

## **MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS!**

Membership Co-Chair Cheryl Dresnok

This was a great summer for our club – we gained four new members: Vanessa LaForte, Nancy Chisholm, Wanda Mayer, and Beverly Agnew. I was able to catch up with three of them and I am pleased to introduce them to you!

**Vanessa LaForte** just moved to the Riverwalk neighborhood of Grand Haven with her pets in July, 2023. She was born and raised in New York but has lived in Fort Lauderdale for the last nine years. She has worked as a designer and a scientist! After living in Fort Lauderdale, Vanessa decided to move to Grand Haven to be closer to her dad and she added, “I wanted to be in a neighborhood that held strong community values as well as a commitment to keeping the integrity of the property, and respect for nature.” Her favorite thing to do in Grand Haven is “to listen to the songbirds and cicadas while I drink my morning coffee.” Vanessa hopes to start a Wellness Concierge Service and says “Meditation, nature and cooking bring me great joy.” And you know what she doesn’t like about living here? “The fact that I didn’t live here sooner!” Welcome Vanessa!

**Nancy Chisholm** lives in the Wild Oaks neighborhood of Grand Haven with her husband Richard and “our adorable toy schnauzer named Olive Tini.” In her former life, Nancy worked as Director of Sales and Marketing for a specialty pharmacy. Nancy has lived here for two years but didn’t move very far to get here since she used to live in the Cambria Condos in Hammock Dunes. She moved to Grand Haven “to live off of the ocean (scary hurricanes) and to have an authentic, outdoor brick pizza oven and grow my own tomatoes and herbs!” Her favorite things to do are “creating new pizza recipes, belonging to a book club, joining the GH Bocce League, and occasionally playing croquet.” Nancy’s not crazy about “a few feral pigs snouting up the backyard” but she can’t wait to fire up the pizza oven and meet more neighbors! Welcome Nancy!

**Wanda Mayer** has lived in the Riverwalk neighborhood of Grand Haven for the last four years with her husband Mario. She is originally from northern Virginia, but has lived in Florida most of her life. Wanda graduated from West Virginia University with a major in marketing but said, “I ended up working in the computer field, but that was short-lived. I became a full-time mom, raising my two boys in Tallahassee.” After she became an empty nester, she moved to Ponte Vedra, before finding her way to Grand Haven. Wanda said, “My biggest passion is playing with fabric and crafts. I sew, glue, paint and embellish all kinds of things.” She also enjoys the exercise classes, walking the intercoastal path and traveling. She added, “I am excited to join the GHWC. I’m looking forward to socializing and getting to know the members and giving back to the community.”

Welcome Wanda!