

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



What's Happening in April!



President's Message

April, as the full month of spring, symbolizes renewal, new beginnings, and the blossoming of nature, as nature awakens after winter. With its name stemming from the Latin word “aperire” meaning “to open”, the month of April is associated with fresh starts, new opportunities, and the potential for positive change. I ask each of you to look inside yourselves and, like the blossoming of nature, find that potential for change, renewal and new beginnings for happiness, joy and contentment. When we are happy within ourselves, we bring happiness to others which will help us work with others in a more productive manner. I look forward to a membership full of happiness in which each one of us works together in order to see the fruits of our labor of love blossom.

“Let April showers bring May flowers.”

Always in Community Service,

Annie Goodrich-Sorgie

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

April Birthdays



April Birthdays

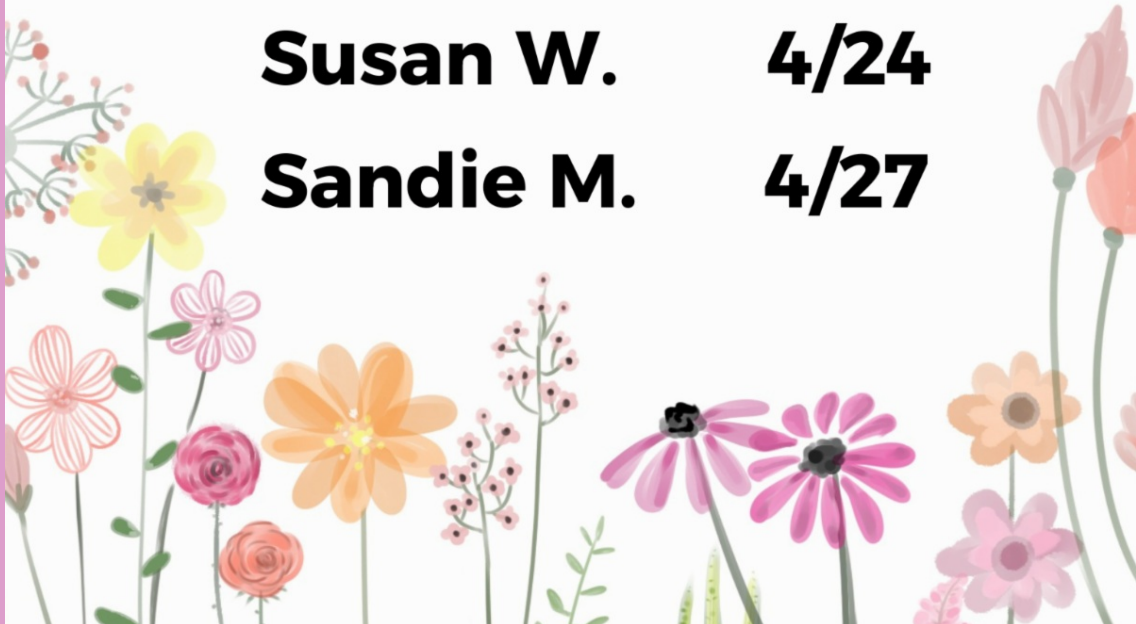
Marielle M. 4/2

Sally P. 4/14

Libby M. 4/20

Susan W. 4/24

Sandie M. 4/27



Members Monthly Spotlight

Sue Nichols joined The Coco Plum Woman's Club in 2010, and immediately became treasurer, she served in this capacity for ten years until 2020. Sue was elected president in 2020 and served until 2022. She served on the board as Immediate Past President from 2022 through 2024. Sue is now serving as 3rd Vice President and House Chair. House Chair is one of the most important positions in a club which owns their building; and when your clubhouse is designated as an historical building it is even more important. Sue was Coco Plum's Volunteer of the year this year and was chosen as the District's 11 Volunteer of the year. and will be representing District 11 for State Volunteer of the year. Sue served as Budget Chair, Roster Chair and Social Chair over these years. She has worked on every committee in our club and chaired many.

Sue is mother of two accomplished daughters and grandmother of two granddaughters and one grandson.

