



November 2024

VIA INSIDER

Serving the Community since 1883

November Activities:

Nov 9 Alzheimer's Walk

Nov 14 General Meeting 10:00 am

Nov 28 Thanksgiving

Visit GFWCVIA.com for the current calendar.

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.

WWW.GFWCVIA.COM



viagcs@gmail.com

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

I always love our October meetings! It is so nice to see all our members that we have missed over the summer months. I enjoy seeing all the ladies excited to reunite and so anxious to talk to each other and reconnect. Everyone came eager and happy, and enthusiasm permeated the room!

I was especially happy to hear everyone's ideas on making this club better! You all came up with so many excellent suggestions, and I was so encouraged to hear so many of you suggesting things that are practical and simple to put into action. It was obvious that each of you wants to strengthen your relationships with each other and make a bigger impact on the community and to each other. My brain is already wrapping around the idea of a "progressive dinner" and I am excited to see how we can make this work in the different areas of our county. I was so pleased to see that most of your suggestions were based on reaching out to each other and being more inclusive with our newer members and those that we might not know as well. You are the reason this club continues to grow and to thrive.

One of my favorite things about our club is the way you can take the simplest of events and make them so fun and engaging! I loved seeing our ladies that did the "Cape-Abilities" Walk laughing about their time together, and I hear so many sharing the fun they had learning to can meat and vegetables. You all have such fun at every endeavor, and that is why so many want to be a part of what we are doing! I am so grateful for each of you!

As Green Cove celebrates its 150th Anniversary, I have heard over and over again about the contributions that our club has made to this community. We were making and impact centuries ago, and we are making an impact today! I am so glad to be a part of the VIA!

Larianne
l.stutts@aol.com





VIA Supports BASCA



The VIA Victors team supported BASCA at the annual Capabilities Run/Walk again this year with a team of 10 VIA members. Our VIA capes, created by Tonia Everitt with assistance from Marnie Buchannon, even won the Best Cape award!

Additionally, Janey Amos, Marie Buchannon and Cherie Wilson were recognized for their awesome finish times.

Way to go VIA!



BASCA serves adults with intellectual and developmental differences by providing residential services, vocational training, life skills programs and community inclusion activities.



Fun Times with VIA Friends...

Bee Creative

Check out the awesome Pumpkin Wreaths made by VIA members from Dollar Store items! Members are invited to learn about canning from Tonia who will be canning something every Monday at her home.



VIA Supports National Night Out

National Night Out, a community event hosted by the Green Cove Springs Police Department. This event brings kids and law enforcement together for a fun night with games, refreshments, and a canine demonstration. It's strictly a night to encourage our youth to make good choices and trust law enforcement.



Tales from The Clink

Thank you, Education & Libraries Committee! Sherry Kelly and April Pearson represented the VIA at the Tales from The Clink. These ladies sold cookbooks, pork butts and opportunity tickets for the Holiday Gift basket.

Great job representing our club ladies!



VIA FUNDRAISER ALERT!

Village Improvement Association

\$35 each
Prepaid
(app. 8 lbs. each)



GrillBilly's
Smoked
Pork Butts

Last day to order: Wednesday, November 20, 2024
Delivery date: Monday, November 25th
Pick up times: 10 am–12 pm on Monday, November 25th
Where to pick up: VIA (17 N. Palmetto Ave., Green Cove Springs)

Pork butts are delivered hot off the smoker, all bagged up and ready to go!
They are really juicy so please bring a cooler or container with you.

Buy your pork butt(s) just in time for those holiday get togethers!

GrillBilly's fully cooked pork butts freeze really well, too!



Sherry Kelly 904-214-3649

Lynn Elliott 904-945-9358

lynnelliott61@gmail.com

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Butts ordered @ \$35 each = _____ total

Payment: Cash _____ Check _____ (Made payable to VIA)

(Mail to 17 N. Palmetto Ave., Green Cove Springs, FL 32043)

Thank you for your support of the VIA!



VIA to Join Fight to End Alzheimer's

Promise Garden Honor Display & Walking for a Cure

The Health & Wellness Committee would like to invite VIA members to honor their family members and friends who have fought or are currently dealing with this disease or dementia.

Let's create a Promise Garden honoring those friends and family members impacted by this disease. We'll add their name and yours to a flower and display this in the clubhouse. You're invited to send the name, photo if you like and any comments to H&W Chair Donna Shibley. Please include which color flower best describes your situation.

