

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc. December 2025 Newsletter



What's Happening in December!



President's Message

Dear GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club Members:

The holidays are right around the corner; you may already have ugly holiday sweaters on standby and those cookie recipes ready to go (hello gingerbread), but you can't forget about those sentimental Christmas wishes. I would like to wish you some lighter wishes to put everyone in a fun holiday mood. May your mistletoe opportunities exceed your awkward moments. May your holiday budget still let you smile in January. May all your tangled lights unravel with ease. Here's to a Christmas where your only drama is choosing which dessert to eat first, and may your holiday spirit last longer than your leftovers.

Let's start the holiday season out with a bang at our annual holiday party on December 7th in the clubhouse ballroom. Put on your bright red, and don't forget your bling. Attend the business meeting on December 10th and get tips on how to destress during the holidays.

I wish each of you, your family and extended family the Happiest of Holidays.

Annie Goodrich-Sorgie

December Birthdays



Happy December Birthdays



Norma C.	1st
Betty Sue S.	7th
Jeanne S.	10th
Martonffy C.	13th
Peggy V.	19th



Social Committee

Celebrate the season with your fellow club members! You and your guests are invited to the GFWC Coco Plum Woman's, Inc. **Holiday Party on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** for hors d'oeuvres, drinks (cash bar will be available); and music at the GFWC Coco Plum Woman's, Inc. clubhouse in Coral Gables. Bring along your friends, family, and neighbors - the more the merrier!



GFWC

Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc.

Holiday — Party —

FUN

FOOD

MUSIC

DANCE

WHEN

December 7, 2025
6:00 p.m.

COST: \$25.00
One free drink/ Cash Bar

WHERE

GFWC Coco Plum
1375 Sunset Drive
Coral Gables, FL



GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club a 501(c)3 organization



Five members of the GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club attended the Veteran's Day Concert at the Coral Gables Methodist Church featuring the Miami Sousa Band. The lively music honored those in the United States Armed Forces. Patriot favorites, classic works, virtuosic solos, marches, and fast-paced performances were enjoyed by all. Our own Sara Warren, a veteran of the Air Force, was acknowledged!

ARTS and CULTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

The GFWC Arts and Culture Community Service Program encourages members to promote and support art and cultural programs in their clubs and communities, and to expand understanding on every level, from local and regional to national and international. Our goal is to create projects that include crafts, dance, drama, food, music, and other manifestations of art and culture that develop skills, awareness, and appreciation. It is designed to inspire clubwomen and ignite within them a desire to make the world a more beautiful, thoughtful, and caring place.



Chairman, Aminta Konawicz

Greetings members and lovers of the Arts! February 11, 2026, will be our "Love of the Arts" Arts and Crafts Competition at the regular business meeting. As a reminder, the art or craft work you enter must have been completed during 2025. Look through the 2025 beautiful photos you've taken, needlework you've completed, jewelry you've made, or poem you've written to enter in our juried show.

Christmas is in the air and so are decorations and music! Our committee is planning a Christmas party during the month of December, and the idea is to have Music and Voices present for our celebration. Please call me or email me if you wish to be part of our festivities. Bring your family members, too. Further details will be available at the December business meeting.

Aminta Konawicz, Chair

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT and OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Overview of this CSP - The GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program reminds GFWC members that each of us is a part of a larger society and is responsible for undertaking actions that will create a better quality of life and foster a sense of community



locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. This Community Service Program highlights and encourages citizenship; crime prevention, safety, and disaster preparedness; the needy, hungry, and homeless; and our military personnel and veterans.

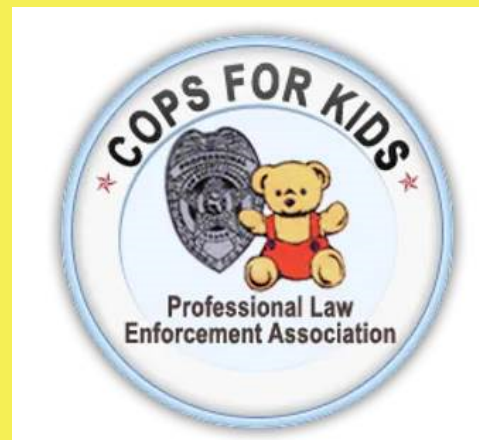
Chairman, Sara Warren

The committee collected non-perishable food, cash and \$25 Publix and Walmart gift cards for six Thanksgiving baskets donated to the South Miami Community Center. Each basket contained items necessary for a Thanksgiving meal: gift cards to purchase turkeys, yams, gravy, stuffing, and cranberry sauce. Food for several daily meals was also included such as pasta and sauce, rice, vegetables, tuna. The Center is extremely grateful for our contributions.

We are participating again in **Wreaths Across America** Day at **12 noon on Saturday, December 13, at Palms Woodlawn Cemetery, 27100 Old Dixie Highway, Naranja, 33032**. The cost per wreath is \$17. If you would like to purchase wreaths, **Please contact Sara Warren NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1st**.

