



NOVEMBER 2023

VIA INSIDER

Serving the Green Cove Springs Community since 1883

November's Activities:

Nov 7 – Tuesday Trippin

Nov 9 – VIA Meeting 10:00 am

Nov 20 – Pork Butt Delivery

Nov 23 – Thanksgiving

The women of the VIA focus on service to the community, as well as partnering with local schools to support education. We strive to impact lives through our actions, both large and small, and build lasting friendships along the way.

viagcs@gmail.com
WWW.GFWCVIA.COM



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VIA is a member of the
General Federation of Women's Clubs
(GFWC)



VIA Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday
of each month at the clubhouse,
17 N. Palmetto Ave, Green Cove Springs.



President's Message

We are off to such a great start! Our speakers for our October meeting were excellent, and both gave us such great information on how we can best support them in the coming year. The decorations were adorable, and the fun refreshments made us feel like we were sitting in a school cafeteria. It was wonderful to see so many of our members present and it is always so exciting to welcome new members! I loved watching all of you play the "shoe game", and it was fun to see how well many of you knew each other. I am sure our newest members will fit right in and enjoy the same friendship and camaraderie that we all enjoy!

Aren't you all so excited and proud of Penelope, the chandelier? Wasn't that the most special gift?

I am so excited for another year of service to our community. We have so many new ideas and plans for this year. We will continue with our partnership with Augusta Savage Mentoring Center, as well as Green Cove Junior High School. Our committee chairs are so enthusiastic and creative. I can't wait to see what types of projects they have in store for us this upcoming year.

I want to encourage each of you to get involved. We have a full calendar, and there is something for everyone! I know we all cannot participate in everything, as we have families and other responsibilities, but find your niche and do what you can and what makes you the happiest! I love the way we all support each other and I am excited to see that continue.

Larriane
l.stutts@aol.com





October Meeting Recap

With Education & Libraries

Once again, the Education/Library committee set the bar high for us! The program was engaging and so informative.

Jennifer Parker from our Green Cove Library Branch spoke to us about the contributions the VIA had made for reading over the past decades. She also shared the importance of getting books in the hands of children and how valuable our support of their summer reading programs had been. Ms. Parker has been an integral part of our community for many years, and it was a pleasure to have her speak to us.

We also welcomed Christina Hirsch, the Dean of Green Cove Junior High School. Mrs. Hirsch is directly responsible for the Positive Behavioral Support System at the school, and manages the supplies, snacks and trinkets that are on her "wish list" each year for the school. For the past two years, the VIA has continued to help fund these items and it was encouraging to hear how beneficial the program is to the students of our community. Ms. Hirsch expressed her gratitude to us for our assistance with the program and is eager to continue our partnership.

We also enjoyed a silent cake auction which raised funds for upcoming essay contests and scholarships and had handmade cards from our Sherry Kelley to choose from as well. It was a very fun and informative morning.



Soon this gorgeous and age appropriate Chandelier will hang in foyer of our historic building. A lovely friend of ours restored her to new antique condition and we are all so excited to have this jewel as a crown for our clubhouse.



Next Month Meeting

With Civics & Engagement

In November, we express gratitude, so this month's presentation from Clay County Historical Archives Division Supervisor Vishi Garig will focus on the many aspects of our history that promote pride and thanksgiving.

From the origins of Clay County to the rise of Green Cove Springs as the county seat, to the role of our nation's military in area growth, and of course the VIA's place in that amazing story - this presentation will open your eyes to what a great history we have as a city (150 years) and as a woman's club (140 years), too!

Don't miss Garig's presentation and related photo displays to honor our military veterans at the VIA clubhouse.



Paint with a Twist

with Arts & Culture's Bee Creative

Check out our talented members who gathered at Paint with Twist to create fall pumpkin masterpieces!



BASCA Fundraiser

VIA members supported BASCA by participating in the 11th annual Cape "ABILITIES" 5K/1M run. This event supports individuals with intellectual and developmental differences. Thank you to all those who participated both in person and virtually!

