



YMCA

SCRAPBOOK

150

1851-2001
years strong

YMCA of SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Minutes of the first meeting of
the Young Men's Christian
Association of Hamilton March 17, 1856

[Faded, illegible handwritten text on a piece of aged paper, likely the minutes mentioned in the caption above.]



i've been cleaning out some
old files and came across the
enclosed materials.
i think they will be of
interest to you.
All the best!



79 James Street South
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2Z1

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fax: 905 529-6682

www.ymcahb.on.ca

March 17, 1856, Reverend David Inglis called together twenty men, each of whom shared an interest in combating the vice and dissipation of the times. They were interested in the welfare of their community. Hamilton's population of 20,000 was growing as young rural men, interested in building a new life, flocked to the city. The transition for these men was not easy. Twelve years earlier Sir George Williams founded the YMCA, seeking to assist these young men through the YMCA Christian movement.

Remarking on the advantages that other cities have experienced from the formation of young men coming together for the promotion of health and prayer, Inglis and his group moved to form the Young Men's Christian Association of Hamilton.

Together they laid the foundation for the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington.



YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.



Charitable Registration # 10808 3825 RR0001

HAMILTON Y.M.C.A.

The modern city is not fully equipped unless it has as one of its public institutions a Young Men's Christian Association; for if a city's strength lies in the morality and sobriety of its young men, the care of this class is one of its most important trusts. The growth of the association on this continent, and all over the world, goes to show the great need for it and the adaptation of its methods for the accomplishment of the work it set out to do. Business men have taken an interest in this movement as they have

association is that on its directorate will be found the keenest and most prosperous business men of the city, and to this in a great degree may be attributed its success, for the best business management is shown in all departments of its work. Since entering the new building the following business men have been in charge in the capacity of President, viz., Messrs. W. J. Waugh, George Rutherford, Frederick W. Watkins and Joseph Greene. The association recently lost by death one of its most faithful workers—Mr. James Watson. He was treasurer of the association, and very active in all of



Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, HAMILTON.

not in any other, until to-day it is known as the "Business men's movement of the nineteenth century." To show their faith in it, the business men of America have invested nearly \$17,000,000 in the erection of buildings in the many cities on this continent. Prominent among the large and progressive associations in Canada is that of Hamilton, Ont. It was organized in 1867, and, with such facilities as it had at hand in its earlier years, a good work was done, but it was crippled in a great measure by being located in small rented rooms. In 1889 the erection of the present building, at a cost of nearly \$40,000, was commenced, and

the association's work. The first legacy was received last year, when a young lady who was active and interested in the work left \$100, which has been deposited as the nucleus of an endowment fund.

Mr. A. M. Mackay is the present Secretary; he is a Nova Scotian, who in 1884 succeeded Mr. Frank M. Pratt, now of Toronto. It may be said that the association never enjoyed more of the esteem and confidence of the community than it does to-day. The building is wholly occupied by the association, with the exception of the second floor, which is rented to another popular in-

stitution, the Hamilton Business College. The Globe is pleased to present to its readers to-day a few half-tone engravings of the exterior of this building.

Fremont's Point, at an elevation of 12,790 feet, is said to be the highest in Wyoming.

Box Elder Mountain, 6,707 feet high, takes precedence of all others in North Carolina.

The Governor of the Islands is also Governor of the military and naval forces. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members of both colors. St. George was the original capital of Bermuda, but it is now superseded by Hamilton, and St. George is comparatively a quiet town. The Princess (named after Princess Louise) and the Hamilton are the principal hotels in Hamilton. They are large and splendidly furnished buildings, but are open only during the tourist season. The rates are rather high, how-

The early Hamilton YMCA occupied rooms on the north side of King Street East between James and Hughson Streets and later settled at the corner of King and Hughson on the two floors above Lyght's Bookstore. (Today it is the home of Delta Bingo)

A training school for YMCA physical education directors was created in Springfield Massachusetts. Dr. Luther Gulick, Director, established the YMCA motto "spirit mind and body," based on the concept of the perfect man having the qualities of Hercules, Socrates and Jesus.

1885



The Hamilton YMCA opened the first home for street kids (1868).

1868

The YMCA Movement developed gymnasial programs.

1878

After several failed attempts the YMCA successfully purchased the lot at the corner of James and Jackson Streets for \$7,000. The campaign will take another two years to complete.

1886

The YMCA Movement develops camping for boys.

1890

After much discussion and many questioning it as proper for a Christian institution, the Hamilton YMCA opened the first indoor pool in the city.

1890

Ontario born, James Naismith, physical education director for the YMCA Training School in Springfield Massachusetts, invented the game of basketball. Just two years later, in 1893, it was introduced to the Hamilton YMCA.

November 28, 1889, the Hamilton YMCA

opened its doors to the community as the first building on the continent built specifically for YMCA work. The \$40,000 facilities (nearly half of which was donated by Hamiltonians) are designed to accommodate both educational and physical activities and include: reading, lecture and meeting rooms, a spacious reception area, and Association Hall which seats up to 800 people. The gymnasium, located at the rear of the building, is enhanced by an elliptical wooden running track, suspended 12 feet above the floor. YMCA President W. J. Waugh remarked to the crowd that the facility in which they were now standing would someday soon seem too small.



AUDITORIUM, HAMILTON Y.M.C.A.



Y regulars face

1895





At the September 1906 Board meeting, a motion was carried in favour of an East End branch. "We are going to have an Association, no ifs about it. We must give the young men something in place of the bar room," declared Mr. F. W. Watkins. By the end of the year, the YMCA had purchased the old Methodist Church at the corner of Barton Street and Milton Avenue in Hamilton, opening the East End YMCA. Fred Meyers is the Secretary.

"Basketball is the best indoor game played. It is as popular as ever with us and our various leagues have developed many good players. We have hours when new members get a chance to learn the game."

~ Excerpt from the 1908/09 Annual Report



F. R. MEYERS, SECRETARY
CHAS. POWIS, PHYSICAL DIRECTOR
F. R. SMITH, TREASURER

EAST HAMILTON BRANCH
Young Men's Christian Association

CORNER BARTON STREET AND MILTON AVENUE
TELEPHONE 2413L

E. S. VANSICKLE, CHAIRMAN
J. F. WALKER, VICE-CHAIRMAN
W. D. CONNOR, REC-SECRETARY
OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

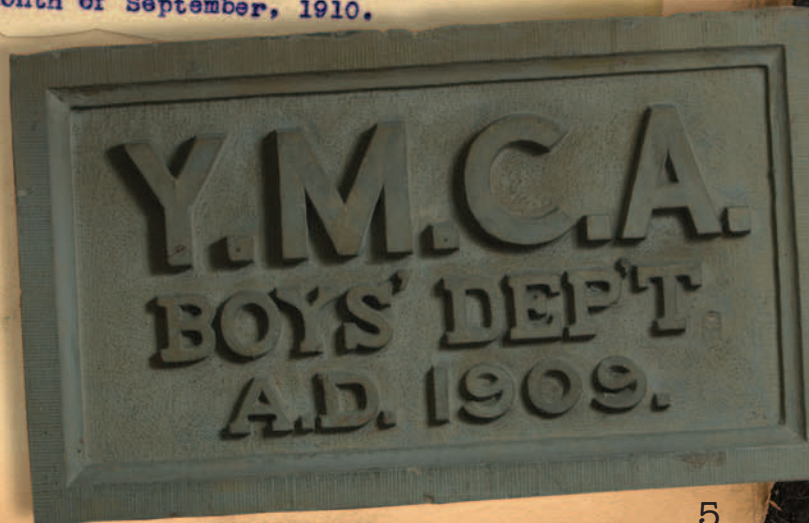
HAMILTON CANADA 1910

Report of Secretary for Month of September, 1910.

"I have been connected with the Association for many years and have seen it grow from little to great proportions, from having its home in an upper chamber to having its present fine quarters which are already outgrown. The growth of the YMCA has more than kept pace with the growth of the city."

~ Alfred Powis, President
Excerpt from the 1908/09 Annual Report

Echoing Mr. Powis' remarks, Mrs. Nelson Mills donates her land on Jackson Street to the YMCA, directly behind the building, making it possible to erect the Boy's Department. Activities at the YMCA have doubled.



ANNUAL CIRCUS AT Y.M.C.A. IS GREAT SUCCESS

Over 300 Performers Take Part in Affair

High Bar Work Outstanding Part of Program

Show Will Be Continued To-day and Saturday

Over 300 boys and young men took part in the big annual Y.M.C.A. circus, held last evening on the upper gymnasium of the association building. The circus was largely attended by parents, Y.M.C.A. supporters and those enthusiastic in the development of the younger generation, and the spectacle spread out before them was one which caused much favorable comment.

Last evening was the opening night of the circus, which will be presented again this evening and on Saturday night, and if the crowds on the two remaining nights are as large as last evening, an early attendance is advisable, as every chair and nook was filled to capacity. John Halcrow, former boy-mayor of the city, presided as master of ceremonies during the evening.

In the circus there are 261 children ranging from 9 to 12 years of age. The remainder of the performers are older and more experienced, who last evening held their audiences spell-bound with wild leaps from double high bars and rings, etc.

