

PUNTA GORDA ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The **Commentator**

June 2026



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Golf Scramble
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Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association
2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda


info@pgica.org
PGICA.org


NEED MORE INFO? CALL: 941-637-1655



Diamond Jubilee Trivia Night



Proceeds to Benefit the PGICA and Our Residents

Thursday, June 18 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
\$10 Per Person.
Teams of 2-6 Welcome! 
BYOB & Snacks.

Win Prizes  50/50 Raffle

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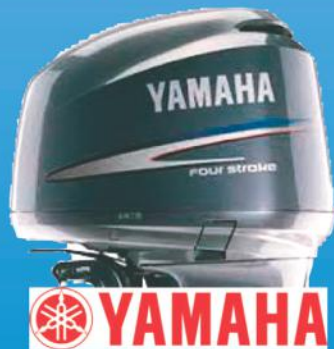
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Office Hours: Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Commentator

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 “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 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 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.



Yoga: Tuesdays. June 2 through October 27. 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. Join us and explore the awareness of the mind/body connection to inspire good posture, better breathing, movement, balance and relaxation. Instructor: Linda Haverlock. Students 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.



Beginner Line Dancing: Wednesdays Starting April 15 until October 28. 3 to 4 p.m. \$10 per class. This class will be beginner level line dancing to a variety of musical rhythms. You will be enhancing your physical and mental health as well as enjoying socializing with other dancers. Instructor: Vera Hendricks. Students 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.



Learn to Love Tennis: Wednesdays, July 8, 15 and 22, and 29. August 5 and 12. 5:30 to 7 p.m. \$90 per six week session. This instruction is geared toward people who have never played tennis and for those re-starting. Requirements: Athletic shoes, racquet preferred, loaners available. PTR Certified Instructor: Leigh Chak. Students will receive a USTA Love to Learn shirt. Students 18+ can register. Advanced 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.

ART and MUSIC



Paper Quilling: Friday. June 26. 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. 2026 June 26 - Patriotic Flowers. 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.

WORKSHOPS



An Exploration into Brain Functioning: Fridays. June 5, 12, and 19. 10 to 11 a.m. Free workshop. This is an opportunity to learn from a Neuropsychologist the relationship between brain functioning and behavior. You will explore how the brain is organized, touching on issues such as mental illness and brain organization, the aging brain and how male and female brains differ. Instructor: Dr. Robin Gofberg PhD, Clinical Neuropsychologist. Attendees can register online at www.pgica.org or at the PGICA office: 2001 Shreve St, Punta Gorda. 941-637-1655. All PGICA classes are open to the public.



Candle Canvas Workshop: Wednesdays, June 10 and 24. 4 to 5 p.m. \$35 per class. Have you wanted to know how they carve and paint candles so beautifully? We have a class where you can learn how they do this. Your Instructor, Jennifer Gosnell, will help you create beautiful pieces of art. **June's class is a Hermit Crab!!** Advance registration is 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.

PGICA tennis courts are located right next to the main building. We have three hard courts with shade structures, benches and a water fountain. They are fenced in and locked and only members get the gate code. The club keeps them in great shape.

The ball machine is located on the court for easy access. After training you will receive a code for the storage structure and access to the reservation system. It is a great workout and an easy way to groove your strokes.

Our teams are actively recruiting for next season, which starts in October and runs until the end of March 2027. Come out and join the guys during the men’s social play on Thursdays at 8 and Sundays at 10. Women’s social play days are Monday at 8 and Friday at 8. Social times are open to any club member, and all skill levels are welcome. Once you join the club, just show up at the courts and enjoy some tennis. Play with some of the current members and they will connect you to the right team for competition.

Club members also get the gate code access, court scheduler and use of the ball machine on top of the social and team play opportunities.

Membership dues keep our courts in great shape. It’s \$75 a year, plus a one-time \$100 fee for new members. Everyone who joins also needs to be a PGICA member, just like with all the other clubs. Want more info? Check out our Tennis Club page on the PGICA website.

2026 officers: President Jackie Rahsaz, Vice President Tony Rahsaz, Treasurer Janet Lynn, Secretary Janelle Anthonie, Social Director Mitzie Kohrman, Webmaster Bill Hogue.



PGICA Ball Machine



Shade structures



Tennis meeting space



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As we are now half done with 2026, I would like to share with you some of the statistics for the first half estate sales. Thank you for making this a great year. We booked nine sales for first and second quarter 2026 and had one cancelled.



YTD donation to PGICA: \$13,505.00
 YTD volunteer hours worked: 2,957
 YTD customer count: 3,384



Just an update on the summer hiatus. We will not have any sales between June 1 and October 1. If you think you might want to have an estate sale, do not wait, please call Tom Teubert at 201-960-5340 or Karen Schwarck at 941-276-8593 so we



can get you on the calendar. We will come out to your home and preview your home. 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.



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.

As you can see from the attached pictures we work hard but also have a good time. Have a blessed, happy and safe summer.

Tom Teubert 201-960-5340 tb2@att.net
 Karen Schwarck 941-276-8593 tkschwarck@centurylink.net



ISLES GIRLS & GUYS
 -Estate Sales-

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
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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.

Estate Planning Fundamentals - *Select Tuesdays, 10 - 11:30 a.m.*

Discover the key elements of a solid plan to protect you and your heirs. Review essential documents, including a last will and testament, pour-over will, durable power of attorney, health care directives, and a revocable living trust. Gain practical tips to help ensure your affairs are in good order.

- **July 21*** - Murdock branch, 1100 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
- **July 28** - Punta Gorda branch, 2331 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda

Building a Better Estate and Financial Plan - *Select Wednesdays, 10 - 11:30 a.m.*

Benefit from decades of estate and financial planning experience to help you apply best practices to your own plans. Hear options to consider when selecting the right administrators, choosing appropriate investments, controlling expenses, structuring beneficiary designations, titling accounts properly, and transferring wealth more effectively.

- **July 22*** - Murdock branch, 1100 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
- **July 29** - Punta Gorda branch, 2331 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda

Avoiding Estate and Investment Pitfalls - *Select Thursdays, 10 - 11:30 a.m.*

Prepare for the challenges families face during incapacity or the loss of a loved one. Identify and learn how to avoid 10 common estate and investment pitfalls, including poor investment selection, improper use of wills or trusts, and inefficient tax planning.

- **July 23*** - Murdock branch, 1100 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
- **July 30** - Punta Gorda branch, 2331 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda

***Seminars on July 21, 22, and 23 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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9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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\$10
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*Per document signature.



Contact the PGICA office to
schedule an appointment:
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**SCHEDULE
APPOINTMENT**

 Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association
2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda

 info@pgica.org

 PGICA.org

NEED MORE INFO? CALL:
 **941-637-1655**



Saturday, October 3, 2026

Hosted by the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association (PGICA), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

For Golfers

All Welcome—teams, couples and singles—We will pair you up.

- Four-Person Scramble
- 18 Holes of Golf
- Cart & Range Time
- Team Photo
- Longest Drive Contest
- Straightest Drive Contest
- Closest-to-the-Pin Contest
- \$10,000 Hole-in-One Challenge
- Continental Breakfast and Lunch
- Opportunity to participate in a Putting Contest; buy Mulligans, tickets for our raffles & silent auctions
- Pre-Tournament VIP Reception at the PGICA on Friday, October 2, 2026 from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm
- Guaranteed spot in next year's tournament
- Membership in the PGICA at a discounted rate



Landsberg Bennett

Join us and our *2026 Diamond Jubilee Anniversary Sponsor* Landsberg Bennett for our inaugural Punta Gorda Isles Community Golf Outing as we celebrate 60 years of service to the community.

Golf the beautiful St Andrews South championship Golf Club in Punta Gorda Isles and enjoy a fun day with contests, raffles, prizes and much more.

Golfers are invited to a complimentary pre-tournament VIP Reception on Friday, Oct 2. All proceeds to benefit the PGICA and residents of our community.

\$125 per golfer / \$100 PGICA Members

7:00-8:30 Registration, Breakfast & Putting Contest

8:30 Shotgun Start



2001 Shreve St
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

For more information or to register as a golfer or sponsor, go to www.pgicagolf.com, scan QR Code or call 941-637-1665.

