



The Comet



GFWC Space Coast Woman's Club, Inc. | Issue #31 | September 2026

Membership Meeting



We hope you'll attend our next Membership Meeting which will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 2026. The doors will open at 9:30 for social time and the meeting will begin at 10:00.

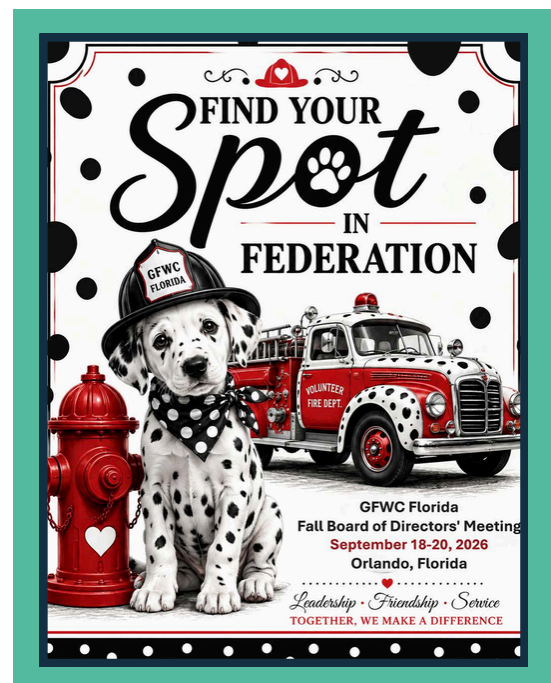
We have a special guest attending this meeting - a Canine Companions for Independence puppy!

See the flyer for more information!

GFWC Florida Board of Directors Meeting

The Call (invitation) for the GFWC Florida Board of Directors Meeting is out! We hope that you'll attend the weekend of fun events that will take place September 18-20, 2026 at the Rosen Plaza in Orlando. Celebrate our club's LEADS graduates at Saturday lunch, participate in a service project for International Day of Service, meet new people, and get new ideas!

[Click here to read the Call!](#)



Calendar

09 SEPTEMBER 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 10:00 Membership Meeting	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 10:00 CSP Meeting	10	11	12 7:30 Turtle Krawl 5K Nance Park
13	14 1:00 Book Club	15	16 10:00 Board Meeting	17	18 8:15 LEADS 8:30 Walk & Talk Suseda Park GFWC Florida Board of Directors Meeting	19
20 GFWC Florida Board of Directors Meeting	21	22	23	24 TBD Lunch Bunch Hemmingway's	25	26 TBD International Day of Service
27	28	29	30			

Volunteers In Action

Quilts for Endeavour Elementary School.



Volunteers In Action



Back to School Clean-Up at
Endeavour Elementary School

Welcome Back Social



President's Message



President
JoAnne Post
jpost314@aol.com

Dear members,

I hope everyone had an amazing summer filled with family, friends and fun.

It is truly my honor to be your next President as we begin a new year together with my theme, “Hearts in Action.” This theme is more than just a phrase—it is a reflection of who we are as the Space Coast Women’s Club. We are women who lead with compassion, who show up with purpose, and who quietly—but powerfully—make a difference in the lives of others every single day.

Each act of service we give, whether big or small, creates a ripple effect. A kind word, a helping hand, a few hours of volunteering—these moments add up. They strengthen our community, support those in need, and remind others that they are not alone.

This year, “Hearts in Action” will guide everything we do.

And throughout it all, we will remember that service doesn’t have to be grand to be meaningful—it simply has to come from the heart.

What makes this club so extraordinary is each of you. Your generosity, your energy, your creativity, and your willingness to step forward and serve is what brings this theme to life.

This year, I encourage each of us to ask:

- Where can I make an impact?
- Who can I lift up?

-
- How can I put my heart into action?

