



ZONTA

CLUB OF
HAMILTON I

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



TEL-O-ZONTA
FEBRUARY, 2021

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KARIN ECKART, EDITOR

Board of Directors 2020-2021

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President	Trish Mongeon		
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Treasurer	Maureen Hayman		

FEBRUARY 23RD, 2021 MEETING

You are invited to the
Zonta Club of Hamilton 1 Meeting
via Zoom

When:

**February 23, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern
Time (US and Canada)**

Topic:

**Zonta Club of Hamilton 1
February Business Meeting**

Please click the link below
Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/64484903098>

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Dates to Remember

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

FEBRUARY 24, 2021 SPEAKER – DENISE DAVY

MARCH 23, 2021 MONTHLY MEETING

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

February 17 — Maggie Hall

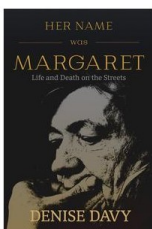
February 19 — Denise Christopherson

February 27 — Marg Bowman



Zonta Club of Hamilton 1

Zonta Hamilton Talks



Join us as we welcome **Denise Davy**, author of her newly released book, "**Margaret: Life and Death on the Streets**"

To discuss the current state of mental health supports in our community

[Join us Wednesday February 24 at 7 pm via Zoom](#)

Registration

https://ca01web.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5Irc-ChrTlrE9P4H0ovfsVUjVvbwRLPMRE_

Read more about the book at

<https://bookstore.wolsakandwynn.ca/products/her-name-was-margaret>



February 2021 President's Report



With the weather being so winter-like, I wanted to find something I could do inside that would be interesting and educational. Being Black History Month, learning more about Black history in Canada made sense. In particular, I have been focusing on the accomplishments of Black women in our country.

Most people know about **Viola Desmond**, owner of a beauty shop and school in Halifax, who is on our \$10 bill. In 1946, Viola challenged racial segregation at a cinema in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia by refusing to leave a whites-only area of Roseland Theatre. Her crime? Tax evasion for the one-cent tax difference between the seat she had paid for and the seat she used. But what about some of the other women who have contributed to the history of Canada?

Like **Carrie Best**, who broke the story of Desmond in the first edition of *The Clarion*, the first black-owned and published Nova Scotia paper.

Or **Mary Ann Shadd**. She was the first Black woman to publish a newspaper in North America when she established the Provincial Freeman. She was also a teacher, who established a racially integrated school for Black children in Windsor.

Then there is **Pearleen (Borden) Oliver** (1917-2008). She was a religious and human rights leader, writer, historian and community activist in Nova Scotia for over sixty years. As an activist, she fought to remove discriminatory barriers that restricted education and employment opportunities for Blacks and other minorities in the 1940s and 1950s.

And **Kathleen "Kay" Livingstone** of London, Ontario. Kay worked to break down prejudice and promote equality of individuals of all origins and contributed to the development of a more tolerant society. She was the driving force behind the first National Black Women's Congress (1973), providing a national forum to address the concerns of Black women and advance their causes.

Yolande James is a former Quebec provincial politician. She was the first Black female Member of the National Assembly of Quebec (MNA), and the youngest, as well as the first Black cabinet minister in Quebec history.

Barbara Howard was born and raised in Vancouver. During the late 1930s, she was one of the fastest female sprinters in the British Empire. She represented Canada at the 1938 British Empire Games in Sydney, Australia. Howard later graduated from UBC in 1959 attaining a B.Ed. and was the first member of a visible minority hired by the Vancouver School Board.

And then there is **Senator Anne Clare Cools**. She was a social worker in innovative social services in Toronto. A pioneer in addressing domestic and family violence, in 1974 Cools founded one of Canada's first women's shelters, Women in Transition Inc., and was its Executive Director.

And the list goes on. Women who fought the odds of discrimination on the basis of gender AND race. They made a difference and forged a path for others to follow. We owe them, and so many others, our thanks.

In their stories, and contributions, I personally find inspiration for our mission as Zonta members – to empower women through service and advocacy. We have a lot to contribute ourselves by paving and smoothing the path for women today, and in the future.



Membership Matters

Building

In January we inducted new members Janice & Sherrill with the help of District 4 Lt. Gov. Sheena Poole and Area 2 Director Marion Reeves. Thanks to all Zontians for welcoming our new members. Thanks also to members who have invited guests to our meetings. Please continue to invite guests to our business meetings and our Zonta Hamilton Talks.

