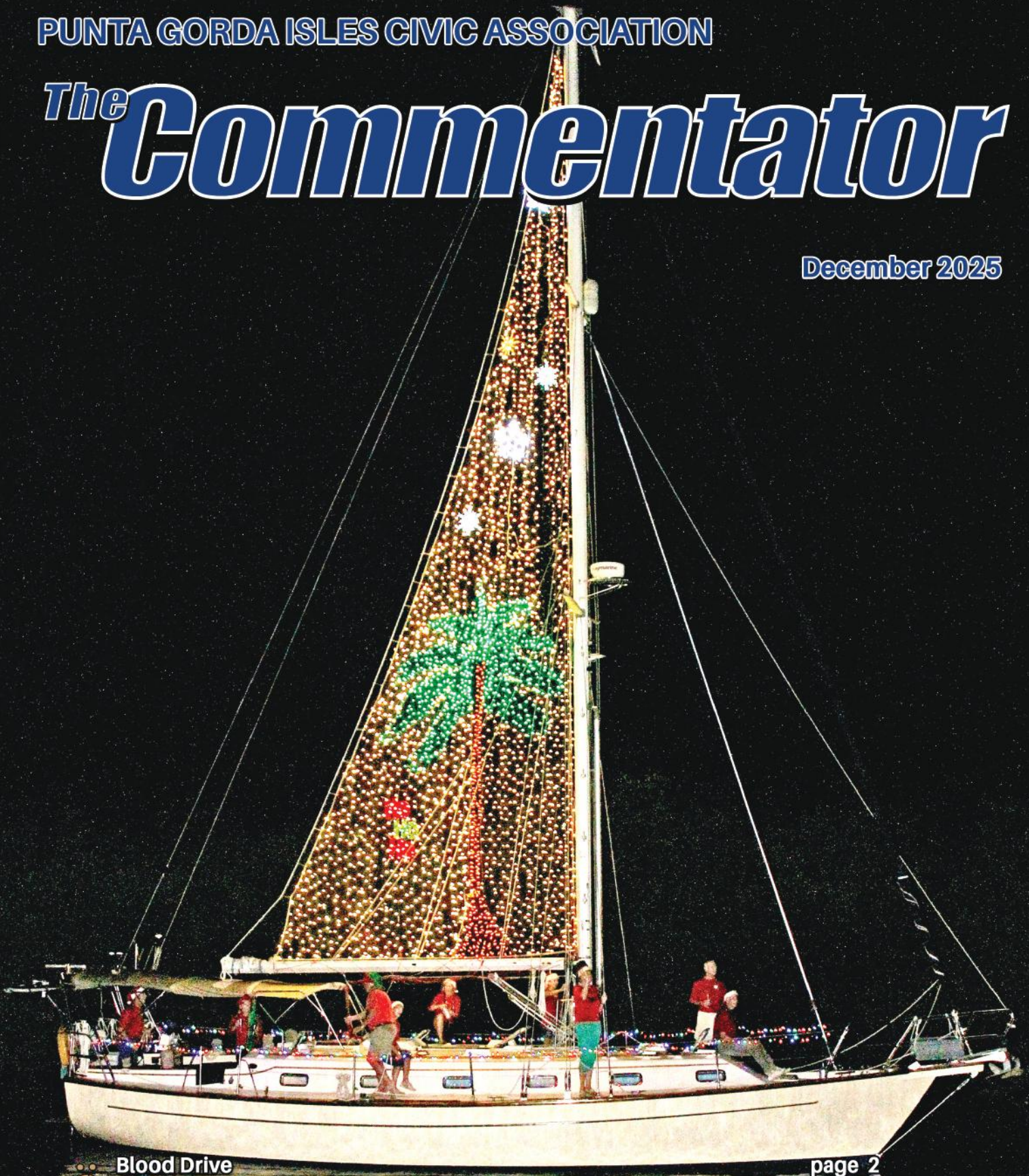


PUNTA GORDA ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The Commentator

December 2025



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Blood Drive
Educational Opportunities
Volunteer Recruitment
Weekly Wednesday Market
PGICA Loaner Program

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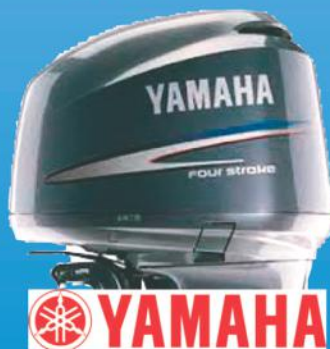
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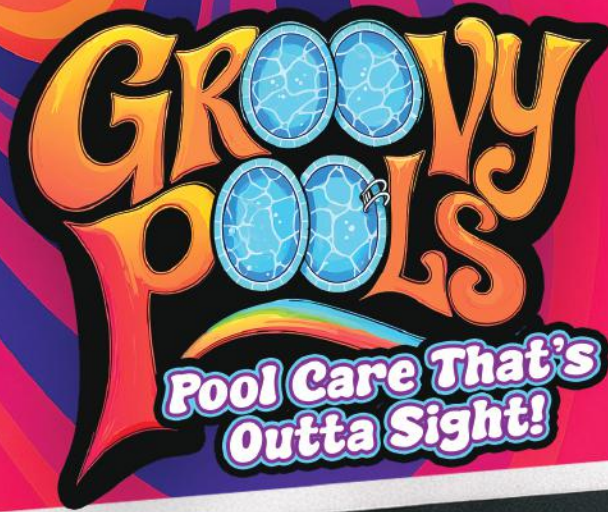
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Dec 6



Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association

2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

941-637-1655 | www.pgica.org

Office Hours: Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Commentator

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PGICA Mission Statement

"To enhance the quality of life in Punta Gorda as a vibrant and unique waterfront community."

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FITNESS/DANCE



Zumba: Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., \$12 per class. Zumba is a fun, effective dance workout that is a good option for people who enjoy upbeat music and an energetic group exercise environment. Instructor: Gigi Caceda. Students will register and pay as they attend at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome.



Chair-a-Cise: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 to 10 a.m., \$10 per class. Chair-a-Cise is a low-impact, full-body workout designed to strengthen and tone muscles using a sturdy chair for support. This class targets: improving strength, flexibility and balance. It also targets muscle groups for toning and strengthening and promotes blood flow and circulation. Instructor: Cathy Wetzelberger. Students will register and pay as they attend at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome.



Morning Yoga: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 to 11 a.m., \$10 per class. Enjoy a safe and playful mixed-level Yoga Flow class designed for beginners to intermediate-level practitioners. Please join us and explore the awareness of the mind/body connection to inspire good posture, better breathing, movement, balance, and relaxation. Instructor: Linda Haverlock. Participants will register and pay as they attend at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome.



Basic Beginner Line Dancing with Judy: Wednesdays, 3 to 4 p.m., \$10 per class. Learn beginner choreographed line dancing with a repeating sequence of steps to a variety of musical rhythms. The dances are performed individually without a partner, in rows of other dancers. Dancing enhances physical and mental health as well as providing social interaction. So, get your cowboy or cowgirl hats & boots and lets "Boot Scootin' Boogie"! Instructor: Judy Barnhill. Participants will register and pay as they attend at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome.



Advance Line Dance with Judy: Wednesdays, 4 to 5 p.m., \$10 per class. This class is for students who took the basic class, along with dancers who have previous line dance experience. Instructor: Judy Barnhill. Participants will register and pay as they attend at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome.

Mat Pilates: Thursdays, 8:30 to 9:30 am., \$15 per class. Your instructor, Angelica Asperilla, designed this class to help strengthen, lengthen and restore your body through mindful movement. No experience is necessary. Students are required to bring their own mat. Participants register and pay as they attend at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome.

ART and MUSIC



Paper Quilling: Fridays, 10 a.m. to noon, \$35 per class. Whether you are new to this beautiful art form or you're a seasoned quillist, please join us! Learn a few techniques, complete a project to take home, and keep the tools to pursue more creations at home. Instructor: Kathy Peters. Dec. 19 - Snowman. Advance registration required. Students can register online at www.PGICA.org or at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public.'



Watercolor Painting: Fridays, 10 a.m. to noon, \$35 per class. Watercolor is a water-based medium applied by brush. Whether you are an accomplished artist or a beginner, your instructor, Kathy Peters, will help you create paintings for others to admire. Supplies are provided. Dec. 5 - Winter Trees. Advance registration required. Students can register at www.PGICA.org or at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public.

ART and MUSIC (cont.)



Beginner Ukulele Lessons: Continuing through December 18th, 1:30 to 3 p.m., \$15 per class. Each student will realize they can be a Ukulele player! Focus points will be tuning, strumming, music keys, and chord shapes. Students should bring their ukulele and buy the yellow and blue “Daily Ukulele” books. ISBN numbers for books: 9-781423-477754, yellow book; 9-781458-482686, blue book. Instructor: Peter Coleson. Classes are open through Oct. 30. Advance registration requested. Students can register online at www.PGICA.org or at PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public.

WORKSHOPS



Let's Go Fishing!: Wednesdays, January 7, 2026 through February 11, 2026, 6 to 8 p.m., \$75 for the series. This class will introduce you to both fresh and saltwater fishing in SW Florida. While geared toward beginners, even the most experienced angler will pick up useful tips. Topics include techniques, equipment, knot tying, lures and bait, and fishing regulations. Instructor: Captain Josh Olive. Students can register online at www.PGICA.org or at PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public.

Let's Go Fishing!: Saturdays, January 10, 2026 through February 14, 2026 11am - 1pm., \$75 for the series. This class will introduce you to both fresh and saltwater fishing in SW Florida. While geared toward beginners, even the most experienced angler will pick up useful tips. Topics include techniques, equipment, knot tying, lures and bait, and fishing regulations. Instructor: Captain Josh Olive. Students can register online at www.PGICA.org or at PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public.



Creative Cell Phone Photography: Thursdays, 9 to 11 a.m., \$40 per class. Take beautiful pictures with your cell phone, exploring color, portraits, nature, close-ups, flowers, and architecture. We meet at PGICA. Bring any camera, however, your phone camera is recommended. Instructor Jim Austin, has been teaching and photographing for over 40 years. Jim has an engaging and supportive way of teaching, offering visual examples tailored to each photographer. No experience is needed. Advance registration required. Students can register online at www.PGICA.org or at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public.



Landsberg Bennett Private Wealth Management - Wealth Insight Seminar: 10 to 11 a.m., Monthly sessions. Please come and learn more about three intriguing subjects. Dec. 12 - Estate Planning. Interested participants can register at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome.



The ART of a Traditional French Dinner: Fridays, January 9, February 13, March 13 & April 10. 10 a.m. to noon, \$50 per class per person. All proceeds benefit the PGICA! First course: January – Salade Lyonnaise w/ poached egg in red wine. Main course: February – Poulet à la crème. Side course: March – Tarte aux asperges. Dessert course: April - Profiteroles. Classes will start together and finished at home, (not before tasting in class!) Students will be advised of what bowls, pans etc. to bring. (Maximum 8 students). Advance registration required. Students can register online at www.PGICA.org or at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public.



Crews Bank and Trust Seminar: 10 to 11:30 a.m., Monthly sessions. Join us to explore and understand various strategies. December 5, 2025 – Building a better estate plan. January 29, 2026 – Advanced estate planning. February 25, 2026 – Tips for smooth Estate and Trust Administration. March 24, 2026 – Proper funding of Wills and Trust. Interested participants can register at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda, 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public. Walk-ins are welcome.



Plan today. *Protect tomorrow.*

Take the first step toward securing your legacy and ensuring peace of mind for you and your loved ones. Join Christine Hause, Vice President and Senior Wealth Strategist at Crews Bank & Trust, for complimentary estate-planning seminars.

