



## December Activities:

- 12/1 ~ Wreath Making at the VIA (see page 5)
- 12/4 ~ Executive Board Meeting
- 12/6 ~ GCS Christmas Events (see page 8)
- 12/11 ~ December Meeting (see page 2)
- 12/19 ~ ESO Tea Party (see page 4)

Visit our website [WWW.GFVCVIA.com](http://WWW.GFVCVIA.com) for the current calendar. Our club email: [viagfvc@gmail.com](mailto:viagfvc@gmail.com)

Follow us on Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/VIAGreenCoveSprings>

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

The women of the VIA focus on service to the community. We strive to impact lives through our actions, both large and small, and build lasting friendships along the way.

VIA is a member of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC) and GFWC Florida.



## President’s Message

Once again, our clubhouse looked amazing for our general meeting. Back in April, right before our Venue Expo, we discussed decorating the outside of our clubhouse for all seasons and various holidays! I love the way you all took that to heart and have been keeping our building looking alive and inviting. Your special touches cause people to look our way and get excited about the events we are hosting. I love how the community can see that we are busy and having a great time in civic service as well as education in the areas of history, art and health. Keeping the grounds looking cared for and seasonal also represents the environment and shows our neighbors that it matters to us. Our rentals are increasing, too, which, as you know is our best and most dependable source of income and revenue.

As the holidays approach, I know many of us will be traveling and enjoying time with our families. I hope each of you know what a blessing and a gift you are to our club and our community. As we reflect back on our year, I hope you remember our fun events, our outreach programs, donations, and even the way so many of us committed to learning more about the care and safety of our youth. You have all had a part in bringing joy to our community.

I wish all of you the happiest of holidays!

**Larianne**  
[l.stutts@aol.com](mailto:l.stutts@aol.com)



## December 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2025

In true holiday fashion, our December meeting will mostly be a Holiday party! I love seeing our clubhouse dressed in red and green and filled with holly and trees and the excitement that always comes with this season. I know that our clubhouse will look the part, as decorations have already been discussed, and our building will be “dressed and ready” in time for the Historic House Christmas Tour! We already have plans for a wreath making event, so I’m sure they will be included in our décor! We will all be bringing our favorite Christmas goodies to share!

Every holiday season, the VIA historically “gives back” to a needy cause to make the holidays brighter for someone. For our December meeting, I am asking everyone that can to bring a new pair of athletic pants in any color or size to be given to Charles E Bennett Elementary School. I met Amanda Strickland, CEB’s principal and she said that was a huge need for her students. They have clothes closets where students in need can go and “shop” for school attire, but pants that “go with anything” are a much-needed item for emergencies that often occur during a school day. Feel free to reach out to me if you have questions.

Let’s wear our holiday sweaters, or holiday colors and be ready to have a great time! We do have some new members and they deserve to see what fun and welcoming ladies you are!



### Happy Holidays to you and yours

December brings special holidays for many with time to celebrate with family and friends. Enjoy!

## November Meeting 2025 recap

The Civic Engagement and Outreach Committee held the November meeting which recognized the Veterans Day holiday and focused on the role of our nation’s armed forces.

Marnie Buchanan gave a tribute to the missing man table. Our guest speaker Brian Stewart, the Soldier & Family Readiness Specialist from the Florida Army National Guard, stationed at Camp Blanding shared stories from his lengthy military career and made us more aware of the current important role, challenges, and needs of the men and women currently serving at Camp Blanding (Clay County’s own military installation). Also in attendance was Albert Figueroa, Soldier and Family Readiness Specialist and Ken, Remsen, Certified Financial Planner.

Thank you to all who supported the request for gift cards for our service members from Mission 11<sup>th</sup> Hour; \$1000 was collected. (see more pictures on page 6)



\*\*\*\*\*

December 21 ~ First Day of Winter/Winter Solstice



## Health and Wellness

Causes to support in December:

- Gift of Sight Month
- December 1 ~ World AIDS Day
- December 1-7 ~ Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week
- December 1-7 ~ National Handwashing Awareness Week
- December 3 ~ International Person of Disabilities Day

VIA It Takes A Village ~  
Walk to End Alzheimer's on  
November 9<sup>th</sup> ~ \$385 was  
raised. Thank you ❤️



## Who doesn't like POPCORN?

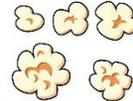
LAST CHANCE TO ORDER

It is easy to register to buy or gift  
(October 13 - December 31)

Support the VIA and buy or gift some yummy treat

The more you buy, the more the VIA earns

<https://poppinpopcornonline.com/store/store.php?siID=FZGTRB>

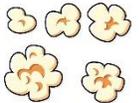


POPPIN' SHOP



GFWC VILLAGE  
IMPROVEMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
OF GREEN  
COVE SPRINGS

Please help us reach our goal!  
Thank you for your support!