Engaging

There are many ways to stay engaged with Zonta at the club, district and international level. Please check out this list and see some of the interesting events in the next month and beyond:

- Monday, February 22 - 7:00 PM – **D4** - Learning – Service *Hands-On to Hands-Free* – How has the pandemic changed our D4 projects? Register [here Feb 7-19](#)
- Tuesday, February 23 - 7:00 PM – **Club** – General Meeting
- Wednesday, February 24 - 7:00 PM – **Club** – Author Denise Davy, *“Her Name Was Margaret — Life and Death on the Streets”* Register [here](#)
- Wednesday, February 24 - 7:00 AM – **ZI** – Remarkable Women, Powerful Stories – Tiaji Sio, German Diplomat and 2015 Zonta International YWPA awardee – Register [here](#)
- Wednesday, March 3 - Celebrate **Zonta Club of Hamilton 1’s 93rd Birthday** – We were chartered on March 3, 1928 and continue a long and proud history of service and advocacy for women and girls in Hamilton and around the world.
- Monday, March 8 - **IWD** – International Women’s Day – check out local and other club celebrations
- Monday, March 22 - 7:00 PM – **D4** – Book Club – *“Find Your Inner Red Shoes”* – by Mariela Dabbah – Registrations open March 7

Promoting

Zonta International celebrates "Firsts for Women" a monthly recognition of women who have recently broken the glass ceiling in all different sectors around the world, and who are setting an example for future generations.



We also recognize those upon whose shoulders we stand and remember the women who have led the way. Please take some time to read about Violet King, the first Black Canadian to obtain a law degree in Alberta. The article concluded that *“King shattered glass ceilings and broke down colour barriers to pave the way for future generations. Her hard work and drive to excel in all facets of her career are an inspiration for those who also aspire to do great things in their field.”*

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/violet-king>



McMaster Golden Z Club

MEET THE MCMASTER GOLDEN Z TEAM



FATIMA ABIDI
Co-President
Political Science Level III



ELISE WAN
Co-President
Arts & Science Level II



NEHA DHANVANTHRY
Events Coordinator
Life Science Level II



SANA HAMIDEH
Communications Director
Health Science Level IV



JAPNEET BEDI
Finance Coordinator
Life Science Level IV



AMEERA SHEIKH
Fundraising Coordinator
Humanities Level I



ANNIE ZHAO
Social Media Manager
Life Science Level II



SAKSHI JADHAV
Public Relations Officer
Life Science Level I



MAIA POON
Public Relations Officer
Arts & Science Level I



GOHAR ZAKARYAN
1st Year Representative
Health Science Level I



MAHA SALMAN
2nd Year Representative
PNB Mental Health



ANUSHA MAPPANASINGAM
3rd Year Representative
Chemistry Level IV

The club has been busy advocating for and spreading information about women this semester.

I am very proud to say the club's \$200 from Lunafest was donated to Inasmuch House. Thanks to Trish and Maureen for also donating so the students could learn how one donation can and often does turn into even more. Meg Chalmers, who represents Mission Services, attended one of the club's weekly Zoom meetings where she explained how the donated funds would be used.

The club is holding three Trivia nights to raise awareness. They are free and anyone is welcome to join. January's topic was Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics). February 23rd will be LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer) issues and sometime in March will be International Women's Day questions. If you or anyone you know would like to join, look for a notice in the Zonta District 4 Newsletter near the end of the month.

On March 20, to celebrate International Women's Day they are having a Zoom speaker event to learn about the career paths of 5 different women.

Nancy Zilvytis

Zonta Communications



There are three websites to enhance your knowledge and experience of all Zonta projects and initiatives, locally and internationally. All have been recently revised. All are constantly being updated with new programs and news. All are open to the public with a small section that is password protected for members only.

- Club Website www.zontahamilton1.ca
- District 4 website www.zontadistrict4.org
- Zonta International website www.zonta.org

Check them out regularly. Learn new information. Get involved in some of the online meetings. If you have any questions, please contact Sandra at info@zontahamilton1.ca or her personal email.

Zonta International:
www.zonta.org
District 4 Website:
www.zontadistrict4.org

Zonta Club of Hamilton 1:
www.zontahamilton1.ca
For information, please email:
contactus@zontahamilton1.ca

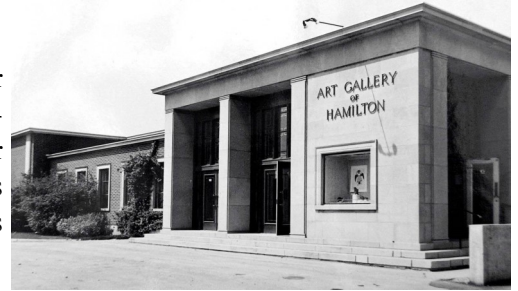




From Our Archives

As a continuation from last month, more of our club's history.

In 1950, Hamilton began building a new Art Gallery in Westdale (near McMaster University). Our club donated to the building fund. We presented the Gallery with an oil painting that was painted by one of our charter members who was an Artist – Hortense Gordon. Hortense was an abstract expressionist with many of her paintings in art galleries throughout Canada.