Building a Better Estate Plan - *Friday, Dec. 5, 10 - 11:30 a.m.*

Top 10 tips from a trust officer's perspective, including revocable trusts, irrevocable trusts, and best practices for IRAs. Review the various strategies for safely and efficiently passing wealth to the next generation and/or charities. Review the advantages of a trust during your lifetime and for your heirs.

- **Dec. 5** - Punta Gorda Isles Civic Assoc, 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda

Estate Plan Essentials - *Select Tuesdays, 10 - 11:30 a.m.*

Learn the fundamentals of a last will and testament, power of attorney, and health care directives, as well as the pitfalls to avoid, with account titles and beneficiary designations. Probate avoidance, proper administration, and cost reduction will also be covered.

- **Dec. 9*** - Murdock branch, 1100 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
- **Dec. 16** - Punta Gorda branch, 2331 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda

Value of Florida Residency - *Select Wednesdays, 10 - 11:30 a.m.*

Explore the benefits of homestead laws, favorable tax, and estate planning codes. We'll discuss common problems with out-of-state documents, outline the steps to become a Floridian, and share helpful tips.

- **Dec. 10*** - Murdock branch, 1100 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
- **Dec. 17** - Punta Gorda branch, 2331 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda

Will vs. Trust - *Select Thursdays, 10 - 11:30 a.m.*

Discover the key differences between wills and trusts, including the administration, costs, and the advantages and disadvantages of each. Learn best practices for handling IRAs, real estate, investments, and personal property to make the best choice for yourself and your loved ones.

- **Dec. 11*** - Murdock branch, 1100 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
- **Dec. 18** - Punta Gorda branch, 2331 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda

***Seminars on Dec. 9, 10, and 11 are also presented virtually via WebEx.**

Although the seminars are free, registration is required. Please RSVP with any Teller, Personal Banker, call a Trust Services Associate at 941-624-1988 or visit our website at www.crews.bank.



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It's the time of the year to deck the halls and break out the holiday attire! Down here in the subtropics that can mean red shorts, a white tee shirt, and green flip flops. On those rare chilly mornings, you might have to wear socks with your sandals, but you will be able to peel them off in the afternoon.

Things are gliding along at the PGICA as we head into the new year. The annual holiday party for our members is on Thursday, December 11 starting at 5 p.m. and ending at 8 p.m. Our theme this year is Holly Days, so expect to see maybe a little more green added to the décor. We will see how the evening goes, but DJs TA and TF just might stay a little longer and provide some dance music.

While I'm thinking about it, let's circle back to the "starting at 5 p.m.," shall we? That means the doors and bars open at 5 p.m. and not before. There is a lot of party setup happening behind the scenes with final touches being made. The PGICA office closes at 5 p.m. and then we are all set to party.

Believe it or not, we run into problems each year with sneaky, early, seat-saving. This is often of entire tables. We have even had people hand write their own reserved signs and put them on tables. Then we are questioned about how seats could be saved or reserved when the doors don't open to all members until 5 p.m. (True story).

This is a party with hors d'oeuvres, beer, and wine in more of a cocktail party format. It's hoped you will mix, mingle and enjoy the camaraderie with all members. Meeting new people and making new friends is a keystone of the PGICA. We obviously can't accommodate all 3,100 members at our annual party, but we welcome as many as we possibly can. We set up tables in other rooms and have the pavilion ready for overflow seating to make sure everyone has a fantastic time. And they always do!

Please remember to thank our amazing sponsors of the annual holiday party, Landsberg Bennett Private Wealth Management. They never fail to step up when we need them and love to sponsor this event.

If not before, I look forward to seeing everyone on Thursday, December 11 at what time? At 5 p.m., decked out in your merriest holiday attire!

Please feel free to drop in at any time. You can also contact me at teriashley@pgica.org or 941-637-1655.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mary Ann Kot, 941-347-8582, mamkot@aol.com

Many thanks to all of you who attended the annual meeting. There was a lot to accomplish. Those in attendance rose to the occasion, especially when it came to filling the open board positions. There will be many new faces, but that is always a benefit because they bring new experiences and ideas. Ken Krause is moving from president elect to president as provided for in our bylaws. Cathy Hunt continues as secretary and Sandy Graan is a new member in the role of treasurer. The office of president elect was open; With no other nominations from the floor, I accepted that position to be president elect for 2026. Janet Lynn and Kay Abbs are returning board members to be accompanied by new members Bob Critchfield, Patricia Jones, Jamie Kirkwood, Susie Krause and Michael Trainor.

I and the board are also grateful that the dues increase passed. Any action of this sort is deliberated and seriously considered before a final decision. I was putting this in perspective the other day. I live in a small house built in 1985 and my property taxes are about \$14 per day. The dues at PGICA are 22 cents per day. For me that is a tremendous bargain considering how much benefit this organization provides for me and I hope it does for you too.

It is amazing to think that another year has gone by. Fortunately, from a weather standpoint it was much better than the last few years. Now many of the winter residents have returned and the city is busy. Soon we will be celebrating the holidays. However you spend it, I hope that you are with people who are important to you.

My thanks to all of you for what you do and best wishes for the holidays and a wonderful 2026.



Did You Know...





Happy holiday season to all. Each fall the Mariners gather for a Welcome Back Picnic for all our snowbird members. We met at the Ponce de Leon Park pavilion where most of us overate and all of us had a fabulous time catching up on everyone's summer adventures. Linda Wiens organized the event with the help of a team of volunteers. Some provided setup, some took on the cleanup and others brought a wide variety of sides and desserts to enjoy. A special thanks to grill master Mike Wiens who kept us supplied with plenty of burgers and brats.

We're finally entering Southwest Florida's ideal cruising season. Most Mariners have recovered from the past couple of years of boat and dock damage, so we're ready for a very active cruise season. A large group of Mariners are set to kick off the season with a November 30 lunch cruise to Isles Yacht Club. The food and service there are always top notch. Thanks to yacht club members Robert and June Toothaker and Paul Baird and Tracy Goin for leading and hosting this cruise.

Another upcoming cruise has been organized by Dennis and Carol Barkow. This adventure will take place from December 12 to 17, heading to Sarasota, St. Petersburg and Bradenton. In Sarasota we'll dock at Marina Jack and enjoy the Christmas boat parade on the December 13. Next stop will be the St. Petersburg Municipal Marina for two nights. Here we'll be in walking distance (or free trolley ride) of gorgeous Christmas lights, museums and the pier. The final stop is the Twin Dolphin Marina in Bradenton, which is also within walking distance of plenty of activities. The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature is right across the street.

The Mariners were invited by the PGIslanders to join them for their annual Happy Friendsgiving event. On November 20 we gathered for a joint celebration at the St. Andrews South Golf Club. We enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner with all the fixings and made many new friends. A sincere thank you to the PGIslanders for the invitation.

Another well attended Lunch with the Ladies took place on November 18 at Cass Cay Restaurant at Burnt Store Marina. As you can tell by the smiling faces, it was an enjoyable afternoon. Thanks to Julie Towers for hosting the event. The next lunch is planned for December 3 at Perfect Caper.

Our Jingle Bam Christmas party is planned for December 6 at PGICA. We will have music and dancing and a grand dinner of ham, turkey and side dishes prepared by excellent Mariner cooks. Instead

of toys and gifts, we will use the proceeds of the dinner to support local food pantries. Wear your most dazzling holiday outfit and win a prize for outstanding fashion. Dance to tunes by the Suncoast Swing Band, including our own Larry Lowy.

At our October general meeting, David Schutz, CEO and Director of Heal Our Harbor, Inc. gave a great presentation on the degraded health of Charlotte Harbor and projects underway to protect and restore our harbor. In recent years we have experienced a drastic reduction in seagrass which 70% of our fishery species depend on. This is an effort that requires all our participation. Check out <https://healourharbor.org/> to see how to help.

We invite you to join in the Mariners fun and fellowship. Drop by and meet the crew at one of our happy hours, held every Wednesday from 5 to 7 at the Village Brewhouse. Check out our monthly newsletter (Nautical Notes) which can be viewed at <https://marinersofpgi.org/nautical-notes/>. For questions, give our Membership Director Joan Erickson a call at 512-789-1191. We look forward to meeting you.



PGICA Volunteer Recruitment

The Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, Inc. (PGICA) is a 501(C)3 nonprofit community organization. It serves the entire Punta Gorda area by providing a wide variety of programs and services which highlight a transparent commitment to overall civic welfare and education. It is one of more than 800 nonprofit organizations serving our community.

Volunteers in several areas would greatly assist with the success of PGICA programs and services.

You are needed!

ADVERTISING SALES- Does cold-calling make you feel all warm and fuzzy? Are you a CRM guru? Do you absolutely love the PGICA? If yes, yes, and yes ... this might be for you! *The Commentator* digital magazine and a new monthly digital advertiser beginning in January could use your devotion.

(There might even be a \$small commi\$\$ion?)

EVENT PROMOTION- How organized ARE you? It's hard to believe, but the PGICA has an average of more than 50 classes and events each month. That does not even include club and group events or private functions. Those 50 activities include ukelele lessons, festivals, line dancing, fundraisers, concerts, yoga, photography, markets, exercise, and more ... without an advertising budget. Yes, members have the resources to stay informed of the PGICA happenings. However, we need the general public to be constantly kept updated about those happenings. That includes postings on all digital community calendars and other free announcement resources.

EVENT PARKING LOT ASSISTANCE- Maybe you were a school crossing guard, or you had an orange Safety Patrol belt and badge, or you generally like to ~~boss people around~~ ... help people! As our events become more successful, additional assistance is needed. It's a good problem to have, but it is a problem.

◆ Pre-marking vendor spaces	◆ Traffic cone placement
◆ Signage placement	◆ Trash can placement/emptying
◆ Directing traffic/traffic control	◆ General safety
◆ Vendor assistance— parking, tables, electrical, etc.	◆ Break down

LOANER PROGRAM ASSISTANCE- By far the most popular service offered by the PGICA, the Loaner Program does demand quite a bit of TLC. Assistance is needed with inventory organization, cleaning of returned items, repairs to equipment, and the disposal of unusable items.

HANDS-ON TECHIE TYPES- We do get ourselves into a jam sometimes. Maybe it's a paper jam in the copy machine or a musical jam when the audio/visual equipment decides to become obstinate, we sometimes need fixing. What seems like a major computer malfunction to us just might only be a case of the wrong button being clicked. Who we gonna call? **TECH BUSTERS!**

INDOOR EVENT SET-UP- Yes, we make it look easy, but there is a lot more to hosting an event other than opening the doors. When needed, how about volunteering to help with:

♦ Stage assembly and skirting	♦ Audio/visual set-up and operation	♦ Table and chair placement
♦ Table coverings	♦ Centerpieces/flyer placement	♦ Lobby set-up
♦ Green room set-up	♦ Greeter/registration	♦ Refrigerator/warmer clean out
♦ Ice inventory	♦ Holiday decorating	♦

MAINTENANCE AND FACILITIES ASSISTANCE- As much as we love doing it all ourselves, sometimes it's just not possible. If you are experienced in bid research and solicitation, plumbing projects, electrical work, computer glitches, copy machine jams, and stone work, and if you have a love for special projects, WE are here for YOU!

GRANT WRITER- Are research, project alignment, and persuasive writing your passion? Do you have an unwavering Oxford comma stance? Have you ever experienced joy because of new highlighters, binders, and colored tabs? You are in luck ... we are here to "grant" you hours of bliss!

PGICA OFFICE RECEPTION- The little desk behind the glass window in the lobby loves to have new attendants. All you need is a very friendly face and voice! Volunteering in the PGICA office involves answering the phone, checking in and out loaner program items, assisting with class and event registrations, making copies, providing general information, and other various office tasks.

