



Are You Really Ready for the Future?



An Overview of Long-Term Care and Estate Planning

At our "Lunch and Learn" February event, Newcomers will discover the answer to that important question! Curtis Epperson, an estate and long-term care planning specialist from AGF Advisor Group Florida, will cover essential topics to help us confidently say "yes" to the question: "Are you ready?" Estate planning goes beyond writing a will; it's about making sure your wishes are honored and your loved ones are cared for after you're gone. Curtis will share practical advice and resources to help you navigate the challenges of estate planning.



Let's learn together at the February 19 luncheon at Heathrow Country Club. Bring your questions with you, and get the answers you need to be prepared.

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS

Reservations must be received by 5 p.m. on February 12, 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.

LUNCHEON AND BUSINESS MEETING

February 19

Heathrow Country Club
1200 Bridgewater Drive
Lake Mary, FL 32746

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



February Menu

Luncheon Buffet

Entrée

Chicken Breast Maria
With Marinara, Spinach & Feta
Grilled Salmon with Lemon & Capers

Sides

Tossed Caesar Salad
With Shaved Parmesan & Creamy Caesar Dressing
Rice Pilaf
Chef's Fresh Market Vegetables

Dessert

Strawberry Shortcake
with Fresh Whipped Cream

Beverages

Coffee and Tea

LUNCHEON COST: \$30



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



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

Hello Friends!

It's February, the month in which we get to enjoy the Super Bowl, celebrate Valentine's Day and honor the birthdays of two of our greatest presidents. It is also a month that brings a financial reckoning as we pay off those holiday bills and gather our documents for tax season. Just as we need an effective tax plan to avoid unwanted surprises, an effective estate and long-term care plan is critical to our peace of mind. Thanks to our Program VPs for setting up the related Lunch and Learn session this month.

Speaking of planning, as I mentioned in my January message, we will be working on the new slate of board positions for our next fiscal year which begins in June 2026. We have some board members who wish to change roles and others who will continue in their roles for another year. We expect to have a few open positions as well as others that may need support or backup personnel. Please be on the lookout for further information concerning this.

As always, we appreciate your comments and suggestions about and participation in our club activities.

Together we can make this a Fabulous February!

Ellen



UPCOMING LUNCHEONS

- March 19 Bingo
Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs
- April 16 Fashion Show
Heathrow Country Club



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Judith Brierley. 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 State Scholarship Foundation.

JANUARY WINNERS

At the January luncheon, the 50-50 jackpot of \$89 was won by Linda Zarbaugh. The recipient of the free lunch was Virginia Ponder.



Time to Clear Out Your Linen Closet

Outreach will be collecting items for area pet shelters at our February luncheon. So, pull out those old towels (clean and in good condition) and gather your newspapers to help our local shelters. A complete list of items needed can be found on page 3.



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.

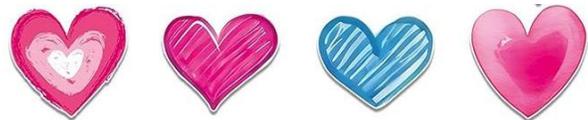


Payment: Please note that cash payments for the luncheon are requested in denominations of \$50 or smaller. (Checks are preferred.)

Great News

The Fashion Show Is Coming!

Be sure to highlight April 16 on your calendar for the best event of the year – the Newcomers' Fashion Show. Chairperson Christine Shapin and her committee are busy preparing this exciting show.





February Birthdays



- 3 Robin McLaren
- 4 Debra Arblaster
- 4 Belinda Wadas
- 8 Carmen Bizjack
- 10 Sheri Dyer
- 17 Vicki Nidzgoriski
- 18 Christine Shapin
- 20 T. Kay White
- 22 Nancy Bond

MEMBERSHIP



Co-Chairs:

Ann White 407-687-4902 auntesther27@yahoo.com

Michele Marino 612-801-7949 Mmmarino10@gmail.com

Current Membership 124

See member directory updates on page 7.