Congratulations to Janey Fox came in first and Mamie Buchanon came in second in their respective age groups.





VIA Supports Rock the Dock!

VJA supports Green Cove Springs and those organizations that serve the local community!



The VIA Supported the local ELK Lodge in their Rock the Dock Casino night Fundraiser by sponsoring a table.



TALES FROM CLINK

VIA members and their families had a great time at the annual GCS Halloween celebration.





Membership News



Gale Miller

Profession: Accountant

Interests: History, Art, Travel, Gardening

Committee Interest: Civic Engagement & Outreach

Jesi Carroll

Profession: Active – QA Analyst for nzy.com

Interests: Faith based person who loves volunteering, building stuff; reading; learning and helping out!

Committee Interest: All

Chris Klausser

Profession: Kind of retires

Interests: Gardening; Home Improvement with my husband; Family time and friends; Going to the beach; Collecting shells

Committee Interest: Civic Engagement & Outreach; Environment; Health & Wellness

VIA In Action

For I was hungry, and you gave me food.

Matthew 25:35



The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is united in its dedication to volunteer community service. The National Day of Service is a day in which all of GFWC comes together in service to highlight an area of need, take action to address it, and raise public awareness about its importance. This year's theme was "Fighting Food Insecurity and Hunger". The VIA joined clubs throughout the nation on this day by organizing a food drive. The result was **185 pounds of food** donated to The Food Pantry of Green Cove Springs.

*Thank you to those who participated!
WAY TO GO VIA!*

November Birthdays



3 *Gayle Larsen*

6 *Jessica Hames*

11 *Martha Mangus*

16 *Tina Brannen*

26 *Annette Engelman*

29 *Donna Shibley*

29 *Larriane Stutts*





“The House That Built {Us}”

Our clubhouse is finally getting the upgrades and restorations that she deserves! Soon we will be able to see the stucco being repaired and the colors coming back to life! Thank you all so much for the work you have done and the support and enthusiasm you have shown throughout the process. Your dedication to our fundraisers, and your promotion of our rentals has made this possible.

Since the 1800's, the women of the VIA have always given back to their community. You always support every outreach program that we have, and willingly give of your means to help those in need. Since the beginning, the ladies of the VIA have planned galas, teas, and exciting balls to raise money when needed. You all have done exactly that for years now, making it possible to finally make the improvements needed on our historical building, without ever sacrificing our service projects. You all are amazing.

The repairs should begin the first part of November. Rest assured, our building will still be in use, and there will be no “breaks” in our activity. Our contractors will work around us, and we will work around them. By the first of 2024, we should see our beautiful clubhouse looking like it looked in the pictures at our Open House!



History Corner

Did you know that the VIA was responsible for the first library in Green Cove Springs? In 1888, Mr. JJ Merritt gave a single book to the club and the ladies encouraged all members and visitors to donate books as well. This collection of books became the first library in the city. The ladies of the VIA maintained this library and promoted its growth from 1888 until December of 1961, when it became a part of the Clay County Library system.



HELP NEEDED

December 2 GCS Christmas Parade

This is the first time we (or anyone) has ventured out with the plan to sell food to those waiting on the parade. It will be an adventure, and has the capability of being a great way to get our name out there, and also raise funds for our clubhouse.

If you can supply food, help serve, or any of the things that may have not even crossed our minds yet, WE NEED YOU! Thank you in advance for your support and encouragement.

We will need a lot of help and support with this project. Please respond to this email or contact Martha at 904-887-3617 if you plan to help in any way. We will set up a meeting soon, but first, we'd love to see how many people we can count on for support and what each person is willing and able to do.

How Much Can We Raise?

Our club wide fundraiser is off to a great start. Let's keep it going!

Your individual efforts are appreciated whether you are selling tickets;
or cheering others on who are selling tickets;
or supporting this fundraiser by baking a dessert for Opportunity #4.

