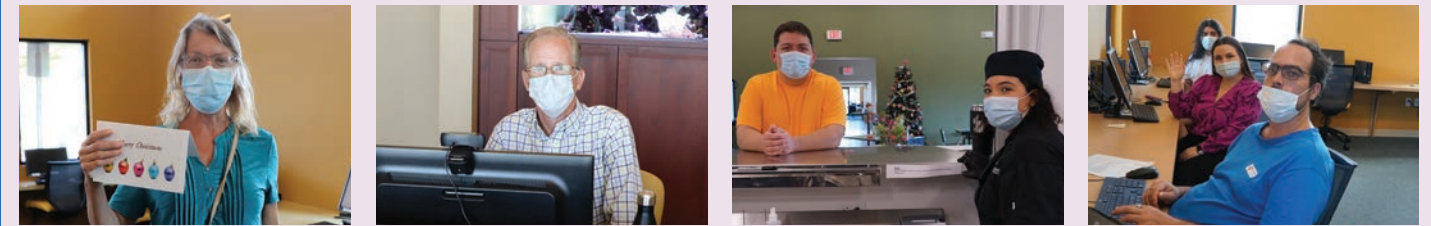


**COVID-19 UPDATE:** The Academy is open regular hours of Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. using screening and safety protocols. For more information about our Phase I Safety Guidelines on the Academy's website: [AcademySRQ.org](http://AcademySRQ.org).



## FIONA MCFARLAND IN THE HOUSE (OF REPRESENTATIVES)

by Aaron Collmer

Last week, I gave a tour to State Representative Fiona McFarland. After graduating from the Naval Academy, Rep. McFarland served as a Navy Reserve Officer, serving for eight years before beginning her political career (she continues to serve in the reserves). She was elected to the House of Representatives in 2020 and serves District 72, which includes the Academy at Glengary.

As we began the tour, Rep. McFarland expressed an interest in how each team works, and how they collaborate with the other teams. I showed her around and explained the different responsibilities of each team and how members come together to support our mission. She seemed most impressed by the openness of our members and their willingness to share their stories, and she expressed excitement at supporting the Academy's mission. We hope to see Fiona again soon!



(left to right) District 72 Secretary Becky Thornhill, Aaron Collmer, Rep. Fiona McFarland, Ben Burnside and Rob Armstrong

## WELCOME Greg Cook



Greg Cook

I moved to Osprey from Colorado five years ago to be closer to my mother. I have been taking care of her since she fell and broke her hip. She has recovered well and is quite happy again.

I have been learning a lot about InDesign, Photoshop and the use of the Apple computer. I previously only knew about the Microsoft environment. The tools from Apple have been easy to learn and Joanne has been an angel teaching me.

I love to fish and have learned about fishing in Florida from my new friends at the Arbors where I live with my mother. I also enjoy going to the many parks near here including Myakka and Oscar Scherer State Parks, the bird rookery in Venice and watching birds at the Celery Fields in Sarasota.

## 3 DAYS REMAINING

Visit [AcademySRQ.org/Gratitude](http://AcademySRQ.org/Gratitude) to watch the heartfelt messages of gratitude from our Academy members.



# THE ORA CLUBHOUSE VISITS

We were excited to host two staff members of The Ora Clubhouse in Ocala, FL. Program director, Leda Perez, and assistant director Alison Roberts spent the day with us. They arrived just in time to join the morning team meetings. Leda participated in the Business & Technology team. It was made extra special because Business & Technology was having their annual planning day. This is when they gather as a team to discuss how well they did at meeting last year's goals, and then set new goals for the next year. Leda had some great ideas for us!

Alison helped out in the Culinary team. After working with members to prepare a beautiful lunch, she was then taken to one of our Transitional Employment sites to see member Ian Churchill in action. Alison was very excited to have met him as he performed his dietary aide job at the Pines of Sarasota.

The Ora Clubhouse is just a year old and, just as we did when we were a newer Clubhouse, they are touring other Clubhouses for ideas and best practices. We were more than happy to share what we have learned. It's rewarding to host these visits and, truth be told, we always learn something new from our Clubhouse colleagues.



## MY JOURNEY CONTINUES

by Idanes Paredes

As a new graduate from the University of South Florida with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, I can say that it's been a journey that I will never forget. The past four years have taught me discipline and perseverance. It was a challenge to balance school and my first full-time job, but I can now say that I did it. It was not easy, there were sleepless nights and constant fear of failing, but I remember thinking that I needed to keep going and finish. Throughout this journey, the Academy has been so supportive and encouraging. That helped me be confident in what I was doing, and everyone offered me helpful words of advice. The Academy has given me an opportunity to put into practice the skills and knowledge I've gained from USF. The Academy has cemented my passion for this field. Thank you to the Academy for giving me a safe place to develop myself personally and professionally.



Idanes Paredes



The Academy at Glengary is accredited by Clubhouse International and is made possible by a Public-Private Partnership. This newsletter is designed and printed on-site by the Graphic Design & Multimedia team.

All events take place on-site at the Academy and through the Zoom app. Watch Slack for Meeting ID and Password.

**NOTE: Morning meetings begin at 8:45 a.m. on Mondays - Thursdays.**

### Monday, December 20

Typing with Rima - 8 a.m.  
Morning Meeting - 8:45 a.m.  
Individual Team Meetings - 9:15 a.m.  
Graphic Des/Multimedia Team Meeting - 1:15 p.m.  
Bus & Tech/Culinary Team Meetings - 1:30 p.m.  
Graphic Design/Multimedia Workshop - 3 p.m.

### Tuesday, December 21

Morning Meeting - 8:45 a.m.  
Individual Team Meetings - 9:15 a.m.  
Academy Meeting - 1:30 p.m.  
Individual Team Meetings - 2 p.m.

### Wednesday, December 22

Morning Meeting - 8:45 a.m.  
Individual Team Meetings - 9:15 a.m.  
Newsroom Meeting - 11 a.m.  
Menu Planning Meeting - 11:45 a.m.  
Graphic Des/Multimedia Team Meeting - 1:15 p.m.  
Bus & Tech/Culinary Team Meetings - 1:30 p.m.  
Wellness Wednesday Workshop - 3 p.m.

### Thursday, December 23

Morning Meeting - 8:45 a.m.  
Individual Team Meetings - 9:15 a.m.  
Writer's Workshop - 11 a.m.  
Graphic Des/Multimedia Team Meeting - 1:15 p.m.  
Bus & Tech/Culinary Team Meetings - 1:30 p.m.

### Friday, December 24

Academy closed.

### Saturday, December 25

Academy open for a holiday meal.  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m



HYBRID WORK-ORDERED DAY

## TO MAKE A DONATION

visit our website

[AcademySRQ.org](https://AcademySRQ.org)

and click on the  **Donate Now** button

*Thank you for transforming lives!*

The Academy at Glengary, Inc., is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. The Academy at Glengary is registered with the state of Florida (CH56160). A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services at [www.fdacs.gov/ConsumerServices](http://www.fdacs.gov/ConsumerServices) or by calling toll-free 800-435-7352 within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.

