

December 2023



the **NEWSCOMER**

CITRUS NEWCOMERS CLUB

◀ **The President's Message** ▶

Have you seen the wonderful Amazon commercial where there are three elderly women sitting on a bench watching a hillside of children sledding down and yelling with delight? They have wistful smiles on their faces and the taller of the women stands up, gazing down at the other two.

The next scene shows the tall woman opening a package from Amazon. She arrives at the bench with the other two women still sitting on the bench, watching the fun on the hill. The two look up at the tall woman questioningly.

Scene three shows the tall woman meting out thick tushy cushions which the women place on the plastic sleds. Sitting on the cushioned sleds with helmets on their heads, the women go sailing down the hill, giggling like six-year-olds. Middle school boys look on with startled, smiling expressions on their faces.

That's how we should be thinking. Find a way to adapt to any setbacks in life and keep on enjoying life. Too many people see gray hair and their expectations are instantly colored (pun definitely intended) by stereotypes. Those of us who are aging, marvel at how little we feel that age in our minds. Let's travel, let's try something new, let's have a little excitement in our lives.

My mother had Parkinson's and she ended up falling one day, walker left in the other room. She broke her hip and had to go to rehab. My father arrived one day to visit and she told him she was hungry. (She loved sweets.) My father told her that he had picked up some doughnuts and he'd wheel her out to the parking lot in her wheelchair to get some. And so, they set off. Dad opened the car door to get the promised doughnuts, turned and hit his head on the door. (My father had lost his left eye so he was blind on that side and missed seeing the door.) He had also failed to set the brakes on the wheelchair. The chair and my mother started rolling down the parking lot and, when she reached the road, which was a slightly different height, the wheelchair came to an immediate stop, throwing my mother out onto the pavement.

When I got the call about the incident, I called my mother. She told me it was the most excitement she'd had in a long time. Now, that's a good attitude!

So, have fun during these holidays. Act like a kid once in a while. Sit on Santa's lap.

Welcome to our new members:

Robin Burkhart
Alexandria Digilio
Elizabeth Hepner
Veronica "Ronnie" Wayrich

Barbara Nordberg
Margaret Parsons
Jean Summers

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.

December Luncheon Thursday, December 7, 2023

College of Central Florida Charles S. Dean Building

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

DOORS OPEN AT 11:00 **Sign Up Deadline – 11/30/23**
By 4 PM
Cost \$28 / \$33

Green Salad pre-served
Chicken Florentine
Beef Tenderloin
Roasted Asparagus
Pasta Alfredo Sauce
Rolls w/ Butter

Dessert – Cobbler Cherry w/ Whipped Cream

Coffee, Sweet & Unsweet Ice Tea, Water

January Luncheon Thursday, January 18, 2024

College of Central Florida Charles S. Dean Building

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

DOORS OPEN AT 11:00 **Sign Up Deadline – 1/11/24**
By 4 PM
Cost \$28 / \$33

Mixed Salad – **Served plated**
Apple Pecan Stuffed Pork Loin
Honey Garlic Chicken
4 Cheese Mac N Cheese
California Blended Veggie
Rolls w/ Butter

Dessert: Bread Pudding w/ Vanilla Cream Sauce -

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.**

THANK YOU

Thank you all for your unselfish giving at the November luncheon.

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.

December – Members \$28, Guests \$33
January - 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
jcellana@msn.com

December Luncheon

The holidays are upon us and what better way to kick off the season than celebrating with your friends. CONTESTS, PRIZES, KARAOKE and a visit with Santa will make for an enjoyable afternoon. Wearing Ugly sweaters and holiday slippers will add to the festivities.

January Luncheon

The January meeting speaker will be Heather Valentine from Big Brother/Big Sister.

Looking forward to the **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. **Mark your calendars for this special event on April 25th.**

Kayaking Schedule for the Year

Day	Date	Time	Launch Site	River Rating
Monday	12/18/23	9 am	Chassahowitzka – The Crack	B/I
Monday	1/15/24	9 am	Chassahowitzka – The Creek	B/I
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 Group Highlights

Please note that Jan Bauer's **Beading Class will on Friday, December 8th**. There will be **no Thursday class in December**, since the December luncheon will be on December 7th.