## GFWC Florida President's Project ~ Flight of Honor



On **November 8**, VIA members attended the Fleming Island Chili Cookoff fundraiser hosted by Martha Mangus and Family. The proceeds from this fundraiser are dedicated to the GFWC Florida President, Sara Dessureau's state project - the GFWC Florida Flight of Honor. As such, GFWC Florida is sponsoring an all-inclusive flight to Washington, DC. for 172 GFWC Florida veterans in March 2026. This will be the first ALL female veterans Flight of Honor in Florida.



Thank you to Marnie Buchanan, Navy Veteran, who explained the project at the event.

## Saturday Market in Spring Park

VIA members continue to have a presence at Saturday Market in Spring Park. Sharon Nellis, with assist from her husband, was our ambassador on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Pork Butts, Opportunity Raffle chances, Poppin' Popcorn information, cookbooks and more were offered for purchase. The next Saturday Market will be December 20<sup>th</sup>. Stop in and say hello.



## ART@Noon “Eye of the Earth” Art Trip

Several members of the VIA joined in the recent ART@noon “Eye of the Earth” Art Walk at the Cummer Museum, a wonderful afternoon of art, learning, and lively discussion! Participants explored the world of Andrew Wyeth, his deep connection to the Kuerner Farm, and his remarkable use of watercolor and egg tempera to capture the spirit of place.

Our members especially enjoyed connecting this experience to our earlier VIA Road Trip, where we heard Jonathan Rich speak about his beautiful book [Spires in the Sun](#) and Florida’s Carpenter Gothic churches. We’re now looking forward to the next ART@noon “Backstory” Zoom, where Jonathan Rich will be interviewed about how he created [Spires in the Sun](#) and what inspired his passion for these historic churches.

 14 Next ART@noon “Backstory” Zoom

 Guest: Jonathan Rich ~ Topic: The making and meaning of [Spires in the Sun](#)

 Thursday, November 20, 2025, Zoom @ 12:00

 To attend, visit <https://jaxcathedralbooks.org/>, scroll to Events, and RSVP for the ART@Noon Backstory Zoom program.



## ESO Tea Party

The Epsilon Sigma Omicron Sorority invites you to a tea party. It’s an Open House at Sandi’s home.

Drop in for tea, treats, and share good books with your book buddies.

**RSVP required (accepts only). SANDI (904-707-6407)**

**When:** Friday, December 19

**What to bring:** A book to swap; optional donation (children’s rhyming books or funds) to support our **Mother Goose: Rhymers Are Readers** program.

**Dress:** Festive & sparkly



## The GFWC Florida Clubwoman Newsletter

Any GFWC Florida clubwoman (this means YOU) can sign up to receive the weekly (it comes out every Monday) **GFWC Florida Clubwoman Newsletter**. It features messages from Members of the Executive Committee, Club News, Articles from Service Project and Community Service Projects Chairman, and a lot of other information to keep you up-to-date on GFWC Florida. Sign up through the GFWC Florida website.

<https://www.gfwcflorida.org/>

# Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

When: December 1 from 6:00-8:00pm at the VIA  
 Why: Learn how to craft a beautiful natural wreath for your home.  
 How: Sign-ups are through Eventbrite (sign up NOW!)  
 Donations of wreaths also accepted for Quigley House.  
 Contact Christy to reserve your spot ~ 904.860.2597.

LET'S GET FESTIVE!  
**CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP**  
 CRAFT A BEAUTIFUL, NATURAL WREATH FOR YOUR HOME!

Join us for a joyful evening of creativity and holiday spirit! You'll learn how to craft a beautiful, real evergreen wreath to grace your front door this Christmas season. All supplies and tools are included:

- Fresh Evergreens and a variety of festive decorations
- Our helpers will be there to guide you - no experience necessary!
- Enjoy holiday music, delicious refreshments, & a fantastic group of people ready to get into the Christmas spirit!

Give Back While Getting Crafty! Tickets: \$45 per person  
 100% of ticket sales will be donated directly to the VIA to support their community work.

December 1<sup>st</sup> from 6pm - 8pm  
 VIA - 17 Palmello Ave, Green Cove Springs  
 Questions? 904-860-2597

OUR SPONSORS: IR, VIA, WESTBANK DEVELOPMENT CR.



