

## WOMEN OF WINSLOW



### Winslow Business and Professional Women's Club

(Founded 1939)

Many of the women featured in the *Women of Winslow* exhibit were members of this active and respected professional organization.

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs was founded in 1919 and was dedicated to supporting causes of working women such as equal pay and the rights of married women to work.

The Winslow BPW was organized at a banquet held at La Posada Hotel on February 28, 1939, when the charter members elected Florence Beck (Olmstead) as their first president. Soon the United States entered World War II, and the Winslow BPW took the lead to organize recruiting, fundraising, and morale-boosting events that supported the war effort.

Through the 1970s, the Winslow BPW engaged in a range of civic and charitable activities such as hosting get-out-the-vote events, awarding college scholarships, sponsoring students to Girls State, entering floats in the Winslow Christmas Parade, and sponsoring Betty Patterson in the Mrs. America Pageant (see Patterson panel).

The Winslow BPW served its own members and sister groups as well, hosting district meetings with speakers on women's issues, helping to organize the Holbrook branch in 1951, and hosting the BPW State Convention in 1952. Several Winslow women held statewide and district offices, including Florence Beck Olmstead and Mabel Nagel.



Top: Arizona Congressmen with the Arizona BPW Delegation, circa 1965. Winslow President Ruth Dunklin is front row, third from left, and Florence Beck (Olmstead) is second row, far left.

Middle: A Winslow BPW Club event at the home of Florence Beck Olmstead, seated far right, around 1940. Seated from left is Hattie Flaharty, Jillian Borgreen, Jessie Burbage, Lois Crozier, and Florence Beck (Olmstead). Standing from left is Mary Giragi Ferguson, Eileen Whitley, Anne Sutherland, Nellie Clark, Attie Locke, and her sister, Elizabeth LaZear.

Bottom: A Winslow BPW event in 1946 at La Posada Hotel