meals. Examples of food items acceptable to donate are listed below.**

***No Glass items Please - plastic only!***

Pop-Tarts	Spaghettl O's (Canned -pop top)
Single Serve Cereal Bowls or Boxes	Ravioli (Canned pop-Top)
Granola, Cereal, Oats, Granola Bars, and Cereal Bars	Frank & Beans (Beanie Weenles)
Pop-Tarts	Water bottles
Vienna Sausages	Juice box / bag
Tuna In a Pouch / can	Capri Sun
Potted/Canned Meat	Peanut Butter
Crackers (Peanut Butter and Cheese)	Jelly (plastic bottles)
Pudding Cups	Applesauce, Raisins
Fruit Cups	Dried Fruit
	Soup

**Make a Monetary Contribution!**  
Make a monetary contribution of just \$250, which will provide food for one child every weekend for an entire school year. All monetary contributions are tax deductible as we are a 501(c)(3) IRS registered\* charity.

facebook [www.citrusnewcomersclub.com](http://www.citrusnewcomersclub.com) Bring your check book for event sign-ups

## 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.

**DO NOT DELAY SIGNING UP. IF INTERESTED IN AN ACTIVITY, CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

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

ACTIVITY	DATE	CONTACT	COST	COMMENTS
<b>Ybor City Trip #2</b>	Thursday, March 6th	Cathy Herman	\$97	Cheesemaking & Columbia Restaurant
<b>Dinner Bunch</b>	Wednesday, March 12 <sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm	Eileen Schweitzer by text 631-680-9884 or Email <a href="mailto:bulldogger_99@yahoo.com">bulldogger_99@yahoo.com</a>		Crackers in Crystal River
<b>Horseback Riding</b>	Wednesday, March 12 <sup>th</sup> Friday, March 14th	Eileen Gross	\$64.20	Local Stables
<b>Lunch Bunch</b>	Wednesday, March 26 <sup>th</sup> 12:30 pm	Ruthie Merk / Sue Beck <a href="mailto:Rmerk8@tampabay.rr.com">Rmerk8@tampabay.rr.com</a> <a href="mailto:Suziebeck88@gmail.com">Suziebeck88@gmail.com</a>		Location TBD
<b>Waitress the Musical</b>	Saturday, March 15 <sup>th</sup> 12:00	Chris Alte <a href="mailto:ctkaltenewcomers@yahoo.com">ctkaltenewcomers@yahoo.com</a> 352-228-4218	\$64	Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theater Hudson <b>WAIT LIST</b>
<b>Clydesdales #2</b>	Tuesday, March 18 <sup>th</sup> 1:30 pm	Lisa Kenna <a href="mailto:kennanewcomers@gmail.com">kennanewcomers@gmail.com</a> 352-339-6915	\$50.85	Visit/tour, meet horses, optional lunch before visit
<b>Starlight Majesty Dinner Cruise</b>	Friday, March 21st	Chris Harvey <a href="mailto:Chrisharvey70@gmail.com">Chrisharvey70@gmail.com</a>	\$98	Bus trip, cruise goes out of Clearwater <b>WAIT LIST</b>
<b>Tarpon Springs Bus/Boat Trip</b>	Wednesday, April 2nd	Eileen MacKrell <a href="mailto:emackrell@hotmail.com">emackrell@hotmail.com</a>	\$70	Includes boat trip to Anclote Island <b>WAIT LIST</b>
<b>Selby Gardens Bus Trip</b>	Tuesday, April 8th	Jean Summers	\$130	Includes lunch and tour at the garden
<b>My Fair Lady</b>	Saturday, April 26 <sup>th</sup> 12:00	Chris Alte <a href="mailto:ctkaltenewcomers@yahoo.com">ctkaltenewcomers@yahoo.com</a> 352-228-4218	\$64	Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theater Hudson
<b>John's Pass &amp; Mazzaro's Mkt</b>	Wednesday, May 21st	Eileen MacKrell <a href="mailto:emackrell@hotmail.com">emackrell@hotmail.com</a>	\$45	Bus Trip
<b>Earth Wind &amp; Fire Tribute</b>	Saturday, May 24, 12:00	Lisa Kenna <a href="mailto:kennanewcomers@gmail.com">kennanewcomers@gmail.com</a> 352-339-6915	\$64	Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theater Hudson

### What's coming up?

A new season of dinner theater!

**Grease is on Saturday, October 18th, 2025, 12 noon.** The world's best-loved musical is back! The original rock'n'roll musical, GREASE is packed with explosive energy and a vibrant 1950's pop culture, featuring all the unforgettable songs from the hit

movie including “You’re the One That I Want,” “Summer Nights,” “Hopelessly Devoted to You,” “Sandy,” “Greased Lightnin’,” and many more.