THE 2026 GIVING CHALLENGE- It's almost time for the April 15-16, 2026 Giving Challenge. We need to rally the troops, muster the masses, and assemble our supporters. The best thing about the Giving Challenge is that every donation to the participating nonprofit organization is matched up to \$100! Each year there are more nonprofits vying for the Giving Challenge dollars, and we need your help. Another good thing? It only happens every-other-year. Feel free to take a peek at givingchallenge.org.

To be added to the volunteer list for any of these categories, please contact Teri Ashley at terigashley@pgica.org or by calling 941-637-1655. A special orientation is being planned for all new volunteers, which may or may not involve refreshments. Yes, we will resort to bribery.



Weekly Wednesday Market

INDOOR and **OUTDOOR**
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

~ Plants ~ Fresh food Items ~ Arts and Crafts
~ Businesses and Services ~ Used and/or Thrift Items ~
~ Nonprofit Organizations ~ Food Trucks ~ And More ~

There are countless arts and craft events, church bazaars, farmers markets, school festivals, boat shows, car shows, home and garden shows, yard sales, parades, RV shows, football games, airshows, fairs, carnivals, flea markets, yada, yada, yada, yada ... to enjoy on the weekends. So, say it with us,

“Hooray for Wednesdays!”



Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association
2001 Shreve St., Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941-637-1655 pgica.org
A 501(C)3 Nonprofit Community Organization



PGICA SHOP AND SAVE

Your PGICA Membership benefits saves you money and supports local businesses.

- ♦ Apparel & Jewelry
- ♦ Auto, Boats & RV's
- ♦ Home & Yard
- ♦ Personal & Health Care
- ♦ Recreation
- ♦ Restaurants
- ♦ Retail
- ♦ Services

ATTENTION MEMBERS!

Take a look at our PGICA Shop and Save Program and check back frequently to see additional listings being added in the future.

TO VIEW YOUR MEMBER DEALS BY:

- Go to pgica.org
- Click "MEMBER LOGIN" in the upper right corner with your username and password.
- On the blue title bar, select "Members." The dropdown list appears, select "PGICA Shop and Save" to view the list.

OR

Swing by the office and pick up a printed copy at the front desk.



Present your membership card to the participating business to receive your discount. Show card BEFORE you purchase or order.



Loaner Program

This *FREE* lending service is a major membership benefit which includes:

FAMILY ITEMS:

- Pack-n-Play Cribs
- Strollers
- Car Seats & Booster Seats
- Highchairs
- Life jackets
- Scooters & Toys
- Bikes & Helmets

MEDICAL:

- Wheelchairs
- Knee Scooters
- Shower Seats
- Bedside Commodes
- Crutches
- Walkers
- Canes

Tables and chairs are also available! 941-637-1655



PGICA FRIDAY BRIDGE**Sharon Biernat, 941-833-4441 or (c) 941-286-3062, biefla3@gmail.com**

1 - Debbie Meyer
 2 - Polly Engebrecht
 3 - Judy Keane

1 - Lois Olsen
 2 - Mary Ann Rindelaub
 3 - Kathleen Davey
 4 - Peg Williams

1 - Terry Moeller
 2 - Kathleen Davey
 3 - Sharon Biernat
 4 - Cathy Eliason

1 - Peg Williams
 2 - Sherry Lane
 3 - Chris Kwak

1 - Debbie Meyer
 2 - Lois Olsen
 3 - Helen Connelly
 4 - Judy Krausman

1 - Polly Engebrecht
 2 - Mary Ann Rindelaub
 3 - Sharon Biernat
 4 - Susan Bennett

We meet every Friday at 12:15. When everyone arrives, we start the game. All players are required to be members of the PGI Civic Association. To join the association, please call the front desk at 941-637-1655 or visit the association's website at www.pgica.org and select Membership. We only compete for prizes if we have at least two tables (eight players). We collect \$1 from each player when you check in.

If you wish to play and are not signed up, please contact Sharon Biernat at 941-286-3062 or 941-833-4441 and leave a message, or email biefla3@gmail.com.

MONDAY AFTERNOON DUPLICATE BRIDGE**Debbie Meyer, 352-615-3976, Dmeyer50@msn.com**

1 - Gloria Hank & Terry Moeller
 2 - Sharon Biernat & Marcia Ling
 3 - Judy Dolan & Judy Keane
 4 - Yvonne Heer & Christine Kwak
 5 - Kim Bennett & Marty Welch
 6 - Nicki Harris & Lila Jameson
 7 - Cathy Eliason & Debbie Meyer

We meet on the first and third Monday of every month. Since we start the game at 2, we request everyone to arrive between 1:30 and 2.

All players are required to be members of the PGI Civic Association. To join the association, please call the front desk at 941-637-1655 or visit the association's website at www.pgica.org and select Membership. We only compete for prizes if we have at least two tables (eight players). We collect \$1 from each player when you check in.

If you wish to play and want additional information, please contact Debbie Meyer. Contact information is shown above.

MEN'S SOCIAL BRIDGE**John Iredale, 919-474-1223, jiredale1243@gmail.com**

Attention all men: We need you to join us.

- If you played bridge in college and have not played since but would like to rekindle an interest.
- If you think only women play bridge, you might be surprised.
- If your wife would like you to learn to play bridge with her (But you don't want to read Bridge for Idiots and can't stand her lessons or criticism).
- If you would like a new, less active hobby other than boating, golf, fishing, carving, woodwork, drinking, carousing or bingeing Netflix series.
- If you just want to get out of the house for one morning a week.
- If your wife would like to get rid of you for one morning a week.
- If you would just like to learn how to play bridge.
- If you already know how to play and would enjoy a challenge from some decent bridge players.
- If you would just like to enjoy some fun and a little kidding and fellowship with PGICA members.
- Enjoy competing against other great and not so great minds.

We would love to have you. Men's Social Bridge group, Mondays at 9.

Contact John Iredale at 919-474-1223. To leave a message or text, be sure to mention PGICA Men's Bridge. Better to text - that way if I miss it when you send it I can still read it later.

COUPLES BRIDGE

Melissa Brown, 734-769-3138, melbrown@umich.edu
Jeanne Hogan, 317-431-5948, jeanno383@gmail.com

Our fun and friendly group usually meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. December play dates are December 3 and 17. We have changed our start time to 12:30. If you get there on time, you will receive 500 bonus points toward your score for the day.

Contrary to the name of the group, you do not have to be a married or committed couple. All that is necessary is that there are two of you; yourself and your partner. We happily welcome players of all skill levels. Whether you are new to bridge, have played forever, or are a little rusty since you have not played in years, we would love to have you join us.

Results from November 5:

First place with 4,270 points: Marian Harkins and Chris Kwak

Second place with 2,870 points: Gloria and Ken Hank

Third place with 2,860 points: Melissa Brown and Frans Van Hekken

Results from November 19:

First with 3,930 points: Cathy and Charlie Eliason

Second with 3,550 points: Jeff and Penny Hanson

Third with 3,050 points: Marian Harkins and Yvonne Heer

If you have questions and/or would like to sign up to play, please contact either one of us by email or by phone. We are always looking for new players.

BUNCO BUDDIES

Mary Dowdall, 904-210-3168, mcdowd1@aol.com



If you're looking for a fun group of people playing a really easy game, look no further than Bunco Buddies. No skill involved, purely a game of chance - if you can roll three dice, you can play Bunco*. Great for meeting others because you change teammates every round. Come alone, with a friend, or even a spouse. Beginners welcome - you'll be an expert in no time. We play the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30, usually ending around 8:30. Bring a snack to share, your own beverages/glasses, and \$5 for prizes. Check out our website** (https://www.pgica.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=799073&module_id=655892) for more details. If possible, register in advance so the tables/chairs are set up appropriately.

*only physical requirement is you do get up and change tables with each hand - unless you win

**We're a group of the PGICA, not a club, so no dues or membership required

CANASTA/HAND AND FOOT GROUP

Janet Lynn, jlynnpgi@hotmail.com

We play canasta/hand & foot every Thursday at noon. We draw cards for our partners at 11:55 and play until around 4. This is a fun group we play for laughs. No signup required. We play year-round unless the building is closed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

MONDAY MORNING MAH JONGG

Donna Bernhardson, 732-713-3723

We play on Mondays from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Call Donna if you have any questions.

PGICA PINOCHLE GROUP

Mary Ann Kot, 941-347-8582, mamkot@aol.com



We are playing as usual. Getting together to play pinochle is enjoyable and an easy way to have fun. We welcome returning and new players. If you are new or want to learn more, you are welcome to observe. The time is every Tuesday at 12:30.

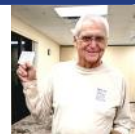
Current high score: 691 Dolores Jaskoviak

EUCHRE CARD GROUP

Marcia Ellis, 269-760-2582, marcia.ellis@wmich.edu



Please join us on Thursday nights at 6:30 at the PGI Civic Association to play a friendly game of Euchre. Bring a snack to share and your own beverage of choice. If you don't know how to play, we will teach you. Everyone is welcome. For more information and to get onto the mail list contact Marcia Ellis at ellism@wmich.edu.





DONATE BLOOD

PGI Civic Association

Friday December 19th

8:30- am – 2:30 pm

All donors receive*:

- \$25 eGift Card
- OneBlood Sweatshirt
- Chick-fil-A Coupon
- Wellness Checkup including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Fact: One in three of us will need a blood transfusion.

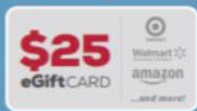


Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code **36192**

ID REQUIRED

*One offer per donor, per donation. No cash value. Not transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit oneblood.org/details.

Donors
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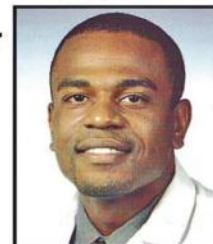


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be a volunteer



**PGICA
needs you!**

Our greatest need is for volunteers to help at the front desk, greeting and assisting people and answering phones.

We are also in need of a Volunteer Coordinator... a very special someone to help coordinate the volunteer schedule.

Volunteering is good for your health!

You can:

- Experience a Mental Pick-Me-Up... a cure for the blues is to do something for someone else.
- Improve your health... it's been shown to add a few years to life expectancy
- Meet new people... and make new friends
Break away from your routine... get out of your comfort zone
- Make a difference...helping people can benefit the whole
- Teach skills to others...pass your wisdom and experience onto others.
- Be an inspiration to others...a willingness to serve others may inspire those around you to follow suit.

Please call the PGICA office for more information and opportunities at 941-637-1655

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As we look back on our whirlwind first year (actually five months), the PGI Castaways can't help but reflect on what truly defines our group - a fearless sense of adventure, a willingness to try something new, and a growing circle of friends who bring out the best in one another. What started as just a few spirited neighbors has quickly grown into a vibrant, close knit crew that knows how to squeeze every drop of joy out of life in Punta Gorda.

A special shout-out goes to Pat McMahon and Stacy McLain, whose incredible craftsmanship brought our Tiki Mascot to life. Standing tall and proud, he's more than just a decoration; he's the heartbeat of the Castaways spirit. Wherever he goes, our signature energy, laughter and bright tropical vibe follow right behind.



Although our first year as Castaways has been brief, it has been filled with unforgettable moments. From lively happy hours and laughter-filled bocce nights to our PopStroke showdown, trivia nights, a journey back in time at the Medieval Faire and a trip to the Bourbon Trail in Kentucky, each outing added a new spark to our growing community. Our very first Halloween party set the tone for many more to come, with Steve Murphy earning the coveted Castaways Coconut in a night full of creativity and fun. Every event, big or small, helped shape who we are; a group that loves to

explore, laugh and say yes to adventure.