Sue is very active in the community; she has served as treasurer of the South Miami Garden Club for many years and is nominated to be President of The South Miami Garden Club in May. She is still working part time but is planning to retire next year. Sue is very unassuming and low key and is the type of member that everyone should emulate. Please read the nomination letter that was entered on Sue's behalf as nominee of District 11's nominee, and you will be so proud that she is a member of The Coco Plum Woman's Club.



Volunteer of the Year

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club's Volunteer of The Year Nomination

Our nomination for volunteer of the year is a past president, who does not rest on her laurels, and there are many. She participates in all aspects of the GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club.

She has served on every fundraiser committee, Festival of Tables helping to raise

over \$2,000 for the THRIVE Clinic (Trafficking Healthcare Resource and Interdisciplinary Victim Services and Education) located at the University of Miami, there are only three of these clinics in the nation, the Brunch and Broadway Committee which raised \$5,000 for the Max Gruver and migrant scholarships, she co-chaired the Jazz Concert committee which raised \$8,500 for Patches (a medical facility for children, with complex medical problems). These fundraisers also raised over \$4,500 for the maintenance and restoration of our Historical Clubhouse. She supports the fundraiser committee by attending the committee meetings, purchasing sponsorships, selling tickets, making purchases for the committee, working on decorations, even delivering the check to the recipient organization. She serves as an officer, 3rd Vice president and serves as the House Chair and is responsible for all aspects of the upkeep, maintenance and renovation of our 100 plus year old historic clubhouse. She has created a spreadsheet to track all of the equipment purchases, dates and warranties. She acquires quotes for all maintenance purchases and repairs. She works with the contractors and architects to secure permits from the City of Coral Gables ensuring that we follow the regulations of the Historical Preservation Association of Coral Gables. She has faced some massive problems in the last 6 months, replacing the main AC unit, which required changes to the in-take and out take vents. It was mandated that all the cloth wiring be replaced, which has required that all of the historical fixtures be rewired. She works on the Grants committee and helped to secure a \$5,000 grant to help defray some of the costs for the re-wiring project. She works very closely with the catering company that we use at our clubhouse. She works with the treasurer ensuring all of the contractors invoices be received in in a timely manner so they can be paid promptly.

She volunteers to drive members to club meetings and club functions as well as district and state meetings.

She is a member of the Social committee; she has hosted several socials in her home; she was on the decorating committee for the Annual Holiday party, also making and donating her famous rum balls and has attended every club social. She drove several members to Homestead FL, for a collaboration between the Social Committee and the Arts & Cultural Committee for members to attend a Mexican dinner and the play *Grease* in the restored vintage playhouse.

She has participated either by walking or donating money to all walks sponsored by the CPWC, the Max Gruver Walk, to stop hazing, St Jude Walk and the walk to End Alzheimer's. She serves on the Budget Committee and her valuable input and knowledge is invaluable at these meetings. She donated candy for Coco Plum's booth at the city of South Miami's Halloween event Safe Streets. She attended the Honor flights arriving in Fort Lauderdale airport.

She served on the membership committee and worked on the New member Champagne High Tea, donating food for this event.

She mentors new members and officers, helping them to grow in club work. Performing all of these tasks with a smile and working part time.

She is the mother of two girls and grandmother of two granddaughters and a grandson.

She is the essence and embodiment of a clubwoman. We are proud she is a member of The Coco Plum Woman's Club.

We nominate Sue Nichols.

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



The Arts & Culture Committee invites you to join them at this exciting cultural event.

“Organized Rhythm”

Free concert! Friday, April 4, at 7:30 pm

Where: First United Methodist Church of Coral Gables

Address: 536 Coral Way

There is a Parking lot located on Hernando Street across from the church.

Motoring down Coral Way, turn right onto Hernando Street.

Free Concert.

Come and enjoy “Organized Rhythm”, the world’s only full-time organ and percussion duo, offering a unique “symphonic-orchestral” pairing. Clive Driskill-Smith and Joseph Gamley explore the rich tonal possibilities of organ pipes alongside a diverse array of percussion instruments. Their repertoire spans from Bach and Saint-Saëns to Copland, John Williams, and Nico Muhly, with their adaptation of Holst’s *The Planets* as a signature piece. Experience the powerful 71-rank Schantz organ of First United Methodist Church of Coral Gables in this dynamic and innovative concert and be sure to invite your friends and family to this singular perform.

