



Elub Focus

SPRING 2014



Pat Dowling
President
BPW Brampton

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President's Message Pat Dowling



t is hard to believe that another BPW year has almost come and gone. I am truly proud of our Club and the accomplishments that we have once again ascertained. We have an astonishing 54 members now! **Way to go ladies!**

Our February meeting was the celebration of our International Candle Lighting Ceremony when we honoured all our BPW sisters around the world. We had our own **Dittie Voegele** speak about her adventure to Africa and helping to build a school there. In addition, we had **Canadian Women for Women Afghanistan** receive our International donation in the amount of \$800.00 in support of 'The Lantern Fund' which will pay for the salaries of two teachers.

We had our 14th Progressive Charity Euchre Night on March 7, 2014. BPW Brampton along with Scotiabank 'Bright Futures Program' was pleased to present \$2,800.00 from the proceeds of that evening to Orville Edwards of Hope Place (Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Centre of Peel).

In March, we had *Martha Hall Findley* speak on Women in Politics and of her personal experiences. We also celebrated our *Club's 67th Anniversary*. From 1948, we read a passage from the 'President's Page' by then President Margaret Van Alstyne and an article named aptly 'Our Club' from member Bardie Kingshott (see passages included in this edition). We were honoured to meet the recipient of *The Paddy Silverthorne Business & Professional Women's Bursary Award, Roxanne Williams* from Sheridan College.

In April, **Olga Gil** will be presenting all upcoming **Resolutions** to be debated and voted on by our membership. This will allow our delegates to vote on them at the upcoming Provincial Conference and National Convention in order to help us make changes for women on all levels of Government – Municipal, Provincial, National and Internationally. Thank you to Olga and her Committee for all of their hard work.

In May, we have our **Annual General Meeting** and your new Executive will be voted in. Please consider letting your name stand for a position on the Executive. It is a great way to have input and to take a more active role in our Club.

We will be having our yearly **Programs Meeting** on Tuesday, July 15th at my home. It is a pot luck dinner at 6 pm and our meeting at 7 pm. Please bring your ideas and contacts to this meeting so that we may have another year of exciting and informative speakers. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please send me your ideas by email to present at the meeting.

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 the best!



Special Events 2014 Barb Hore

EUCHRE



another of our semi-annual Euchre Tournaments at The Irish Centre. We were able to donate net proceeds from our Club of \$1,800.00 plus \$1,000.00 from Scotiabank's "Bright Futures Program" for a grand total of \$2,800.00 which was subsequently presented to Orville Edwards of Hope Place (formerly the Sexual Assault Peel Rape Crisis Centre) at the March 18th general meeting.

Our **special thanks** go out to all of our members who either volunteered, sold tickets, assisted in the set up and clean up, and to those who donated food. The evening was a decided success.

Our next Euchre Tournament will be held Friday. November 7th, 2014, again at The Irish Centre. The recipient will be the St. Louise Outreach Centre and Food Bank.

Purchase Tickets from Linda Barker at LBarker@talentcor.com. Tickets are \$20.00 each (with no refunds available). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. We start to play promptly at 7:30 p.m.

GOLF





12th, 2014 at the Caledon Golf and Country Club.

Registration is at 11:30 a.m. and Tee Off is at 1:00 p.m. sharp. A box lunch will be served to all golfers prior to going out on the course. This will be 9 holes/best ball.

Following golf, we will enjoy a buffet dinner, prizes, raffles and a live auction. Proceeds from this tournament will be in support of the following Community Partners:

- Salvation Army Honey Church Women's Shelter
- Walk-With-Me, a Human Trafficking survivor's program
- Wellspring Chinquacousy Cancer Support Centre We are in need of prizes and offering hole sponsorships at \$100.00 each.

For reservations or more information, contact: Pat Dowling (905) 789-8198 x203 or pat.dowling@mtgarc.ca

Register before May 1st: MEMBERS \$120.00 for Full Day; \$45.00 for Dinner Only After May 1st: Add \$5.00 to the Full Day Package

GUESTS who register after May 1st: \$135.00 for Full Day; \$45.00 for Dinner Only

BPW International Snigdha Malik



What are the WEP's (Women's Empowerment Principles)?

aunched on International Women's Day, the Women's Empowerment Principles-Equality Means Business suggests seven steps for companies to take to empower women in the workplace and the marketplace. They were launched by the United Nations Development Fund For Women (UNIFEM, part of UN Women) and the United Nations Global Compact on March 8th, 2010 based on a multi-stakeholder consultative process.

The Women's Empowerment Principles are subtitled Equality Means Business because the full participation of women benefits business and by signing the Statement of Support, CEOs will demonstrate leadership on gender equality and women's empowerment and will encourage fellow business leaders to do the same.

- stablish high-level corporate leadership for gender equality.
- reat all women and men fairly at work respect nd support human rights and nondiscrimination.
- 3 Ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women and of all women and men workers.
- Promote education, training and professional development for women.
- Implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women.
- **Promote equality through community initiatives** and advocacy.
- Measure and publicly report on progress Measure and publicly logical to achieve gender equality.