*Thank you!
Larianne*

- Turn in ticket stubs and monies from any tickets sold at each monthly meeting as you sell them.
- Purchaser must complete the Opportunity Number for their ticket. One ticket per opportunity.
- If you have questions, please contact Linda Fonferek at (904) 803-4599 or Deborah Page at (850) 322-7774.



2023

VIA Women's Club of Green Cove Springs Opportunity Drawing

FOR LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND VIA CHARITIES

**\$5 Donation per Ticket
or
5 Tickets for \$20**

*4 Separate Drawings for the 4 Different Opportunities.
Specify your opportunity choice on your ticket.*

DRAWINGS ON December 14, 2023

Winners will be Promptly Notified and Need Not Be Present to Win.

Questions, please email l.stutts@aol.com

<p>#1 \$500 Visa Gift Card (\$500 Value)</p> 	<p>#2 Airplane Ride over Seaside for 2 People (\$400 Value)</p> <p><i>Unavailable</i></p> 
<p>#3</p>  <p>Citizens Gold Watch from Kingsley Jewelry (\$200 Value)</p>	<p>#4 A Delicious Dessert a Month for a Year (\$450 Value)</p> 



Tuesday Trippin

Exploring Mount Dora

Tuesday Trippers took an informative tour of the lake and canal followed by a great lunch at the Lakeside Inn.

As always, it was a fun time with good friends!

*Questions about the next trip,
contact Sandi Dunnavant at bookladi2012@gmail.com*



Thank you!

VIA members, friends and family, let's show our appreciation to our community supporters and fellow VIA members by patronizing their businesses. Let's help spread the word about how great these businesses truly are!



A special congratulations to VIA Vice President Cheri Starnes for receiving the 2023 Clay Chamber's Small Business of The Year award.

Cheri is the owner of Corner Pocket and generous supporter of the VIA and the GCS community.

Way to Go!



Have a special occasion such as a Birthday Party, Anniversary Celebration, Wedding or Baby Shower?

Our historic 1914 cottage is available to rent for YOUR next party.

*For more information, please email:
Terry Abbott at viagcs@gmail.com*



Village Improvement Association

- President:** Larianne Stutts
l.stutts@aol.com
- Vice President:** Cheri Starnes
cstarnes2326@gmail.com
- Secretary:** Open
- Correspondence Secretary:**
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Donna Shibley
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- Building Rental Committee:**
Terry Abbott
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- Membership Committee:**
Christie Staton
cdstaton@bellsouth.net

Newsletter articles are due by the 17th of each month.

Please email them to: l.stutts@aol.com

Photo submissions must represent VIA supported events and activities.

Larianne Stutts, Newsletter Editor

Jennifer Stubbs, Newsletter Contributor Coordinator

Deborah Page, Newsletter Design & Layout



Introducing a Directory of the Services provided for our members and their spouses. The Directory will be located on the last page of each newsletter edition.

If you have information to add or edit, please let Larianne know at L.stutts@aol.com.

VIA Member Services Directory

Accounting/Tax Services

Susan Hess CPA, P.A.

Susan Hess

(904) 500-2100

Auto Body Shop

Darren's Custom & Restoration Body Shop

Darren Stutts

(904) 509-2420

Beauty

Rodan & Fields Skin Care Consultant

Larianne Stutts

(904) 251-4995

Financial Advisor

Hess Financial Group

VyStar Investment Services

John Hess

(904) 269-8772

Raeanne McCarty

(904) 908-2495

Pet Services

Jen's Pet Sitting Service

Jenifer Dunnivant

(904) 657-4460

Restaurant

Corner Pocket

Cheri Starnes

(904) 284-1992

Scents

SCENTSY

Jo Potter

(541) 279-0595

Women's Clothing

One Swanky Chic Boutique

Kristina Byrd

(904) 671-3819

Let's support the businesses of our members and their spouses!