For reservations please call, or text or email Aminta 305-934-4299
amintarealtor@gmail.com

Aminta Konawicz, Chairman

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

Annie and I attended a fund raiser at The American Legion Post 98 in Coral Gables on March 20th. The event was sponsored by the Coral Gables Woman's Club (CGWC) for the GFWC "Flight to Honor" scheduled for April 2026. It was a fun event and CGWC received donations of several thousand dollars. Coco Plum has received donations of \$3,600 for the Flight and will sponsor an event in the future to raise more funds.

The dates for the 2025 Honor Flights at Ft Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport are: April 5th, May 17th, September 6th and October 25th.

A tour was scheduled at the Chapman Partnership facility at 28205 SW 124 Court, Homestead, 33033, starting at 10:30am on Thursday, March 27, 2025. Information on the tour will be reported in our next Newsletter.

Sara Warren, Chairman





SAVE THE DATES!

Announcing our 2025 Flying Season

SATURDAY APRIL 5 - MISSION 34
SATURDAY MAY 17 - MISSION 35
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6 - MISSION 36
SATURDAY OCTOBER 25 - MISSION 37



**ALL FLIGHTS WILL DEPART/ARRIVE
FORT LAUDERDALE-HOLLYWOOD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

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

It's that time! Lunch & Broadway is almost here!

Somethin's comin, somethin good, and its gonna be great!

West Side Story Bernstein and Sondheim

**Wednesday, April 30th 11:00AM - 2:00PM at Coco Plum Woman's Club
Clubhouse**

For tickets, \$75.00

Contact Kim Schain (305) 322-4626, 16820 SW 137 Ave., Apt. 1324 Miami,
Florida 33177

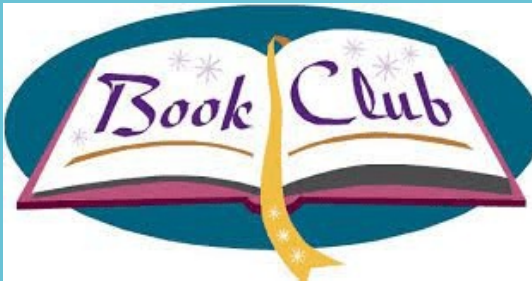
Proceeds from our event will benefit the Max Gruver Scholarship Fund. As in previous years, we are planning on awarding three scholarships to deserving young Miami Dade County high school senior women.

Please remember the deadline for ads in the program is no later than April 10. Send ad copy and images to jangordillo1@gmail.com. Also, bring gift cards to our April meeting for Betty Quinn's great raffle board with denominations of \$10.00 or more. Also, if you have an item for the raffle baskets, be sure to bring them to the April meeting for Norma Cooper.

A reminder about Tuesday, April 22 Book Club: We will be meeting at 10:30 at the clubhouse boardroom to discuss the novel ***Frozen River*** by Ariel Lawhorn.

Lastly, we are very proud to announce that Clemson University is honoring Rae Ann Feldner Gruver with the Greek Life Pillar of the Community for alumni award. Rae Ann is very thankful to Clemson Greek Life for recognizing the work that she, her husband, and the Foundation are doing to keep students safe. **Hazing has no place in any organization.**

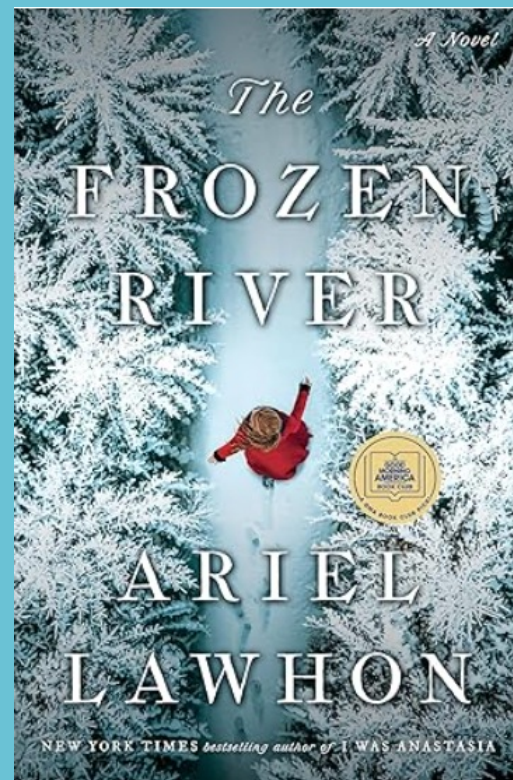
Fly High Max!