67th Anniversary of BPW Brampton

Pat Dowling



e are very proud how strong in membership our



Club is but we also want to make sure that we recognize how many years our Club has been chartered. In March, our Club celebrated its 6

In March, our Club celebrated its 67th Anniversary. We reflect on the years and our long term members as a tribute to our Club and all of our accomplishments that BPW Brampton has achieved. Looking through some of the archived materials, I found two notes from President Margaret Van Alstyne and a tribute note from Bardie Kingshott ... Enjoy!

President's Page:

"Looking over this, our first Club year, from the standpoint of what some women are doing in our world today, our Club may not seem very important; but when viewed from the standpoint of friends, wider horizons and keener perception of our own abilities as a whole and individually, this first year of our Club has indeed justified its existence. In thinking of what this honour of being your President has meant to me, one thought predominates and impresses itself, that we should more fully realize our importance in the scheme of things as individuals. No matter how gay or quiet may be our personality, how exciting, or how routine our job, each of us, in our own circle touches on the lives of others, and what we reflect adds or subtracts from the good things in the world. "Give to the World the best you have and the best will come back to you".





Our Club:

"Our Club is one year old,
We didn't quit or even mould,
For a few were optimistic
Though a lot were pessimistic,
Some, well they just shook their fist, and
Said we'd flop right at the start
'Cause none of us were even smart
Like the men's club, who year after year
Keep together with never a fear.

We've fooled them, we're here to stay, Just let 'em get into our way, We'll show 'em a thing or two, That gal's clubs are smart as men's, Even if they call us old hens.

So here's to 1948 and years that lie before The Best of Luck, - then more and more."

Birdie Kingshott

News from BPW Resolutions Chair Olga Gil

re you, or were you recently on, maternity leave? If so, you may be interested in a project that the Vanier Institute of the Family and Calgary Career Counselling are running. They want to understand any gap in regards to women's career development and to develop resources for employees and women experiencing maternity leave transitions.

If you are interested in participation, or simply want more information, check their website at www.calgarycareercounselling.com or contact Colleen Lucas, Rebecca Teebay-Webb or Laura Hambley at the Calgary Career Counselling office (403-261-5085).



Membership Corner Karen Armstrong



ith our 2013-2014 Season coming to an end, it is time to

think about membership renewals, as well as, introducing your friends and colleagues to BPW Brampton. Now is a great time to bring guests to meet our members and find out what our Club is all about. Our June Social is coming up and our Annual

Golf Tournament, so think of bringing a friend to one of our great events.

Special thanks to our members who have invited guests to our meetings as quite a few have decided to join after meeting our Club. Our membership is strong at 54 members with our newest members, Manon Dulude and Lisa Molinelli. Welcome to both of you! Both Manon and Lisa are bound to bring even more positive energy to our dynamic Club.

If you haven't completed your renewal yet, please do so at your earliest convenience as you will be in the position to vote at the May Annual General Meeting.



New Member Interview: Sonia Embree Karen Armstrong

onja was born and raised in Ottawa with her parents and sisters. After completing an undergraduate degree in Anthropology and Women's Studies

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she attended Duquesne University to pursue a Masters and a PhD degree in Psychology. She began teaching courses in psychology, sociology and research methods to undergraduate

In 2005, Sonja moved to Vancouver, BC where she oversaw the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Division at the University of British Columbia followed by coordinating the Sustainable Communities Program at Langara College. She moved back to Ontario recently to begin working at the University of Guelph-Humber as the Assistant Head of the Psychology Program. Sonja feels very blessed to work with students who teach her much about both the field of psychology and herself with their innovative ideas and young energy.

Sonja volunteered as board Vice-President of the Community Arts Council of Vancouver, an organization focused on building arts awareness and involvement in neighbourhoods around the city, including residents struggling with homelessness and addiction in the Downtown Eastside. Sonja also volunteered with the BC Alzheimer's Society and the Vancouver Green Streets Program where she was the "adoptive mom" of a neighbourhood traffic circle garden.

Sonja loves yoga with a 20-year practice, and learning about various holistic healing modalities, such as reiki, sweat lodges, drumming and shamanism. Sonja enjoys

reading, documentary film and radio stories, and hiking. Perhaps her biggest love is being able to spend time with her sisters, nieces and nephews, a family whose support she is blessed to have in her life.

Long Term Member Interview: Pat Wepf

Karen Armstrong



atricia worked as a Secretary for various firms until her children were born, then Pat stayed home until her youngest was in high school. Employed by Nortel at the Bramalea location, Pat had various moves within the company and ended her career as Executive Assistant to Senior Vice President of Public Relations at the Head Office in Mississauga. Pat

retired in 1991 when her husband became ill. Born and raised in Manitoba. Two children, five grandchildren and about to become "great" this summer. Had her 81st birthday recently. Enjoys bowling in winter, golf in summer, bridge and reading. Yoga year

Pat's husband, Fred, passed away in 1993. In case you wonder about her unusual surname, Fred was from Switzerland and they spent many happy holidays there, hiking, touring and visiting relations. Pat had no idea what the relations were saying but they were very welcoming.

