



# Club Focus



WINTER 2017



**Janet Brousseau**  
President  
BPW Brampton

## Newsletter Highlights

- President's Message
- Special Events: Golf & Euchre
- Provincial Report
- BPW Programs
- Member's Moments to Share
- Letter from Paddy Silverthorne
- BPW Member Feature: Karen Clouter
- BPW Resolutions & Briefs
- Humane Society
- BPW Christmas Social Photo Gallery
- 2016-2017 BPW Brampton Executive
- 2016-2017 Dates to Remember
- BPW Members Business Card Directory



## President's Message Janet Brousseau



**Happy New Year 2017 !**  
I wish you and yours all the very best  
for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2017.



We had our annual **Christmas Social** on December 6th, 2016 with an attendance of 26 ladies participating in a fun-filled evening. Ste. Louise Food Bank received tremendous support from our donations. Our 'Gift Stealing' event was a roaring success! Thank you Charlene Borg for being our 'Elf', unfortunately Heidi Bryans was unable to be our Elf this year. I am thinking that maybe we might have two Elves next year.

We had another successful **Euchre Event** on Friday, November 11, 2016 with proceeds from this event given to Ste. Louise Outreach Centre of Peel & Food Bank. Pat Dowling and her Committee did an amazing job as usual and everyone who attended had a great time.

Please join us for our next social event, **the 20th Progressive Charity Euchre Night on Friday, March 3, 2017**, Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club Bramalea at 185 Advance Blvd., Unit 2, Brampton. Open to guys and gals, there is no doubt in my mind that it will be another amazing event. Purchase your tickets as soon as they become available so as not to disappoint as we sold out in November in record time.

Our amazing **Programs** schedule continues January 17, 2017 with Brenda Alderdice, Downsizing Diva speaking about the art of de-cluttering and downsizing your stuff. February 21, we have our International Night with our traditional Candle Lighting Ceremony celebrated by all BPW Clubs around the world. We will have Canadian Women for Women Afghanistan selling their wares to support Afghan women in business. Also we have Kimberly Cornish as our guest speaker. Interim President and CEO Joanne Flewwilling, William Osler Health System will be our guest speaker talking about the New Facility at the Peel Memorial Hospital Site on March 21st. April 18th, we have Camilla Bignell presenting Resolutions, the backbone of BPW for our membership to vote on for the upcoming Provincial Conference which BPW Niagara will be hosting from September 29 to October 1, 2017. Our Annual General Meeting and Elections will be held at our May 16th meeting; the topic for the evening is Help Keep Our Organization Strong. We will be combining **BPW Brampton's 70th Platinum Anniversary and our June Social** this year which will be held on May 7th, 2017 at La Scala Ristorante in Mississauga. This event will be a Sunday Afternoon Tea Celebration.

**Thank you to all of our members for making our Brampton Club such a vibrant organization. Thank you for spreading the word of BPW Brampton, for bringing your friends to meetings and for increasing our presence in the community. To an outstanding group of ladies, you are truly the best!**



## Special Events Pat Dowling

### GOLF



We have booked our **21st Annual Charity Golf Event for Wednesday, June 14, 2017**. It will be held once again at the Caledon Golf Club and we will have **registrations available in the Spring of 2017**.



Our next **Charity Progressive Euchre Event will be held on Friday, March 3, 2017** at The Scottish Centre, Glasgow Rangers

Supporters Club Bramalea and **ticket sales will begin in January 2017**. We are needing raffle prizes once again so we are looking for any re-gifts or bargain shopping deals that you can donate to us. So if you get any Christmas items that you would like to re-gift, we are here with open arms! Let me know and we will arrange for pick up.

As you know, we just held our 19th Charity Progressive Euchre Event on Friday, November 11, 2016. It was held at The Scottish Centre and it was a huge success. We had 84 players, Joker Poker, raffle prizes, good food and lots of fun.

**We want to thank all of our members that donated food, gifts and their time to help with this event.** We cannot be successful at these fundraisers without the support of our membership. It says a lot about our club that our members continually step up to the challenge of participating either in person or by their contributions. We as a club should be very proud that we make such a difference in our community.

The recipient of this event was the Ste. Louise Outreach Centre of Peel and Food Bank.

We are very pleased to announce that we raised \$2,000.00 that evening. Since Scotiabank was not able to assist that night due to the bank holiday, we had a motion to add \$1,000.00 to the funds raised that night from the proceeds of our golf tournament for a total donation of \$3,000.00.

**Way to go Brampton Club!!!**

## Provincial Report Barb Hore



We have just successfully hosted another **District Meeting for the Golden Horseshoe Clubs which encompass Brampton, Mississauga, Niagara Falls and St. Catherines.**

Ontario President Maide Yazur brought greetings from the Ontario Board and Valerie and Ethel Clarke from North Toronto Club presented a workshop on the Rules and Regulations governing Conference. We all enjoyed a fashion show from Studio 49 of Georgetown. We also presented our cheque which represented 50% of the Conference 2016 profits to President Maide. The balance stays in our Club.