Sponsorship Opportunities



TITLE SPONSOR: \$4,000 — Be the Face of the Tournament

Entry of 8 golfers, exclusive sponsor banner at event check-in, Sponsor Plaque, Title status & logo featured on all tournament ads, website, emails & social media, complimentary 2 Hole and 2 Golf Cart Sponsorships, full-page ad in our Tournament Program, Pre-Tournament VIP Reception at the PGICA on Friday, October 2, 2026 from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm, opportunity to speak at our Luncheon and VIP Reception, 3 months full-page ad in our monthly magazine, *The Commentator*, with distribution to over 3,000 members.

VIP RECEPTION SPONSOR - \$2,500

Entry of 4 golfers, exclusive VIP Reception Sponsor banner at VIP event, Sponsor Plaque, logo featured on all tournament ads, website, emails & social media, complimentary 2 Hole and 2 Golf Cart Sponsorships, Full-page ad in our Tournament Program, Pre-Tournament VIP Reception at the PGICA on Friday, October 2, 2026 from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm, Opportunity to speak at our VIP Reception, 3 months 1/2 page ad in our monthly magazine, *The Commentator*, with distribution to over 3,000 members.

EAGLE SPONSORS: \$2,000

Entry of 4 golfers, Sponsor Plaque, logo featured on all tournament ads, website, emails & social media, complimentary Hole and Golf Cart Sponsorships, half-page ad in our Tournament Program, Pre-Tournament VIP Reception at the PGICA on Friday, October 2, 2026 from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm, recognition at our Luncheon and VIP Reception, 3 months 1/4 page ad in our monthly magazine, *The Commentator*, with distribution to over 3,000 members.

BIRDIE SPONSORS: \$1,000

Entry of 2 golfers, Sponsor Plaque, logo featured on all tournament ads, website, emails & social media, quarter-page ad in our Tournament Program, Pre-Tournament VIP Reception at the PGICA on Friday, October 2, 2026 from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm, recognition at our Luncheon and VIP Reception, 3 months 1/4 page ad in our monthly magazine, *The Commentator*, with distribution to over 3,000 members.

PAR SPONSORS: \$500

Entry of 1 golfer, Sponsor Plaque, Logo featured on all tournament ads, website, emails & social media, quarter-page ad in our Tournament Program, Pre-Tournament VIP Reception at the PGICA on Friday, October 2, 2026 from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm, recognition at our Luncheon and VIP Reception, 3 months 1/8 page ad in our monthly magazine, *The Commentator*, with distribution to over 3,000 members.

HOLE-IN-ONE CONTEST SPONSOR: \$400

Company logo/name on sign at holes for the Hole-In-One contests.

CONTEST SPONSORS: \$250

Company logo/name on signs at holes with contests for Longest Drive, Straightest Drive, Closest to the Pin and the Putting Contests.

HOLE SPONSORS : \$100

Company logo/name on signs at a specific hole.

GOLF CART SPONSORS: \$75

Company logo/name on signs on a golf cart.

FRIENDS OF THE PGICA — Make a tax deductible donation in your name or in the memory of a loved one. Recognition on website. Make a donation of \$100 or more and receive a Complimentary Invite to our Pre-Tournament *VIP Reception* at the PGICA on Friday, October 2, 2026 from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm.



As a sponsor, you will be among friends and clients who support our cause,

For more information or to register as a golfer or sponsor, go to www.pgicagolf.com, scan the QR Code or call 941-637-1665.



Summer is really here, and we have the temperatures and lighter traffic to prove it.

We had a busy May schedule with something to do most every week. The Mix & Mingle on May 4 at the Wyvern rooftop was hastily and graciously moved by management to the 88 Keys Restaurant downstairs, since the lovebugs insisted on joining the crowd. We missed the lovely views, but the service was great, the

people friendly and the conversations enjoyable. Ladies Night Out on May 12 at the Unwined Wine Bar and Eatery was a sparkling success. Thank you Kerry Foscardo. Bite Night hosted on May 16 was a full house. Thank you Bob and Marie Knabe for sharing your home. Thanks to Brenda Weimer, the competition and fun never ends at Dinner and Darts each month. See some



Ladies night at the Unwined & Beer Bar

of our winners in the pics. The ladies' lunch at the Islands Restaurant in Fishermen's Village on May 19, coordinated by Kathy Leitsch was enjoyed by all. Then JFFers went on to Tamiami Tavern for our monthly Dine Around on May 22. Thanks to Linda Porten and Marie Knabe for an enjoyable dinner. Host and Toast was a TBA event, waiting for a volunteer to coordinate the evening. Remember, the host decides how many people to invite, depending on house size. This can be a small or large group, formal or casual, fun themes or not, just give it a try. Club members really appreciate all the effort each host makes. Cheddars Scratch Kitchen, a new try for Men's Lunch will be reviewed next month since it was scheduled before publication date.

Our June calendar is not quite as full, since many members are up north or on vacations. However, for us full-timers, planned activities continue for us to enjoy. June 1 Mix & Mingle will be a last-minute signup. Watch for an announcement on Flamingo Express. Mah jongg continues two times a week throughout the summer at the PGICA. Check out the JFF calendar for times and information. Summer may be the perfect time to learn this popular game. Sign up for Ladies' Lunch, scheduled at Gina's Pizza Bar in Port Charlotte on June 16. What a cool place to spend a hot afternoon. Thanks to Sophie Bierker and Daniel Osborne for volunteering to host Bite Night on June 20. Sign up and then show up at 5:30 with your food contribution at 1218 Partridge Dr. You will be glad you did.

Volunteers are needed for two of our late June activities. There is still time to get these events scheduled. Just go to the JFF calendar. Look up June 23 (Men's Lunch) and June 28 (Host & Toast), contact the event coordinator and let him/her know you would like to host. Summer is a suitable time to volunteer as everything is so casual.

It's June - stay cool, stay hydrated and thank the powers that be for air conditioning.



May Mix & Mingle



April ladies lunch at St. Andrews



Dart Night winners



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

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. Contact information is shown above.

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

We play Duplicate Bridge on the first and third Monday of every month at 1. At sign in we collect \$1 for prize money. You and your partner must sign up in advance to play on a specific day. A signup email is sent out a week in advance. We are a fun, welcoming group and are always looking for new players.

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

Remember, all players are required to be members of the PGICA. To join, call the front desk at 941-637-1655 or visit the association's website at www.pgica.org.

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**

Results May 6:

1. John Cravens and Frans van Hekken - 4,200 points
2. Christine Kwak and Marcia Ling - 3,463 points
3. Melissa Brown and Jeanne Hogan - 3,100 points

No slams this week.

Couples' Bridge is taking the summer off and will resume in the fall. Stay tuned for updates. However, if you would like any information about our group, please feel free to email either one of us. Our fun and friendly group usually meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 12:30. 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, having not played in years, we would love to have you join us. If you need a partner, we can help you find someone.

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.

THURSDAY EUCHRE CARD GROUP*Marcia Ellis, 269-760-2582, marcia.ellis@wmich.edu*

We will be starting back up again in November. Anyone interested in playing for fun is welcome. Bring a snack to share and the beverage of your choice for yourself. We begin at 6:30 and play eight games of eight rounds each. See you all next fall.

CANASTA/HAND AND FOOT GROUP*Janet Lynn, jlynnpji@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*

Consider joining us for cards. 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: 679

Dolores Jaskoviak

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.

**PGICA Beautification Group***Julie Towers, julitowers@live.com*

The newly formed PGICA Beautification Group held its first meeting to outline plans for improving the five welcome signs. These signs have been maintained over the years by various volunteers, but it's time for a more coordinated and consistent approach.

Our plan is straightforward: clean, refresh and enhance each sign area with updated landscaping, improving visibility and a cohesive look that reflects the pride we have in our community. Work will be done in phases, tackling one sign at a time so residents can see steady progress.

Stay tuned - we think you'll like the results. If you are interested in helping, contact Julie Towers at julitowers@live.com.





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Bruce Vinion

be a volunteer



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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!

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- 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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PROCLAMATION
City of Punta Gorda

WHEREAS, the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association (PGICA) was incorporated in 1966 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit with the mission to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Punta Gorda and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, for six decades, the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life of residents by serving as the government liaison; community representatives; and the social and educational center for residents of our community; and

WHEREAS, this dedication has resulted in over 20 organizational Clubs and Groups who offer a variety of recreational and educational programs, classes and events to its members and the general public, in addition to supporting various charities and other non-profits in our community through the generosity and hard work of its members; and

WHEREAS, leadership and members of the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association have demonstrated outstanding dedication, professionalism, and community spirit, making Punta Gorda Isles and the City of Punta Gorda a better place for all residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida does hereby proclaim 2026 to be the year of

**Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association's
Diamond Jubilee Anniversary**

in recognition of their sixty years of dedicated service and commitment to the enrichment of our community and urges all citizens to join in celebrating this significant milestone and expressing profound gratitude for their enduring legacy.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 22nd day of April 2026.

CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA


Dr. Deborah O. Lux, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sara Welch, City Clerk



The PGI Castaways have spent the past month doing what they do best, bringing people together through food, music, laughter and community spirit. From waterfront gatherings to fundraisers and one unforgettable pig roast, May proved once again that the Castaways are quickly becoming one of the most active and energetic social groups in PGI.

The month kicked off with a festive Cinco de Mayo celebration at Ponce de Leon Park. Members gathered along the river for an afternoon of sunshine, tacos, cornhole and great company. Cesar's Taco Truck kept everyone well fed while members relaxed under tents and chairs spread throughout the park. The laid-back atmosphere and waterfront setting made it the perfect way to welcome May and spend time with both old friends and new neighbors.

Just a few days later, the Castaways hosted one of the club's largest events yet, the pig roast at Ponce de Leon Park. From early morning preparations to the final song played by live band Tin Can Tourist, the event showcased exactly what makes this club special.

The centerpiece of the event was of course, the pig itself. Slow roasted Caja China style and expertly carved by Michael Meagher. Members contributed a tremendous variety of appetizers, side dishes and desserts that turned the event into a true community feast. Cornhole games continued throughout the afternoon while live music filled the park and a steady breeze off the river provided welcome relief from the May heat.

The pig roast was more than just a party. It was another example of the strong volunteer spirit that continues defining the Castaways. Members stepped forward to help with setup, breakdown, transportation, hosting, cooking, organizing and cleanup. The success of the event truly belonged to everyone who participated.

The club also focused on giving back to the community this month through its Music Bingo fundraiser benefiting the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association. The event welcomed PGICA members, guests and the public for an evening of music, prizes and friendly competition.



Pig roast



Bingo

Hosted by DJ Tim, the event featured four rounds of Music Bingo with hundreds of dollars in prizes awarded throughout the evening. One of the highlights of the night came when Barb and Ken Kopka both won the same round. The ever-popular 50/50 raffle generated tremendous excitement, and by the end of the evening, the Castaways had raised almost \$800 for PGICA after expenses.

The fundraiser reflected the club's appreciation for the organization that provides so many opportunities, facilities and events benefiting the community. Supporting PGICA remains an important priority for the Castaways as the club continues to grow.

Members also participated in a volunteer give-back day at the Harry Chapin Food Bank, helping sort and organize food for families in need throughout Southwest Florida. The event gave members another

opportunity to spend time together while supporting an important community resource that assists thousands of local residents each year.

In addition to these larger gatherings, members also continued connecting through happy hours, smaller social outings, and ongoing planning for future events. Summer activities are already in development, including



Harry Chapin Food Bank volunteers



Pinata

smaller neighborhood-style pool gatherings designed to keep members social and connected throughout the warmer months.

As the Castaways head into summer, one thing has become very clear - this club is about far more than simply attending events. It is about participation, friendships, volunteerism and creating a true sense of community throughout PGI.



The Punta Gorda Police Department has a five-person Underwater Search and Recovery team. The team’s focus is recovery, not rescue, as most people envision. Underwater search and recovery is among the most dangerous types of diving. Underwater entanglements and typically zero visibility leave divers vulnerable during searches and recovery operations.

Search and recovery techniques depend on the type and size of the object. The limit is set at about 15 pounds that a diver can bring to the surface unassisted. Anything heavier represents a material change in the diver’s buoyancy control and may put the diver at risk of an uncontrolled ascent if contact with the object is lost during ascent. Significantly larger objects usually require specialized commercial lifting equipment, such as a winch attached to a boat or platform, or equipment to seal and inflate sunken vessels. Most common in our area are submerged vehicles.

Members of the Punta Gorda Police Department dive team train quarterly. Members typically train in the environment where they will be asked to conduct search and recovery operations. During training, members are put through strenuous exercises to ensure they can handle a crisis while underwater.

Recently, the Punta Gorda Police Department’s dive team and the Punta Gorda Fire Department joined forces to compete in the fourth annual first responder dive team challenge. Teams from across the country, including Minnesota and Connecticut competed in the challenge. Blending surface and underwater challenges, this intense competition pushed participants to their limits, testing skill, teamwork and endurance. This was Punta Gorda’s first time in this event, yet they still came away with a top-ten finish. Each event was ranked separately, and in their final, most physically demanding challenge, they were just seconds away from coming in third in that event!



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Warm greetings from the Seafarers Cruising Club. With temperatures rising, summer is just around the corner and Seafarers and friends are planning more cruises and social events to enjoy the beautiful weather.

The following are a few standout Seafarers activities members enjoyed in May.

On May 8, Seafarers Commodore Jeanne Myers led a lunch cruise to Nav-A-Gator Bar and Grill at Desoto Marina on the Peace River, where 40 members filled the outdoor patio area to enjoy a great lunch, live music and an afternoon of socializing. At a recent social hour, Vice Commodore Ron Ellsworth introduced Debbie Hanson, Community Outreach Director for the Freedom Waters Foundation, a volunteer-driven nonprofit organization. Debbie explained that the Freedom Waters Foundation's mission was to enhance the well-being of children and adults with disabilities and veterans through therapeutic boating experiences. Debbie shared engaging volunteer opportunities for Seafarers members to support the foundation's mission, and her remarks were well received.

Wrapping up May's cruising activities, Sharon Long led a lunch cruise to the Riviera Bar and Grill on May 20, drawing a large turnout of Seafarers. Attendees enjoyed a pleasant afternoon and the excellent cuisine at Riviera Bar and Grill.

The Seafarers will be looking forward to cruising and participating in social activities during the month of June to supplement their busy summer calendar. Cruise Director Kathy Nelson has scheduled an overnight cruise to 'Tween Waters Inn and Marina on beautiful Captiva Island. Leading this cruise is Debbie Lemmink for the weekend of June 19 to 21. This favorite Seafarers destination captures the charm of

Captiva Island, where members can relax by the pool, enjoy kayaking and explore the island together by golf cart. On the first evening after arriving and their boats are secured in the marina, the Seafarers come together for docktails and a selection of hors d'oeuvres shared by everyone. The next day, following a variety of recreational activities, the group heads to the Shipyard for a delicious dinner and a relaxing evening.

The Seafarers general meeting will be held on June 23 at the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, where pizza will be served and board members will share updates on club business and upcoming events.

The Seafarers look forward to making new friends and sharing our adventures with you. Membership Director Lisa Wienecke is looking forward to greeting prospective members with a warm welcome aboard! The Seafarers club is a friendly, inclusive and active group. We are committed to providing a variety of day and overnight boating adventures as well as numerous fun-filled land-based activities.

We encourage you 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 and fourth Thursdays each month. As a friendly reminder, please add June 11 and 25 to your calendar and jump aboard one of our social events so you can meet our members and learn about all the fun we have together. There is no obligation - just stop by the 50/50 table in the foyer to let our greeting team know you are a new visitor interested in the Seafarers.

We are eager to welcome new members who wish to join our many fun adventures and make lasting friendships along the way. For more information, please contact Membership Director Lisa Wienecke at 630-715-6333 or lawienecke@gmail.com or Jeanne Myers at Jeanne.myers@icloud.com.



Lunch cruise to Nav-a-Gator



Cass Cay lunch cruise



Happy Hour



Happy Hour



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 June 9. Look for a reminder email a couple days before. The club will continue to offer educational presentations during or in addition to our monthly meetings.

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 June 16 at 8. Look for us at the Bal Harbor side of the parking lot. The Celtic Ray hosts a car show every second Thursday from 3 to 5. They offer discounts on food and drink for participants. It's a great way to spend an afternoon. The PGICC also participates in the Punta Gorda History Park Sunday Market at 501 Shreve Street. Join us on the third Sunday of each month (June 23) as we showcase some of our members' special vehicles.



In May, the club traveled to Cabbage Key aboard one of King Fisher Fleet's sightseeing cruise boats. Club members enjoyed a fantastic lunch and spotted lots of dolphins along the way.

