



March 2025

VIA INSIDER

Serving the Community since 1883

March Activities:

- Mar 11 Bunco Night Time TBD
- Mar 13 General Meeting 10:00 am

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

We definitely started the year off strong! I love your enthusiasm for all our ideas and plans, and I love how brave you are! I was so excited with the turnout for our Axe Throwing event, and I look forward to more events this year that bring us all together just to have fun! I am also counting on you to support our fundraising events this year so we can make the necessary repairs to our clubhouse.

I am so impressed with our committees right now! I have attended all of the meetings thus far, and each one has such creative and innovative ideas for service projects and for fundraising. Some committees have even partnered with other committees to make their events bigger and more successful. Isn't that awesome! It is important to always keep in mind that we are never competing (unless we are throwing axes)! We are all in this together and every one of you is valuable to the club. If everyone gives their best and gets involved in some way this year, we can accomplish so much.

Because our rentals are our best source of income, we are excited to capitalize on them and maximize our income power with each rental. I am so grateful for the way so many of you have agreed to assist. Hopefully, the cold weather is almost behind us. I'm looking forward to some outside activities and some more adventures. We want the community to know we are a fun group and always willing to support our fellow citizens as well as each other.

Larianne

l.stutts@aol.com





VIA Supports Our Community



Valentine Card Making

As always, VIA members had an awesome time helping the children of the Augusta Savage Center make Valentine's Day cards!

A very special "Thank You" to Sherry Kelly who provided the materials and led this activity.

Way to go Education and Libraries!



VIA Adventures...

Axe Throwing Fun

What an awesome time our members had throwing axes at the monthly get together arranged by VIA President Larianne Stutts! The evening fun reinforced how open, brave and daring our members are and how they welcome trying new challenges.

Who knew we had an expert axe thrower among our ranks? Congratulations to *Marnie Buchanan* who took home the title of *VIA Axe Throwing Champion*. Well done all!



VIA Fun



Social & Puzzle Making Competition – A Piece of Our Heart Fundraiser

The Health & Wellness Committee hosted a very fun evening of puzzling and visiting! The 1st Place Team was Enigma, 2nd Place Team was Edge Pieces, and 3rd Place Team was Jigsawmania. Prizes were awarded to all winners and everyone commented how much they enjoyed the event!

Looks like a fun and yummy time!





February Meeting Recap

What a fun and exciting meeting! Andrea Crowder, Executive Director of the Way Free Medical Clinic shared their efforts to improve access to healthcare and provide free medical services to uninsured, low-income residents of Clay County. The VIA supported the clinic with a donation of 423 diapers and 1,600 wipes for new mom's and their babies.

The Health and Wellness Committee provided heart healthy snacks complimented by impressive decorations. And of course, the meeting included fun interactive activities provided by our President Larianne Stutts including a spa certificate from Essence of You on Walnut Street which was won by our Marnie Buchanan, for being the Bravest VIA member!





Welcome

New Members

Cathy Settle

Interests: Loves community work and helping others. Also loves her book club and any books people give her.
Profession: Retired
Committee Interests: Civics, Libraries & Education and Environment

Mother's Day Bouquet

The Arts & Culture Committee has created a unique Mother's Day Bouquet. The arrangement, which is made of money, is being used as a VIA fundraiser. Please consider purchasing tickets for a chance at this beautiful bouquet.



\$5 ... 1 ticket
\$10 ... 3 tickets
\$20 ... 10 tickets

Tickets will be available for purchase until the drawing at the May 8th meeting.



Celebrating in March...

20 Donna Having
22 Ellen Greer
31 Constance Higginbotham

Unity Outreach, Inc. 1st Annual Wide Open Open 4 Man Scramble Magnolia Point Golf Course

*Anticipating a MARCH 2025 Date
(Aiming for a Saturday, after March 10th)*

Unity Outreach, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization that offers hope, financial support and resources for Breast Cancer victims in our community. They provide services for the uninsured and help with any needs not available for those which agencies do not cover.

The Woo will graciously donate all proceeds from the WOO, "Wide Open Open" golf outing. This year's Pirate theme welcomes golfers to dress up in your favorite *thievin'* costume (plastic swords only).

You can support this event by volunteering to assist with registration, holes, sponsorships or serving. Assistance could include registering to participate in the golf outing; and or by donating a gift certificate or item from your place of business; and or by making a donation. Golfers have been very generous in the past in the silent auction tables.