The Grand March

The circus was opened with a grand march, in which the former takes his place on the gymnasium floor. Following the program was run off in a session, delays being reduced to a minimum.

Some of the more outstanding on the program was the work of the high bar team on the high bar. Don Clark, sen., E. Orlick, jun., Archie Seagers, have been the best in the province on the bar in recent competitions, and their work last evening was certainly a credit. From intricate movement to another team worked with a sureness and ease which was attained only by perfect co-ordination of mind and body.

Daring Stunts

Another act of considerable interest was Silvy and company on the rings. These performers executed cutaways and other difficult stunts in the air with apparent ease, and more than one occasion had to be called off on its feet as a particularly daring movement was safely completed.

W. Perryman on the slack wire performed with the polished air of a professional actor, and was loudly applauded as he balanced his way along the treacherous stretch of wire.

Lusk and Spittles received a fine ovation at the conclusion of their hand-balancing act, which was one of the main lights of the evening. The two worked with an ease and grace which marked constant training and great strength.

One of the high spots in the comedy of the evening was the oxen dance, in which the junior leaders enacted the razzing of a college freshman, going through all the collegiate Rah, Rah, Rah's with a vim and force which nearly brought the rafters down.

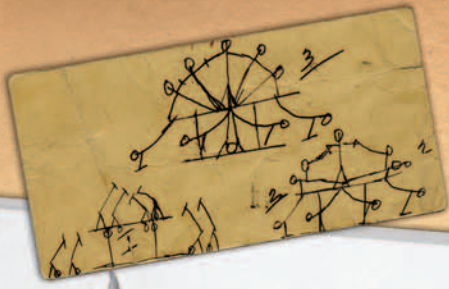
Camp Fire Act

The circus was appropriately closed with a camp fire act by boys from the junior sections of the department. The boys, dressed as Indian warriors, carried on their powder before a camp fire, with trees in the background, carrying out many of the fine old traditions of the Indian nations. This act was particularly inspiring and placed a very successful close to the circus.

The other acts on the program were: Marching, maze run, games, preps and comers; parallel bars and boys' mat work, gym team and boys; Nellie, the educated horse, Burgess, Dingwall and Watt; wand drill, junior school; four-way drill, junior leaders; sailors' hornpipe, senior leaders; comedy duet, Silvy and Savage; group relays, junior business; boys' pyramids, senior business; comedy tumbling, Jackson and Williams; free hand drill, senior leaders; jolly undertakers' dance, senior leaders; statutory, Orlick and Webster.

What started out as a Saturday morning program for young boys has turned into a highly anticipated annual spectacle for Hamiltonians. The YMCA Circus gives over 300 boys the chance to show off their acrobatics on the high bars, the rings, slack wire, comedy skits, parallel bars, and many other drills and marches set to music.

World War I has arrived and the Hamilton YMCA has become the training centre for physical education for thousands of young soldiers. The auditorium has become a dormitory for young enlisted men training in Hamilton and there are still hundreds of members using the facilities daily.



1914-1918

The YMCA has made the decision to increase their work by providing new services to the community. In doing so, the building will be renovated and a dormitory for men will replace Hamilton Hall, the scene of the first motion pictures in the City.



Two Meetings for Men
 INTERESTING, INSTRUCTIVE, INSPIRING
Y. M. C. A. COR. CAMBIE AND DUNSMUIR STS.
Sunday Afternoons at 4 O'Clock
 Nov. 22nd, Rev. J. Willard Litch
 Nov. 29th, Rev. F. B. Langford
 Hearty singing by the crowd and special selections by talented soloists.
 Men are invited
 Come on Time



The Hamilton (Central) Young Men's Christian Association Leaders' Corps
 1913-14

J. B. BROWN W. H. BENDER W. H. BROWN JOHN WILSON W. H. LAW JOHN WILSON, Chairman G. B. DASHWOOD
 CLARENCE F. BOWEN, Treasurer GERRY A. WYERHOUS, S. P. A. HARRY FOX, Sec. Treasurer



The YMCA is growing at an increasing pace. The opening of Camp Erie Heights at Port Ryerse for young boys has replaced the original camp on the Grand River.

"All the YMCA has meant to the boys and young men of Hamilton during the past 60 years can never be estimated in dollars and cents, but has had a real character value beyond financial consideration. Character is the product of the Association and the measure of its service. Whatever claim may be made for recognition as a factor in the growth of the city the Association bases that claim on character building."

- An excerpt from *Sixty Years of Character Building* published by the YMCA (1927)



CAMP ERIE HEIGHTS
Hamilton "Y" Boys' Camp

Programme

Nature Study	Baseball
Athletics	Hikes
Life Saving	Trips
Swimming	Woodcraft
Camp Fires	Entertainments



Excellent Food
Careful Supervision
Christian Atmosphere
Reasonable Rates

Open to Boys -
10 to 17 years

Camp "A" - July 2nd to July 16th.
Camp "B" - July 16th to July 30th.
Camp "C" - July 30th to August 13th.
Camp "D" - August 13th to August 27th.
Illustrated booklet at Y.M.C.A. - Phone Baker 3301

Ready for You!
AN IDEAL PROGRAM

1867-1927



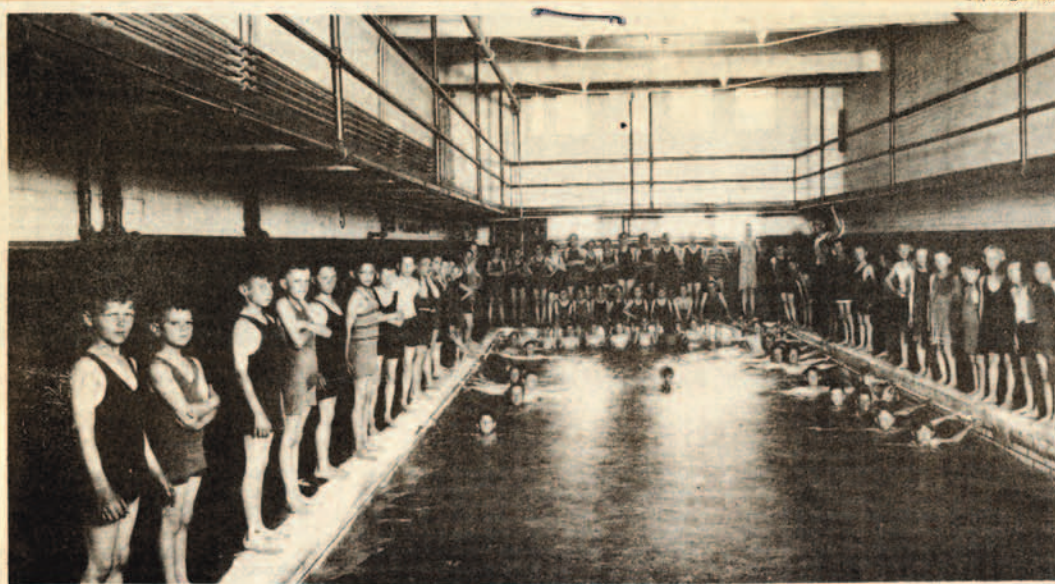
The Depression has severely impacted Hamilton, due to the significant manufacturing industry in the city.

On top of all the YMCA's regular programs, they've created the Leisure Time League to serve approximately 1,400 men who are out of work.

Members of the Leisure Time League have been given memberships and opportunities for physical exercise, such as badminton, physical training, wrestling, swimming and basketball. They also take part in other classes such as music and artwork in order to learn new skills. This League offers young men the opportunity to receive counseling and build skills to re-enter the work force.



The need for financial assistance among young boys is steadily increasing. There are currently 1,000 boys on roll whose fees average a little more than five cents a week, which is a mere fraction of the cost.



Swim class, in Hamilton Y's old "Natatorium", believed photographed in the 1930s.

JOBLESS YOUTH PROVIDED HELP BY "Y" PROJECT

Education and Recreation Are Thrown Open to Improve Leisure

Hope in This Way to Maintain Morale of Unemployed Young Men

Enlarging its already wide program of service to boys and young men of Hamilton, the Y.M.C.A. this week will launch a new project for the unemployed young men between the ages of 16 and 30, W. H. Cooper, president of the association, announced to-day.

The program will include recreational and physical activities, educational opportunities, counselling service, entertainment features and facilities for keeping up the young man's personal appearance, but will not in any way overlap any services already being rendered to this group in the city.

"The need for direct relief services, such as housing, food and clothing are always the most apparent symptoms of such depressions as we have been experiencing," said Mr. Cooper, "but to keep young men from despair, from the hideous boredom of having nothing to do and from the crushing sense of being unwanted in almost all places where their better instincts would prompt them to go, is the task extraordinary that faces every right-thinking citizen to-day."

"Just as real as the need for material things, is the need for maintaining morale among the youths who are unemployed.

"They have been coming in increasing numbers over the last three years in the 'Y'. Many of them broken in spirit, all of them lonesome, worried and fearful. They have never needed leisure in use of their enforced leisure time as they do now.

