



# THE CHATTERBOX

GFWC SUN CITY CENTER WOMAN'S CLUB

**April 2026**

**EDITOR: Carina**



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Dear Members,

As we welcome the month of April we celebrate the true arrival of Spring. And recognize the meaningful Holidays of Easter and Passover and celebrate Earth Day and caring for the world around us.

April is also known for April Fool's Day. Its origins go back to the 16th Century with the change from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar. Making January 1st the beginning of the New Year.

At our April meeting we are delighted to feature our very own Broadway performer Jeanne Naish, portraying a survivor of the Titanic. Her presentation will bring to life the personal story and emotions surrounding that historic voyage. In addition, members will view an exhibit highlighting the Titanic, with a glimpse into the ship's history, its passengers and the events of that fateful journey.

As a community service organization, we will be collecting nonperishable food for Wimauma Elementary School pantry.

A BIG Thank You to our fabulous fundraiser, Shawna, for another successful and fun event! The Eggstravaganza was truly enjoyed by members and guests alike, bringing a wonderful sense of community to all who attended.

Many thanks to our members who participated in the March Baby Shower. Your generous gifts and thoughtful contributions will bring comfort and joy to those in need and were greatly appreciated.

Many thanks to Virginia Kimball and her committee, Susan Royal and Patsie Ginley for their work on the newly elected Board for 2026 thru 2028.

I wish safe travels to all our members who are traveling this season. And look forward to the Fall when our snowbirds return.

Yours Truly,

Caroline D'Antonio

**April 16, 2026,  
MEETING AGENDA**

**Atrium in the Florida Room  
945 N Course Lane, North Campus**

Attire: Evening 1920's Attire

Sign-in and Social 11:00

Opening/Business Meeting 11:30

Luncheon 12:00

Program 12:45

**Remembering the Titanic April 15, 1912, For April's luncheon, come dressed up in dinner/evening attire and enjoy a lunch, artifacts, and history. Member Jeanne Naish will perform and re-enact a play portraying a survivor from the Titanic.**



**Meeting Reservation  
Required  
see page 13 for  
details**

# MENU

Garden Salad  
w/Assorted Dressings  
Rolls & Butter  
Tuscan Chicken  
Carved Roast Pork Loin  
w/rosemary shallot sauce  
Stuffed shells in marina sauce  
Vegetable du jour  
Chef's selected desserts  
Beverage Station  
Decaf Coffee, Iced Tea, Ice Water

**📅 Join Us for a Journey Back in Time! 📅**

We're excited to invite non-members (and soon-to-be members!) to experience this special event—tickets are now available at the Atrium Ticket Booth!

**📅 Ticket Sales:**

Monday–Friday, April 6–10

🕒 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Members—don't wait! Reserve your spot today and bring a friend along to share in this captivating look back at another remarkable historical era. It's the perfect opportunity to connect, learn, and enjoy a memorable experience together. FYI, we have sold over 20 tickets.

**📞 Contact Us:**

Email: [suncitywomansclub@gmail.com](mailto:suncitywomansclub@gmail.com)

Phone: 973-288-4136

**🌟 Important Details:**

- All attendees (members and guests) must reserve in advance—whether you're dining, not dining, or bringing your own lunch.
- Non-member tickets must be prepaid and are nonrefundable.
- Tickets for non-members are available at the Atrium Ticket Desk during the times listed above.

Don't miss out—secure your spot and be part of this special event!

# Meeting Recap- March 2026

*Newborns in Need gives an insight into their nonprofit.*

The Central West Florida Chapter in Valrico of Newborns in Need, Inc is a 501(c)3 non-profit charity that provides essential baby care items to families with newborns. Did you know they take donated wedding dresses and transform into lovely bunting items, small dresses, hats, and sometimes blankets for angel babies?

Sun City Center Woman's Club at our Baby Shower for NIN we donated 1,300 items - Total Value \$3,295.20 (Includes 520 wipes, 526 diapers and 254 all other items)

**TOTAL with cash/check came to \$3,375.20.**

Check out their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NINCWFL/>

National Newborns in Need: <https://newbornsinneed.org/about/>



## **Our program: How does your Garden grow in Florida**

Master Gardeners Teri Brockway and Donna McAvene gave us an insight into why our plants died due to climate change, we have to water more often, however since water is expensive its hard to water every day. However, we should be watering as per our house number, one day a week.

We are no longer in a tropical climate. We should plant hardy drought resistant plants.

You can find a list of Florida drought resistant plants at the following website:

<https://sunriseirrigation.com/list-drought-friendly-plants-florida-lawn/>

They then spoke about our latest frost and the damaged plants in our area. They said to cut the damaged leaves/stems from the plants. If your plant stem/twig gives you resistance, then leave it alone it most likely will come back with the warmer weather. If the stem/twig snaps, it is dead then cut it off. Be patient, give it a week or two. The blueberry crop will be smaller this year, so be aware they will be more expensive. As well citrus, celery and vegetables due to the drought, will be expensive. It was very informative about the Florida climate we have now.

