



## Our 'Fantastick' Penny Auction

Try to remember  
The month of September  
Is when we have  
Our Penny Auction

Bring in two trinkets  
And you will get tickets  
To place in cups  
At this fine function

Try to remember  
And if you remember  
Then you as our member  
Might be a winner

Try to remember  
And if you remember  
Call Paula  
Call Belinda



(Sung to the tune of "Try to Remember" from the play *The Fantasticks*.)

OK, that was fun -- and so is our Penny Auction! We used a little poetic license with the "trinkets" reference, but you get the idea. We want you to bring in NEW items, valued at \$5 or more, and unfortunately cannot accommodate any more than TWO items per attendee due to time and space constraints. For each item you donate, you will receive a sheet of numbered tickets. Then simply place these tickets in the cups in front of merchandise you'd like to win. Popular items donated in the past have included jewelry, housewares, bath and body products, handbags, and seasonal merchandise. Additional ticket sheets can be purchased for \$3 each or \$5 for two. Each sheet will also include a ticket for a special Grand Prize drawing.

As usual, you must call Paula Ritchie or Belinda Wadas by the deadline, September 11 at 5 p.m., to make your reservation.

We look forward to seeing you at Heathrow Country Club, one of our favorite venues, on September 18. Try to remember!



### 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 west toward Sanford and take the Heathrow exit - 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.

### LUNCHEON AND BUSINESS MEETING

**September 18, 2025**

Heathrow Country Club  
1200 Bridgewater Drive, Lake Mary, FL 32746

**Gather at 11:30 a.m. Lunch at Noon**

## September Buffet

### ENTRÉE

Lemon Chicken Florentine (GF)  
Grilled Salmon with Champagne Dill Sauce (GF)

### SIDES

Heathrow Cranberry Salad  
Mixed Field Greens, Crumbled Blue Cheese, Candied Pecans and Cranberries served with Sherry Vinaigrette  
Dauphinoise Potatoes  
Seasoned Green Beans  
House Rolls and Butter

### DESSERT

Lemon Bar with Raspberry Sauce & Whipped Cream

### BEVERAGES

Regular and Decaf Coffee  
Iced and Hot Tea

**LUNCHEON COST: \$30**

*While checks are preferred,  
for cash payments, please use denominations of \$50 or less.*

### LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS

**Reservations must be received by 5 p.m. on September 11, the Thursday before the luncheon. No walk-ins allowed.**

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. Paula or Belinda 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-K Paula Ritchie 407-222-5205**

**L-Z Belinda Wadas 847-421-4233**

While you may pay by cash, the PREFERRED PAYMENT METHOD IS BY CHECK. Please make out checks in advance to Newcomers of Central Florida, Inc. Payments for guests need to be pre-arranged.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello friends,

Well, our club is becoming a formidable social force! We currently have 120 members!

Thank you for responding to our membership drive so quickly and for being such staunch supporters of your club. Ann White and Michele Marino have done a terrific job of organizing our drive, compiling your information and following up to ensure you all responded!

It is great to see so many of our members involved in one or more activities, from luncheons to cultural outings and special interest groups. At our August luncheon, you had the opportunity to meet with our special interest group representatives and ask questions.

Starting in September, we will have a COMMENT box available at each luncheon to encourage your feedback and suggestions. We welcome your thoughts on how we can improve our current events and introduce new offerings. Your previous comments have resulted in several new groups and activities that enrich our membership experience. Thanks so much!

Now that we are on the brink of Autumn, it's time to get our costumes ready for October's Halloween luncheon and your baskets ready for the November Holiday Basket Auction.

The latter is our most successful fundraiser and gets bigger every year due to your generosity and creativity. Your beautiful baskets make wonderful gifts for the coming holidays. Please refer to the Ways and Means article on page 4 for information on how you can help make this event a success.

I look forward to seeing you at this month's Penny Auction, another popular function, and thank you in advance for your donated items.

In the meantime, I wish you all good health and good cheer.

*Ellen*



## Your Help Is Needed

Corresponding Secretary  
Maryellen McCullagh  
Text: 407-461-0362

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.

