

**Activity Club
Historian Report
February 25, 2002**

**Series of Interviews with Past Presidents of Activity Club
Interview of Ann Hall, President 1968-70**

Background information:

- ✓ A second generation Activity Club member; her mother was a member during World War II
- ✓ Continues to live in Worthington with her husband on Olentangy River Road (neighbor to Susan Campbell)
- ✓ Twin daughters who graduated in 1971—one lives in New Jersey and one in Worthington
- ✓ Grandchildren at Ohio University and Bowling Green
- ✓ Was involved in the historical society and continues to be involved at Worthington United Methodist Church

What do you remember most about your time as president of Activity Club?

- ✓ One of the big debates was whether or not to continue to social/dancing lessons the club offered after school for high school students. After much debate, it was decided to continue this long-standing tradition.
- ✓ There was much discussion each year about new members and who would be invited into the group.
- ✓ Ann has a vivid memory of the social/dance lessons when she was a student during World War II and her mother was in Activity Club. There was little else going on for young people at that time, and everyone looked forward to the lessons. There were no hose because of the war, so the girls would wear make-up on their legs. After a few “wild” dances like the jitterbug, the make-up would melt and run down the girls’ legs causing much embarrassment.

What were some of the major activities of the group?

- ✓ The group held a series of dance/social lessons after school. These lessons taught social skills such as making introductions, manners, dancing. (Ann remembers these lessons when she was in high school and her mother was in Activity Club. She learned about wearing white gloves and serving tea.)
- ✓ The group began to branch out beyond the social/dancing lessons by serving refreshments at baccalaureate.
- ✓ Often the administrators would call on Activity Club to provide special kinds of support for the school. For example, a student who wanted to go to a dance but could not afford a dress might be mentioned and the club would make sure the student had what she needed to participate. So some of the work of Activity Club was in the background and not recognized by those other than the members, the administration, and the students receiving assistance.

- ✓ The group was very social. There was an active alumni club. Members often socialized together outside the meetings. This was partly because fewer members worked and they looked forward to their meetings and time together.

What do you feel the group contributed to the school and to the community?

- ✓ Teaching social skills was an important service to students who would use the skills throughout life—in work and in their community.
- ✓ The group was the source of very strong friendships. Many would make friendships that would last a lifetime and often get together to reminisce.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Boggs