We are reading ***The Frozen River*** by Ariel Lawhon.

We will meet on **Tuesday, April 22, at 10:30 AM** in the boardroom hosted.

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!**

In line with our State GFWC plastics initiative, your Environment Committee will continue to collect those soft plastics that are not collected curbside in your neighborhood. Since we are having some confusion about what is being collected, we have abbreviated the list of eligible plastics to make it simpler for everyone.

Please continue to collect the following:

BUBBLE WRAP

E-COMMERCE PLASTIC MAILING ENVELOPES (Ex: Amazon mailers)

CLEAN BAGGIES OR ZIPLOCS (remember to re-use them as much as possible)

BREAD WRAPPERS (the outside plastic only)

STORE BAGS (Ex: CVS, most retail plastic bags)

NO biodegradable or compostable content!

ICE BAGS

CASE OVERWRAPS (Ex: sodas or water bottle case wraps)

NEWSPAPER SLEEVES

DRY CLEANING BAGS

SIX PACK PLASTIC RINGS

Please do not include plastic yogurt cups, Styrofoam egg cartons or any plastic clamshell containers.

Check your municipality’s solid waste website to determine what is being collected in your community’s curbside pick-up.

Consider inviting your garden clubs or your city’s sustainability department to collect these plastics as well. So far, we have enlisted two garden clubs and now the Village of Palmetto Bay will also be collecting these soft plastics that are not ordinarily collected curbside! Signs at Publix state they are recycling their plastic bags to make decking and outdoor furniture too. Great news!

It is our understanding that the Village of Palmetto Bay and the City of Coral Gables will be hosting their big recycling events on April 26, 2025. Fliers are being created by these cities to elaborate on what is being collected and where. Last year, Coral Gables collected batteries, electronics, TVs, household chemicals, paint and men’s clothing for Camilus House and more. Stay tuned for details.

Many thanks from your Environment Committee,

Libby Mahaffey, 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

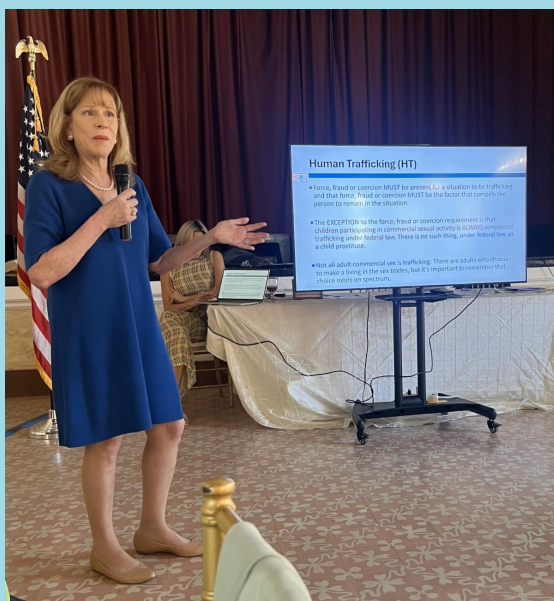
Did anyone try the recipes that were on the tables at our meeting? A copy of the Breaking Down Ultra-Processed Food article is available upon request, Thank You, Bonnie Greer, for this article. Super informative!

Breast Cancer Research Foundation: our ongoing project. Please continue to donate. Thank You for your support.

