



CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET
Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2025

Chairman: JoAnn Sowards	Club: Placentia Round Table Women's Club	
# of Club Members (as recorded in 2025-26 CFWC Yearbook): 116	District: Orange	Area: C
Reporter's Club Position: President		
Reporter's Email: joanntng@gmail.com	Reporter's Phone: 714-423-6551	
<u>Leadership</u> GFWC Special Program, Community Service Program, Advancement Plan, ESO		

The Placentia Round Table was founded in 1902. It is a member of Women's Club International and is in the city of Placentia, in Orange County, California. Placentia has a population of over 50,000 citizens. The club's focus is dedicated to raising money to support local and surrounding area schools, charities, our military, and citizens alike. Our membership is comprised of 116 women who live in and around Placentia, including the cities of Fullerton, Yorba Linda and Brea. The Placentia Round Table (PRT) strives to meet both the social and charitable giving aspects of membership, as well as maintenance of our beautiful clubhouse. We are one of the few remaining clubs who own and operate a physical clubhouse and grounds. We continue through social media, websites, and advertising to reach out to our community by offering our clubhouse for rent to prospective brides for weddings, mothers for baby showers and memorials for loved ones.

Project Title: Leadership **Hours** 1,000 **Donated \$** **In Kind**

We are currently facing a lot of challenges as a non-profit organization, whose aging membership is becoming less engaged with the club activities needed for a healthy productive club. Literally, for the first time in our over 100-year history, we were unable to nominate and fill the position of 1st Vice President, Dean. After an exhausted search, many of our members, who are currently in their 80's do not wish to take a position of leadership. Other positions that have been affected by this void are Health and Safety and Domestic Violence Chairs.

It is widely known that Baby Boomers and the generation before grew up in a post war/Great Depression era and were cut from a different cloth, as many were raised by stay-at-home mothers. Now as women retire, they are anxious to be involved with face-to-face volunteering, but do not wish to take on leadership roles or tasks that feel like the job they left.

Additionally, we are having to address concerns specific to our aging clubhouse - that many members have come to subconsciously rely on as our money-making activity vs. volunteering or attending our major fundraiser. Specifically, we have been very fortunate to have increased rental agreement contracts on a weekly basis thereby increasing our profits considerably, giving us the ability to increase our charitable giving/donations this past year totaling \$150,000. As a result, we have recently discovered that with our increased profits, also comes a higher risk of liability, making us inherently aware of our outdated bathrooms.

To address these many concerns the following have been reviewed, discussed or implemented by the Board:

- Our welcome back speaker in September 2025, presented "Smart Leadership – The Challenge of Change", presented by Gene Hernandez. This very informative program was previously presented at the Orange County District leadership meeting where the current President heard as the previous Dean, in hopes to encourage all members that change is always necessary.

- Bylaws have been reviewed and approved to expand the duties of the Financial Review Committee to better address our budgeting, spending and charitable donations, including but not limited to strategic planning for maintaining the clubhouse.
- An Ad Hoc Committee of the Board has met to address concerns regarding the expansion of our bathrooms to meet current Disability and Safety Codes, the costs, and how this will affect our future charitable giving.
- Membership Chair is currently reviewing our current Bylaws relating to membership categories, accountability and responsibilities. Also, a membership drive is being considered to increase membership from younger members.
- Mentorship Program was approved recently to encourage better relationships, team bonding, giving back, loyalty, morale, creativity and future visions for fundraising.
- Implement a Strategic Planning Board Retreat to foster, board development, financial health,
- and future/ long-range planning goals.
- A new reporting system of Raffle Ticket Sales has been implemented for our biggest fundraiser, Festival of Trees. This California State requirement affects only profits made from the sale of Raffle Tickets. Our decorated-themed Christmas trees are won by purchasing raffle tickets at our annual luncheon. Legal advice was obtained for guidance. We were pleased to report that even with reduced members attending this event, we raised the most monies ever, totaling \$11,500. This new reporting system affects how we give back to nearby local non-profits, while also protecting other donations made such as scholarships given to individual graduating high school seniors. Some of the non-profits we find most fulfilling are donations made to our veterans, the homeless, meals on wheels for the elderly, helping unwed pregnant mothers, and women who are fleeing from domestic violence relationships. Of special interest this year, the board approved a \$1,000 donation from the proceeds of our Festival of Trees, Raffle Ticket Sales to the initiative - by proudly supporting the first monument dedicated to women's suffrage on the National Mall in Washington DC. The suffragists movement definitely paved the way for so many of the freedoms women enjoy today, and it's vital that their courage and sacrifice are permanently honored.
- To fill the void of not being able to nominate or elect a 1st Vice President, Dean, the board approved the proposal to divide the job duties between several board members who graciously accepted the following responsibilities:
 1. Recommendations for a monthly coin march
 2. Attendance and reporting of district meetings
 3. Coordination/writings of District Reports
 4. In the event of an absence of the current president, a past president volunteered to step in and preside over a meeting.