A highlight of the past month was the Florida International Air Show. Even though the government shutdown caused the cancellation of the Blue Angels, the FIAS team delivered a fantastic show. Clear blue skies provided the perfect backdrop as planes performed jaw-dropping maneuvers that kept the crowd captivated throughout a picture-perfect afternoon.



November's main event was Castaways sandbar day, and Mother Nature put her stamp of approval on the whole affair, delivering a day so perfect it felt like the island gods were smiling on us. With brilliant blue skies, calm seas and warm breezes, we soaked up a day of pure bliss. A curious manatee drifted in for a visit, followed by a playful dolphin who seemed determined to become our newest member, circling us for most of the afternoon. It was a day we'll be talking about for years.

As we move into this festive season of lights, celebration

and togetherness, we're lifted by the spirit our Castaways bring to every gathering. Whether you joined us for a big event or shared a casual night out, every moment has helped brighten our community. With each laugh, each new adventure, and each friend willing to step outside their comfort zone, the Castaway spirit shines a little brighter.

From our little island of mischief-makers to yours...Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and a bright, healthy new year! May your days be merry, your nights be festive, and your tiki drinks never run dry. Here's to more adventures, more laughter, and more Castaways magic in 2026.



Introducing the Aardvark Fish and Game Adventures Group

Are you passionate about the outdoors? Do you enjoy fishing, hiking, shooting sports, or simply spending time in nature with like-minded adventurers? If so, we invite you to join the Aardvark Fish and Game Adventures Group, a new community of outdoor enthusiasts right here in Punta Gorda Isles.

Our group was founded to bring together people who love the outdoors - whether you're an experienced angler, an avid hiker, a shooting sports enthusiast, or someone who just enjoys fresh air and good company. We'll be organizing a variety of excursions, including fishing trips, hiking outings, wildlife explorations, visits to local sporting clubs and social gatherings, all designed to embrace the natural beauty of Southwest Florida.

In addition to fishing Charlotte Harbor and offshore and exploring local trails, we'll also plan trips to sporting clubs like the Sarasota Trap, Skeet & Sporting Clays Club for those who enjoy shooting sports. Whether you're a seasoned marksman or just interested in trying something new, these outings will be a great way to connect and enjoy some friendly competition.

We also want your input. What types of outdoor adventures interest you most? Are there specific fishing spots, hiking trails or sporting clubs you'd love to explore with the group? Let us know - we're excited to shape this club around the interests of our members. Stay tuned for upcoming events, and don't hesitate to reach out with your ideas. We look forward to seeing you out there.



NEED ASSISTANCE WITH AN ESTATE SALE?

ISLES GIRLS AND GUYS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
A Club of the PGICA

The Isles Girls and Guys Assistance Program started over 25 years ago and has been one of the PGICA's most successful volunteer programs. The original goal was, and still is, to provide a service to PGICA members by conducting estate sales. The Isles Girls and Guys do it all! Proceeds from the sale are presented to the homeowner who in turn donate 30% to the PGICA.

WWW.ISLESGIRLSANDGUYS.COM

CONTACT INFORMATION

Tom Teubert: 201-960-5340
tb2@att.net



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Holiday Marketplace

December 5 -6 | 9:30am - 2:00pm

Arts & Crafts Show

Santa's Workshop

December 6 | 9:30am - 2:00pm

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- NAE Awards Reception 2/19
- Lunch & Learn with Rosalie Mack 3/6
- Poetry Night 3/18

For more Information: <https://visualartcenter.org/collections/current-featured-exhibit>



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December Activities

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 2:00p Duplicate Bridge	2 9:00a Car Club - BOD 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Mellow Morning Yoga 12:15p Pinochle 6:00p Acoustic Music Group Holiday Party 6:30p Bunco Buddies 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	8:00a Weekly-V Market 9:30a In Stitches 10:00a Landsbe Wealth In - Estate Planning 12:30p Couples PGIsland 1:00p Beginner Dancing 3:00p Advance Dancing 4:00p
4:30p PGI Cruising Club 7	8 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 6:00p Seasonal Flockers 7:00p Texas Hold'em	9 8:30a Fishing Club Board Mtg 8:30a Zumba 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Mellow Morning Yoga 12:15p Pinochle 5:00p Fishing Club 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	VVV 8:00a Weekly-V Market PGICA B 9:00a In Stitches 9:30a Duplicate PGIsland 12:30p Beginner Dancing 1:00p Advance Dancing 3:00p PGIsland 4:00p PGIsland 4:30p
14	15 8:45am - 12:00pm Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 2:00p Duplicate Bridge 3:00p Friends, Fun, & Community Club 4:00p Friends, Fun, & Community Club BOD 7:00p Aardvarks Outdoor Group	16 8:30a Zumba 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Mellow Morning Yoga 12:15p Pinochle 5:00p Newcomers 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	8:00a Weekly-V Market Beyond 9:00a In Stitches 9:30a Couples PGIsland 12:30p Beginner Dancing 1:00p Advance Dancing 4:00p
21	22 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Mariners Board Mtg 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 7:00p Mariners Meeting 7:00p Texas Hold'em	23 8:30a Zumba 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Mellow Morning Yoga 12:15p Pinochle 5:00p Seafarers General Mtg 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	HOLIDAY- PGI 1:00p PGIsland 4:30p PGIsland
28	29 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists	30 8:30a Zumba 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Mellow Morning Yoga 12:15p Pinochle 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	8:00a Weekly-V Market In Stitches 9:30a PGIsland 1:00p Beginner Dancing 3:00p Advance Dancing 4:00p

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 Wednesday- es rg Bennett nsight Seminar Planning Bridge lers- Mahjongg -Basic Line with Judy d-Improve Line with Judy	4 8:30a Mat Pilates 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:00a Creative Cellphone Photography 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 10:00a Mellow Yellow Yoga 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Club Mah Jong 1:30p Beginner Ukulele 6:30p Euchre Group 6:30p PGIslanders General Mtg	5 8:30a Zumba 10:00a Watercolor Painting Wk Shop 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	6 5:00p PGI Mariners Christmas Party
10 Wednesday- board Meeting es e Bridge lers- Mahjongg -Basic Line with Judy d-Improve Line with Judy lers Club Social	11 8:30a Mat Pilates 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:00a Creative Cellphone Photography 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 10:00a Mellow Yellow Yoga 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Club Mah Jong 1:30p Beginner Ukulele Lessons 5:00p *MEMBERS ONLY* Annual Holiday Party 6:30p Euchre Group	12 8:30a Zumba 10:00a Crews Bank Seminar 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge 4:30p JFF - Pre Cruise Mtg	13 10:00a Newcomers Club Holiday Party
17 Wednesday- Ourselfes es Bridge lers- Mahjongg -Basic Line with Judy d-Improve Line with Judy	18 8:30a Mat Pilates 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:00a Creative Cellphone Photography 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 10:00a Mellow Yellow Yoga 11:00a Hand & Foot Canasta & Mariners MahJong Christmas Party 1:30p Beginner Ukulele Lessons 6:30p Euchre Group	19 8:30a Blood Drive 8:30a Zumba 10:00a Paper Quilting Wk Shop 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	20
24 CA CLOSED lers- Mahjongg lers- Social	25  HOLIDAY-PGICA CLOSED 9:00a PGIslanders Board Mtg 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 12:30p Mariners Club Mah Jong	26 8:30a Zumba 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	27
31 Wednesday- es lers- Mahjongg -Basic Line with Judy d-Improve Line with Judy			

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Looking Ahead to January

CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1  8:30a Mat Pilates 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:30a Just For Fun MahJongg 10:00a Mellow Yellow Yoga 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Mah Jong 6:30p Euchre Group 6:30p PGIslanders	2 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	
4	5 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 2:00p Duplicate Bridge	6 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Morning Yoga 10:30a Landsberg Bennett Investment Series 12:15p Pinochle 6:30p Bunco Buddies 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	7 8:00a Weekly-Wednesday- Market 9:30a In Stitches 12:30p Couples Bridge 1:00p PGIslanders- Mahjongg 3:00p Beginner-Basic Line Dancing with Judy 4:00p Advanced-Improve Line Dancing with Judy 6:00p Let's Go Fishing	8 8:30a Mat Pilates 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 10:00a Mellow Yellow Yoga 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Club Mah Jong 6:30p Euchre Group	9 10:00a The ART of a Traditional French Dinner 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	11:00a L

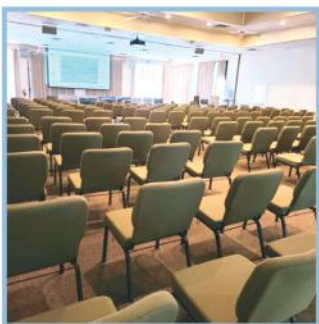
Please mark your calendars,
 Thursday, December 11, 2025, 5 to 8 p.m.,
 for the PGICA
“HOLLY DAY PARTY!”

Heavy hors d'oeuvres with
 complementary wine, beer,
 beverages, holly day cake,
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For advance reservations, call 941-637-1655.

PGICA Members- **FREE**
 PGICA Member Guest- **\$40**

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TYPES OF EVENTS

- ♦ Weddings and Receptions
- ♦ Bridal Showers
- ♦ Rehearsal Dinners
- ♦ Anniversary Parties
- ♦ Baby Showers
- ♦ Business Meetings and Seminars
- ♦ Celebrations of Life
- ♦ Birthday Parties
- ♦ Bar/Bat Mizvahs
- ♦ Promotional Events
- ♦ Dinner Parties
- ♦ Graduation Parties
- ♦ Quinceaneras
- ♦ Fundraisers

AMENITIES

- ♦ Auditorium Capacity:
 - 125 with tables (dance floor open)
 - 160 with tables (entire room)
 - 225 with chairs only; auditorium style seating
- ♦ Tables and padded banquet chairs included.
- ♦ Catering kitchen with commercial refrigerators, freezer, warming ovens, microwaves, commercial sinks, large granite work areas.
- ♦ Auditorium split with one-third dance floor and two-thirds carpet.
- ♦ Podium, microphone, portable bar, various tables, projector, large drop-down screen, sound system, stage and stage lights available.
- ♦ Air purification system throughout building.
- ♦ Wireless Internet Service
- ♦ Meeting Rooms
- ♦ Large Parking Area
- ♦ Outdoor Pavilion

ISLES GIRLS & GUYS CLUB

Dave Little, dblittle321@gmail.com

Where did the summer go? We are already going full speed ahead with estate sales. Even without the full return of our snowbirds we are still having good attendance. Just can't wait until everyone is back. Don't forget to monitor our website, <https://islesgirlsandguys.com> for upcoming sales. You can also go to <https://islesgirlsandguys.com/contact-us> and fill out the form and be added to our email alert list. Don't forget, if you have any flat white twin size sheets that you are going to get rid of, please bring them to a future sales as we use sheets to cover the tables.

If you have any interest in having an estate sale, do not wait, please call Tom Teubert, 201-960-5340 or Karen Schwarck, 941-276-8593, so we can get you on the calendar. We will come out and preview your home. Our team always takes pride in being courteous and professional with both the seller and the buying public. We will treat your items as if they were our own. It will be our pleasure to assist you in your time of need. We understand that this can be a difficult time.

Also contact Tom or Karen if you are interested in joining our happy band of volunteers. We will let you know when there is an opening.

Tom Teubert, 201-960-5340, tb2@att.net

Karen Schwarck, 941-276-8593 tkschwarck@centurylink.net



IN STITCHES

Norma Angus 941-575-1049, Debbie Scholtes 941-347-7044



In Stitches has many philanthropic interests. One of them is the Guardian Ad Litem program. We made more than 100 Izzy Dolls to be distributed to children during stressful situations. We sincerely hope they are of some comfort and assistance to the children. Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to noon.





