



518 'B' Street • Petaluma, CA 94952
 Mailing: P.O. Box 285, Petaluma, CA 94953-0285
(707) 762-4271 RESERVATIONS
for Lunch and Dinner Events
www.petalumawomansclub.com

**Petaluma
 Woman's Club
 Objective:**

The object of this organization shall be to unite the influence and enterprise of the women of the organization; to promote educational, moral, civic and charitable activities; to endeavor to carry out its program; to stimulate club spirit; and to create a center for social and intellectual advancement.



P.O. Box 285
 Petaluma, CA 94953-0285

Petaluma Woman's Club Membership Application

Lunch Dinner Both Date _____

Name _____ Last _____ First _____ Birthday (Month & Day) _____
 Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
 Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____
 Other _____ E-mail: _____
 Occupation: _____ Interests, Hobbies, Special Skills: _____

Please mail application with check payable to PWC to:

Petaluma Woman's Club, P.O. Box 285, Petaluma, CA 94953-0285, or hand application to Membership Chair.

For more information on joining please contact: Membership Chair at membership@petalumawomansclub.com. Thank you.

Treasurer's Use Only DUES ASSESSMENT: \$ _____ Date Paid _____ Cash Check Check # _____

Welcome! We are glad you are interested in joining the Petaluma Woman's Club.

The **PETALUMA WOMAN'S CLUB (PWC)** offers a variety of fun social events designed for women in the community. Its members gather two times a month at the Clubhouse located at 518 'B' Street in historic downtown Petaluma. Each month there is one Lunch meeting with a program and one Dinner meeting with a program.



Why Join?

- ❖ To make new friends and meet other women in Petaluma and surrounding communities.
- ❖ To focus on a variety of topics of interest vital to women in our community.
- ❖ To develop oneself personally and professionally and to network with other women.
- ❖ To carry on the traditions of a club that is over 120 years old.
- ❖ To have fun.



PWC Then . . .

Before the turn of the century, as merchants and businessmen were developing Petaluma from village to town to city, women found time to congregate for social, educational or church-oriented activities. There were sewing circles and choral societies, poetry and musical gatherings. The oldest book of records found the Ladies' Choral Society which was later organized on January 10, 1895 as a branch of the Petaluma Woman's Club. Minutes from meetings state that Mrs. George P. (Idabelle) McNear, wife of a prominent Petaluma

businessman, was President from 1895 to 1900. The Club was reorganized in 1900. It was first named the Woman's Club of Petaluma and later renamed PETALUMA WOMAN'S CLUB. Over the years, new branches of the Club were formed. In 1907, Mrs. Josie P. Hill donated a lot on Washington Street to the Club, which the Club improved as a children's playground. The lot was sold in 1913 for \$2,500. This money was then used to purchase the Putnam lot on B Street for \$3,000. Club approval was received to borrow \$4,000 to build a Clubhouse. The Clubhouse was designed by famous local architect, Brainerd Jones, and contracted out for construction at a cost of \$5,500.

PWC grew and developed during World War I with a focus on transferring properties, funding construction and membership development. The Club often took positions on issues of the day. During the Depression, the membership fell below its previous membership of over 300 members. The Club fiercely supported the Second World War and Club membership rebounded. A surgical dressing program had members producing 20,000 bandages a month. Servicemen in the Petaluma area were treated to the Club's hospitality. Members became part of the "Skywatch" patrol, where two members watched for enemy aircraft from the rooftop of the Petaluma Hotel every evening. After World War II, the Club activities centered on minstrel shows, fashion shows and dinner dances. A student Scholarship program was started in 1956 and continues to this day. Over the years, speakers and entertainment have varied from civic leaders to performing arts programs.

(Excerpted from "Petaluma Woman's Club, The First Hundred Years, 1895-1995," written by Lillian Powis, Published by Gleason Printing, Inc., 1995)



And Now . . .

In 1995, exactly one hundred years after the PETALUMA WOMAN'S CLUB was founded, Connie Mahoney, a long-time member and past president, was responsible for forming the Dinner Group. This Group, formed mainly for professional women or stay-at-home moms, gave these women an opportunity to socialize, network and make new friends in the community. PWC has evolved into a social club with women of all ages and backgrounds that strives to make its programs interesting, exciting and fun.

Petaluma Woman's Club is one club with two groups – a Lunch group and a Dinner group. The Lunch group meets from September through June, and the Dinner group meets year round. ACTIVE members of both groups are expected to participate on two event committees and support one fundraiser per year.



Dues & Programs

As of 2017, dues for ACTIVE Lunch and Dinner members are \$95.00.

For a listing of monthly meetings and programs, please visit the Petaluma Woman's Club website at:

www.petalumawomansclub.com



Contact

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Louise Benanti 707-762-5485
membership@petalumawomansclub.com