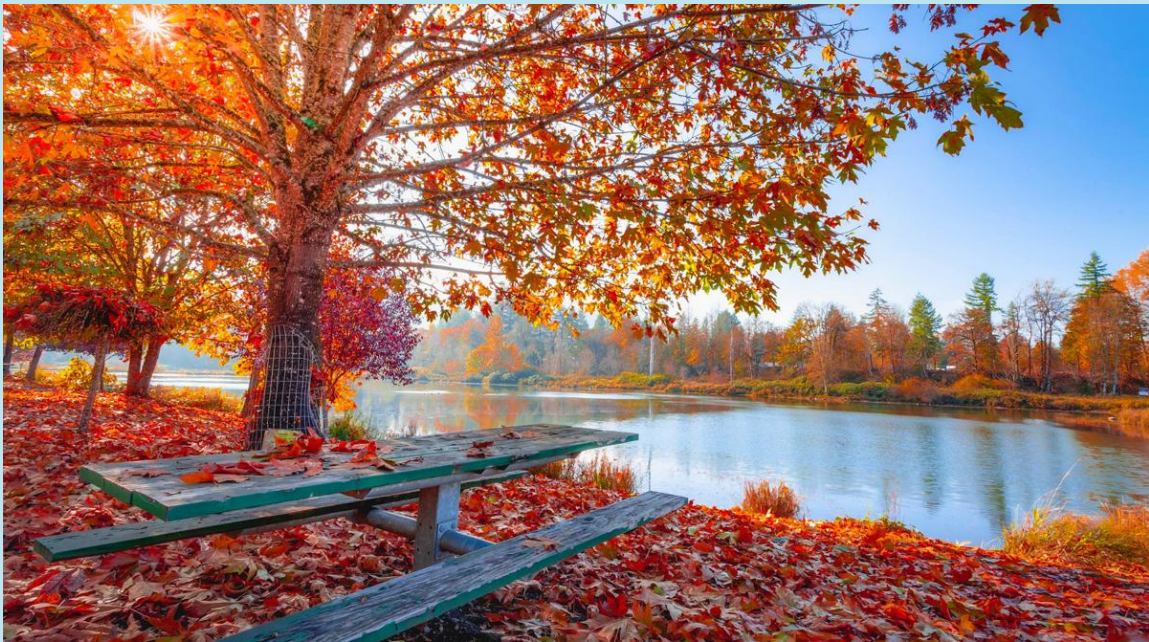


GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc. September 2025 Newsletter



What's Happening in September!



President's Message

I hope everyone had a wonderful relaxing and fun summer. I attended my family's 98th reunion in Dundarrach, North Carolina, and was the oldest family member in attendance.

September, as the transition from summer to autumn, marks the beginning of the harvest season, often referred to as the "Harvest Month".

I hope everyone is ready for the busy year your CSP committees have planned for you. Dates and information will be in their respective newsletter articles. Our 2025-26 year started on August 27th, with Coco Plum's annual Ann's Tea. Delightful entertainment and delicious goodies provided by our members made for a very special event benefiting FIU Homeless and the FIU Food Pantry. September plans to be a very informative and entertaining month starting with the September program on Lotus House, presented by the Civic Engagement & Outreach CSP Committee chaired by Sara Warren.

GFWC Florida Fall Board will be held in Orlando, FL., September 26, 27, and 28th at

the Rosen Hotel. Please see the information concerning reservations in the GFWC Florida Clubwoman newsletter or on the GFWC Florida website

I understand we are having an Arts & Culture Open House in September at the clubhouse.

Thank you to Sue Nichols for donating and preparing the backpack that was donated to the Global Innovative Foundation, Inc., Gun Violence & Prevention Educational Summit, held Saturday August 16, 2025. Many community leaders took part in the summit.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our meeting on September 10, 2025.

Always in Community Service,

Annie Goodrich-Sorgie

Annie Goodrich-Sorgie, President,
GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club
"Building Bridges of Friendships Through Community Service"

September Birthdays



Happy **BIRTHDAY**

Pat R.	3rd
Ginny O.	5th
Barbara M.	17th
Nancy F.	19th
Christine M.	29th



Members Monthly Spotlight

Mary Lou Winkler has been a member of GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club for 19 years, joining in 2006. Mary Lou and her husband lived in Turkey for 32 years. They went to Turkey as missionaries, and her husband later became head of the American Hospital in Istanbul. She has two children, a daughter and son, and several grandchildren.

Mary Lou has been one of our most active members, holding many positions over these 19 years. She has been named an Honorary Member which, according to the by-laws, is conferred only upon one "who has given such worthy service to the Club as shall merit this distinction".

