



Chapter 10

District 06 – North America.¹

Since 1920, Zonta International has grouped the clubs in districts. The following is information on the formation of District 06. Today, District 06 has 22 clubs in three states in the USA

In 1924, Zonta had four districts: the East District, the South District, the West District and the West Coast District. Clubs from Illinois belonged to the West District.

In 1928, clubs from Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin belonged to District D.

The District Plan was revised in 1929 to include regions. At the same time, it was decided to change the designation of districts from letters to Roman numerals. The Plan was effective from 1930 with clubs in Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin grouped as District II, Region B.

Under the new district plan adopted in 1947, clubs from Kentucky West were added to Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin to create District VI. (The district boundary revision in 1965 relocated clubs in Kentucky to District V.)

The new District VI held its first Fall Conference in 1948, hosted by the Chicago Southside club. District VI was also proud to host the Zonta International Convention in Chicago in 1951.

The years between 1950 and the 1970s saw a rapid growth in clubs and membership in the district.² With the initiation of the Area Plan in 1958, District VI was originally set up with four areas and later expanded to five.

The Zonta Club of Danville in Indiana sponsored the district's first Z Club in 1963 and the Oak Park club in Illinois sponsored the district's first Golden Z Club in 1968. The district strongly

¹ Research compiled by Eva Nielsen.

² History section includes information from a 2018 report from District 06.

supported the expansion of Z and Golden Z Clubs throughout the 1960s and 1970s with the club in Fort Wayne, Indiana, sponsoring five Z Clubs at the same time.

The district also participated in the Friendship Country program through these two decades, contributing to the GROW District Expansion program. The first Friendship Country was West Germany and district donations to the GROW fund were instrumental in the formation of the West Berlin club.

The district's support of international service projects has been strong across the decades. In the 1950s and early 1960s, the district donated to Father Pierre European Villages as part of the special refugee camp project, the Zonta International service project from 1960 to 1962.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the Ramallah Project, the Zonta International service project from 1962 to 1974, was supported, with the Zonta Club of Alton-Wood River, Illinois, making the first pledge of a scholarship. In 1963, District VI ranked third out of the 14 districts in contributions to this project.

Support for the Amelia Earhart Fellowship and Mobile Pediatric Clinics occurred in the 1970s, and the Sri Lanka Well Project was a favorite of club members in the 1980s.

Local service also bloomed over the decades, starting with advocacy for the Safe Use of Atomic Energy in the 1940s and 1950s, Highway Safety in the 1950s, and a focus on the environment in the 1960s as well as legislative change to recognize human rights and the Equal Rights Amendment. In the 1960s, the American educator and member of the Illinois House of Representatives, Frances Dawson, of Evanston, Illinois, successfully sponsored legislation in Illinois to exempt professional women from the 8-hour-day work requirement. In the 1980s there was growing support for projects to help the elderly or disabled, local scholarships and women's shelters. From the 1990s to the 2000s the clubs of the district turned their attention to fighting violence against women with support of domestic violence and rape crisis centers, and vigorously supported the ZISVAW initiative.³

When the Zonta Club of LaSalle-Peru Area, club number 0034, in Illinois, turned 90, the club president Linda Hiltabrand published information about the club in the *LaSalle News Tribune*.

The early Zontians truly were pioneers. They were often working in fields that not that many women worked in at that time. The local club does fundraisers throughout the year, sending one-third of the proceeds toward the international projects and scholarships, and investing the other two-thirds into the community in keeping with the Zonta mission.⁴

The Zonta Club of LaSalle-Peru Area supports ADV & SAS, a local domestic violence and sexual assault service project which works with survivors and helps them rebuild their lives. ADV & SAS has locations in Ottawa and Streator. Each year in October, for domestic violence

³ History section includes information from a report from District 06, 2018.

