



ZONTA

CLUB OF
HAMILTON I

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



TEL-O-ZONTA

OCTOBER 2015

MAILING ADDRESS:

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HAMILTON, ON L8S 4R5

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27TH JOINT DINNER MEETING REMINDERS

**DINNER IS AT 6:00 P.M. SHARP IN THE
CONTINENTAL EXPRESS BALLROOM AT
LIUNA STATION**

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, OR IF YOU ARE BRINGING
A GUEST, PLEASE ADVISE**

**LIZ NEWMAN AT 905-627-4292 OR
enewman6@bell.net**

BY THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND 2015.

**YOU WILL BE BILLED FOR YOUR DINNER IF YOU HAVE NOT
CONTACTED LIZ BY THAT DATE.**

October Programme

Muslim Women and Islam in Canada

*Atiya Ahsan, Ahsan Financial,
Past-President of the Zonta Club of Mississauga*

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Dates to Remember

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH, 2015

DECEMBER DINNER MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 2015

OTHER DATES TO NOTE:

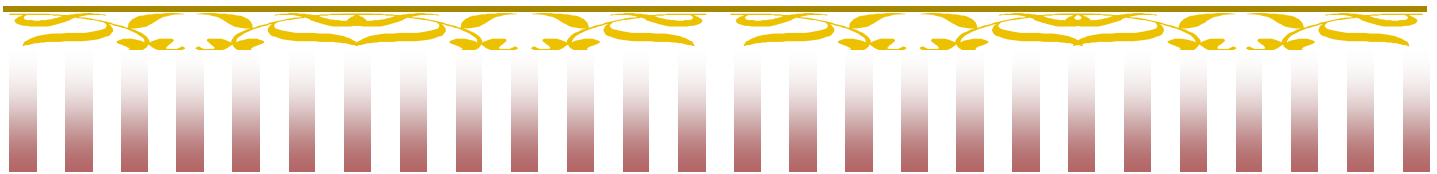
LIFE AFTER BREAST CANCER CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 22ND, 2015
LIUNA STATION

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL 63RD CONVENTION
JULY 2ND-6TH, 2016
NICE, FRANCE



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

**October 12 — Lori Mizzi;
October 17 — Alina Zilvytis; October 23 — Nancy Zilvytis;
October 25 — Joan Heels**



Upcoming Meeting Reminders

October Joint Meeting

Sharon Haas will be collecting items for hygiene kits at the October meeting and will be delivering them to Gertrud.

Holiday Meeting December 8th, 2015

To continue the tradition, please bring a bottle of wine or two to the November or December meeting so we can include them in our Christmas raffle. In addition, we would like to have a small silent auction fundraiser at our Christmas celebration. Please also bring a new or used item that we can auction off.

Entertainment is a 20 member choir called "The Greater Good" and of course, guests and friends are welcome.



October 2015 President's Report



Our club was represented by six of our members at the recent exciting District 4 Conference in Waterloo October 25-27, namely Anne Farrington, Karin Eckart, Margaret Black, Debbie Field, Nancy Zilvytis and Karen Dawson. Thanks to Debbie and Nancy, our delegates, for their diligent work. We look forward to their report at the upcoming meeting, together with Trish Mongeon, Hamilton 2's delegate. Thanks to the members who contributed to our "Made in Hamilton" raffle basket. All together the baskets raised \$1,755 for the Amelia Earhart fund, while a raffle and donations raised another \$2,035. The next conference will be held in Niagara Falls, Canada in 2017. Although district conferences share similarities with the ZI convention, they have a local flavour and you get to know your neighbouring clubs in a way you do not in convention.

We are now moving into convention year and before you know it, we will be thinking about travelling to Nice, France (July 3-6th, 2016) and that again, is a wonderful experience to see for yourself the amazing work Zontians worldwide accomplish to raise the status of women and girls.

Our committees have been meeting and planning the year's goals, so I hope all members will be brought up to date and invited to assist in whatever way each can. I sent out the Strategic Plan draft recently to remind members to use it as a map for planning. We will want to formally adopt it in the November meeting.

Recently, on behalf of the club, I attended one of the outreach sessions hosted by the Hamilton Community Foundation (our club is a donor to the Women4Change group). We met with a group of women from the Razavi Islamic Centre on October 7 to share our perspectives on philanthropy and identify what problems are most pressing today for women and girls. Almost all present talked about inequality and, although it may be expressed differently through culture and religion, we are basically all struggling with the same issues. They were extremely articulate, warm, community-minded women and a great delight to meet. As I mentioned last time, Atiya Ahsan will be speaking about Islam and Muslim women in Canada at our upcoming joint meeting on October 22 hosted by our club and this will be another opportunity for us to learn and share.