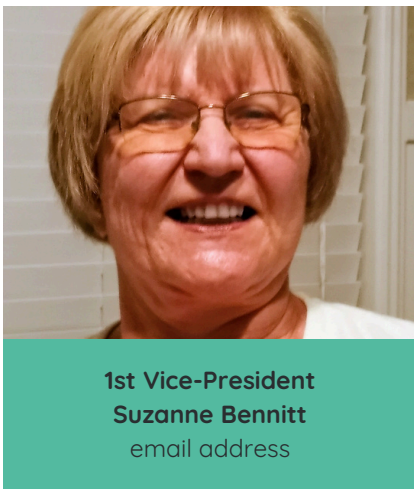
Together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish. As we move forward, let us continue to support one another, welcome new members, and build on the strong foundation that has made the Space Coast Women's Club such a vital part of our community.

Thank you for your dedication, your passion, and your heart.

Here's to a great year ahead—full of service, friendship, and truly putting our **Hearts in Action**.

JoAnne

1st Vice-President's Message



What a summer I had in Old Orchard Beach, Maine, again - cool weather, lobsters, a birthday trip of several days to historic Poland Spring, Maine, a family reunion in Connecticut highlighting birthdays and anniversaries, a visit from my Florida daughter, and then September is here! It's time for another year of laughter, friendship, and making a difference.

Many of you have been busy over the summer with club projects, so don't forget to enter your hours and donations in our online reporting system. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone after I return in October!

Suzanne

Fundraising



2nd Vice-President
Diane Angus
diane.angus1@gmail.com

Welcome back to all of you! I hope your summer was full of vacations and family time. The transition to our new Board of Directors is in full swing and we are marching along to a new fundraising effort for the year.

First and foremost, we are looking to participate in the local craft shows at Founder's Day and Heritage Isle so I hope everyone has been busy making new items for us to sell at these wonderful events. Last year we were able to raise nearly \$600 at the two events. This year, both events will be on Saturday Nov 7, 2026. If everyone is in agreement, we will register for these events and begin the collection of the wonderful items everyone has been busy making.

We have several other opportunities that will be presented for approval at the September meeting. First will be our Music Bingo event which will not only test your knowledge of the music we all love, but keep you dancing in your seats. Second, we will be presenting a Treasure Hunt opportunity which will be an easy fundraiser for all to participate in.

As always, please keep using the RaiseRight App to buy your gift cards and/or shopping cards. Also, please continue to turn in your piggy bank money.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting and joining in the fun.

-Diane

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per year

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How it works



You buy a gift card

You get the full value.



The brand gives back

No extra money comes
out of your pocket.



Your organization earns

Impacting what
matters most to you.

Shop 750+ popular brands

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amazon



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"It's super convenient. All I need to go shopping is my phone—I don't even need credit cards or my purse. I'm going to pay for these things anyway, I love being able to use gift cards so we get something in return."

Jen H., earns for hockey

Get started by downloading the [RaiseRight™ app](#) on your phone or go to [RaiseRight.com](#) on your computer.

For step-by-step instructions, visit [RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning](#).



To join our club's fundraising efforts, please use this link: <https://bit.ly/4eJOKSJ>

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact us:

gfwcspacoast@gmail.com

Be sure to use our club code: SF65D7DEF8S4



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Membership



Chairman
Sally Kramer
ckramer34@cfl.rr.com

Welcome Back Social

Our Welcome Back Social was held on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at Viera East Residents Center. The Board of Directors and the Community Service Project Chairmen were introduced and Jo- Anne Post, President, talked about the plans for the club for the year ahead. We played a few games, took the time to visit with each other and enjoyed some snacks, wine, and lemonade.

Membership Update

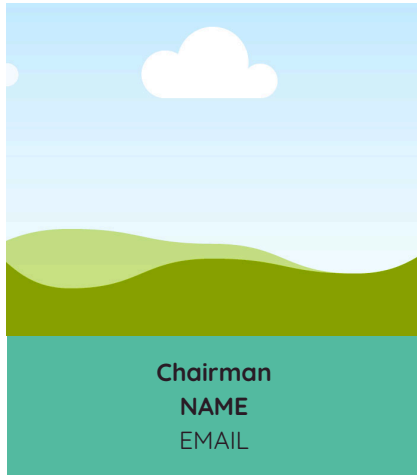
Currently our membership is at 30 and I hope we will all work at making that number grow this year. “The most powerful membership tool isn’t a brochure or a campaign—it’s you. Your story may be exactly what inspires another woman to discover GFWC. Every member is an ambassador. Every project is an opportunity to show our impact. Every conversation is a chance to spark curiosity. Every invitation opens the door for another woman to discover purpose, friendship, leadership and service through GFWC.” (GFWC News and Publications)

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch The first lunch Bunch for this year will be Thursday, **September 24, 2026** at Hemmingway’s Tavern and Restaurant, 1800 West Hibiscus Blvd.; Melbourne, Florida 32901

Hemmingway’s Tavern is an epicurean adventure inspired by the life and writings of Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winning author Ernest Hemmingway.

