**NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN’S CLUBS**

**ARTS AND CULTURE Top 10 projects**

**MOST CREATIVE PROJECT:**

“A Day in Harlem, Bus Tour “ (Thursday Morning Club, Inc. Madison)

“ After numerous cancellations due to Covid, our bus tour of Harlem finally happened on October 27, 2021 with 37 members on board. From 9:30AM-4:30 PM our members toured Harlem with two tour guides, whose knowledge of the community was astounding. The roots of Harlem run wide and deep and we observed and learned about Jewish Harlem, colonial Harlem, the Harlem Renaissance, and present day Harlem.

We learned about Alexander Hamilton’s ties and life in Harlem when we visited his home and the home of his wife and family. We toured the Apollo Theater, St John the Divine’s Church, Schomburg Center, Grants Tomb, and Hamilton Heights. Lunch was held at Amy Ruth’s Restaurant, a soul food destination through the years. At the end of the tour attendees were well versed in the richness of this community, which was the first suburb created in New York City.”

**CLUB: THE PORCH CLUB OF RIVERTON**

This club created a “Roaring 20s Fun Raiser” where the turned their clubhouse into a glamorous speakeasy night club complete with feather decorations and gilded age posters. Members went to the nines with 20’s costumes and many displayed their acting talents by portraying characters of the era, and several members played mobsters and molls. There was also a piano player accompanied by a night club singer. All were encouraged to dance when they conducted Charleston lessons. Dancing, singing and acting all provided for a spectacular “Fun Raiser.”

**CLUB: THE WOMAN’S CLUB OF PARAMUS**

This club produced a show titled “The Dolly Follies” because they believe their members are “dolls from all walks of life.” The routine included music, dancing and comedy, all with the title of “doll” include in it. The choreography was created with an “age factor” in mind, choosing music from different decades. There was a dance where all were seated then stood to tap dance and another act with a fun choreographed dance.

**CLUB: WOMAN’S CLUB OF ARLINGTON**

This club, along with their local library, sponsored a four session virtual program on “Fast Fiction.” The members were taught writing techniques to produce fast fiction stories that they later presented at a club meeting. During sessions, the students wrote a list of items around a particular topic, then choose one to write about, getting feedback from the leader. When the sessions were completed, all members were encouraged to share their stories during a club meeting.

**CLUB: THE HADDON FORTNIGHTLY EMD**

The club made braided pet toys and donated them to an Animal Adoption Center. They collected old T-shirts, cut them into strips and braided them for a dog toy.

**CLUB: WOMAN’S CLUB OF PARAMUS**

The club purchased Beach Rocks from Home Depot in addition to digging up large rocks from the yard. After washing the rocks, letting them dry overnight, designs were painted using acrylic paints and acrylic pens. A sealant was sprayed or brushed on before Sharing the Kindness Rocks throughout the County Park Walking Trail. Our Health and Wellness Department frequently walk and look for the rocks four times a week. The club tries to do this project twice a year because everyone enjoys sharing the Kindness Rocks in State Parks as well.”

**CLUB: PINE LAKES WOMAN’S CLUB**

The club held a Downton Abby Victorian Tea. Clubwomen dressed up with “flowered hats, pearls and long white gloves and boas.” Prizes were awarded to the three best dressed women for the event. The tea party had scones and lemon curd, egg salad on whole wheat, cucumber with cinnamon butter on white bread, ham salad on pumpernickel, chocolate brownies, Orange Nut Bread with Cream Cheese and fresh whipped cream with strawberries set amongst beautiful Lenox china with menu cards. It looked like a magazine photo,

**CLUB: GFWC WOMAN’S CLUB OF RUNNEMEDE**

In the months of June, July August five members participated in creating a 132-page cookbook entitled “Recipes Around the World”. Each member researched, typed, and edited recipes from two countries for a total 169 recipes. Each country had a selection of appetizers, soups, salads, side dishes, entrees, and desserts common to their cuisine. There were six meetings to coordinate the details.

**CLUB: WOMAN’S CLUB OF UPPER MONTCLAIR**

Montclair, An Artist Colony in the 1800’s was the theme of a program featuring guest speaker, Erin Benz from the Montclair History Center. He spoke on George Inness, a famous artist, and many artists who joined him because of the Montclair landscapes. The centerpieces were Hydrangea and Lavender from the chairman’s garden. Thirty -five members attended, and two clubwomen poured tea. Many women baked delicious desserts. George Inness was a famous artist and many artists joined him because of the Montclair landscapes. Erin sold the 13 Colonies Cookbook Some examples in the cookbook were “Chocolate Sauerkraut Cake “ where sauerkraut was used instead of milk since there was a lack of refrigeration during this period. “Benne Seed Wafers “since the benne seeds were easily available. The “Cheddar Cheese Biscuits “ recipe had no sugar.

**CLUB: MILLVILLE WOMAN’S CLUB**

Ten members got together to create embellished pillows for members that were “home bound” during Covid. This kind gesture brought smiles to their faces. They used fabric markers, and news print between layers so the ink did not bleed through. Patterns of hearts, tear drops and circles to make flowers were cut out.

**CLUB: WOMAN’S CLUB OF MERCHANTVILLE**

After a club meeting members 15 members stayed to make 96 holiday favors for a local nursing home. Tasks included folding paper to make a holder for the candy, putting candy in the holder and putting stickers to hold the candy in and put our name on the favor. The favors were delivered to a local nursing home.