At last night's meeting we welcomed the return of our friend Dan Osborne and his special friend Sophie. We all know Dan and Sophie because Dan was the one who started the Acoustic Music Group so many years ago. So many of us (myself very much included) can trace our Punta Gorda friendship network to Dan because joining the Acoustic Music Group was the first thing we did when we moved here. Before starting to play our selected songs, Terry shared some information about our upcoming annual Christmas party on December 2, wherein we have a delicious meal and we have the opportunity to play for invited guests with a nice sound system - it's really a treat.

Our friend Rick Fontana will be playing his guitar with Peter Mayer at the Stars and Promises concert in Somerville, New Jersey on December 12. This is a big deal, as Peter Mayer was Jimmy Buffett's lead guitarist for over three decades. Closer to home, Terry Dotson and Dave Heveron will be playing in Arcadia at Joshua Citrus: Saturdays at the Grove Stand on November 22. This newsletter will come out after that date but I do like to mention whenever any of us is invited to play out.

If you are thinking of joining this group but have some questions, please email our president, Terry Dotson, at terrywdotson@gmail.com. We meet every Tuesday night from 7 to 9 and share songs that we have been working on. All skill levels welcome. If you play an acoustic instrument, such as a guitar, mandolin, banjo, or ukelele, please check us out.



SEASONAL FLOCKERS

Paula McIlvride, pmcilvride@att.net, 248-330-7802

Seasonal Flockers are snowbirds that gather to socialize, meet new people, share stories of our seasonal travels and perhaps share in some adult beverages and fun times. We will meet once a month at the PGICA or sometimes take field trips for other fun adventures. Seasonal Flockers meet beginning in November and ending in April each year. If this sounds like your kind of group, please text or email me. Looking forward to meeting my fellow Flockers.



Please welcome these new members who have joined since the last publication:

Jan Langston & Blaine Allmond	Stacey & James Lauro
Kelly & Darrell Bossert	Suzanne & Lonnie Lawhorn
Mary & Pat Cassady	Kim & Jamie McIntosh
Pauline Lacombe & David Cichy	Dorothy Moger
Jan & Mauro Cordani	Joe Perkalis
Arlene Cedron & Gabe Cosentino	Kathy Farrell & Paul Salce
Linda & Mel Davenport	Chris & Curt Saunders
Erin & Michael Duffy	Susan DeFabio & Robert Scott
Virginia & Robert Golden	Chris & Michael Slate
Mindy & Nicholas Goodman	Patricia Thomas
Sandra & Paul Gray	Donna Deerin & Chad Ward
Amy Haugen	Mary & Chad Wissel
Marie & Robert Kushner	Walter Zink
Jennifer & Dean MacLeod-Kulm	
Jacqueline Duffner & Nicholas Hopler	

THANK YOU TO OUR NEW MEMBER RECEPTION VOLUNTEERS

Marilyn Boehm, Marji Cyr, Kevin Mulligan,
Tom Rice, Julie Towers

PGICA EXCLUSIVE MEMBER BENEFITS



- ★ Substantial PGICA member discounts at more than 40 local shops and restaurants with the **Shop & Save Program**.
 - ★ Free use of the PGICA **Loaner Program** to borrow items including car seats, wheelchairs, life jackets, walkers, kids bikes, foldable cribs, chairs, toys, and more.
 - ★ Ability to join more than 30 PGICA **Clubs and Groups** which include popular activities such as fishing, boating, table games, cars, music, painting, tennis, paddling, and social clubs. And you can start your OWN new club or group!
 - ★ Receive discounts on all PGICA **Entertainment Series** events including concerts, comedy shows, and dance parties.
 - ★ PGICA **Room Rentals** are discounted by 25% for your upcoming event including all varieties of parties, weddings, receptions, showers, life celebrations, etc.
 - ★ **The Commentator**, a full-color digital magazine, will be emailed to you every month to keep you apprised of all PGICA news and activities.
 - ★ Receive the weekly **In The Know** email newsletter which includes PGICA news and announcements, city news, and reminders for upcoming classes and events.
 - ★ Attend special **Community Seminars, Presentations, and Events**.
 - ★ **Be quickly notified** of important issues, breaking news, and emergency weather tips and announcements.
 - ★ Access the **On-line Member Directory** which allows you to keep in contact with your PGICA friends and neighbors.
 - ★ Utilize the drive-thru document **Shred Event** twice every year.
 - ★ Participate in the **Annual Arts & Crafts Fair** at a discounted vendor rate. Participate in the **Annual Nautical Flea Market** and our **Weekly-Wednesday-Markets** with premium locations.
 - ★ Attend annual **Exclusive Member Parties**.
 - ★ Your annual dues of \$65 **help the nonprofit PGICA** provide these many member benefits and additional events and opportunities for the entire Punta Gorda community.
- You are supporting a reputable and valuable community asset which, with **over 3,100 members**, has existed for more than 60 years ... the PGICA.



Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association
2001 Shreve Street *Punta Gorda FL 33950
941-637-1655 * info@pgica.org * pgica.org
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As we move through mid-November, we're all grateful that the 2025 tropical storm season is coming to a close. With a bit of luck, we may be able to say for the first time in ten years that the United States avoided a gulf or mainland hurricane. The downside, of course, is our growing rainfall deficit, now approaching 12 inches for the year, and the start of wildfire season just weeks away.

On a brighter note, our seasonal members are returning, and it's been wonderful catching up on the events of their busy summers - vacation cruises, family weddings, anniversaries, and the arrival of new grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Sadly, we also mourn the loss of several longtime members who were an important part of our boating community. Fair winds and following seas to those we have recently lost.

Our Tuesday afternoon happy hours at St. Andrews South Golf Club are once again in full swing, and it's great to see the room lively after the quieter summer months. We're especially pleased to have Wes, our bartender, back behind the bar, serving our favorite beverages with his familiar smile.

In mid-October, we held our annual welcome back general membership meeting and pizza party at the PGICA multi-purpose room. Many thanks to our guest speaker, Lt. Justin Davoult of the Punta Gorda Police Department, who provided an engaging presentation on internet, computer, banking, home, and phone security. His remarks were well received and sparked numerous questions and conversations among those attending.

Looking ahead to our 2025-2026 calendar, we have a full lineup of activities planned, including evenings at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, our monthly Dart Night at the



our most popular events, offering boating, camaraderie, dinner and the chance to go home with a bundle of cash. Our next poker run is scheduled for Sunday, March 8, 2026, and we hope to see you there.

If you love boating and social activities, please join us on Tuesday nights at St. Andrews South Golf Club beginning at 5. The address is 1901 Deborah Drive in Punta Gorda Isles. You may also contact our Membership Chair Branson Stone at bstonec387@gmail.com or visit our website at www.pgicruisingclub.org.

Ice House Pub, the general membership meeting with election of officers, and a holiday dinner dance at the Isles Yacht Club.

We also enjoyed a terrific turnout at the Fall Poker Run held on November 16 under beautiful sunny skies and light winds. Participants collected cards at five dock locations throughout PGI before gathering at the PGICA multi-purpose room for cocktails, dinner and the long-anticipated card reveal. Cash prizes were awarded for high and low hands, with captains and dock tenders competing separately for top honors. Poker runs continue to be among





A heartfelt welcome to our new and returning members. Just For Fun is a thriving and busy club, so join in the activities and enjoy the fellowship. With a logo of a flamingo wearing sunglasses and green flipflops, we are sure to embrace good times. The 2026 officers and committee volunteers are already busy planning what looks like a fun-filled year. As you can see below, we like to gather for meals, happy hours, parties, games, cruises and so much more.



Bite Night Hosts

Coordinator of Bite Night, Gayle Bieluch and her husband Phil graciously hosted Bite Night in November for those who have hosted during 2025 plus many other club members. We are fortunate to have hosts who open their homes for this popular monthly party which features a delicious pot-luck buffet and a chance to chat with others.

Host and Toast is another popular monthly event but on a smaller scale. A few members meet at the home of the member and enjoy a coordinated dinner and conversation.

In November the ladies met for a very tasty lunch at Curry & Kabob. The guys went to Tamiami Tavern.

Glenice is again hosting the annual December Ladies Luncheon at her home on December 11. This sidesplitting event

includes lunch tossed in a giant salad bowl which is filled with an assortment of lettuce and amazing toppings. After lunch there is an over-the-top gift exchange. Will the red negligee be making a return appearance? Let's hope so.

Sign up for the Ice House Pub on December 14 for dinner and darts for all levels of contenders. Team members are randomly assigned. The contact person is Brenda Weimer.

Social mah jongg is scheduled every Monday at 9:30 at PGICA and any PGICA member can sign up through the PGICA Club Express. Contact is Donna Bernhardson. On Thursdays at 9:30 JFF members can sign up for a game of mah jongg at PGICA regardless of your skill level. Contacts are Kay Abbs or Deb Sulla.

JFF has two book clubs that meet monthly year-around. Contact Maggie Swetkoff or Peggy Ensley if interested.



General Meeting

The weather was gorgeous as a large flock of JFF flamingos gathered to celebrate the joyous annual Thanksgiving celebration at the PGICA pavilion. We had a feast of traditional turkey plus an abundance of side dishes and desserts. It was overheard that some people felt as stuffed as the turkeys after enjoying the huge meal.

The annual JFF Holiday Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 6 at the Isles Yacht Club. We will start with hors d'oeuvres before dinner and then dance the night away.

A happy hour is already planned for early January.

The annual JFF cruise is departing from Fort Lauderdale aboard the Majestic Princess on Sunday, January 11, 2026. This six-night Caribbean cruise is coordinated by Deb Sulla who is available to answer inquiries.

Every Sunday morning the Flamingo Express is delivered to your email to ensure members are updated on club activities. Please register online via the PGICA website for events. Photos taken at events are often posted on our Facebook page and members are encouraged to join the site.

Contact Glenice Verhoff at glenicev@gmail.com with your ideas for spur-of-the-moment events or group ideas so she can help coordinate the plan. October events included lunch and dessert at Zoet's and a concert at Fishermen's Village. Our Sunshine Lady Virginia McLewin always has kind and supportive messages to share with any club member.