2025  
**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

3 Separate Drawings for the 3 Different Opportunities.  
 Specify Your Opportunity Choice on Your Ticket.

**DRAWINGS on December 11, 2025**  
 Winners Will Be Promptly Notified and Need Not Be Present to Win  
 Questions, please email: [lvw@via.com](mailto:lvw@via.com)

<p><b>#1</b>                  \$500 Visa Gift Card (\$500 Value)</p>	<p><b>#2</b>                  Sailing at Sunset                  Original Acrylic                  16" x 22"                  by local artist,                  Beth Hobbie                  (\$500 Value)</p>
<p><b>#3</b>                  Airplane Ride over St Augustine for 2 people (\$400 Value)</p>	

## Calling ALL Members

It takes each of us committing ourselves to make this fundraiser successful. Your individual efforts to sell tickets are appreciated. **LAST CHANCE TO SELL**

- Please turn in ticket stubs and monies from a variety of tickets you have sold as you sell them ~ drawing will be held on December 11.
- The purchaser must complete the Opportunity Number for their ticket.
- One ticket is required for one opportunity.
- If you have questions, please contact Deborah Page at (850) 322-7774.

# VIA Supports victims of Domestic Violence for the GFWC International Day of Service

The VIA GFWC International Day of Service for 2025 came to a close on November 6th with the **Awareness Night** presentation. Detective Ryan Ellis, enlightened attendees about internet safety for children of all ages and highlighted his efforts to update common language to Child Exploitation and Child Sexual Abuse.

Important sites for parents and caregivers to know include:  
 NetSmartz ~ <https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/home>

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children ~ <https://www.missingkids.org/home> which includes the Cyber Tip Line "The greatest risk for children is the internet" so communicate, educate and be diligent with children's internet access.



**Janey Fox, D4 Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Chair**, spoke at the September 13<sup>th</sup> International Day of Service event that three Florida clubs sponsored. →

**FOR ANY PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, GUARDIANS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN RAISING YOUR AWARENESS RELATED TO CRIMES AGAINST YOUTH**

- Meet at VIA Clubhouse at 17 Palmello Ave, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32083
- Speaker: OCSO Detective Ryan Ellis, Florida's 2025 Co-Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
- Discuss important topics related to protecting children from predators

**Free! Join Us!**

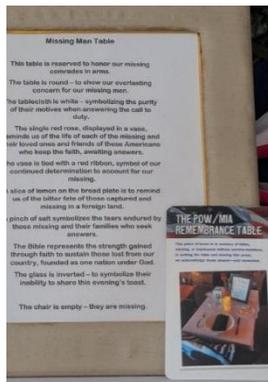
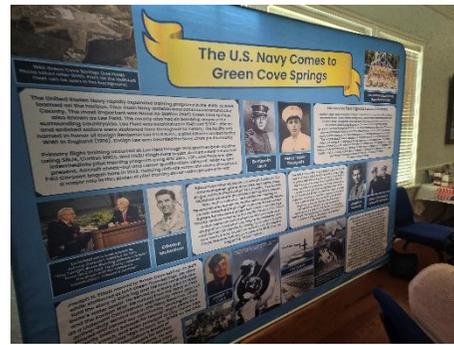
**AWARENESS NIGHT**  
 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>  
 6PM-8PM

Detective Ellis and his counterparts in local law enforcement take very seriously crimes against children and the impact these crimes are having on Clay County. Raise your awareness! Meet on inside the VIA Clubhouse for a brief presentation and Q&A time. *Make contact!*

For more information, please call or text event coordinator, Deb Page at 904-251-4896.



## More November Meeting pictures



## VIA Welcomes these NEW Members

- **Nikki Glanville** ~ 3 West Street, Green Cove Springs (Clay County Habitat for Humanity) ~ 904-476-2475 | [nnglanville@clayhabitat.org](mailto:nnglanville@clayhabitat.org)
- **LaToya Glenn** ~ 1311 Roberts Street South, Green Cove Springs ~ 407-431.1683 | [latoyaaglenn@gmail.com](mailto:latoyaaglenn@gmail.com)
- **Susan Kite** ~ 3937 Wiseman Road, Green Cove Springs ~ 904-271-5747 | [flyakitesusan@yahoo.com](mailto:flyakitesusan@yahoo.com)
- **Teresa Moore** ~ 1635 Dragonfly Point, Fleming Island ~ 904.678.7754 | [teresa@spacecoastgreen.biz](mailto:teresa@spacecoastgreen.biz)

## VIA Member birthdays



### December:

- 16 ~ Eva Dion
- 19 ~ Jayne Clark
- 27 ~ Emily Lisska
- 31 ~ Joan Jaffray

### January:

- 5 ~ Cheryl Mobley-Gonzalez
- 12 ~ Lucy Conrad
- 16 ~ Terry Abbott
- 20 ~ Bobbi Nagle
- 20 ~ Sharon Nellis
- 26 ~ Carol Johnson
- 31 ~ Cherie Wilson

## Headquarters Rental

Our historic 1914 cottage is available to rent for YOUR next party. Have a special occasion such as a Birthday Party, Anniversary Celebration, Wedding, Family Gathering, Graduation or Baby Shower?

