

ZONTA CLUB OF ST. CATHARINES

BRIEF HISTORY

The organization meeting for the Zonta Club of St. Catharines, Ontario took place at the Leonard Hotel on St. Paul Street in St. Catharines on December 14, 1928. We received our charter in 1929 but the actual date of the charter dinner is uncertain. Our club was the fourth Zonta Club formed in Ontario, Canada. There were 17 inaugural members including Jessie Etkins who was the Club's charter President. Our sponsoring club was the Zonta Club of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Many of our Zontians have held office at the District and International levels. Jessie Etkins was the Zonta International President from 1944-46. Margo Smith has served several terms as a member of the Z and Golden Z club International Committee as well as serving as co-chair of that committee from 2010-2012. Virginia Vickers has served as District 4 Area 3 Director as well as serving for several terms on district committees including Awards and United Nations. Katharine Hewko has served as Co-chair of the District Service Committee. Margo Smith has also served several terms as the District 4 Z and Golden Z club Chair.

Our Zonta Club is involved in the District Birthing Kit project, the YWPA Awards and Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Awards. Two of our YWPA winners have gone on to be District winners of the YWPA award and one won the International YWPA Award. This year our Klausman winner went on to win the District award.(This is our second District 4 winner of the Jane M. Klausman award). Our club also started the first Z club outside of the United States in 1964. This club ran until the school was closed in 2012 and the club disbanded. Our Z Club was a frequent recipient of Z Club District Awards and the International Emma L. Conlon Z club Service Awards.

Our club has hosted a District Workshop and co-chaired, along with the Zonta Club of Niagara Falls, Ontario, the District 4 Conference held in Niagara Falls in 1997. Our club members are strong supporters of fellow District 4 Zonta Club fundraisers, Workshops, District Conferences and International Conventions.

Report prepared by:
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Source: Club Historians records past and present.