



## Charlotte County Historical Center – Grace Street Annex

514 East Grace Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

941.629.PAST(7278)

Hours: 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. M-F

The Charlotte County Historical Center is part of the Community Services Department, Libraries & History Division of Charlotte County Government. Our mission is to offer a variety of programs and services to educate the community about the rich history of the Charlotte County area while preserving and protecting the County's historical resources for future public use.

1. What is the name of the history exhibit in the lobby?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What group of people was living in Southwest Florida before European explorers, like Juan Ponce de Leon, landed in the Charlotte Harbor area?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you spy three handsome cattlemen? Who is sitting in the picture on the right end?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Punta Gorda wasn't always easy to visit. In 1886, the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ made traveling to this southernmost terminal easier. Along with passengers, products such as phosphate, citrus, fish, and lumber were able to be shipped out and enhance the economy.

5. Did you know that Punta Gorda was the #1 producer of pineapple in the entire nation from the 1880s until 1917? How many pineapples is the man holding in the postcard from 1915? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Bonus: Why did the pineapple industry end in 1917? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Charlotte County was once part of Hillsborough County in 1845, Manatee County in 1856, and DeSoto County in 1887. What date was Charlotte County established?

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

7. The Charlotte County Airport wasn't always used for personal travel. During World War II, it was built for the Punta Gorda Army Airfield (PGAAF) to train fighter pilots. Sgt. Bilodeau was stationed at the PGAAF and issued a Mess Hall Pass on

\_\_\_\_\_ .

8. After World War II, Charlotte County grew in population and development. In the year \_\_\_\_\_, the first Mackle Brothers Company home was occupied in Port Charlotte, FL.

9. Artifacts are important historical items that give us information about past cultures. Should you take or disturb artifacts? (circle one)

Yes

No

10. Name 3 organizations or people that you can contact if you find an artifact.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Now turn in your quest at the Charlotte County Historical Center to earn rewards! \*\*

**COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**Libraries & History**

Charlotte County Historical Center

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