

There are no strangers, just friends we haven't met!





FEB 2025 Vol. 36 Issue 9



He's a Magic Man

In February, we'll turn our focus to Kevin King and Hocus Pocus.
At our luncheon, with anticipation,
We'll witness prestidigitation.
With magic tricks and comedy,
His act is fun for all to see.
As Kevin's hand waves in the air,
Things appear and disappear.
What will hop out of his hat?
Maybe a rabbit, bird or cat.
The only one way that you will know Is to make your way up to Heathrow.

Ann Wilson of the rock group Heart had her "Magic Man," and Newcomers of Central Florida has our very own Kevin King. He will entertain all who attend our February 20 luncheon at Heathrow Country Club. Can't wait to see you there. Eat your heart out, Ann (pun intended)!

LUNCHEON RESERVATION PROCEDURE

Call for reservations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. according to the first initial of your last name. To leave a message, spell your last name, say your phone number and indicate your choice of entrée unless it is a buffet luncheon. Paula or Toni will call you back to confirm your reservation. Remember, you must be confirmed. Reservations by email will not be accepted.

PLEASE, NO CALLS AFTER 5 P.M. OR ON WEEKENDS

A to K Paula Ritchie 407-222-5205 L to Z Toni Thoms 217-620-7745

You may pay by CASH (exact change is appreciated) or CHECK made out in advance to Newcomers of Central Florida, Inc. Pick up your name tag at the welcome table. Please pre-arrange payment for quests

Reservations must be received by 5 p.m. on February 13, the <u>Thursday before the luncheon</u>. Anyone who cancels after the deadline will reimburse the club. No walk-ins allowed.

LUNCHEON AND BUSINESS MEETING

February 20

Heathrow Country Club 1200 Bridgewater Drive, Lake Mary, FL 32746 Gather at 11:30 a.m. Lunch at Noon

February Menu

ENTRÉE CHOICE

Chicken Breast Maria
with Marinara, Spinach and Feta
or
Grilled Salmon with Lemon and Capers
or
Penne Pasta alla Vodka

SIDES

Tossed Caesar Salad with Shaved Parmesan, Creamy Caesar Dressing and Croutons on the Side Chef's Fresh Market Vegetables Garlic Bread Twists with Butter

DESSERT

Strawberry Shortcake with Fresh Whipped Cream

BEVERAGES

Regular and Decaf Coffee
Iced and Hot Tea

Luncheon Cost: \$30



Directions to Heathrow Country Club:

1200 Bridgewater Drive Lake Mary, FL 32746

- From I-4: Take exit 98 Lake Mary. Turn west onto Lake Mary Blvd. Turn right onto International Parkway; proceed about 0.5 mile then turn left onto Bridgewater Drive. The Heathrow sign is on the stone wall.
- From FL-417: Drive toward Sanford to the end of 417 and take Heathrow exit 55B. Turn left onto International Parkway and proceed about 2.5 miles. Turn right onto Bridgewater Drive just after AAA headquarters building on the right.

If you need a golf cart for assistance from the parking lot to the door, you must tell reservations when you call.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Ladies,

Can you believe we are beginning the second quarter of the 21st century already? Those first 25 years seemed to zoom by!

As usual at the start of the year, we begin pulling together a slate of officers and Committee

Chairpersons to guide us through the upcoming year. Since we work on a fiscal year, our officer positions run from June1 to May 31 of the following year. We have been fortunate over the years to have an energetic group of members with great ideas for events and Special Interest Groups for our members.

This year, we have been fortunate to have a number of people, both existing Board members and new, who are stepping up for 2025-2026. However, we still have openings in almost every area. This is an ideal opportunity for you to serve as Co-Chair of any Committee and have a seasoned veteran to help you learn the position. If you are not sure of the Board and Committee positions, you can find them and a description of duties in the Membership Directory or on the Newcomers website. If you have questions about an area of interest, please give me or the Chairperson of that area a call. We would be happy to discuss any prospective positions with you.

I hope you enjoy the entertainment and venues that we have at luncheons, the Special Interest Groups and Inside the Arts events, but I want you to know these things don't just pull themselves together. If we get it right, they look organized and easy, but that

coordination requires several pieces to pull together each time. I encourage you to think about how you would like to get involved to make that happen! Give me a call or text me at 303-807-4088, or email me at swfhorn@aol.com!