## UPCOMING LUNCHEONS

### October 16

Brain Freeze – Addicted to Sugar  
The Wedding Barn

### November 20

Holiday Basket Auction  
Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs

### December 18

The Silvertones present a Holiday Concert  
Heathrow Country Club

**(Please Note: This is the third Thursday of the month due to a scheduling conflict with the venue.)**



It is with great sadness we report the passing of Linda Tucker. She will be fondly remembered for the role she played in our Newcomers Club and for the place she holds in our hearts.

In accordance with our bylaws, a \$25 donation has been made to Seminole County Animal Services.



## LUNCHEON WINNERS

Luz Bowman was the lucky winner of the 50-50 jackpot of \$98. The recipient of the free luncheon certificate was Debbie Arblaster.

**Please note that cash payments for the luncheon are requested in denominations of \$50 or smaller. (Checks are preferred.)**



## LUNCHEON POLICY

### Cancellations:

If you are unable to attend the luncheon, please call **Paula Ritchie** as soon as possible to cancel your reservation. Remember, payment is owed if you are unable to attend, and no one takes your place.

### Waitlist:

If you miss the Thursday luncheon deadline, you may call **Paula Ritchie** to be added to the waitlist.

## Important Date Change

**Newcomers Holiday Luncheon  
Third Thursday of December**

**December 18**

**(Please Note: This is the third Thursday of the month due to a scheduling conflict with the venue.)**





## September Birthdays



2	Ellen Bronikowski
11	Loraine Nelson
14	Loretta Kowalski
25	Ruth White

## MEMBERSHIP



Ann White 407-687-4902 [auntesther27@yahoo.com](mailto:auntesther27@yahoo.com)  
Michele Marino 612-801-7949 [Mmmarino10@gmail.com](mailto:Mmmarino10@gmail.com)

Current Membership 120

## REACHING OUT WITH OUTREACH



Chair: Barbara Tuson [barbara@tuson.us](mailto:barbara@tuson.us)

Outreach will be taking a break in September but don't worry, further opportunities to support our community are planned. Upcoming events include:



**OCT:** Food Drive for Second Harvest and Woodbury Pantry  
See the October *Chatter* for a list of items needed.



**DEC:** Gift Cards for Seniors First



**JAN:** Socks for the Homeless Shelter

## BINGO GROUP



Tina Parrish 757-777-6861  
[parrish407@bellsouth.net](mailto:parrish407@bellsouth.net)

**DATE CHANGE TO 2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY**

Our new Bingo group will be meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at Carrabba's on Red Bug Lake Road in Winter Springs. Plan to meet for lunch (pay for yourself) at noon and play Bingo at 1 p.m. Please bring a wrapped gift with a \$15 value and \$5 to play. Our next meeting will be on September 10.

To RSVP, please call Tina Parrish at 757-777-6861 or email Tina at [parrish407@bellsouth.net](mailto:parrish407@bellsouth.net).



Bring your pop  
tabs to the  
September  
luncheon.

## INSIDE THE ARTS

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



Check with Ronnie or Linda for last-minute ticket availability for *Forever Plaid* presented by the Winter Park Playhouse at the Orlando Shakes' Mandell Theater. Tickets for this preview matinee are \$23.

**Friday, September 26, 2 p.m.**

*Forever Plaid* pays homage to the close-harmony guy groups of the 1950s. The Plaids dreamt of becoming stars but never got the chance. They return from the afterlife for a shot at stardom and perform hit songs like "Heart & Soul," "Rags to Riches," "Three Coins in the Fountain," and "Love Is a Many Splendored Thing." We will dine at Olive Garden in Winter Park after the show.



**Thursday, October 2  
4 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.**

**Sip & Shop  
at The Mercantile**

Come to the monthly free Sip and Shop at The Mercantile in Altamonte Springs and explore the art of antiquing while you enjoy two complimentary glasses of wine or beer and snacks. There are numerous vintage booths to explore at your leisure. We'll meet inside the store at 4 p.m. at 1260 E. Altamonte Drive, and shop and socialize until 5:30 p.m. Then we'll reconvene at Buffalo Wild Wings a few blocks away at 5:45 p.m. at 900 State Road 436 (Semoran) at Casselberry Square in Casselberry near the Walgreen's for casual dining on wings, tenders or burgers. If you like vintage jewelry, purses, figurines, artwork, blown glass, home decor, handicrafts and other unique collectibles (both new and used), you'll love shopping at The Mercantile. Please RSVP to Linda or Ronnie if you plan to join the group at Buffalo Wild Wings.