2026 Officers



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(List compiled from all MLS activity for PGI*)

HOUSES					
List Price	Sale Price	% List Price	Address	Year Built	Sq. Footage
\$1,725,000	\$1,700,000	99%	2453 St Davids Island Ct	2013	2,950
\$1,695,000	\$1,575,000	93%	1925 Jamaica Way	1979	3,475
\$1,440,000	\$1,340,000	93%	1230 Royal Tern Dr	2024	2,422
\$1,199,000	\$1,150,000	96%	1801 Los Alamos Dr	2019	2,472
\$819,000	\$804,000	98%	2224 Via Veneto Dr	2003	2,334
\$825,000	\$800,000	97%	1422 Via Milanese	2001	2,308
\$750,000	\$719,000	96%	809 Lucia Dr	1999	2,353
\$765,000	\$717,130	94%	1014 Francesca Ct	2000	2,527
\$750,000	\$675,000	90%	2719 Mayagyana Ct	1998	2,441
\$549,000	\$510,000	93%	3824 Aves Island Ct	1984	2,227
\$585,000	\$500,000	85%	910 Via Tripoli	1992	2,058
\$600,000	\$490,000	82%	155 Crescent Dr	2001	2,148
\$499,900	\$470,000	94%	2325 Padre Island Dr	1972	1,329
\$475,000	\$455,000	96%	2526 Brazilia Ct	1988	1,475
\$475,000	\$450,000	95%	500 Belvedere Ct	1971	1,635
\$499,900	\$435,000	87%	825 Via Tunis	1979	1,866
\$425,000	\$350,000	82%	110 Hibiscus Dr	1972	1,510
CONDOS					
\$715,000	\$715,000	100%	1617 Seahaven Dr #502	2025	1,867
\$625,000	\$593,000	95%	1623 Seahaven Dr #302	2025	1,867
\$550,000	\$530,000	96%	3800 Bal Harbor Blvd #414	1993	2,068
\$529,000	\$495,000	94%	3800 Bal Harbor Blvd #214	1994	2,068
\$475,900	\$450,000	95%	87 Vivante Blvd #8723	2006	2,338
\$435,000	\$400,000	92%	1410 Park Beach Cir #113	2007	2,104
\$390,000	\$375,000	96%	1326 Wesley Dr #123	1992	1,866
\$375,000	\$324,000	86%	3340 Wood Thrush Dr #323	2007	1,810
\$319,900	\$290,000	91%	601 Shreve St #36C	1981	1,394
\$269,000	\$255,000	95%	3920 Bal Harbor Blvd #E1	1988	1,183
\$299,900	\$250,000	83%	1551 Atares Dr #112	2007	1,833
\$255,000	\$247,500	97%	1352 Rock Dove Ct #B204	1984	1,282
\$179,000	\$179,000	100%	311 Garvin St #309A	1973	1,114
\$195,000	\$175,000	90%	255 W End Dr #2201	2004	1,351
\$195,000	\$160,000	82%	225 W End Dr #3211	2003	1,351
\$184,900	\$155,000	84%	1344 Rock Dove Ct #D102	1986	1,282



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* This list is based on data supplied by the Punta Gorda-Port Charlotte-North Port Association of Realtors' Multiple Listing Service (MLS). The Andrae Group provides this information as a courtesy to our PGICA members. Neither RE/MAX Harbor Realty nor The Andrae Group guarantee the accuracy of the MLS data. Data from the MLS may not reflect all real estate activity in the market.



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The Newcomers Club is rolling into the festive season with bells on and big smiles to match. What a year it has been - filled with new faces, new activities, and more laughter than we can count. December always brings a special kind of magic, giving us a moment to reflect on the good times behind us and get excited for the possibilities waiting just around the corner. One thing we hear again and again from our members is how grateful they are for the people who bring this club to life; our board, our committee chairs and every volunteer who jumps in with heart and enthusiasm. And the feeling is mutual. Our board is endlessly thankful for all of you - the members who show up ready to have fun, make friends and keep the spirit of Newcomers shining bright.

We also want to give a joyful round of applause to our incredible 2025 board, whose dedication kept the Newcomers Club fresh, fun, and thriving all year.

- President Michele Bogacki led with grace, good sense, and her trademark smile.
- Vice President Jane Connors threw herself into the role with energy, creativity and a true passion for adding new traditions to our calendar.
- Treasurer Kathy Nelson, serving her second year, kept our finances steady and organized - all while bringing calm, experience and positivity to every meeting.
- Secretary Carol Pastirchak, another two-year veteran, kept us laughing and on track with her wit, charm and gentle reminders to handle business before dessert.
- Membership Director Sherry Perley juggled welcoming new residents and handling all the behind-the-scenes paperwork with impressive efficiency and warmth.
- Social Chair Barbara Kopka ran a year's worth of events with such effortless style, we're all convinced she's done this in another life. She kept us busy, buzzing, and having a blast.
- Communications Director Sonya Critser kept everyone connected with emails, Facebook posts, and photos - so many wonderful photos - making sure every Newcomers moment was captured and shared.



Octoberfest at Sandra's German Restaurant



Scavenger hunt

We are deeply grateful to each of these outgoing board members for giving their time, talents and heart to the club.

Of course, the club wouldn't be what it is without our fantastic committee chairs and dedicated volunteers, the lifeblood of the Newcomers experience.

- Nan Erb (our 2026 president-elect) brought the fun to fun & games - and wow, did she deliver!
- Robin Boylston and her tireless volunteers ran our 50/50 raffle like pros.
- Carol Nieto kept our Dine-Around adventures fresh and flavorful, introducing us to new restaurants month after month.
- Helen Hyatt, in her second year with Small Group Appetizers, skillfully coordinated hosts and guests for our lively Friday nights - even stepping in to host herself when needed.
- Ladies' and Men's Lunches were a hit thanks to the dynamic duo of Robin Boylston and Glenn Ranfros, who scouted fun new lunch spots all year long.

Each committee plays a huge role in helping us stay true to our mission - making new residents feel welcome, informed, and right at home here in their new community.

As we celebrate the holidays together in beautiful Punta Gorda Isles, we feel incredibly lucky to look back on a year filled with memories, friendships, and plenty of joy and just as excited to look ahead to a new year full of promise. Fun, adventure, connection and new friendships are all on the horizon.

We hope you'll join us for the journey.



Blind Wine Tasting



Blind Wine Tasting Gang

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Top Row: Braden H. Sharrer, Nicole S. Peet and Brett H. Sifrit
Bottom Row: Guy S. Emerich, Forrest J. Bass and Dorothy L. Korszen

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Season's greetings from the Seafarers Cruising Club. We are pleased to report that 2025 has been an active and rewarding year for our members. December will mark the conclusion of our annual program, featuring two additional overnight cruises, a holiday party and Change of Watch ceremony.

Throughout November, the Seafarers participated in various scheduled activities, including day/overnight cruises and social events. The first day cruise was on November 1, with Membership Director John Koch guiding the group to Charlotte Harbor for a raftup to watch the Florida International Air Show. Although the Blue Angels didn't make an appearance, local private pilots impressed everyone with their aerial stunts. The Seafarer's annual regatta took place at Burnt Store Marina during the weekend of November 7. Vice Commodore Jeanne Meyers organized the event, creating a weekend full of fun activities. The festivities began on Friday night with guests dressing as their favorite solo artists or band members for a Weekend at the Grammys. The best female costume was Tina Turner, aka Terry Moeller. The best male costume was Dee Snyder, aka John Otte. The best duo costume was Blues Brothers, aka Ron Olsen & Jim Crumbaugh. Best band was Kiss, aka Dan Ruckman, Jane Orlin, Lisa Wienecke and Joe Wienecke. It concluded with live music making for an unforgettable evening. The next day's activities commenced shortly after afternoon with the well-attended poker run. This was followed by the blindfolded dinghy race, which



Regatta Dinghy Races

was enjoyed by all the viewers and participants. The final participant event was The Match Game, hosted by Dawn and Kevin Smith at the tiki hut, which provided entertainment for all attendees and concluded with a barbecue dinner and live music. On November 14 the Seafarers fall Sand Bar Bash was hosted by Kevin Smith at the skating rink anchorage near Alligator Creek with live music provided by Bob Schiele. The final social event in November was the Seafarers general meeting combined with Friendsgiving, which turned out to be a well-organized and successful gathering thanks to Social Director Cheryle Gurk-Turner's efforts.

As we approach the end of 2025, the Seafarers will stay busy in December with overnight cruises and



Regatta Group

festive holiday celebrations. On Wednesday, December 3, the annual holiday party and Change of Watch will be held at the Isles Yacht Club. This popular event brings members together to celebrate the holiday season and welcome the new board members for 2026. From December 5 to 7, Commodore Ron Olsen will lead the Seafarers on an overnight cruise to Boca Grande, offering a weekend of exploration on this beautiful island. On Saturday, December 6, Vice Commodore Jeanne Meyers has arranged a lunch cruise to the Pink Elephant Restaurant in Boca Grande, which will take place during the same weekend as the overnight cruise. The Seafarers' final cruise of the year is scheduled for Burnt Store Marina, where they will welcome the new year. They plan to arrive on Wednesday, December 31 to celebrate New Year's Eve, staying at the marina until January 1.

Membership Director John Koch greets all adventure seekers with a warm ahoy! If you've ever dreamed of cruising open waters with a spirited crew, now's the perfect time to join the Seafarers Boating Club - where camaraderie, exploration and good times are always on deck. We've welcomed 24 new members this year alone, bringing our vibrant community to 278 strong. Whether you're a seasoned captain or just dipping your toes into boating life, you'll find a warm welcome and a boatload of fun waiting for you. Our members are the heart of the club - friendly, adventurous and always ready to share a laugh or lend a hand. From weekend floats and on-land activities, there's something for everyone. So come aboard and be part of the excitement. The only thing missing is you.

We look forward to meeting new friends and sharing our adventures. You are invited to visit and get to know us at one of our meet and greets at St. Andrews South Golf Club from 5 to 7 on the second Thursday this month only. Please remember to mark December 11 at 5 on your calendar for another opportunity to join our social event. There's no obligation. Just stop by the 50/50 table and let our greeting team know you are a new visitor interested in the club. We are always eager to welcome new members to join the Seafarers to make new friends and enjoy new adventures. For more information, please contact our Membership Director John Koch at 540-903-2292 or johnKoch101@gmail.com or Commodore Ron Olsen at rolsen3514@icloud.com.



Regatta Kiss Band



The PGI Car Club (PGICC) meets at Beef 'O' Brady's in Punta Gorda at 11:30 on the second Tuesday of each month. Our next general meeting is on December 9. Look for a reminder email a couple days before.

Cars and Coffee at Bal Harbor Plaza is open to all automobile enthusiasts and continues to meet on the third Tuesday of each month. Our next Cars and Coffee is December 16 at 9. Look for us at the Bal Harbor side of the parking lot. The Celtic Ray is hosting a car show every second Thursday from 3 to 6. They offer discounts on food and drink for participants. What a great way to spend an afternoon.

Future cruise destinations include the newly opened Mote Science Education Aquarium (Mote SEA) in Sarasota and the recently reopened Revs Institute in Naples. Both sound like fantastic ways to spend the day and typically include lunch. We are exploring lunch cruise destinations to some new establishments as well as some old favorites. As always, we look to our members to suggest cruises to their favorite haunts.

This month, we highlight Sandy and Barry Franzino's 2000 Jaguar XJ8. The XJ8 features a 4.0 L V8 engine, producing 290 horsepower, and 290 lb-ft of torque. The Jag is equipped with a five-speed automatic transmission and painted in classic British racing green.

For many years in the company Barry owned, the XJ8 Jaguar was his company car, and he leased seven of them, one every three years or so. Upon retirement, Barry decided to find a Jag that he could turn into a classic. He found this one in a small used car dealership in New Jersey with a clean Carfax report and in excellent condition. The rest is history. He loves the positive comments he gets when he shares her age and it's great fun to drive.

Also, this month we highlight Robert and Sherry Lissitz's 1932 Studebaker Commander restomod coupe. The Commander is powered by a 5.0-liter Ford fuel-injected, V-8 engine and three-speed automatic transmission. The exterior is finished in a deep burgundy with

gray interior, including high-back power seats with lap belts. The Commander has four-wheel disc brakes for safety.

It also includes air conditioning and power windows. It has power Mustang II steering and an AM/FM stereo with a backup camera. The car was bought two years ago at Premier Auction here in Punta Gorda. Robert wanted it as soon as he saw it. It gets a lot of attention as an antique but drives like a modern car. The Studebaker is unusual looking and has a strong sounding pair of horns that Bob likes to activate when he drives past their son's house.

We encourage new and current members to visit the club's Facebook page under PGI Car Club. It features members' postings, what's happening, photos of impressive automobiles, and more. Check it out and post your favorite vehicle images. For more info contact Roland Ericsson at roland.ericsson@yahoo.com.

The purpose of the club is to create friendships among car enthusiasts through the fun and enjoyment of owning and operating special and/or antique vehicles. The club sponsors overnight and day trips, automobile maintenance and safety education, displays, shows and related social events. Interested in finding out more about PGI Car Club? Check us out at <http://pgicarclub.com/> or contact Wayne and Joan Erickson at



Commander



Commander



Jag



Jag

mabax2@aol.com for membership information.



