



CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET
Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2024

Chairman: Georgia Anders-Kutch		Club: Riverside Woman's Club	
# of Club Members (as recorded in 2024-25 CFWC Yearbook): 81		District: De Anza District	Area: D
Club Position: 2 nd Vice President			
Reporter's Address: 3089 Pine Street			
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<u>Membership</u> Name of GFWC Special Program, Community Service Program, Advancement Plan or ESO			

The Riverside Woman's Club (RWC) was established in 1896 when eleven visionary women gathered in the home of Dr. Sarah Maloy, a local physician, to form the Woman's Club of Riverside. Our club's name was later changed to the Riverside Woman's Club, making us the oldest community service organization in Riverside. Some of our early accomplishments include the establishment of the Riverside American Red Cross Society, with one of our founders, Mrs. Hewitt, serving as its first president; securing funding for Riverside's inaugural public library; and launching the Riverside Community Players, whose productions were initiated by a club member. In 2024, we proudly celebrated the 128th anniversary of service and the 102nd anniversary of our historic clubhouse. As a diverse assembly of women, we are actively engaged in projects that aim to improve the lives of individuals within our community and beyond. Our initiatives include providing scholarships, giving Christmas gifts to developmentally disabled adults, donating to local food banks, serving dinner to our local firefighters, and delivering meals to women veterans experiencing PTSD, among many other efforts. Through these endeavors, the Riverside Woman's Club continues to honor its enduring "Legacy of Service," celebrating a proud history while forging a brighter future in the lives of others.

Project Title: Membership Committee **Hours** 500 **Donated \$** **In-Kind**

Membership growth and retention are essential to the success and vibrancy of the Riverside Woman's Club. The Membership Committee, along with its dedicated chair, works tirelessly to inspire both current and prospective members to engage with the Club's diverse events and committees. This year, we organized a variety of enjoyable social gatherings, warmly welcomed guests and new members, and celebrated the remarkable accomplishments and contributions of our members to both the Club and the community. We are proud to have welcomed 20 new members into our ranks, including friends and family introduced by our existing members. Additionally, our enhanced website and growing social media presence have significantly increased our visibility within the community, fostering a positive connection with potential members. A strong and active membership is vital to achieving our mission, and we are grateful to see our efforts bear fruit as we continue to grow and thrive.

Project Title: Kindness Plates **Hours** 20 **Donated \$** **n-Kind** \$15.00

This year, the Membership Committee continued the cherished tradition of presenting the *Kindness Plate*, a meaningful recognition of members whose acts of kindness and service have greatly contributed to our Club and community. Each month, nominations are invited, and the committee collaborates to thoughtfully select a recipient. Before the monthly Business meeting, the plate is creatively decorated with markers, stickers, and embellishments that reflect the honoree's unique contributions, transforming it into a personalized

keepsake. The presentation is always a highlight, bringing joy and surprise to the recipient while fostering a sense of gratitude and connection among members. This tradition not only celebrates individual efforts but also strengthens the spirit of appreciation within our Club, and we look forward to continuing it in the future.

Project Title: Star Pins **Hours** 10 **Donated** \$0 **In-Kind** \$0

This year the Riverside Woman's Club reinstated the Star Pin Award. Recruitment of new members is an important part of Membership. One of the incentives offered by the General Federation of Women's Club is the Star Pin Award. This is presented to those club members who recruit from five to twenty-nine new members for their club. We keep a current list of new members who have joined by being referred by a current member. This year we honored a long-standing member for recruiting eight new members. It is our pleasure to acknowledge our members for their contribution to our club membership by inspiring their family and friends to join the Riverside Woman's Club.

Project Title: Chat and Chill **Hours** 24 **Donated** \$0 **In-Kind** \$0

Members gather at the Club house in an informal setting for a chance to get to know one another better. By way of asking open-ended questions, our members are encouraged to open up about themselves. Members have the option to respond or pass and not answer the question. We have discovered that each discussion leads into another discussion. Our members seem to enjoy each other's company, relax and soon find that our allotted time has passed. They are in no hurry to finish up and leave the Club house.

Project Title: Wine and Paint Potluck **Hours** 80 **Donated** \$0 **In-Kind** \$250.00

Our annual Wine and Paint Potluck was held again in February. Fifteen members, family and friends joined us for a potluck dinner and painting event at our clubhouse. The cost was \$30.00 per person for painting supplies, instruction and a potluck dinner. After our meal, we joined our professional artist who provided easels, canvases, paints and brushes. The artist took us step-by-step through painting our "Easter Bunny" image. By the end of the evening even those who were reluctant "artists" had created their own personal interpretation! We laughed a lot while we shared our artwork with one another. The membership committee looks forward to planning another event next year.

Project Title: Membership Survey **Hours** 2 **Donated** \$0 **In-Kind** \$0

In preparation for our New Member Orientation, membership, along with our 1st Vice President, decided to update our survey. Our updates included a detailed checklist of the specific areas of community service opportunities our club participates in. On the reverse side we provided program descriptions in detail. This way new members have a very useful guide to our projects. We were very pleased with the responses we received. The survey provided relevant information regarding the interests and skills of our new members.

Project Title: Ladies Who Dine **Hours** 100 **Donated** \$0 **In-Kind** \$0

The Membership Committee of the Riverside Woman's Club has a two-fold purpose. The first is to actively recruit new members. The second is to retain membership by providing social activities whereby members get to know each other better in a low-key atmosphere. Several years ago, the Committee started "Ladies Who Lunch", where members got together at different local restaurants every two to three months to eat and visit with each other. It was very popular until recently when more of our members have regular jobs. The decision was made to try out a "Ladies Who Dine" format and members were encouraged to bring spouses, other family members, as well as potential new members. These dinners are also held at local restaurants every two to three months and have been very successful with a higher turn-out rate than the lunches had. Members seem very happy at the dinners and are interacting more with each other at the business meetings.

We have increased our membership from a medium to a large club and have been able to maintain that level for the last two years.

Project Title: Initiation Ceremony **Hours** 4 **Donated \$**0 **In-Kind \$**0

Membership Committee hosted our February business meeting which featured our New Member Initiation Ceremony. Along with our candle lighting, eleven new members were introduced to the club. With the assistance of the president, our new members recited our pledge and then each one was presented with their membership pin and a yellow rose, our club's flower. A warm welcoming applause followed.

Project Title: Orientation **Hours** 70 **Donated \$**0 **In-Kind \$**421.52

This year's New Member Orientation was an informal event in our clubhouse. We provided a light lunch and introductions of seven new members and our project chairs. A short presentation was given on the organizational hierarchy of the General Federation of Women's Clubs all the way through to our local club. Our historian provided a brief narrative on the origin and history of our club beginning back to 1896. Our members were then invited to join our project chairs' information tables to learn in more detail the possible projects and events they can volunteer for. There was a lot of enthusiasm and exchanges between the members and chairs with sign-up opportunities to join committees. Next, our members sat and filled out our survey to round-out the orientation goals for our newest members.