GFWC Signature Program: Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention

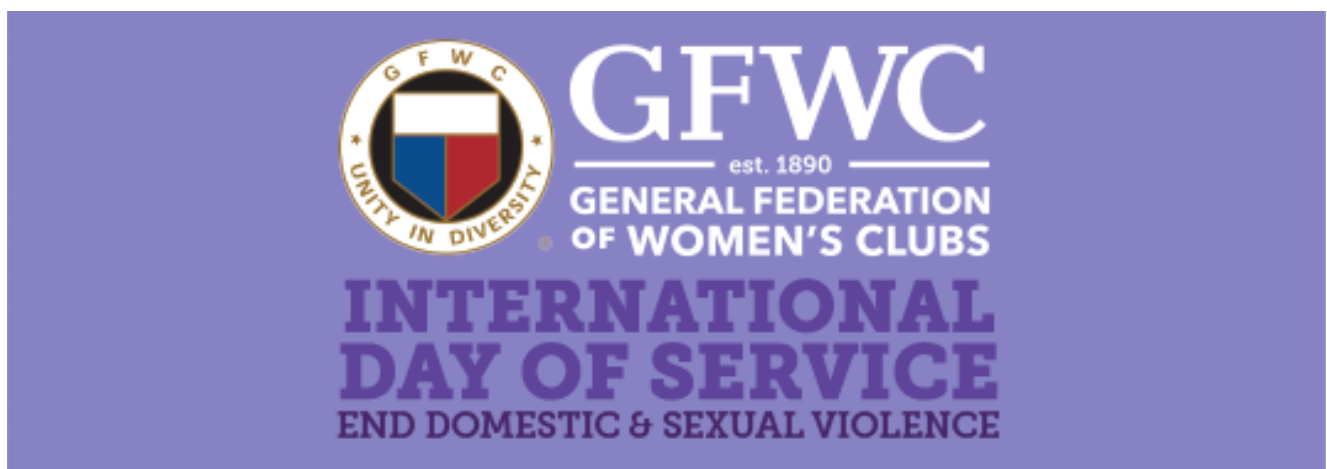


2026 GFWC International Day of Service: Help End Domestic and Sexual Violence

Approximately 1 in 3 women and 1 in 10 men 18 years of age or older experience domestic violence. Annually, domestic violence is responsible for over 1,500 deaths in the United States. To combat this serious and challenging public health problem, the 2025 and 2026 GFWC International Day of Service is focused on ending domestic and sexual violence.

The GFWC International Day of Service unites all GFWC clubs, States, Regions, and International Affiliates behind a shared mission. When we come together on one day with one purpose, the impact creates a powerful ripple effect of hope, safety, and support in communities everywhere.

One day. One purpose. One voice for lasting change. Join us **Saturday, September 26, 2026.**



If you or someone you know needs help, contact the **National Domestic Violence Hotline:**

Phone: 800.799.7233 Text: START to 88788 or visit <https://thehotline.org>

To report human trafficking, please contact the **National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888.373.7888**

Art & Culture CSP



Chairman
Gussie Reichel
Dreichel@cfl.rr.com

Our traditions are the roots; our art is the blossom. As we welcome back returning members and warmly welcome our new members, we look forward to another wonderful year of creativity, culture, friendship, and inspiration.

As your Art & Culture Chair, I'm excited for all that the year ahead will bring. Together, let's continue to celebrate our traditions, embrace new ideas, discover the beauty of art and culture, and—most importantly—put our hearts in action.

Here's to a beautiful new year filled with creativity, connection, and memories we'll cherish!