She was one of three chairmen of the Centennial Celebration, bringing much distinction to the club judging by the distinguished guests who were present at this extraordinary event. From my researching our history and speaking to members who have known Mary Lou from the beginning of her membership, she has accomplished many extraordinary feats for

Coco Plum.

Mary Lou has served on almost every committee and chaired many. She served as Second Vice President and has served as Program Chairman. The one service of hers most people speak about is as Yearbook Chairman, and, also, she started the roster. Many members lament that we no longer produce the yearbook booklet since it was very comprehensive. It included our club history with many historical pictures, the by-laws and many other features. I believe her yearbook won first place at FFWC. (We weren't called GFWC Florida then which came later.) She served as By-Laws Chairman and served on the Education, House, International Outreach, and Tea Party Committees, to name a few. Perhaps chairing the Historic Marker and Installation Committee was her crowning accomplishment for Coco Plum Woman's Club. She was able to bring our history up to date, and it is archived at the University of Miami. We now call ourselves GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club.



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



COCO PLUM WOMAN'S CLUB ART & CULTURE COMMITTEE

PRESENTS:

ART OPEN HOUSE



🌟 YOU'RE INVITED! 🎉

JOIN US FOR A VIBRANT AND
HEARTWARMING CELEBRATION HOSTED BY
THE COCO PLUM WOMAN'S CLUB
ART & CULTURE COMMITTEE!

🌟 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- 🖼️ ART EXHIBITION & AUCTION FEATURING
STUNNING LOCAL CREATIONS
- 🎵 MUSICAL HARP PERFORMANCE BY THE
TALENTED TONY ALVARADO
- 👗 FASHION SHOW BY FUNDACIÓN LAZOS
DE AMOR Y SONRISAS

🍷 ENJOY HORS D'OEUVRES AND SPEND A
WONDERFUL TIME MINGLING WITH FELLOW
CLUB MEMBERS & GUESTS IN A WARM,
WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE.

THE COCO PLUM WOMAN'S CLUB



WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 17

5:30 -
8:30 PM

COST \$10

R.S.V.P. BY 9/12

NADINE LA GUETTE 305-613-6665

SANDIE MARGOLUIS 305-596-9311



1375 SUNSET DRIVE
CORAL GABLES,
FL 33143

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

HONOR FLIGHT
Mission 36
September 6th, 2025
Ft. Lauderdale Airport
Join us cheering our Veterans back home
8pm Ft. Lauderdale Airport
Come early parking can be difficult
Questions: Please call Sara W. 786-556-7650

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

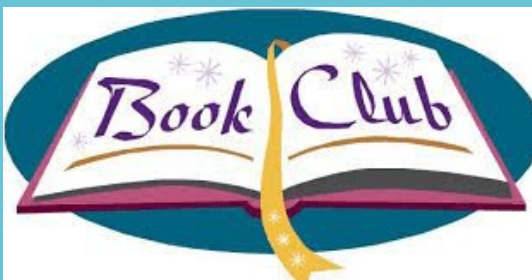


Hi everyone! Happy summer's end as we look forward to another busy year with the Education and Libraries Committee.

Our very active book club continued to meet during the summer enjoying each other's company and very lively book discussions including *I Was Anastasia*, *So Big*, and *The Stolen Queen*. Our next book is *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict. We will meet on Tuesday, September 30, in the boardroom at 10:30.

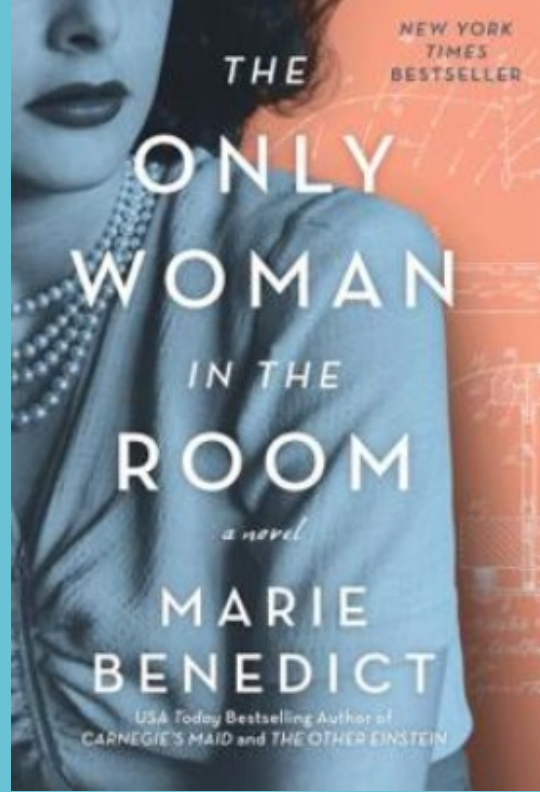
Once again, we were happy to supply the After School Migrant Program at Redondo Elementary School in Homestead with all kinds of back-to-school supplies. Ms. Gilliam was very grateful to receive these supplies for her students.