Another way to honor those impacted is to **join in the Alzheimer's Walk on November 9th** to draw attention to the cause by joining the VIA Team – *It Takes A Village!*

Walking raises awareness and while there is no fee to join the walk, **sharing with friends and family may help raise much needed funds for research** through sponsorships. Funding allows the Alzheimer's Association to provide 24/7 care and support and advance research toward methods of prevention, treatment and, ultimately, a cure.

If you are unable to walk, but would like to support this cause, please consider sponsoring a member of the VIA who is walking.

It takes a village coming together to serve others to find a cure for this disease.

Let's be a part of the solution to end Alzheimer's.

For further information, please contact H&W Chair Donna Shibley at dmsibley@gmail.com



Which Flower represents YOU?

Across the nation, the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is full of flowers, each carried by someone committed to ending this disease. Promise Garden Flowers:

Blue - someone living with Alzheimer's or another dementia

Purple - those who have lost someone to the disease

Yellow - someone who is currently supporting or caring for a person living with Alzheimer's

Orange - those who support the cause and the Association's Vision of a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia.

Please use this link to join the VIA Team – It Takes A Village or to show your support for another team member.

Let's honor those we love and fight to find a cure!





October Meeting Recap

Education & Libraries Committee presents GCS Library



Our Education/Library Committee never disappoints! We were so fortunate to have Tiffani Pearson and Oneka Samet, ed.D at our meeting today! Both ladies were so informative and provided great information to us. It was so exciting to hear about the fun activities that they have planned for our community, and we are excited to know of ways that we can volunteer and participate with them. Our ladies always enjoy working with the children and it is fun to anticipate joining them for the T-Rex party and Holiday Safari!

Wasn't it fun, too, to try all the different varieties of chili? It was hard to choose just one, and the cornbread, chips and all the varieties of toppings added to the fun. The card sales and the exciting cake auction were also a highlight! I hope those become a "regular" thing at our October meetings!

Coming in November

Civics & Engagement presents
EMPOWERED TO ACHIEVE

Timothy Collins, Retired Clay County Judge and former Assistant State Attorney of Clay County, will speak about the new not-for-profit he established called Empowered to Achieve, Inc. He'll explain this new effort and how it not only benefits the defendants (veteran, drug, mental health courts only) but also our community as a whole if they are successful. Through his past experiences as an active Judge with defendants plus with others in regular county court, Judge Collins saw the need to intervene with the type of assistance this new non-profit provides.

Remember: We'll have opportunity tickets for sale for our basket valued at \$800!

See you there!



Welcome

New Members

We're so happy you've joined us!

Jayne Clark

Interests: Animals, Travel, Friends

Profession: RN

Committee Interests: Environment, Health & Wellness

Tiffany Pearson

Profession: Branch Manager, GCS Library

Committee Interests: Education & Libraries

Sandra Sheridan

Interests: Love the beach, learning to cook better, love nature walks

Profession: Retired Teacher

Committee Interests: Education & Libraries



Fundraising Opportunity Basket Value \$800

Get Ready for the Holidays!

Civics Engagement will be offering opportunity tickets for a gift basket valued at **\$800** including a **\$50** gift card for Honey Baked Ham, a **\$300** Car Detailing from Fields Cadillac Jacksonville and a **\$30** Art Room gift card **plus** lots of other great items!

Be sure to get some tickets to secure your opportunity to win! \$5 per ticket or \$10 for 3 tickets.



Celebrating in November...

- 3 **Gayle Larsen**
- 6 **Jessie Hames**
- 11 **Martha Mangus**
- 16 **Tina Brannen**
- 26 **Annette Engelman**
- 29 **Donna Shibley & Larianne Stutts**

Time for VIA Dues

All members are asked to pay their annual dues of \$50.00 made payable to VIA. VIA Treasurer, Lucy Conrad, will be collecting dues at the next several meetings. Remember VIA is a 501C non-profit, so your dues are tax deductible. Thank you!



“The House That Built {Us}”

Our members have been very busy over the summer! Hopefully everyone has noticed that a lot of cleaning and organizing has taken place over the last few months. Many have put forth a lot of effort to “declutter” and purge items that were no longer useful or needed. We now have ample storage for our linens, and the supplies are neatly organized in the storage room. The area under the stage is now easy to access, and the work room is spacious and can house the items that we bring for donations. The clubhouse looks so nice, and it keeps us from purchasing items we already have. We need to all make a concentrated effort to maintain this level of organization.

A big thanks to all the ladies that worked so hard on this endeavor.