**Million Dollar Quartet Christmas is on Saturday, November 15th, 2025, 12 noon.** Celebrate the holiday season with a rockin’ twist in Million Dollar Quartet Christmas! Based on the true story of the legendary December night when Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins came together for an unforgettable jam

**Miss Saigon is on Saturday, March 14th, 2026, 12 noon.** Step into a powerful tale of love, loss, and resilience set against the backdrop of the Vietnam War as you follow the journey of Kim, a young Vietnamese woman, and Chris, an American soldier, navigating the turmoil of war and the depths of human connection.

**Rock of Ages is on Saturday, April 25th, 2026, 12 noon.** Set on L.A.’s iconic Sunset Strip, this electrifying musical follows the story of a small-town girl, a big-city dreamer, and their fight to save the legendary rock club they love. Feel the pulse-pounding beats and sing along to the anthems of bands like Journey, Bon Jovi, and REO Speedwagon Styx, Whitesnake and more!

**And in non-theater happenings, we have:**

- **Bus trip to Selby Gardens in Sarasota**, April 8, 2025. Visit a beautiful oceanfront garden which specializes in orchids and air plants. Trip includes a walking tour through the Gardens, an excellent lunch in the Green Orchid Garden restaurant and an exhibition of George Harrison’s gardening life (yep, the Beatle). Contact Jean Summers to sign up. **DO NOT WAIT for the March luncheon to sign up** as we will need to make the go/no go decision before then.
- **Horseback riding!** Join Eileen Gross for a half day of horseback riding at local stables on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.. Contact Eileen Gross to sign up.
- **Grandview Clydesdales** will be March 18<sup>th</sup>. Tour starts at 1:30 pm. Optional lunch prior to the tour. Contact Lisa Kenna to sign up and for the lunch location.
- **Bus trip to Tarpon Springs**, April 2, 2025. Visit the Greek-heritage coastal town of Tarpon Springs. Includes a two-hour narrated ecotour by boat into the Gulf to Anclote Island, a great spot to look for shells or look at birds. Lunch on your own - there are several good Greek restaurants in town and plenty of other options as well. **Currently waitlisted.**
- Bus trip to **John’s Pass Village** and **Boardwalk** and **Mazzaro’s** Italian market is on Wednesday, May 21st. Enjoy the shopping and grazing opportunities along the boardwalk of John’s Pass, then load up on Italian meats, deli items, pastries, bread, wine, etc. at Mazzaro’s. Bring a cooler and fill it up! Contact Eileen MacKrell to check availability and sign up.
- **Elements (Earth Wind and Fire tribute concert) is Saturday 24 May.** Contact Lisa Kenna to sign up.

**Further Out:**

- We’ve moved the bus trip to **Bok Tower Gardens, Pinewood Estate** to the fall, so as to enjoy the holiday lighting and décor there. The bus trip to **Sunken Gardens in St Petersburg and Mazzarro’s Italian Market** has also been moved to Fall 2025.
- **Scavenger Hunt** all over Citrus County, date TBD
- **May 11 2025 Mother’s Day Symphony Under the Stars**, Ocala

We are always interested in exploring new locations for possible trips. You can reach me at [emackrell@hotmail.com](mailto:emackrell@hotmail.com).

**Kayaking Schedule for the Year**

DAY	DATE	TIME	LAUNCH SITE	RIVER RATING	Approx. Paddle Time	Make up Day
				B	2-2.5	2/19/2025
Monday	3/17/2025	9am	Potts Preserve	B/I	2-2.5	3/19/2025
Monday	4/21/2025	9am	Bennett's Creek-Yankeetown	I/C	3+	4/23/2025
Monday	5/19/2025	9am	Ozello Tour at Pirates Cove	I/C	2-2.5	5/21/2025
Monday	6/16/2025	9am	Waccassasa River-Inglis	B/I	2-2.5	6/18/2025

River Ratings: Beginner/Intermediate/Challenging

Duration for most paddles is 2-2.5 hours with breaks as needed. Bennet Creek is a 3hr paddle.

If a paddle is cancelled, the make-up day will be the following Wednesday

Contact Lina Argote for more info or to request an outing. [inacpa@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:inacpa@tampabay.rr.com) Mobile: 954-551-0123