Environment CSP



Chairman
Linda Greenstein
lhgreenstein@gmail.com

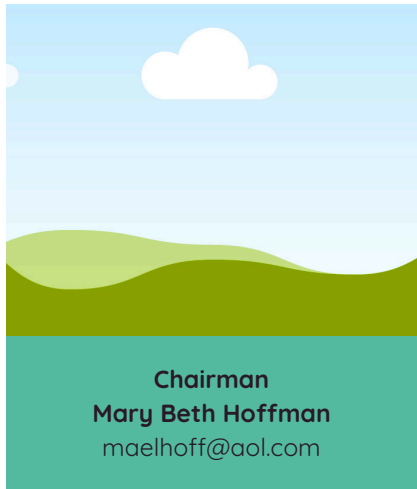
Hi everyone! I am Linda Greenstein and the new CSP Chair for Environment. Both GFWC and GFWC Florida provide a Club Manual for all Community Service Programs. For Environment, the GFWC Unity Project is “The Right Plant in the Right Place.” Our projects will focus on habitat restoration and preservation of biodiversity. We have been “asked to partner with other organizations on projects dedicated to restoration of habitat with an emphasis protecting native plants and pollinators.” GFWC Florida projects cover recycling and waste reduction; wildlife support; energy conservation; and community beautification.

On Thursday, August 6th, five members met at Endeavour Elementary, our adopted school for a work day. Keep Brevard Beautiful lent us grabbers, gloves, bags and buckets. Members brought tools for washing windows and sweeping sidewalks. We worked for two hours, filled 6 bags of trash, washed windows, swept sidewalks and got many thanks!

I would like to start an Environment Committee. Please text me if you are interested. (772-472-1453) I know many of you put down Environment on your application!

As Helen Keller said, “Alone we can do so little, TOGETHER we can DO so MUCH”.

Education & Libraries CSP



We collected a variety of school supplies for Endeavor Elementary School i.e. pens, pencils, folders, paper, markers, crayons, glue sticks, sharpeners, back packs and sneakers. These were delivered in August.

We are continuing to collect books for Endeavor Elementary School and books for our free library.

Health & Wellness CSP



Chairman
Katy Lysell
klc0824@fastmail.com

We're starting the year with several projects to focus on A Healthier You:

TURTLE KRAWL 5K

Saturday **September 12:** Turtle Krawl 5K, sponsored by the Sea Turtle Preservation Society. Join our club's team, and come out and walk or run to support the sea turtles. Sign up [HERE](#).

Location: Nance Park

(201 N. Miramar Ave., Indialantic, FL 32903)

Start time: 7:30 AM.

Registration Fee: \$45.00 Race Fee + \$3.95 Sign Up Fee (until Sept 9)

Look for Team GFWC SCWC – COMETS to join our team.

THE CHILDREN'S HUNGER PROJECT

Our next packing event will be Thursday **Oct 1**, from 12:00-2:00 PM

This is our club's second packing event of the year. We have 30 slots to fill, so please sign up, bring friends or family to help pack food packages that are sent home from school for weekends in support of children with food insecurities.

Please RSVP to Katy Lysell: klc0824@fastmail.com or 808-561-1335 by Sept 10.

WALK & TALK/CHARITY MILES

We will be continuing with our Walk and Talk series as a club, and using the Charity Miles app to track club walking/running/biking activities and support worthwhile charities at the same time. We currently have 25 members on our Charity Miles team: GFWC Space Coast – COMETS. If you haven't downloaded the app yet, please do so and start walking!

Our September Charity is Childhood Cancer Foundation, Inc, in recognition of Children's Cancer Awareness Month.

To kick off the new club year, we will have our first Walk and Talk:

September Date: **Friday Sept 18**

Time: 8:30 am

Place: Suseda Park, 5805 Murrell Rd, Viera

RSVP to Katy Lysell: klc0824@fastmail or 808-561-1335

HEALTHY SNACK RECIPE

This year we will be featuring a healthy snack and recipe at each club meeting. I'll be looking for volunteers to share their favorites, so start thinking about what your favorite healthy snacks are. This month, Gussie Reichel has shared her healthy salsa make-over, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. Enjoy!