In 1952, the City of Hamilton was in need of a convalescent hospital which was named the Nora Frances Henderson Hospital. Nora Frances Henderson was also a charter member of our club. She was the first woman elected to Hamilton's City Council and a journalist and editor with the Hamilton Herald Newspaper. Our club furnished a four-bed room in the hospital.

In 1953, Hamilton opened one of the first school for “retarded” children in Ontario. Our club furnished a craft room.

Throughout the 1950's our club contributed financially to cultural aspects of Hamilton through music scholarships. We established a scholarship at McMaster University for a female student who had the highest marks at the end of their first year and who intended to enter business economics or social studies in their second year. This was established in memory of our club's first President – Jean B. McBride – who was a Certified Public Accountant. Our club purchased eighteen Brownie and twelve Girl Guide uniforms for Eskimo (Inuit) patients at the Tuberculosis Sanitorium on the Mountain.

In 1956, our Club began their long-term involvement with the Citizenship Court. Each new Canadian was presented with a brochure about Canada. The brochure was designed and developed by Agnes Hay who was another charter member of our club. The brochure contained information about Canada – government, population, area, political parties and laws of the country. It also included information about Zonta International. In 30 years, our club greeted over 5,400 new Canadians.

There have been interesting programs over the years. In 1934, Thekla Hall spoke. Her Father was an Explorer and a friend of Cecil Rhodes who made and drew the first map of Rhodesia. In 1937 our club worked with the St. Catharines club to celebrate Zonta International. Gifts were sent from 77 different Zonta Clubs in America, Europe and Hawaii. The gifts were auctioned off. The head table had dolls dressed as young women of the country from which the gift had been sent. The walls were hung with pictures and posters depicting activities and classifications of all our members at the time. At the 10th Birthday Celebration, members were presented with a piece of tin which is the traditional 10th anniversary gift. The wife of the Shakespearian President spoke at a meeting and brought costumes that the actors wore.

More to follow....next month..... Kathy Kingsmill Marsales (Historian)



Advocacy

We are pleased to present our IWD ad which will be placed in the Hamilton Spectator print and online IWD feature March 1. This is one week in advance of the actual day to motivate the community to mark the day Monday, March 8. The content will be available for sharing by email and social media and we will be sending our message to decision makers. Many thanks to the committee: Julie Kostal, Denise Christopherson, Maggie Hall, Alice Tyler, Lena Marie Neil, Janice Sheehy, Maureen Hayman, Trish Mongeon, Nina Ahuja. Thank you also to Karin Eckart and Nancy Zilvytis for their input. Special thanks to Susanne Crago and The YWCA PR department.

Sharon Haas

The Zonta Club of Hamilton 1 wants to whole-heartedly thank all frontline and essential workers who keep our community safe and running through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Women are facing increased domestic violence, unpaid care duties, unemployment and poverty. Despite the fact that women make up a majority of frontline workers, there is also a disproportionate and inadequate representation of women in national and global COVID-19 policy spaces.

Our COVID-19 recovery must include women at the decision making tables, equity for women, wages that reflect the value frontline workers provide and safe workplaces.



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Zonta is an international organization dedicated to empowering women through service and advocacy. It's not always easy - but it is always rewarding. We lift our voices and our actions to make a difference locally, nationally, and internationally. Currently our club focus is on women's mental health. We know that in our local community there simply are not the resources needed by women who suffer mental health issues. We also know that poverty, violence, homelessness, and addiction often go hand in hand with cognitive issues.

P.O. Box 89034 Westdale, Hamilton ON L8S 4R5

contactus@zontahamilton1.ca

<https://zontahamilton1.ca>



Fundraising



Ordering butcher quality, local meat in the greater Hamilton area just got easier! We are pleased to introduce the VG Meats, Farm to City fundraiser. Raise money for our club, enjoy fabulous meat, help a local business. Win, win, win!

VG Meats is owned by the Van Groningen family, Norfolk County farmers and meat processors. They offer chicken, beef and pork products featuring the following:

- Butcher Quality
- Animals Born & Raised in Ontario
- Never Fed Antibiotics
- No Added Hormones

Our “Valentines Campaign” begins on Sunday, Feb. 14th and runs until Sunday, Feb. 28th. You will receive ordering instructions later this week.

Delivery will be made to :

Sandra Cronk’s house at 24 Maplewood Ave Hamilton on Tuesday, March 16th.

You can pick up from this central location, or we have volunteers who are willing to deliver and drop-off at your porch.

STAY TUNED- FURTHER DETAILS SOON

Nominating Committee

The club members will be selecting the Board for the 2021-22 period and one position of Director will need to be filled. It is the role of the Nominating Committee to put together a slate of candidates by the first week of March, 2021. If members of the club would like to indicate their interest in serving, you are most welcome to identify yourself to the committee or contact the committee for further information.

Nominating Committee: Karin Eckart, Chair, Marlene Balsdon, Renate Davidson, Judi Park