Yours in Zonta,
Margaret

Empowering Women Through Service and Advocacy

The Leadership Summit for Women

The Leadership Summit for Women, presented in partnership with McMaster University, YWCA Hamilton, and the McMaster Students Union, is an annual intergenerational community-wide event that aims to create a safe space for the diverse voices of women, trans*individuals and their allies. The Summit provides the skills, space and support for all to reach their full potential as individuals and collaboratively in communities.

The Summit will be held at the David Braley Health Sciences Centre located at 100 Main Street West on Saturday, October 24, 2015.

Registration fee is \$20 per participant. For further information, please contact Gisela Oliveria at (905)525-9140, Ext. 24799 or via e.mail at oliveig@mcmaster.ca.

Our Club is sponsoring the Future Leader Speaker.



Young Women in Public Affairs Award Winner 2015



Labika Ghani is the Hamilton 1 & 2 YWPA Award winner for 2015. In her application she planned to attend McMaster University for an undergraduate degree in Commerce. In the long term she indicated a desire to travel and learn about different cultures and perhaps even teach abroad. She also plans to become more involved with provincial politics by supporting and being a member of a political party's youth committee.

She wrote that “the most valuable and rewarding part of being a women and leader is that I am able to improve the lives of others around me in various capacities. For example, as a Student Senator of Sir John A. Macdonald in the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, I was able to plan a mental well-being conference for students. I educated my peers on how to deal with mental health by finding a passion.” As a member of the YWCA’s YWAC, she planned a workshop called “Girls Guide to Civic Engagement” on why we need more young women in public affairs which was presented at the Leadership Summit for Women.

Her teacher writes, “As a student, Labika's effort is second to none. She received the highest mark in the class and consistently demonstrated a concern for her learning and her future, which is rare among young people in the inner city today. She is able to compete with her peers but remain supportive of them as well, and her enthusiastic and passionate nature helps to create the perfect classroom atmosphere, that allows others to take their education more seriously.”

Update on the Jane M Klausman Award Winner 2003

Seema Shah won the Jane Klausman award in 2003 and she graduated from McMaster in Business and went on to study law at the University of Toronto.

As part of the Riverdale Immigrant Women’s Centre, a grassroots organization in Toronto helping empower immigrant and otherwise marginalized women of colour, Ms. Shah played a leading and critical role in 2001 in empowering women of colour with disabilities and implementing the 9th International Women’s Health Meeting in Toronto, Canada in 2002. This prestigious gathering of international experts was a significant milestone in bringing to light the important role of the social determinants of health, a breakthrough in women’s health. As Chair of McMaster University’s Gender Equity Committee in 2003, she implemented a White Ribbon Campaign at McMaster University to end violence against women. Ms. Shah was also recruited for three terms, from 2002-2004, by TD Securities Inc., a prominent global tier 1 Canadian financial institution, as a capital markets associate, an area in which few women reach the top echelons.

In the 12 years following Ms. Shah’s receipt of the Jane M.

Klausman Women in Business Award, Ms. Shah has undertaken groundbreaking work in empowering women and children with disabilities both in Canada and internationally through her creative legal advocacy. This is in addition to her progressive journey as a business lawyer specializing in capital markets working with reputable law firms and financial institutions such as Scotiabank and Bank of Montreal, Ms. Shah’s present employer. Moreover, her exceptional contributions have been widely recognized through reputable awards such as the 27th Annual Governor General’s Award in Commemoration of the Person’s Case (2006) for advancing the status of women of color with disabilities in Canada and the Women’s Law Association of Ontario Community Contribution Award (2008) for her community contributions. In light of her trajectory of groundbreaking contributions to the empowerment of marginalized women and sick children and the wide recognition Ms. Shah has received for this, Ms. Shah is one of the few who has distinguished herself from her peers and will continue to contribute to the empowerment of women and children.



