

S I N C E 1 9 1 2

# The Coco Plum News

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club, Inc.  
1375 Sunset Drive  
Coral Gables, Florida 33143  
305-665-5731

MARCH 2017

e-mail: [info@gfwccocoplum.org](mailto:info@gfwccocoplum.org)  
web-site: <http://gfwccocoplum.org>



## EXECUTIVE BOARD

**President**

**Anita Jenkins**

**First Vice President**

**Joyce Windhorst**

**Second Vice President**

**Sue Nichols**

**Recording Secretary**

**Sally Perlman**

**Corresponding Secretary**

**Pat Rivas**

**Treasurer**

**Heike Leibkuchler**

**Financial Secretary**

**Donna Lewis**

**Directors**

**Pat Chehab**

**Vera Cooper**

**Laura Proctor**

**Rosemary Welton**

**Rosann Whitten**

**Immediate Past**

**President**

**Caroline Jensen**

## PRESIDENT MESSAGE

First I want to thank Donna Falana and those that entered the Art Show. We had 5 people that entered and all five went to the District 11 Art Fair. There we came home with 7 first place winners and one second place ribbon. All the first place winners can go to the State Art Show if they wish.

We have been busy here at Coco Plum. The new sidewalk is underway and hopefully will be finished by our next meeting. We have in the works, ducking air into the Ladies Bathroom, fixing a door and other maintenance items.

Our Bunco Party was a huge success. Thank you sue Nichols, Joyce Windhorst, Nancy Frazer, Beverly Maxwell and others that worked on the event. We will do this again.

I have asked Heike to include a page from the January-February Clubwoman's Magazine for Membership. Please read it and think of someone you can invite to become a member of GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club.

Thank you all for all you do and for supporting GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club.

See you on March 8<sup>th</sup>.



*Anita*

**INSPIRATIONAL MOMENT MARCH 2017**

By Rosann Whitten

**REFRESHED**

“As each day comes to us refreshed and anew, so my gratitude renew itself daily.  
The breaking of the sun over the horizon is my grateful heart dawning upon a blessed world.”

TERRI GUILLEMETS

**NEW MEMBER**

Julie Czaja  
19410 SW 332<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Homestead, Fl. 33034  
Tel.: 305.245.6636 Home  
305.951.0274 Cell  
Birthday: February 17



Julie is interested in Education and Telephone Committee  
Welcome to GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club

**Dates to Remember****Friday, March 3, 2017**

Board Meeting  
10 am to 12 Noon in Board Room

**Wednesday, March 8, 2017**

Business Meeting  
10:30 am – 2:00 pm  
Program:  
Dr. Carl Lewis  
Fairchild Tropical Garden  
Million Orchid Program

**Wednesday, March 15, 2017**

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club  
Annual Card Party  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Lunch: 12 Noon  
Admission: \$ 20.00  
To benefit Feeding South Florida

**Wednesday, March 22, 2017****Dade County Federation of Women's Clubs**

At GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club  
10:30 am – 2:00 pm  
Make It, Bake It, Sew It  
Fundraiser  
Luncheon: \$ 25.00

**DISTRICT 11 CRAFT AND ART SHOW**

By Donna Falana

The following are the winners at the District 11 Art Show:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:**

Anita Jenkins for Ceramic Flamingo, Plastic Bag Crocheted Purse. Halloween Wreath, Towel Hucking. (Embroidery )

Peggy Vital for Mosaic Lamp

Mary Lou Winkler for Shell Wall Sconce

Donna Falana for Bunny Doll

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:**

Anita Jenkins for Knitted Dress.

Congratulations!!!

**MARCH MEETING**

By Gaby Martonffy

March is Conservation Month and we will have Dr. Carl Lewis from Fairchild Tropical Garden talk about the Million Orchid Project.

Mark your calendar and do not miss this opportunity to learn about the Conservation Project in our beautiful city.

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

5 – Heike Leibkuchler

12 – Diana Martin

17 – Pat Chehab

18 – Donna Falana

31 – Maxine Aebi

**CAPS FOR LOVE**

By Carol Renick

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club approved a joint project with the GFWC Palm Beach Gardens Woman's Club called "Caps for Love."

Plastic caps and lids will be collected and sent to the club in Palm Beach Gardens for separation and submission to the organization.