REACHING OUT WITH OUTREACH

Chair: Barbara Tuson barbara@tuson.us

**GRAND TOTAL
633 Pairs of Socks Donated**

I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all my fellow Newcomers. Our sock campaign resulted in 258 pairs of socks for men, 189 pairs of socks for kids, and 186 for women.



I will be delivering the socks to The Mustard Seed, One Heart for Women and Children, and The Orlando Union Rescue Mission.



FEBRUARY PROJECT

In February, we will be collecting items to help pet shelters in our area.

The following items are requested:

- Used Clean Towels (in good condition)
- Paper Towels
- Lysol Wipes
- Old Newspapers

Again, thank you all for your generosity and willingness to help others in our community. – Barb

INSIDE THE ARTS



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

Wednesday, February 4, 10 a.m.

Tables Extraordinaire

at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Maitland

- Explore unique themed tablescapes and party decor.
- Pay for your own \$10 admission—cash or credit cards accepted. No RSVP needed to attend the event.
- Greek lunch and pastries available on-site.
- **Please RSVP by February 1** if you would like to join the group for lunch at Bahama Breeze, Altamonte Springs at 11:45 a.m.



Friday, March 20, 2 p.m.

The Pin Up Girls

At Orlando Shakes (for Winter Park Playhouse)

Wait list only – contact Ronnie Telzer.

Optional dining after the show at Bar Louie in Winter Park Village

Regional Premiere! From The Andrews Sisters to hip-hop and Gershwin to Beyoncé, The Pin-Up Girls sing a cavalcade of hits inspired by letters home from our troops overseas! While singing at the local VFW hall, the ladies stumble upon a huge stash of letters that date back 100 years. Inspired by what they find — funny, sexy, romantic and poignant — they put on a show that celebrates the men and women who fight to defend our country.



Saturday, March 21, 7:30 p.m.

Rock of ABBA —Tribute to ABBA

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

Sign-up sheet is now open. Tickets: \$33.50 per person—make checks payable to Linda Gallagher. Non-member guests are welcome. Optional dinner before the show at Hollerbach's German Restaurant.

Rock of ABBA is North America's #1 tribute to ABBA, and its members have been dazzling audiences across the globe for years. Rock of ABBA recreates the magic of ABBA with authentic costumes, spectacular harmonies, and note-perfect musicianship, taking their audience on a musical journey back in time. Feel the rhythm and enjoy such timeless hits as "Dancing Queen," "Mamma Mia," "Waterloo" and "Take a Chance on Me."

Save the Date: Sunday, April 14, 2026, 4 p.m.

What: *Anastasia the Musical* (college production)

Where: Annie Russell Theater at Rollins College

Cost: Tickets are \$20

Dining option: TBD

Sign-up sheet is now open. Make checks payable to Ronnie Telzer.



SPICE GIRLS

Debbie Browning 407-716-3752
threegifts@hotmail.com

Our January luncheon was graciously hosted by Christine Shapin, whose home and tables were decorated with birthday flair for our "Birth Year" theme. Each guest prepared a recipe popular from their birth year, and among the many dishes enjoyed were Three-Bean Baked Beans, Chicken à la King, Meatloaf, and Shrimp Gumbo. The desserts, Orange Creamsicle Pie and Bess Truman's Ozark Pudding, were amazing! As we sampled these nostalgic recipes, we realized that many dishes from the 1940s and 1950s were somewhat bland, reflecting the limited availability and use of spices during those years. To top off the celebration, Christine gifted each of us a birthday treat box filled with candy, decorative cupcake liners, and colorful sprinkles—a thoughtful and fun surprise!

Looking ahead, February's theme is inspired by the movie *Groundhog Day*. All recipes will be either "before" or "after," meaning appetizers or desserts. Please email your recipes to Debbie by Thursday, February 5.

We look forward to seeing you at our luncheon on Thursday, February 12. Please bring your prepared dish along with any serving utensils needed. If you would like to take home leftovers, remember to bring a disposable container.

If you enjoy trying new recipes, laughter, and good fun, we would love for you to join us!