Our next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, December 17 at 10 at the PGICA. Immediately following our meeting, we will be hosting a holiday potluck lunch to celebrate the season, followed by a check presentation to distribute the funds raised from the Sip & Savor events. Beyond Ourselves is a community service club that meets the third Wednesday of the month, September through May. We invite you to come meet some members and learn about the many ways we give back to our community.

Our Sip & Savor series, two culinary events held on October 21 and November 3, proved to be delightful evenings of food and drinks, live entertainment, raffles and silent auctions. Each guest of the Sip & Savor series was treated to four tasting pours paired with delicious bites thoughtfully selected for each event. Knowledgeable moderators were on hand to guide the tastings.



We're proud to announce that the Sip & Savor series raised \$12,380 for distribution to our two beneficiary charities, the Charlotte CARE Center and the Peace River Wildlife Center. The planning team is very grateful to our sponsors and donors, as well as all those who purchased tickets and attended these events. We also extend our thanks to our two venues, the Celtic Ray and the Coastal Isles Wine Bar, for their cooperation and support. We truly appreciate the time and energy of the many volunteers who contributed to the success of these fabulous Sip & Savor events.

The holiday season is upon us and as we look to the new year, we are hard at work planning the 2026 Share the Love for the Kids Home Tour. Proceeds from our upcoming home tour will benefit nine local children's charities in Charlotte County. The home tour will be held on Saturday,



February 21 from 10 to 4.

You may purchase your home tour tickets online starting Monday, January 12 or in person at any PGICA Weekly Wednesday Market from January 14 to February 18. Our special home tour ticket sale days will be January 12 and 13 (two days only) when tickets will be on sale for only \$35 each. Tickets can be ordered online using a credit card from 9 to 9 on these special sale days. From January 14 to February 20, tickets will be available online at a cost of \$40 each. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the home tour, in person only, for \$50 each.

Beyond Ourselves members braved wind and chilly temperatures at the PGICA Member Only Shred Event on Tuesday, November 11, helping to unload more than 80 cars of their paper recycling. Thank you to volunteers Janet Creed, Debra Griffith, Jo Ann Gulvezan, Ellen Jodway, Jorie Kelly, Nancy Klaren, Josephine Ortiz, Mary Sebahar and Candice Wood who were on hand to help. The Charlotte CARE Center raised \$505 and the Peace River Wildlife Center raised \$959 in cash donations during the drive-through event, and both charities received donations of much needed supplies.



On the first Saturday of every month, Beyond Ourselves members volunteer their time by serving dinner at the Charlotte CARE Center. Servers on December 6 will be Leanne Murphy, Janet Creed and Lynn Rogers. Servers on January 3 will be Ellen Jodway, Rich Strelchuk and Lynn Rogers. If you wish to volunteer to serve dinner, or if you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Lynn Rogers directly via email at earthlynn25@yahoo.com.

This article is written by Laura Hart. If you have photos or information to contribute, please email them to me at BeyondOurselvesPuntaGorda@gmail.com.

Share the Love for the Kids Home Tour

February 21, 2026
10 am - 4 pm

To benefit the
Children's Charities
of Charlotte County



www.PGICA.org/Beyond_Ourselves
Purchase tickets beginning January 12



Celebrating
17 Years



Raising
\$800,000

It is hard to believe that it's December already. Thinking back on this year, a few things stand out. We enjoyed Wine Tasting with a Twist, a Bologna Day celebration, a Japanese steakhouse-style dinner by the Iron Grill on Wheels, and we partied at our 11 year Birthday Bash. The holidays are just around the corner and while many folks up north will be shivering and shoveling snow, we'll be watching Punta Gorda's holiday boat parade in shorts and flip flops. Well, maybe. Karen Hill and Richard Toneatti have offered their home to Paradise Friends as a place to watch the boat parade on Saturday, December 20. There is a waitlist but if you haven't signed up,

you may want to just in case there are cancellations. More information is available on the website.

To get in the holiday spirit, plan to attend the Punta Gorda Light Up the Night tree lighting in downtown Punta Gorda on Friday, December 5 from 5 to 11. The lights, merriment and snow transform the town into a festive wonderland.

Paradise Friends will have their usual Thursday activities in December. Our ever-popular Sips and Dips will be hosted by Claudia and Jack Chopp on December 4 from 5 to 7. Bring your own drink and a festive appetizer to share. Remember, it's important to sign up on the website as soon as you see the email saying that registration is open. If you are not signed up already, you probably won't be going. Thank you to Juanita and Randy Douet for opening their home for mingling and socializing at the November Sips and Dips. It was a beautiful evening.

On December 11, the Ladies Lunch will be at The Perfect Cap, where award-winning food and drink await you. Check the website for more information and reserve your seat on the club calendar.

Chowhounds Men's Lunch is also planned for December 11 at Beef O'Brady's, where they feature daily specials. The guys will be there for their Steakout Thursdays - good deal. Information is available on the website or in an email being sent to Paradise Friends members.



Juanita and Randy November Sips and Dips Hosts



Ron & Rosanne 50-50 sellers



Outgoing President Dan and First Lady Sue



Ladies lunch at Lime Tequila

Our mixer at The Library is December 18 from 5 to 7. Lively chatter and a cash bar are available for all to enjoy. Guests are welcome. While you are there, purchase some 50/50 tickets. This is a week before Christmas. Let the celebrations begin.

Membership in Paradise Friends is open to any PGICA member. We would love to have you join us. Dues are \$20 per person per year. Membership forms are available in the PGICA lobby and on our website under the Join the Club menu bar.



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JUST SOLD PGI OCTOBER 2025*

HOMES

List Price	Sold Price	SP/LP Ratio	Address	HTD	Built	Pool	BE	FB	HB	CDOM	Sold Date	LP/SqFt	SP/SqFt
\$425,000	\$350,000	0.82	110 HIBISCUS DR	1,510	1972	Private	2	2	0	59	10/07/2025	\$281.46	\$231.79
\$475,000	\$450,000	0.95	500 BELVEDERE CT	1,635	1971	Private	3	2	0	229	10/21/2025	\$290.52	\$275.23
\$475,000	\$455,000	0.96	2526 BRAZILIA CT	1,475	1988	Private	3	2	0	81	10/07/2025	\$322.03	\$308.47
\$499,900	\$470,000	0.94	2325 PADRE ISLAND DR	2,148	2001	None	3	2	0	620	10/29/2025	\$232.73	\$218.81
\$499,990	\$435,000	0.87	825 VIA TUNIS	1,866	1979	Private	3	2	0	302	10/15/2025	\$267.95	\$233.12
\$549,000	\$510,000	0.93	3824 AVES ISLAND CT	2,227	1984	Private	3	2	0	142	10/01/2025	\$246.52	\$229.01
\$585,000	\$500,000	0.85	910 VIA TRIPOLI	2,058	1992	Private	3	2	0	148	10/30/2025	\$284.26	\$242.95
\$600,000	\$490,000	0.82	155 CRESCENT DR	1,844	1991	Private	3	2	1	-2	10/08/2025	\$325.38	\$265.73
\$750,000	\$675,000	0.90	2719 MAYAGUANA CT	2,441	1998	Private	3	2	1	72	10/09/2025	\$307.25	\$276.53
\$750,000	\$719,000	0.96	809 LUCIA DR	2,353	1999	Private	3	2	1	250	10/03/2025	\$318.74	\$305.57
\$765,000	\$717,130	0.94	1014 FRANCESCA CT	2,527	2000	Private	3	3	0	187	10/09/2025	\$302.73	\$283.79
\$819,000	\$804,000	0.98	2224 VIA VENETO DR	2,334	2003	Private	3	2	0	50	10/14/2025	\$350.90	\$344.47
\$825,000	\$800,000	0.97	1422 VIA MILANESE	2,308	2001	Private	3	2	1	64	10/30/2025	\$357.45	\$346.62
\$1,199,000	\$1,150,000	0.96	1801 LOS ALAMOS DR	2,472	2019	Private	3	3	0	85	10/13/2025	\$485.03	\$465.21
\$1,440,000	\$1,340,000	0.93	1230 ROYAL TERN DR	2,422	2024	Private	3	3	0	181	10/15/2025	\$594.55	\$553.26
\$1,695,000	\$1,575,000	0.93	1925 JAMAICA WAY	3,475	1979	Private	4	3	0	277	10/01/2025	\$487.77	\$453.24
\$1,725,000	\$1,700,000	0.99	2453 ST DAVIDS ISLAND CT	2,950	2013	Private	3	3	0	47	10/09/2025	\$584.75	\$576.27

CONDOS

List Price	Sold Price	SP/LP Ratio	Address	HTD	Built	Pool	BE	FB	HB	CDOM	Sold Date	LP/SqFt	SP/SqFt
\$139,500	\$139,500	1.00	2801 MAGDALINA DR Unit#1A	999	1980	None	2	2	0	43	10/29/2025	\$139.64	\$139.64
\$179,000	\$179,000	1.00	311 GARVIN ST Unit#309A	1,114	1973	None	2	2	0	1	10/31/2025	\$160.68	\$160.68
\$184,900	\$155,000	0.84	1344 ROCK DOVE CT Unit#D102	1,282	1986	Community	2	2	0	180	10/01/2025	\$144.23	\$120.90
\$195,000	\$160,000	0.82	255 W END DR Unit#3211	1,351	2003	Community	2	2	0	389	10/22/2025	\$144.34	\$118.43
\$195,000	\$175,000	0.90	255 W END DR Unit#2201	1,351	2004	Community	2	2	0	359	10/16/2025	\$144.34	\$129.53
\$255,000	\$247,500	0.97	1352 ROCK DOVE CT Unit#B204	1,282	1984	Community	2	2	0	344	10/24/2025	\$198.91	\$193.06
\$269,000	\$255,000	0.95	3920 BAL HARBOR BLVD Unit#E1	1,183	1988	Community	2	2	0	228	10/17/2025	\$227.39	\$215.55
\$299,900	\$250,000	0.83	1551 ATARES DR Unit#112	1,833	2007	Community	3	2	0	259	10/20/2025	\$163.61	\$136.39
\$319,900	\$290,000	0.91	601 SHREVE ST Unit#36C	1,394	1981	Community	2	2	0	128	10/08/2025	\$229.48	\$208.03
\$375,000	\$324,000	0.86	3340 WOOD THRUSH DR Unit#323	1,810	2007	Community	2	2	0	217	10/07/2025	\$207.18	\$179.01
\$380,000	\$380,000	1.00	1624 COMPASS POINTE CT Unit#201	1,912	2025	Community	4	3	0	6	10/14/2025	\$198.74	\$198.74
\$435,000	\$400,000	0.92	1410 PARK BEACH CIR Unit#113	2,104	2007	None	3	3	0	694	10/07/2025	\$206.75	\$190.11
\$475,900	\$450,000	0.95	87 VIVANTE BLVD Unit#8723	2,338	2006	Community	3	3	0	17	10/24/2025	\$203.55	\$192.47
\$529,000	\$495,000	0.94	3800 BAL HARBOR BLVD Unit#214	2,068	1994	Community	3	2	1	21	10/16/2025	\$255.80	\$239.36
\$550,000	\$530,000	0.96	3800 BAL HARBOR BLVD Unit#414	2,068	1993	Community	3	2	1	293	10/29/2025	\$265.96	\$256.29
\$625,000	\$593,000	0.95	1623 SEAHAVEN DR Unit#302	1,867	2025	Community	4	3	0	33	10/15/2025	\$334.76	\$317.62
\$715,000	\$715,000	1.00	1617 SEA HAVEN DR Unit#502	1,867	2025	Community	4	3	0	101	10/15/2025	\$382.97	\$382.97

****CLICK ON THE PLUS SIGN BELOW THIS PAGE TO ENLARGE THE PRINT****



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* Based on data supplied by the PuntaGorda-PortCharlotte-North Port MLS. Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.



