



## CLUB AWARD ENTRY FORM

### Annual Reporting January 1-December 31, 2019

<i>Prepared by:</i> <b>Name:</b> Barbara Reynolds		<i>Club:</i> Ebell Club of Irvine
<i>Number of Members in Club according to the CFWC Yearbook:</i> 20		
<i>Reporter's Address:</i> [REDACTED]		
<i>Club Position:</i> President		<i>CFWC Area:</i> C
<i>City:</i> Irvine	<i>State:</i> CA	<i>Zip:</i> [REDACTED]
<i>Email:</i> [REDACTED]		<i>Phone:</i> [REDACTED]
<b>Leadership</b>		

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 280,000 residents and is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city in Orange County. Our city is viewed as affluent since 68% of the residents are college graduates, the school district is highly regarded, and the population is a diverse mixture of cultures. The median household income as of 2012 was \$92,000, and the median house value was \$870,000. According to the 2018 U.S. Census ACS 5-year survey, 48% of the population was white and 42% Asian.

Our club has historically had 18 to 20 members. Most of us are retired, but we keep busy with our varied community service projects. With the city continuing to prosper, one would expect the number of club members to also grow. However, what has grown is the number of organizations with a single mission, such as CHOC Guilds, Friends of the Library, and Families Forward; unfortunately, we are all competing for same new volunteers. We are always hopeful that some of our many friends who enjoy supporting club activities will decide to become members, and we have expanded our on-line presence to enable potential volunteers to find us. However, we remain a small club of aging but energetic members who are proud to be federated.

As for Leadership, one of the hazards of being a small club where most of those willing to lead have already worn most of the hats and are cycling through again, The President assumes the role of Leadership Chair. We have six elected officers and twelve appointed chairmen. Yes, there is definitely overlapping and lots of opportunity for leadership training!

**Project: Keeping Everyone Informed      Hours: 28      Donated: \$0      In-Kind: \$ 40**

Our new club officers conduct their first meeting in June, right before we go "dark" for the summer. That meeting affords an opportunity for the First Vice President to have all the on-going projects approved, the Treasurer to present the estimated budget for approval, the Federation Officer to announce the Summer Social Luncheon, and the Public Relations Chair to gather needed info for the yearbook, which she will work on over the summer and distribute at the September General Meeting. (\$40) Each club member receives this vital publication which includes the president's inspirational message, information about board and general meetings, a list of board members and department chairpersons, the year's budget, current By-laws and Standing Rules, a list of past presidents, a membership roster, and the Collect for Club Women. (\$40)

By the August Board Meeting, officers have had a chance to go over their Officer Procedure Notebook. Over the course of the club year, each officer is asked to make any needed changes to the procedures listed and have it ready to pass on to a newly elected officer at the end of May. Each will receive handouts that have been collected at Orange District's Summer Conference and discuss plans for the coming year.

Scripted agendas are provided to members at every general and board meeting by the President. These documents enable each member in attendance to make personal notes on motions and volunteer service opportunities. On occasion, a chairman has had to refer to a previous agenda to see if a motion for an upcoming project or event has been made or still needs to be made at the next meeting. Annotated agendas are emailed by the President after the meeting to those officers and chairs who were absent. This is helpful since the minutes of the missed meeting would not be available to them until a newsletter arrives several days prior to the next General Meeting.

Links to the Orange District "Call" and "Orange Peel" newsletter are forwarded to interested members. Members are also encouraged to sign up to receive "CFWC QuickBytes" and "GFWC News and Notes" email newsletters to keep informed on what is happening beyond Orange District.

**Project: Challenges in 2019**                      **Hours: 200**                      **Donated: \$ 0**                      **In-Kind: \$ 0**

Since our small club has no Leadership Chairman, 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."

In our club, officers are elected for a one-year term. We hold the election of in April, and the new board takes over at the end of May. This means the first half of the calendar year could be under one President's leadership, and the second half possibly under a new President. 2019 would be one of those years because the two-term limit forced Dianne Lundquist to change jobs. Although we have, as a small club with about 14 members in attendance at general meeting, reduced the size of our Board to six offices, our Nominating Committee struggles to find members willing to take on an office.