**Provincial Conference 2017** planning is underway by the Niagara Falls Host Club. Due to the smaller size of this Club, some Ontario BPW members have come forward and offered to assist them. **Linda Barker** from our Club helped them finalize their budget. Sebanti Chadha of Mississauga Club will handle registration for Conference, and Pat Dowling of our Club will act as their Credentials Chair. **The Conference will be held at Niagara-on-the-Lake, September 29, 30 and October 1, 2017.** More news to come as it unfolds. Registration forms will be on the Ontario and the Niagara websites by mid January.

It was discussed at the November Board meeting that we should extend the deadline for resolutions submissions to the end of February. If any of our members have suggestions for a resolution for this coming year, please contact Camilla Bignell.

Kimberley Rowntree, our First Vice President BPWO has had to resign. An election will take place for that position at Conference 2017. Since the primary responsibility of that position is that of resolutions, Heather Ellis, a Trenton and District member and also the current District Director for the Southeastern Clubs will handle that task and will also allow her name to stand for the position of First Vice President in 2017.

**Since this will be our last communication for 2016, I wish you all a happy and prosperous new year.**



## Programs Angela McKinnon

### Dates to Remember

**Please review the list of details on Page 6 of the Club Focus to mark your calendars for upcoming events and meetings.**



### Member's Moments to Share

Pat Dowling

**Pat Dowling:** I became a grandmother for the third time with the safe arrival of Lachlan Michael Dowling on October 25, 2016. Big sister Riley is very happy to have a little baby brother to boss around!

**Pamela Moore:**  
Welcome new member, Pam!



**Indira Persaud:** Celebration of Dewali!

Dewali is the biggest holiday worldwide in the Indian culture. Starting from October 30, 2016 and lasting 5 days. It is the festival of lights because of homes, businesses and public places are decorated with very small clay lamps called diyas. Dewali message is "good vs.

evil" light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. Times of India has summed up the modern meaning of Dewali "regardless of the mythological explanation one prefers, what the festival of lights really stands for today is a reaffirmation of hope, a renewed commitment to friendship and goodwill, and a religiously sanctioned celebration of the simple – and some not simple – joys of life".

As I have strong Hindu roots, this time is very special as I share with my family my heritage through prayers and sacrifices to remind my family that no matter life challenges are, we should always see "light" towards our journey. On Sunday October 30th, my husband and I lit several diyas inside and outside our home and spent time together in spiritual harmony as we prayed together for peace, health and humility. While lighting each diya, a silent prayer was offered and it is the time of great reflection of loved ones who have left us. Dewali bhajans (religious songs) playing in the background bringing us closer to spiritual harmony.

For Dewali, I made seven vegetable dishes and roti which we shared with our friends who dropped by for Dewali greetings. Yes, sometimes I amaze myself in the kitchen.

Dewali will always be a notable occasion as we celebrate together praying for "goodness and goodwill".  
Happy Dewali !!!



### Letter from Paddy

Silverthorne Pat Dowling



Dear BPW Brampton Friends

Please accept my sincere apologies for my lack of the monthly newsletter.

Initially, I started off so well, but the years are taking their toll in many ways. I have given up driving, because the cost of car insurance was prohibitive and didn't warrant the short distances I was taking. Family and Friends are wonderful at picking up the slack, and load up my walker which I have to use where I go.



I find the climate in Sechelt very conducive to the presence and inconvenience of arthritis. Other than rain and dampness the climate is moderate. I haven't seen a flake of snow since I got here, but I would welcome the odd snowfall, and I know the children would too.

Yesterday I watched Macy's Christmas Parade on TV. It was spectacular! Hopefully, it is shown on your TV. Sears, Eatons still put on their

Santa Clause Parade. When we just moved to Toronto I would take the children down to see it, and each year it was a special outing for us. As a student at high school, Deridra represented Streetsville High and rode a float as the Queen of Hearts! That was special!

I will endeavour to continue my monthly newsletter with the understanding that should I slip up, I will be forgiven. My thanks to Pat Dowling for the regularity of sending the BPW newsletter.


To each and every member, I send Christmas Greetings and all the best wishes for Health and Happiness during the coming year of 2017.



Pictures of my great grandchildren: Thomson 4, Jones 2, Stevie 2 months, plus my Halloween friends.

### Focus on a Member:

**Karen Clouter** Sheila Walker

 In April 30th 1995, Karen left an abusive marriage and moved into a shelter with her two young children. After living there for six weeks, she wanted to give back to the place that gave her so much. Two months later, she organized the very successful fundraiser called the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Bethesda House Concert in the Park, which raised over \$3500 for the shelter. This event ran successfully for 7 consecutive years.