We are again participating in **Cops for Kids** and Officer Ralph Pagan will join us for lunch at our December general meeting. **Please bring teddy bears or other stuffed toys to donate at the December meeting.**

Sara Warren, Chairman





COPS FOR KIDS

**GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc.
Civic Engagement Committee
request for you to
please bring**

TEDDY BEARS

**to the December Meeting or
drop them off anytime
in the Board Room
Thank you!**

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc. is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization

EDUCATION and LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Overview of this CSP - GFWC members promote education in both children and adults. We aim to help others, while we also continue to learn. Projects in this CSP are designed to foster schools, as well as other educational institutions and opportunities, and to promote literacy,



libraries and the love of a good book. Through these efforts, we encourage the growth of individuals and communities at home and around the world.

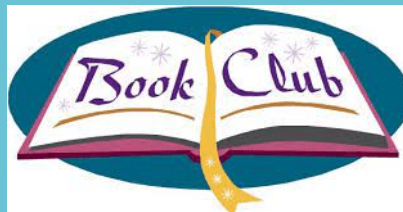
Charlene Feldner and Barbara Wexler, Chairmen

Education and Libraries Committee wishes everyone a happy holiday! Once again, we will be celebrating with our adopted school in Homestead. Our holiday library crates include books and small games. Thank you to everyone who has supported us in the past. There is still time to bring donations of grades 1 to 6 books, small games, or gift cards. We wish everyone could see the joy our crates bring to these children. Items can be left in the board room from now until the general meeting in December. Please join us after the meeting to help assemble the crates. All help is greatly appreciated.

Our next book club is December 16 at 10:30 AM in the board room. The book we are reading is *The Nurse's Secret* by Amanda Skenandore.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Barbara Wexler and Charlene Feldner, Co-chairmen



We are reading *The Nurse's Secret* by Amanda Skenandore. We will meet on **Tuesday, December 16, at 10:30 AM** in the boardroom. Everyone is welcome. Please join us!



ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Overview of this CSP - The GFWC Environment Community Service Program encourages us to become stewards of the earth by working to preserve the world's resources, protect wildlife and domesticated animals, live sustainably, and beautify our communities and enjoy nature. Environmental degradation is cumulative and many scientists warn

that we are at a tipping point. There is no time like the present to act.

Chairman, Libby Mahaffey



Remember the three “Rs” - REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE!

SAVE THE DATE:

2026 WILL BE AN EXCITING YEAR FOR US AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO BRINGING Channel 10’s (ABC) Louis Aguirre to our clubhouse on February 5th at 10:00 a.m. to chat with us and our guests about south Florida environment issues. He co-anchors the news in the late afternoons and anchors the 10:00 p.m. newscast. Louis is most renowned for his special segments on “Don’t Trash our Treasure” which pinpoints environmental concerns specific to Miami communities. He is literally a celebrity for those of us that watch local news. We will be asking for RSVPs for that morning only because of the capacity of the ballroom. So, please feel free to bring guests but do RSVP with Donna Falana at DFalana@Bellsouth.net to be sure you have a seat.

The Plastics Campaign is going exceedingly well! Thank you everyone. Libby’s car was busting at the seams at our last meeting. Mother Earth thanks you! Just imagine how much soft plastic we divert from land fills or MDC Incinerators. Be Proud of Yourselves!!

Happy holidays from your Environment Committee!

Your Environment Committee

Libby Mahaffey, Norma Craig, Donna Falana, Helene Valentine, Pat Kyle, Pat Saunders, Margaret Sarafoglu, Ines Maunder and Claudia Martonffy

HEALTH and WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM



Overview of this CSP - The human body, mind, and spirit comprise our health and wellness. To improve our well being, we must address three key components: nutrition, disease prevention, and physical and emotional care. This Community Service Program aims to explore the various opportunities for awareness and advancement of each of these vital areas.

Chairman, Diana Martin

We participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer’s held at the LoanDepot Park (previously The Miami Marlins Stadium). It was a beautiful day, and we enjoyed

walking for such a wonderful cause.

If you haven't made a donation, you still can. Make the check payable to GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club and write "Walk to End Alzheimer's" on the check's memo line. Please send, or give, your check to treasurer Joyce Windhorst. Joe Baldelomar, Program Manager for the Alzheimer's Association in Florida, gave a very instructive presentation at the clubhouse on October 28th which included information regarding medications now available to treat this devastating disease.

The program for the December 10th business meeting will be about navigating and handling stress during the holiday season. Guest speakers will be certified psychologists Cary Ballesteros and Christine Fordik.

Happy Holidays! Don't eat too much!! Be safe and stay well!

Diana Martin, Health & Wellness, Chairman

Membership Committee

November is here, and we welcome it with Thanksgiving in our hearts!

We also welcome another new member to our Coco Plum Woman's Club, **Nancy Lowry**. Please get to know Nancy and welcome her with open arms.

