



THE ZONTA CLUB OF TORONTO

Celebrat

75
years

of Service

1927 - 2002

District 4, Area 2, Club Number: 04-02-0053
Chartered in 1927



*Mayor Mel Lastman
and Members of Toronto City Council
extend congratulations to the*

Zonta Club of Toronto

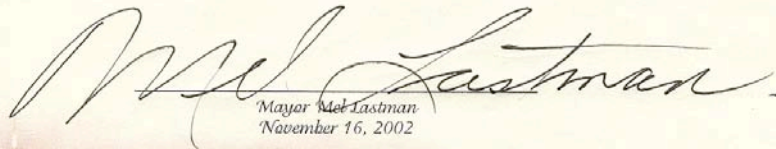
on the occasion of your 75th Anniversary.

*This occasion provides an excellent opportunity to
reflect on your many past accomplishments as you look
forward to the promise and challenges of tomorrow.*

*Zonta has grown to become an international service
organization, and I commend you for your commitment and
involvement in community activities and other worthwhile
projects that have helped to improve and enrich the lives
of many people in our city and around the world.*

*Our best wishes for an enjoyable anniversary celebration
and many years of continued success.*

It's great to have you in Toronto!



*Mayor Mel Lastman
November 16, 2002*



It was 1927. The Roaring Twenties. The dawning of a new age of consumerism. Women the world over, liberated by their war work, were agitating for a full place in a just society. Granted equal suffrage in 1920, American women, under the leadership of Marian de Forest, had gotten together eight years previously to form the Confederation of Zonta Clubs, a service organization for women in business and the professions. At the 1927 Convention in Washington D.C., the Niagara Falls Club, which included both Canadian and U.S. members, initiated the organization of the Zonta Club of Toronto – and Zonta International was born.



The decade of the twenties, more than any other, marked the biggest advances that women had yet experienced. No longer were we restricted to ‘respectable’ careers such as teaching or nursing; led by Helen Cleveland, our charter President, the Zonta Club of Toronto’s first members included lawyers, physicians, business women, professors and insurance executives. Structured by a classification system that encouraged diversity of talent, subsequent members and supporters have included a concert pianist, a prospector;

florists, interior decorators, stockbrokers, engineers and educators.

What attracted these women to an organization called Zonta? What has kept the flame alight through 75 years of depression, war, cold war, complacency, globalization? What is a Zontian?

Photo: Helen Cleveland, Charter President of the Zonta Club of Toronto.

Helen W. Cleveland

A professional in the investment business, Helen was a woman of many firsts: the first woman in Canada to obtain a license as an Investment Counsel, the first Zonta International President from outside the United States, and of course, the founder and first President of the Toronto Club.

Born in Minneapolis, Helen spent her younger years in Arizona before emigrating to Canada with her parents. Upon graduation from Havergal College in 1915, she joined the brokerage firm of Wood Gundy where she soon established the first 'Women's Investments' department in Canada.

Elected International President in 1930, then re-elected to a second term, Helen became known as the 'Depression President' for her efforts in helping Clubs successfully weather the financial storms and "hold the line" for Zonta. She also attended to Zonta's growth and under her leadership the first Clubs in Europe were chartered.

Retirement in 1957 left Helen busier than ever. She established her own investment service, gave courses in finance and led a course on national television titled 'Finance for Women'. She also travelled the world, offering support and encouragement to Zonta Clubs from Japan to Africa.

A warm and witty woman, Helen Cleveland gave the Zonta Club of Toronto an exceptionally auspicious beginning.

As members of an international organization, we have five distinct objectives:

1. To provide service at the global and local level.
2. To work for the advancement of understanding, goodwill and peace through a worldwide fellowship of executives in business and the professions.
3. To promote justice and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.
4. To improve the legal, political, economic, educational and professional status of women.
5. To be united internationally to foster high ethical standards, to implement service programs, and to provide mutual support and fellowship for members who serve their communities, their nations, and the universe.

The Zonta Club of Toronto immediately became active in both international and community service. Concentrating on needs within the city core, one of our first local projects was to provide convalescent care for businesswomen in need. We staffed a teenage drop-in centre every Friday night for years; arranged radio programmes to provide information on the wider range of vocations now open to women; supported a mobile medical clinic in Britain; provided furnishings for the YWCA and served as volunteers at Clarkewood, the CNIB residence for the deaf-blind.

