

Application for Membership

Last Name _____

First Name _____

Address _____

City/ZIP _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Spouse's Name _____

Birthday: Month _____ Day _____

Interests: _____

Signature: _____

Date _____

Referred by _____

For more information contact
Membership Chair, Christine Fenn –
805-421-9115
cfenn@gablesfojai.com



We are a part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

The GFWC was founded in 1889 when Mrs. Croly organized a conference in New York that brought together delegates from 61 women's clubs. The women formed a permanent organization in 1890 with Charlotte Emerson Brown as its first president. In 1901 it was granted a charter by Congress. Dietz proclaimed, "We look for unity, but unity in diversity" and that became the GFWC motto.

Local women's clubs initially joined the General Federation directly but later came into membership through state federations that began forming in 1892. The GFWC also counts international clubs among its members.

Until the right to vote was granted, these women's clubs were the best outlet for women to be heard and taken seriously.

Rental info: Ojai Chamber of Commerce
(805) 646-8126

HISTORY OF OUR CLUB

The Ojai Valley Woman's Club was incorporated on January 16, 1915, by a group of women interested in philanthropic, community and service activities. The Women of Ojai own the historic clubhouse.

The Ojai Valley Woman's Club, located in Ventura County is affiliated with Tierra Adorada District from the counties of Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo.

We are still today, as when we were founded, a group of women who take time from busy schedules to raise money and support various projects aiding the Ojai Valley and surrounding areas. Philanthropies of our Club include education and leadership scholarships, libraries, Pennies for Pines, Ojai Valley Fourth of July events, Community Works Program, Memorial Day observances, Stand Down, Teen Challenge, and many other projects and organizations. We support the Ojai Civic Council and other local civic organizations.

Club Colors: Gold, White and Green Club
Flower: Matilija Poppy
441 E. Ojai Avenue, Ojai, CA 93023

Mail: P.O. Box 442, Ojai, CA 93024

Club Website: www.ovwc.info

Visit us on Facebook and
Instagram



Ojai Valley Woman's Club

*More than a Century of
Service and Friendship*

We are affiliated with:
General Federation of Women's Clubs
(www.gfwc.org),
GFWC/California Federation of
Women's Clubs (www.cfwc.org)
and Tierra Adorada District (TAD)
(www.tierradoradadistrict.org)
"Unity in Diversity"



DUES

The \$40 annual dues are payable April 1st which includes federation dues to the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the GFWC/California Federation of Women's Clubs, and Tierra Adorada District. Sustaining Memberships in our Ojai Valley Woman's Club are available to those who want to be part of our organization and support our projects and community service, but cannot be active in the club. Sustaining Membership Annual dues are \$60.

MEETINGS

We meet the first Thursday of each month at 2:00 p.m. from September through June (unless otherwise noted) at our Clubhouse, located at 441 East Ojai Avenue, in downtown Ojai, California.

HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

The CFWC has accomplished the following, to name only a very few:

- Brought about the California Youth Authority and Juvenile Justice System
- Purchased California Mission Bells which were installed on the El Camino Real
- Established a CFWC Women's History Library at UC Santa Cruz

WHO WE ARE...

We are women of all ages and levels of experience residing in the Ojai Valley. We are a community-based volunteer women's organization dedicated to community service. We are women united in the sisterhood of federation.

OUR PURPOSE

- To promote:
- Community Involvement
 - Civic Consciousness
 - Education
 - Communication
 - Self-Improvement
 - Volunteer Service
 - Mutual Aid
 - Leadership

HOW WE WORK

We have more flexibility than most single focus groups because we are able to categorize our service projects within the following areas:

- Arts & Culture
- Civic Engagement & Outreach
- Education & Libraries
- Environment
- Health & Wellness
- Advocates for Children
- Domestic Violence and Sexual Awareness Prevention
- ESO - Independent Reading Program

ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP

- Affiliation with an international volunteer organization
- Personal development and leadership in a friendly environment
- Group support for accomplishing personal objectives
- Voice in forming policy through study of resolutions and bylaw changes
- Expanding our circle of friends throughout the Ojai Valley
- A lot of knowledge - a lot of fun!

HISTORY OF THE CLUB HOUSE

In 1911 Mrs. Josephine Pierpont Ginn built the clubhouse and donated it to "all the women of Ojai" to be used for social and educational purposes. The building was built by James C. Leslie, but Josephine did most of the architectural work. Responsibility for the building was turned over to the Kings Daughters who in 1915 became the OVWC (and became part of GFWC, CFWC and TAD) to enlarge their sphere of influence.

The clubwomen have worked to enlarge and update the clubhouse several times. In 1923 the OVWC raised a \$1,000 to enlarge the auditorium, add a stage, hardwood floors and a bathroom. In 1937 a building on an adjacent lot was moved and added to the back of the building known today as the activity room. In 1992 the building became Historical Landmark #8. In the early 2000s the women fundraised in the community to

add new foundations under the historic part of the building. Generous grants received in 2010 and 2012 allowed us to remodel the kitchen and activity room. During the shut-down in 2020-2021 we updated all of the electrical in the Clubhouse.

The clubwomen have improved the community. In the early days they called on the sick, elderly and newcomers. They organized boys to sweep the streets and provided a cow to a needy family. The building has been used to distribute relief during the fire of 1917, housed nurses in the flu epidemic of 1918, housed a kindergarten and 6th grade during WWII, provided a home for six churches and served as a venue for many lectures and concerts. The club has raised money for streetlights, a restroom for Libbey Park, the library and the Fire Department.

OVWC gave its first scholarships in 1963, a practice we proudly continue today.

ACRONYMS

OVWC - Ojai Valley Woman's Club

TAD - Tierra Adorada District

CFWC - California Federation of Women's Clubs

GFWC - General Federation of Women's Clubs

Revised 10/2022