Our committee and Civic Engagement are joining together once again to donate baby items for gift baskets that are given to women veterans at a baby shower that takes place at Hard Rock Stadium sponsored by the Veterans Administration. Please bring any items such as board books or any appropriate newborn items to our September meeting. Any items donated are greatly appreciated.



We are reading *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict. We will meet

on **Tuesday, September 23, at 10:30 AM** in the boardroom.
Everyone is welcome. Please join us!





GLOBAL INNOVATIVE FOUNDATION, INC.

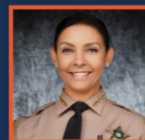
4TH ANNUAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS & PREVENTION EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT

TARGET AUDIENCE: K-12 STUDENTS, PARENTS/FAMILIES,
TEACHERS/EDUCATORS, COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025
9 AM - 1 PM

FATHER GÉRARD JEAN-JUSTE COMMUNITY CENTER
690 NE 159 STREET, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33162

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
THE HONORABLE
SHERIFF ROSIE CORDERO-STUTZ
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY



BOOK BAGS AND BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES WILL BE OFFERED



[HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/FREE-GUN-VIOLENCE-AWARENESS-PREVENTION-EDUCATIONAL-SUMMIT-TICKETS-1538498653889?AFF=ODDTDCREATOR](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-gun-violence-awareness-prevention-educational-summit-tickets-1538498653889?aff=oddtcreator)

WWW.GIFFOUNDATION.ORG



THIS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM IS SPONSORED BY

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSIONER
MARLEINE BASTIEN, DISTRICT 2



COMMUNITY PARTNERS/SUPPORTERS





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!

The Environment Committee would like to thank again all the members who helped make the National Park Ranger's Day a success in July.

Our plastics campaign perseveres. We want you to continue to bring your soft plastics to our meetings, and we suggest strongly that you check out the expanded recycling collection bins at your supermarkets. Some markets today are collecting plastic food take-out clamshells and more.

Donna Falana brought to our attention that SEPHORA and ULTA provide collection bins for used makeup containers or dispensers. Even if you don't shop there, pop in and drop off those old lipsticks and compacts you no longer need because the need to keep this plastic out of our landfill is essential to our planet's health.

One last plea. It would be helpful if you would bag the six-pack drink rings separate from the bubble wrap and baggies. These get mailed for free to another recycling agent.

Many thanks from your Environment Committee,

Libby Mahaffey, CSP Environment Committee Chairman
and the Environment committee. (Norma Craig, Donna Falana, Pat Kyle, Helene Valentine, and Margaret Saragoflu)