Fresh Salsa

1 lb. tomatoes, halved
1 small onion, cut into large chunks
1 cup fresh cilantro
1 medium jalapeno (seeds removed and coarsely chopped)
3 cloves garlic (coarsely chopped)
1 tbsp lime juice
¼ tsp sea salt (to taste)

Combine all ingredients in food processor.
Pulse until the salsa reaches desired consistency. Check for salt taste a few pulses before your desired consistency so the salsa doesn't get too mushy.
Enjoy!

What We're Collecting

This is a list of on-going collections for items that will be donated to various organizations in our area or used for club projects.

- **Pull-tabs** (soda & soup can tabs) - will be donated to Ronald McDonald House charities. (Health & Wellness)
- **Eyeglasses** - will be donated to the Lions Club. (Health & Wellness)
- **Bottle corks** (wine & champagne) — for recycling on our Etsy shop & craft projects. (Environment)
- **Travel-size toiletry products** - will be donated to Endeavour Elementary School and Trinity Lutheran School-Rockledge. (Health & Wellness)
- **Pantry Items** (non-perishable foods) - will be donated to Serene Harbor (Domestic Violence)
- **Cleaning Items** (including laundry supplies) - will be donated to Serene Harbor (Domestic Violence)
- **School supplies** - will be donated to Endeavour Elementary (Education & Libraries)

More items will be added as projects are developed.
To donate, please [contact our club](#) or bring to our monthly meeting.

Contact Us!

gfwcspacecoast@gmail.com
gfwcspacecoastwc.org



facebook.com/gfwc
spacecoastwc

Club Officers

President: JoAnne Post
1st VP: Suzanne Bennitt
2nd VP: Diane Angus
Treasurer: Susan Musil
Recording Secretary:
Laurie Watkins
Corresponding Secretary:
Tiny Butler

Information

This newsletter is published on the 1st of every month, September to May. All information is submitted by club members. For corrections, please contact our club.



Meet the Board of Directors



President - JoAnne Post

My husband, Bob, and I purchased our home in Heritage Isle in 2005 and made Florida our full-time residence in 2008 after an icy mishap in New York which convinced us it was time for warmer weather. We relocated from Buchanan, New York, and have never looked back.

I retired from IBM in 2013 after a rewarding 38-year career. Volunteering has always been an important part of my life, beginning when our daughter was in kindergarten. Today, she is a Special Needs Preschool Teacher for Gwinnett County, Georgia. Bob and I are also proud grandparents to our two grandsons, James and Andrew, who bring us endless joy and keep us smiling.

After retiring, I knew I wanted to continue giving back to my community. I joined a sister women's club in 2013, and in 2023, along with several dedicated members, helped establish our current club.

One of the things I love most about our club is that there truly is something for everyone. Whether your passion is community service, leadership, fundraising, advocacy, education, or friendship, there

President - JoAnne Post

is a place for you here. Once you find your niche, you'll discover how rewarding club membership can be. The friendships you build, the lives you touch, and the difference you make in the community will fill your heart in ways you never imagined.

I look forward to serving alongside all of you as we continue making a positive impact together.



1st Vice-President - Suzanne Bennitt

I have lived in Brevard County, Florida since I was 11 years old, moving from Detroit where I was born, when my father took a job with RCA at the Technology Laboratory at the then Patrick Air Force Base. Through the years, I have lived in north, central and south Brevard.

I have been a GFWC member for 17 years, 15 of them with the GFWC Community Woman's Club in Cocoa, where I was president for eight years. The highlights of my presidency were the construction of a little free library on the clubhouse grounds, which a wood-working neighbor constructed for us at a very reasonable cost, and I personally managed the highly successful 100-year-anniversary of the club in 2022.



2nd Vice-President - Diane Angus

I am the daughter of an American Air Force soldier and a British citizen. By the age of 20, I had spent half my life in the US and half in the UK.

I was introduced to GFWC by my daughter. She is a physical therapist who had a wonderful patient, Sally Kramer. That introduction gave me the outlet for my retirement that I didn't know I was missing. So glad to have the ability to volunteer and make a difference in my community.



