



## PETALUMA WOMAN'S CLUB

518 B Street Petaluma, CA 94952

Mailing: PO Box 285 Petaluma, CA 94953-0285  
(707) 762-4271 RESERVATIONS

## PETALUMA WOMAN'S CLUB

### OBJECTIVES:

- 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 as a center for social and intellectual advancement.
- To preserve and protect our historic clubhouse.

## PETALUMA WOMAN'S CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (month & day) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

# 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 for luncheons and dinner events at the PWC Clubhouse located at 518 B Street in historic downtown Petaluma.

## 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 100 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.

(Idabelle) McNear, wife of a prominent Petaluma businessman, was President from 1895 to 1900. The PWC 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 PWC was formed. In 1907, Mrs. Josie P. Hill donated a lot on Washington Street to the PWC, which the PWC improved as a children's playground. The lot was sold in 1913 and the funds were 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 it was contracted out for construction for 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 PWC often took positions on issues of the day. During the Depression, the membership fell below its previous membership of over 300 members. When the PWC fiercely supported World War II, 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. PWC 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. In 1972, the PWC celebrated its Diamond Jubilee. Over the years, speakers and entertainment have varied from political figures and 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.*

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 Events. Women who were unable to meet for lunch due to work or child care, now had an opportunity to socialize, network and make new friends in the community.

## And Now...

PWC has evolved into a social club with women of all ages and backgrounds. PWC strives to make its events interesting, exciting and fun.

PWC lunch events are held on the second Tuesday of the month and the dinner events are held the third Thursday for most months of the year. Events include food, drink, and entertainment/activity priced in the \$22 to \$30 range.

PWC rents the clubhouse as event space, and holds fundraisers during the year to fund the scholarships for local high school graduates, and to restore and maintain our historic clubhouse.

## Membership...

By joining the **PETALUMA WOMAN'S CLUB**, members agree to perform the duties of an event committee member or chairperson for two events per year. This is a great opportunity to really get to know the other members.

PWC dues for members is \$95 annually. Pro-rated rates may apply, depending on date joined.

For a listing of upcoming events, visit our website at:  
[www.petalumawomansclub.com](http://www.petalumawomansclub.com)