



Placentia Round Table Women's Club

THE LEAF



• *Why Stay We on Earth, Unless to Grow* •
Robert Browning

President: JoAnn Sowards

April 2026

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PRESIDENT

JoAnn Sowards

Sense and Sensibility Who doesn't love Jane Eyre?

For some reason, the movie "Sense and Sensibility" was on and I watched it more than once during the early, early months of my grieving....after my husband passed. I found certain scenes very relatable and comforting.

What I remember most was their "simple" way of life and how tea, reading poetry, playing the piano, and gardening was a way of life. That's all I wanted to do, too. In other words, I just wanted to "veg out"! Caregiving can take its toll.

Needless to say, my world was shaken to the core! But, instead of "vegging" out, I poured myself into decorating trees for our annual Festival of Trees. It became a much needed distraction for me as I watched movies while decorating.

You may remember this book references Shakespeare's Sonnet 116. It became a theme throughout and made a lasting impact on me. The sonnet is about marriage and how it leaves an "ever-fixed mark" that is not shaken by impediments or tempest...and if it does, it's not love!

You are probably wondering why I referenced Jane Eyre. Well, I watched the movie again last night after gardening outside in the warm weather all day. It kind of spoke to me in a new way, along with my renewed disposition. I know now, "love alters not."

I still love our Club! And our mission has not changed. We are a philanthropic organization; we are givers who help love on our community. I believe we were Love Placentia be-

fore Love Placentia. We have definitely weathered many storms throughout the years, made changes to keep us thriving, and always blessing our city. And like the sonnet proclaims, we are an “ever-fixed mark.”

Lately, our Club has been experiencing similar impediments or what I call “growing pains” that can also feel like a shaking. Together, as leaders of our organization, we too are trying to make sense and be sensible for what’s best for everyone. At our most recent board meeting, many changes to our current Bylaws were recommended, specifically regarding membership categories, duties and requirements.

The changes also addressed our annual Festival of Trees fundraiser. This has also been an “ever-fixed mark.” As you know, this coming fall will be our 40th year! However, with the new changes, to be read at our upcoming general meeting, (it’s no joke, or April Fools prank) the board recommended to lessen the membership requirements by only “encouraging” everyone to participate in the Ways and Means activities or serve a minimum of four hours.

Until the changes are approved, I want to encourage everyone to continue to be sensitive and sensible with regard to our 40th Annual Festival of Trees. We have already made a deposit for this fall, we do have a signed contract and commitment with the Embassy Suites to hold our 40th in November, and trees, centerpieces and silent auction are all in the works! We did lose money last year because we did not meet our commitment for the number of reservations. Last year was the first year, in many years, we did not have at least 350 people in attendance, as many members declined not to attend for various reasons.

Please, I ask you to continue to support and help Deb Whiteford, our Chair, make this 40th year a great success by inviting your neighbors, friends and/or family, help contribute with silent auction items, or sponsor/decorate a tree!

Thereafter, we can better determine if it makes sense to continue further with this fundraiser.

Please know, I am genuinely grateful for the opportunity this Club has afforded me to remain active, involved, and loved while grieving my husband, Greg!

See you at the meeting.

CLUB LOGO SHIRTS

Jeannie Webb

This is a reminder that shirts, tote-bags and water bottles decorated with our Club logo are available for purchase at the following website. The password is PRT.

<https://www.socalpromotions.com/prtgear.html>

If you have browsed this website previously or purchased from it, you may see that some items (two items as March 29) on the website may no longer show a price, but rather, when you click on the item, you will see a note that says “call 714-813-2088 for pricing.” This change is necessary due to variances in shipping costs from this particular manufacturer. Lisa, at So Cal Promotions, will be happy to answer any questions regarding pricing when you call.

Also note that new items may be offered and some may be removed in response to popularity and member feedback.