**Saturday, November 22  
7:30 p.m.**

**My Tribute to John Denver  
by Carl Bennett**

Where: Ritz Theater  
201 S. Magnolia Avenue in historic downtown Sanford

Cost: \$33.50 per person  
Make checks payable to Linda Gallagher.

24 tickets available--the sign-up sheet is now open!  
Non-members are welcome at this weekend evening event.





## WAYS & MEANS

Chair: Robin Roskowski 407-595-4474  
Lynda Visco 201-787-9655

Are you watching all the Christmas in July movies on TV and getting in a festive mood? How about putting that holiday energy to use by putting together some baskets, wreaths or other crafts for our Holiday auction in November? We are in urgent need of empty baskets and artists to fill them! **If you have empty baskets** that you would like to donate, please bring them to our September luncheon. We'll make sure they are matched to someone who will put them to good use. If you are unable to bring your empty baskets to the luncheon, contact Lynda Visco at 201-787-9655. Additionally, If you are planning to create a basket or two or more, please let Lynda know so she can ensure enough space to display all your donations.



## HOOKED ON BOOKS

Carol Smith 407-618-3478  
[smith4cr@gmail.com](mailto:smith4cr@gmail.com)



Our August book, Ina Garten's memoir, *Be Ready When the Luck Happens*, made us realize that there is a lot more to Ina (and Jeffrey) than meets the eye. Brenda described Ina as a well-balanced individual, while Jean noted that the title itself gives the best six-word summary of the book.

In September, our classic book selection, *A Passage to India* by E.M. Forster, will take us on a journey to India. Hooked on Books is a delightful place to make friends and have intriguing book discussions over coffee and donuts. To join us, contact Carol Smith to be added to the email list. For more details, please see page 5.



## CHICK FLICKS

Trisha Fuston 407-789-9420

**Tuesday, September 23**

**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 selected movie 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.

## SPICE GIRLS

Debbie Browning 407-716-3752  
[threegifts@hotmail.com](mailto:threegifts@hotmail.com)



Our August hostess, Michele Marino, sure knows how to throw a party! She created a beautiful setting with all the Ina Garten vibes, fresh flowers, beautiful linens, candles and garden favors. Hope you see our photos on the website or Facebook. And who can forget Ina's cocktails, not Michele! Cheers to the French 75 and the Cosmopolitan! The Spice Girls donned their best versions of Ina's famous denim shirt to sample all of our Ina recipes that we had prepared. We couldn't even pick a favorite from tomato crostini with whipped feta, gazpacho all the way to sticky buns and old-fashioned banana cake, not to mention the marinated pork, weeknight Bolognese and mustard roasted fish in between. Did you know Ina sometimes tests her recipes up to 50 times before putting them in a cookbook? Not surprisingly, we found this to be one of our best meetings.

Debbie Browning, our new Spice Girls coordinator, will assume her duties after the Newcomers luncheon on August 21. Welcome Debbie! We look forward to your leadership.

The September program is titled "Alphabet Soup," where each participant will be assigned a specific initial letter for their recipe submissions. To sign up, please contact Debbie to receive your randomly assigned alphabet letter. Participants are asked to identify two new recipes that begin with their assigned letter and submit them to Debbie. She will inform you which recipe is most compatible with those already submitted. Recipes and RSVPs must be sent by email or text to Debbie by September 4. Please note that participation may reach its limit before September 4. The number of participants is capped at 10.

Also, Spice Girls members should bring their donations for the Newcomers Basket Auction to the September meeting so Michele Marino has time to put the baskets together. Suggested items: gift cards, wine, kitchen gadgets, dish towels, nice kitchen hand soap, cash, etc. If you are unable to attend the meeting, contact Michele to make arrangements.

Come to our Spice Girls meeting on September 11 with your prepared dish, along with any necessary serving utensils, and the printed recipe PDF that will be sent to you via email. 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!

## MEXICAN TRAIN

JoAnn Bill 407-921-9991  
[jobill1949@gmail.com](mailto:jobill1949@gmail.com)



**Why Join Mexican Train?**

**No Waiting List to Play!**

**No Cost Except Lunch!**

**No Experience Necessary!**

If you would like to learn the game before playing with the group, contact the group coordinator JoAnn Bill. Our group meets at Carrabba's in Winter Springs on the third Friday of the month at 11 a.m. For more details, please see page 5.