This month, we highlight Linda and Norman Caparco's 1971 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, Margaret. Margaret was ordered by Norm's mom in 1971 and has been maintained, painted and upgraded over the last 54 years. A modified

455ci V8 is now paired with a four-speed overdrive transmission and 3.73 positraction differential. This is an old school muscle car and fun to drive. The shiny chrome bumpers and trim perfectly set off the deep black finish.

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 <https://pgicarclub.com/> or contact Wayne and Joan Erickson at mabax2@aol.com for membership information.



PGICA ACOUSTIC MUSIC GROUP

Jennifer deChiara, jenniferdechiara@gmail.com



A great aspect of the Acoustic Music Group is that there is an entry point for all members, regardless of skill level, musical preferences, even one's personal schedule. No one is keeping track of attendance - we are happy to see and hear anyone who comes to a Tuesday night meeting. There are regulars and newbies, year round residents and snowbirds, people who are comfortable singing and people who are not comfortable singing, veteran musicians and beginners. Regardless of who shows up on any given night, there is always good music and a fun time.

If you are thinking of joining this group but have some questions, please email our president, Terry Dotson at terrywdotson@gmail.com. Grab your guitar, choose your favorite song, and come join us.

SEASONAL FLOCKERS

Glenice Verhoff, glenicev@gmail.com and Danita Stone, astone4879@aol.com



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.



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Wednesday, June 17, 12:00 to 1:30 pm
 Educational Workshop Medicare 101 (light snacks provided)

Thursday, June 18, 5:30 to 7:30 pm
 TRIVIA FUN NIGHT

Friday, August 21, 8:30 to 2:30 pm
 Blood Drive

Friday, September 25, 4:00 to 7:00 pm
 Tag Team Artist Diamond Jubilee Show

**** Saturday, October 3, 7:00 am to 2:00 pm ****
 1st Annual Punta Gorda Isles Community Golf Tournament
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June Activities

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 12:00p Duplicate Bridge	2 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Yoga 11:30a Newcomers Club- Lunch & Learn 12:15p Pinochle 6:30p Bunco Buddies 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	9:30a In Stitches 1:00p PGIsland Beginner with Vera
7	8 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 5:00p Friends, Fun & Community 7:00p Texas Hold'em	9 8:30a Fishing Club Board Meeting 8:30a Zumba 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Yoga 12:15p Pinochle 5:30p Fishing Club 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	9:00a PGICA B 9:30a In Stitches 12:30p Duplicate 1:00p PGIsland Beginner with Vera 4:00p Candle C 4:30p Workshop PGIsland
14	15 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 12:00p Duplicate Bridge 3:30p Friends, Fun, & Community Club Board Meeting 7:00p Aardvarks Outdoor Group	16 8:30a Zumba 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Yoga 12:15p Pinochle 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	9:00a Beyond 9:30 In Stitches 12:00p MEDICAL Education 1:00p PGIsland Beginner with Vera 3:00p Just For
21	22 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Mariners Board Meeting 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 6:30p Mariners 7:00p Texas Hold'em	23 8:30a Zumba 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Yoga 12:15p Pinochle 5:00p Seafarers 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	9:30a In Stitches 12:30p Duplicate 1:00p PGIsland Beginner with Vera 3:00p Candle C 4:00p Workshop 4:30p PGIsland 6:30p FF&C LA
28	29 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 5:00p Friends, Fun & Community	30 8:30a Zumba 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Yoga 12:15p Pinochle 3:00p Paradise Friends 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 es ers- Mahjongg Line Dancing	4 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Mah Jong 6:30p PGIslanders	5 10:00a An Exploration into Brain Function 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	6 5:30p Newcomers Special Events
10 Board Meeting es e Bridge ers- Mahjongg Line Dancing a Canvas p ers	11 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Mah Jong	12 8:30a Zumba 10:00a An Exploration into Brain Function 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	13
17 Ourselfes RE 101 nal Workshop ers- Mahjongg Line Dancing Fun Club	18 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Mah Jong 5:30p PGICA Diamond Jubilee Trivia Night	19 8:30a Zumba 10:00a An Exploration into Brain Function 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	20
24 s Bridge ers- Mahjongg Line Dancing a Canvas p ers dies Game Night	25 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:00a PGIslanders- Board Meeting 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Mah Jong 4:30p Newcomers Club	26 8:30a Zumba 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	27

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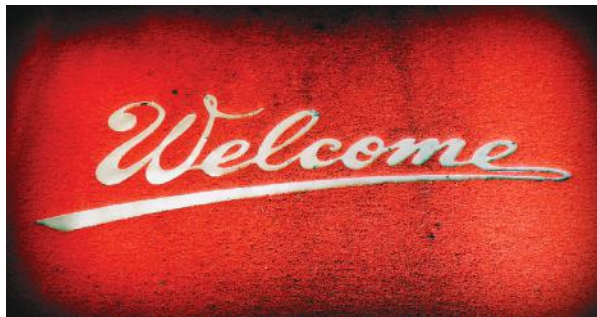


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Looking Ahead to July

CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 9:30a In Stitches 1:00p PGIslanders- Mahjongg 3:00p Beginner Line Dancing with Vera	2 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Mah Jong	3 8:30a Zumba 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge 3:00p PGIslanders	5:30p N E
5	6 8:45a Monday Morning Men's Social Bridge 9:30a Monday Morning Mahjongg 10:00a Tag Team - Artists 12:00p Duplicate Bridge 7:00p Aardvarks Outdoor Group	7 8:30a Zumba 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 10:00a Yoga 11:30a Newcomers Club- Lunch & Learn 12:15p Pinochle 6:30p Bunco Buddies 7:00p Acoustic Music Group	8 9:00a PGICA Board Meeting 9:30a In Stitches 12:30p Duplicate Bridge 1:00p PGIslanders- Mahjongg 3:00p Beginner Line Dancing with Vera 4:30p PGIslanders 5:30p Learn To Love Tennis	9 9:00a Chair-a-Cise 9:30a Just For Fun Mah Jongg 12:00p Hand & Foot Card/ Canasta Game 12:30p Mariners Mah Jong	10 8:30a Zumba 12:30p PGICA Friday Bridge	



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

Dawn & Stephen Dalziel
 Barbara & Richard Dickson
 Mary & Robert Gerling
 Kathleen Krichilsky
 Cheri & Francis Maloney
 Theresa & Joseph Mattis

April & Brian Olker
 Eve Marie & William Proscia
 Lisa & Robert Rees
 Paul Robbins
 Lori & George Sontag

Thank you to our New Member Reception Volunteers who helped make the reception look beautiful and a great success!

Julie Towers
 Tom Mills
 Gary Skillicorn
 Carol Moran-Brown
 Mike Owens

Thom Hunady
 Beth Watkins
 Gloria Post
 Michelle & Dave Mader

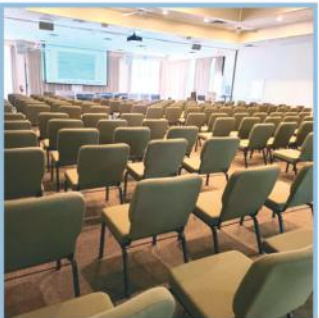
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- ✦ Substantial PGICA member discounts at more than 40 local shops and restaurants with the PGICA **Shop & Save Program**.
- ✦ Free use of the PGICA **Loaner Program** to borrow items including car seats, wheelchairs, life jackets, walkers, kids bikes, 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** 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 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.
- ✦ Free **Notary Public** services to notarize documents.
- ✦ Participate in the **Annual Arts & Crafts Fair, Annual Nautical Flea Market, and our Wednesday-Markets** with premium locations.
- ✦ Attend annual **Exclusive Member Parties**.
- ✦ Your annual dues of \$80 **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 3,000 members**, has existed for more than 60 years ... the PGICA.

Keep the PGICA venue in mind for your next special occasion...



Call for more information or to schedule a tour!

 2001 Shreve Street
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941-637-1655 pgica.org

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



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.

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
- ◆ Signage placement
- ◆ Directing traffic/traffic control
- ◆ Vendor assistance— parking, tables, electrical, etc.
- ◆ Traffic cone placement
- ◆ Trash can placement/emptying
- ◆ General safety
- ◆ 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 Alexa Rice at alexarice@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.