YWPA Club Award Winner 2013



Linneah Tovstiga is a third-year student at the University of Waterloo. She chose International Development for its unique perspective and for the placement offered in fourth year. Besides being an Environment Ambassador, she is also

a member of the Student Association of International Development. She is very much a people-person, and many activities allow her to interact with a number of different communities and establish connections in Waterloo. She is involved with World Vision and this past summer successfully helped a fundraising campaign—Live like Alex. In turn this opened up new doors for her. She was selected as the recipient of the Live Like Alex trip scholarship, and she travelled to Nicaragua in August to work with World Vision's partner communities. This was an amazing opportunity for her, allowing her to experience what Alex was so passionate about and what made Alex who she was as a development practitioner and a friend.

"I would love for you <Karin Eckart> to share this with the Zonta Club. The scholarship I received from the club made a huge difference to me as I prepared for university, and I am still so thankful for everyone's confidence in me."

YWPA Club Award, District 4 & International Winner, 2002

Katee Hui was a bit shocked to receive a phone call from the office of British Prime Minister David Cameron, telling her she'd been chosen as a winner of the Points of Light award. "I thought they were just writing a case study on me," said Hui, 30, who was born and raised in Hamilton and now lives in London, England. "I was shocked." The awards are granted to individuals who have done outstanding work in their communities. Hui received hers for founding the Hackney Laces Community Club in London, a girls-only soccer (football) club. A vital part of Hui's Canadian upbringing, she says, was the 10 years she spent with the Hamilton Youth Soccer Club. When she moved to the U.K. to complete a master's degree at the London School of Economics in 2007, she was shocked to find that there were no opportunities for women to play soccer in London. "It blew my mind that they didn't have it," said Hui. "Here, there are no opportunities for women to play and I think we're spoiled in Canada by it." Hui runs Hackney Laces on a volunteer basis with other women. She works as a manager of corporate responsibility and sustainability for Sainsbury's, the country's largest supermarket chain. Since its opening in 2011, Hackney Laces has grown into a team of 30 volunteers, supporting 200 girls, and also has a partnership with a second club using the same model. The club also has a mentorship component, where girls can gain help with job applications and placements.

"Sport is such a leveller," said Hui. "You meet people from all walks of life; you meet people you would have never met because you have that in common. I think that's the most important thing." The Points of Light Award was developed in the United States by former president George H. W. Bush and adopted in dozens of other countries, including the U.K. in 2014, to honour "Points of light shining out in difficult times," according to its website.

Lindsay Fitzgerald, Hamilton Spectator, July 5, 2015



B-I-N-G-O Schedule—Princess Bingo, 300 Fennell Avenue East

**Note: We have to be there no later than 5 p.m. to count cards.
Bingo is at 6:45 Friday and Sunday nights**

We would like some more Zontians to work BINGO.

IF YOU CAN HELP OUT,
PLEASE CONTACT PHYLLIS DEPTUCK [905-387-1485](tel:905-387-1485)
SPARE—Sharon Haas

Sunday, October 18th, 2015

Kim Alvarado
Joan Heels
Karin Eckart
Anita Isaac
Irene Polidori

Sunday, November 8th, 2015

Judy Lindsay
Karin Eckart
Marlene Balsdon
Wayne Balsdon
Phyllis Deptuck

Sunday, December 13th, 2015

Jelaine Foster
Karin Eckart
Marlene Balsdon
Wayne Balsdon
Phyllis Deptuck

Friday, November 6th, 2015

Jelaine Foster
Anita Isaac
Sylvia von Ellm
Sandra Cronk
Karen Dawson

Friday, December 4th, 2015

Sharon Haas
Julie Kostel
Sandra Cronk
Karen Dawson
Judy Lindsay
Anita Isaac

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Zonta International:

www.zonta.org

Zonta Club of Hamilton 1:

www.zontahamilton1.ca

District 4 Website:

www.zontadistrict4.org

For information, please email:

contactus@zontahamilton1.ca

Find us on

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Women 4 Change is a Hamilton Community Foundation initiative focused on building women's capacity as philanthropists while improving the lives of girls and women in Hamilton.

*Celebrating Women's Philanthropy:
Making Change from Where You Stand*

HAMILTON
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Join us for breakfast to celebrate National Philanthropy Month and learn from an inspiring story how you can achieve impact and influence through philanthropy within your own means and on your own terms.

GUEST SPEAKER: Heidi Balsillie, President & Founder
The Fairmount Foundation

DATE: Wednesday, November 11, 2015

TIME: 7:45—9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: LIUNA Station, King George Room, 360 James Street North

Seating is limited. Please **RSVP by November 2** by phone at 905-523-5600 ext. 234, or online [here](#).