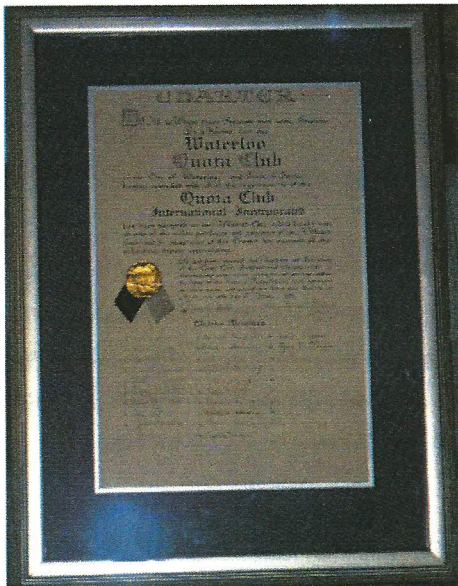


80th BIRTHDAY - CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY 1926-2006

Quota International was founded in 1919 in Buffalo, New York as the first classified international women's service organization. Wanda Frey Joiner was the founder. It grew quickly and spread across the country and eventually internationally. Following is a brief history of Quota International of Waterloo.

THE FIRST DECADE 1926 - 1936

In 1924, a group of Business and Professional women planned to organize a service club in Waterloo for women with classifications. They met in the basement of the then East Side Library and elected officers as a temporary step.



A committee was appointed to visit several clubs in the East, and report back to the group. A story from the Waterloo Evening Courier in February, 1926, indicates the club was first known as Woman's Rotary Club before its affiliation with Quota. On May 15, 1926, the transition was made to Quota, and the charter was presented to the 32 members of the new club. Mamie Ives was the Waterloo Club's first president. The first years were "devoted to outstanding programs and Inter-cities gatherings to become better acquainted and to help young women in their start in the business world." Meetings were held twice a month at the Hotel President or Hotel Russell Lamson.

In 1935, Quota International was in 101 cities, including Canada and Australia, with a total membership of 3,285.

THE SECOND DECADE 1936 - 1946

1940 - Waterloo hosted its first District 7 Conference, with Governor Clara Frenzel, charter member from Waterloo presiding. Clubs listed in attendance included: Cedar Rapids, St. Paul, Dubuque, Chicago, Davenport, Fargo, Lincoln, Omaha, Sioux City, Waterloo and Minneapolis.

Scrapbooks indicate by the late 1940's, the main service projects were "eyeglasses for needy children and a Christmas Party for residents of the Black Hawk County Home." Funds for these projects were raised by a Smorgasboard. The club also regularly participated in an annual Inter-cities Dinner for members of all the women's service clubs in the community.

In 1944, Quota International had 151 clubs and 4,799 total members.

