

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC Leadership

Top 10 Creative Projects

1. **Montville Township Woman's Club** president spent a few months teaching the members the "ins and outs" of Zoom Meetings. Each month the club met for board and business meetings via Zoom. Once club members felt comfortable using Zoom, they spent time teaching members how to access the NJSFWC website to utilize the materials section which has the answers to most questions that clubwomen would have.
2. **Suburban WC of Pompton Plains** president felt it was her responsibility to "watch" for the overall wellbeing of her members. She reminded them to get moving; to do some sort of exercise, get dressed, put on make-up, use the fancy dishes & glasses being saved for special events, start their cars every other day. She started "laughter" emails. Each day a laugh or encouraging thought was sent to club members. Members came to look forward to president's email each day and have started to send her jokes and upbeat pictures to share with others.
3. As a new club president, **WC of West Milford** utilized her President's manual and shared with her executive board who realized the value of the president's manual which included information that every officer could use. They hosted a district meeting (before shutdown) explaining to members how the district is the next level before NJSFWC and really talking about GFWC and how their club fits into the big "picture". It seems the more the members learn, the more they want to know. The tips were just as helpful to seasoned members who some had forgotten the role of certain positions that had not been followed.
4. **GFWC Woman's League of Mt. Holly** president recognized one member at each monthly meeting with "ATTA A Girl" Award. Each member recognized exhibited exceptional volunteerism during the month and received a framed certificate and a \$10 gift card purchased by the president. She felt it motivated members to work harder to be recognized.
5. Having all new officers, many chairman openings for CSP and nearly a third of their members were new, **GFWC Woman's League of Mt. Holly** president came up with "Pie Theory". She first asked seasoned members to act as chairman overseeing new members who would be responsible for a project within a CPS and would report back to them. The chairman would guide the members and be responsible for the report. She looked at what projects they supported and which CSP encompassed those projects. Each CSP was looked at as a pie and each project a slice of the pie. The president thoroughly explained each piece of the pie and how important it was to the whole. The new members have assumed their role as a vital part of the pie making them feel how important they are to the club.
6. After reading about Haddon Fortnightly Memorial High School's Leadership project, **The Haddon Fortnightly & EMD (Evening Membership Department)** contacted the high school to partner with these young leaders. They worked with high school

sophomores on their “Affinity for Animals Leadership Project”. Knowing how important it is to develop leadership skills in young women, the club partnered with these young ladies to help them write letters to local pet stores and make phone calls to secure items for the Animal Adoption Center and the Animal Welfare Association. One member who had made pet toys in the past, shared the pattern in the club newsletter and with the girls. A local quilt shop donated t-shirts which were used to make some of the pet toys. Sixteen pet toys were made by hand and 19 toys were donated along with a cash donation for the centers.

7. **Woman’s Club of Upper Montclair** joined their local business association so they could partner with local business owners for town wide events. This also gave business owners an awareness of the Woman’s Club beautiful and spacious club house and parking lot. Two officers attended meetings in person until April due to Covid in March. Monthly meetings have continued via Zoom and the officers believe once the world opens up, that their club house will have many requests for rentals.
8. With Covid came isolation and The **Woman’s Club of Brielle** were concerned about all of their members, but especially the ones who don’t have email or computer access. They started “Phone Buddies” to help club members stay in touch and not feel so isolated. Members were asked to call at least 2 club members each week to chat and stay connected. They also sent birthday and Christmas cards this year. They felt the members needed to hear from the club not just on a “hey we are holding this event, what can you do”! Phone buddies has been so successful the club may continue even after the pandemic is gone.
9. Encouraging members of the club to become aware of materials offered by NJSFWC and GFWC is one of the missions of her leadership as president of The **Women’s Club of Caldwell**. At monthly meetings, first in person, then via zoom, members are encouraged to sign up for News and Notes and NJSFWC E-Connection. The NJSFWC monthly ALMANAC is shared with the members as is Clubwoman Magazine. This president has also requested that their club newsletter be shared with federation leadership feeling is important for state leaders to know what their club is doing also.
10. **The Woman’s Club of Brielle** honors one member each year for her commitment to Federation, the club, community and family – The Tulip Award. They also honor someone from outside their club who has gone out of their way to help the club achieve their goals and help the community – The Sweetheart Award. Another award is to someone from their community who has gone above and beyond in their commitment to the community – The Goodfellow Award. Sometimes this has been given to local businesses who have helped the club or to a husband of a member who went above and beyond. They also place members on the NJSFWC Honor Roll which is given at convention to club women who continue to do amazing things for their club. A tribute is read and flowers given to the honoree at convention in front of their peers.
11. **Boys Charity Group is a Juniorette** club made up of all boys. They felt this project showed their leadership. They hosted a virtual tutoring offering local 2nd – 4th grader help in the age of virtual school. The boys encouraged the younger kids to learn and to navigate their way in the new dimension of homeschool. One of the juniorettes wrote

this “our tutoring activity was a great experience because you get to teach younger students the things that you were taught by your teachers at that age. Also, after a few lessons with your student you felt like you started to connect with them which is great for both of you and makes teaching them easier”. Even though the student was the one being taught, the one tutoring was learning about how to teach and possibly have discovered a career path. It takes a leader to be able to work and teach younger students.