The ensuing years reflect a variety of enthusiasms and interests: a riding programme for the disabled, Women's College Hospital, the Sexual Assault Care Centre, the 416 Drop-in Centre for indigent women, the St Christopher House literacy programme and the Big Sisters of Toronto. In 1992 we donated \$20,000 to pay off the mortgage at Interval House, a shelter for battered women and children. In 1999 we gave \$10,000 to the CNIB in memory of member Dorothy Thompson, and between 1998 to 2001, in conjunction with six other Ontario Zonta Clubs, we raised a total of \$320,000 for Breast Cancer research and support care services through our Bell Classic Golf tournament.



Photo: Zontians June Bushel, Helen Hood, Mary Duncan and Doris Geddes with Big Sisters Executive Director, Barb Mustard. For many years, we helped organize the Big Sisters of Toronto annual picnic.

One of the most interesting programmes ever initiated by our Club was the Outstanding Adventurer Award. Established in honour of our 50th anniversary, a total of nine awards were presented, to “a woman resident of Ontario who has consistently demonstrated those qualities of spirit and intellect which have led to noteworthy achievement. The Outstanding Adventurer has had to face risk, whether to health, material wellbeing or social and professional standing, without straying from purpose. She has struggled and fought to improve the quality of life; she has been a pioneer and adventurer.” Each recipient was given a bronze medal designed by Toronto sculptor Dora de Pèdery-Hunt and a cheque for \$400 in the name of her favourite charity.

Honourees were:

1976 – Helen DeLaporte, pioneer in special education

1977 – Maryon Kantaroff, sculptor and feminist

1978 – Elsie Gregory MacGill, aeronautical engineer

1979 – Margaret Hyndman, Barrister; established the first legal-aid system in Canada

1980 – Mary Eileen Hogg, weaver; originator of the Ontario Crafts Council

1981 – Mary Lou Fox Radulovich, teacher; founding director of the Ojibway Cultural Foundation

1982 – Yvonne Williams, artist; pioneer of stained glass as an art form

1986 – Roselyn Stone, teacher and Zen Master

1986 – Dorothy Thompson, ‘Organizer Extraordinary’ of new Zonta Clubs



Photo: Mary Eileen 'Bunty' Hogg, Outstanding Adventurer, Member of the Order of Canada and dedicated Zontian.

In 1973, supported by Reeve True Davidson, our club's Margaret Ketchen gave leadership to the organization of a second Toronto Zonta Club, with the Borough of East York providing the hub. Under the leadership of Charter President Doris Tucker, East York's City Clerk, the Zonta Club of Toronto 2 took an especially active interest in the international aspects of Zonta. One of the first projects undertaken was fundraising for UNRWA, a training centre for Palestinian women refugees in Ramallah, Jordan. This led to many speakers on International projects, and continuous financial support. Over the years, Toronto 2 took to heart the concept of donating to international service 30% of all funds it raised, even theming fundraising events after various 'Zonta' countries around the world. On the local front, Toronto 2 concentrated on issues of the disadvantaged, with emphasis on eradicating violence against women and children. Organizations supported include: Clarendon House, Women in Transition, Interval House, the Sexual Assault Care Centre, Foster Parents, Nellie's, Covenant House, the North York Women's Shelter and Oolagen Community Services.

In 2001 the decision was made to merge the two Toronto Clubs and we became once again, simply the Zonta Club of Toronto.

**Margaret Paton Hyndman,
O.C., D.C.L., Q.C.**

In 1926 Margaret Hyndman was among the first twenty women called to the Bar of Ontario. After reluctantly receiving her oath of office, Mr. Justice Logie opined that the Hyndman parents must lack common sense to allow her to become a lawyer. Just 12 years later, Margaret was named a King's Counsel – only the second woman in the British Empire to receive this honour.

A Charter Member of the Zonta Club of Toronto, Margaret devoted her great talents to improving the lot of women both nationally and internationally. She was instrumental in persuading the provincial Government to enact 'equal pay for equal work' legislation; she organized the first legal aid in Ontario for the families of soldiers serving during the second World War; she intervened on behalf of native women before the Supreme Court of Canada to improve their status. Margaret was also a pathfinder for all women who followed her in the law and delighted in the accomplishments of women throughout the business and professional world.

In 1973, Margaret was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada for her pioneering contributions to the legal aid system and her services to the legal profession.

Since 1999 our local service project has been the Dixon Hall Small Business Training Programme for Women, to whom we have donated over \$29,000 for equipment and training.