"This enlarged program we trust will give the necessary guidance in the use of this leisure, so that it will become an asset and not a liability to the young man and the community."

The project is being launched after consultation with other agencies working with the unemployed in this city as well as a large number of individual citizens.

An informal organization to be known as the Leisure Time League will be formed, with a governing body (Continued on page 10.)

Y WILL ASSIST SINGLE JOBLESS

Leisure Time League for Hamilton Youth to Be Formed

"Convinced that young men who are forced to wait for a job have a right to start out the battle of life in a cheerful and hopeful frame of mind, the Y.M.C.A. board of directors have decided to do all in their power to see that the rights of youth are cared for during these depressing days," stated W. H. Cooper, president of the association, today.

The programme as being planned at present will include practically full "Y" privileges, such as physical culture, gymnastic work, informal educational classes, counselling and job finding service and facilities for keeping up one's personal appearance.

"It is true that need for direct relief is vitally important, but that is not enough," said Mr. Cooper, "as the opportunity for working and taking a useful place in society narrows down to almost hopeless proportions, young men are faced with a sense of despair, being discouraged and uninterested in many places that their instincts would prompt them to go.

Broken Morale

The "Y" has been serving needy men in increasing numbers for the last three years, many of them broken in spirit and all of them, worried and fearful.

As the demand for leadership among these fellows has increased during these critical days, the project being launched is a direct result of a great deal of the part of our local Y, and the "Y" nationally.

Agencies serving the unemployed have been consulted and have heartily approved of the project.

The project serves a section of our young men now being unemployed in a very small way.

Leisure Time League

The Leisure Time League is an organization to be formed, with a governing body of young men in some of the most active of some members of the league already chosen.

Recreational activities will include gymnastics, swimming, boxing, wrestling and team and individual games. Informal educational classes will be organized as they emerge, such as public speaking, first aid, life-saving, etc. Social and entertainment programmes will also be a part of the league activity.

Personal Appearance

Young men who are not employed are finding it difficult to keep up their personal appearance," said Mr. Cooper. "They want to wear pressed clothes, they want to keep their shoes shined and maintain all those necessities of personal appearance upon which they prided themselves when they were employed. We will make facilities available so they can maintain their self-respect along these lines."

YMCA ANNIVERSARY

**Like father,
like son
and like son**

NORMAN BYRNE says he's just another YMCA volunteer.

Still, his word carries more clout than most. For the Y wouldn't dream of signing on the dotted line for anything without first consulting its honorary solicitor.

"There's a lot more to life than getting paid for everything you do," says Mr. Byrne, a Queen's Counsel on a payroll of appreciation for more than a quarter-century.

Job satisfaction aside, he is also carrying on a family tradition. His father, the late Norman W. Byrne, Q.C. was honorary solicitor for the Y from 1935 to 1955. And his grandfather, the late Herbert Byrne was an active Y member.

As a man who serves the Y free of charge, Mr. Byrne performs a variety of duties. He's consulted whenever the organization buys or sells land, or signs contracts with governments, municipalities or private organizations. He is also available to handle any accident and other insurance claims that might be brought against the association, and he sits on several of its committees.

And in the typical Y spirit, Byrne joined dozens of volunteers years ago, erecting buildings at Camp Wanakia, a summer haven for local youngsters.

"My father always said that you owe something to your community," he said. "I guess he kind of drilled that in."

The Y has had its share of unusual cases. One of the strangest came about several years ago when all the fire extinguishers were stolen from the YMCA. When police finally tracked them down, it fell to Mr. Byrne to have to negotiate their redemption.

Mr. Byrne says honorary solicitors are few and far between and nowadays serve only a few organizations such as the Red Cross and the Canadian National Institute for the blind.



Herbert Byrne
Norman E. Byrne
C.L. 'Cec' Brown
Norman E. Byrne as a boy, flanked by his father and grandfather. C.L. 'Cec' Brown, Y general secretary 1935-1960 is at left.

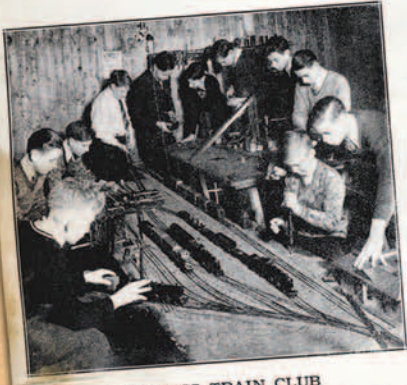
Y.M.C.A. CIRCUS
FRIDAY and SATURDAY
April 14th and 15th, 1939
 at 8.00 p.m.
 "Fun for the whole family"
 ADMISSION
Adults 25c. Children 2 for 25c.
 (under 15)
 This Ticket and 10c. may be exchanged for a Reserved Seat at Y.M.C.A. prior to 7.00 p.m. each night.

No
734

*Norman Byrne,
Honourary Solicitor and
cherished friend of the
YMCA, sadly passed away
in 2005*



Today—Youth Must Be Prepared For Tomorrow



ELECTRIC TRAIN CLUB
One of scores of Hobby Groups where boys learn new skills and spend many happy hours.

- Youth needs Character**
To stand for the right, condemn the wrong, with consideration of self.
- Youth needs Faith**
To trust in the nobility of deep thoughts that soar petty triumphs or disappointments.
- Youth needs Friendship**
To fill the longing for companionship and understand to make life happy complete.

The Youth of Today Determines The Future of Our City

"Youth cannot grow up twice. Boys and girls cannot be denied the opportunities of constructive activity without permanent injury to themselves and the city in which they live. What is to be the calibre of our cities when good times are here again and youth is at the helm?"
 From "Industrial Canada."



LIFE SAVING CLASS
Swimming and Life Saving are featured in the regular program and also at the Boys' Camp. 2,246 attendance City Playgrounds boys in free swimming periods. 888 Free swimming lessons given to school boys (non-members).

THE HAMILTON Y.M.C.A.

exists to meet these needs. It takes its place with other purposeful organizations in providing Youth with bulwarks of character outside the home. On every Youth finds tides of danger that assail character. There is need of agencies—as the "Y" to give training in character . . . to develop faith . . . to foster friendship. Youth has the right to expect the interest, sympathy and help of thoughtful people. The "Y" in its service to Youth needs your interest and sympathy. needs, too, YOUR material help.

The "y"

in Hamilton is significantly meeting the present day needs of boys and young men so that they are assisted in making the most of life in these perplexing times. They are aided in developing healthy, clear-headed unselfish and efficient personalities.

THE "Y" IS MORE THAN A CLUB

It Enriches Personality — Broadens Character — Improves Citizenship

- Some of the possibilities which it offers are
- GOOD HEALTH and CHEERFULNESS through RECREATION
- GOOD TEMPER and FUN through GAMES
- GOOD ATTITUDES and UNDERSTANDING through CLUBS
- GOOD FRIENDSHIPS through SOCIAL CONTACT
- GOOD CITIZENSHIP through STUDY GROUPS
- GOOD SPIRIT through CO-OPERATION

\$18,000 for "Y" maintenance, April 16-20

MATCHING BEER TIMES WITH FINER MEN

SO-ED NEWS

VOL. 1 NO. 2. HAMILTON CANADA, OCTOBER 1946 ☆☆☆

FALL USHERS IN NEW SO-ED

A PREFACE - - - -

Nearly every book that one picks up carries in its opening pages a preface—a statement of its aims and principles. An aim may be defined as an endeavour; a principle as a source or origin. So-Ed has aims and principles and thus a reason for this preface.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
COMMENCEMENT	October 23
COURSE	October 30
	November 6
	November 13
	November 20

Hamilton, Oct., 1946.—Arriving hand in hand with Autumn 1946 is the fourth Hamilton So-Ed.

Several years back Autumn meant turning leaves, the World Series, a new rugby season and Thanksgiving Turkey to most young people. Now, however, many young men and women conjure up visions of fun, fellowship, and worthwhile accomplishments at the mention of the word "Autumn" for autumn is synonymous with the which offers

WEATHER
Fine
for
So-Ed.

SO-ED NEWS

RATION NEWS
No Ration
on
Fun.

No. 1 HAMILTON, ONTARIO, CANADA, FEBRUARY, 1946

Vol. 1

Young Men and Women Fall For Spring So-Ed

DO YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU HAVEN'T HEARD OF SO-ED?

So-Ed is an abbreviation of Social Education and originated as a Y.M.C.A. adult, educational program.

The Hamilton So-Ed is sponsored jointly by the Y.M. and Y.W. as a program designed for young men and women in the age group 18 to 31.

Briefly, its purpose is to provide wholesome pleasure with congenial companions; to learn skills through instruction and practice in arts and crafts and to broaden one's knowledge of the world about us.

ARE YOU BORED? Try SO-ED

Taken 8 successive Wednesday nights will relieve this feeling and give you a new slant on Life.

WEDNESDAY ALL THE WAY!

Commencement
March 6

Course
March 13
20
27
April 3
10
17

GRADUATION
April 24

GET YOUR APPLICATION IN EARLY

Owing to limited building facilities it is necessary that we limit our registration to 175 persons. For that reason we urge you to get your application in early in order to avoid the disappointment of missing out on So-Ed.

