GFWC COCO PLUM WOMAN'S CLUB, INC.

OCTOBER 2026

GFWC
GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUB
FLORIDA

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Sally Russomanno
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Yolanda Woodbridge

President's Message

September was a very active month for GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club. It began with the successful fundraiser, Ann's Annual Tea at Cauley Square. Then we joined in fellowship at the Elks for our first business meeting of the club year. Although we could not meet in our usual, comfortable, club ballroom as repairs continued on the building, the enthusiasm of the members was not dampened. All enjoyed the Ocean First Institute's presentation about sharks and the Lovables catered lunch.

Some of us attended the GFWC Florida Fall Board Meeting in Orlando, October 18-20. The sessions we found most informative were those which provided information about ways to use technology effectively for communicating club activities and for handling club finances.

The month ended with two major activities. The Civic Engagement and Outreach Committee collected donated backpacks and toiletries to fulfill the club's commitment to GFWC's International Day of Service. Members unable to bring their donations on September 26th can still bring them to the October 14th business meeting. At that meeting, all donations will be presented to our guest speaker from Kristi House in Miami where these items will benefit abused youth. As well, the Health and Wellness Committee worked hard to organize another very successful St. Jude Virtual Walk to conclude our busy month.

As we move into October, happily the first phase of repairs on the clubhouse will be concluded, allowing us to return there for our October board and business meetings. Repairs in the kitchen have been completed; however, there remains a large repair project still

pending on the ballroom walls, as well as repairs of some doors and windows. While some work will continue, it will be located in storage areas which will not prevent event rentals, so our revenue stream will resume. Also, some cosmetic updating on the exterior of the building and landscaping will continue. The major repairs on the ballroom walls will resume in June, July and August, 2027, when again the building will be closed to meetings and events. Please let House Chair, Laura McNaughton, know that you appreciate her diligent, essential, oversight of the permit process and her almost daily communication with Red Door Construction!

I hope everyone is looking forward to the 70's Dance Party, our next fundraiser planned by the Fundraising Committee for October 29th. Please note the details in the fundraising flyer in the newsletter. A chance to pull out those headbands, bell-bottoms, and fringed jackets and to dust off your disco moves! Don't forget to invite your friends, including those on social media. The bigger the party, the better!

I encourage everyone to attend the District 11 Annual Meeting on October 16th, especially newer members. A member has a limited view of the large scope of service work GFWC does beyond the walls of our one club until she attends District and State meetings. This coming District meeting will be a chance to meet the GFWC Florida's president-elect, Laura Connelly, who was very helpful to us when we prepared the annual state report. Shortly, I will resend the notice from the District Director with details about this meeting. The deadline to register with Barbara Wexler or Sue Nichols is October 9th. Please consider attending!

Norma Craig, President
GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc.
“We are lifted up when we support others.”



Ginny Onorati, CPWC's Candidate to GFWC FL LEADS Program

Membership

Membership — Let's Reach for the Stars!
"Let a Friend Shine with You"

We are looking forward to a wonderful year of friendship, service, and membership growth! Every member can play an important role in welcoming new women to our GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club.

This year, GFWC gives us an exciting opportunity to reach 15+ stars together through two special membership programs. The STAR Membership Unity Challenge encourages us to work as a team to strengthen our club, share our story, celebrate our successes, increase our visibility, and create a welcoming environment where both new and current members feel they belong.

The GFWC STAR Recruitment Pin Program also recognizes individual members who personally recruit new members. A member earns her first STAR pin after sponsoring five new members, with additional recognition as recruitment milestones are reached.

So, let's make this a fun and successful year! Invite a friend, introduce her to our club, and let her shine with you. Share the friendship, purpose, and joy that come from serving our community together.

Every new member makes our club stronger—and every one of us can help Coco Plum shine!

Together, let's reach for the stars!
"Let a Friend Shine with You"



Aminta Konawicz, Membership Chair
2nd Vice President

House Report

THE RESTORATION HAS BEGUN!

The Recertification of our historic building is currently focused on the 3 storage room areas, the kitchen, some windows, multiple doors, the board room plus electrical repairs throughout the Club. Unfortunately, the initial exploratory work revealed extensive damage to the walls, windows and ceilings that have expanded the scope of work requiring more time for their completion.

