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KARIN ECKART, EDITOR

# Board of Directors 2020-2021

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OCTOBER 27TH, 2020 MEETING

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

## When:

October 27, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

## Topic:

Zonta Club of Hamilton 1 October Meeting

Please click the link below Join the Zoom Meeting https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/64484903098

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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October 17 — Alina Zilvytis October 23 — Nancy Zilvytis October 25 — Joan Heels



Thanks to all who joined us for our very first Zonta Hamilton Talks last month. Just over twenty women participated including 3 guests and 2 McMaster Z club members. Remember to join us next month and invite your friends and any one who may be interested in learning more about Zonta. We will need to be creative to grow our membership online until we can meet in person. Retaining existing members is also very important. We want to keep our members engaged and appreciated. We have created "Sister Circles" where board members will reach out to 5 or 6 Zontians to ensure we stay connected. This month I will be asking the Membership Committee for their ideas for this biennium. In November President Trish and I will be meeting with District 4 Membership Chair and Vice-President Sheena Poole to share ideas and challenges.

Debbie Field



# October 2020 President's Report



## The Power of Gratitude

I am just like the next person. I love a full Thanksgiving meal – turkey, potatoes, bean casserole, stuffing, pie and all the trimmings. There is nothing like the wonderful smells as things cook or that turkey tryptophan haze that washes over us at the end of the meal. I am certainly grateful for all these things.

But Thanksgiving is not what *thanksgiving* is about to me. Small 't' thanksgiving is so much more. It is an expression of gratitude for all the small and large blessings. My family (with all their quirkiness), the roof over my head, the meals that I get to prepare and enjoy every day without having to worry about food insecurity, my health and healthcare access, the democracy I live in and don't really think about, and my friends far and near.

Not that everything is always rosy. Far from it. But in the words of American author Melody Beattie, "Gratitude turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion into clarity...it makes

sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow."

I invite you to consider these words. Even in these chaotic times, we have opportunity. We just must be willing to see it and then act. And to me, that is what Zonta members do every day. We see opportunities to empower women and we step up to plate.

So, let me finish with this. I am so thankful for all of you, my Zonta sisters. You make my world, and the world around you, a better place.

## Zonta Talks – October 22, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Thank you for joining our September Zonta Hamilton Talks session. It was an interesting discussion.

This month, the Zonta Club of Ottawa is hosting a session that is very interesting – Child Marriage in Canada with Dr. Alissa Koski of McGill University. As this relates directly to our ZI strategic goal of ending child marriage, and our partnership with UNFPA and UNICEF, we thought it would be great if our members and community could join in to hear Dr. Koski.

Thursday, October 22 at 6:00 p.m. You will need to register:

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/speaker-series-dr-alissa-koski-on-child-marriage-in-canada-tickets-119845173139 For more information go to <u>https://zontaottawa.ca/virtual-talk-on-child-care-in-canada-by-dr-a-koski-oct-22-2020/</u>

Our next **Zonta Hamilton Talks** will be November 11 at 7:00 p.m. Denise Christopherson, ED of the YWCA Hamilton, will be discussing the rise of violence against women during COVID and some of the efforts Hamilton organizations have taken to help. This will be the start of our Zonta Says No programme for the 16 Days of Activism.



# <section-header>

Zonta Club of Hamilton 1, in partnership with our Mac Golden Z Club, will be hosting our 5th Annual LUNAF-EST®. Short Films By and About Women. Rated Equal<sup>TM</sup>

## Sunday, November 22 at 2:00 p.m. ("doors" open at 1:30)

This year we will be virtual. Everything – Our "cinema" will be on Zoom. We will have an online silent auction and door prizes will be delivered. And you will view the movies from your computer or device.

But it is still LUNAFEST!!!!

Cost: \$20 for adults \$5 for students

This is a fundraising event for our club. Invite your family and friends. If they are part of your bubble, invite them over. Otherwise they can join from their home. If you would like, we can offer you a private breakout room for you and your guests for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour before the start and 1 hour after the finish of the main event – so that you can enjoy each other's company. Start inviting your friends and family.

Purchase tickets on Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lunafest-hamilton-2020-tickets-125507025893



# Jane M Klausman 2020 Club Award Winner



Our 2020 JMK Award winner is Olivia Dzuiba, who recently completed her second year at the University of Guelph in the Bachelor of Commerce program: Marketing Management Major (Co-op). She wishes to complement her major in Marketing Management with a minor area of study in Human Resources Management. She was honoured to be considered for the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship.

One of her references writes the following: "Olivia is persistent and highly motivated. In a class of 800 students, she stood out, making a point of visiting her TA and his professor on a regular basis. I am thoroughly impressed with her work ethic. In addition to her demanding school schedule, she participates as an active member of the University of Guelph community. She is a member of the Lang Management Student Association heading up events & marketing. I have no doubt that Oliva will be highly successful both academically and in his future career endeavours. Her intellectual ability, her capacity for original thought and her motivation to succeed is among the top 5% of all the students I have encountered."