THIRD HAMILTON SO-ED HITS NEW HIGH

HAMILTON, FEB., 1946

Commencing March the Hamilton So-Ed, sponsored by the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., will move into the Hamilton recreational scene for the third time.

The committee in charge of the program have spent long hours of concentrated thought and preparation in an endeavour to present to the young men and women of this city a program which will be a composite of all that is best in all the So-Ed's throughout the country.

... STOP PRESS NEWS ...
Your Morning Smile—
(apologies to Globe and Mail):

"Who was that piccolo I saw you out with last night?"
"That was no piccolo, That was my fife."



World War II

The Hamilton YMCA has become a second home for thousands of men in uniform from all over the world including Canadians stationed in the nearby camps. Many changes have taken place, the most significant of which has been the inclusion of women participants in selected YMCA programs for the first time to boost morale among the soldiers.



By the end of the War, the Canadian YMCA had 1,589 sites with the Canadian Army overseas, in hostels, mobile units and as one of only two organizations permitted within prisoner-of-war camps. By providing equipment for the recreational, educational, religious and leisure time needs of our soldiers, the YMCA Red Triangle Club was a home away from home and a symbol of refuge for many Canadian soldiers.



After delivering tremendous war services, the Hamilton YMCA's resources have been depleted. As a result, the YMCA is unable to adequately serve the needs of young men returning from war as well as the thousands of youth who are overcrowding the outdated facilities.

Even so, young men and women are assembling at the YMCA every Wednesday for So-Ed, short for Social Education, an Adult Education Program of the YMCA. Sponsored by the YMCA and YWCA for young men and women from 18 to 30 years of age, the program is designed to broaden their knowledge of the world and the people around them. The young adults take part in lectures and discussions such as current events, pathways to marriage, public speaking and classical music appreciation. Other activities include arts and crafts and dancing.



YOUTH MARCHES ON



Y.M.C.A.

with the

Y.W.C.A.



Est. 1889

HAMILTON, ONTARIO

Historical Number 1

Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. Unite In Appeal for Hamilton Youth

First Major Post-War Appeal For Improved Facilities to Serve Hamilton Youth, Backed by Mayor and Citizens Generally.

The Y.M.C.A., worn out by the wear and tear of its tremendous war services, stands a distinct war casualty, unable to adequately serve the needs of returned young men and the thousands of youth who are overcrowding its outdated and outworn facilities. The Y.W.C.A., on Ottawa Street, in the midst of an increasingly important centre of our City, that is growing and expanding daily, because of the lack of an all-purpose recreational centre in addition to their present building, is wholly unable to meet the demands of the young people of the East End Area.

Endorsed by the Mayor and many of Hamilton's important Men's and Women's organizations and public-spirited citizens generally, the United Directors of the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., beginning June 10th, are making Hamilton citizens for an immediate amount of \$200,000 toward an urgently needed total of \$500,000, to strengthen and re-establish their services to the Youth and Returned Men of this City.

The Y.M.C.A. is struggling to do a 1946 job, with 1936 equipment. Not only have these two youth organizations, the Y.M. and Y.W., united in this financial appeal, but jointly their buildings over the last number of years have been serving both sexes on an increasing scale, and their programs have been jointly planned. This appeal is the greatest challenge that faces Hamilton Citizens today. It is an appeal to invest in youth. Tomorrow, youth takes over the controls. Let us back Youth today and insure the Hamilton of tomorrow.

Mayor Lawrence Endorses Appeal

ATTENTION CITIZENS OF HAMILTON

Our Boys and Girls, lashed by our support, won the war. To those of us who are living today, there comes a tremendous challenge of a job to do, and a debt to pay.

We said, we were fighting for freedom and our way of life. We have got our freedom. Now we must make our way of life worthy of the sacrifice made and give our youth a square deal in their fight for clean and useful Manhood and Womanhood.

Tomorrow our young people will take our place. The long record of good service of the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. guarantees what we can expect of them in the years to come. As Mayor of our City, I wholeheartedly endorse this joint appeal and call on you as citizens to back this project generously and wholeheartedly.



Lawrence
Mayor



The Sunday Evening Melody Hour of inspiration and relaxation put on by the "Y" during the war, which meant so much to lads from all over the allied world, while stationed in and near Hamilton, is now continued by the Y.M.C.A. LanSeAir Club of Returned Veterans and the Y.W.C.A. Hostess Club.

Activities Found Popular During the War Carry Over into Civvy Street

E. W. Taylor

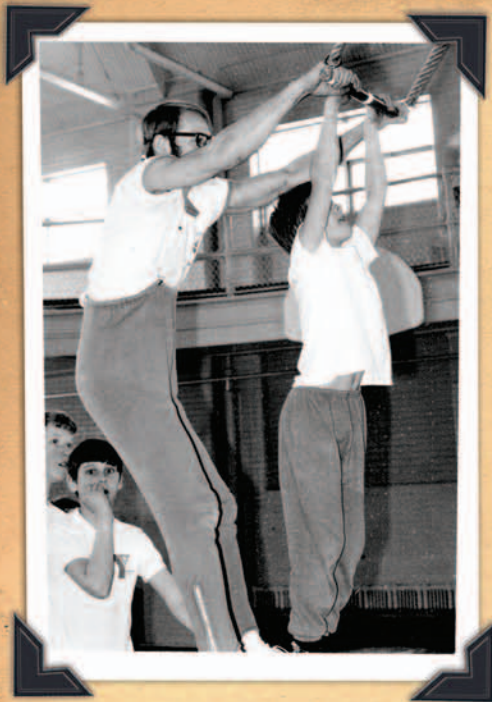
Drawings have been completed for additions and modernization of the Hamilton YMCA. Plans include remodeling the Boy's Department; building a three storey addition featuring a new 75' by 25' swimming pool to replace the original; a full businessmen's health centre; an auxiliary gymnasium and handball courts.

1949



Y.M.C.A. POOL OFFICIALLY CLOSED — Aibert J. Taylor, 82, who swam in the Y.M.C.A. swimming pool the day it was opened 58 years ago, is shown shaking hands with his son, Charles "Chic" Taylor, present Y.M.C.A. physical director, as he emerges from the pool after taking the final dive and swim. He is the last of over 5,000,000 to swim in the pool, one of oldest in Canada, which was officially closed this week.

—Photo by C. L. Brown



THE HAMILTON WRITERS MONDAY JANUARY 28 1952 Page 7 from

BUILD TOMORROW'S CHARACTER Today!

\$223,000. NEEDED NOW TO COMPLETE THE NEW "Y" BUILDING

FOR THE SAKE OF OUR YOUTH

Give Generously!



WILL YOU HELP THESE CITIZENS OF TOMORROW?

Subversive winds of inhuman proportions are lashing the entire world. We must steady youth against the blast. If our young people can keep their heads — if they can grow up with healthy bodies and minds — if they can be led to healthful, constructive lives in a day of subversive domination — if they have the facilities to ensure their own future — if they are cheerful and satisfied — then their tomorrow and the tomorrow of Hamilton will be safe in their hands.

WORKING, PLAYING, LEARNING



GOOD CITIZENSHIP

HERE IS WHAT YOUR MONEY PROVIDES

A 100% non-profit organization — 501(c)(3)
 A non-discriminatory organization — open to all
 A wide range of services — including swimming, diving, and other sports
 A well-equipped dining and sleeping quarters available to all
 A well-equipped library and reading room available to all
 A well-equipped gymnasium for playing and watching sports
 A well-equipped swimming pool for swimming and water polo
 A well-equipped tennis court for tennis and badminton
 A well-equipped table tennis room for table tennis
 A well-equipped billiard room for billiards
 A well-equipped bowling alley for bowling
 A well-equipped dance hall for dancing
 A well-equipped lounge for socializing
 A well-equipped office for administrative work
 A well-equipped kitchen for food service
 A well-equipped laundry for laundry service
 A well-equipped maintenance department for building maintenance

DO YOUR SHARE — EVERY DOLLAR IS NEEDED!

The extension is underway but costs are rising. The YMCA has begun another campaign for the remainder of the funds.

During the period of the fifties the Association experienced considerable growth in membership and service in Canada. Prior to and during this period the YMCA became much more secular in its philosophy of programming. The Protestant evangelical stance of the Association was considerably modified to the point where debates took place regarding the "C" in the YMCA.



In a Hamilton Spectator article, Hamiltonians are urged to support the YMCA: "Character is not an accident - it is built. It is the community's duty to continue what the home begins and the YMCA's expansion is just one way of attaining that end. A donation to the YMCA is a small price to pay today for the tremendous community dividends of tomorrow."

**HAMILTON Y.M.C.A.
BOARD of DIRECTORS**

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It's Nearly Completed . . .

STEEL AND BRICKWORK NOW BOTH FINISHED

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN DURING CONSTRUCTION



Here's the Latest

The combined campaign of the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.M.C.A. Building Fund held in 1948, has netted the Y.M.C.A. \$255,446.09 as its share with which to take care of its building program.