⁴ Information from Tamara Hagen (12 February 2018).

awareness month, the Zonta Club of LaSalle-Peru Area collects donations of household supplies during their “Buckets of Love” fundraiser to help women fleeing an abusive situation.⁵

The Zonta Club of LaSalle-Peru has also endowed a scholarship at Illinois Valley Community College for a woman to become educated in any of the STEM (science, technology, engineering or math) fields. The goal of the scholarship is “encouraging women to go into the fields of the future and explore some things that were not traditionally fields that women worked in”.⁶

Reflecting on her experience of Zonta, LaSalle Judge, Cynthia Raccuglia, a member of the Zonta Club of LaSalle-Peru, said “It was important to me to join a group that was not just social. I wanted to make a difference in the community, and that’s what Zonta does”. Joining the club also benefited her personally, providing emotional support as she pursued her goal of becoming a judge. “At that time there were no women judges,” she said, noting that no woman had previously campaigned for circuit judge in the area. “It was a scary task, and they were right there for me”.

Timeline of district history highlights

1924: The three Illinois clubs belonged to the Western District.

The original three districts became five, designated as A, B, C, D and E.⁷

1928: Clubs were referred to as District D.⁸

1929: The District Plan was changed. District names were designated by Roman numerals.

1930–1946: Clubs from Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin belonged to District II Region B.

1947: After World War II, a redistricting committee made a new district plan.

District VI was comprised of 11 clubs located in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

1952: 16 clubs.

1957: 35 clubs.

1958: District VI had four areas.⁹

1960: Two clubs were chartered in Kentucky. *See District 5.*

1963: 39 clubs.

⁵ Information from Tamara Hagen (12 February 2018).

⁶ Information from Tamara Hagen (12 February 2018).

⁷ Marjorie Wilson: ZI History of District V, 1990.

⁸ The *Zontian* May 1928.

⁹ District 06 History in Brief.

1965: Kentucky West was meant to be part of District VI, however a boundary revision in 1965 shows that clubs located in Kentucky would no longer be included in District VI, but in District V.

1967: 44 clubs.

1968: 47 clubs.

1971: 41 clubs.

1974: 47 clubs, located in five areas.

1980: 52 clubs.

- Area 01 had nine clubs
- Area 02 had nine clubs
- Area 03 had 13 clubs
- Area 04 had ten clubs
- Area 05 had 11 clubs.

1990: The Zonta International Board changed the designation from Roman to Arabic numerals; District VI became District 06.

District 06 counted 50 clubs and 2,048 members.¹⁰

2002: 44 clubs grouped in five areas.

2008: 32 clubs grouped in five areas.

2016: 20 clubs grouped in five areas.

- Area 01 had six clubs
- Area 02 had four clubs
- Area 03 had four clubs
- Area 04 had five clubs
- Area 05 had six clubs.

2018: 607 members.

2019: 526 members.

Since 2000, only two clubs have been chartered in Illinois. Since 1977, no clubs have been chartered in Indiana and no new clubs have been formed in Wisconsin since 1991.

History of formation of District 06 clubs

United States

¹⁰ *The Zontian* 1990–1992 Program Issue.

Illinois

Year Chartered	Club Number	Club Name	Area as of 2018	Closed
1924	0019	Zonta Club of Ottawa		1936
1924	0034	Zonta Club of LaSalle-Peru Area*	05	
1924	0231	Zonta Club of Moline/The Quad Cities**		2011
1925	0033	Zonta Club of Chicago Loop	01	
1930	0093	Zonta Club of Evanston		2017
1931	0116	Zonta Club of Chicago Southside		2010
1934	0127	Zonta Club of Oak Park		2012
1939	0163	Zonta Club of Springfield, IL	03	
1939	0164	Zonta Club of Decatur		1997
1942		Zonta Club of Peoria		1946
1949	0218	Zonta Club of Alton-Wood River	03	
1950	0241	Zonta Club of Rockford		2011
1952	0274	Zonta Club of Belleville Metro East		2011
1953	0293	Zonta Club of St Charles-Geneva-Batavia	01	
1953	0302	Zonta Club of Fairview Heights Area***		2004
1953	0314	Zonta Club of Elgin		2004
1955	0349	Zonta Club of Streator	05	
1956	0357	Zonta Club of Kankakee	05	
1956	0378	Zonta Club of Litchfield		2012
1957	0384	Zonta Club of Pontiac		2008
1957	0388	Zonta Club of Lincoln	03	
1957	0394	Zonta Club of Ottawa, Illinois	05	
1957	0398	Zonta Club of Mattoon		1989
1957	0399	Zonta Club of Danville		1989
1957		Zonta Club of North West Cook County		1974
1960		Zonta Club of Palatine		1971
1960	0459	Zonta Club of Aurora Area, IL	01	
1960	0561	Zonta Club of Champaign-Urbana		2005
1966	0570	Zonta Club of Waukegan/Northeast Lake County Area		2003
1966		Zonta Club of La Grange		1971
1967	0586	Zonta Club of Belvidere Area	02	
1967	0592	Zonta Club of Bloomington-Normal		1992
1973	0732	Zonta Club of Edwardsville		2003
1973	0735	Zonta Club of Joliet Area	05	
1974	0751	Zonta Club of Effingham		2016
1974	0758	Zonta Club of De Kalb Area		1986
1975	0771	Zonta Club of Highland Park-		1990