We will continue to work on areas of the Club that will not impact events, but with our current commitment to already scheduled rentals, the ballroom repairs are postponed until June 1st, 2027. The Board Meeting and Business Meeting will be held at the Club on Friday, October 2nd and Wednesday, October 14th, respectively.

REPAIRS, PRESSURE CLEANING & PAINTING GO A LONG WAY!

WHAT'S ON THE LIST?





- Office Doors
- Craft Room Doors
- Kitchen Doors
- Back Stage Doors and Stairs
- Back Entrance area cleared and cleaned
- Hole cover next to the fountain fixed
- Garbage area cleared and cleaned
- All the trees in the courtyard trimmed

Laura McNaughton, House Chair
3rd Vice President

Civic Engagement & Outreach

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who attended our International Day of Service on Saturday, September 26th, and who donated backpacks with toiletries for the abused and trafficked survivors of Kristi House of Miami. These young teens will certainly benefit from your generosity.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO DONATE!

For those who could not attend our International Day of Service, please bring your backpacks to our October 14th Business Meeting. A representative from Kristi House of Miami will be our speaker, and we will present all of the backpacks to her at that time.

Thank you for your giving hearts,

Sally Russomanno, Civic Engagement & Outreach Chair



Civic Engagement & Outreach







A Project of the Civic Engagement and Outreach CSP
In honor of GFWC International Day of Service and to support Miami's Kristi House and "Kathy's Kloset," members donated backpacks filled with travel-size toiletries for young survivors of abuse and trafficking.









Education & Libraries

Mahjong

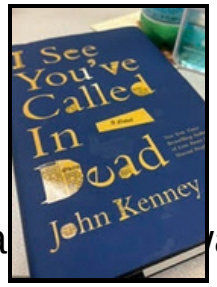
We have eight members ready to learn Mahjong. We hope they are as enthusiastic as our first group. It is another way to keep the brain active and socialize with nice people.

Book Club

Our Book Club has enjoyed our meetings at the Pinecrest Library these last 2 months and we thank Ellen Book for being so kind to us all. We are even listed as events at the library. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 20 at 10:30 in our Board Room.

The book we will be discussing is ***A Pair of Aces*** by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Come join us for a great book discussion led by Sara. We also discuss whatever comes up!











Children's Books, Games, Toys

It may seem early but Christmas is not that far away. Start thinking of books for children from ages 6-12 and maybe a small gift, a card game, a small toy or even a small stuffed animal. We will be putting together our Book Crates after our December meeting, so we like to see if there is anything we need to purchase. You have all been so generous in the past, and our committee really appreciates it as do the children at our adopted school, Redondo ES in Homestead. When we deliver the crates and see the excitement on their faces, we are so grateful for all of you!

Charlene Feldner, Education & Libraries Chair

Health & Wellness

St. Jude Virtual Walk

The Coco Plum Woman's Club truly outdid themselves during this year's Virtual Walk for St. Jude Children's Hospital. With music, dancing, and plenty of laughter, members turned a simple walk into a joyful community celebration — all while raising over $1,100 to support children and families in need. Your energy, generosity, and spirit made this event unforgettable. Congratulations on an amazing achievement and thank you for making a meaningful difference for a cause that touches hearts everywhere.







Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a time to honor survivors, support those currently fighting, and remember loved ones. Throughout the month — and all year long — the Coco Plum Woman's Club will be collecting gently used clothing and small household items for ongoing Breast Cancer Awareness pickups. Your donations help support vital programs, services, and outreach for individuals and families affected by breast cancer.

Members are encouraged to wear pink all month as a visible sign of solidarity, hope, and awareness. Every item donated and every splash of pink worn helps strengthen our commitment to this important cause.

Betty Quinn, Health & Wellness Chair





Fundraising



We are excited to announce our major fundraiser, taking place on **Thursday, October 29, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.** at the Coco Plum Woman's Club, the **70's Dance Party.**

Join us for an unforgettable evening featuring:
• Live music by musical entertainer **Viki Ryan**
• Cash bar
• Butler-passed hors d'oeuvres
• Silent auction
• Photobooth backdrop



The **silent auction** will feature gift cards, fine dining experiences, staycations, high-quality gift baskets, and much more!