Established in 1929 as a soup kitchen, Dixon Hall meets our community mandate by serving the Downtown East Toronto area defined by Gerrard St., Lake Ontario, River Street and Sherbourne Street. Most programs are targeted to residents of local public housing and



transient homeless men and women. Regent Park - Canada's largest public housing complex - is a central focus for the agency and the needs of its 9,500 residents including: stable housing, meaningful employment and activities that challenge and empower growth.

The Small Business Training Programme is a three-month course designed to assist low-income earners establish small businesses. Participants of the program, having skills in a particular service, production or craft area, are taken through a step-by-step course that results in the development of a

business plan. Co-ordinators of the program also provide one-on-one assistance and Zontians enjoy the opportunity to mentor. In addition, SBT offers successful candidates access to a loan fund toward business start-up at the end of their course.

The Zonta Club of Toronto is also very proud of our Awards programme at the Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences. Established in 1995 with Club funds and a matching provincial grant, our endowment provides annual tuition for two students specializing in Mammography and Cytotechnology.

Photo: Pauline McGibbon, former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario; during her lifetime a strong supporter and honorary member of the Zonta Club of Toronto.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

1928: Teenage drop-in centre

1930's: Radio broadcasts, Vocations for Women

1940's: Mobile Clinic for Britain

1950's: Women's College Hospital, Abortion research, assistance to Native Canadian Women

1960's: Riding programme for the disabled, furnishings for YWCA, Save the Children Fund

1970's: Services to Native Canadian Women, Portuguese Canadian self-help programme, Equipment for the Canadian Hearing Society; Lyndhurst, Clarendon House, Interval House, the Sexual Assault Care Centre, the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre

1980's: CNIB, Women's College Hospital, Dellcrest Children's Centre, SCOPE (School Community Outreach programme for the Elderly); Foster Parents, Women's Habitat, Camp Illahee, Elizabeth Fry Society, East General Hospital, Street Haven, Nellie's, Senior Shut-ins

1990's: 416 Drop-In Centre for indigent women, St. Christopher House literacy programme, Mortgage retirement for Interval House, Hearing impaired, Meals on Wheels, Oolagen Community Services, Covenant House, North York Women's Shelter, Native Women's Shelter, Anduyhan, Big Sisters of Toronto, Equipment for CNIB Deaf-Blind in memory of Dorothy Thompson

Established 1995: Annual Michener Awards in Radiography and Cytotechnology

1998/00: Zonta Golf Tournaments in support of Breast Cancer Research

1999 on: Dixon Hall Small Business Training Programme for Women

2000/02: Jane M. Klausman Award for Women in Business Studies, Sunnybrook & Women's H.S.C. Henrietta Banting Breast Cancer Research Centre, St Michael's Hospital Breast Centre



Photo: Zontians Liz Clemence, Margaretha Cloke and Helen Hood with Gorian Surlan from Dixon Hall at our annual Car Rally. Our major fundraiser since 1989, the Car Rally has generated over \$100,000 for local service projects.

Dorothy Avery Thompson

Born in 1895 to Canadian parents in Trenton Junction, New Jersey, Dorothy Thompson received an Honours B.A. from the University of Toronto, then a Masters in Library Sciences from the University of Chicago. Returning to Canada, her very successful professional career took her from Assistant Inspector of Public Libraries to Head Librarian of The Ontario College of Education. But Dorothy had a second, equally successful career: Organizer Extraordinary for Zonta International!

When Dorothy retired from the Library in 1965, she was asked by the International Board to help expand the Zonta family by organizing clubs overseas. Between 1966 and 1972 she travelled the world for Zonta, founding a total of 35 new Clubs in countries as diverse as the U.K., Australia, Africa, Hong Kong and the Philippines. Year after year Dorothy continued to visit 'her' Clubs, supporting and inspiring them with her strong commitment to the ideals of Zonta. Dorothy's twelve original clubs in Australia and New Zealand have grown to 70; Bangkok has doubled and Hong Kong quadrupled.

Dorothy joined the Zonta Club of Toronto in 1929, served as President in 1940 and chaired two International Conventions in Toronto, 1942 and 1960. In 1984 she was made a member of the Zonta International Hall of Fame and in 1986 was a recipient of our club's Outstanding Adventurer Award.