Larianne



History



As you know, the city of Green Cove Springs is celebrating their 150th birthday this year. The whole town is coming together to acknowledge and celebrate their amazing history. More and more, I am realizing how much of a contribution our VIA has made to this community. We are such a visible part of this town’s history. Many interviews were conducted from long standing citizens as well as city officials and officers. Almost every one of them had ties to the VIA and powerful stories about some of its past or oldest members. Almost every bit of research done on some of Green Cove’s oldest structures has ties to the VIA. The names of Ella Munsell and Penelope Borden appear in many other news articles for their service to this community, and the VIA is acknowledged for the first library and the first kindergarten. Even names of some of our current members that have been with us for many years were mentioned in many of the interviews for their contributions and service to Green Cove Springs.

We have an important legacy to continue. The ladies who began this club over 140 years ago worked hard to make a place for us in the 1800’s and we want to continue their legacy of service. It is important that we continue our mission by building relationships, acts of kindness and meeting the needs of our citizens. Let’s also join our city in celebration and make sure they see our continued support!



VIA Meeting GCS Community Needs

Diaper Drive



VIA answered the call for diapers at Quigley House by collecting over 700 diapers! Thank you Janey Fox for bringing this to the VIA's attention. Way to go VIA!

Food Drive

Over 440 lbs of food was collected for the GCS Food Pantry through a VIA sponsored food drive at the GCS Library. This was a GFWC National Day of Service Project that was led by the Health & Wellness Committee.



VIA Nominating Committee:

The nominating committee was established at our October meeting. The Chairman is Joyce Engelken (jengelken@yahoo.com) and members are Lynn Elliot and Marnie Buchanan. Offices to be filed are as follows:

- President
- Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary
- Treasurer

Please contact Joyce if you are interested in serving in any of these positions or have questions about the responsibilities of a specific office.

Healthy Tidbits *with Health & Wellness*

November is a month filled with these Health and Wellness organizations to support. Please stand strong for any of these causes.

- *Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month*
~ <https://www.alz.org/>
- *National Epilepsy Month Epilepsy Foundation*
~ <https://www.epilepsy.com/>
- *Lung Cancer Awareness Month*
~ <https://www.lung.org/>
- *Pancreatic Cancer Month* ~ <https://pancreatica.org/>

Diabetes Awareness Month

Nearly one in two Americans has diabetes or prediabetes. It's a disease that affects us all—and it will take us all to stop it. The American Diabetes Association (ADA) is leading the charge to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. You can take action and join the fight to change the curve on the diabetes epidemic through volunteering, advocating, fundraising, donating, and more. Together, we can end diabetes.

The Great American Smokeout® ~ November 21

Quitting smoking isn't easy. It takes time. And a plan. You don't have to stop smoking in one day. Start with day one. Let the Great American Smokeout event on the third Thursday in November be your day to start your journey toward a smoke-free life. You'll be joining thousands of people who smoke across the country in taking an important step toward a healthier life and reducing your cancer risk. Plus, the *American Cancer Society can help you access the resources and support you need to quit.*



Questions about the Health & Wellness Committee, please contact Donna Shibley at dmsibley@gmail.com



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 viags@gmail.com*



Village Improvement Association

- President:** Larianne Stutts
l.stutts@aol.com
- Vice President:** Cheri Starnes
cstarnes2326@gmail.com
- Secretary:** Joyce Engelken
jengelken@yahoo.com
- Correspondence Secretary:**
Deborah Page
page4rwe@gmail.com
- Treasurer:** Lucy Conrad
lucelc9@yahoo.com
- Historians:** Clara Freeman and Theresa Crockett
bigcfreeman@bellsouth.net
theresac425@gmail.com
- Arts & Culture Committee:**
Sandi Dunnivant and Terry Wilson
bookladi2012@gmail.com
ktsswil@bellsouth.net
- Civic Engagement & Outreach Committee:**
Karla Logston and Martha Mangus
karlalogston@bellsouth.net
mangmarth@gmail.com
- Education & Libraries Committee:**
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- Environment Committee:**
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- Health & Wellness Committee:**
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- Building Rental Committee:**
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- Head Start Program:**
Gale Miller
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- Domestic and Human Trafficking:**
Janey Fox
Jmf1052@aol.com

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



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

Home Care

Assisting Hands Home Care

Tracy Hardy

(904) 746-1036

Pet Services

Jen's Pet Sitting Service

Jenifer Dunnivant

(904) 657-4460

Realtor

Davidson Realty, Inc.

Christina Treadway

(904)548-7775

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!