Do you love going to the movies, but hate to go alone? **Dinner and a Movie** is the solution! **This new group will begin in January**. The first movie will be January 9th (movie TBD) with dinner to follow. Contact Stephanie Gombrelli (352-613-6111)

We have **another new group starting in January: Pinochle** - 1st Friday of the month (Contact Barbara Pankosky - 352-270-8013)

Our new **Rummikub** group will begin in **June 2024**, due to some unforeseen circumstances. It's a late start, but the group will run throughout the summer for those who remain in Citrus County (Contact Marcia Schunneman - 845-224-4042)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

	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</i> 860-518-1613	Mexican Train 11:00-2:30 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Barbara Fincher</i> 615-406-4598	Beading & Jewelry 1:00-3:00 Jan Bauer's home Pine Ridge <i>Jan Bauer</i> 352-249-7543 \$5.00	Beading & Jewelry 1:00-3:00 Jan Bauer's home Pine Ridge <i>Jan Bauer</i> 352-249-7543 \$5.00
			10,000 Dice Game 1:00 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Inverness <i>Jan Minik</i> 352-513-4189 \$5.00	Murder & Munchies Book Club II 1:15-3:00 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Marilyn Felmer</i> marilynfelmer861@gmail.com	Pinochle 1:00-3:30 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Barbara Pankosky</i> 352-270-8013 STARTING IN JANUARY
				Wine & Dine Book Club 4:00 In people's homes <i>Michelle Seith</i> 301-335-0866	
2nd week of the month	Mahjong Players 1:30 At Pam Depew's home in Citrus Hills <i>Pam Depew</i> 352-249-7031 \$3.00	Dinner and a Movie 4:00 (approx.. depending on movie) Regalin Inverness or Epic in Ocala Dinner to follow Stephanie Gombrelli 352-613-6111 STARTING IN JANUARY		Bunco Afternoon 3:00 At Pam Depew's home in Citrus Hills <i>Pam Depew</i> 352-249-7031 \$3.00	Murder & Munchies Book Club 1:00-3:00 In people's homes <i>Carolyn Moss</i> 352-746-6445
3rd week of the month	Kayaking Typically morning launch, followed by optional lunch. Paddle locations vary by month <i>Lina Argote</i> 954-551-0123 \$50.00 per single kayak	Bunco 2.0 10:00-12:00 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Carolyn Robertson</i> 352-249-6215 <i>Kathy Kuehn</i> 908-619-2956 \$5.00			Rummikub 10:30-12:30 Central Citrus Community Center, Lecanto <i>Marcia Schunneman</i> 845-224-4042 <i>Kathy Kuehn</i> 908-619-2956 STARTING IN JUNE
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</i> 352-249-7031 \$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</i> 352-586-2828 <i>Cathy Hickman</i> 952-913-6074	CCNC Book Club 1:30 Lakes Regional Library Druid Road, Inverness <i>Judy Herron</i> 352-860-0232	

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 the 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

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

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
Christmas Spectacular Holiday Tour	Tuesday, December 12 th	Mary Murphy marymurphynewcomers@gmail.com	SOLD OUT	Stetson Mansion, Deland Bus Trip
Dinner Bunch	Wednesday, December 13 th	Eileen Schweitzer Bulldogger99@yahoo.com		Two Guys From Italy Homosassa
White Christmas	Thursday, December 14 th	Mary Murphy marymurphynewcomers@gmail.com	SOLD OUT	Suncoast Broadway Dinner Theater, Hudson
Duck Pin Bowling	Tuesday, January 9 th	Mary Murphy marymurphynewcomers@gmail.com	\$25	The train Depot Inverness
Olive Grove tour and workshop	Wednesday, January 17 th	Mary Murphy marymurphynewcomers@gmail.com	\$35	Olive Grove Brooksville
Aura Readings	Wednesday, January 24 th	Stephanie Gombrelli sg@floridadetoxspa.com	\$20	Stephanies' house Hernando
Lunch Bunch	Thursday, January 25 th	Ruthie Merk rmerk8@tampabay.rr.com		Elevation 89 Ocala
Mt. Dora Art Festival and Boat Ride	Saturday, February 3 rd	Christine Harvey Chrisharvey70@gmail.com	\$67	Mt Dora Bus Trip
A Day at the Races	Friday, February 9 th	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

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](#)

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

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>

Tampa Zoo <https://zootampa/org>

Busch Gardens <https://buschgardens.com/tampa>

Weeki Watchee <https://weekiwachee.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](#)

PLEASE SHARE YOUR PHOTOS

If you take pictures for the club, please post on Facebook. No need to contact Janet Bauer