As part of Zonta International, the Toronto Club fundraises and supports the service projects of our parent organization. These have included providing direct aid to Hungarian refugees (1950's), funding mobile medical units in rural Africa (1970's), the Sri Lanka Well Water project (1980's) the prevention of Female Genital Circumcision in Burkina Faso, Africa and currently, the eradication of violence against women and children in India and the elimination of female trafficking in Bosnia-Herzegovina. In 1938, Zonta International established the Amelia Earhart Fellowship Awards for graduate study by women in aerospace-related sciences and engineering. Our extensive representation in many diverse parts of the world has earned Zonta Consultative Status Category 1 with the United Nations. This appointment enables us to present Position papers, make recommendations and contribute to studies and conferences, and we maintain observers in New York, Geneva, Paris and Vienna. Zonta International also holds Consultative Status Category B with UNICEF, UNESCO, the International Labour Organization and the Council of Europe.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

1920's: Vocation Education for young women

1930's: National Survey on Age Discrimination

Established 1938: Amelia Earhart Scholarship Awards

1940's: War Service Fund; Red Cross; Western Pacific Area Teachers scholarship

1950's: Hungarian refugees direct aid

1960's: Anne Frank village for West German refugees, UNRWA (training centre for Palestinian women refugees in Ramallah, Jordan), UN Commission on the Status of Women

1970's: Mobile Medical units to rural Africa; Honduras hurricane fund, Pan African Training Centre, Columbia Urban Slum project

1980's: Sri Lanka Well Water project, UN Kenya women's training project

1990's: UNIFEM projects for Women, Chilean Organization of Mapuche Women, Pesticide training in Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka, UNICEF Girls Education project in South Africa; various UNIFEM projects, Prevention of female genital circumcision in Burkina Faso, Project Five-O (vocational training for women and girls in developing countries)

Established 1991: Young Women in Public Affairs programme

Established 1994: ZISVAW (Zonta International Strategies to eliminate Violence Against Women and children)

Established 1996: the Jane M. Klausman Award for Women in Business Studies

2000 - 2002: Elimination of maternal and neonatal tetanus in Nepal, the eradication of violence against women and children in India, the elimination of female trafficking in Bosnia-Herzegovina



Photo: Amelia Earhart, renowned aviatrix and member of the Zonta Club of New York. Since 1938, Zonta International has given over US \$5 million in scholarships to over 1,000 women in postgraduate aeronautical and engineering studies.

Helen DeLaporte, C.M., B.Paed

Teacher, author, Director and first President of the International Council for Exceptional Children, Helen was the founder of the internationally acclaimed DeLaporte Educational Clinic, which assists people of all ages with learning problems. A crusader in the special education movement, her concern was always for the child considered to be a slow learner, and her goal was to adjust the academic workload to each child's need and abilities.

After 30 years with the Ontario Ministry of Education, Helen was determined to demonstrate what could and should be done in special education. She cashed in her life insurance, bought a four-room house on Berryman Avenue and, on September 1, 1954, opened the DeLaporte Educational Clinic. Over the years Helen's work with students from primary grade to university graduate level brought her many accolades and honours. President Eisenhower invited her to attend the White House World Conference on Children and Youth; in 1967 she was awarded the Centennial Medal for her contribution to the field of education and in 1987 was granted membership in the Order of Canada.

Helen joined the Zonta Club of Toronto in 1934, and in 1976 was the first recipient of our Outstanding Adventurer Award.

Toronto Zontians have always participated actively in the wider Zonta world. In addition to Helen Cleveland, International President, three District Governors have come from our membership, and many of us have served on District and International Boards and Committees. We have hosted three International Conventions – 1942, 1960 and 1986 – and numerous District Conferences and events. Under the leadership of Dorothy Thompson, we directly sponsored new Zonta Clubs in Auckland, New Zealand and Melbourne and Sydney, Australia.

Twenty-five years ago, International President France de la Chaise-Mutin wrote:

“Greetings to Zonta Club of Toronto 1 on its 50th Anniversary. We are especially thankful to you, the first club organized outside the U.S.A., the first club that made Zonta International. You are an old club, but so young in spirit, so active, always going forward. You are the unique club with an Adventurer Award ... such a fine idea ... like your predecessors you break new ground. I know every one of you enjoy each and every opportunity to be personally involved in your club and your community.”

Photo: Zontians Margaret Walker, Beth Patterson, Daria Danko and Marlene Simmonds at the Pittsburgh Conference, 1991.

As we prepared to celebrate our 75th Anniversary, International President Margit Webjorn wrote:

“It is a pleasure to offer my sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the chartering of the Zonta Club of Toronto. . . a very special event for all of us. Seventy-five years of service to women in your community and in the world community, is an admirable contribution. Your actions, and those of your predecessors, have helped women improve their lives . . . we also congratulate you on the special leadership your club has given our organization. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do, and for being a vital part of Zonta’s global network to advance the status of women.”