		North Shore Area		
1976	0793	Zonta Club of Coles County		2006
1982	1026	Zonta Club of Northwest Cook Co Area	01	
1983	1034	Zonta Club of Oak Brook Area		1986
1986	1141	Zonta Club of Chicago Waterfront		1993
1986	1163	Zonta Club of Will-Cook Area		1996
1990	1290	Zonta Club of Central DuPage Area		1997
1993	1415	Zonta Club of Greater Peoria		1997
1993	1442	Zonta Club of Metro Chicago		1997
1999	1650	Zonta Club of Chicago Central		2004
2000	1663	Zonta Club of Mascoutah Area	03	
2011	1889	Zonta Club of Oak Brook	01	

* Club number 0034, the Zonta Club of LaSalle, was chartered in 1924 and the Peru area was added between 1984 and 1993.

** Club number 0231, the Zonta Club of Moline, was chartered 1924 and amalgamated in 1949 with the Zonta Club of Rock Island and became the Zonta Club of Moline-Rock Island. The Zonta International Directory in 1952 designates club number 0231 as the Quad City and the next year the old name is used. Since 1997, club number 0231 is known as the Quad Cities.

***From 1953–1980, the club is called the Zonta Club of East St. Louis.

Indiana

Year Chartered	Club Number	Club Name	Area as of 2018	Closed
1926		Zonta Club of South Bend*		1927
1929	0088	Zonta Club of Indianapolis	04	
1953	0313	Zonta Club of Columbus, IN	04	
1956	0367	Zonta Club of Shelbyville		2008
1956	0369	Zonta Club of Lebanon	04	
1956	0373	Zonta Club of Frankfort	04	
1956	0376	Zonta Club of Crawfordsville		2005
1957		Zonta Club of Anderson		1971
1962	0495	Zonta Club of Ft Wayne		2018
1963	0516	Zonta Club of South Bend*		2003
1963		Zonta Club of Evansville		1936
1976	0783	Zonta Club of Richmond		1991
1977	0794	Zonta Club of Elkhart		2000

* A club with this name was founded in 1926; the club was mentioned only in that year.

Wisconsin

Year Chartered	Club Number	Club Name	Area as of 2018	Closed
1926	0039	Zonta Club of Milwaukee	02	
1940	0170	Zonta Club of Madison	02	
1949	0233	Zona Club of La Crosse		1988
1952		Zonta Club of Neenah-Menasha		1974

1959	0445	Zonta Club of Beloit Area		2017
1960	0467	Zonta Club of Janesville	02	
1967	0593	Zonta Club of Green Bay		2004
1968	0608	Zonta Club of Eau Claire-Chippewa Falls*		1984
1975	0775	Zonta Club of Wausau		1991
1978	0866	Zonta Club of Stevens Point		2014
1981	0996	Zonta Club of Kenosha		1986
1991	1325	Zonta Club of Lakeshore Area		1999

*In 1957, the Zonta International Directory lists a club located in Wisconsin named the Zonta Club of Chippewa Falls, but it is not listed in the following editions of the directory. In 1968, club number 0608 is listed as the Zonta Club of Eau Claire-Chippewa Falls.