## MONDAYS

### MAH JONGG

**Brenda Jones 407-435-3026**

When: Mondays

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Where: Carrabba's Restaurant

5820 Red Bug Lake Rd.

Winter Springs, FL 32708

Bring \$5 in change and your 2025 card.

We will be purchasing lunch at the restaurant, so please plan accordingly.

## TUESDAYS

### HOOKED ON BOOKS

**Carol Smith 407-618-3478**

[smith4cr@gmail.com](mailto:smith4cr@gmail.com)

When: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – September 9

1:30 p.m.

Where: Dunkin'

3551 Dovera Dr., Oviedo

SEP *A Passage to India*  
by E.M. Forster

OCT *The Queens of Crime*  
by Marie Benedict

NOV

Holiday Lunch for established club members. We will be discussing *The Evolution of Annabel Craig* by Lisa Grunwald

DEC We are taking the month off!

### CHICK FLICKS

**Trisha Fuston 407-789-9420**

When: Tuesday, September 23

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.



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

[www.newcomerscfl.org](http://www.newcomerscfl.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/NewcomersofCentralFloridaInc>

## WEDNESDAYS

### BINGO GROUP DATE CHANGE

**Tina Parrish 757-777-6861**

[parrish407@bellsouth.net](mailto:parrish407@bellsouth.net)

When: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – September 10

Lunch at 12 noon (pay for yourself)

followed by Bingo at 1 p.m.

Where: Carrabba's Restaurant

5820 Red Bug Lake Rd.

Winter Springs, FL 32708

Bring \$5 to play and a wrapped gift with a \$15 value.

RSVP to Tina at 757-777-6861 or via

email: [parrish407@bellsouth.net](mailto:parrish407@bellsouth.net)

### LADIES BRIDGE

**Sue Horn 303-807-4088**

When: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Where: Carrabba's Restaurant

5820 Red Bug Lake Rd.

Winter Springs, FL 32708

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

## THURSDAYS

### BOARD MEETING

**Ellen Bronikowski 732-259-2342**

[ellenbronikowski@gmail.com](mailto:ellenbronikowski@gmail.com)

When: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month

10 a.m. – Noon

Where: Perkins Winter Springs

701 E. State Rd. 434

Winter Springs, FL 32708

Please RSVP to Ellen Bronikowski.

### SPICE GIRLS

**Debbie Browning 407-716-3752**

When: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – September 11

12 noon

Where: Belinda Wadas

118 Spring Chase Circle

Altamonte Springs 32714

Theme: Alphabet Soup

Limit: 10 participants

Submit recipes and RSVP to Debbie

by **Thursday, September 4**

at 407-716-3752

or [threegifts@hotmail.com](mailto:threegifts@hotmail.com)

NEWCOMERS  
of Central Florida, Inc.



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

P.O. Box 620384, Oviedo, FL 32765-0384

## FRIDAYS

### DICEY BUNKETTES

**Maryellen McCullagh**

**407-461-0362**

When: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

### MEXICAN TRAIN

**JoAnn Bill 407-921-9991**

[jobill1949@gmail.com](mailto:jobill1949@gmail.com)

When: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday – Sept. 19, 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 JoAnn by **Friday, Sept. 12** at

[jobill1949@gmail.com](mailto:jobill1949@gmail.com)

## SATURDAYS

### COUPLES BUNKO

**Mary Ward 407-222-4446**

[maryward@bellsouth.net](mailto:maryward@bellsouth.net)

When: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

On hold for September & October

**Newsletter Deadline  
September 16**

Please email Chatter  
articles/information  
to Carol Smith at  
[smith4cr@gmail.com](mailto:smith4cr@gmail.com)





# September 2025 Newcomers' Events at a Glance\*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Mah Jongg	2	3	4 Board Meeting	5	6
7	8 Mah Jongg	9 Hooked on Books	10 Bingo	11 Spice Girls	12 Dicey Bunkettes	13
14	15 Mah Jongg	16 Deadline for Chatter Info	17	18 Luncheon – Penny Auction	19 Mexican Train	20 Couples Bunko
21	22 Mah Jongg	23 Chick Flicks	24 Ladies Bridge	25	26 Inside the Arts – Forever Plaid	27
28	29 Mah Jongg	30				

\*Event Details are in the *Chatter*