PLANS AND PRICES

Owing to a large portion of the modernization of Y.M.C.A. program being the modernization of certain sections of the present building, considerable time was required for plans and specifications to be completed. During this period, while certain pledges, which were approved over a three-year period were being received, prices advanced very considerably.

NINE TENDERS RECEIVED

Tenders were then called for, and as recently published in the press, nine were received, the lowest tender being \$448,000.00 and the next three within 2% of this figure. This evidenced the considerable care in estimating the cost. Engineers' and architects' services will be in addition to the above figure. In June, 1950, the contract was let and the work on the project was commenced.

A FINANCIAL PROBLEM

The Directors of the Y.M.C.A. are now faced with the problem of raising an additional amount of \$221,000.00 to complete the building.

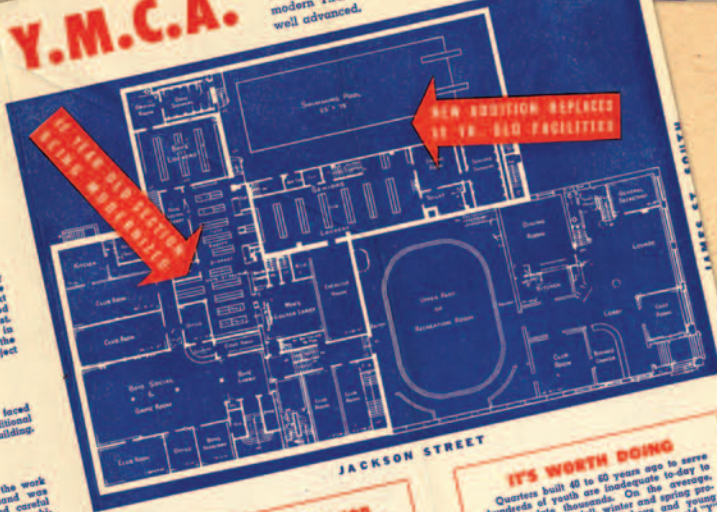
A MINIMUM PLAN

A suggestion of doing a section of the work within the limit of the funds on hand was studied. After this plan had received careful consideration by the Directors and the architect, the decision was made that it would be unwise to proceed on a sectional or piecemeal program of construction. The total plans prepared provided for only minimum requirements of room and equipment urgently needed for the efficient operation of the "Y".

THE FINAL DECISION

It had been the intention of the Y.M.C.A. to have the building completed early in 1950 for some funds needed. As Hamilton College had decided to go out for its campaign at the Y.M.C.A. cancelled their date and placed all their funds at the disposal of the Y.M.C.A. The Directors of the Y.M.C.A. are now faced with the absolute necessity of raising the additional funds needed, and a campaign is being planned for the near future.

Y.M.C.A.



NEW BUILDING FLOOR PLAN
 These plans (only one of three floors shown here) are the result of the best architectural advice obtainable on modern Y.M.C.A. construction, and the work is already well advanced.

LET'S FINISH THE JOB

Just at a time when character-building is becoming more effective in attracting emergency funds for both room and equipment, the Y.M.C.A. is being generously helped by the training and recreation departments.

IT'S WORTH DOING

Quarters built 40 to 50 years ago to serve hundreds of youth are inadequate to-day to accommodate thousands. On the average during the heavy fall, winter and spring periods, more than 1,000 boys and young people per day have made use of the old "Y" building. Every Saturday, that number exceeded the 2,000 mark. It is urgent that modern and adequate facilities be provided to meet these ever-increasing needs of Hamilton youth.

Some people Drink Filtered Water. We Swim in it!

Y.M.C.A. SWIMMING POOL

Swimming is the Most Popular and Convenient Summer Exercise for Busy Men. Free Lessons to Members.

From the Summer's Heat To a Cool Retreat

H. A. BARTY, PRINTER, 22 JOHN ST. MONTREAL

**CENTRAL Y.M.C.A.
HAMILTON.**

Summer Membership
3 MONTHS 3 DOLLARS

May be secured any time between May 15th and August 15th inclusive

YMCA
79 JAMES ST. S.

YMCA
79 JAMES ST. S.
HAMILTON, ONTARIO
L8P 2Z1

The new extension to the Hamilton YMCA officially opened on September 26, 1951.

"Wanakita turns children into young adults with confidence"

Bruce and Jan Aikman Reminisce About Camp

"When our son, Chris, told us he was turning down a high-paying summer job due to a commitment he'd made to YMCA Wanakita, I was upset. That other job would have helped him pay for school," says Bruce Aikman. "But after giving it some thought, I was proud of him. His word meant more to him than money. The values he learned at Wanakita are so important."

Before having children, Bruce and Jan Aikman were already committed to Wanakita themselves. During the off-season in the late 1960's, they would drive their trailer to camp and spend weekends devotedly fixing up Wanakita. As part of a volunteer group with plans to refurbish all the buildings on the property, the Aikmans were as familiar at Wanakita as the sun. "We never had any problems with vandalism and I think it's because the campers realized that someone was there to make camp even better," says Bruce. "They all looked after their camp."

Soon after, Bruce and Jan welcomed their first son Rob into the world and then to camp at only 6 weeks of age. "He's been there ever since," laughs Jan. In fact, all three of their children have been campers and counselors. "Wanakita turns young kids into young adults with confidence," Bruce says about the early development they noticed in all 3 of their children. "After graduating from university, my daughter Catherine took me on a 3 day canoe trip to Algonquin Park," beams Bruce. "I couldn't believe her understanding of canoeing but it was from taking her campers on canoe trips. I started to look back at the responsibility she gained from leading kids all those summers. She became so mature." Jan agrees, "Wanakita had a great influence on their personalities and their sense of responsibility."

At YMCA Wanakita's 50th Anniversary celebration in 2003, the Aikmans returned as a family. They're proud of their relationship with camp, knowing how much the camp means to the cottagers and residents of Haliburton and legions of campers. Most of all, they cherish it as a source of growth and enjoyment for their family. All three of their children are teachers now. "That's thanks to Wanakita," smiles Jan with obvious joy. "And now they'll share what they've learned with another generation."





ADMIT ONE

Y.M.C.A. Centennial

CIRCUS

Saturday, April 7th, 8 p.m.

Y.M.C.A. Gymnasium, Jackson Street
Doors Open at 7:30 p.m.

No Seats Reserved

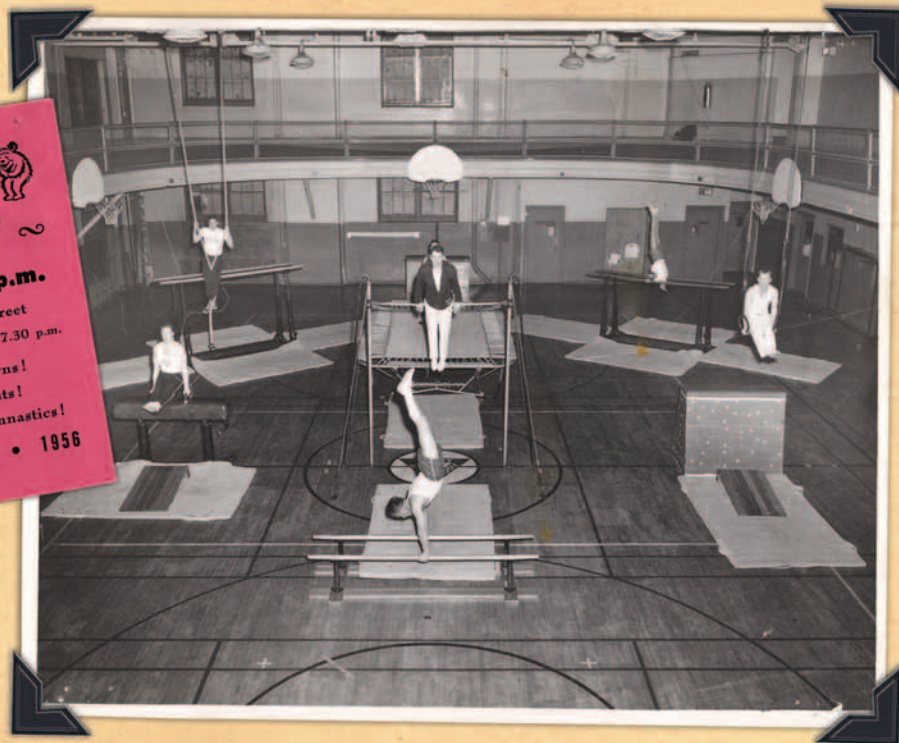
Thrills!
Skills!
Fun!

No 348

Clowns!
Stunts!
Gymnastics!

1856 • Y.M.C.A. CENTENNIAL • 1956

ADULT
50c



The YMCA Circus remains a successful annual event and an opportunity to see the skills and class organization that a boy experiences at the YMCA.

1953



The Association purchased its third wilderness retreat in Haliburton on Koshlong Lake.

It will accommodate Camp Erie Heights and will further expand as Camp Wanakita.

