



CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET
Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2023

Chairman: Carol Allen		Club: Woman's Club of Orange	
Number of Members (<i>per CFWC Yearbook</i>): 205		District: Orange	Area: C
Club Position: Dean			
Reporter's Address: [REDACTED]			
City: [REDACTED]		State: [REDACTED]	Zip: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]		Phone: [REDACTED]	
Civic Engagement			

The Woman's Club of Orange, founded in 1915, is nestled in the historic downtown area of Old Towne Orange where people congregate to eat in the many restaurants and visit the small family-owned businesses and large antique stores. This small-town feel is unique for a city of over 140,000 as Orange attracts visitors from the entire county as we are centrally located. Our founding eleven women were progressive, seeking to improve themselves and their community. Our members are dedicated to serving our community, working hundreds of hours on fundraisers to provide for our adopted philanthropies. We are a cheerful group who work together on projects that impact our local, national and global communities. We own our building, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, and are the largest club in Orange District, and one of the largest in the state.

Project Title: May Parade Hours: 85: Donated: \$50.

In 1933, Orange began the tradition of a May Parade in an effort to combat the doldrums of the Depression. In 1991 the tradition ended...that is until the chaos of Covid brought Orange a new reason to renew and rejuvenate our civic pride. After a 32 year hiatus, this year's May parade featured groups such as ours, celebrating the theme, "Peace, Love & Orange." An enthusiastic group of us "flower children", dusted off love beads, fringed vests and bell bottoms to paraded through the streets of Old Town Orange. Besides the bubble machine that delighted the children on the sidelines, we represented strong women everywhere with the signs we carried that read "WOMEN POWER," PEACE & LOVE THROUGH PHILANTHROPY," and my favorite, "IF YOU WANT A JOB DONE, ASK A WOMAN!"

Project Title: Quilt of Valor Hours: 10

A **Quilt of Valor** was given to a member of Woman's Club of Orange at the November district meeting. Our own Mary Ann Rogers served as a Marine in North Carolina during World War II, providing necessary backup for our troops. Fond memories she has are when FDR visited Camp Lejune and when the first fighter jets were delivered to the base. She later married a fellow Marine and gave birth to 11 children and has 26 grandchildren as well as 20 great-grandchildren. In addition, she is very active with our Garden Section, greeting everyone with a warm smile at the section meetings and helping out in any way she can. At age 99 she still offers to help unload cars with donated items to assist the work of the very active Garden Section. By the way, she still drives and lives alone.

Project Title: Rosarians for City of Orange in the Plaza and Hart Park**Hours: 336**

After being recognized by the Orange City Council, members from Woman's Club of Orange met with the new Orange Mayor, Dan Slater, to support his goals and co-ordinate our efforts for new projects. The fruit of our meeting resulted in an agreement that the 100+ roses in Hart Park will now be expertly cared for by members of Woman's Club of Orange Garden Section. Annie Mansell worked with the City to purchase new roses and members and husbands worked together to dig holes and plant the new roses. These 164 roses are now being cared for on a weekly basis and being fertilized monthly by 9 of our Rosarians. In addition, Home Depot of Orange donated 120 bags of mulch for the planters. In May of 2023, Annie also commenced caring for the roses at the Orange Plaza encircling our iconic fountain every Wednesday at 7 AM. Our rosarians are: Annie Mansell, Marcie Scott, Carol Allen, Darlene Meade, Diane Day, Jodi Hess, Pietra Gaw, Jan McGovney and Kathy Host. Our handy husband helpers are: First Gentleman Raul Serna, David Hess, Shane Huber, Ben Scott, and Annie's son Jake Mansell. What a great outreach this has become as many folks in the community have wondered why we are maintaining the roses, rather than city workers. As a result, we have been promised that signs will be placed to recognize our efforts and will read, "These roses are lovingly maintained by the Women's Club of Orange." Looking forward to seeing our club 'in lights' in 2024!

