CHAPTER NAME
Crown Club of Rogers/Bentonville

Submitted by Name and Email Address
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FOUNDING YEAR OF CROWN CLUB
2012

NUMBER OF CROWN CLUB MEMBERS
38

JA CHAIR/CO-CHAIRS OF CLUB
Beth Parmley/Kim Lemna

Give brief description of Crown Club, including age range of members, how members are selected, how projects are chosen, how often and how long members meet, and all requirements for membership, including meeting attendance and service hours worked.

Girls in the 8th through 12th grade whose mothers are active, associate or life members of Junior Auxiliary are eligible to join Crown Club. After their provisional year they are allowed to invite one person to join the club whose mother isn’t affiliated with JA. Meetings are held monthly for 2 hours (1 education hour followed by a 1 hour general meeting) and each member is required to attend 2/3 of the meetings for the year. Projects are voted on by the members and each member is required to perform 15 service hour for the year as well as 2 finance hours.
Does the club have a Web site?
No

Name of project being nominated:
Parent's Night Out

How long has this club performed this project?
3 years

Cost of project:
400

Method of funding it?
Membership dues and JA contribution

Number of JA advisors directly assisting with project:
6

Number of people helped by project:
30

Is this a one-time project, or ongoing?
Ongoing

Essay

Digital Photo
2017-_PNO-2.JPG

If this Crown Club has a constitution, please upload a copy.
Sent from National Association of Junior Auxiliaries, Inc.
In August 2014 members of the Crown Club of Rogers/Bentonville learned of an unfilled need in their community. Many resources were available in the area to help special needs children but little was available that tended to the needs of the parents of these kids. Parents of special needs children are often overwhelmed and exhausted, and they don’t usually have time to devote to themselves or to their relationship. The girls wanted to give these parents a chance to unwind and tend to their own needs because that will help them be the best parents they can be. With that in mind, Parent’s Night Out was created. Parents can bring their special needs children and their siblings to a safe place to be entertained and cared for by the loving members of Crown Club. Since then Crown Club of Rogers/Bentonville has hosted a Parent’s Night Out twice per year.

The most recent event was 8/25/17 and 28 Crown Club members began planning and prepping for the event in May. For each Parent’s Night Out a theme is chosen and this time the girls chose Toy Story. Several leaders stepped forward to chair the activities for the night. The chairs and their committee members worked to create many crafts and games to keep the children entertained for the evening, and the food committee came up with clever Toy Story themed ideas for dinner and snacks. The Crown Club president, Hannah Collins, worked diligently on the schedule for the night and assigning tasks. Each special needs child requires an adult to care for them through the evening, so she assigned senior girls and Junior Auxiliary members to those children. Hannah assigned other Crown Club members to be sibling helpers for the evening. Sibling helpers make sure that every brother or sister has a good time and spends the entire night with them. The remaining members work the craft and game stations. This is definitely an “all hands on deck” evening and a very busy night for the club. The children are there for four hours, however set up and take down for the evening requires several more hours that day.
While this is an exhausting evening, the members of Crown Club look forward to the event each time they host it. Members have commented that they find it rewarding to help others and they find Parent’s Night Out gives them a chance to build bridges and understanding with the special needs community. The girls are learning to treat these children with dignity and a sense of profound respect. They are learning to accept people of all abilities and show love and appreciation for who a person is instead of what they can, or cannot do. This project is meant to serve the community but the members of Crown Club find that it serves them even more.