For more information contact Terry Abbott @ [viagcs@gmail.com](mailto:viagcs@gmail.com)



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**Newsletter articles** are due by the 18<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please email them to:

[l.stutts@aol.com](mailto:l.stutts@aol.com) and [dmshibley@gmail.com](mailto:dmshibley@gmail.com)

*All submissions must represent VIA supported events and activities.*

Larriane Stutts, Newsletter Editor

Donna Shibley, Newsletter Design & Layout

## Village Improvement Association of Green Cove Springs, FL, Inc. Executive Board

**President:** Larriane Stutts  
l.stutts@aol.com

**Vice President:** Cheri Starnes  
cstarnes2326@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Sharon Nellis  
sjnellis@bellsouth.net

**Correspondence Secretary:** Tracy Hardy  
hardy.tracy@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Cherie Wilson  
cheriewilson@comcast.net

**Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness  
and Prevention:** Janey Fox  
jmf1052@aol.com

**Arts & Culture Committee:**  
Terry Wilson  
ktsswil@bellsouth.net

**Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO):**  
Sandi Dunnavant  
bookladi2012@gmail.com

**Civic Engagement & Outreach Committee:**  
Mary Justino  
justinom@clayclerk.com

**Education & Libraries Committee:**  
April Pearson  
aprilapearson@gmail.com

**Environment Committee:**  
Christy McCarthy  
christy@interiorsrevitalized.com

**Health & Wellness Committee:**  
Cheryl Gonzalez  
Cherylgonzal@yahoo.com

**Building Rental Committee:**  
Terry Abbott  
gmatea65@gmail.com

**Membership Committee:** Pam Harris  
pamdora878@comcast.net

**Communications & Public Relations  
Committee:** Donna Shibley  
dmshibley@gmail.com

# “The House That Built {Us}”

One of the responsibilities that we have as clubwomen is maintaining the clubhouse that was given to us back in 1914. We often speak proudly of the fact that our clubhouse is the oldest building in Green Cove that is still being used for its original purpose. Our clubhouse has so much character and charm, and I often wonder what kind of stories it would tell if it could talk!

Many of you have noticed that the plaster ceiling has been breaking and falling periodically in the Archive room as well as the office. Through the hard work of our members with our fundraising efforts and some of the monetary gifts and grants that we have received from organizations and friends, we plan to make these repairs the next “project” that we undertake for our clubhouse. It is always the goal of our members to keep the clubhouse as historically accurate as possible, while still being conscientious of the costs. This project is not something that will happen in the current year, but we have begun having conversations about our options.

Remember, our clubhouse is the venue for so many fun and meaningful activities and projects. We owe it to our past members as well as our future members to maintain its beauty, its charm and its stories.

*Lianne*



Tour passes and maps will be available at the Village Improvement Association.

## History

Did you know?



Most of the community is aware that the Green Cove Springs Christmas Parade is the second biggest event in Clay County, with the Clay County Fair being the biggest. Did you know that the GCS Junior Woman’s Club is responsible for starting the Green Cove Springs Christmas parade in 1966?

The VIA’s Junior Club continued it through the early 1980’s, until the city of Green Cove Springs took ownership of it and organized it into the huge event that it is today! Isn’t it exciting to hear about the Woman’s Club’s involvement with such a huge and successful event?

The ladies of the VIA have enjoyed participating in the Christmas parade for decades. Twice, we have won awards for our use of theme and originality. While we may be moving away from decorating a float, or golf cart, or walking with a banner, we are still very much involved with the parade and the day’s events.

*Lianne*



article from December 14, 1967



## Member/Family Businesses

### Accounting/Tax Services

- Susan Hess CPA, P.A. | 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 | John Hess | 904-269-8772
- VyStar Investment Services | Raeanne McCarthy | 904-908-2495

### Gifts

- Nikki's Custom Gifts | Nikki Glanville | 904-476-2475

### Home Care

- Assisting Hands Home Care | Tracy Hardy | 904-746-1036

### Interior Design/Home Staging

- Interiors Revitalized | Christy McCarthy | 904-860-2597

### Pet Services

- Jen's Pet Sitting Service | Jenifer Dunnivant | 904-657-4460

### Outdoor

- Space Coast Green Fence and Gates | Teresa Moore | 904-678-7754

### Realtor

- Davidson Realty, Inc. | Christina Treadway | 904-548-7775

### Restaurant

- Corner Pocket | Cheri Starnes | 904-548-7775

### Scents

- Scentsy | Jo Potter | 541-279-0595

### Specialty Women's Clothing

- One Swanky Chic Boutique | Kristina Byrd | 904-671-3819

### Web Design Development and Photos

- Unicorn Web Development /Foto Fusion Photo | Bobbi Nagle | 904-891-4538



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

