

Top 10 Club Projects

1-New Jersey Mission of Honor whose goal is to Identify, Honor and Inter unclaimed cremated veterans with the help of the Veterans Administration. The **Woman's Club of Norwood/Northvale** (28 members) heard about this program and contacted them for a presentation at a club meeting. The NJ Mission of Honor group contacts funeral homes, hospitals, crematoriums to locate cremains that have never been buried. They comb the facility's records to find which are veterans. Local, state and national laws are followed in identification and then try to locate family members. The cremains are placed in a beautiful wood urn with an insignia of the branch of service that the veteran served in. The cost of the urn was \$300 and members of the club spent 20 hours in this project and raised, in house the purchase price for one urn.

2. The **Little Silver Woman's Club** began a new project in 2020 called "Gowns for Military Women" and were recognized by their Mayor for their efforts. The five members advertised the project in flyers and by word of mouth. They collected gowns, costume jewelry, evening bags and shoes for military wives. This project inspired the military women to open a building on the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (Air Force, Army & Navy Joint Base) to display the gowns and accessories. The women paid \$15 to take home the dress and return it after it has been dry cleaned and they receive their money back. 50 hours were spent receiving \$400 in kind donations.

3. The **North Brunswick Woman's Club** was contacted by the town's high school guidance teacher for help with "Operation Home Plate". Several students and their families were struggling to put food on their tables. The basic needs were unfillable by the local food bank and school food program. The 32 members of the Club heard the guest speaker at a meeting and members were sent a list of these family's needs. In addition to the original donations, the club also repeated the collection with Thanksgiving baskets. Members put forth the effort in 40 hours, collecting \$300 in cash donations and \$1,500 worth of in-kind donations.

4. While attending a town hall meeting in response to some violence in their community, the members of the **Franklin Woman's Club** (47 members) invited the town's Director of Public Safety for a program on "Civic Safety and Racism". The Director (the first African-American and first female to head up the local police public safety department) spoke on community policing, initiatives, the Citizen's Police Academy and more. Continuing member's education, some attended workshops on systemic racism held by the Douglass Alumnae Association (part of Rutgers University) and relayed the information to other members. There was no cost assigned to these events and members spent a total of 58 hours in this project.

5. Partnering with the Hudson County Genealogical & Historical Society in an effort to assist a local boy scout with his Eagle Scout Project, the **Woman's Club of Arlington** (49 members) helped with "Patriots Grave and Legacy" project. 35 hours were spent in restoring 777 headstones in the Soldiers' Circle at Kearny's Arlington Cemetery. Headstones were scraped and scrubbed with D/2 biological solution and water. The headstones, some dating back to the Revolutionary War, were once again whitened as the years of dust and grime disappeared.

6. The 37 members of the **Junior Woman's Club of Sparta** joined together in December to "Make A Senior Smile". A collection bin was set up for small gift items for local senior residents of the Homestead Nursing Home and Knoll View Assisted Living facilities. The initiative was advertised to the community. A total of 105 gift bags with cards and hand-made drawings were delivered to make the seniors holiday a little brighter. The members spent 17 hours on this project and collected \$1,057 of in-kind gifts.

7. A chance meeting at a local church inspired a member of the **GFWC Woman's League of Mount Holly** to have a new project brought to the attention of the 41 members. A speaker at a meeting relayed how the migrant workers coming to south New Jersey left their children to work in the fields. The members of the Club quickly decided to put together a "Migrant Workers Outreach" project, which will be continuing in the years to come. Collecting \$1,098 worth of snacks, school and craft items for the children, as well as some personal items for the female workers, the club spent 14 hours on this project.