

## BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB HISTORY

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Born in Arnprior, May, 1955, a brand new Business and Professional Women's Club. The infant thrived and although lost some weight, made up for it in the calibre of its members.

The Club began with 34 members and at the present time has a membership of 30 members. Four have passed away; Mrs. Muriel Grace, Miss Dorothy Clarke, Miss Betty O'Connor and Miss Eva Brown.

Good times have been enjoyed by the members and creditable progress has been made. In some small way, through persistent requests to Council from the B & P W Club, traffic lights were installed at the old Post Office and later at the corners of John and Elgin Streets. Similar requests were made for lights at Daniel and Madawaska intersection. Although this request was not granted, special devices have been introduced to make this spot safer for pedestrian and motorist alike.

In the fourteen years of our existence the Club has had seven Presidents: Mrs. Elsie Hannah, Miss Jean Graham, Miss Eva Brown, Mrs. Mary Phelan, Miss Muriel Hanson, Mrs. Gert McManus, Mrs. Edna Mather and once again, Mrs. Elsie Hannah.

Our membership is not as large as we would like, but we have a very loyal, active and co-operative group.

On two occasions in 1956 and again in 1963 we have had the honour of being hostess Club to the Regional Conference. Both occasions have provided memories we shall long cherish.

One of the highlights of the year is our International Night in February. On that night, we hold our International Dinner with a special guest speaker to which the community at large is invited. We feel that this is of cultural value to the community.

Another highlight is our autumn get-together at the summer home of Mrs. Mary Lewis. This event gives us a real start for the season's activities.

We have had several projects through the years. We have sponsored UNICEF Halloween Shell-out with students from the various schools participating. The Club has assisted in the Ramallah project each year; has brought UNICEF Greeting cards; has provided dentures for a student entering High School; has helped at the Museum; has become involved in the Arthritis and Rheumatism Society. Our committee Chairman is Muriel Hanson, with members Lila Penny, Gert McManus and Lottie Siegrist. Last June, we sponsored a program by a group of music students from Cornwall which was very well received; it was hoped this could become an annual event. Various money making projects have assisted the Club financially.

The College of Laundry Knowledge through the courtesy of S.E. Lewis.

Two Hydro "Show-Time" demonstrations through the courtesy of Ontario Hydro.

Rummage sales, bake sales, draws, Chinese auctions, have all helped to keep our budget in the black.

For several years years the sum of seventy-five dollars has been given in scholarships to the three schools.

Each year we have a Christmas party where we wrap gifts for the Children's Aid. Sometimes we wonder who has more fun - the donors or the recipients.

(Copied from report in The Arnprior Chronicle - October, 1969)