

CLUB AWARD ENTRY FORM

Annual Reporting January 1-December 31, 2020

Prepared by: Name: LOUISE BIEREI/JOAN LARSEN		Club: WOMAN'S CLUB OF CYPRESS
Number of Members in Club (as according to the CFWC Yearbook): 82		
Reporter's Address: P.O. BOX 169		
Club Position: 2NDVP/CO-MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN		CFWC Area: C
City: CYPRESS	State: CA	Zip
Email:		Phone:
MEMBERSHIP		

The Woman's Club of Cypress, located in the northeast corner of Orange County provides service and philanthropic opportunities for our membership, including dozens of members who mark more than 25 years of membership and participation, along with two founding members, multiple past-presidents, and new members each year. Members range in age from 35 to those in their 90's. The majority of members are retired and able to be actively involved, while the working members participate wherever possible. In addition to financial donations, members volunteer hundreds of hours working on vital projects that impact our local, national, and global communities. Our members are motivated, compassionate, creative, civic-minded, infinitely generous, and grateful to give back to others.

Project Title: Retention Activities Hours: 750 Spent: \$481 In-Kind: \$976

Member Outreach Due to COVID-19 Restrictions: As a result of our community lockdown in mid-March, one member wanted to ensure each of our 80 members were well and safe, so she contacted each member to check on them and see if we as a club could assist in any way. This member sent homemade greeting cards and mailed them out four different times to all members. She also made homemade goodies and delivered the items to various members. Other members of the club also helped to deliver the baked goods. [Hours: 230; In-kind: \$976]

The president of our club, and other members also reached out to each of our 80 members by phone and/or email over the months to ensure that each member was doing well and if they needed any assistance. The Membership Chairs then organized a more formal group of eight (8) volunteers to make phone calls, emails, and send handwritten notes to each member. Cards and postage were provided by the club. The volunteers rotated the groups of members assigned to them each month so that they had a chance to contact members they may not have met before. The members really appreciated the outreach and had an opportunity to learn more about each other during the phone calls. [Hours: 230; Cost: \$127]

This outreach program helped keep members engaged and as a result more than 30 members regularly attended club general meetings via Zoom. Members have also participated in Zoom Bingo and Zoom Legislative & Public Policy meetings. Additionally, members have continued to refer their friends, donate to charitable causes and the club is still going strong.

New Member: As we obtain new members, we keep in frequent contact with them to ensure they are aware of the weekly and monthly activities of the club. We recognize a new member at our monthly general meetings after they join the Club. We have the member provide a brief biography about themselves that we share with the group as part of our introduction of the member. The committee chairmen in the club then know to reach out to the member if they have expressed a particular interest in a current project or charity, they want us to support. As membership chairs, we try to match up the new member with a committee or project of their interest. We also give the member a small bag filled with items to welcome them, a pin, a name badge if requested, and a laminated copy of The Collect.

Club Birthday: In March, the Club's birthday was celebrated with a special luncheon with a 1970's Theme including tie dye/hippie themed decorations and clothing. We also had a potluck of food popular of that era. Currently, we honor the members who have been with the Club for 10, 20, 25 or 50 years with a special pin, as well as our Past Presidents. This year, we recognized two members with 20- and 25-year memberships.

Workshop: The members were sent an email and encouraged to attend the Summer District Workshops held through Zoom (or via videos) to learn more about the duties of the Executive Board and Chairmen.

Activity Nights: Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a talented member (we have named our "Zoomologist") set out to ensure our members had an opportunity to stay connected with other members, learn to use Zoom and have fun! Three free Zoom Bingo games were held over a three-month period. These games were well attended by members and potential members. Donations were also made to various causes during that time as well.

Project Title: Holiday Party Hours: 20; Funds raised: \$686.50; In-kind: \$1,000

Holiday Party: In December, when we normally bring holiday cards to our meeting and distribute them in person, we had the club members write their cards in their homes and deliver them to a member who organized them in bags. Each member paid 25 cents per card and this became a fundraising event for the charity of the chairperson's choosing, but it also retains our relationships with one another.

The chairperson distributed the cards into bags, one for each member of the club. Then, 15 members picked up the bags and delivered them to other members. In all, 82 members received cards from other members, totaling 1,600+ cards. The funds raised were donated to Crime Survivors, a nonprofit that helps victims of violent crime.

Project Title: Sunshine & Remembrance Hours: 250; Money spent \$300

Sunshine & Remembrance: Our Sunshine/Remembrance Chairman makes sure that all members receive birthday, get well and anniversary cards, as well as flowers when they are sick. She often makes phone calls or visits them at home and/or in the hospital, as well. We have a Prayer Chain that is activated when one of our members is ill or has a family situation that needs prayers. We also try to express our remembrance of passing members by donations to that member's charity of choice. This is very important and makes all the members feel part of a family.

Member Profile: When we have a new member joining our club, we profile them in our monthly newsletter along with their picture. This is an important way for our members to learn about the

background and interests of our new members, recognize them at a meeting or event, and helps those members with similar interests reach out to one another-bringing us all closer together.

Board members: The President started the year randomly assigning board members to sit at tables with the members-at-large. We found this helpful for new or potential members to have these board members more accessible for their questions and encourage them to take on a more active role in the club. It is also a wonderful way for all the members to bond and to establish stronger relationships by sitting with a different group each meeting.

Renewal of membership: Membership renewal forms were personally handed out to each member in attendance at the January meeting with a smile and encouragement for them to again renew. We had several women renew their membership on the spot-this saves both the member, and the Club postage costs. [Hours:40; Cost: \$34]

Project Title Recruitment Hours: 40 Donated: \$0 In-Kind \$0

New Member Orientation: For the program at our March general meeting, a former president of our club presented a PowerPoint overview of GFWC, CFWC, Orange District, and our club. The twenty minutes spent covering many aspects of women's clubs was enlightening, even to longtime members who may not have kept up on the workings of our club and clubs throughout the U.S. Topics covered included: GFWC's mission, GFWC/CFWC/our club slogans, organization chart, history-including famous members, accomplishments, seven program areas, special projects and awards, member discounts, member responsibilities, the Collect for Clubwomen, as well as a welcome.

In December, we held a New Member Orientation with this same presentation via Zoom for the new and potential new members (7 attendees). The attendees stated that the information provided was helpful in understanding the Club's purpose and various activities. A New Member Handbook and the presentation were emailed to each of the attendees for use as a reference. We will continue to hold this event for new members, as needed. [Hours: 20]

Potential Members: Members are always encouraged to refer/bring their friends, neighbors or any potential member to the Club's meetings, events, and activities. We also obtain inquiries through our club's website. Once membership knows of a potential member, we send them our tri-fold brochure and the latest Newsletter. We then ensure that person is kept informed of all upcoming club events until they are an official member and in the formal chain of communication. Even with the COVID-19 restrictions and all our meetings and activities held via Zoom, we acquired two very active new members and have three potential new members. [Hours: 20]

Membership Materials: Normally the membership chair meets with the President over the summer to update the New Member Handbook and tri-fold brochure to reflect appropriate changes at the National, State, and local level. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, these updates were not made. The trifolds are used as informational handouts at any events we attend, and at our monthly meeting welcome table. Since we are unable to meet, we email the tri-fold to any potential new member that inquires through our Club's website and/or referral by a member.