Caps of Love is a non-profit organization. The goal is to educate the public on how to identify and recycle correctly and to provide wheelchairs to the physically challenged under the age of 21 in the USA.

By recycling polypropylene lids # 2,4,5 plastic caps and lids, they raise money to provide wheelchairs. This also has an environmental benefit as discarded caps are put in our landfills, which harms the earth if not recycled.

# 2 – tiny, translucent water bottle and beverage caps.

# 4 – identified by the # 4 clearly marked on the recycling code triangle, these can be many sizes, shapes and colors. Arizona tea, smart water.

# 5 – stiff rigid lids that do not bend easily, Peanut butter, mayonnaise, detergent lids.

If a cap contains metal it is not acceptable.

For more information on this program go to [www.capsforlove.com](http://www.capsforlove.com)

**BUNCO PARTY**

By Joyce Windhorst



The Bunco Party that was held on February 16<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. We had 18 members and 12 guests rotating from table to table. Seeing familiar faces, meeting and forming new friendships as we rolled the dice. The big winners were:

Most wins: \$ 50.00 shared by Mary Lou Winkler and Betty Walsh

Most Buncos: \$ 30.00 won by our birthday girl Jennie Joy

Most Losses: \$ 10.00 won by Gloria de Garcias (a prospective new member)

Door Prize: \$ 10.00 won by Maxine Bizette.

Our Profit was \$ 240.00

Sangria, wine, sodas and an area of delicious Appetizers and desserts were enjoyed by all. It's an easy fun game to learn, if you have never played, so please sign up the next time we have a Bunco Party.

**CAR PARKING THOUGHTS**

By Vera Cooper

Though difficult, let's try to park our cars in close proximity to each other and in an orderly arrangement. Since there is limited space we need to be as considerate as possible, when, where, and how we park. Thank you.



**ANNUAL MARCH CARD PARTY**

By Sally Perlman

The Coco Plum Woman's Club annual Card Party will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at our Club House, benefitting Feeding South Florida.

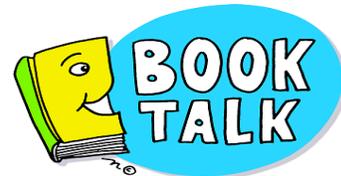
Bring your friends, your cards or games, get your table of 4 together and come join us for a wonderful day. Whether you play Bridge, Canasta, Dominoes, Mah Jongg, or board games, this is a wonderful time to get together. Lunch will be provided by the ladies of Coco Plum, and it is always delicious.

Make your reservations now by calling: Sally Perlman 305.271.7009 or e-mail [sallyperlman@icloud.com](mailto:sallyperlman@icloud.com)

**BOOK CLUB**

By Anita Jenkins

The Book Club will meet on March 21, 2017 at 11:30 am. PTA. We will be reading **Empire Falls** by Richard Russo.



## MEMBERSHIP

### Participate in the Game of Hearts

February 13, 2017

By Jeanne Waseleski,

GFWC Membership Committee Member

Ever meet a potential GFWC member while shopping or at the airport? Be prepared with a brief elevator speech that encourages questions and sparks interest. While talking about the Federation be enthusiastic. Your personality is key to making potential members want to find out more. Everyone naturally gravitates towards positive people. Use business cards and brochures to invite the community. Special events and fundraisers also are helpful tools to increase membership. Finally, remember to wear your GFWC branded pin or shirt. Building name recognition is a must!

Another way to meet potential members is through mutual interest. Do you belong to another service organization, book club, or gym? Start talking about GFWC club activities and presenters to spur curiosity about the fun and camaraderie to be found through GFWC. Given the myriad projects in which clubwomen engage, you are certainly privy to an activity sure to interest almost anyone

To attract new members, it helps to determine what group of women may be the best “fit” for your club. Look for similarities. Do you want to attract a new demographic, such as recent college graduates or women with a specific skill set, or maybe those who are great at organizing or engaged in business? Do you meet during the day, and if so, will it be convenient for working women to attend meetings at lunchtime? If you meet in the evenings, are you able to give a lift to those members unable to drive at night? Are you able to connect with new residents in the area through retirement communities, senior centers, or schools?