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JUST SOLD PGI APRIL 2026*

HOMES

List Price	Sold Price	SP/LP Ratio	Address	HTD	Built	Pool	BE	FB	HB	CDOM	Sold Date	LP/SqFt	SP/SqFt
\$399,900	\$385,000	0.96	1318 SAN MATEO DR	2,425	1984	None	3	2	0	163	04/02/2026	\$164.91	\$158.76
\$425,000	\$400,000	0.94	820 SANTA MARGERITA LN	1,551	1982	Private	2	2	0	181	04/03/2026	\$274.02	\$257.90
\$429,000	\$422,000	0.98	2105 DEBORAH DR	1,624	2002	Private	3	2	0	225	04/01/2026	\$264.16	\$259.85
\$459,900	\$459,900	1.00	1764 BOCA RATON CT	1,800	1960	Private	3	2	0	236	04/13/2026	\$255.50	\$255.50
\$479,900	\$455,000	0.95	2921 GUADALUPE DR	1,471	1973	Private	2	2	0	74	04/29/2026	\$326.24	\$309.31
\$499,000	\$450,000	0.90	440 SORRENTO CT	1,870	1974	Private	3	2	0	19	04/10/2026	\$266.84	\$240.64
\$499,000	\$508,000	1.02	530 MATARES DR	1,765	1970	Private	3	2	0	360	04/30/2026	\$282.72	\$287.82
\$550,000	\$500,000	0.91	955 DON JUAN CT	1,932	1974	Private	4	2	0	352	04/20/2026	\$284.68	\$258.80
\$559,000	\$500,000	0.89	2813 CORAL WAY	2,582	1992	Private	3	2	0	39	04/10/2026	\$216.50	\$193.65
\$595,000	\$560,000	0.94	1115 LUCIA DR	1,954	1981	Private	3	2	0	23	04/02/2026	\$304.50	\$286.59
\$599,000	\$565,000	0.94	16 TROPICANA DR	1,958	1980	None	3	2	0	35	04/07/2026	\$305.92	\$288.56
\$599,900	\$550,000	0.92	1520 APPIAN DR	2,317	1985	Private	3	2	0	47	04/22/2026	\$258.91	\$237.38
\$625,000	\$595,000	0.95	1200 WINWARD CT	1,738	1974	Private	3	2	0	64	04/23/2026	\$359.61	\$342.35
\$649,900	\$630,000	0.97	1600 SUZI ST	2,239	2002	Private	3	2	1	38	04/15/2026	\$290.26	\$281.38
\$650,000	\$625,000	0.96	258 VENEZIA CT	2,581	1989	Private	3	2	0	174	04/29/2026	\$251.84	\$242.15
\$685,000	\$645,000	0.94	2868 CORAL WAY	2,096	1993	Private	3	2	0	56	04/29/2026	\$326.81	\$307.73
\$719,000	\$700,000	0.97	4014 LA COSTA ISLAND CT	2,610	1998	Private	3	2	0	152	04/16/2026	\$275.48	\$268.20
\$750,000	\$800,000	1.07	2350 VIA VENICE	2,652	1973	Private	4	3	1	368	04/01/2026	\$282.81	\$301.66
\$789,900	\$764,000	0.97	1336 CASEY KEY DR	2,320	1992	Private	3	2	0	336	04/30/2026	\$340.47	\$329.31
\$815,000	\$700,000	0.86	1416 VIA MILANESE	2,371	1990	Private	4	3	0	10	04/30/2026	\$343.74	\$295.23
\$829,900	\$795,000	0.96	3439 NIGHTHAWK CT	2,072	2015	Private	3	2	0	121	04/02/2026	\$400.53	\$383.69
\$895,000	\$860,000	0.96	197 COLONY POINT DR	2,680	2014	Private	3	2	0	335	04/01/2026	\$333.96	\$320.90
\$899,000	\$885,000	0.98	2150 PALM TREE DR	2,291	1992	Private	3	3	1	49	04/28/2026	\$392.41	\$386.29
\$900,000	\$870,000	0.97	230 VENEZIA CT	2,439	1988	Private	3	2	0	59	04/03/2026	\$369.00	\$356.70
\$975,000	\$875,000	0.90	810 NAPOLI LN	2,675	2024	Private	3	2	0	108	04/14/2026	\$364.49	\$327.10
\$975,000	\$900,000	0.92	4037 LA COSTA ISLAND CT	2,347	2018	Private	3	2	1	12	04/15/2026	\$415.42	\$383.47
\$1,200,000	\$1,120,000	0.93	3605 TOWHEE CT	2,209	2022	Private	3	3	0	177	04/10/2026	\$543.23	\$507.02
\$1,430,000	\$1,388,000	0.97	2126 VIA VENETO DR	2,345	2024	Private	4	3	0	168	04/30/2026	\$609.81	\$591.90
\$1,495,000	\$1,515,000	1.01	1205 ROYAL TERN DR	2,731	2019	Private	3	3	0	5	04/06/2026	\$547.42	\$554.74
\$1,525,000	\$1,475,000	0.97	1406 KITTIWAKE DR	2,711	2023	Private	3	3	0	45	04/09/2026	\$562.52	\$544.08
\$1,775,000	\$1,650,000	0.93	2835 CORAL WAY	2,741	2021	Private	3	3	1	155	04/10/2026	\$647.57	\$601.97
\$1,790,000	\$1,687,500	0.94	245 LIDO DR	2,914	2025	Private	3	3	0	243	04/10/2026	\$614.28	\$579.10

CONDOS

List Price	Sold Price	SP/LP Ratio	Address	HTD	Built	Pool	BE	FB	HB	CDOM	Sold Date	LP/SqFt	SP/SqFt
\$185,000	\$180,000	0.97	3251 WHITE IBIS CT Unit#C4	1,025	1980	Community	2	2	0	122	04/23/2026	\$180.49	\$175.61
\$189,000	\$150,000	0.79	311 GARVIN ST Unit#301B	1,114	1973	Community	2	2	0	235	04/03/2026	\$169.66	\$134.65
\$199,000	\$150,000	0.75	1348 ROCK DOVE CT Unit#C103	1,282	1986	Community	2	2	0	406	04/10/2026	\$155.23	\$117.00
\$230,000	\$229,500	1.00	2001 BAL HARBOR BLVD Unit#2310	1,498	2011	Community	3	2	0	14	04/14/2026	\$153.54	\$153.20
\$249,900	\$235,000	0.94	208 LEWIS CIR Unit#A1	1,180	1985	Community	2	2	0	19	04/22/2026	\$211.78	\$199.15
\$250,000	\$242,000	0.97	601 SHREVE ST Unit#33A	1,398	1981	Community	2	2	0	7	04/17/2026	\$178.83	\$173.10
\$269,000	\$225,000	0.84	1423 MEDITERRANEAN DR Unit#C	1,089	1981	Community	2	2	0	1	04/17/2026	\$247.02	\$206.61
\$273,900	\$252,500	0.92	1439 MEDITERRANEAN DR Unit#C	1,089	1981	Community	2	2	0	794	04/28/2026	\$251.52	\$231.86
\$289,500	\$259,000	0.89	1349 AQUI ESTA DR Unit#125	1,841	2007	Community	2	2	0	469	04/20/2026	\$157.25	\$140.68
\$290,000	\$265,000	0.91	814 VIA TRIPOLI Unit#814	1,877	1992	Private	2	2	1	330	04/10/2026	\$154.50	\$141.18
\$295,000	\$240,000	0.81	255 WEST END DR Unit#1303	1,768	2005	Community	3	2	0	128	04/09/2026	\$166.86	\$135.75
\$310,000	\$280,000	0.90	255 W END DR Unit#4203	1,768	2005	Community	3	2	0	64	04/17/2026	\$175.34	\$158.37
\$325,000	\$280,000	0.86	1500 PARK BEACH CIR Unit#4E	988	1975	Community	2	2	0	31	04/07/2026	\$328.95	\$283.40
\$329,000	\$310,000	0.94	2002 BAL HARBOR BLVD Unit#1311	1,517	2002	Community	3	2	0	9	04/16/2026	\$216.88	\$204.35
\$333,000	\$295,000	0.89	2002 BAL HARBOR BLVD Unit#1711	1,517	2002	Community	3	2	0	28	04/20/2026	\$219.51	\$194.46
\$349,000	\$310,000	0.89	1 COLONY POINT DR Unit#A19	1,581	1972	Community	2	2	0	21	04/03/2026	\$220.75	\$196.08
\$349,900	\$310,000	0.89	1750 JAMAICA WAY Unit#124	1,974	1988	Community	3	2	0	121	04/02/2026	\$177.25	\$157.04
\$375,000	\$370,000	0.99	1 COLONY POINT DR Unit#16C	1,751	1972	Community	2	2	0	30	04/30/2026	\$214.16	\$211.31
\$419,000	\$419,000	1.00	1 COLONY POINT DR Unit#7C	1,751	1972	Community	2	2	0	22	04/24/2026	\$239.29	\$239.29
\$469,000	\$449,500	0.96	2521 W MARION AVE Unit#711	2,006	1990	Community	3	2	1	7	04/28/2026	\$233.80	\$224.08
\$640,000	\$575,000	0.90	141 TROPICANA DR Unit#1111	2,022	2003	Community	3	2	0	122	04/17/2026	\$316.52	\$284.37

****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.

Greetings from Bill Abbatematteo, External Relations Director

I am thrilled to connect with you and introduce myself as your new External Relations Director. The primary responsibility of this position is to increase awareness of the association and the value of its membership throughout the Punta Gorda community. This effort will ensure your membership continues to deliver exceptional value to you.

