Preserving History, Shaping the Future: The Story of PGWC

- Established the town's first library, housing it for over thirty years before building a new facility at the corner of Route 41 South and Retta Esplanade
- Served as a U.S.O. during WWII, providing a welcoming space for service members.
- Founded Ponce De Leon Days, a celebrated tradition in Punta Gorda.
- Started the Head Start Project, outfitting children from head to toe in preparation for spring.
- Presented $15,000 in Scholarships to 6 worthy and talented recipients in 2025.
- Prepares and delivers 25 home cooked meals to Veteran's Village each month.

Members of the PGWC have long played an active role in the community, serving on city boards, commissions, and volunteer organizations. In 1991, their dedication led to the successful placement of the club's historic building on the National Register of Historic Places. By the late 1900s, rising maintenance costs led to the transfer of the building to the Punta Gorda Historical Society (PGHS), ensuring its continued care. Following significant damage from hurricanes PGHS continues the restoration to return the building to its original grandeur. Despite these changes, the club remains deeply connected to its historic home, holding meetings and fundraisers within its cherished walls—a testament to its enduring legacy.

Join Our Community & Make a Difference!

Looking for a way to make an impact and have fun doing it? Visit our website and see how you can be part of the GFWC Punta Gorda Woman's Club today!

Complete your application online in just a few simple steps.

We can't wait to welcome you! 💙

puntagordawomansclub.com

Follow us for updates, events, and inspiring stories!



GFWC est. 1890 GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS FLORIDA



Celebrating 100 Years of Community, Empowerment, and Legacy!

GFWC Punta Gorda Woman's Club, Inc.

A Woman's Service Organization Founded in 1925

In great things, Unity
In small things, Liberty
In all things, Charity

A Legacy of Leadership & Philanthropy

Three active clubs—the Fortnightly, Civic, and Social clubs—merged in 1925 to form the Punta Gorda Woman's Club, aligning with both the General Federation of Women's Clubs and its Florida chapter. Over the years, the club building has served as a vital gathering place for civic, religious, and political groups.

In 1976, the Charlotte County Historical Society recognized its historical significance by presenting the club with a historical marker. Later, in April 1991, the building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. As a nonprofit volunteer organization, the club remains dedicated to supporting charitable, educational, and philanthropic efforts while assisting civic initiatives aimed at community involvement including being members of the local Chamber of Commerce. Our General Membership meetings are held the first Friday of the month from October through May.



Leading with Heart: A Tradition of Giving

The club is a part of GFWC Florida District 12 which connects multiple SW Florida clubs, enabling them to tailor projects to their communities while benefiting from state and district-level expertise.

Our programs and initiatives center around six key Community Service Programs. These are: Arts and Culture, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Education and Libraries, Environment, Health and Wellness, and Our Signature Program Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention.

Funds raised support a wide range of charitable initiatives, including Head Start, Punta Gorda Port Charlotte Library, Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies (C.A.R.E.), Peace River Wildlife Center, St. Vincent De Paul, A.N.A.'s Friends, Operation Smile, Punta Gorda Historical Society, Shop with a Cop, Virginia B. Andes Clinic, Veteran's Village of Punta Gorda, Charlotte Care Center (formerly Homeless Coalition), Heal our Harbor, and historical preservation efforts—ensuring lasting impact within the community.

GFWC Florida: Empowering Women Through Service

GFWC Florida unites women across the state to support charitable and community initiatives, fostering positive change through volunteerism, advocacy, and philanthropy. Their efforts extend beyond local communities, contributing to national and global movements that promote equity, opportunity, and empowerment.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is one of the world's largest and oldest women's volunteer organizations—members span all ages, from Juniorette and Junior clubs to full-fledged Women's clubs. Each generation brings passion, dedication, and leadership to the organization's impactful initiatives, proving that when women unite for meaningful change, their impact knows no bounds.

Since its founding in 1890, GFWC has played a pivotal role in addressing national needs, advocating for the arts, education, conservation, and global peace.