Exciting News Game Day Is Back!

Our chairperson, Ellen Bronikowski, is busy working on plans to make our March 31 Game Day the best one yet. For more information, see page 4.

LUNCHEON RESERVATION INFORMATION

Waitlist: If you miss the Thursday luncheon deadline and want to attend, you may call Paula Ritchie to be added to the waitlist.



CANCELLATION NOTICE

Cancellations: If you are unable to attend the luncheon, please call to cancel your reservation. Remember, payment is owed if you are unable to attend and no one takes your place.

Call Paula Ritchie at 407-222-5205 to cancel or to be put on a waitlist.



HELPING HANDS

Co-Chairs: Trisha Fuston 407-789-9420 Toni Thoms 217-620-7745

Need help at a Newcomers' Luncheon? Please give Trisha or Toni a phone call and let them know how they may assist you.

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS

March 20 Bingo
The Hilton – Altamonte Springs
April 17 Fashion Show
Heathrow Country Club





Our wonderful VP-Membership Diana Engling passed away on December 27, 2024. Diana joined Newcomers of Central Florida in January 2018 and made an indelible mark on the club while serving in a variety of positions including Co-VP-Programs, Hospitality Chair, Game Day Chair, and Interest Group Chair for Bunko.

Diana was married for 48 years to her husband James Christian Engling, who died in 2017. They have two children: Crista Gunning and Shawn Engling. Before joining Newcomers, Diana worked in finance for the Gadsden County School System for more than 25 years. She is also survived by her brother and three sisters, including Newcomers Corresponding Secretary Maryellen McCullagh. Newcomers made a donation to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in memory of Diana Engling.

HELP NEEDED

Corresponding Secretary Maryellen McCullagh requests your help. Please text Maryellen if you know of a member who is ill, lost a loved one or just needs to know that we care so that she can send a card. "Milestone" birthdays will also be recognized if Maryellen is made aware of them. You can text her at 407-461-0362.

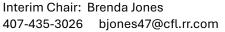


February Birthdays



- 4 Debbie Arblaster
- 4 Belinda Wadas
- 8 Carmen Bizjack
- 10 Sheri Dyer
- 17 Vicki Nidzgorski
- 18 Christine Shapin
- 20 T. Kay White
- 22 Nancy Bond
- 23 Barbara Kalicki
- 23 Susan Murray

MEMBERSHIP





Current Membership 114



Tea Time?

Newcomers' Inside the Arts group has a long tradition of going to a spring tea—usually in May. Due to the closing of many tea rooms—

and prices through the stratosphere—we decided to temporarily pause the tradition. We're pleased to announce a new tea experience that's conveniently located in downtown Winter Park at 515 N. Park Avenue, Suite 114 (near the Morse Museum). It's called the Tea Room at The Gallery 32789, and the setting is a beautiful art gallery in Brandywine Square.

We're looking to see if club members would be interested in paying \$61 for a daytime tea (90 minutes in length) on Sunday, April 13. We plan to make reservations for the 2 p.m. seating. If you want to reserve your spot, please bring your check payable to Linda Gallagher to the February luncheon, or mail it to her at 664 Saranac Drive, Winter Springs, FL 32708. Maximum group size will be 12. We cannot make the reservation until we have your check in hand. If the 2 p.m. time is not available, we will change the booking time to 11 a.m. The price includes a welcome Mimosa, finger sandwiches, fresh-baked scones, tea breads, petite sweet desserts, as well as tax, gratuity, and an optional self-guided gallery tour. All attendees are welcome to dress up with hats or fascinators and your favorite fashion finery. Then feel free to explore the shops along Park Avenue.

INSIDE THE ARTS

Ronnie Telzer (407) 577-7401 Linda Gallagher (407) 592-9573



February 12, 2025, 2 p.m.

Cabaret

Orlando Shakes Theater 812 E. Rollins St., Orlando

Check with Ronnie for waitlist availability.

Dinner after the show at PF Chang's 436 N. Orlando Ave., in Winter Park Village.



Oirala

Gigolo

(The Cole Porter Musical Review)

711 N. Orange Ave., Winter Park \$23 preview performance

Winter Park Playhouse

Check for waitlist availability.