And, as always, please let me know of anyone who would love to join our club filled with fun, friendship and service.

Thank you,

Sally Russomanno, Membership Chair

Telephone Committee

MAKE SURE YOUR PHONE HAS THE INFORMATION YOU NEED, TO ANSWER WHEN YOUR CALLER CALLS!

Many of us do not answer our phones when we do not recognize the caller.

Be sure that you have the information for the head of your committee - that is name, phone and email. And put that in your phone's CONTACTS.

(On I-Phones, I know a separate list can be made. Probably other types of phones also have this option.)

IF YOU ARE THE HEAD OF A COMMITTEE:

Make sure that all the members of your committee have your contact information.

IF YOU ARE A CALLER ON THE TELEPHONE COMMITTEE:

Be sure that you remind your callee of your information.

Let her know you need her to answer your call!

If you miss a meeting, do read the minutes of the meeting. They are sent out to everyone soon after each meeting for approval. Jan's minutes are very good, and everything is there in black and white.

Margot Natsui, Chair of Telephone Committee

Fundraising Report

The Fundraising Committee is very excited about our next big event for this fiscal year, the **Festival of Tables on Wednesday, January 28th, 2026**. This event is always so vibrant and exciting with every table having a unique theme, from formal to casual and everything in the middle! The cost is \$25 per person. Please join with your friends to choose a theme and invite friends. Proceeds will benefit the THRIVE Clinic at the University of Miami serving victims of sex trafficking.

Betty Quinn, Fundraising Chairperson



Better Together: GFWC Florida Webinar Learning Series

2025-2026

Register in the Member Center on gfwcflorida.org

- Thurs. Sept. 11 - 7:00 pm ET - Leading with Confidence for Club Presidents – Part 1
 - *Terry Reese and Laura Connelly*
- Monday, Oct. 6 - 7:00 pm ET - Better Together: Winning Project Ideas for Arts & Culture
 - *Julia George, Ilene Narvaez and Layla Ratliff*
- Wed. Oct. 22 - 7:00 pm ET - Leading with Confidence for Club Presidents – Part 3
 - *Terry Reese and Laura Connelly*
- Wed. Nov. 12 - 7:00 pm ET - Better Together: Winning Project Ideas for Civic Engagement & Outreach
 - *Jennifer Hawkins, Xylina Green and Victoria Robichaux-Keene*
- Tues. Dec. 9 - 7:00 pm ET - Better Together: Winning Project Ideas for Health & Wellness
 - *Lee Kraus, Kay Taylor and Jamie Tow*
- Thurs. Jan. 15 - 7:00 pm ET - Better Together: Leadership Essentials for Club Secretaries
 - *Patty Fisher and Dara Bergdoll*
- Mon. Feb. 9 - 7:00 pm ET - Better Together: Winning Project Ideas for Environment
 - *Judy Quail, Nicole Hahn and Alivia Smith*
- Wed. March 11 - 7:00 pm ET - Better Together: Leadership Essentials for Club Treasurers
 - *Candy Jackson*
- Tues. April 7 - 7:00 pm ET - Better Together: Winning Project Ideas for Education & Libraries
 - *Georgia Browning and Betty Medina*

Calendar Events



- 12/07: Holiday Party @ 6:00pm
- 12/09: GFWC Better Together: Winning Project Ideas for Health and Wellness Zoom: 7pm ET (See above)
- 12/13: Weaths Across America: Palms Woodlawn Cemetery @ 12 noon
- 12/16: Book Club @ 10:30am Board Room

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club

Executive Board and Board of Directors 2024-2026

President
Annie Goodrich-Sorgie

1st Vice President
Norma Craig

2nd Vice President
Sally Russomanno

3rd Vice President
Sue Nichols

Recording Secretary
Jan Gordillo

Corresponding Secretary
Julie Czaja

Treasurer
Joyce Windhorst

Financial Secretary
Barbara Wexler

Past President
Caroline Jensen
2014-2016

Immediate Past President

Carol Nobles 2022-2024

Directors

Anita Jenkins

Betty Quinn

Aminta Konawicz

Pam Ciravolo

Appointees

President's Aide - Sara Warren

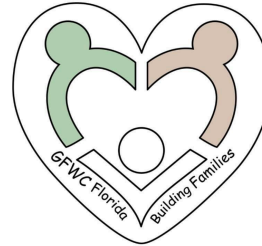
Historian - Maria Clara Franco

Parliamentarian - Pat Rivas

PARTNERS & LINKS to the 2 GFWC Logos



GFWC
est. 1890
**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**
FLORIDA



GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc

1375 Sunset Drive, Coral Gables, FL 33143

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc. a not-for-profit, section 501c3

305-665-5731

Website: <https://gfwccocoplumwomansclub.org>

Email: info@gfwccocoplum.org

GFWC Florida: <https://www.gfwcflorida.org>

GFWC: <https://www.gfwc.org>



Contact Us

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