# McMaster Golden Z Club

The McMaster Golden Z Club is off to a very different start this year as it operates as an e-Club. With university club rules changing and students unable to meet face to face, our Zonta committee has been working more closely than usual with the Golden Z Club.

Some of us wondered if students from other universities could join, but new club rules at the university require that to be ratified, a club must have 25 McMaster student members in addition to the executive. Other students would be very welcome to be on an email list to take part in events, which will be virtual this year. Six members from last year have been meeting once a week and the club is actively searching for more members. As of this year, club members are supposed to pay \$5 for membership in a club. However, the MGZ club does not need the money and has permission to waive the fee this year. Hopefully, they will be able to find enough members to keep the club running.

Plans for this year include partnering with us for Lunafest on November 22. They are also in the process of gathering information to run a poster project to reach out to women with information to help them to get out of situations where abuse is happening.

Nancy Zilvytis



# Advocacy

For 2020 we will not be partnering directly with the Purse Project. We encourage members to donate to our hygiene kit project led by Gertrud Taunton. If you want to learn more about the Purse Project please look for them on Facebook. They may donate loose items to our hygiene kits.

The City of Hamilton is not currently accepting new applications for banners to be hung at City Hall. They have

been reminded that our club is eager to hang our banner if a cancellation happens during the 16 Days of Activism. We have confirmed that the HAMILTON signature sign will be lit in orange November 25 marking the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Please think about how you will advocate for women during the 16 Days of Activism November 25th to December 10th. We will be sending you information to share on your own social media and tips that may be helpful for you to advocate within your bubble.



Please join us for the November Zonta Talk featuring our own Denise Christopherson, CEO of the YWCA, who will talk to us about the challenges facing women in Hamilton especially during the pandemic. Invitation will follow from our President Trish.

We are working on a contact card for our members to hand out to women who may be facing violent situations. Please stay tuned.

Sharon Haas

# Service Committee

Many, many thanks are extended to our Club members and friends for their generous donations to the Shopper's Drug Mart Run for Women, which, in Hamilton, supported the women's mental health programs at St. Joseph Healthcare. TEAM ZONTA raised \$785, surpassing our goal of \$500, and ranked 15<sup>th</sup> in the team lineup for funds raised. We also received a gift card for the Running Room because we earned over \$250. The card will be added to our list of Silent Auction items for Lunafest. Zonta Hamilton 1 has now contributed a total of \$2,785 for two amazing programs which empower women in Hamilton.

The Service Committee will convene soon to assess this year's available funds for both the ZI projects and programs empowering women and girls in our community. While we are not able to complete Birthing Kits this year, we will continue to support the Hygiene Kits, and will consider partnerships with like-minded organizations for future hands-on projects which align with Zonta's mission.

> Alice Tyler Chair Service Committee



# Fundraising

**Bingo**- is going very well. With only 50 customers, and stringent screening and cleaning, it is much calmer than previously. We only require 2 volunteers per bingo.

Phyllis is our liaison with City Hall

We have 4 bingo coordinators (Sandra Cronk, Karin Eckart, Joan Heels, Jelaine Foster)

We have 4 assistants (Nancy Zilvytis, Trish Mongeon, Maureen Hayman, Mike Sinclair)

Our "pooling" cheque for Sept was over \$1400!

In addition, we still earn \$40 per bingo so approx. \$80 per month honorarium.

As long as the bingo hall remains open, this is a good income stream.

**Marketplace**- Two of my neighbours, who moved, donated items to sell. We split the proceeds half and half. Wayne, Marlene Balsdon's husband, donated a door which sold the next day for \$50. This has resulted in \$1695 in unrestricted money for Zonta! If you have something to donate, let me know. I enjoy doing the sales.

Mary Kay Margaret Good has joined our fundraising committee. She is offering the following: The holiday Mary Kay catalogue and an order sheet are attached to this mailing. She will donate a substantial portion of each sale including shipping to the club. You can complete the order form, email it back to her or call her, and your purchases will be mailed directly to your house.

Mini Radios I have 320 mini radios complete with earphones and batteries, and each in its own box. If anyone wants to buy any as stocking stuffers, they are \$1 each. All of the proceeds go to Zonta.

Sandra Cronk

Zonta International: <u>www.zonta.org</u> District 4 Website: <u>www.zontadistrict4.org</u> Zonta Club of Hamilton 1: <u>www.zontahamilton1.ca</u> For information, please email: <u>contactus@zontahamilton1.ca</u>





## Attached to this October mailing

- September Meeting Minutes
- Mary Kay Holiday Catalogue
- Mary Kay Holiday Order Form