Be sure to dress in your favorite **era-appropriate** attire so you can capture the fun at our photobooth.

Tickets: $75 per person, Payment may be made by:
• **Zelle:** (305) 665-5731
• **Check payable to:** Coco Plum Woman's Club

All proceeds will benefit the **recertification and renovation of our historic clubhouse.** Please post the flyer on your social media avenues in order to include friends and family members in the FUN!

We look forward to celebrating with you while supporting this important project!

Claudina Santana, Fundraising Chair

DANCE NIGHT 70'S

OCTOBER 29, 2026

6:30 -9:30 PM



RSVP BY 10/23 TO:
DONNA FALANA
(305) 586-6112

GFWC COCO PLUM WOMAN'S CLUB
1375SUNSET DRIVE
CORAL GABLES FL 33146

TICKETS $75

INCLUDES:ENTRANCE, FOOD, 1COMPLIMENTARY DRINK &CASHBAR AVAILABLE
LIVE MUSIC ENTERTAINMENTBY VIKI RYAN

PAYMENT METHODS:

ZELLE: GFWC COCO PLUM 305-665-5731 OR
CHECK PAYABLE TO: CPWC & MAILED TO:
SUE NICHOLS, 6585 SW 69 AVE, MIAMI, FL 33143

FUNDRAISER FEATURING CURATED SILENT AUCTION BENEFITING RECERTIFICATION AND RESTORATION OF CLUBHOUSE

TAX DEDUCTIBLE UNDERWRITING & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

GFWC COCO PLUM WOMAN'S CLUB IS A NOT FOR PROFIT 501(C) (3)

Fundraising









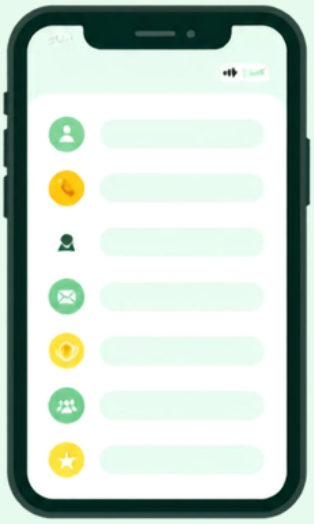






Ann's Annual Tea

Telephone



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

Members, be sure you have the name, phone and email for your caller in your phone's CONTACTS.

If you are a committee chair, make sure all members have your contact information. If you miss a meeting, read the minutes - they are sent out soon after each meeting.

Margo Natsui, Telephone Chair

October Birthdays

Rosalie Kolesar	3rd	Terri Portela	15th
Aminta Konawicz	9th	Marlene Mariana	21st
Dotty Bobbitt	12th	Vera Cooper	26th
Anita Jenkins	14th	Mary Lou Winkler	29th



In-House Committees 2026-2028

Bylaws: Victoria Wiltsie

Fundraising: Claudia Santana

Hospitality: Norma Cooper

Inspiration: Vera Cooper

Newsletter: Terri Portela

Publicity/Roster: Norisa Glickman

Telephone: Margo Natsui

Appointees

Aide: Donna Falana

Historian: Margarita Botero

Parliamentarian: Annie Goodrich-Sorgie





10/1 Fundraising Committee Meeting, 11:30 AM, Clubhouse

10/2 CPWC Board Meeting, 10:30 AM, Clubhouse

10/14 CPWC Business Meeting 11:00 AM, Clubhouse

10/16 District Annual Meeting 10 AM-2:30 PM, East Ridge Village

10/20 Book Club, 10:30 AM, Clubhouse

10/21 Bylaws Committee Meeting, 10:30 AM, Clubhouse

10/24 Flight to Honor, 7:30 PM, Southwest Airlines, FLL Airport

10/29 70's Dance Party Fundraiser, 6:30 PM, Clubhouse



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1375 Sunset Drive, Coral Gables, FL 33143

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a not-for-profit, section 501c3

305-665-5731

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