

## **History of the Dublin Women's Philanthropic Club**

### **1978**

A group of Dublin Women's, formerly associated with the Dublin YWCA, believed there was a need for a women's club in the Dublin area. Under Sue Tramell's leadership, they founded the Dublin Women's Club on April 19th and held their first General Meeting the following month at the Dublin Community Church. Lana Powers designed the original logo. The first project of the Club was to sell cookbooks published by the organizing group to raise funds for operating costs.

### **1979**

The Club's Monthly Newsletter, The Bridge, received its name, and the DWC's first interest groups were formed. The Quilting Interest Group's founding member completed a Dublin Historical Quilt depicting Dublin's early days, and it is now on display at the Coffman Homestead.

### **1980**

The First annual DWC Festival of the Arts was held on the Second Sunday in September and became a community tradition. In October, the Club had its first Tour of Homes. It was later moved to the first Thursday of May and was a perpetual sell-out.

### **1981**

The DWC participated in the Dublin Fourth of July parade and Coffman Park activities for the first time. The membership selected a club motto, flower, and colors.

Motto: "Working Together We Grow" by Jane Simmonds

Flower: The Shamrock by Thelma Kiplinger and Sally Promenschenkel

Colors: Green for Growth by Jane Simmons; Yellow for Friendship; White for Goodwill

## **1982**

The Club donated a Blue Spruce evergreen to the Dublin community. It was planted in front of the old Dublin School Administration Building on Bridge Street, and DWC members decorated the tree every December.

## **1983**

A \$500.00 scholarship was established to benefit a female senior from Dublin High School. The Club also donated \$1200.00 to Dublin Parks and Recreation for wooden benches to be placed outside the library.

## **1985**

The scholarship amount was increased to \$1000.00.

## **1988**

The Silent Auction at the Festival of the Arts was initiated to raise more money for local scholarships.

## **1989**

To increase the Club's capacity for childcare and its growing membership, the General meeting location was changed to the Dublin Baptist Church in September.

## **1990**

Jack Shinn, President of A Plus, INC., and husband of DWC member Anna Shinn, designed the DWC logo, recognizing the feminine aspects of women's organizations; a large script "W" was utilized for the logo's main design element,

reminiscent of a monogram. The letters "D" and "C" were made substantially smaller to solidify the feminine effort as the significant element. The row of shamrocks above the monogram offers a visual connection to Dublin. (The logo may be shown with or without the Club's name below it, as use dictates.

## **1996**

Still a growing organization, the meetings were changed to the Indian Run Methodist Church in September. A total of four \$1000.00 scholarships were awarded to a combination of four qualified male and female Dublin Students.

## **1997**

Noting a marked decline in attendance over the past several years, the general membership voted to replace the Festival of the Arts fundraiser with a new event that would be in keeping with the Club's spirit while continuing to appeal to the Dublin community.

## **1998**

DWC celebrated its 20th anniversary, and Long Range Planning money was used to buy a significant and lasting gift to the City of Dublin. A stained glass window project was the chosen gift. A scholarship was established to honor those women who founded our club and called the Charter Member Grant. A new fundraiser was selected to replace the Festival of the Arts. It was a silent auction and dinner named the Harvest Moon Ball and had a very successful first year.

## **2001**

As part of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium project to restore their carousel, DWC donated money to sponsor a bench at the site.

## **2002**

Due in part to the Harvest Moon Ball fundraisers' enormous financial success, there is an excess accumulation of funds in the Long Range Planning account. The general membership agrees to change a Standing Rule and allow those Long Range Planning Funds to become available for scholarships and public philanthropy. Also, due to the Harvest Moon Ball's success and especially its Silent Auction, it is agreed to finally secure appropriate legal counsel to file for our 501C-3 non-profit status.

## **2003**

The Tour of Homes was reestablished during the Christmas season. First VP Roberta Bake redesigned the DWC logo.

## **2005**

DWC restarted evening meetings. DWC started participating in the City of Dublin's Blarney Bash.

## **2006**

DWC General meetings move to the Dublin Community Recreation Center. After many years at Indian Run Methodist Church, the club moved to be more visible and in touch with the community. A group of DWC volunteers marched in the Fourth of July Parade for the first time in several years.

## **2008**

Park benches at the Dublin Library were refinished.

## **2009**

Dublin Women's Club is honored by the Dublin Foundation at the Emerald Ball for 30 years of service to the community.

## **2010**

DWC increased its number of High School Scholarships to a record number of five \$1500.00 scholarships (one at each of the three Dublin High Schools with two "floaters" awarded to students from various schools.)

A mural of Dublin's History is commissioned and painted by DWC member Bev Goldie to celebrate Dublin's Bicentennial. In September 2010, Roberta Bake connected DWC to the community by adding DWC to the Facebook Community pages.