I welcome your call if you have questions or need help navigating the website to order your shirts, tote-bag or water bottles.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Annie Smith

THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS WERE APPROVED AT THE MARCH 4 PRT GENERAL MEETING:

- That we approve financial reports as presented.
- That we approve the recommended bylaw changes to Article II, Sections 10, 11 and 12.
- That we approve the following Slate of nominees for Board positions as presented by the 2026 - 2027 Nominating Committee:

PresidentJoAnn Sowards

Dean Co-chairs.....Carol Peterson
and Jeannie Webb

2nd VP/Ways & MeansSusan Hirzel

3rd VP/ProgramsLin Baesler

4th VP/MembershipHeather Barth

5th VP/SectionsKim Dewese

Recording SecretaryAnnie Smith

CorrespondenceJeannie Webb

Financial Secretary ...MaryKay McMahon

TreasurerLoree MacMurtrie

Parliamentarian TBA (appointed by Pres.)

Public/Community Liaison ..Laurie Arroyo
and Carol Peterson

AmenitiesWendy Queyrel
and Barbara Lindblom

Your 2025-2026 Board of Directors are:

JoAnn Sowards2 year term

Anne Guse2 year term

Karen Mangold1 year term

Nancy Melton1 year term

Vicki Depsky1 year term

THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS WERE APPROVED AT THE MARCH 18 PRT BOARD MEETING

- That we approve financial reports as presented.

- That we approve recommended bylaw changes to Article VII – Membership, Sections 1,2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.
- That we approve making an exception for Arlene Hall from fundraising and hostess responsibilities.
- That we designate The Braille Institute as our recipient for our April Coin March.
- That we designate the Fullerton Community College Veteran's Resource Center as our recipient for the May Coin March.
- That we approve holding a Mahjong Tournament on Wednesday, May 27.
- That we accept and welcome new member Renee Couch.
- That we approve the following programs for 2026-2027 meetings:
 - September - Brothers On A Quest
 - October - HOBY
 - November - Patriot and Paws
 - December - Placentia Community Chorus
 - January - Emergency Preparedness
 - February - Past President Recognition
 - March - Nixon Library Educational Program
 - April - Placentia Founders Society
 - May - Installation of Officers

WAYS & MEANS

Karen Mangold, Susan Hirzel, Co-Chairs

Fiesta Friday/ End of the Year Party

Remember to sign up for our End of the Year Party, Friday, May 15, 4 - 7:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse.

B&C Burgers is catering a Taco Bar complete with tacos, burritos and quesadillas with all the fixings. Dessert is included.

There will be music provided for entertainment, and of course, our favorite game, RIGHT, LEFT AND CENTER.

Those of you who signed up and haven't paid can pay at the April meeting. The cost is \$25 per person including wine. All members and guests are invited. Looking forward to a fun evening!

BYLAW CHANGES

Executive Board

Bylaw Changes

At the March board meeting, changes to the Bylaws Article VII – Membership were approved to move forward to the general membership for consideration and vote. These changes will become effective upon a favorable vote by the membership and be published in the next Club yearbook. They are included here for your review and were also sent in a Blast. For ease of understanding, both the current Bylaw (plain text) and the board approved changes (*underlined and italicized text*) are included.

Section 1. Membership in this Club shall be of four classes: Active, Honorary, Sustaining, and Golden Circle.

Membership in this Club will be in three categories: Active, Honorary/Golden Circle (H/GC), and Supportive

Section 2. All applications for membership shall be presented in writing, accompanied by dues, to the Executive Board for their consideration and action. Upon favorable majority vote, the applicant shall be accepted to membership.

All initial applications for membership will be presented in writing, accompanied by dues, to the Executive Board. The applicant will be welcomed as a member at the following general meeting.

Section 3. Any member in good standing of another Federated Women's Club wishing to transfer membership to Placentia Round Table may do so by presenting a letter of recommendation to be acted upon by the Executive Board. The initiation fee will be waived.