I have begun to reach out to external groups and organizations as well as clubs and groups within the PGICA. I'm amazed at the level of organization, skills, knowledge and friendliness and warmth of our members, staff and board. I have already received several ideas from you about future PGICA events. I welcome and appreciate your input. We are all on the same team and our team has but one goal, and that is to improve the quality of life for the residents of our community by being the premier educational, recreational, entertainment and social and activity center for Punta Gorda Isles.

This year we are proudly celebrating 60 years of service to our community. I am both humbled and excited to assume this role as we celebrate our Diamond Jubilee Anniversary. We have already scheduled a series of fantastic events. As part of our team, you play an important role in helping to make this year a memorable one. A 60th anniversary only comes around once, so let's take advantage of this opportunity. One voice can move a row boat, but 3,000 voices in unison can easily move a ship. I encourage you to think of ways to meet, network and collaborate with other members, clubs and groups, and most importantly, support our PGICA events because every contribution, big or small matters.

One of our upcoming anniversary events is our Diamond Jubilee Trivia Night scheduled for Thursday, June 18 from 5:30 to 7:30. Doors open at 4:30 for registration and mingle. Tickets are only \$10 per person. This event is open to the public, so bring a friend and show them how much fun we have at the PGICA.

In addition to forming teams of friends and neighbors, I'm asking members of clubs and groups to participate as a team. What an opportunity to showcase your club or group. Imagine a room filled with fun, laughter and friendly competition between the clubs. Not quite Yankees-Red Sox, Cowboys-Eagles, Michigan-Ohio State, but you get the picture. It will be about bragging rights and who gets to take home the trophy.

We will also have special bonus games to play as individuals against each other. There will be cash prizes for winners, plus a 50/50 raffle to top it off. BYOB and snacks. We will accept walk-ins but please register in advance as it helps us with the setup. Go to the PGICA calendar to register and to see our other Diamond Jubilee events including our Diamond Jubilee Punta Gorda Isles Community Golf Scramble on Saturday, October 3 at St. Andrews South Golf Club. Participation as a golfer, sponsor or volunteer includes complimentary invite to our pre-tournament VIP reception at the PGICA on Friday, October 2, 5:30 to 7:30. Go to pgicagolf.com for more details.

In closing, I invite each of you to reach out to me directly if you have any questions, suggestions or ideas on how my role can better serve you, your club or group or the PGICA. If you have a suggestion for a Diamond Jubilee event, or want to assist in helping us organize an upcoming event, including the Diamond Jubilee Trivia Night or Golf Scramble, I especially want to hear from you. Your feedback and active participation are the lifeblood of our organization.

Thank you for your continued support and for being an integral part of the PGICA.

Warm regards,

Bill Abbatematteo
Director of External Relations
Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association
941-740-1660
wabbatematteo@yahoo.com





Spring has sprung, and so has rainy season; heavy and much-needed rain is tattooing our metal roof as I write this installment. Most of our Mariners snowbirds have already flown north, but not before some last-minute cruising and socializing.

The Mankins led a multi-day, multi-destination cruise south April 28 through May 4, spending time at 'Tween Waters Marina, Pink Shell Marina (first time back for some since Ian) and Salty Sam's Marina on Fort Myers Beach. Everyone had a great time, as always, and added to their stores of Mariners memories. One boat hopped off, headed for the Dry Tortugas and Keys, and is posting plenty of updates on our Mariners Facebook page.

Roger and Julie Black were cruise leaders for an overnight anchor-out in peaceful Pelican Bay on May 13, passing the cruise leader baton on to Jacqueline Kerr and Arthur Sa for several more days cruising Fort Myers Beach. Frank Scharpf paid homage to the setting sun via a conch shell serenade.

Upcoming, Commodore Mike and Beth Guler, both fervent space launch enthusiasts, will lead a long-distance cruise through the Okeechobee Waterway and up the Intercoastal Waterway to Brevard County to witness at least one rocket launch on the Space Coast. One way, the cruise distance is 200 miles. There will be stops at several marinas along the way. The cruise is slated to run from May 29 to June 14. What an exciting and unusual way to experience a space rocket launch.

Landside, the Mariners social calendar is cruising right along. Prior to our monthly general membership meeting on April 22 at PGICA, we treated ourselves to an Eat Before We Meet (EBWM) potluck dinner, with a theme of It's Italian Night. Everyone brought a dish to share; we were sated with all kinds of delicious entrees, salads, breads, and of course desserts. Unfortunately, we were so busy having a good time, we forgot to take pictures.



CHEC tour

Mariner Rita Bass, who is a Florida Master Naturalist, hosted an outing at the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) on April 23, where she serves as a tour guide in the winter months. Our personalized tour was well attended by both Mariners, and, unfortunately some unwelcome mosquitoes and love bugs. Following the tour, we met with many more Mariners ladies for our monthly Lunch with the Ladies (LWL), held this time at a Mariners favorite, Tamiami Tavern. The May LWL is May 20 at Fin Sushi Bar and Grill in Port Charlotte, with Sandy Franzino hosting.

Mariners gather the first Sunday of each month to enjoy delicious breakfast fare and relaxed and friendly conversation at Tamiami Tavern; the next date is June 7.

Past Commodore and current Education Director Bobby Conte is developing a boating safety and information program. Anticipated areas of focus include first aid training and on-the-water

skills such as VHF radio operation, chart plotter/GPS operation, etc. The units will be included as part of the education portion of our monthly general membership meetings. At April's meeting, we reviewed right-of-way rules, both international and inland, via one of Past Commodore Richard Northrup's infamous Maritime Trivia quizzes. As a little change of pace, for our May general membership meeting, representatives from Punta Gorda's own Military Heritage Museum will introduce and describe many of the museum's new attractions. The museum has so much to offer; we are blessed to have it in our backyard.

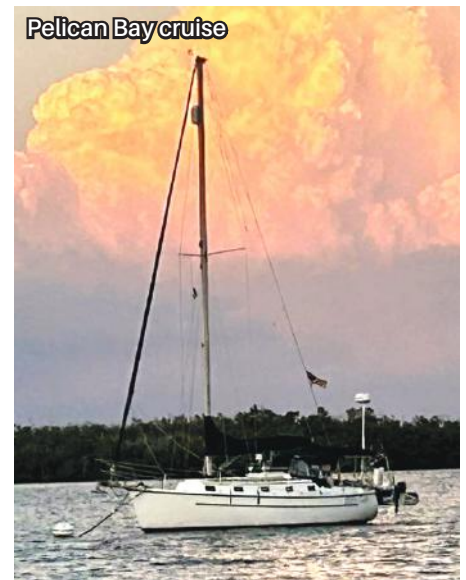
If the above has sparked your interest, we invite you to join in the Mariners fun, fellowship and family feeling. Drop by and meet the crew at one of our happy hours, held every Wednesday from 5 to 7 at the Village Brewhouse in Fishermen's Village. Check out our monthly newsletter, Nautical Notes, which can be viewed at <https://marinersofpgi.org/nautical-notes/>. For questions, give our Membership Co-Directors, Paul Baird at 330-347-9023 and Tracie Goin at 815-922-9833 a call. We look forward to meeting you.

