

Club History

On May 27, 1973 an organizational meeting sponsored by the Zonta Club of Burlington was held with women from the Oakville Chamber of Commerce. On November 4 a charter luncheon was held at the Holiday Inn and the Zonta Club of Oakville was born. Alice Kerr was the first President.

This was a vibrant group with many members from different professions and they worked hard to make a name for the club in the community through fundraising and service work. In the first decade the club had many achievements:

- Gave an annual music award to a graduating high school student.
- Gave an annual scholarship to a graduate in the social work program at Sheridan College.
- Partnered with the Red Cross to coordinate an annual blood donor clinic.
- Started a poison prevention program for which the club received an award from District IV.
- Received the Governor's Cup award from District IV for the Woman-of-the-Month program during International Women's Year.

In 1981 Past International President Edna Nairn joined the club on a transfer from Windsor and the club continued to grow and develop.

- Hosted a non-traditional careers day with University Women's Club.
- Had a voting delegate at the National Action Committee in Ottawa.
- 1982 hosted our first spring workshop.
- 1984 participated in the Santa Claus parade
- 1985 became friendship club with Osaka, Japan.
- Zonta crest was put on the town sign.
- 1986 Zonta International Convention held in Toronto.
- 1986 started doing bingo as a fundraiser.
- 1988 three members attended international convention in Helsinki.
- "Buckle up baby" program for infant auto restraints that comply with Ontario's seat belt law.
- Christmas wrapping booth at Hopedale Mall.

The club experienced a slump as members became older and retired or moved away. In 2000 the club underwent a rejuvenation and modernization that took our service and advocacy in a different direction.

- Started hosting IWD event with WHAM.
- Relay for Life.
- Songs for the Soul.
- Car rally.
- Scholarships for high school students.
- [Free-Them].
- Zonta Classic golf tournaments.
- Lunafest
- Emergency and long term women's centres.