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### GFWC SCC Share Their Hearts

The GFWC SCC Woman's Club members enjoyed hopping around to each table to help make Easter crafts with Breakaway Respite attendees at the United Methodist Church. Everyone had fun making bunny crafts to take home. Renee Tinsdale, Director of Breakaway Respite Ministry, is in the middle wearing the bunny costume. We go out of our way to bring joy to others.





## **Civic Engagement – Diane Alty & Karen Begg, Co-Chairs**

GFWC Florida is actively supporting fundraising for the National Coast Guard Museum, currently under construction in New London, Connecticut. This important project honors more than 232 years of Coast Guard service, including the men and women who safeguard Florida’s 1,300+ miles of shoreline—second only to Alaska. GFWC Florida sent thank you notes to our Coast Guardsman and Guardswomen at Air Station Clearwater, Air Station Miami and Air Station Jacksonville.

### **A Brief History Highlight**

Women have served in the U.S. Coast Guard since 1918, beginning as lighthouse keepers. During WWII, more than 10,000 women joined the SPARs (Semper Paratus—Always Ready), serving under military authority in essential roles led by Commanding Officer Dorothy C. Stratton. After their honorable service ended in 1946, women were fully integrated into the Coast Guard in 1973 and allowed to serve aboard vessels by 1977.

Today, women continue to break barriers—serving alongside men in all roles and earning opportunities, including scholarships to attend the Coast Guard Academy—carrying forward a proud legacy of dedication and service.

### **How You Can Help**

Through our “Hamilton’s for Heroes” campaign—named for Alexander Hamilton, founder of the Coast Guard—we aim to help GFWC Florida reach its \$100,000 goal. Donations can be made online at [www.cgmuseumassociation.org/gfwc](http://www.cgmuseumassociation.org/gfwc) or by check made to Coast Guard Museum Association at the April meeting. Karen Begg will collect the checks and mail to the Coast Guard Museum Association.

Our Sun City Center Club has not yet contributed—let’s change that!





# Director at Large Virginia Kimball

Hello Ladies,

Welcome to spring. It is the season to enjoy flowers, baby birds and maybe a trip to the beach. We celebrate Easter so treat yourself to a new outfit, shoes and a matching handbag to wear to church.

April 22 is Earth Day. Take a nice walk around sunny Sun City Center visit the nature trail or go to the zoo.

Caroline and I attended the return flight of the all-women GFWC Honor Flight at Lakeland Linder International Airport. A total of 131 women veterans from Florida traveled to Washington, D.C. on March 10 and returned the following evening, March 11, at 8:00 p.m.

Everyone gathered to welcome them home dressed in red, white, and blue, waving flags and pom-poms. The atmosphere was lively and patriotic, with music playing, food trucks lined up, and colorful signs and balloons decorating the area. Men, women, and children came together to cheer and show their appreciation.

It was truly inspiring to see the incredible effort behind the event. Our state president did a remarkable job raising \$200,000 and organizing every detail, including meals and hotel accommodations.

At Fun Fest, we welcomed a lot of ladies and men into the Royal Room to play a short trivia game where they had a chance to win a basket or picture for their home. Many didn't know we were the first club in Sun City Center and started the Meals on Wheels and the Library.

We are looking forward to the new 2026-2028 Board members to be installed in May.

Thank you Caroline D'Antonio and her team for all the hard work and great leadership for our club.

Virginia Kimball

Director at Large

A thought for the day.  
ONE  
One tree can start a forest.  
One smile can begin a  
friendship.  
One hand can lift a soul.  
One candle can frame the  
goal.  
One candle can wipe out  
darkness.  
One laugh can conquer  
gloom.  
One hope can raise your  
spirits.  
On life can make the  
difference.  
BE THAT ONE TODAY.  
Virginia Kimball Director-  
at-large



# Leanna Maurer

The Environmental Committee is looking into other community projects. If anyone has any suggestions for future potential projects, please feel free to share them. My email address is [Lokemup88@aol.com](mailto:Lokemup88@aol.com) or send me a text 410-271-8700.

## All about Armadillos

Shawna Wainright was kind enough to share a couple of articles with me about Armadillos. It was funny that I had armadillo on my lanai about a month ago. He hid himself between my house wall and the Tiki Bar. I obviously have a torn screen around my pool cage. I was thankful that my dog only examined it and moved on since armadillos can carry leprosy. It can also affect humans. At the time I did not know what kind of armadillo it was, but I learned the only armadillo found in the state of Florida, and the rest of North America, is the nine-banded armadillo. Since these animals are active at night, I realized that the unfortunate creature must have been stuck on my lanai for a while when I found it around noon. I just opened the screen door and left him. He departed after spending several hours there.

I know that Armadillos can be pests at times. They are foragers and dig with their sharp claws to find worms, bugs, and seeds. They also eat snakes, lizards, and fruit. Our Floridian Armadillos have poor eyesight. Their thick armor does not make them invincible. Larger animals such as Coyotes, large birds, Cougars, Black Bears and Alligators are predators. Armadillos always have four live offspring per birth. Newborns are at risk since their armor stays thin for several weeks after they are born. So, they stay with their mother until completely developed. I find Armadillos fascinating because they are such unusual looking creatures.