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1st week of the month</b>		<b>Game "night" (Co-ed)</b> 2:00-4:00 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Linda Belanger</i> 860-518-1613	<b>Mexican Train</b> 11:00-2:30 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Barbara Fincher</i> 615-406-4598	<b>Beading &amp; Jewelry</b> 1:00-3:00 Jan Bauer's home Pine Ridge <i>Jan Bauer</i> 352-249-7543 <b>\$5.00</b>	<b>Beading &amp; Jewelry</b> 1:00-3:00 Jan Bauer's home Pine Ridge <i>Jan Bauer</i> 352-249-7543 <b>\$5.00</b>
		<b>Canasta</b> <b>2:00 – 5:00</b> College of Central Florida, 3800 S. Lecanto Highway, Lecanto Eileen Gross 207-286-7226 Marlene Costa 914-388-4013	<b>10,000 Dice Game</b> 1:00 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Hernando <i>Linda Todd</i> 407-252-6172 <i>Ann Serafin</i> 973-713-2528 <b>\$5.00</b>	<b>Murder &amp; Munchies Book Club II</b> 1:15-3:00 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Marilyn Felmer</i> <i>MarilynFelmer861@gmail.com</i>	<b>Pinochle</b> 1:00-3:30 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Barbara Pankosky</i> 352-270-8013
				<b>Wine &amp; Dine Book Club</b> 4:00 In people's homes <i>Michelle Seith</i> 301-335-0866	
<b>2nd week of the month</b>	<b>Mahjong Players</b> 1:30 At Pam Depew's home in Citrus Hills <i>Pam Depew</i> 352-249-7031 <b>\$3.00</b>	<b>Canasta</b> <b>2:00 – 5:00</b> College of Central Florida, 3800 S. Lecanto Highway, Lecanto Eileen Gross 207-286-7226 Marlene Costa 914-388-4013		<b>Bunco Afternoon</b> 3:00 At Pam Depew's home in Citrus Hills <i>Pam Depew</i> 352-249-7031 <b>\$5.00</b>	<b>Murder &amp; Munchies Book Club</b> 1:00-3:00 In people's homes <i>Carolyn Moss</i> 352-746-6445
<b>3rd week of the month</b>	<b>Kayaking</b> Typically morning launch, followed by optional lunch. Paddle locations vary by month <i>Lina Argote</i> 954-551-0123 <b>\$50.00 per single kayak</b>	<b>Bunco 2.0</b> 9:15-11:30 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Kathy Kuehn</i> 908-619-2956 <i>Renee Bullard</i> 850-712-2383 <b>\$5.00</b>	Dinner Bunch 6:00 Dinner at area restaurants Eileen Schweitzer Text to 631-680-9884 or <i>Bulldogger_99@yahoo.com</i>	<b>CNC Luncheon</b> <i>Location varies; Doors Open at 10:30; Business Meeting begins at 12:30</i>	<b>Rummikub</b> 10:30-12:30 Central Citrus Community Center Lecanto <i>Kathy Kuehn</i> 908-619-2956 <i>Barbara Fincher</i> 615-406-4598 <i>Marcia Schunemann</i> 845-224-4042
		<b>Canasta</b> <b>2:00 – 5:00</b> College of Central Florida, 3800 S. Lecanto Highway, Lecanto Eileen Gross 207-286-7226 Marlene Costa 914-388-4013			
<b>4th week of the month</b>	<b>Mahjong Players</b> 1:30 At Pam Depew's home in Citrus Hills <b>(Note: last week of the month)</b> <i>Pam Depew</i> 352-249-7031 <b>\$3.00</b>	<b>Canasta</b> <b>2:00 – 5:00</b> College of Central Florida, 3800 S. Lecanto Highway, Lecanto Eileen Gross 207-286-7226 Marlene Costa 914-388-4013	<b>Garden Goddesses</b> Typically, 10:30-12:00, followed by optional lunch. Locations vary, depending on the topic of the month. <i>Lori Priselac</i> 352-586-2828 <i>Cathy Hickman</i> 952-913-6074	<b>Lunch Bunch Lunch at area restaurants</b> <b>Sue Beck</b> <b>631-484-0089</b> <i>Suziebeck88@gmail.com</i> <b>Ruthie Merk</b> <b>352-341-1731</b>	

### Groups with random schedules:

**Couples Home Supper Club** - We share meals in members' homes. Each group of 3 couples determines the date, time, and place for suppers. Cyndi Sheftel 860-541-1795.

**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

**Group Coordinator:** *Linda Belanger 860-518-1613*

## Special Interest Group Highlight

We happy to announce the debut of **Pour Choices**, our new Special Interest Group for those who love wine. If you haven't signed up already, you can do so at the February luncheon or by calling Jean Summers at 941-416-2312.

Once you're on Jean's email list, you'll receive information on the events the group has planned - wine tastings, wine festivals or other wine-related activities.

### MEMBERSHIP

Our membership form for the 2024-2025 membership year is available on our website at [www.citrusnewcomers.org](http://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 Lorie Miller at [loriesmiller@gmail.com](mailto:loriesmiller@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**

*Please contact **Cathy Schafer**, Asst. Corresponding Secretary at **352-586-6875** or [sunshineladynewcomers@gmail.com](mailto:sunshineladynewcomers@gmail.com). if you know of a member who is ill, recuperating, etc.*

*Cathy would be happy to send them a card from the club.*

**Citrus Newcomers Club on Facebook**

The Citrus Newcomers Club Facebook page is a closed group. Everyone on Facebook can see the group name and members, but only group members can see posts in the group. The site administrator must approve all requests to join. Check us out on Facebook. For more information, contact Cathy Uvanni at [citrusnewcomersfacebook@gmail.com](mailto:citrusnewcomersfacebook@gmail.com)

Website: [www.citrusnewcomers.org](http://www.citrusnewcomers.org)

Editor: Cathy Uvanni at [citrusnewcomersfacebook@gmail.com](mailto:citrusnewcomersfacebook@gmail.com)

