

Service - Above All

By Helen Vogt Greene

If 2020 should have taught anything, it should be that we have learned to appreciate those that donate and give so much of themselves for us all. In 2019, Lake Worth became Lake Worth Beach. The name did not change the 108+ years of history.

Lake Worth has been built on the service, dedications and generosity of its people. The people, as early as 1912, learned that working together in an 'organization' with a common purpose accomplishes a goal that benefits everyone. Division is not a building tool.

Over the years, the organizations were established to meet the needs of the community. Palm Beach Farms Company, in 1912, took the leadership role in creating a 'government for the people by the people.' J.W Means was appointed the Mayor in 1913. Also appointed were Rev. Alden H. Shipman, Vice Mayor and K.L. Hifner, as the Town Clerk.

In 1914, James M. Love became the first elected Mayor. He served for for three years to a growing community.

It is important to realize that there were many organizations that have been 'sundowned' and are no longer active. This does not diminish their contributions. For the purpose of this article, we will focus on the still 'active organizations.'

During the period of 1912-1920's, the people of the new community were committed to building their homes, starting their businesses, creating a new life for their families. This was only the beginning.

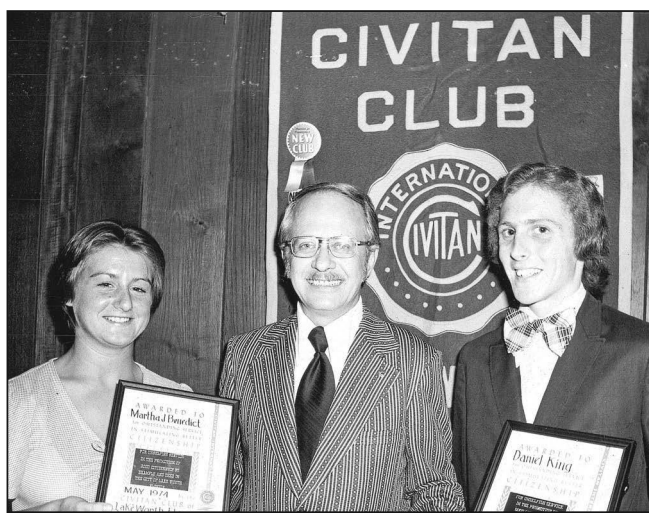
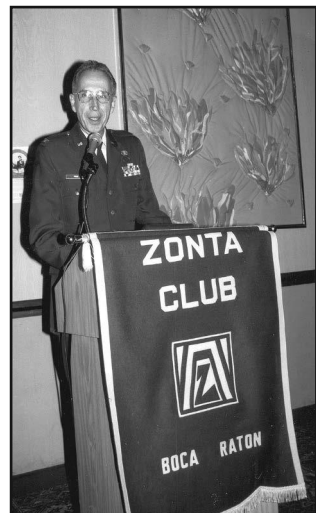
For a community of 308 residents in December, 1912 to have its own newspaper, the 'Lucerne Herald', which became the "Lake Worth Herald," published on May 12, 1912, gave all the signs of real progress for a successful future.

One of the first buildings constructed was the Clubhouse, built in 1913. This building 'housed' the community's meetings, church services, and fledgling organizations. The early people found unique ways to 'entertain' themselves.

One of the first 'social' organizations was called the Social Club. On May 18, 1914, when the electric lights flooded the 'street' of Lake Avenue, the early residents changed the name to the Pioneers of the City of Lake Worth. Members of the organization must have a direct ancestor that was here before that date.

Although not active, not holding their two meetings a year, a membership list is kept and the Pioneer's have not yet been officially sundowned.

The Friends of the Library, which was estab-



lished c. 1912, appears to be one of the first City sponsored organizations. As in the past, the Library Board members are approved by the City Commission. Their efforts, past and present, are not forgotten. In 1941 a 'debt-free,' new Mediterranean Style Library was a 'gift' from a grateful community.

Established in November, 1914, The Women's Club of Lake Worth, after 107+ years, was and is still very active. Marlene Glass is the current president. She is doing an amazing job holding this organization together. It is one of the few organizations that has documented proof of their history. Former City Commissioner and longtime member, Honey Duncan, Past Honorary President, is celebrating 39 years of continued dedicated service.

Entre Nous and Zonta Club were both women's organizations that were both committed to community ideals and welfare, especially through education and scholarship.

Like so many of the organizations, war increased the 'Service is Above All.' In 1919, John Prince became the first Post Commander of the American Legion Post 47. This marvelous organization continues to take part in supporting the veteran's needs, patriotic events, and youth education. Over the years and wars, other supporting military organizations for each branch of the armed services were established.

In c. 1921 and before, Lake Worth began to welcome our winter 'tourists'. In December 27, 1921 one of the largest organizations was formed. It was called the "Tourist Club". A.W. Hartford became the first President.

The Lake Worth Tourist Club represented those 'visiting us' from Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. In 1922, Ohio had enough members to establish their own Club and In 1927 The Tourist Club merged with the Howdy Club. Many of these 'tourist' are now cherished and appreciated

full time residents The Ohio Club just sundowned in 2019, sharing its records with the Museum of the City of Lake Worth.

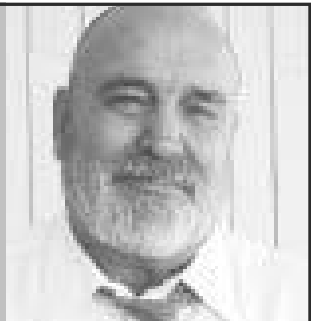
During the early 1920's, many youth organizations were established: Dixie Girls were meeting in 1922. Also in 1922, they created a Junior Music and Drama Club. E.W. Bunker, who became a State Representa-



grateful community.

Car Clinic

By Jorge Goyanes
Car Clinic



So the used car buying experience is getting curi-oser and curi-oser, this was my latest adventures with dealers.

The next visit was at Ar-rigo Dodge on Okeechobee. It was an internet search so they give you options on seeing all the car pictures and Carfax which is very important. I made an appointment and was bombarded with e-mails and texts verifying, confirming my appointment the same day I made the reservation.

On the day of the reservation I received an e-mail and a call and a text verifying my appointment which was in about three hours. I arrived on time and I was not met by the person who sent me the e-mail. She said that a wire had come in and that the car was sold.

I said, "Wow that is just amazing, after receiving a call, a text and an e-mail just three hours ago the car was sold, someone must have really wanted it." The lady said that there was a wire sent in that paid for the car but they had other cars like it. She had an I-pad and showed me the same type of car I wanted but it was seven years newer which raised the price to almost double of the car I was originally scheduled to

see. I told her thanks for wasting my time.

Next was a visit to Palm Beach Acura also on Okeechobee, same thing, voluminous e-mails, texts and calls verifying the appointment time. I arrived five minutes before my appointment and was told the salesman would be a few minutes, after 15 minutes I went to the receptionist and told her I would be leaving in five minutes. Two minutes later a young lady came to me with an attitude and told me that the car was in the service department which is dealer-talk for the car is not here, we sold it, we can't find it or your salesman is trying to close someone else.

I waited three more minutes and walked out the door. Ironically I received an e-mail from the salesperson the next day that stated: "Now that you have seen the car if you have any questions to facilitate the sale please let me know."

They did not even know I left without even seeing the car. I now know what people mean when they say that the buying a car experience is like root canal. Will keep you posted, I have two more appointments to go. As always be well, take care and check that air.

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