

## CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET

Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2023

Chairman: Diana Correa	Club: Woman's Club of Orange	
Number of Members (per CFWC Yearbook):	District: Orange	Area: C
205		
Club Position: Treasurer & Chair of Environment		
Reporter's Address:		
City:	State	Zip
Email:	Phone:	
Membership		

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 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and are the largest club in Orange District, and one of the largest in the state.

Project Title: Woman's Club of Orange Social Club Hours: 519 In-kind: \$1,200

We held a new member interest meeting at our clubhouse on Monday, July 31, 2023. It was a beautiful summer evening to enjoy snacks and refreshments in our lovely garden area. Small lights twinkled overhead with colorful tablecloths and decorations on each table. Our leader Kathleen Stevens and her committee members worked for about three months promoting this meeting for potential new members who may be working or cannot attend our daytime luncheon or section meetings. It is amazing that we had 75 responses for interest in having an evening section meeting. We discovered that not only is there an interest for younger women, but also a need to be more active in our community and to make new friends. Of the attendees to our event, we added 28 new members. We now have a new level of membership for evening members called, The Woman's Club of Orange Social Club. We are adding new members at each monthly meeting. They meet the 4th Monday of the month at 5:30pm. They are busy planning events and are instrumental in sponsoring our monthly collections and fundraising projects.

Project Title: Heart Award Hours: 4 In-kind 50

Every year in February, we recognize a member who works mainly in the background. She does her job, many times for years, without seeking any recognition. This year it was awarded to Bonnie Stebner for her work as reservation chair and assisting in the daytime Bunco section. She was awarded a "heart" pin and her name was added to the Heart Award plaque.

Project Title: Woman of the Year Hours: 4 Donation: 50

Are you friendly, positive and welcoming to new and current members? Do you go the extra mile to help others and participate in our club projects? Do you donate your time, talent and treasure to help our club sections, fundraising and events? If so, you could be a candidate for our Woman of the Year. In 2023 we selected Suzanne Vaugine for this award. She has been Director of Catering, Financial Secretary, 1st VP/Dean and has served as President twice. In addition, she participates in several sections and organizes the Flower Show Opportunity division. Congratulations to our Woman of the Year, Suzanne, for an award well deserved!

Project Title: Easter Parade Hours: 45 Donation: \$30.

It's time to break out your favorite spring hat, (remember the 50's and 60's) or create a new spring themed hat for our Easter Parade at the April meeting. Three winners are chosen for cash prizes.

Project Title: Halloween Costume Hours: 45 Donation: \$30.

It's time for your ingenuity. What will be your Halloween Costume? Our winners this year was a belly dancing witch, an "old lady" and a 20's flapper. There were so many creative costumes that it was hard to pick.

Project Title: (Ugly) Christmas Sweater Hours: 45 Donation: \$30.

Don't throw away that Christmas sweater, wear it and compete in our December parade with 3 prizes to win. One of our winners this year was decorated as a Christmas tree. It is fun to see their ingenious ideas.

Project Title: Welcome Ambassadors Hours: 176

If you are a new member or a shy person, it can be intimidating to walk into a clubhouse with over 100 people in attendance. My gut reaction is to turn around and walk out. Our solution is to have 3-5 members near the front door to greet the ladies they don't know or who might have that "deer in the headlights" look. Our Ambassador introduces themselves, walks them through the registration process, finds a table for them to sit and introduces them to members in the sections they find interesting. We have reserved seating cards for the Ambassador to save an extra seat at their own table to accompany the new member as they get acclimated.

Project Title: Buddy Program Hours: 110

We are struggling to get a Mentor/Buddy program to help the new members. We ask that a "seasoned" member be a buddy to a new member for a few months, by answering their questions, inviting them to sections, and reminding them of events to attend. We have grown by over 35 members this year and it is hard to find enough women to be the Mentor. Do you have any ideas?

Project Title: Community resources Hours: 110

In our Orange Leaf newsletter we include information so our membership is aware of what assistance is available or of important civic contacts. One of the ideas was to connect our members with "Go Orange Transportation Program" that provides van transportation to City of Orange residents that are over 60 and are self-sufficient or who have an aide to assist them. A ride voucher book can be purchased for \$5.00 and includes 6 one-way ride tickets. The actual value is \$83.

Project Title: Entry Bulletin Board Hours: 12 Donation: \$53

In our covered porch entry, we have a bulletin board on one wall. It is a great resource for what is happening in our club and is updated monthly by a very devoted member.

Project Title: Yearbook pictures Hours: 20

We are fortunate to have the largest membership in California, ending the year with 240 members. However it makes it especially hard for new members to learn names. Starting in 2022 we added pictures of members to the yearbook. It makes it so much easier to recognize and connect a face to a name.