

**NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**  
**EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES**  
**Top Ten Club Projects 2024**

1. This year the **Pines Lake Woman's Club** supported the **REACH OUT AND READ** program at the St. Joseph's Family Health Center located in Paterson, NJ by collecting 141 new and lightly used books (64 hours, 66 miles, \$318). Each used book is examined to ensure cleanliness before being donated to the center. If books do not meet that criteria they are donated to local libraries. This is a national, nonprofit literacy program, started in 1989 to promote early literacy by bringing new books and the importance of reading to the children, right in the pediatric exam room. Trained medical staff, caring parents, and members of the club, strive to achieve the goals of the program. Most books are collected at garage sales often receiving them for free when the seller finds out the use
  
2. The Woman's Club of Woodstown began **The Wash Tub Project** local laundromat with the assistance of the owner. After approaching the owner with the idea, he provided several shelves so the club could start a Library for the children who frequent the laundromat. The **Wash Tub Children's Library** is very popular and books are constantly replaced. Members purchase new books on a regular basis and seek out used books all the time. Two members maintain this project checking on the needs. Seasonal books are placed on site and any leftover ones are removed to recycle for the next year. A small book plate is placed inside the cover with the Club name, The Woman's Club of Woodstown. 200 new books were placed in our Wash Tub project for a total of 25 hours with \$225.00 in in-kind donations.
  
3. The **Woman's Club of Caldwell**, while still working with the local public library, also decided to support their local school libraries which are underfunded. This year they decided to put new books in the hands of the children through their school libraries. In recognition of School Library Month, they donated \$100 worth of books to the each of the six elementary school libraries in the Caldwell, West Caldwell and North Caldwell School Districts. The club requested that their donations be spent on new American Libraries Association award winning books. They contacted the School Librarians in each school and asked for a list of books they would like. Once that list was received, the books were ordered. When they were delivered, the club members sorted them and placed the club's bookplate sticker in the inside front cover. The books were personally delivered to each school.
  
4. The **Gloucester County Women's Club** once again supported their "**Look For A Book**". The members obtained used children's books from their library, garage sales and also purchased new books. These were placed in plastic sealable storage bags with a flyer indicating it was a "hidden book project" from the Women's Club. Inside was an explanation about the project and instructions for the finder. Once the book was read then the child was to hide it for someone else to find. The books packets were placed on local park benches and near playground equipment during good weather from May to October. Articles about the project were placed on the club website, town newspaper and flyers around the town. This year club members place 70 books, spent 20 volunteer hours and \$60 in in-kind donations.
  
5. The members of the **Franklin Woman's Club** collected gently used and new books for children from PreK through grade 5. They donated books to the Franklin Township elementary schools. Through the use of social media apps and the generosity of club members donated several hundred books with a final total of **2200 books** to donate to the schools. Members volunteered

to advertise, pick up books, manage book drop offs, sort, and deliver the books to the school, putting additional books in homes and children's hands.

6. During the month of March, 20 members from the **Woman's Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills** participated in reading to 203 children at Parsippany & Lake Hiawatha Children's Library, Morris County Head Start and Parsippany Day Care. Books were donated to each facility during their visit. Club members wore Cat in the Hat outfits and had as much fun as the children. At one of the Libraries they read "*Green Eggs and Ham*" by Dr. Seuss and the children did a Green egg and Ham craft project with paints. It got wonderfully messy. The club has been asked to return and will begin a new program to read more often to the Library Children.
7. The **Woman's Club of Lacey** sponsored a third grade poster contest at each of the townships four elementary schools. Students created a poster depicting a book they have enjoyed during the year, then draw a favorite part of the book. Each school's principal and third grade teachers selected 5 posters from their school to submit to the contest. At the March meeting club members voted by ballot for the best poster from each school. The club purchased Barnes and Nobles Gift for the top three winners. These awards were presented during a special presentation to the winning student.
8. The **Woman's Club of Denville-Rockaway Area** supported the Appalachian Prison Book Project Organization this year. The club members collected 166 books, which were transported to West Virginia by one of the club members. The Organization sends free books to people imprisoned in six Appalachian states (West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio and Maryland) and hosts book clubs inside prisons in their region and is leading an effort to bring credit college courses into prison.
9. The **Woman's Club of Upper Saddle River** Book Club grew in both interest and membership that they decided to continue the book club through the summer months. To make it interesting the hostesses paired the book discussion with décor and snacks appropriate to the theme/settings of the books. Every month they served a cuisine linked to the book they were reading. For example, members prepared Chinese food for ***Lady Tan's Circle of Women***, Indian Food for the ***The Widows of Malabar Hill***, seafood for ***Remarkably Bright Creatures*** and a watermelon carved like an elephant for ***The Lioness***. Members also toured the Holocaust Museum in Rockland County while reading ***The Midwife of Auschwitz*** and after reading ***The Tell-Tale Heart*** by Edgar Allen Poe, they toured his Cottage in the Bronx. Each December they end their meeting with a holiday book swap.
10. The **Junior Woman's Club of Jefferson Township** hosted a town wide 5K called the Wrobo run where 80% of all the profits go to a deserving foundation or charity. This year the club awarded the Jefferson Township Education Fund with the profits of the run. This amounted to over \$7500 which was put towards grants for the township teachers to enhance the educational experience for the students. This was especially important this year since the Jefferson Township Education Fund lost one of their biggest fundraisers and would not have been able to afford Spring Grant