

Women's Division marks 25 years of service

Twenty-five years of service to the community are being celebrated this week by the Women's Division — Greater Muskegon Chamber of Commerce. Members and former members will gather at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at Muskegon Country Club for a social hour and Silver Anniversary Banquet.

Women's Division members are wives of chamber members or business women who are themselves members of the Chamber of Commerce. Membership information is available from Mrs. Thomas Shannon, 3838 Peninsula.

Since its organization in 1951, Women's Division has disbursed nearly \$50,000 in special gifts to the community through contributions to service agencies and special programs.

Several contributions have ranged into four figures. These include \$4,000 to the Junior Achievement program, \$2,200 for restoration of the Hackley House, \$1,600 in scholarships to Muskegon Community College, \$2,500 to the MCC revolving student loan fund, and more than \$3,000 for figures and materials for the annual Christmas nativity scene in Hackley Park

This has been a continuing project of WD since it was started in 1957. Members spend many hours in cleaning, repairing and refurbishing the figures. Then they work with the employees of the Department of Parks and Recreation in setting up the nativity figures.

The Miss Muskegon pageant was

sponsored, promoted and supervised by the Women's Division until a few years ago when a special Scholarship Pageant committee was incorporated to handle the program.

The Muskegon County Museum is another continuing program receiving assistance from WD. The Museum has received nearly \$2,500 for several special displays and dioramas, the most recent of which will be a Bicentennial scene now being prepared by a professional studio.

—Ridoutt