Dinner after the show at The Pinery, 295 NE Ivanhoe Blvd., Suite A, Orlando

Make checks payable to Ronnie Telzer.



Friday, May 9, 2025, 2 p.m.

Route 66

Winter Park Playhouse 711 N. Orange Ave., Winter Park

15 tickets available \$23 preview performance

Dinner after the show at venue TBD

Sign up starting February 1, 2025
Make checks payable to Ronnie Telzer



LUNCHEON WINNERS

The 50-50 jackpot went over \$100 which means that two lucky winners split the prize. The January luncheon winners were Betty Little and Anita Fogtman who each won \$60 in the 50-50 drawing. Ellen Bronikowski was the recipient of the free luncheon certificate.







REACHING OUT WITH OUTREACH

Chair: Barbara Tuson barbara@tuson.us

At the January luncheon, the generous members of our club donated 71 pairs of children's socks, 155 pairs of women's socks, and 254 pairs of men's socks for a grand total is 480 pairs of socks. Members also donated \$45 cash which was used to purchase additional socks. I will be delivering the socks to rescue missions and shelters in our area.



MARCH

Keep your eyes open for children's books. March is National Reading Month, and we will be collecting books to donate to A Gift for Teaching. Here is a link to a list of children's books which you may use as a guide:



https://reedsy.com/discovery/blog/best-childrens-books



SPICE GIRLS

Vicki Nidzgorski 813-395-3611 vanum77@aol.com

Has anyone noticed all the football games in the month of January with both the college and NFL playoffs? Our theme of Tailgate Time fit right in! Debbie Browning and Jean Wilson hosted us in style, with a Dolphins doormat, football field tablecloths, tableware, as well as tailgate-style wine in individual little bottles. Even the bathroom did not escape the decorating with a football-themed shower curtain. Members wore spirit gear from their favorite teams to enjoy foods typically served at a tailgate. Debbie and Jean topped our afternoon off with football Cheez-IT® crackers and koozies to take home. Great job ladies! Please see our photos on Facebook or the Newcomers website.

On February 13, we will gather at Brenda Jones' home, where she will be our repeat hostess for our repeat theme Mardi Gras. We had such fun last year, and the food was fabulous — cannot wait to see this year's recipes!

To participate in February, you must submit two new recipes that you have never prepared before, to Vicki by email or text. She will let you know which recipe works best with the other proposed recipes. Recipes/RSVPs must be sent by email or text to Vicki by February 6. Please be aware we may reach our maximum participation number prior to February 6. Participation is limited to 16 this month.

Come to our Spice Girls meeting on February 13, with your prepared dish, a serving utensil if needed, and your printed recipe PDF that will be emailed to you. Please bring a disposable dish if you would like to take home any of the leftovers. If you enjoy trying new recipes, sampling new foods, laughter and fun, please consider joining us! Stay Spicy everyone!



Please continue collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House. Bring them to the next luncheon.





Chair: Ellen Bronikowski

732-259-2342 ellenbronikowski@gmail.com

Date: Monday, March 31

Check-in Time: 10:30 a.m.-11 a.m. Game Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$30 (includes lunch) due by March 24

Make checks payable to: Newcomers of Central FL, Inc.

Location: Lutheran Haven Fellowship Hall 1522 Haven Drive, Oviedo, FL 32765

Game Day is returning on Monday, March 31. To reserve your spot and arrange payment, please contact your game coordinator. Current game coordinators are Sue Horn (Bridge), Ann White (Mexican Train) and Brenda Jones (Mah-Jongg). Other games and game coordinators will be announced soon. If you are interested in getting a group together to play another game, please contact Ellen Bronikowski (732-259-2342) to make arrangements.



HOOKED ON BOOKS

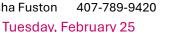
Carol Smith 407-618-3478 smith4cr@gmail.com

January took us back in time to post WWI in England as we discussed the historical fiction book The Hazelbourne Ladies Motorcycle and Flying Club by Helen Simonson. Some of our five-word descriptions of the book were "Women's fight to be heard," "Fighting women in war/peace" and "Romance set in post WWI." This character driven book led to a lively discussion where it was decided that we would most like to invite the Indian pilot, Captain Pendra, to dinner and that the meal should be vegan. In February, we will read a book on the New York Times 10 Best Books of the Year list, James by Percival Everett.