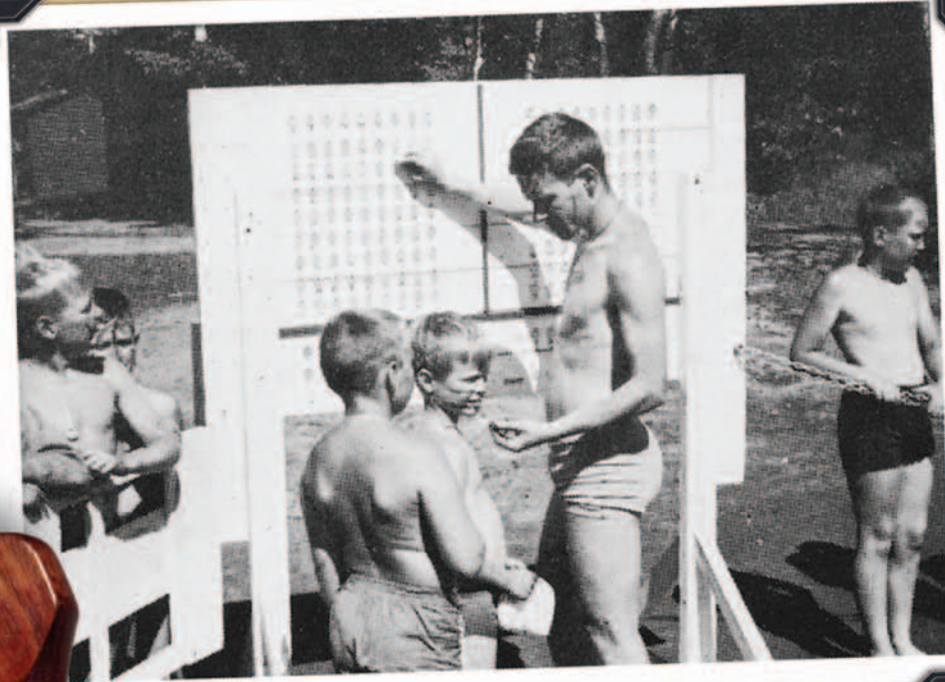
March 17, 1956 - Just one week ago, the YMCA decided to issue centennial certificates to all baby boys born today, Founding Day, entitling them to 10 years free membership as soon as they reach the age of nine.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the
HAMILTON YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
cordially invite you to attend
when
MR. HUGH G. HILTON
WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW Y.M.C.A. BUILDING
at James and Jackson Streets
at 4.00 p.m., Monday, September 14th, 1959



Plans have begun on how to raise \$1 million to replace the old 1889 structure and erect two new branch operations - one on the mountain and the other in the east end of Hamilton.

After a successful community fundraising campaign, the oldest YMCA building in Canada was torn down and replaced with the new facility opening on September 14th, 1959. This new centre of the community contains a 175 room residence, club rooms, coffee shop, lounge and offices. The YMCA has also erected the Mount Hamilton YMCA building. By the time the cornerstone was laid Hamiltonians and Hamilton industry had generously donated \$1.1 million.



THIS IS A PART
OF THE
**INAUGURAL
RIBBON**
CUT BY
HUGH G. HILTON
4 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 14th
1959
TO OPEN
THE
**NEW
DOWNTOWN
YMCA**
OF
HAMILTON
ONTARIO



YMCA
79 JAMES ST. S.
HAMILTON, ONTARIO
LBP 221

1961

WHAT OUR SUMMER PROGRAMME SHOULD DO FOR YOUR BOYS AND GIRLS:

IT SHOULD:

- (a) develop an awareness of the Creator through nature.
- (b) help the child to recognize his own strengths and weaknesses; to build on the first and bolster the latter.
- (c) encourage the child to recognize the inherent worths in others and to enjoy the satisfactions that can come from planning, working and playing as a member of a group.
- (d) foster the three-fold development of the child: in mind, in body, and in spirit.
- (e) offer opportunities for the child to develop leadership abilities he or she may possess.
- (f) stress conservation as a way-of-life in the out-of-doors.
- (g) develop skills which will be useful in daily living.
- (h) deepen knowledge and appreciation of things Canadian.

MOUNT HAMILTON YMCA - YWCA
500 UPPER WELLINGTON STREET 383-2139



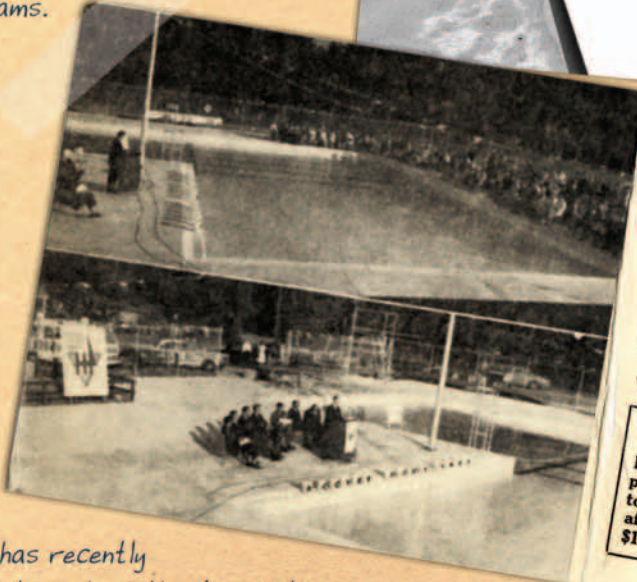
The YMCA recognizes the exploding youth population, unemployment, automation, and world tensions which will create problems in the training and development of youth which the YMCA commits to face by providing new programs, more skilled leadership and intensive efforts.



With Burlington's rapid residential and commercial growth, the need for a YMCA in Burlington is evident. With its office located in a store front on Brant Street, YMCA programs are operating in schools and churches with a program focus on leadership development, boys, girls and youth programs; and on plans for a YMCA program building.

1967

The official Capital Campaign in support of the Burlington Family YMCA has kicked-off but until the official opening, Burlington children will be bussed back and forth to the Hamilton YMCA for aquatics and gym programs.



Hoover Park YMCA, in the Hamilton area, has recently opened as the newest branch of the Association. Hoover Park is a "YMCA with the Heavens as a rooftop and Nature as a teacher. A YMCA in the woods designed for wholesome fun and recreation for the whole family." The park is open for family camping, day camp and daily activities.

Please detach and mail to
Hoover Park YMCA, 79 James St. S., Hamilton, Ontario
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
 (please print) Date _____ Telephone _____

NAME _____
 MAILING ADDRESS _____
 WIFE'S FIRST NAME _____

1966 Season Rates:
 If membership purchased prior to April 30, \$10;
 after April 30, \$15.

First names of children and ages: _____

 Signature _____





Bob and Ron



"The YMCA inspired me to teach others" Bob Elstone Remembers a Lifetime of Volunteerism

Bob Elstone clearly remembers a boy biting him 30 years ago during a swimming demonstration. Last year that young boy, now a respected business man, walked into his store. "He asked me if I remembered him," chuckles Bob. "I did indeed. We had a good laugh. He came to say 'thanks.'"

Bob understands why that fellow came to say thanks so many years later. "I was surrounded by lots of men at the YMCA who I wanted to be like," recounts Bob. "If it hadn't been for the YMCA and their wonderful leaders I wouldn't have been so successful in other areas of my life," claims Bob. "Having those role models around made a difference in my life."

Bob was 14 when he was asked to lead a new swim program for children. "It was the YMCA leaders' way of developing responsibility in us at a young age," indicates Bob. "I felt so privileged to be asked; I dedicated myself to the role."

"When I became interested in business, I turned to an older YMCA member who took me all through his company." Shortly after Bob opened his own business in Burlington. A few of the members started gathering at Bob's store to discuss a YMCA for Burlington, eventually setting up a committee. In 1964, at a packed public meeting the motion was put forth to found the new YMCA. "The membership would be \$5 and I was the first person to pay the dues," laughs Bob.

Without a proper facility, Bob soon found himself bussing children to the Hamilton YMCA where he led the swim program. Aside from leading children and operating his store, Bob was busy campaigning to raise funds for the new facility.

In 1970 the Burlington Family YMCA opened its doors. For years Bob ran the Saturday Night Teen Program there. "I tried to teach the children to respect others because that's what was taught to me at the YMCA," says Bob. "Role models are as important for kids now as they were then."

"Volunteering became a way of life," declares Bob. "I always did the best I could and as a result the YMCA became a big part of my life."

1967

The 'Indians' of Wanakita learn life in the bush



FOR 129 Hamilton youngsters, paradise is spelled with a capital W. The W is for Wanakita, the Hamilton YMCA's Summer Camp in the Haliburton Highlands, where blue skies, sparkling water and songs around the campfire in the evening fulfill the wildest dreams of any young boy.

At Wanakita, boys from nine and 13 years find they can enjoy just about any kind of outdoor activity.

FROM THEIR early morning dip at 7:30 until they drop in their tracks from sheer exhaustion at 9 at night, the boys have their vigorous energy channelled and directed by counsellors and a camp staff trained to cater to the likes and dislikes of young boys.

The camp, on Lake Knobel, seven miles from Haliburton, starts its daily routine at 7:30 when all 129 boys assemble into the lake for their daily scrubbing.

