



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

Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2024

Chairman: Susan Deleon	Club: Hemet Woman's Club	
# of Club Members (as recorded in 2024-25 CFWC Yearbook): 39	District: De Anza	Area: D
Club Position: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Membership)		
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<div><u>MEMBERSHIP</u></div>		

The Hemet Woman's Club was founded in 1906! We celebrate these women whose foresight envisioned a community library and dedicated their efforts to ensure its success. The legacy handed down from the original group of 13 women was focused on improving the quality of life in our valley through a wide variety of special projects. Through the years we have fostered the General Federation of Woman's Club's motto of "Living the Volunteer Spirit" as it continues our commitment to community service today.

**Project Title:** Let's Hit the Pavement **Hours** 150 **Donated \$** 397.50 **In Kind** \$ 53.72

The members are forgetting to bring a friend. What happened? Since only one member was recruited in the last 9 months, the Hemet Woman's Club decided to take a different approach, by going out in the community. Our President wanted to bring diversity of color to our club, so she suggested we attend the June Nineteenth event at a local park. Five members represented the club. Many ladies signed in with names and emails. The Chairman didn't get any responses when she reached out. So, the next event she decided to add a column for phone numbers and that seem to work out much better. Emails are hard to read, and some get lost in the spam folders. Lesson learned.

Other recruitment efforts involved three members attending a Chamber of Commerce Business Expo and the club's Holiday Bazaar. A large cardboard trifold with pictures of the clubs' projects was displayed with the club leaflets at each of the events. Many women that showed interest in our club signed our guest list with emails and phone numbers. The membership chairman called prospective members if there was no response to an email.

Club pamphlets are displayed every two weeks at the Chamber of Commerce and the Hemet Library. The chairman handed members club pamphlets at the general meeting and encouraged members to invite a friend to a meeting. It's a group effort! Word of mouth is still the best advertisement. The chairman is continually searching out for new members at two places where she volunteers.

Many members greeted our 11 guests at their first meeting in September and they expressed the club's friendliness which made them feel part of the group. Each first-time attendee received a free lunch and was given a mini-orientation packet, which included the history of General Federation of Woman's Club (GFWC), California Federation Woman's Club (CFWC), and information about the club's projects. The club members were so excited when five new members immediately volunteered at 5 club projects. The Chairman recognized and rewarded these members with gifts at the next general meeting.

Orientation will be in January of 2025 at a member's home with a potluck lunch. The club thought it would be a cozier atmosphere to get to know one another. Mentors have selected a new member to guide throughout the upcoming year. Membership handbooks were revised and will be distributed at the January Orientation.

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In 2023-2024 the club increased its membership to 50. By the end of the club-year the number dropped to 39. This Chairman recruited 12 new members in 3 months which includes two reinstated members with a total of 51. The next goal is to retain these new members by keeping them involved and making them feel needed.

**Project Title:** Awards and Recognition   **Hours:** 45   **Donated \$** \$64.00   **In-Kind** None

Our last meeting of the club year, in May, is our annual meeting when all the special awards are given, members are honored, and new officers are Installed. This year was no exception. Two members were given 10-year pins and a certificate of accomplishment. One member was given a 20-year pin, also with a certificate of accomplishment.

The "Friendship Plate" is a tradition in the club. This is special plate of baked goodies given from the previous winner to a member that has touched them in a special way or has done something special for the club. This was the fourth time the plate had been given this club-year. The plate itself is not special, but the being recognized by a fellow club member is!

"Volunteer of the Year" was announced! This award is voted on by the membership and given to a member who has given exceptional service to the club. The winner this year has given numerous hours working on craft items for the club. One exceptional project being displaying her crafty talent in the Children's section of the library where she monthly arranges children's books and her craft creations to encourage children to read.

**Project Title:** Keeping In Touch   **Hours:** 37   **Donated \$** None   **In-Kind** None

Because the Hemet Woman's Club goes "dark" in the summer months, we schedule special activities to keep in touch with our members and know what is going on in our community. Our region experiences very warm temperatures during this time, so we usually arrange indoor events in the air conditioning. During the months of June and July, six members and 2 guests met and enjoyed comedic movies as a way to socialize and escape the heat. Then in August, there was a unique opportunity to attend an event at our local Western Science Center which is a nationally known natural history museum located here in Hemet. On August 24, they hosted a one-day Paleontology Convention where paleontologists came from different states and even other countries to study the center's 1.5 million fossils and artifacts. This event featured paleontologists from across the country teaching and explaining fascinating exhibits as well as being able to meet and ask in person the scientists about their work. Participants were able to do hands-on activities as well. Our five members and three guests totally enjoyed the day, especially the fact they could enjoy this event within a comfortable temperature.

Having an opportunity to do new and interesting things outside of our meetings was a good way to have some fun, learn some fascinating history as well as be inspired and meet new people. Sure, beats sitting around complaining about the heat, doesn't it?

**Project Title:** A Rose for Our New Member **Hours:** 15 **Donated \$** 36.31 **In-Kind** None

One new member joined in the beginning of the year and was initiated in May with our traditional Rose Ceremony. The white rose is the official flower of the Hemet Woman's Club. A bouquet of roses symbolizes the General Federation of Woman's Clubs, with the yellow rose of the CFWC and the red rose of the GFWC. The white rose was handed our new member. As she adds her white rose to the bouquet the speaker tells the members, "You hold a share of this bouquet, which exemplifies service, leadership and friendship in this organization." Our hope is members understand and feel part our Federation. The Federation pin was then presented to her. Name tags made locally, are offered for \$14.14 at the member's expense.