In many cases, volunteer membership groups reflect a specific identity or character developed over the years. We gravitate toward familiarity,

usually involving friends and colleagues who tend to have similar backgrounds and interests. This makes diversification or inclusion of a broader group more difficult. Your challenge is to include potential leaders and programs which spark interest and pride in your club – and reflect the diversity and culture of your community.

Membership opportunities also include taking advantage and readily available information. In addition to the GFWC Club Manual, mine the resources of your State Membership Chairman. They are a wealth of information and are more than willing to assist. If you have questions, our Regional Membership Chairmen will help you find the answers. Informative Membership Presentations and updates are provided at Region meetings. Take advantage of them!

Remember to recognize those members who have made our clubs special. Keeping our current friends is just as important as finding new ones. As Will Rogers once said, “.Even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit”

Participate in a Game of Hearts, and let us know how your club used these membership opportunities, and how many new members have joined. Membership reports should be e-mailed to Service Manager Kate Garlic at [kgarlic@gfwc.org](mailto:kgarlic@gfwc.org).



By Mary Lou Winkler

## A LETTER FROM ELEANOR JORDAN

Our Coco Plum Woman's Club began with a small nucleus of women, many the wives of powerful early pioneers in the Town Larkin. Quite a few of the founding members came from urban areas and were missing their friends and the stimulus of city life. Their new community of Larkin, named for postmaster W.A. Larkin who arrived here in 1897 was sparsely populated, not reaching 350 until 1917. His post office was close to Cartagena Plaza, the intersection of Sunset and Old Cutler Road today.

Thanks to Henry Flagler and the extension of the Florida East Coast Railway to Homestead, the Town of Larkin was a stop, with the potential for development of the area, but when Mrs. Red and children arrived there was no station. What was it like in Larkin back then? Primitive. Other than for its natural beauty of pine trees and greens, the oppressive heat and humidity of the summer and the mosquitoes, muddy trails on rainy days and the closest neighbor too far away for a casual chat didn't provide much comfort for the women. The men, of course, were involved in farming, construction, or having a store or bicycle shop and if any time was left there always was hunting. What could be done to relieve the isolation, loneliness, of being a pioneer wife accustomed to living in Chicago or New York or Cleveland? Let's read about what the ladies did, according to Eleanor Jordan, in her 1924 manuscript.

"Away back in 1911, a group of women, mostly newcomers to Larkin fell into the habit of meeting at least once a week at the home of one of their number. They would take their sewing or fancy work and spend a social afternoon together. Someone suggested that so long as they met once a week, that they might as well organize a woman's club.

This suggestion was carried out and I have the honor of being the Mother of the Club for it was at my home that the first meeting was held February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1912. Invitations were sent to all the women of Larkin, but the day proved a most unfavorable one of only six of the ladies braved the elements and were present at the initial meeting of 'Coco Plum Thimble Club.' There were Mrs. Antenen, Mrs. Albrecht, Mrs. Collark, Mrs. Mattson, Mrs. Van Horn and Mrs. Jordan.

The election of officers resulted in Mrs. Jordan being made President, Mrs. Antenen Vice President and Mrs. Van Horn Secretary. It was decided to meet on Wednesday of each week, which we faithfully did throughout my term of office. The second meeting was held with Mrs. Van Horn on Washington's Birthday. I think seventeen ladies\* attended this meeting, and the club grew so rapidly that our small houses were inadequate for entertaining.

Then came the question of a club house. For the purpose of raising funds, a lawn party was given followed by numerous and varied entertainments until money was obtained for the purchase of five acres of ground for the building site. This accomplished, the building itself seemed assured. My successor's untired efforts, combined with those of the entire membership, saw this through. Never did women work better together for the accomplishment of an end than did the members of the Coco Plum Thimble Club, aided by their husbands and friends, for the erection and furnishing of a club house.

Several years later I again served as President of what is now The Woman's Club of Larkin. I have seen many changes, new members joining, old members moving away, and some removed by death, but the spirit which prevailed among its members at the first meeting exists today, and the club house and the Woman's Club of Larkin stand as monuments to the concerted efforts of a number of interested and determined women."

Mrs. E.M. Jordan, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1924.

\*In another paper, Mrs. Jordan writes "sixteen ladies" were present.