## **2011**

DWC introduced two new events as fundraisers; a Blarney Bash held at Embassy Suites and a "Run for the Roses" Kentucky Derby cocktail party at an elegant equestrian venue. The Tour of Homes moved back to a Spring time frame and had a highly successful year.

## **2012**

With the change in membership to include several women who work out of the home, we moved three meetings to evenings, including a Spa event, Sponsorship Fair at Embassy Suites, and a Fashion coordinator from Wardrobe Therapy. The Kentucky Derby Party was a stand-alone event this year, and our Spring Tour of Homes drew the highest crowd ever. (We had the OSU Football Coaches' home on the tour.) The bylaws were updated, including the reduction of the "last resort" portion of our Philanthropy. From now on, elections will incorporate co-first Vice-Presidents who will then become co-Presidents.

## **2013**

Our primary fundraiser was working the beer truck at the Irish Festival. The Derby Party and Dublin Tour of Homes were two other popular activities throughout the year. As more philanthropic associations and committees formed in the community, DWPC saw a dip in membership. We still had a solid membership core from the "Moms in the Know" community group. To accommodate the busy schedules of DWPC members, we held both day and evening meetings.

## **2014**

We continued the Tour of Homes, Derby Party, and Irish Festival as significant fundraisers and events for the club. The focus of our philanthropic efforts was on student scholarships, adult education grants, and teacher grants.

## **2015**

The DWPC had the opportunity to host the early spring Emerald Ball. The club renamed it the Snowflake Gala, which is held on the last Saturday of February. Amy Weeks and Sharon Zimmers co-chaired the first event. We decided to discontinue the Tour of Homes and the Derby Party.

Amy Weeks chaired the committee to revise the bylaws. Amy and Colleen Walsh also led the drive to revamp the website. After interviews and proposals, a web designer was selected to redo the website.

## **2016**

The Snowflake Gala co-chaired by Robin Moran and Sharon Zimmers sold out this year. The committee decided to add a silent auction and continue the wine raffle. This fundraiser raised \$18,000. The total budget for the DWPC is only \$22,000, which made the proceeds of the Gala an enormous success.

With the redesigned website, the executive board also decided to change its logo to communicate a more inclusive and updated appearance. After a lengthy review of logos presented by a graphic designer, the executive board could not reach a consensus. President Sharon Zimmers suggested taking the challenge to the Bradford School of Design for a contest. Linda Bonini and Sharon Zimmers met with the class at Bradford and shared our mission, vision, and overall work of the DWPC. The class presented the club with dozens of logos to review. The executive board had no trouble agreeing on a logo and awarded the student \$200 for their winning design. The club received the copyrights for the logo in July 2016.

During this year, the board members began discussions on the mission and role the club wanted to achieve in the community. The consensus was that we needed to make more philanthropic efforts. The board decided to add "philanthropic" to our name and logo.

## **2017**

The focus remained on increasing the club's philanthropic efforts. Monthly programs educated members on various social issues such as human trafficking and child welfare and how the club could be of service. For example, after the monthly presentation on adoption, members donated money to purchase bags that children could take with them as they moved to their new homes. In addition, club members took the time to decorate the bags and fill them with comfort items such as stuffed animals.

## **2018**

The DWPC continued hosting the Snowflake Gala and working the beer truck at the Dublin Irish Festival. These two events being the club's biggest fundraising events. Pam Stein, Jennifer Lambright, and Amy Ailts volunteered to take over the Snowflake Gala's leadership roles, with Robin Moran and Sharon Zimmers serving as advisors.

## **2019**

Pam Stein, Jennifer Lambright, and Amy Ailts continued as leaders of the Snowflake Gala committee. Held on the last Saturday of January, the event was called "Boots, Bourbon, and Beer" and was a rousing success. Instead of the usual sit-down dinner, buffet-style appetizers and a live auction were the featured activities. The Snowflake Gala was sold out and raised over \$22,000.

With strong fundraising efforts from the Snowflake Gala and Irish Festival and an increase in membership, the DWPC board decided to find new ways to impact the community. The board made a generous donation to the Dublin Library to support its modernization efforts.

## **2020**

Kim Penzone and Pam Stein were elected President and Vice-President for the 2019-2020 year.

As usual, the Irish Festival was a great success earning about \$5000.00 for pouring beer on Friday night and all day Sunday. In September, DWPC held "Paddle for a Purpose," raising money to support the adaptation of a vehicle for a young disabled child.

The annual Euchre Tournament was held at Vine and Tap Bar in November. Our Holiday efforts supported "No Kid Fights Cancer Alone" providing gifts and donations to families with children who have pediatric cancer.

Pam Stein and Jennifer Lambright chaired the Snowflake Gala again this year. It was a sold-out event raising approximately \$20,000.

The "Lunch and Learn" session in February at Dublin Methodist Hospital presented an informational forum on women's health issues. The DWPC announced the \$1000.00 scholarship for a deserving student nurse.