On behalf of the Health & Wellness Committee, we would like to remind you that our April 9th Business meeting will have a very special program on Organ Donation. Our member, Kristen Quinn accompanied by her organ donor's 26-year-old widow and the heart recipient will be speaking and sharing their stories. Our committee has decided to have a few raffles to raise funds for the Florida Organ Transplant Association. We will have a wine basket, Italian basket, some gift cards & a very special surprise item valued over \$100!

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for this powerful presentation.

Sincerely,
The Health & Wellness Committee



GFWC Florida Signature Program

Sally and her husband and Sally with Mayor Diane Cava The award came from the organization Global Innovation Foundation.

Committee Reports

Sally Russomanno Received the Community Action and Human Trafficking Award!



Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Sally's husband, Herman, Vicki Einhorn, Diane Tannenbaum, Carole Bernstein, Susan Malca, Ossie Hanauer, Nadine Pertnoy, Sherie Kanziger, Mindy Finkelman, Judith Villar del Saz, Marcia Reisman, Jen Resnick, Audrey Stone and Susan Schnur attended the Global Innovative Foundation Luncheon on March 7th to **honor Sally Russomanno for receiving the Community Action and Human Trafficking Award** for her tireless community action work as chair of the HT Committee for Kendall Section.

By-Laws Committee



Coco Plum Woman's Club



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Did you know our governing rules are found in our bylaws and standing rules?

As a committee our role is to help make them clear and consistent so that the club can thrive allowing our members to continue making a positive impact in our community.

INTRODUCING a new method for members to provide input to address **YOUR** questions about our club's constitution, **OUR BYLAWS**.

MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE

As a member are you familiar with:

- What's expected from each member?
- How to be an effective member as it relates to the bylaws?
- How to find the standing rules?
- What's the purpose of the standing rules?
- How do the bylaws impact the club's decisions?

We want to hear from you so we can share your thoughts, questions or concerns with the committee.

Send me an email at mcnaughton.laura@gmail.com or call me at 786-747-7526

Bylaws committee members:

Laura McNaughton, Chair (Joined 2023)

Renee Reichling (Joined 2023) Sandra Oltz (Joined 2023)

Pat Rivas (Joined 2011) Jena Staly (Joined 2018)

Annie Goodrich-Sorgie (President, Joined 2019) Norma Craig (First VP, Joined 2013)

Membership Committee

April is the month of Spring! Butterflies, flowers and new beginnings! We begin the month of April by installing three new members at our Business Meeting on April 9 - Teresa Portela sponsored by Claudia Santana, Victoria Wiltsie sponsored by Pat Kyle and Ines Mander sponsored by Libby Mahaffey.

Let's welcome them to our club and get to know each of them. And as always, keep thinking of a special lady who may wish to join our club.

Ask me for an application anytime.

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

Ann's Tea was a great success - lots of beautiful ladies wearing lovely hats, lots of food, drinks and auction items. The event raised \$2318.86 after the 20% to Coco Plum. The proceeds will be donated to the homeless students Food Bank at FIU.

Lunch and Broadway will be on Wednesday April 30th 11am-2pm. Gift card donations are needed to make the gift card raffle a great success. (retail stores, restaurants, prepaid gift cards or gas stations). Ads for the program booklet cost: \$100 for full page, \$50 for half page and \$25 for a quarter page. The entertainment lined up promises to be fantastic as does the Lunch and the Wine and Prosecco Bar.

Betty Quinn
Ways and Means, Chairman







GFWC Florida
GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS
living the volunteer spirit
www.gfwccocoplumwomansclub.org



GFWC COCO PLUM WOMAN'S CLUB

Presents



LUNCH & BROADWAY

The GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club
Wednesday, April 30, 2025 11:00am - 2:00pm

SPONSORSHIP WELCOME:

Diamond - Donation of \$1,000
Emerald - Donation of \$500
Ruby - Donation of \$250

Playbill Advertising

Back Page Cover - \$250
Inside Front & Back Page - \$125
Full Page - \$100
Half Page - \$ 50
Quarter Page - \$ 25
For Playbill Ad due by April 9, 2025

Tickets Price: \$75

For Purchase Ticket & Ad Book:

Contact Kim Schain: (305) 322-4626

Send Check Payable to:

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club

16820 SW 137th Ave., Apt 1324,
Miami, FL 33177

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club is a non-profit 501c3 Organization

Proceeds from this event will benefit the GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club Scholarship fund
in Partnership with the Max Gruver Foundation

House Committee



Our historic clubhouse of over 100+ years old is in constant need of updating. We are currently in the final stages of wrapping up two major projects; the replacement of several air conditioning units along with the main unit in the ballroom and the replacement of the electrical cloth wiring. Hopefully we will get through another hurricane season without any damage.