This holiday season we are most thankful that we had no hurricanes this year. The Halloween festivities in the Punta Gorda historic district returned after a two year hiatus. The cold weather has begun to set in up north and Punta Gorda is getting busier as people return for the season. Have a happy holiday season everyone.

October and November in review:

In October members got together at Sandra's Restaurant for Oktoberfest. The men got together for lunch at Riviera Bar and Grill, and the following day the women met for lunch at Farlow's on the Bay. The general meeting was an Oktoberfest/Halloween party. The guest speaker was Jude Panetta from Team Rubicon.

Rubicon is a Veteran-led humanitarian organization. This was followed by ladies night out and Friday Night Bites in the same week. To round out the month FF&C had a dinner and darts tournament at the Ice House Pub. Happy hour was at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel. It was a very busy month. November was a fun month starting off with Breakfast Belles at Toulas's Greek Restaurant, a new ladies breakfast event. Members had a dine-around and enjoyed Indian food at Curry and Kabob in Port Charlotte. The club had a happy hour at Ortigia Cucina, an open air venue with wonderful Italian food, and live music several days a week. The monthly meeting was Friendsgiving. Dinner was catered by Bob Evans Restaurant. Men met for lunch at Donato's in Port Charlotte. Toward the end of the month the ladies got together for lunch at Leroy's and then a night of games at the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association. The month finished with Friday Night Bites hosted in various members homes and happy hour at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel.



Breakfast Belles at Toulas's



Happy Hour at Four Points



Lunch at Donato's

December events planned:

December 1 - Breakfast Belles ladies breakfast at Elena's Restaurant

December 14 - FF&C Holiday party at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club

December 17 - FF&C Ladies lunch at Ginger Dim Sum

December 18 - FF&C Men's lunch at Chubby's Grill & Tavern

December 18 - FF&C Out & About Trivia at Sunseeker Resort

December 26 - Friday Night Bites, a small cocktail party hosted at various member's homes

December 30 - Happy hour at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel

December 31 - Special event - New Year's Eve Annual Conch Blow

PLEASE NOTE: The trivia event at Sunseeker Resort appears in three places on the calendar as of November 19. The correct date is December 18.

There is always something to see and/or do for FF&C members. Pay attention to the email reminders and be sure to use the website calendar to sign up. Remember, the reservation slots fill up quickly. Reservation cancellations are available up to 24 hours in advance directly on the calendar. For cancels inside the 24-hour window please reach out to Social Director Barb Endrey at bendrey@comcast.net or 610-420-1685, so others on the waitlist can be accommodated. As always, if you have a recommendation for a new restaurant to try or venue to checkout please contact Barb. If you're outside of the club looking in and would like to join us for Friends, Fun and Community, please contact Membership Director Linda McMeans at lhmcmeans@aol.com, or President Bill Cary a wiff57@yahoo.com for membership information.



Ortigia

To wrap up 2025 we are featuring our favorite guest artist Diane Zully. She is invited to share a technique, show some of her beautiful work and demonstrate ideas and discuss our work. You may recognize her from the Saturday Farmers Market downtown as she sold her work and painted there to attract buyers and give them a chance to meet the artist when they bought a painting.

I asked if I could include an article about her for Tag Team Artists and she agreed. She says she has always been a crafter, thanks to her mom who engaged all five girls in her many projects. As a professional artist, her mom worked her way through college doing artwork for Macy's. She is sure that is where her love of art began. Diane took several art and sculpture classes in college and some painting through the years but only as a hobby. Her first formal training was with our mentor, Mary Taglieri in 2013. She encouraged Diane to sell her paintings at the farmer's market which she did for eight years.

Diane and her husband Tom purchased their original home in 2003, based on the commute to Naples where her mother lived at the time. They loved the area and left Long Island to retire in 2013 after 35 years. Tom was a chef and Diane was a chiropractor and the move gave them the opportunity to get serious about their artwork and be close to her mother.

She has filled Mary's shoes in a sense by encouraging us to paint and for each of us to reach our unique potential. She teaches us with her insight and passes along Mary's techniques to us and other artists while we collectively learn from each other and expand our abilities. We are lucky to benefit from her visits, her wisdom and experience as a selling professional artist. Here is some of Diane Zully's work.



Cypress Swamp



Egret Flight



Palm Tree



Florida Marsh

ANNOUNCEMENTS / FOR SALE / WANTED

ARE YOU CONSIDERING AN ESTATE SALE ~ Reduce stress, save time, make some money and help the PGICA. The volunteer club, Isles Girls and Guys, will plan, organize, price, conduct the sale, and help with disposition of leftover items. All for a tax-deductible donation of 25% to the PGICA. Call Tom Teubert at 201-960-5340.

TOY GARAGE FOR LEASE ~ I have available a 24'x52', all concrete, cooled and gated, \$1800.00/mo. Also have a 12'x52' all concrete, cooled and gated, \$900.00/mo. Both great for collector cars, boats and motor homes. Both available immediately. Off of Taylor St. Call Tom at 763-286-6868 or Tom@TJBhomes.com.

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Our league play is in full swing. This is a busy time with tennis and holiday events. We have three men's teams this season. An A2 team, a B3 team and a new B73 team. Our women's teams are at the 3.0 and 3.5 levels. Reach out if you're interested in joining a team, and we'll put you in touch with the respective captain. In addition to league play, there are open times when members can reserve the courts for use outside of already scheduled play. For beginners or those returning to the sport after a period of absence, PGICA offers a new series of classes.

The purpose of our tennis club is to create and foster good fellowship among our members through the playing of tennis and other social activities. During our winter season, our club organizes tennis socials each month. After some social mixed doubles, lunch or dinner is provided by the club. Our club relies on members to actively maintain our court amenities, such as securing the net curtains between each court and collecting all the balls when done using the ball machine.

Most members join one of our organized league teams, which play from November through March. We have several men's and women's teams playing at different levels. If you have never played an official league match but are interested, our teams can help you get ready with strategies for some competitive tennis. Our club also has a ball machine that members can use to practice their skills. Throughout the calendar year, we have weekly designated social times when members can show up to play with others. Additionally, there are many opportunities to reserve open court times for organized play by members.

Our tennis courts are on display next to the PGICA building. Dues from tennis club members fully support the upkeep of the courts. Our members pay \$75 for annual dues. There is an additional one-time \$100 fee for new memberships. All club members must also join the PGICA, as is the case with all the wonderful clubs the association offers. From the PGICA website, you can check out our Tennis Club website for more details.

Our 2025 slate of officers for the Tennis Club are: President Jackie Rahsaz, Vice President Tony Rahsaz, Treasurer Janet Lynn, Secretary Janelle Anthone, Social Director Mitzie Kohrman, Webmaster Bill Hogue, Immediate Past President Mitzie Kohrman, and President Emeritus Dick Shelton

Thank you to our members who help keep our club going.

GOVERNMENT UPDATE

Kay Abbs, 941-979-6667, bnkabbs@yahoo.com

Punta Gorda City Council has been busy. By a majority vote, Dr. Debi Lux was elected mayor and Jeanine Polk was elected as vice mayor.

I was able to interview Councilmember Janis Denton and she reported, "We have replaced the roof on City Hall to keep it from ongoing damage. It has been leaking since 2020. The council chambers are being restored. We are working on a plan for the old City Hall, saving money by using Lashley Community building instead of the \$4,500 a month at the museum. We are working out a plan for the marina and just had an Public Workshop to get input from residents and interested businesses. Harbor Walk should be open before the end of the year. The area around the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center is usable, but they say it's going to take a long time to fix the actual walk railings. Pickleball courts are finally out for bid for restoration. Gilchrist Park restrooms will be open hopefully by the end of the month. Offices were successfully moved from Towles Plaza to the City Hall Annex and the Herald Court building which will save a lot of money in rent. We have restored Herald Court and prepared for future possible storms with Tiger Dams and clearing out drainage. We are thankful to the residents who responded to our requests for input for Bayfront at Gilchrist Park. We are working on a plan for Bayfront which should benefit the community. We have a hospital emergency center being built and later a hospital will be added. We're working with the Waterfront Hotel people. Also working with Fishermen's Village to approve a sustainable and appropriate plan. We have new restaurants both in Fishermen's Village and downtown that are coming..that's just part of what we have been up to lately."



Vice Mayor Jeanine Polk is looking towards "solving the infrastructure needs that have been ignored for a long time, which brings us to the costly repairs and upgrades. The water treatment plant, the wastewater treatment plant and expansion are all past due so now we find ourselves in an emergency situation."

Council just approved a contract for much needed repairs to the Freeman House. Council worked with T.J. Thornberry and local builders group (CDBIA) that will replace the roof and do the basic repairs for less than one fourth of a previous price.

Anyone who was following Florida State law SB250 that declared Land Development Regulations to be null and void if they were 'more restrictive or burdensome' should read new State Law SB180 that extends the deadline for changing LDRs until October 1, 2027. The newly passed SB180 allows any person to sue the city if they believe new LDRs to be more restrictive or burdensome.

The next City Council meeting will be December 3 at 9 in the Lashley Community Room, 120 Lashley Court.

Enjoy the holidays.



Holiday safety tips from the Punta Gorda Police Department

The holidays are a time for joy and giving, but unfortunately, they can also create ideal conditions for criminals. Shoppers rushing around, stressing to find the perfect gifts, leaving purchased gifts in vehicles, and people traveling or away from home for holiday events can also fill criminals with holiday cheer. Additionally, holiday parties often lead to an increase in drinking and driving.

To help ensure everyone has a safe and joyful holiday season, the Punta Gorda Police Department will increase holiday patrols throughout December. This will include more police presence downtown and in shopping districts, as well as dedicated DUI patrols. Here are some steps you can take to stay safe and avoid becoming a victim this holiday season.

When you are shopping:

- Stay alert and be aware of your surroundings.
- Park in well-lit areas, making sure that gifts and valuables are out of sight and your vehicle doors are locked.
- If shopping with children, make sure they have been taught to seek out a store clerk, security guard or police officer should they become separated from you.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash when shopping. Pay with credit cards or checks when possible.

When you are away from home:

- Get an automatic timer for your lights.
- Have your mail and newspaper delivery stopped while you're away.
- Ask a neighbor to watch for unexpected packages, flyers and more. Leaving items outside your home for a long time signals to criminals that your house is vacant.
- Be careful about what you post on social media and who can see it. Criminals have become very savvy in using social media. Posting information or photos about your travel plans can inform criminals that your home is unoccupied.

When you are out for the evening:

- Make sure that doors and windows are closed and locked.
- Leave lights and a TV turned on so it appears that someone is still home.
- Keep gifts and valuables where they cannot be seen through windows or make sure that window coverings are closed.
- If you may be drinking alcohol while you are out, designate a sober driver, plan on calling a taxi, or utilize a ride-share service. Never drive when you are intoxicated; even buzzed driving is drunk driving.

Other safety tips:

- The holidays are a prime time for package thefts. Have packages delivered to a secured location, like your workplace, a neighbor's, or a family member's house. You can also ask the post office to hold your packages until you're able to pick them up.
- After opening gifts, avoid advertising valuables in your home by displaying packages for TVs, computers or other expensive items. Instead, break down boxes and packaging and dispose of them in garbage bags or cans.
- Criminals often target people's kindness during the holiday season by asking for charitable donations door-to-door, over the phone or online. Only donate to legitimate charitable organizations you trust.

We hope everyone has a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season!



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Left to Right: Nicole S. Peet, Forrest J. Bass, Dorothy L. Korszen, Guy S. Emerich, Brett H. Sifrit, and Braden H. Sharrer



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