Any member in good standing of another Federated Women's Club may transfer mem-

bership to Placentia Round Table by completing a Renewal Application and paying the appropriate dues.

Section 4. An active member in good standing shall attend one general meeting, hostess once during the Club year, support a major Ways and Means function and be an active member of a working committee, i.e., Ways and Means, or any other project so designated.

a) In support of the major Ways and Means function, each active member shall also be responsible for one (1) ticket to that function.

b) If these obligations are not met, the membership will be reviewed by the Executive Board.

Active membership ensures the sustainability of our Club and helps us continue as a philanthropic organization. An active member is strongly encouraged and is willing to:

- *Attend general meetings so as to be well informed of activities/needs they can support;*
- *Participate on a hostess committee at least once during the Club year to assist the Amenities team and ensure a pleasant meeting for all members;*
- *Serve on a working committee or designated project to support our community service efforts, and support Ways and Means fundraising activities by either purchasing or selling one (1) ticket to an event or contributing a minimum of four (4) working hours to ensure the success of a fundraising activity.*

A member may apply for a one-year leave of absence if temporarily unable to participate in the above contributions to the Club.

Bylaw Changes – Continued

Section 5. Honorary membership may be conferred on any member after a minimum of ten years consecutive service to the Club and who has been recommended by the Executive Board to the General Membership for approval. Nominations for honorary membership, in writing, shall be submitted to the Executive Board by a member in good standing. She shall have full membership privileges. She shall not be obliged to serve on committees and shall be exempt from payment of Club dues.

Honorary/Golden Circle H/GC membership may be conferred for outstanding leadership on any member who has served as an Executive Officer (per Article 2, Section 1) and/or actively served a minimum of fifteen (15) consecutive years.

Nominations for H/GC membership will be submitted in writing to the Executive Board by a member in good standing. An H/GC member will have full membership privileges with a reduction in annual dues. She will be recommended by the Executive Board to the General Membership for approval and honored at said meeting.

Section 6. Sustaining membership may be conferred by the Executive Board after a member has served at least five years. A sustaining member shall not hold office nor be obligated to serve on committees but can vote. Sustaining membership applies to General Membership only and does not pertain to the different Club Sections. At any time, upon written request, she may be reinstated to active status.

Supportive membership may be conferred after a member has served at least ten (10) years and submitted a written request to the Executive Board. If a tenured member is unable to contribute to the Club as an active

member but does not want to resign from the Club, they may apply to become a Supportive Member. Once accepted, she may not hold office, will not have the right to vote on Club matters, nor be encouraged to serve on any working or hostess committee. A Supportive member may still participate in any Club Section activity. At any time, upon written request, she may be reinstated to active status.

Section 7. Any member who has actively served the Placentia Round Table for thirty (30) years, including membership in the former Placentia Junior Round Table, shall be eligible for the Golden Circle Club upon written application to the Club.

THIS CATEGORY IS INCORPORATED INTO SECTION 5

Section 8. One year's leave of absence may be granted by the Executive Board under extenuating circumstances with payment of \$35.00, to cover cost of the yearbook and Club notices. Leave of absence will not be granted for two consecutive years. Full membership shall be restored upon payment of dues for the ensuing year. To be granted a leave of absence the applicant must have been a member for at least one year.

Section 7. To be granted leave of absence the applicant must have been be a member for at least one year and submit their request in writing to the Executive Board. A one-year leave of absence may be granted by the Executive Board under extenuating circumstances. Leave of absence may be granted for two consecutive years but must be approved and re-evaluated by the board annually. Full membership will be restored upon payment of dues for the ensuing year.

Section 9. Becomes section 8 with no changes.

Bylaw Changes – Continued

Standing Rule #13 The following will be the amount of dues to be paid by the members:

- a. \$65.00 to initiate membership.
- b. \$45.00 annual renewal of membership
- c. \$100.00 for sustaining membership
- d. \$30.00 for Golden Circle membership
- e. \$35.00 for Leave of Absence.
- f. Members whose dues are not paid by the first Wednesday in April will be notified they are delinquent and their membership will be void April 30.