House Chariman, Sue Nichols

Hospitality Committee

The hospitality Committee shall receive and welcome guests and members to each meeting and is responsible for name tags for all members. The hospitality chairs ensures that the name tags are out at each meeting and for collecting and storing the name tags after the meeting.

Chairman, Donna Falana

Regarding replacement name tags:

If you need a replacement name tag, the process has typically been that you send a check to Joyce Windhorst for \$12.00. Joyce would let me (Donna Falana) know that she received the money, and I would place the order for your replacement. If your name tag has been misplaced, or lost (it happens), or if you just want a second tag, this is what to do. Email the owner of L&M Engraving (Ana Ochoa) at Lmengraving@aol.com. Let her know that you're with GFWC Coco Plum, and how you want your name to appear on the name tag. You can pay by card, and pick the tag up when it's ready. This way you can skip the step of sending Joyce a check. L&M Engraving's address is 9465 Miller Drive.

Their phone number is 305-273-7607.

Ana is very helpful, and has been making our name tags for quite a while



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

FLORIDA

GFWC FLORIDA WEBINARS

APRIL 2, 2025 - Shaping the Future: Rightsizing for Long-Term Success

At the GFWC Florida Annual Convention in April, our members will have the opportunity to review an important proposal for the future of GFWC Florida -Shaping the Future: Rightsizing for Long-Term Success. At the request of the GFWC Florida Executive Committee and in accordance with our strategic plan, a team of experienced GFWC Florida board members reviewed the structure of our Board of Directors. Their recommendations, presented in the form of proposed bylaw amendments, include a refresh of our current board structure in order to ensure our Federation's strength and sustainability into the future.

The team will be presenting their recommendations, and how they arrived at them, in a webinar on Wednesday, April 2 at 6:30 pm E.T. via zoom. You are invited to attend. Please bring your questions, so you can be fully prepared when you arrive at Convention.

Webinar Registration:

Link: <https://forms.gle/iMMiWe25X1aN73DQ8>

APRIL 8, 2025 - GFWC Florida Clubhouses . . . "A Look to our Past or a Vision to our Future?"

This webinar will bring together GFWC members to discuss issues and opportunities associated with the ownership of their clubhouses. The goal of the webinar is to celebrate the history, discuss issues and best practices, and to take a realistic look at the role of clubhouses in our present and in our future.

Webinar Registration:

Link: <https://forms.gle/7qAEDqpZkZUFd8Xy9>

Calendar Events

4/2: GFWC Florida Webinar 6:30PM

4/4: Board Meeting @10:30am

4/4: Organized Rhythm Free Concert 7:30AM



4/5: Honor Flight Mission 34 @ FLL arrival time 8PM
 4/6: Dollars for Delegates Fundraiser @ Sue N.
 4/8: GFWC Florida Webinar 6:30PM
 4/9: General Membership Meeting @ 11AM
 4/22: Book Club Boardroom 10:30AM
 4/25-27: GFWC Florida Convention
 4/30: Lunch & Broadway @ 11AM

Click on the Calendar link below which will direct you to our website Calendar page for detailed information and flyers in the newsletter.

[Click to CALENDAR](#)

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

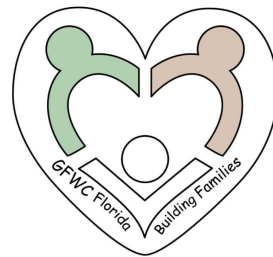
Appointees

President's Aide - Sara Warren

Historian - Maria Clara Franco

Parliamentarian - Pat Rivas

PARTNERS & LINKS to the 2 GFWC Logos



GFWC 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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