



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

Chairman: Barbara Purdy	Club: Temecula Valley Woman's Club	
Number of Members: 57	District: De Anza	Area: D
Club Position: Chair		
Reporter's Address: 31422 Jedediah Smith Rd.		
City: Temecula	State: California	Zip: 92592
Email: barbpurdy@verizon.net	Phone: 951.526.5599	
Environment		

In Southwestern Riverside County in 1980, a small group of ten service-oriented women met and founded the Temecula Valley Woman's club. They chartered CFWC/GFWC that same year and incorporated in 1981. The Temecula Valley Woman's Club Environment Committee promotes the preservation of our natural environment through education, conservation and promoting the protection of the animals that live there. We do this by raising awareness of our natural world and through development of sustainable habits that enrich our community. Our committee supports other non-profits who preserve, maintain and restore our natural resources through our volunteer hours and donations. We also support efforts that contribute to the humane treatment of animals, both domestic and wild. The following projects reflect our commitment to this mission.

Project Title: "Children Meeting Nature" Hours: 57.5 Donated: \$100.00 In-Kind: \$30.00

Our second year of providing a "hands-on" children's educational program brought a few changes this year. We changed the name to reflect our mission and focused on providing an opportunity for children of our local SAFE Family Justice Center, who experienced domestic violence, a safe place that the garden provides to discover nature. The committee, made up of ladies from the Temecula Valley Woman's Club and the Temecula Valley Rose Society put together two programs this year. The first program featured a local Project Wildlife Educator known as the "bat lady". She challenged the children to see bats as the important pollinators, led them on a journey of what bats look like, where we find them, how and what they eat, and safety in the presence of bats. She ended the program by showing the children her live ambassador bats. The program was very well liked by the children and their parents. Our second scheduled program was focused on worms and composting. Although the program had to be canceled due to unforeseen circumstances, pumpkins grown in the garden were to be given to the children of SAFE. Those twenty small pumpkins were delivered to them at their SAFE classroom before Halloween, and the children rewarded us with their smiles.

Project Title: "Pollinator Garden" Hours: 0 Donated: \$150.00 In-Kind: \$0

Rose Haven Heritage Garden is a 3.4-acre garden owned by the Temecula Valley Rose Society and is the venue for our children's programs and soil farm. This year a new Pollinator Garden was created, using native plants that attract local pollinators. We supported the Rose Society in their efforts to raise funds. We did this by inviting one of their board members to talk about the new garden at one of our General Meetings to help get the word out. We also donated; using our committee funds to purchase a butterfly gold plaque in the pollinator garden.

Project Title: "Soil Farm" Hours: 105.25 Donated: \$0 In-Kind: \$0

The Soil Farm is a community composting hub at Rose Haven Heritage Garden. Our committee partnered with members of the Temecula Valley Rose Society to provide food scraps which when composted turned into nutrient rich soil for use in the garden. We provided ninety-four buckets of food scraps. Our committee members also helped with moving mulch and cleaning buckets. Many of us attended a composting class at the garden. This added to our knowledge of how food scraps become soil. This process was one of the experiences we planned on providing for the children in our nature program later in the year.

Project Title: "C.R.R. Tour" Hours: 24 Donated: \$0 In-Kind: \$0

In our community, CR&R Waste Management, has invested in the largest anaerobic digester in the world. This technology enables them to produce clean renewable Natural Gas and compost from organic waste. We organized a tour of their facility for our committee and friends to see the digester and learn how the process works. We also learned the importance of this effort, which is to reduce local landfills which then reduces environmentally damaging methane gas. They concluded the tour by providing us with information on how to properly dispose of food and green waste in their bins, helping them to attain their State of California goals for recycling. We will use what we have learned on this tour to help them in their effort by educating those around us on this important issue. This is in line with our committee's mission of helping to protect our environment.

Project Title: "Spay/Neuter Clinic Grand Opening" Hours: 29.0 Donated: \$1,100.00 In-Kind: \$0

In January, Animal Friends of the Valleys", our local animal shelter, celebrated the Grand Opening of their new Low-Cost Spay/Neuter and Vaccination Clinic. Donors, local and state dignitaries, the general public and volunteers attended this event. A tour was given to anyone who attended and our committee helped guide people through the various rooms of the clinic and educate them on the importance of the new clinic. The former clinic could no longer accommodate the growing demand for spay and neutering animals. The new clinic will help reduce pet overpopulation in our community. In addition, it expands the services for low-cost vaccination. Our committee supports these goals and helped this year by donating our time to help educate the public about this new clinic and by contributing funds for the clinic.

Project Title: "Food for the Animal Shelter" Hours: 8.25 Donated: \$53.00 In-Kind: \$550.30

The Month of April was the Environment Committee's month at our General Meeting to ask club members to donate to one of the non-profits that we support. We focused on providing dog and cat food for our local shelter, Animal Friends of the Valleys. We used committee funds to decorate the tables at the meeting with dog and cat bowls and toys. These items were donated to the shelter along with the donations that were brought to the meeting. Every year our local animal shelter is inundated with homeless and abandoned animals. Donations help them maintain the high quality of care that these animals deserve.