Mary Eileen ‘Bunty’ Hogg, C.M.

Born in Yorkshire, England, Bunty came to Canada with her family at age 13. After serving as a WREN in WWII, she undertook an education in crafts and design. By training a weaver, her skills soon earned her widespread recognition and she became a teacher and coordinator for the Government of Ontario in the field of crafts.

Bunty had a particular dedication to working with aboriginal people, helping them to rediscover their traditional crafts. She assisted native women in their efforts to help themselves and their bands become more self-sufficient through craft development, and was very proud of her status as honorary member of the Serpent River Ojibway Band. Bunty’s capacity to motivate others took her to communities large and small, including what was then the isolated north and northwest, which she visited regularly. It also led her to help found the Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Association, and to play a major role in the establishment of the renowned Sheridan School of Design.

As a founder of the Ontario Crafts Council, a Vice-president of the Canadian Crafts Council, and the Canadian representative on the World Crafts Council, her leadership and enthusiasm were widely acknowledged. Bunty received many awards and honours throughout her lifetime, capped by membership in the Order of Canada in 1979.

Bunty served her community as well, and in 1969 became an active member of the Zonta Club of Toronto. In 1980 we honoured her with our Outstanding Adventurer Award.

PAST PRESIDENTS

1927 Helen Cleveland (PIP)
1929 Helen Reynar
1930 Mabel Stoakley
1932 Catharine Woodhouse
1933 Beatrice Van Wart
1934 Elizabeth Stewart
1935 Gertrude Tate
1936 Margaret Hyndman
1937 Ethel Butler
1938 Ida Flint
1939 Adelaide Marriott
1940 Dorothy Thompson
1941 Helen Reynar
1942 Elizabeth Stewart
1943 Olive Ottaway
1944 Helen Cleveland
1945 Blanche Marshall
1946 Mabel Stoakley
1947 Ethel Butler
1948 Florence Somers
1949 Elvira Manning
1950 Dona Smellie
1951 Cecilia Long
1952 Belva Gibson
1953 Dorothy Meggeson
1954 Margaret Home
1955 Margaret Chambers
1956 Dorothy Meggeson
1957 Helen McArthur
1958 Rena Galbraith
1959 Ruth Scott
1961 Eileen Law Marshall
1962 Margaret Paull
1963 Margaret Ketchen
1965 Grace Henderson
1966 Trecia Kyle
1967 Irene Martin
1968 Ogreta McNeill
1969 Dorothy Hoover

1970 Harriet Christie
1971 Vida L.E. McMillan
1972 Hella Unger
1973 June Bushel
1974 Florence Philpott
1975 Evlyn Dalman
1976 Margaret Grant
1977 Elsbeth Geiger
1978 Lee Bell
1979 Elsie Etchen
1980 Margaret Reid
1981 Patricia Bartlett
1982 Shannon Hogan
1983 Elsie Etchen
1984 Margaret McDonagh
1985 Hazel Perkin
1986 Colleen Zimmerman
1987 Elizabeth Clemence
1988 Margaret McDonagh
1990 Margaretha Cloke
1992 Margaret Walker
1994 Daria Danko
1996 Holly Anderson
1998 Doris Geddes
2000 Thomie Larkin
2002 Elizabeth Winsor

Toronto 2:

1973 Doris Tucker
1975 Edith Blake
1976 Helen Donaldson
1978 Carol Cruikshank
1980 Edna Beange
1981 Roberta Eyton-Jones
1982 Missy Yano
1983 Marjorie Hiley
1984 Carolyn Rymell
1985 Maggie Smiley
1987 Sandy Lomaszewycz
1989 Carolyn Rymell
1990 Marjorie Hiley
1992 Jean Stinson
1994 Bea McQuade
1996 Marjorie Hiley
1998 Lois Voldner



*Photo: Hilary Weston,
former Lieutenant
Governor of Ontario and
honorary member of the
Zonta Club of Toronto.*



**The Zonta Club of Toronto
75th Anniversary Planning Committee:**

Elizabeth Clemence and Helen Hood, Co-Chairs

Doris Geddes

Shannon Hogan

Carolyn Rymell

Marlene Simmonds

Doris Tucker

Designed & produced by Margaretha Cloke, APL Design

ZONTA



INTERNATIONAL

*A worldwide service organization of executives in
business and the professions working together to advance
the status of women.*