*For further information, please contact Cheri Starnes at
Cstarnes2326@gmail.com*



Next Month's Meeting

On March 13th, the Environmental Committee presents Elizabeth Smith from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. She will discuss, "What does the VIA and the Florida Forestry Service have in common?"



RIDE WITH CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

VIA members are invited to join the Civics Committee in attending the Clay County Citizens Academy. The program is a behind-the-scenes look into the Sheriff's daily operations to increase rapport with the public through education, thereby giving participants a greater understanding of why we do what we do. The ten-week, 30-hour program and meets on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 9 pm at the Clay County Sheriff's Office. The program usually includes a ride along.

To register, please visit sheriffclayco.org/community-resources/citizens-academy/



Citizens Academy |
Clay County
Sheriff's Office
claysheriff.com

Healthy Tidbits *with Health & Wellness*

March Causes to support:

Nutrition – Kidney - Colorectal Cancer Awareness
Red Cross Month with the 22nd as Red Cross Giving Day
March 19-25 ~ National Poison Prevention Week

From Raeanne McCarty,

VyStar Investment Services Financial Advisor

Thinking of health and wellness, we look to care for our bodies, but mental health is just as important to consider. Our mental health can be affected by our financial health, especially retiree's. Scammers find retirees especially vulnerable. Scams come in many forms, but financial scams focus on preying on the emotions of the victim, and are designed to confuse and pressure them to make a decision under duress.

Tech support scam: Criminals pose as technology support representatives and offer to fix non-existent computer issues. The scammers gain remote access to victims' devices and sensitive information. Here are ways to protect yourself from tech support scams:

- Recognize scam attempts and end all communication with the perpetrator.
- Create a shared verbal family password.
- Search online for the contact information and the proposed offer for posted info about a potential scam.
- Resist the pressure to act quickly.
- Call the police immediately if you feel there is a danger.
- Be cautious of unsolicited offers.
- Never send any personally identifiable information, money, gold or gift cards, checks, to anyone unverified.
- Update all computer anti-virus/security software.
- Disconnect from the internet and shut down your device if you see a pop-up message or locked screen. Enable pop-up blockers to avoid accidentally clicking on a pop-up.
- Be careful what you download. Never open an email attachment from someone you don't know.

File a complaint at the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at ic3.gov.

Source: Elder Fraud; www.FBI.gov; February 11th, 2025; <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/scams-and-safety/common-frauds-and-scams/elder-fraud>

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



“The House That Built {Us}”

I’m sure everyone knows that our Archive Room is the home to many beautiful artifacts. It contains memorabilia from decades ago, pictures and documents that display all the work and service that we have done over the years. Almost every piece of furniture in the room has a “story”, and every piece of China or beloved doll hosts a wealth of memories. Every clubwoman from 1914 until now has a strong attachment to either the room or a piece of its contents, or both.

One of our goals this year to do some upgrades and repairs to this treasured room. Some of the pictures can be rearranged to showcase some of the more current events, and some of the older treasures can be brought out so they can be seen. We have a wealth of history and a legacy that should instill pride in us all.

Larriane



History Corner

Our Clubhouse Mural



Our clubhouse has many beautiful and unique attributes. Do you know what got the most attention, however, during the 2024 Christmas Historical Home Tour? It was the mural painted on the stage wall. Many comments are made about the mural and most have strong opinions regarding it. Brides renting our clubhouse as a wedding venue often want it covered, and those wanting a retirement or community event often love it. Love it or hate it, it is a piece of history and has a story.

The mural was painted by T. Rosakranse. He was the husband of a Norma Rosakranse, who was the VIA President from 1982-1984. The actual sketch that he drew before he painted it on our stage is still in our office. It is said to be the view of Spring Park over 4 decades ago. President Rosakranse’s name is on the plaque in our Archive room as well.

Some of the plaster on the wall containing the mural is cracking, and in time will need to be repaired. Whether we paint over it or attempt to preserve it, it is still a part of our history, and it is a great conversation piece.



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
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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

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Auto Body Shop

Darren's Custom & Restoration Body Shop

Darren Stutts

(904) 509-2420

Beauty

Rodan & Fields Skin Care Consultant

Larriane 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 Dunnavant

(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

Web Development & Photos

Unicorn Web Development /FotoFusion Photo

Bobbi Nagle

(904) 891-4538

Women's Clothing

One Swanky Chic Boutique

Kristina Byrd

(904) 671-3819

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