Project Title: "Animal Control Officer Appreciation" Hours: 21 Donated: \$0 In-Kind: \$207.00

National Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week is celebrated every year the second full week of April, in recognition of the all that they do for the animals in our community. These officers not only rescue stray, sick or injured animals, but every year they also conduct hundreds of investigations, ranging from minor offenses to felony animal cruelty cases. We showed our appreciation by setting up a breakfast for the officers before their shift. We decorated the tables and provided a variety of breakfast items for them to eat there and/or take with them in a carry out bag. They told us that they enjoyed having time to sit and enjoy breakfast and the company of their fellow officers. There was enough left-over food to offer it to the staff at the shelter, which they also appreciated. Animal Control Officers experience compassion fatigue and this small act of respect and kindness helps offset the negative image many people still hold of them being euthanizing dog catchers instead of the heroes they truly are within our communities.

Project Title: "Deck the Halls" Hours: 16 Donated: \$0 In-Kind: \$0

It is an annual tradition that the Environment Committee ladies decorate the "Animal Friends of the Valleys" animal shelter for the holidays. Before our arrival the shelter had painted the windows in and around the shelter with beautiful holiday art paintings. This year several of the ladies from the Lake Elsmore Women's Club along with a former member of our club joined us, which we greatly appreciated. We decorated four trees and placed them and other decorations in the lobby, around the shelter and the outdoor areas. This year the shelter looked especially beautiful with their paintings and the decorations. The shelter appreciates our holiday decoration dedication. We have been told that the holiday decorations help more animals find forever homes. It is a joy to spread this holiday cheer every year.

Project Title: "Santa Rosa Plateau Nature Education" Hours: 78.25 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$0

Members of the Environmental Committee helped the Santa Rosa Plateau Nature Education Foundation by volunteering at their summer concert series and at Family Wildlife Day. The concert series is an annual fundraiser. Our volunteers helped with ticket sales, seating, and food/beverage sales. Ticket revenues help fund the various educational programs offered by foundation and reserve staff. This includes paying for buses to bring students to the reserve. Third graders participate in an outdoor education project while high

schoolers conduct research; collecting and analyzing data for the National Phenology Project. All educational programs funded by the foundation have the same objective: to inspire and empower the next generation of environmental stewards.

Family Wildlife Day is also an annual event. The foundation provides this opportunity for community members to deepen their appreciation of wildlife. Ranger-led hikes introduce families to the plateau and educate them about the plants and animals that live on the reserve. Hands-on animal encounters include bats, tortoises, opossums, foxes, and birds of prey. Our committee helped with set-up, ticket sales, photography and assisting the animal handlers. This is not a fundraiser, but an opportunity for the foundation to bring together local organizations such as Project Wildlife, Sierra Club, and Riverside County Parks to promote the preservation and protection of our environment and wildlife conservation through public education.

In addition to volunteering, TVWC environmental committee members participated in a private tour at the Santa Rosa Plateau's vernal pools. Prior to the tour, Nature Education Program Manager Marianne Lancaster gave our members an overview of the foundation's educational programs. Interpretive Ranger Rob Hicks educated us on the natural history of the vernal pool ecosystem.

Project Title: Supporting High School Gardens” Hours: 26 Donated: \$1075.00 In-Kind: \$0

Great Oak High School students organized a school club. They volunteer to work after school every Friday planting, weeding, fertilizing and otherwise caring for their school garden: a series of garden boxes and in-ground plantings of various vegetables, fruits and some native California plants. Club officers provided a guided tour of the garden to our Environmental Committee members. We visited the garden and viewed their crops as well as their compost pile and tool shed. Our committee donated \$75.00 to purchase organic compost. By utilizing the compost to nourish new plants, students get a real-life education on “the circle of life” and how the organic matter from once living things helps sustain the next generation. This garden is an outdoor learning lab in which students counter the effects of global climate change while learning general biology concepts.

Temecula Valley High School's Hydroponics Greenhouse/Native Plant Nursery/ Regenerative Agriculture Project engages students in hands-on, project driven learning. Students constructed the hydroponic greenhouse and are planting a variety of vegetables. They provide nutrients to their hydroponic plants by raising fish and using their nitrogen rich waste for fertilizer. We donated \$1,000.00 for tools, hardware & equipment. We had a student lead tour of the greenhouse and saw how much they had accomplished.

Project Title: “Penny Pines” Hours: 4.5 Donated: \$596.45 In-Kind: \$0

Penny Pines is a conservation program that helps restore our forests in the San Bernardino National Forest through individual and organizational donations. The funds are used to replant, maintain existing tree stands and improve wildlife habitat. A 10-acre plantation can be purchased for \$68. This year our Penny Pines Project collected donations from members with a little log cabin that is passed around at each General Meeting for a total of \$596.45. This is not quite enough money to purchase 10 plantations this year. One of our committee members gave an informative presentation about Penny Pines at the November General meeting. This inspired our members to donate, and donations for November were significantly higher. This increase in membership donation, will help us reach our goal in early 2025.