Pat joined BPW in 1979 and held various positions from Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. It was a much simpler organization then and fundraising was pretty basic comprised of book sales, garage sales, and the like. Pat has seen it grow over the years until the word "Professional" is much more accurate. The variety of professional careers within BPW Brampton is truly impressive, and the degree of fundraising has allowed our Club to make a positive contribution to our community.

Executive Member Interview: Indira Persuad, Active **Corresponding Secretary** Karen Armstrona





As a resident of Brampton for 21 years, she applauds her terrific partner, two sons and very happy grand-daughter. Indira currently operates a boutique Human Resources consulting practice servicing clients on site. Her civic engagement includes time served at Brampton Board of Trade, Caribbean Children Foundation, Canadian-Caribbean Business Association and Three Rivers Foundation.

Indira believes the only way to grow professionally and personally is by contributing to the community that supports our businesses and families.

The Paddy Silverthorne Business & Professional Women's Bursary Award

Pat Dowling



The recipient of the Paddy
Silverthorne Bursary Award is
Roxanne Williams, a Community
and Justice student from Sheridan
College Davis Campus, Brampton.
Roxanne wants to become a
Special Investigations Unit
Detective. She sends her thanks to
the Club. The award will enable
Roxanne to focus more on her
studies as there will be less worry
about funds. Currently, she has

three part-time jobs and volunteers at the Group Home in Hamilton where she was raised.

Best of luck for your future endeavours, Roxanne!



Programs

Camilla Bignell

June Social

Tuesday, June 17, 2014 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Liaison College Brampton 350 Rutherford Road South Brampton, Ontario L6W 3P6

Our June Social will be held this year at the Liaison College in Brampton. Our members and guests will form teams, along with a Chef, to make a portion of the dinner. It will be a fun evening with some cooking tips, some laughs and great food. It will be an interactive night and you determine how much cooking you want to do! Find out which team can finish the quickest, which team is the loudest and which team has the most fun!!



Community Partners Barb Hore

Hope Place

rville Edwards from Hope Place, A
Community Without Sexual Assault and
Abuse attended our March meeting to
join us for dinner, and also, to receive the \$2,800.00
donation that was raised at our March 7th Euchre Event.
Hope Place's mission statement is to be the Centre
of Excellence for clinical intervention and the
prevention of sexual abuse and assault. Helping
survivors move from cope to hope.

On a Personal Note Pat Dowling

Wishing Paddy Silverthorne a speedy recovery for her hip replacement surgery on April 4th. Paddy is doing well. She will be recuperating at her daughter's home for a few weeks and will stay in touch with us.

Happy to announce the safe arrival of twins Carter and Hayley Cornish on Friday, March 21st at 6:16 pm and 6:17 pm to proud parents Kimberley and

Jeff. Babies and Mommy Kimberley are in good health and doing great. Congratulations from us all! Hope you will visit us at BPW soon.

BPW International Pat Dowling

n February during our meeting, we celebrated our International Candle Lighting Ceremony. Our Club made an

International Donation to Canadian Women for Women Afghanistan in the amount of \$800.00 for the Lantern Fund. These funds will pay for two teacher's salaries.

Humane Society

he 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 Brampton

10 George Street North Suite 154 Brampton, ON L6X 1R2

Phone

Karen Armstrong (905) 456-5184

Email

bpw_brampton@hotmail.com

Website

www.bpwbrampton.com

Women Working for Women.





BPW Brampton THANKS

BRAMPTON BUSINESS EXECUTIVE SUITES
for their ongoing support of
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Your 2013-2014 Executive

President Pat Dowling
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First Vice President Camilla Bignell
Second Vice President Cynthia Warner
Treasurer Wendy Humphreys
Recording Secretary Jo-Anne Watson
Corresponding Secretary Indira Persaud
Young BPW & Dinner Convenor Kimberley Cornish
Membership Karen Armstrong
Programs Camilla Bignell
Publicity & Public Relations Linda Barker
Special Events Barb Hore
Resolutions Olga Gil
Fellowship & Historian Paddy Silverthorne
Club Focus Design Publisher Sheila Walker



2014 Dates to Remember

APRIL 15 Olga Gil, Resolutions Meeting

MAY 20

Annual General Meeting & Elections

JUNE 6 to 8 Provincial Conference Sudbury, Ontario

JUNE 12 19th Annual Charity Golf Tournament Caledon Country Club

JUNE 17 Social, Liaison College JULY 15
Programs Planning Meeting
Hosted by Pat Dowling, President

JULY 25 to 27 BPW National Convention Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

NOVEMBER 7 Euchre Event The Irish Centre, Brampton



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The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brampton is an equality-seeking group toward the improvement of economic, employment and social conditions affecting women.

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