

Zonta Club of Lockport, N.Y. Inc. Zonta International

ZONTA CLUB OF LOCKPORT HISTORY

Zonta Club of Lockport, N.Y. Inc.

P.O. Box 389

Lockport, New York 14095-0389

Charter No. 11

November 5, 1920

Club # 04030011

District 4, Area 3

. Zonta Club of Lockport, N.Y. Inc. P.O. Box 389, Lockport, N.Y. 14095-389. Charter No. 11. Chartered November 5, 1920. Club 04030011, District 4, Area 3. Sponsored by the Zonta Club of Buffalo, it was also the first club to be chartered after the first Conference.

. Meetings: September through June. Business Luncheon Meeting, First Tuesday at Noon. Program Dinner Meeting – Third Tuesday, 5:30 Cocktails, Dinner at 6 P.M. Program at 6:30 P.M. Our Picnic Meeting is in the Summer. Board Meetings are held Monthly prior to the Program Dinner, 5:00P.M.

. Standing Committees : Bylaws (Parliamentarian); Finance Committee; Organization, Membership & Classification Committee; Rose Day; Public Relations and Communication Committee; Historian, ECF & Z News; Service Committee-Phantom Ball; Search Committee; Scholarship Committee; Status of Women Service Committee; Amelia Earhart, YWPA, Z Clubs, International Scholarships; UN & International Emphasis Committee; ZISVAW.

. Other Committees: Attendance, Properties, Hours & Penny-a-Meal; Environment-Beautification of City; Sunshine; Ways & Means & Special Events; Picnics, Christmas Party, & May Banquet.

. Membership: Our club started with 32 members in 1920 and grew to over 90 in the 1980's. Since then the number have gradually gone down to a steady

42. Since around 2000 they have gone down and now are at our original number of 32.

. Service projects: The major projects are, Phantom Ball (Jan-May), and our Fall Fundraiser (June-Nov.) We also fund smaller project during the year on the recommendation of our Search Committee.

. Advocacy: Projects have included support for the International Institute of Buffalo, specifically helping young women caught up in trafficking in our community, Our Beautification Committee came as a result of one of our own being attacked in a parking lot one block off Main St and we realized the surroundings in our community made a huge difference in the safety and protection of women and children. Our area is made up of large farms and orchards and vineyards. Over the years we have helped with projects for migrant workers.

Members of our club have personified the goals of Zonta by working outside our club to serve on Boards of Directors including the Gregg Lewis foundation, Planned Parenthood, local School Boards, Leadership Niagara, and the Niagara Educational Foundation, The Chamber of Commerce, The Dale Association, the YWCA and the Food Pantry. . Many hours have been spent in our state capital, Albany, N.Y. and in Washington D.C. meeting congressmen and speaking up for women and children.

. Fundraisers: For 46 years our spring fundraiser has been our very successful Phantom Ball. Invitations are sent out April 1st (April Fool's Day), to the community inviting patrons to an elegant evening which does not exist. For a contribution patrons can stay at home and enjoy a quiet evening. There is no need to hire a baby sitter, no need to buy a new dress or rent a tuxedo. You can curl up in your pajamas and relax. The funds form this project has helped many organizations and agencies to advance the ideals of Zonta.

Another innovation in the 1980's was our Road Rally for Reading, where a driving course was laid out by a professional and participants followed prescribed instructions, This project produced the funds to start the Literacy Volunteer Program at our local Public Library.

Our Fall Fundraiser changes as times change but always provides us with the funds for our scholarships for young women graduating from high school and for women reentering college later in life. Our area has grown in the number of vineyards resulting in the Niagara Wine Trail. Our current Fall Fundraiser is our popular Dinner and Wine Paring.

Lockport area organizations which have benefited from the efforts of Lockport Zontians are; The American Red Cross, Eastern Niagara Hospitals, the Dale Association the Lockport Public Library, the YWCA, the Mental Health Association of Niagara County, Niagara Hospice, Meals on Wheels, the Senior Companion Program, the 4-H Center, the Lockport Community Pool, Cornell Cooperative Extension's Aquaponics and many others,

. District and International: Since 1921 when Zonta Club of Lockport sent a delegate to the first Convention we have participated in District and International meetings. Grace Moody, of Lockport, was elected to the first Board of the Confederation Zonta clubs (to become Zonta International six years later). We have sent representatives and delegates to District and International conferences continually since that first meeting in 1921.

Offices Held: District 4 Area 3 Directors: Betty Hall, Loraine Raczkiewicz. Carol Spedding, Katharine Wehrmeyer, Secretary Esther Prudden.
District 4 Governors: Betty Hall and Loraine Raczkiewicz.

The Lockport Zontians hosted District C in 1927.

The Spring Workshop – Action in Growth was held in Lockport in 1995.

Our formal International service program began in 1965 providing aid to post World War Two refugees in Hungary and Germany. Since then we've funded mobile units in Ghana, safe drinking water (in Sri Lanka), funded revolving loans in Egypt, vaccinated women against maternal and neonatal tetanus in Nepal and Afghanistan.

Each year we honor Yellow Rose Day by recognizing women who have made a difference in our community. We write an article about them for the local newspaper and present them with a yellow rose. If they are not members we invite them to join our Zonta Club.

We participate in YOUNG Women in Public Affairs by inviting graduating Seniors of area High Schools to participate. We honor the winner of the competition at our March Dinner Meeting with our \$100.00 prize and she is entered into the District competition.

Over the years we have also given to the International Service Fund both as a club and individually, International Advocacy, the International Endowment Fund and most recently in the Status of Women Stop Domestic Violence Bracelets.

Prepared by Jane Wendel

April 2014

Archives are stored at the Dale Association
33 Ontario St., Lockport, N.Y. 14094