My first challenge was to figure out how to be both a good President and First Vice President, which is the Dean of Chairmen for our club. Initially, no one was willing to run for President, and then no one was willing to be First Vice when I said I would be President. Thus, I decided I would fill the shoes of both officers. Having been both before, but not at the same time, I knew what I was getting into. I have tried for years to tell the group being President is the easiest job in the club as long as you have strong people in the other positions. No one believes me. My secret is to ask for help. Fortunately, those I have asked have all said, "Yes", and our 12 chairmanships are filled with appointed leaders. And I am encouraging our Second Vice President to become our next President. She has been in the club for many years, is loved by all, does an excellent job in all she takes on, but fears leading in the President's role. So, this year when I am out of town on a meeting night, which is about 6 times, she is in charge of convening the meeting. She has done a great job, and am I encouraged by her growth in becoming a more confident leader. Fingers crossed she will be President next year.

One of the first presidential duties in June was to secure a location for our general meetings. For many years we had met in a City of Irvine Community Center room for free. Unfortunately, the City changed its policy and gave us very short notice. In October of 2018, we learned that our formerly free meeting spot was now going to cost us \$25 to 30 per meeting beginning in January 2019. They said it was a "deal" for non-profit groups compared to what other groups would be charged. We did not see it as a "deal" since it was not an item in our budget! Our President, Dianne Lundquist, and the First Vice President, myself, had multiple written communications with City Staff and Council Members, several phone conversations, and a meeting

a with City personnel, but we could not come to a compromise. For a small club with an annual revenue of about \$3000, members said it was too much on such short notice and voted not to pay as it would reduce the funds available for our philanthropies. Fortunately, one member with a large home stepped forward to host the meetings. We greatly appreciated her leadership there. And it lasted us for half the year before she became ill and passed away. Another member came to our rescue over the summer by getting her homeowner's group to allow us the use of their clubhouse's community room beginning in September. We have been very fortunate and hope this meeting room will last.

The next challenge came in September when our Ways and Means officer was unable to perform her duties with regard to our primary fall fundraiser, a Hot Dog Booth at Tustin Tiller Days. As President, where the buck stops, I formed a small but dedicated committee. Our club has done this food booth for many years, so we had some good experience to guide us. The weekend (3 days) went well, and we earned double the amount budgeted. No one does it alone – my committee worked like a well-oiled machine organizing for the event, and members did their part working the shifts. As you know – Strength United Is Stronger! With the Ways and Means officer out of commission, it has provided leadership opportunities for other members. A small but regular fundraiser for us has been "Dining Out for Dollars." A member volunteered to set up 3 of these fundraising days. She has investigated which restaurants earn the club the best return, polled members on their favorites, arranged for the dates, and distributed flyers. She enjoys the task, and we enjoy the fruits of her labor. Hopefully, she too will be an elected officer next club year.

**Project: Federation Fun Keeps Members**                      **Hours: 30**                      **Donated: \$ 0**                      **In-Kind: \$ 0**

Keeping a club together demands common goals and having fun along the way to reaching those goals. Our Second Vice President is our Federation leader. This year we have an excellent leader who does not see herself as a leader. However, the ideas she proposes are well received, the turnout is strong, and members have fun. In addition to handling the reservations for all district workshops, meetings, and convention, she organizes garage sales each year at her home to raise money for the Federation Fund. This money is spent to encourage members to attend district events and to defray the cost per member of going to our Installation of Officers dinner meeting at a local restaurant. She also organizes the Summer Luncheon at a restaurant, the Holiday Dinner Potluck in December, and the Birthday Meeting Potluck in March. Through all of these socializing opportunities, we have fun while reaching our philanthropic goals. And with all her duties, she is easily the busiest leader on the Board.

**Project: Beyond Our Club**                      **Hours: 50**                      **Donated: \$0**                      **In Kind: \$ 0**

We promote attendance at District meetings by budgeting for the President's lunch and having an account for our one District officer to use to defray her costs. If the President is unable to attend a District event, a member goes in her place. We also have a Federation Fund account to defray general members' costs for attending workshops, council meetings, and convention. The funds for this account are primarily generated through Garage Sales, and the goods sold have been donated by members. It is hoped that members will become interested in holding a District position in a future year.