Overnight cruise Apr. 28 to May 4



Sunrise at Dry Tortugas

Pelican Bay cruise





Beyond Ourselves volunteers assisted at the PGICA Shred Event on Tuesday, April 21, unloading boxes of paper for shredding. Drive through cash donations totaling \$697 were collected by the Peace River Wildlife Center. Representatives from the Charlotte CARE Center and the Fabulous Finds Re-Sale Store were also at the event and collected \$240 in cash donations as well as approximately 15 bags of food and clothing. The next PGICA Shred Event will be held on Tuesday, November 10.

Donation needs for both the Peace River Wildlife Center and the Charlotte CARE Center continue through the summer months. Please consider helping these organizations by utilizing the donation bins located in the lobby of the PGICA.



Collecting Donations for Fabulous Finds at the Shred Event

Registration is now open for Beyond Ourselves' inaugural golf event, Chip In For Charity, to be held on Saturday, October 17 at St. Andrew's South Golf Club. All proceeds from this fall golf event will benefit the Peace River Wildlife Center and the Charlotte CARE Center. While the home tour, which is our spring fundraiser and supports children's charities, our fall fundraiser supports our other two missions, aiding the homeless and protecting the wildlife of Charlotte County.



If you or anyone you know is a golfer, sign up and join us on October 17 at our Chip In For Charity golf event. Bring your friends and enjoy some friendly competition in a four-person scramble format. Our event will kick off with a shotgun start at 8:30. Your \$125 per person entrance fee will include continental breakfast, your greens fee and golf cart, giveaways, fun contests and lunch. You may register as a single, a pairing or a foursome.



PRWC Ambassador at the Shred Event

On the day of the Chip In For Charity golf event, participants will be able to purchase mulligan, move-up hole and 50/25/25 raffle tickets. Prizes will be awarded for longest drive, closest to the pin and top scoring teams. Visit the Beyond Ourselves website at PGICA.org/BeyondOurselves for additional details or scan the QR code on our flyer to sign up today.

You may also support both the Peace River Wildlife Center and the Charlotte CARE Center by becoming a sponsor of our Chip In For Charity golf event. Beyond Ourselves is offering many sponsorship options at various price points, including hole sponsor, prize sponsor, towel sponsor, swag bag sponsor, food and beverage sponsor and overall event sponsor. This is a wonderful way to promote your business or group while also supporting a great cause. Additional information about sponsorship can be found on the Beyond Ourselves website or visit www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/chip-in-for-charity-a-beyond-ourselves-golf-event.



Members Help Out at the Shred Event

Every Wednesday, Beyond Ourselves members pick up donations of perishable food and deliver it to the Peace River Wildlife Center, helping to support their wildlife rehabilitation efforts. Nancy Klaren coordinates these volunteers to ensure the wildlife receives much-needed food that might otherwise be thrown away.

Remember, Beyond Ourselves does not meet during the summer months. Beyond Ourselves is a community service club that meets the third Wednesday of the month, September through May. Our next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, September 16 at 10 at the PGICA.

We hope you'll put the next Share the Love for the Kids Home Tour on your calendar. We will be showcasing an all-new group of local homes for you to tour and enjoy on Saturday, February 27, 2027.

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

When we think about June, we often think of the song “June is Bustin’ Out All Over.” In Florida, isn’t that the truth. The flowers and shrubs are radiant, the rains come almost daily and the sun is definitely shining. Paradise Friends can be considered in the same way. We are radiant together as a group of friends, we hopefully gather often, and we shine together for a fabulous time. Come join our group of friends and have extra fun this summer.

Chow Hounds Men’s Lunch will be held on June 11 at 11:30 at Beef O’Brady’s at 1105 Taylor Road. Join the men in our group that want to enjoy time together during the month we celebrate fathers. If you aren’t a father, you are probably a father figure to someone. Please sign up on our website. For more information, contact Mike Dougherty at 314-220-7940 or CaptnMikeD@gmail.com.



We enjoy being together



The ladies have fun

PF Ladies Lunch is on June 11 at 11:30 at Pizza Gorda, 315 Taylor Street. This restaurant is a popular Italian pizzeria, known for its authentic, coal-fired pizzas made with high-quality ingredients like 100% Italian flour. It has a cozy atmosphere and has options for vegetarians and vegans. Please register on the website by June 9 at 5 so we know how many will be coming. Contact Joan Erickson at

joanpe524@yahoo.com for more information.

Our Paradise Friends mixer will be held at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in the Library Room on June 18 from 5 to 7. The room is to the right as you enter the building. This day is celebrated as International Picnic Day, so we can enjoy our picnic at the Sheraton. The menu is delightful and you will not go home hungry. We will be inside so weather won’t matter. Please register ahead for this fun event. For more information contact Jack Gardner at 4jackgardner@gmail.com.



Relaxing together

Sips and Dips will take place on June 30 from 5 to 7 at the PGICA with Sue and Frank Grazier hosting the event. We enjoy parties together, with our drinks and appetizers and enjoyable desserts. Please bring an appetizer or dessert, and of course BYOB. This event is limited to 60 people. You can sign up two weeks before on June 13 at 12 a.m. We will also have a raffle drawing at this event. For any questions, contact Frank Grazier at 814-386-0154 or fgrazier@gmail.com. You can also contact Sue Grazier at 814-386-2496 or sgrazier@gmail.com. This is a member’s only event.

Dinner With Friends is a new summer event. This first event will take place at Winesett House restaurant at 139 West Marion on June 25 from 5:30 to 7:30. We want to support our local restaurants from June through September when many snowbirds are gone. Vicki Britton will organize these great dinners over the summer. Registration is required before Monday, June 22 at 6 p.m. Please sign up on our website to support our local restaurants. For more information, contact Vicki Britton at tomandvickibritton@hotmail.com or 704-293-9201.



Enjoying a great day

To join our club, membership forms are in the lobby of the PGICA and on our website under the Join the Club bar. If you would like to contact someone, please contact our Membership Director Dan Kain at dkain01@gmail.com. He will answer your questions about our wonderful club.

Please submit any photos to Sue Kelley who will writes this article at skelley180@aol.com.



Hi everyone, and welcome to our page. Our middle name is fun. The season is over and life in PG has slowed down a bit. There is less traffic and the restaurants are not as crowded. Due to the slowdown in business many of the restaurants offer great promotional specials in the summer months. F.M. Don's and River City Grill in downtown PG come immediately to mind. I recently went to Cass Cay Marina in Burnt Store for rock n' roll and drinks. They had a steak special for \$19.

FF&C is also a little less active in the summer months, but we still do a number of recurring events due to their ongoing popularity.



Breakfast Belles ladies' breakfast at various restaurants is one of these. Ladies also have their own special game nights. If you have been with FF&C awhile you will find yourself making new friends and socializing with other members for activities outside of the club - Golf, mah jongg, dining out, concerts, etc. If you are reading our Commentator page for the first time, think about giving us a try.

Occasionally FF&C does some very special things. FFC's latest adventure was a Mediterranean cruise aboard the Celebrity Equinox to Spain, Malta, Turkey and to various ports in Greece. It ended up in Rome. There were many off-ship excursions. I did not engage too much when my wife signed up. I told her to sign up for anything she wanted to do. She signed up for everything. We saw a lot of Greco-Roman fixer uppers (otherwise known as ruins). I thought her FitBit would explode we did so much walking. FF&C is already planning a cruise in 2027 which will also be available to friends and family of our members - we will be sailing aboard the Majestic Princess for 12 nights beginning on April 7, 2027. Ports of call are Southampton, Cornwall, Cork, Dublin, Liverpool, Belfast, Glasgow, Invergordon, Edinburgh and LeHavre (opportunity to visit Normandy or Paris). Please email Susie Krause, our cruise director at susiekrause@yahoo.com if interested.

If you would like a peek at our June schedule, reach out to our Social Director Betty Wilcocks at bhw613@gmail.com or 757-508-1070 and she can send you a link. 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 Betty Wilcocks at bhw613@gmail.com or 757-508-1070 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 Betty. 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 lhmcmeeans@aol.com or President Donna Cary at carydkc1@yahoo.com for membership information.