Karen struggled with weight for most of her teens and all of her adult life. After riding the diet roller coaster for years, she hit rock bottom and made the decision to have gastric bypass surgery. The experience was interesting, exciting and successful but definitely not without its challenges. To date, Karen has lost almost 280lbs. She published her first book "It's My Time – One Women's Journey of Losing Weight and Finding herself. She does motivational speaking to share her story. "If I can help just one person, it was worth writing"

Some of the things that are dear to Karen's heart, she is a Certified ONE Stroke Painting Instructor, Energy Worker, Board Member for Ste, Louise Outreach Food Bank, a Member of the Consumer Council for CMHA Brampton and a Board member of Fear Nothing Association of Ontario, a non profit organization tasked with bringing Mental Health into the light. Their goal is to promote healing and understanding for those suffering Anxiety, Depression and Mental Illness and to ensure they never feel alone.

Karen is a singer/songwriter who has written and recorded two very powerful songs. One is a song of hope and inspiration called "Proud to be a Womyn" and her newest release is "Movin'On"...the theme song for the web talk show Reflection hosted by Ayse Hogan and Kelly Bentley.

**Karen Clouter:** [www.karenclouter.com](http://www.karenclouter.com)

**Art Website:** [www.infiniteflare.com](http://www.infiniteflare.com)

**Email:** [info@karenclouter.com](mailto:info@karenclouter.com)


**Phone:** 647-761-8846

**Twitter:** @KarenClouter



### BPW Resolutions & Briefs Camilla Bignell



 Camilla would like to address the following with our membership participation:

Are you interested in affecting change in our laws? Camilla needs your help! If one of these three (or all of them) resonate with you, please connect with Camilla to inform her of your interest.

1. Are you interested in being on the Resolutions Committee?
2. Deadline for submitting our Resolutions is February, 2017. Is there something about our laws or system that really bugs you? Let's do something about it!
3. Please make an effort to come out to the BPW Brampton Resolutions meetings in April & May; if you don't, I might take it personally.

Look forward to hearing from you.

### Humane Society



 The Human Society is always in need of old towels, bed sheets, blankets, etc. used for the comfort of cats and dogs in their care. Please drop off donations of these items to the following Brampton location:

**475 Chrysler Drive, Brampton, ON L6S 6G3  
(Williams Pkwy East & Chrysler Drive)  
(905) 458-5800**



# BPW Christmas Social Photo Gallery



**BPW Brampton**  
 10 George Street North  
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**Phone**  
 Pat Dowling  
 (905) 789-8198 ext 203

**Email**  
 info@bpwbrampton.com

**Website**  
 www.bpwbrampton.com

**Women Working for Women**

**Dinner Location:**

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## Your 2016-2017 Executive



**President Janet Brousseau**  
**Immediate Past President Pat Dowling**  
**Second Vice President Indira Persaud**  
**Treasurer Wendy Humphreys**  
**Recording Secretary Karen Clouter**  
**Corresponding Secretary Karen Armstrong**  
**Membership Linda Barker**  
**Programs Angela McKinnon**

**Publicity & Public Relations Sheila Walker**  
**Special Events Pat Dowling**  
**Resolutions Camilla Bignell**  
**Fellowship & Historian Paddy Silverthorne**  
**Dinner Convener Heidi Bryans**  
**Club Focus Designer/Publisher Sheila Walker**  
**Website Manager Donna Sauve**



## 2017 Dates to Remember

**JANUARY 17, 2017**  
**Speaker: Brenda Alderdice, Downsizing Diva**  
**Topic: What's My Next Move? The Art of De-Cluttering and Downsizing Your Stuff.**

**FEBRUARY 21**  
**Speaker: Kimberly Cornish**  
**Topic: Globetrotting Momma Shares Her Adventures With Us! Big Ships and River Cruising, What a Way to See The World!**  
 \* Celebrating BPW International Night & Candle Lighting Ceremony.  
 \* Women for Women in Afghanistan  
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**MARCH 3**  
**20th Progressive Charity Euchre Event, The Scottish Centre (AKA Glasgow Rangers Supporters Club Bramalea), 185 Advance Blvd., Unit 2, Brampton L6T 4H9 905.458.7718**

**MARCH 21**  
**Speaker: Joanne Flewwelling, Interim President and CEO, William Osler Health System**  
**Topic: Update for the New Facility at the Peel Memorial Hospital Site.**

**APRIL 18**  
**Speaker: Camilla Bignell**  
**Topic: Help Shape Issues Relevant to Women in Society. Resolutions with Camilla and her Team.**

**MAY 7**  
**BPW Brampton's 70th Platinum Anniversary High Tea Celebration**  
**La Scala Ristorante, Mississauga**

**MAY 16**  
**Topic: Annual General Meeting & Elections. Help keep our organization strong.**

**JUNE 14**  
**22nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament**  
**Caledon Golf Club**

**JULY 11**  
**2016-2017 Programs Meeting**

**SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 1**  
**BPW Provincial Conference**  
**Hosted by BPW Niagara Club**



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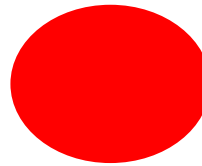


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