



**CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**  
**CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET**  
**Annual Reporting January 1 - December 31, 2020**

Prepared by: Dianne Lundquist	Club: Ebell Club of Irvine	
Number of Members: 19	District: Orange	Area: C
Club Position: President		
Reporter's Address:		
City: Irvine	State: CA	Zip:
Email:	Phone:	

LEADERSHIP

The Ebell Club of Irvine was founded and federated in 1974. At that time the City of Irvine had existed for only two years evolving from a working ranch to a "model city" as planned by the Irvine Company. Today the City of Irvine has grown to over 276,000 residents, is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city in Orange County, and is the 16<sup>th</sup> most populous city in the State. Our city is viewed as affluent where most residents are college graduates, the school district is highly regarded, and the population is a diverse mixture of cultures.

With the city growing rapidly, one would expect the number of club members to also grow. What has grown is the number of organizations with a single mission, such as CHOC Guilds, Friends of the Library, and Families Forward. Our club has historically had about 18 energetic members. There have been great hopes of visiting guests, including members from other federated clubs, joining our fine group; and two of our most recent new members are also members of TAWC. We are always hopeful that some of our many friends who enjoy supporting club activities will decide to become members. We are an aging but energetic group who are proud to be federated. Most of us are retired, but we keep busy with club and community-related activities. We have been talking about recruiting younger members to carry on for years, but seem to not be successful. They visit but do not join.

Project Title Information Disseminated Hours 25 Donated \$ 0 In Kind \$ 60.00

Each club member is given a Yearbook, which includes the president's inspirational message, information about board and general meetings, list of board members and department chairpersons, the year's budget, By-laws and Standing Rules, a list of past presidents, a membership roster, and a Collect for Club Women. Each officer is given a procedure book that includes her duties and updated By-laws and Standing Rules. She is encouraged to make any changes to the procedures listed and pass it on at the end of the club year. Scripted agendas are provided to all at each board and general meeting. The proposed agenda was sent to board members and any reporting chairmen for review to see if they had anything to add. Motions were encouraged to be written on the agenda so everyone would have access to the correct wording at the meeting. Chairmen refer to the agendas to see if they made a motion to cover a project. Handouts received from District were distributed to the appropriate officers and chairpersons timely. Copies of the Call and Peal were

forwarded to interested members as well as QuickBytes and News and Notes as information was presented that would pertain to a chair or officer.

**Project Title: Personal Preparation; Hours: 45; Donated: \$0; In-Kind \$0**

We have no Leadership Chairman, so the President assumes that responsibility. She keeps a Leadership binder that is updated with new information from District, State and GFWC, and has an Art of Leadership Handbook. She also keeps a club binder with all agendas, newsletters, Calls and Peals. She asked for a LEADS candidate in our club without success. One of the first presidential duties is to determine a meeting place for general meetings. We gave up on using city facilities when they started charging a fee that would have impacted our meager budget too much. January through March we were using a community center in a mobile home park, but then it closed down due to the pandemic. The president cancelled the April and May meetings due to Covid-19 and had club elections done by mail and email. Installation and banquet were cancelled, as was the incoming and outgoing board dinner (the boards just met in the park and were encouraged to hand over their procedure books to the new officers). A June meeting was held in a local park in the afternoon with everyone social distancing and wearing a mask and bringing their own chairs. Snacks were provided but individually packaged. It was decided at the meeting that we would suspend snacks and water during the pandemic. Then we were dark for the summer and had high hopes the crisis would be over by our September meeting. We were concerned about having outdoor meetings due to cooler weather and earlier darkness as the fall progressed. But our normal meeting place stated they were closed indefinitely and there was an indication that when they did open again, it would only be for use of mobile home park residents. Another member and myself tried unsuccessfully to secure another place where we could have social distancing and resume evening meetings to accommodate our working members. Our September meeting was again in a park in the late afternoon. Since we are trying to keep the meeting time short, we were not doing fun activities during the meeting. However, I posted a leadership tidbit and/or fun activity in each newsletter starting with the September newsletter.

**Project Title: Teamwork and Encouragement; Hours: 400; Donated | : \$0; In Kind: \$10**

Our By-laws are reviewed yearly under the leadership of our Parliamentarian, and we made changes to allow for electronic meetings. We have one member who is a District Officer and one who is a District Chairman. In September our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President resigned due to health problems and need to care for family. We encouraged someone else to volunteer, but had no takers. Finally one member who already had 2 chairmanships in our club, volunteered to co-chair the position and attend the meetings. The original 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President said she would continue the office as a co-chair and would write the reports. Many club members are reluctant to write reports. All have to turn in project report sheets to her to document what work was done during the year. This year there were a lot of co-chairmen...besides 1<sup>st</sup> vice president, there were co-chairs for second and third vice presidents, secretary (one for board and one for general meetings). Still, 3 members are holding multiple positions. We announce District meetings and encourage attendance, but only 2-3 of our members have zoom and the rest do not want it. Our Sunshine Chair had a stroke, and although she has physically recovered, she is very anxious and I appointed someone who has no other position in club to help out. Our less active members are encouraged to participate by collecting items like coupons, labels, eyeglasses, card fronts, pop tabs, etc. and reporting the end of the year results to the department chairperson. Besides attending board and general meetings, officers are asked to submit articles to the club newsletter. Those who are conscientious spend many hours leading our club in their special areas and also taking on additional tasks as small fund raisers, like dine-outs, setting us up for Amazon Smile, etc. We have an Inspiration Chairman who gives an inspiration at each general meeting she attends.

Of our 19 members, 3 have had strokes and some dementia. Two of those are honorary life members and are not expected to participate but are honored for the work they did for our club in

the past. The third has physically recovered but is elderly and quite anxious. One member hand delivers her newsletter and visits for a few minutes each month and phones to invite her to all activities, offering rides (before Covid). She was so worried about letting us down as Sunshine person, that we left her listed as chairman and have another member doing back-up for her. Another member lives in Michigan and can only participate by sending money to a particular charity we are supporting. Another member is legally blind and cannot attend meetings even if someone picks her up, but she collects stamps, pop tabs, car fronts, etc. for us and donates to charities we are supporting. Two members have had surgeries and now use canes. Two members work, so we would like to be able to resume evening meetings, but cannot do so during the pandemic. So it has been a challenge encouraging members to remain active and connected. Two members made our December meeting festive in spite of the Covid restrictions. We met outside in a lovely location and ordered sandwiches and salads which were wrapped/sealed in the store and placed in gift bags with names attached. We also had a white elephant exchange and gifted the president with ornaments. Furniture was rearranged to 6 feet apart and sprayed with Lysol. So we stayed safe but festive.