Members whose dues are not paid by the first Wednesday in April will be notified they are delinquent and their membership will be void on April 30. Membership dues are:

Initiation\$65

Active\$45 annually

Honorary/Golden Circle ..\$30 annually

Exception: Dues for Honorary status held prior to the 2026-2027 Club year, will remain at \$0.)

Supportive\$100 annually

Leave of Absence\$35 per year

ORANGE DISTRICT MEETINGS

Heather Barth

District Information

Nine of us attended the meeting in La Habra this month and it was quite a tasty treat (if you liked chocolate). The speaker not only brought each of us six samples to try, but she also explained which area of the world they came from, what was different about how each was made, and some very interesting facts about the science of chocolate making. The speaker also had us take a fun quiz, and when we tallied the results each of us were amazed at how close to reality they matched our individual personalities and giftedness.

District Convention

We will have 10 ladies representing PRT at the Orange District Conference on April 10 . We have decided that we will be dressed as something our Club is well known for - Festival of Trees! A few of us will be wearing cute little dresses that look like decorated Christmas trees and all of us will wear a tree-decorated headband. We will be sure to take lots of photos (horizontally of course) to share with you.

MEMBERSHIP

Heather Barth

At the April general meeting Renee Couch will be introduced as a new member. If you have an opportunity, please introduce yourself. Her contact information and the service opportunities she is interested in was sent out in a blast.

April 1 is the deadline to submit your membership application for the 2026-2027 Club year. You may mail the application to the address on the bottom of the form, or bring it to the general meeting on that date. A well-labeled box for the completed applications will be on the table to the left as you enter the main room. To ensure that your dues do not get separated from your application, if paying in cash, please put it into an envelope with the application; if paying by check, please attach it to your application.



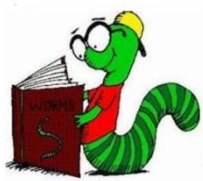
SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026

SECTIONS V.P.
Linda Emrick, Chair

Visit the Sections table for ongoing and special events.

The Chairpersons listed below would be happy to answer any questions.

BOOKWORMS



Kim Deweese, Chair
Meets: the 3rd Thursday
2 p.m. at the Clubhouse
NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 16
Book: Crow Mary by Kathleen Grissom

BRIDGETTES



Lynne Buzdar, Mary Kay McMahon, Co-Chairs
Meets: the 2nd Wednesday
10 a.m. at the Clubhouse
NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 8

BUNCO



Pam Horn, Chair
Meets: the 2nd Wednesday
1 p.m. at the Clubhouse
NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 8
Please bring \$5 to play

GOURMET



Bonnie Carren, Kim Deweese, Co-Chairs
Meets: the 4th Wednesday, April 22
NEXT MEETING: Check the signup sheet at the general meeting for more information. Hope to see you there!

SCRIBES



Stephanie Leon, Chair
Meets: the 2nd AND 4th Wednesdays
10-11:30 a.m. at the Clubhouse
NEXT MEETINGS: Wednesday, April 8 and 22
Come by and join us and listen to our unique, universal stories!

The LEAF, April, 2026
Evelyn Johnson, Editor

newsletter@placentiawomensclub.org

Placentia Round Table Women's Club

P.O. Box 334, Placentia, CA 92871

www.placentiawomensclub.org

GENERAL MEETING

April 1, 2026

Social Time: 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Time: 10:00 a.m.

Lunch: 12:00 noon

Program: **ONTARIO AIRPORT ~ Connie Royal**

Chairs: Loree MacMurtrie, Kathy Trosko

Committee: Laurie Arroyo, Gerry Carnevali, Margie Donovan, Jackie DuMontier,
Robin Edwards, Marian Kalman, Karen Richards, Judy Salisbury,
Debra Yaeger