Recording Secretary - Laurie Watkins

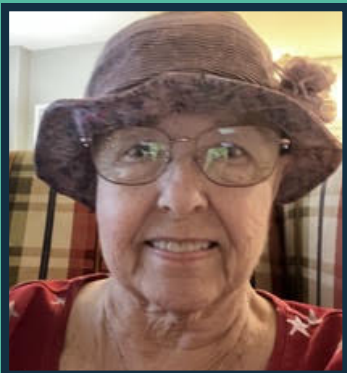
I would love to instantly master dancing...all types! My two left feet don't allow for any real dancing even after a few drinks!!

My absolute favorite meal is medium rare sirloin lamb chops, fresh mint sauce on the side, scallions, Armenian pilaf (my Mom's recipe) & any steamed green vegetable. Of course, accompanied with a mature bottle of Pauillac.

The primary driver of seeking out an organization like GFWC was to give back to the local community. The friendships and education are a bonus!



Corresponding Secretary - Tiny Butler



Treasurer - Susan Musil

I moved here 15yrs ago from Omaha, Nebraska. While in Omaha, I was a long standing member of the Altrusa International Club, an international, non-profit community service organization. Our focus was promoting literacy, providing disaster relief and assisting women, children and under-resourced families. So when I moved to Viera, I was looking for a similar organization and was introduced to the GFWC Viera Woman's Club in 2012. When I was there, I served as Treasurer and so it was a natural transition to be the Treasurer of the new GFWC Space Coast Woman's Club. The friendships that I have made in the club are so important to me and I look forward to serving our community with them.



Membership Chairman - Sally Kramer

My name is Sally Kramer, and I am the Membership Chairman for our club. I also serve as Membership Chairman for District 6 and on the GFWC FL Arts and Crafts Exhibit committee. Volunteering is important to me because I enjoy helping others, staying busy, and meeting nice, interesting people. I also enjoy reading, sewing, gardening, scrapbooking, and making greeting cards.

I moved to Florida 14 years ago from Spokane, Washington, to be closer to my daughter, son-in-law, and two grandchildren. I retired from a career as a Health Unit Coordinator in a large hospital. I loved my job—but retirement is even more fun!

I've been fortunate to travel to many places. My favorite European destination is Denmark, where I love the friendly people, slower pace, culture, food, and beautiful landscapes. In the United States, my favorite place is Albuquerque, New Mexico, for its history, people, culture, mountains, and the food!



Arts & Culture Chairman - Gussie Reichel

The world has always been my favorite story, and my passport is the book I never stop reading. As an Air Force family, my husband and I were fortunate to live in Singapore and Saudi Arabia—two incredible places that deepened my love of travel and new cultures.

When I'm not exploring, I enjoy quiet time at home with my cats, Stella and Charlie. I treasure the balance of adventure, future travel dreams, and the comfort of home.

Being part of GWFC is also meaningful to me. I value the friendships, shared passions, and connections with women who inspire, support, and make a difference together.



Education & Libraries Chairman - Mary Beth Hoffman

I Moved here from Connecticut 7 years ago. I'm a voracious reader. I enjoy playing mahjongg, cards and water aerobics. I love to mow the lawn. Yes, with a push mower.



Environment Chairman - Linda Greenstein

We have lived in Florida for 49 years. My husband and I moved from New Orleans, Louisiana to Pensacola, Florida in 1977 with Heidi our dog and Regan our cat. My Husband's job had us moving from Pensacola/Gulf Breeze to Jacksonville, and Vero Beach. When he retired and our granddaughter was born, we moved to Viera to be closer to her. I have been a GFWC member for 8 years. My favorite club project was our Baby Shower for Healthy Start.

One thing people might be surprised to learn about me is that I carried the Olympic Torch through Grant, Florida on its way to Atlanta on July 6th 1996.



Health & Wellness Chairman - Katy Lysell

I grew up in Texas, and left to go away to school, first to Minnesota, then to Florida. I lived in Hawaii for 25 years, and when I left, I decided I needed ocean and outdoors in my life, so I came back to Florida 2½ years ago. I joined GFWC Space Coast WC around the same time, and that was my introduction to GFWC. I love to travel, and with my daughter currently living in London, that is my favorite place to visit.