Tag Team Artists are excited to be preparing for an exhibit at the end of September to celebrate the PGICA's Diamond Jubilee. The exhibit will feature eight of our artists' work in a show that will include appetizers, wine, a raffle and a silent auction in addition to the works on display and for sale. Our show will be unique in the fact that all the works are original paintings by artists that are your neighbors and friends right here in Punta Gorda Isles. The group sessions have been abuzz with ideas and display options to put the work in the best light to share with our community. It is a first showing for many of us with guidance from some of the professional artists in our group whose work appears in local galleries and markets.



Evening Flow

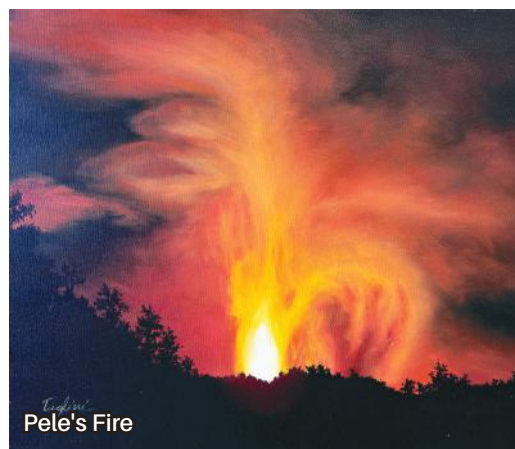
The silent auction will include a signed original painting by the late professional artist, Mary Taglieri. Her landscape art, techniques and humor coaxed us along as we rediscovered our collective love of painting and learning together. She is missed, but her works are displayed on the walls and conference rooms at the PGI Civic Association where she instructed classes.

Please save the date and join us for a light-hearted walk through of our one-night only gallery showing to celebrate art, hard work and some of our collections of work that stacks up over time. You might find something

that inspires you, fits perfectly in your home or would make a delightful present for someone you love. It will be a great way to kick off a September Friday night. Details to come, but included here are a few pieces we'll be showing at the event.



Hilside Mornings



Pele's Fire



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



June has arrived, and while we miss many of our Newcomers who have headed north for the summer, the fun continues here in Punta Gorda. Our board and committee members have been busy planning festive and enjoyable activities throughout the summer months, and we encourage everyone to check the online calendar often. It is the best way to stay updated on newly added events, register before activities fill up, and plan ahead for gatherings you would like to attend.

Another wonderful way to stay connected is through our private Facebook group. It is a great place to put names with faces, keep up with club happenings, and enjoy photos and updates from fellow members. If you are already on Facebook, search for The Official PGICA Newcomers Club group page and request to join.

Spring was packed with memorable events, laughter and great camaraderie, and we truly appreciate everyone who joined us throughout the busy season. We began the month of May on a meaningful and educational note during our monthly Bring Your Lunch and Learn program featuring the important topic Stroke Awareness Every Second Counts. Representatives from Fawcett Hospital shared valuable information about recognizing the warning signs of stroke, understanding brain health and prevention, and learning more about stroke recovery. Their message was clear and important. At the first sign of symptoms, call an ambulance immediately because quick medical attention can save lives and improve outcomes.

We were also honored to hear from our own Dave de la Motte, who shared his personal and inspiring experience with stroke recovery. His story brought a powerful perspective to the discussion and reminded all of us how important awareness and fast action can be. We extend our sincere thanks to the presenters from Fawcett Hospital and to Dave for helping educate and inform our community.



With warmer weather now settling in, our Monday Morning Walks begin at 8 instead of 8:30. We continue to meet in front of Fishermen's Village, and everyone is welcome to walk at their own pace. Over the past few weeks, walkers have been treated to incredible dolphin sightings in Charlotte Harbor, reminding us once again what a beautiful place we are fortunate to call home. After each walk, many of us gather for coffee, tea and conversation at Punta Gorda Coffee and Tea or Harborside Coffee and Creamery. We would love to see more familiar and new faces join us on Monday mornings.

Newcomers stayed active all month long with a variety of fun gatherings and social events. We laughed nonstop during our Dine Around evening at Visani Italian Steakhouse and Comedy Theater, embraced some friendly competition at our Kentucky Derby party, enjoyed a relaxed evening together during our May happy hour at Downtown Gatorz, and wrapped up the month with darts and dinner at the Ice House Pub. The men enjoyed a fun night out at Topgolf while the ladies gathered for dinner and a movie night featuring *The Devil Wears Prada 2*.

If you are new to PGI and looking for a welcoming way to meet people and become more involved in the community, the Newcomers Club is a wonderful place to begin. We also warmly welcome PGICA members who may not have joined us before. You do not need to be new to the area to become part of Newcomers. Membership forms are available in the PGICA lobby or online through the PGICA website.

We look forward to continuing to build friendships, connections and community together throughout the year.





Whew! Traffic has waned and we can actually find dock space near a restaurant.

That means the temperatures will be rising. Use common sense in the coming months to avoid overheating. Most important is taking plenty of fluids during those fishing trips.

Sunscreen is a must and if you have a top on your boat, try hanging in the shade as much as possible. I for one am a shade hound. That said, local fishing is about to bust out.

Tarpon are the target for those brave enough to jockey the Boca Grande Pass. When the crabs are being flushed, the action can be outstanding. Remember to give wide berth to those angling for these big fish.

Longer daylight hours and favorable weather will open more fishing opportunities. With major migrations of different species, anglers can expect great fishing. Joining and participating in the PGI Fishing Club will make for some memorable trips and lasting friendships.



Dave Morgan-Red Snapper

Learning techniques for catching the many species including tarpon is why joining the PGI Fishing Club is a great option for anglers or soon to be anglers. Our membership includes fishermen who are experienced in catching all kinds of fish including inshore and offshore species. By joining, you not only gain access to the expertise of many anglers but can enjoy the fun and camaraderie of fishing with other members. Don't have a boat? Many members have boats to get you there and the knowledge to help target species to make your angling experience great.

The Fishing Club's Ladder of Achievement is a great way to challenge yourself. The ladder is a prescribed goal to catch the many different species available in the area along with points for notable size fish. It is a fun way to track your development from bronze to silver, silver to gold and beyond. With guidance and perseverance, the goal of Grand Master Angler is within reach.

PGI Fishing Club members also enjoy a variety of social activities. Monthly meetings exploring various topics and fishing news, Fish of the Month contest, friendly fishing tournaments with prizes for designated catches. We also have special events like holiday parties, picnics, weekly happy hours and other fun gatherings.



Elaine Bretts-Pompano

If any of these pique your interest, please join us. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month (except July and December) at the PGI Civic Association at 6. All are welcome to attend a meeting. Another way to familiarize yourself with the Fishing Club is to attend our weekly happy hour, currently at the Elks Lodge Tiki on Wednesdays at 5 to hear about all the fishing stories and make plans to fish.



Paul Whiting-King Mackerel

AARDVARKS FISH AND GAME ADVENTURERS GROUP

Joe Stern, 831-741-6191, joesme@me.com

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.

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 30% to the PGICA. Call Tom Teubert at 201-960-5340.

AIR CONDITIONING

AIR CONDITIONING ~ Repair for all brands of central air. Seasonal maintenance and high efficiency replacement systems w/major brands. Free second opinions. Available rebates and PGI discounts. Licensed and insured. Punta Gorda based Bohall's Total Comfort. Call us any time at 941-623-0451.

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PORT CHARLOTTE MARINE REPAIR ~ www.portcharlottemarinerepair.com. Mobile marine with full-service van, will come to you. Contact Captain Hayes at 360-378-7678. Fifteen 5-Star reviews from your Punta Gorda Isles neighbors!

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DON'T LET JUST ANYONE CLEAN YOUR DRYER VENT! ~ Call Appliance Works. 941-575-9460.

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KESSELRING COMPUTER SERVICES ~ 941-661-5378. Mobile computer repair (hardware and software) Also virus removal, setups, and other services. Serving PGI for over 20 years.

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GARY DRAKE DRYER VENT CLEANING ~ Prevent Fires! Go Green! Licensed and insured, 30+ years' experience. 941-204-6468. gdrakedryerventcleaning@comcast.net.

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A PAINTING SPECIALIST ~ Over 35 years' experience painting interior and exterior homes - extremely meticulous. I also power wash driveways and pool decks. I have been background checked and screened for your safety and trust. References available from your PGI neighbors. Call Kevin at 941-268-1637.

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- Establishing Trusts
- Trust Administration
- Asset Protection Planning
- Durable Powers of Attorney
- Advance Medical Directives
- Preparing Wills
- Probate



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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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