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

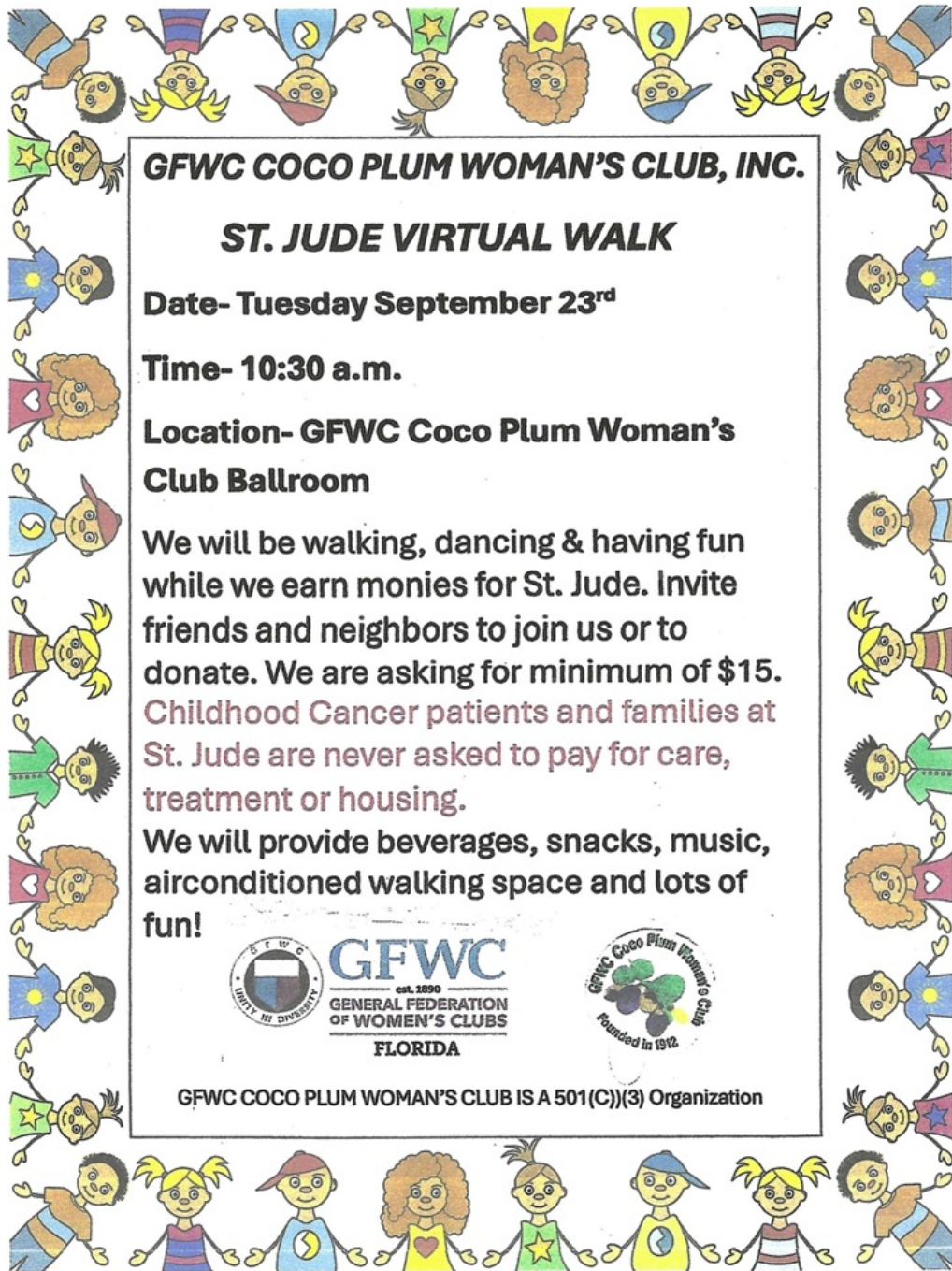
Hello ladies,

I hope you enjoyed your summer! The Health and Wellness Committee has planned some informative guest speakers and enjoyable activities for the coming year. **Our first event will be held on September 23, the annual St. Jude Walk. This year it will have a twist since it is going to be a virtual event in the Coco Plum ballroom from 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM.** The Committee will follow up with more specific details.

Also, the Committee has confirmed a speaker from the **Alzheimer's Association** for a **special informative event on Tuesday, October 28, from 10:30 AM to 1 PM at the clubhouse.** Snacks and water will be provided. So, let's get ready for a great year.

Diana Martin

Sincerely,
The Health & Wellness Committee



GFWC COCO PLUM WOMAN'S CLUB, INC.

ST. JUDE VIRTUAL WALK


Date- Tuesday September 23rd

Time- 10:30 a.m.


Location- GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club Ballroom

We will be walking, dancing & having fun while we earn monies for St. Jude. Invite friends and neighbors to join us or to donate. We are asking for minimum of \$15. Childhood Cancer patients and families at St. Jude are never asked to pay for care, treatment or housing.

We will provide beverages, snacks, music, airconditioned walking space and lots of fun!



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GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
FLORIDA



GFWC COCO PLUM WOMAN'S CLUB IS A 501(C)(3) Organization



**St. Jude
Walk**





Membership Committee

Now is the time for a new year of service and fun at our Coco Plum Woman's Club! Please look within your circle of friends and family for those special women who would love to become a member and meet new friends. Contact me anytime for information or a membership application.

Remember our Motto: "We are sisters serving and playing together"

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

Ways and Means Committee

The Fundraising Committee has been hard at work this summer preparing for our first event- Coco Plum Woman's Club Ann's Tea. The Tea took place on August 27th from 2-4 pm. We encouraged members to wear their best tea hats! This year we had live music provided by an accomplished violinist. There were baskets to raffle off and a 50/50. There were plenty of tea sandwiches and pastries, as well as a wine and prosecco bar.

Betty Quinn
Ways and Means 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

- 9/5: Board Meeting
- 9/10: General Membership Meeting
- 9/17: Art Open House 5:30-8:30 pm
- 9/23: Book Club - Board Room
- 9/26-28: GFWC Convention - Orlando
- 10/8: General Membership Meeting
- 10/17-19: Southern Region Convention - Alabama
- 10/21: Book Club - Board Room
- 10/31: Safe Street- TBD
- 11/14: Annual District Meeting @ Miami Spring WC
- 11/15: Walk to End Alzheimer's

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club Executive Board and Board of Directors 2024-2026

President

Recording Secretary
Jan Gordillo

Annie Goodrich-Sorgie

1st Vice President
Norma Craig

2nd Vice President
Sally Russomanno

3rd Vice President
Sue Nichols

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



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**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

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc. | 1375 Sunset Dr. | Coral Gables, FL 33143 US

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