 Stay Spicy! — Debbie

HOOKED ON BOOKS

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



Our January book, *The View from Lake Como* by Adriana Trigiani, was described as being about "Life, family and second chances" and "Choices." Carmen Bizjack commented that the author's portrayal of Italian families and traditions felt very authentic. We discussed whether family commitment can justify illegal actions and whether keeping family secrets is ever acceptable. There is never a dull moment at Hooked on Books!

We welcome you to join us in February when we will be discussing *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans. 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.

Please note: Our February book, *The Correspondent*, is by Virginia Evans. There are a number of books with this title by other authors.



Support the
Ronald McDonald House.
Bring your pop tabs to the
February luncheon.

MEXICAN TRAIN

JoAnn Bill 407-921-9991
jobill1949@gmail.com



Our Mexican Train group meets at Carrabba's in Winter Springs on the third Friday of the month at 11 a.m. If you would like to learn the game before playing with the group, contact the group coordinator JoAnn Bill. For more details, please see page 6.



BINGO GROUP

Tina Parrish 757-777-6861
parrish407@bellsouth.net

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 3** 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.

To RSVP, please call Tina Parrish at 757-777-6861 or email Tina at parrish407@bellsouth.net.



CHICK FLICKS

Trisha Fuston 407-789-9420

Tuesday, February 24

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. 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.

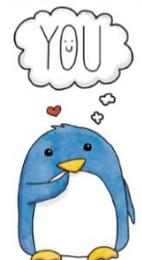
Your Help Is Needed!

Corresponding Secretary
Maryellen McCullagh 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.

THINKING OF





MONDAYS

MAH JONGG

Brenda Jones 407-435-3026

When: Mondays from 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

BINGO GROUP

Tina Parrish 757-777-6861

parrish407@bellsouth.net

When: **Tuesday – February 3**

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

HOOKED ON BOOKS

Carol Smith 407-618-3478

smith4cr@gmail.com

When: 2nd Tuesday – Jan. 13, 1:30 p.m.

Where: Dunkin', 3551 Dovera Dr., Oviedo

FEB *The Correspondent*
by Virginia Evans

MAR *The Briar Club*
by Kate Quinn

APR *My Friends*
by Fredrik Backman

CHICK FLICKS

Trisha Fuston 407-789-9420

When: Tuesday, February 24

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.

WEDNESDAYS

LADIES BRIDGE

Sue Horn 303-807-4088

When: 4th 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

When: Thursday, February 5
10 a.m. – Noon

Where: **Lutheran Haven**
2041 State Rd. 426
Oviedo, FL 3276

Please RSVP to Ellen Bronikowski.

SPICE GIRLS

Debbie Browning 407-716-3752

threegifts@hotmail.com

When: Thursday, February 12 at noon

Where: Michele Marino
409 Park Lake Drive
Winter Springs, FL 32708

Theme: Groundhog Day

Limit: 12

Submit recipes and RSVP to Debbie

by **Thursday, February 5** at

407-716-3752 or

threegifts@hotmail.com



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

www.newcomerscfl.org

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

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

Please Note New Contact

**Marge Ahearn
407-592-6438**

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.

MEXICAN TRAIN

JoAnn Bill 407-921-99910

jobill1949@gmail.com

When: 3rd Friday – Feb. 20, 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, Feb. 13 at

jobill1949@gmail.com

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.



Newsletter Deadlines

February 16

Please email *Chatter*
articles/information

to Carol Smith at smith4cr@gmail.com





February 2026 Newcomers' Events at a Glance*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 	3 Bingo	4 Tables Extraordinaire	5 Board Meeting	6	7
8	9 Mah Jongg	10 Hooked on Books	11	12 Spice Girls	13 Dicey Bunkettes	14 
15	16 Mah Jongg	17	18	19 Luncheon	20 Mexican Train	21 Couples Bunko
22	23 Mah Jongg	24 Chick Flicks	25	26	27	28

*Event Details are in the *Chatter*