**We are collecting Campbell Soup labels for the Wimauma Elementary. We are no longer collecting paper towel/toilet paper rolls. The food pantry cannot use the clear egg cartons. Thank you**



# Shawna Wainright

GFWC SCC Woman's Club

## Spring Egg-Stravaganza Fundraiser Egg-stravaganza Event Results

The SCC Woman's Club had an egg-cellent fundraiser on March 22. More than 100 guests attended. They enjoyed engaging with sponsors, taste-testing refreshments by CC's Grill, enjoyed watching Cloggersizer dancers, and playing egg games and activities. The Spring Egg-stravaganza event raised over \$3,300 through sponsorships, raffles and a silent auction.

Net proceeds will benefit numerous local charities.



Mark your calendar for our next successful fundraiser on Friday, October 9th in the Florida Room.



# Shawna Wainright

## The Health and Wellness Team collecting:

Do you know how hungry you feel when you've missed a meal? We are hoping to fill someone's belly so they don't go hungry. Optional: Please bring in a non-perishable food item such as cereal, oatmeal packs, grits, breakfast bars, pasta, or mac 'n cheese. We will deliver them to food pantries and Wimauma Elementary School this month.

Thank you!!

### Important - Please note

If you bring items for donation, please fill out the **IN-KINDSLIP** located on the donation table:

- fill in who is recipient
- fill out the value on with the amount

This does not apply to egg cartons, eyeglasses etc. If you were lucky enough to buy it on sale or a BOGO, it would be the total value, not what you paid.

This will greatly help with reporting.

Thank you.

A decorative border of various colorful flowers and greenery runs horizontally across the page, framing the text below.

# Membership

## Carina Faneuf

Please welcome our new members 2026-2027:

LaDonna Dent originally from Dearborn Michigan  
Susan Jacobson originally from Michigan  
Kimberly Ransom originally from Mukilteo, Washington.

Funfest was a great success we had over 30 ladies sign up for our newsletter. Fundraising sold about a dozen eggs for the Eggstravaganza.

Finally, I've found a reliable vendor for our GFWC Sun City Center Royal Blue polos. At the April meeting, I will bring a sample shirt along with a range of sizes to try on. The cost will be \$25 for sizes small through XL, and \$28 for sizes 2XL and 3XL. They will be white print on the left chest. I will be taking orders and accepting checks at that time.



# April Birthday Lady

## Donna McMillan





- April 2 Mellow Mushroom
- April 5 Easter
- April 9 Board Meeting
- April 16 Lunch/Meeting Remembering the Titanic
- April 22 Bunco 9:30-11:30 AM Sandpiper Room
- April 23 Arts & Culture Meeting 9:30-11:30 AM Rm 3



- May 7 Birthday Lunch Keke's
- May 14 Board Meeting
- May 21 Lunch/Meeting
- May 25 Memorial Day
- May 27 Bunco 9:30-11:30 AM Sandpiper Room

May 21st meeting will be installing the new GFWC SCC Woman Club board for 2026-2027.

- President: Virginia Kimball
- Vice President: Shawna Wainright
- Treasurer: Mary Starrett
- Director of Programs: Patricia Rapach
- Hospitality Director: Lucille Flatt
- Director of Publicity: Patsie Ginley
- Membership Director: Carina Faneuf
- Corresponding Secretary: Linda Floyd
- Recording Secretary: Karen Olgesby
- Director at Large: Caroline D'Antonio

# LUNCHEON RESERVATION POLICY

## MEETING RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

- Reservations for members and guest **MUST** be made in advance - this applies whether you are eating, not eating, or bringing your own lunch.
- Reservations for nonmembers must be prepaid/nonrefundable for this event. Tickets available at the Atrium Ticket Desk Monday to Friday, April 6th to April 10th from 10 am to Noon.
  - Reservation must be made no later than Sunday night by midnight before the Thursday General Meeting.
  - If you need to cancel your reservation, you must cancel by the Sunday before the Thursday meeting.
  - **For reservations or cancellations:**  
Email: [suncitywomansclub@gmail.com](mailto:suncitywomansclub@gmail.com)
  - All reservation requests will be confirmed. If you do not get a response by the cutoff date, you do not have a reservation.
  - Standing reservations can be made by calling the Hospitality Director, Lucille Flatt (973) 288-4136
  - **No-Show Policy:** reservations are considered a binding agreement between the Club and the Caterer. A member who makes a reservation for herself and/or a guest and does not cancel by the deadline stated above, will be required to reimburse the Club for the cost incurred within 30 days or no further monthly meal reservations will be accepted until payment is received. A member in arrears may not renew her membership until payment is received.
  - **COST:** \$20 for buffet, dessert and gratuity included. Entrees will be announced each month in the Club newsletter.
  - **Payment:** Checks are the preferred method of payment. If you pay cash, please provide the correct amount. If you pay by credit card, a 3% service fee will be added to the payment.
  - If you come with no reservation, you will not be able to partake of the lunch buffet. However, you are welcome to bring your own lunch and utensils and stay and enjoy the program.