Project Title: Recognition by the City Hours 6

We were pleasantly surprised to be officially recognized, not once but twice, this year. In recognition of Women's History month, on March 28th the City Council of Orange honored the Woman's Club of Orange for our long history of friendship and support to our community and world...108 years and counting! Additionally, in October, Pat Butress, on behalf of Orange County Supervisor, Donald Wagner, presented us with a Proclamation thanking us for the incredible work we do year-round to serve our community's needs

Project Title: Partnering with the Chamber of Commerce**Hours: 15****Donation: \$330.00**

The Woman's Club of Orange joined forces with the Chamber of Commerce this year, opening the door to even more involvement in and awareness of our community. The Woman's Club sponsored a table at our clubhouse in March 2023 for the City's first annual "**Duke of Orange**" contest, an event hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. This "sophisticated" soiree involves finding an Orange resident 21 or older to represent our city for the year and to be the grand marshals of our revived May Parade (call it a spoof of the Miss Orange contest for guys, involving a talent portion, interview and air band performance- all to the delight of the audience who purchase tickets to attend.) This year's Duke, J.C. Cortez, selected a charity of his choice to award his "prize money"; other money raised helps defray the cost of the 2024 May Parade. We will continue to sponsor this light-hearted event next year (after all, what would the Women's Club be without the help of the men in our fair city?!!!)

Project Title: Partnering with Home Depot**Hours: 48****In-kind \$2,500**

COCA, or Connect Orange CA, is a wonderful partnership of all the non-profits in Orange. Through this organization in May 2023, we were introduced to Home Depot's generous donations and support in our community. They have partnered with us and are supporting our monthly raffles with gift baskets, our boutique with boxes, and our garden section with mulch and a cordless leaf blower. Home Depot also generously approved a grant to remodel our Ladies bathroom. They donated approximately \$5,000.00 in product such as new flooring, vanities and fixtures, lighting and mirrors. Additionally, \$15,000 will be donated in January 2024 to help defray our cost of labors so our bathroom will be ready to reopen with our new year meetings. It was our responsibility to demo the bathroom to expedite our remodel. We would never have made this contact and found this resource if we had not reached out in our community. We are grateful to be a part of a community such as Orange that is so active in helping those who help others

Project Title: Help our Veterans

Hours: 65

In-Kind: \$1,125

Every year we collect gift cards to be given to the “**Honoring our Fallen**” organization. Several members attended their annual Gala, the **GOLDEN BOOTS Awards**, this year at Old Ranch Country Club in Los Alamitos. All present were amazed at the myriad services provided for grieving families of military personnel who died while serving our country. Donations are used to help families of the fallen for birthdays, holidays or any other time of need. And a worthy cause it is, indeed!

Project Title: Orange Field of Valor

Hours: 23

Donation \$70.00

Orange Field of Valor took place in November from 11-18. This yearly memorial’s purpose is to thank the veterans past and present and to provide a visual tribute illustrating their dedication to and sacrifice for our beautiful country. The Woman’s Club of Orange purchases flags for our Veterans Mary Ann Rogers and Genevieve Brown (deceased). Members volunteer to place our two tribute flags in the field, part of the the other 1776 flags that blanket Handy Park in Orange each year for Veterans Day.

Project Title: The Hub Resource Center

Hours: 26

In-Kind: \$960.51

The City of Orange partners with 60 strategic partners to support **The Hub Resource Center**. This facility helps meet the needs of our unhoused population here in Orange, by bringing “holistic hope, healing, transformation and freedom to those who want to be made well.” They provide meals, showers, clothing, laundry, restrooms, cell phone charging, hygiene kits, shower kits, non-perishable food kits, cold weather kits and a place to receive mail. In addition they have a store in downtown Orange called Full Circle, which accepts household, jewelry and clothing donations. Volunteers match clothing donations to the needs of the Hub population, and surplus items are on sale to the public. Our monetary donation supports four programs currently under the umbrella of The Hub, an organization that hopes to inspire other cities to adopt a similar model that proves transformational