Hooked on Books is a delightful place to make friends and have intriguing book discussions over coffee and donuts. To join us in February, contact Carol Smith to be added to the email list. For more details, please see page 5.

CHICK FLICKS

Trisha Fuston 407-789-9420





CALL or TEXT Trisha at 407-789-9420 to RSVP

Everyone is welcome to join our group of lovely ladies to enjoy a movie and dinner afterwards at BJ's Restaurant. Our goal is to have fun and make new friends. All members will be notified by email of the movie selected and the meeting time on the weekend before the Tuesday movie. We will meet at the Regal Oviedo Mall Movie Theater box office area 20 minutes before the movie's starting time. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or text Trisha directly at the number listed above. See you at the movies!

Please RSVP by phone or text so that Trisha has a head count for BJ's Restaurant.





MONDAYS

MAH JONGG

Brenda Jones 407-435-3026

When: Mondays 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Where: Tremont in Oviedo

Bring lunch, a beverage and \$5 in

change.

TUESDAYS

HOOKED ON BOOKS

Carol Smith 407-618-3478

smith4cr@gmail.com

When: 2nd Tuesday – February 11

1:30 p.m. Where: Dunkin'

3551 Dovera Dr., Oviedo

FEB James

by Percival Everett

MAR First Lie Wins

by Ashley Elston

APR Anxious People

by Fredrik Backman

CHICK FLICKS

Trisha Fuston 407-789-9420

When: Tuesday, February 25

Where: Regal Oviedo Mall Movie Theater

TO RSVP: Call or text Trisha at 407-789-9420

Members will receive an email to inform them of the movie title and meeting time the weekend before the screening.



CHATTER articles are due February 16

Please email articles to Carol Smith at

smith4cr@gmail.com

WEDNESDAYS

LADIES BRIDGE - 4th Wednesday

Sue Horn 303-807-4088

When: 4th Wednesday

10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Where: Macaroni Grill

7123 Red Bug Lake Rd. Oviedo, FL 32765

Anyone interested in playing should contact Sue Horn at the number above.

THURSDAYS

BOARD MEETING

Sue Horn 303-807-4088

swfhorn@aol.com

When: 1st Thursday of the month

10 a.m. - Noon

Where: Perkins Winter Springs 701 E. State Rd. 434 Winter Springs, FL 32708

Please RSVP to Sue Horn.

SPICE GIRLS

Vicki Nidzgorski 813-395-3611

When: 2nd Thursday – February 13

12 noon

Where: Brenda Jones 677 Oneida Lane Winter Springs 32708

Theme: Mardi Gras Limit: 16 participants

> RSVP to Vicki by Thursday, February 6, at 813-395-3611

Recipe must be submitted by Thursday, February 6, to Vicki Nidzgorski at vanum77@aol.com.

See pictures from our January events on our Facebook page or our website.



www.newcomerscfl.org

https://www.facebook.com/Newcomers ofCentralFloridaInc

FRIDAYS

MEXICAN TRAIN

Ann White 407-687-4902

auntesther27@yahoo.com

When: 3rd Friday - February 21

11 a.m.

Where: Carrabba's Restaurant
5820 Red Bug Lake Rd.
Winter Springs, FL 32708
Lunch: Break for lunch around 12:30.
Pay for your own lunch.

RSVP to Ann by *Friday, February 14* at auntesther27@yahoo.com

DICEY BUNKETTES

Chair Needed

When: 2nd Friday of the month

10:45 a.m.

Where: Outback Steakhouse 5891 Red Bug Lake Rd. Winter Springs, FL 32708

At the corner of Red Bug Lake and Tuskawilla Rds.

If you are interested in chairing the group on a temporary or permanent basis, please contact Sue Horn at 303-807-4088.

SATURDAYS

COUPLES BUNKO

Mary Ward 407-222-4446 maryward@bellsouth.net

When: 3rd Saturday at 6 p.m. Where: Hosted by participants Each couple brings an appetizer to share. The host couple will provide soft drinks and dessert.

SUNDAYS

WALKING CLUB

Trisha Fuston 407-789-9420 Call Trisha to RSVP

When: 10:30 a.m. Sundays

(except for February 9 or 16)

Where: Cranes Roost Park Meet by Café Murano, Parking: By AMC Movie Theater