After the first raising and the thought for the day, a horde of hungry campers streams into the canteen dining hall and tops up eggs by the platter, milk by the truck load and cereal by the crate. After a few running choruses of the camp song, cleaning starts, with the best cabin claiming the Oopik trophy for the day.

The morning is divided into periods. The juniors spend their morning taking instructions in camp craft, canoeing, swimming and midget and during the afternoon the boys learn their own favorite

by BILL MUIR



ABOVE: Lessons on and in the water are a big part of each morning's routine. The daily swimming period often winds up with a game of water polo. BELOW: Canoeing instruction is given by camp counsellor Tom Hobb, of Burlington.

FUN, FOOD . . . AND SURVIVAL

swimming a day and more if they want to. Swimming is a must before the campers are checked out in a canoe or any of the other boats.

With their waterflood program as important as it is in the camp life, elaborate precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

DURING SWIMMING periods, the boys are checked in and out of the swimming area as a matter of fact, by 14 numbers. The instructor can tell at a glance how many boys are in the swimming area and their names.



Classes take the boys right into the bush on long hikes, where they can be taught first-hand how to survive in the wilderness on roots, berries and animal life. They boil jumper lins in birchbark kettles with hot rocks and set animal snares to pass their survival tests.

In the camp craft classes, they are shown how to set up an ideal camp site, near fresh-running water, sheltered from the wind and rain and accessible to their canoe.

The YMCA motto has always been "every boy a swimmer and every summer a life saver" and with

LOADING THEIR 50-pound packs with dehydrated food packs, the boys ensure their way out of the bush. The boys are made to get back to camp for a program each year for a year for a more approved by the Ontario Youth Centre. It will train the previous year's campers in the prevention of ed- return to the council.

Nine-year-old Van Sickle, 10 years on the area



HURRY! DON'T DELAY
THEY ARE FILLING FAST!

2 Wonderful Summer Camps at the Mountain "Y"

Camp Mohawk - Boys and girls 9 to 13 years.
Camp Hiawatha - Boys and girls 6 to 8 years.

Program includes — swim instruction, camping crafts, out-of-town bus trips, archery, games, etc.

2 - two week periods - July 4th to 15th
 - July 18th to 29th

Enquire now -- phone FU 3-2139
TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE!



1968

Attendance at YMCA camps is on the rise and in response YMCA Day Camps has begun offering camp to children with learning disabilities.



HERE COMES SUMMER

C'mon Gang.. Let's Go!

TO THE

MOUNT HAMILTON YMCA — YWCA

SUMMER FUN CAMP

BOYS AND GIRLS 6 - 13 YEARS

1st. Period July 3-14
 2nd. Period July 17-28

REGISTER NOW!
 For Further Information Call
 Your Mountain Y.M.-Y.W.C.A.
 500 Upper Wellington FU 3-2139

Burlington family



The Burlington Family YMCA has set plans for a Sustaining Membership Drive in November. G. M. Schottlander will act as chairman.

The purpose of the drive is to raise funds for immediate operation. Money is needed to launch a "Y" activities program, to purchase sport and craft equipment, for rental of facilities, to pay program director's salary, and to maintain an office.

"Our eventual goal is to have a "Y" building complex in Burlington. This is what we all want but it can't happen overnight," G. M. Schottlander announced. "We are planning to employ the professional services of the National Council of the YMCA Building Bureau to help us locate the appropriate site and plan a family building program. This is a complex problem and one of preliminary no specific data of a family "Y" in Burlington."



G. M. SCHOTTLANDER
photo by Lloyd Bloom

Burlington residents flocked to the official ground-breaking for the new Burlington Family YMCA to be located at 500 Drury Lane.



BURLINGTON FAMILY Y.M.C.A.

1968

FAMILY "Y" SOD TURNING - It was truly a family affair last Sunday afternoon for the official ceremony. Five groups representing various age classes participated. At the left, Mrs. Gordon Scottlander and son Vern, next is Mayor George Harrington and son Steve, the youngsters in front

of the Mayor are Greg and Patty Edwards, in the right foreground is Building Committee Chairman John Plows and Lynda Williams, a "Y" swimming instructor and in the right background is Campaign Chairman Peter Lush and Sue Drake, representing the Wrong Side Coffee House.

YOUNG MEN ENJOY LIVING

IN A BRIGHT COMFORTABLE ROOM AT HAMILTON'S NEW



ALL PRIVILEGES INCLUDED AT NO EXTRA COST.

- 2 Gyms
- Swimming Pool
- Handball Courts
- Weight Training
- Games, etc.

FOR ONLY **12.00** PER WEEK on a permanent basis

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AT SPECIAL RATES FOR RESIDENTS

- classes
- lecture groups
- dances, etc.

COFFEE SHOP

open daily from 7:00 a.m. to serve snacks and meals.
For Full Information CALL AT 79 JAMES ST. SOUTH OR PHONE JA 9-1151

The Community Services branch opened at the Mountain Family YMCA, aimed at working with groups and agencies to support citizens develop and improve their community. They offer workshops on such topics as leadership skills, effective meetings, and public relations. At this location, Adult Education classes are growing in popularity. Programs are primarily geared towards women and include such skills development as: Fancy Cake Decorating, Millinery, Golf Clinics, Landscaping and International Cooking.

Merry Milliners

Small Hands Fashion Hats



Patricia Meek, 10 biggest

Photos and story by NORMA BIRDWELL, Spectator Reporter

Sprightliness and new hats are synonymous to the feminine mind. Many a woman today responds to a compliment paid her new hat with "I made it myself."

THIS WEEK at the Mountain Y-WCA some 40 members of the Blue Triangle Clubs and the Y-Town Clubs, ranging in age from six to 18, got all dressed up in hats they themselves made. Then they gave a fashion show for admiring leaders, parents and friends.

The young milliners used an astonishing variety of materials and great ingenuity. **MATERIALS** included: repaid - down, wicker baskets, mixing bowls and paint, newspapers, aluminum pie plates, cleaning tissues in rubber hose, gift wrapping hose, flowers, feathers, velvet - and big, broad smiles. Miss Maria Fritsch, girls' program secretary, was coordinator for the social occasion.



Barbara Miller, 6 most original



Gayle Walker, 12 gayest



Sylvia Idema, 12



Bonnie Wilcox, 11 prettiest



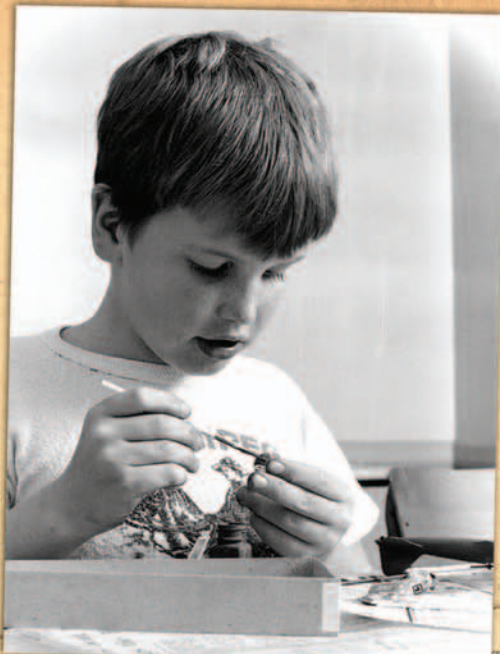
JoAnn Winning, 7 funniest



Dressmaking instructor Mrs. Robert Tilson tries a pattern on Mrs. Robert Kincaid.

Sewing To Ceramics: Learn It At The 'Y'

The sunny side of life can be fun. Dressmaking, usually a mass of facts and directions, need not be complicated, if the sewer has some instruction. That's where the YWCA comes in. HAMILTON'S YWCAs are starting their spring series of informal adult education classes. Registrations are being taken now. Dressmaking is one course offered by the three local Y's but there are many others, in subjects ranging from memory training to millinery. For the would-be chef and connoisseur of foreign foods, the Mountain Y has classes in international cooking. Instructors are natives of six different countries and students receive practical experience in the kitchen. Ladies' keep it classes are also a part of the program. A FINNISH instructor at the Mountain Y teaches a new method of exercising which eases psychological and physical tensions. Students in memory training will throw away shopping lists at the end of their course. It will teach them to remember 100 items.

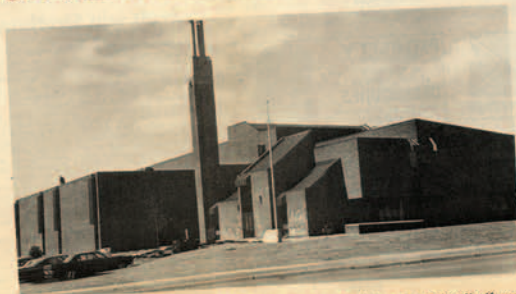


On April 5th, the Burlington Family YMCA officially opened its doors to the community with 3,000 members on roll, giving Burlington its first indoor pool. The opening ceremonies drew Burlington residents of all ages who witnessed swimming and diving displays, sports exhibitions, program and camping displays and tours of the new facility put on by staff and volunteers of the YMCA.



**YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE OFFICIAL OPENING
AND DEDICATION CEREMONY
OF THE NEW BURLINGTON FAMILY Y.M.C.A.
SUNDAY APRIL 5, 1970 AT 2:00 P.M.**

OPEN HOUSE 2:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.
DISPLAYS OF Y ACTIVITIES - GUIDED TOURS - FREE REFRESHMENTS



This advertisement is published by the following in the interest of family Y activities

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR
COOPER CONSTRUCTION CO.
(EASTERN) LTD. HAMILTON**

**PARTRIDGE PLUMBING
& HEATING
HAMILTON**

**DOMINION FOUNDRIES
AND STEEL
LIMITED**

**HIGGISON EQUIPMENT
SALES LIMITED
MANUFACTURERS AGENTS
BURLINGTON**

**MIDGLEY & WEST LIMITED
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**BARTON TUBES
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2170 QUEENSWAY 637-8261**

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1230 PLAINS RD. EAST 632-1242**

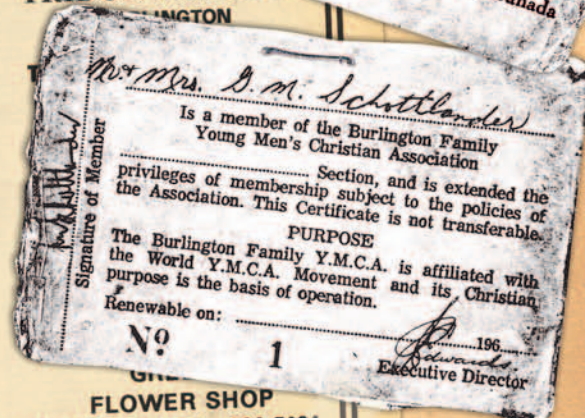
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ASPHALT DRIVEWAY
& PARKING LOTS
BURLINGTON 634-1321**

**CUNA MUTUAL
INSURANCE SOCIETY
N. SERVICE ROAD BURLINGTON**

**RIGBY PLUMBING
& HEATING
4431 HARVESTER RD. 632-9291**

**BENNE
CON
ELECTRIC
WALT**

**TRIDON LIMITED
INGTON**

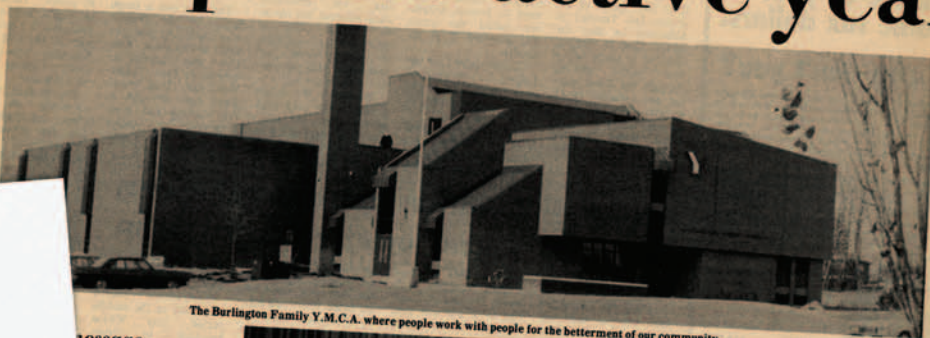


First membership card issued by the Burlington Family YMCA.

Burlington Family Y.M.C.A.

Completes active year

After going completely co-educational, Camp Wanakita reaches 100% capacity for the first time.



The Burlington Family Y.M.C.A. where people work with people for the betterment of our community.



message
of Town's
served
1970

ation of facilities and program. Their adjustment to the tremendous demand for memberships and program, cannot be emphasized.
An interesting statistic that the Burlington Family YMCA served 10% of the town's population in 1970—more than 9,000 different individuals.
The extremely pleased involvement of the youth within the "Y" encourage more to join in the varied activities and programs. The most important continuing evaluation program and made. Only in can the "Y" be and serve the as it was in- P.M. Koch President



WE THANK YOU

Mr. Ron Edwards, executive director, seated, Mrs. Wilda Anthony, Women and Girls Director, left, Mr. John Balmer, Aquatic Director, centre and Mr. Ebbe Marquardsen, Physical Education Director know that the outstanding contributions of the many Volunteers, various news media, Hamilton and District United Appeal, Town of Burlington, Greater Hamilton YMCA, and the many donors and workers who helped to erect the new building is sincerely appreciated. Truly an example of people working with people for the betterment of the community.

Finance at a Glance

BURLINGTON FAMILY Y.M.C.A.
Statements of Receipts & Disbursements of
The Building Campaign
For the year ended December 31, 1970

RECEIPTS	1970	1969
Donations Received	\$172,956.00	\$267,843.00
Bank Interest	2,639.00	9,893.00
Total	\$175,595.00	\$277,736.00
EXPENDITURES	1970	1969
Administration	\$222.00	\$1,592.00
Bank Interest	12,222.00	2,112.00
Total	\$12,444.00	\$11,704.00
Net Receipts For The Year	\$163,151.00	\$266,032.00

INCOME	1970	1969
Membership & Program Fees	\$79,542.00	\$1,853.00
Miscellaneous & Interest	2,507.00	5,943.00
Merchandise Sales	7,062.00	—
United Appeal Allocations	25,209.00	15,000.00
Total	\$114,320.00	\$31,796.00
EXPENDITURES	1970	1969
Program & Services	\$173,240.00	\$31,217.00
Building Services	29,425.00	639.00
National Assessment	952.00	1,319.00
Merchandise Sales	8,419.00	—
Total	\$212,036.00	\$33,175.00
Net Income (Deficit) For The Year	\$5,284.00	(\$1,379.00)

Figures Subject To Audit

"Y"-Lites of 1970

- Official opening of new building on April 5, 1970.
- Resounding response for memberships — 3789 in all. — 1920 youths, 292 young adults, and 1577 adults.
- In addition to "Y" members, 3456 non-members participated in special programs.
- 2065 passed fitness, intermediate swimming, lifesaving, skin and scuba tests, and 23 aquatic leaders were certified.
- 156 volunteer leaders were developed.
- New programs developed in co-operation with the Town of Burlington.
 - 10,890 Youths and 3706 Adults (non-members) attended Community Swim.
 - 528 Youths were registered in 16 Community Swim Instruction Classes.
 - 3 separate community development programs.
- Programs developed in co-operation with the Board of Education.
 - 2390 Grade Three students were registered in swim instruction classes.
- In one year, total attendance was 148,997 encompassing 3222 sessions and 219 different groups.
- Participated in a Jamaican exchange of youth through the World "Y" Development Program.



BUSINESSMEN UNWIND
Led by volunteer fitness instructor, Ron MacVinnie, right front, this group of Burlington business men jog in the Y's large and well equipped gymnasium.



LEARN TO SWIM

John Balmer, aquatic director teaches this young lad the flutterkick during just one of the many aquatic instruction periods. Hundreds of people have learned to swim at the Y's spacious and modern pool.

Board of Management

- Raird R.G.
- Chase R.J.
- Coste W.E.
- Drake H.J.
- Fraser R.O.
- Gapes R.H.
- Howard Mrs. J.C.
- Johanne C.W.
- Kelly R.B.
- Kendall Dr. J.M.
- Kump Rev. W.J.
- Koch P.M.
- Layard Mrs. C.P.
- Mundy Mrs. W.B.
- Morton J.P.
- Muska R.M.
- Overall Mrs. W.H.
- Quinsey J.F.
- Reaney F.J.
- Schottlander G.M.
- Stinchler R.E.
- Smith D.S.
- Stoddart W.J.
- Tate Mrs. D.J.S.
- Thomas Mrs. A.H.
- Tyerman Mrs. J.A.
- Walker J.B.
- Wilson R.G.

ANNUAL MEETING THURSDAY FEB. 11 8 p.m.
at the Y
500 Drury Lane
The Burlington Family Y.M.C.A. is a member of the Hamilton and District United Appeal

Deanne Collinson and Steve Heming guarding the waterfront

In its first year of operation, the Burlington Family YMCA served 10% of the town's population.





The YMCA announces a new \$2.5 million campaign to replace the 1909 addition of the Hamilton YMCA. The 1909 addition was built to handle a daily attendance of 300 people and over 1000 people are currently using the facility on a daily basis.



What about those who can't afford to join the Y?

No one is left out. No one at all! We provide memberships to men and boys referred to us by Big Brothers, Children's Aid, Health units, Family Services, teachers, doctors, and clergymen. We are only limited by our physical capacity. And right now our facilities are stretched to the limit. That's why the Downtown Y has launched a \$2½ million expansion program.



Support the YMCA building fund. Phone your pledge 529-7102

1976 has been a busy year. The new addition to the Hamilton YMCA was completed at a cost of \$3 million and includes a modern youth centre, a health and fitness gym, handball courts, games area and a jogging track. The building was officially opened on Saturday, September 11th. Attendance in the youth and physical departments reached an all time high.



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In cooperation with the City of Hamilton, the Hamilton YMCA is operating a gym and swim program for inner-city youth. Over 1,200 boys between 6 and 13 participated this past summer.

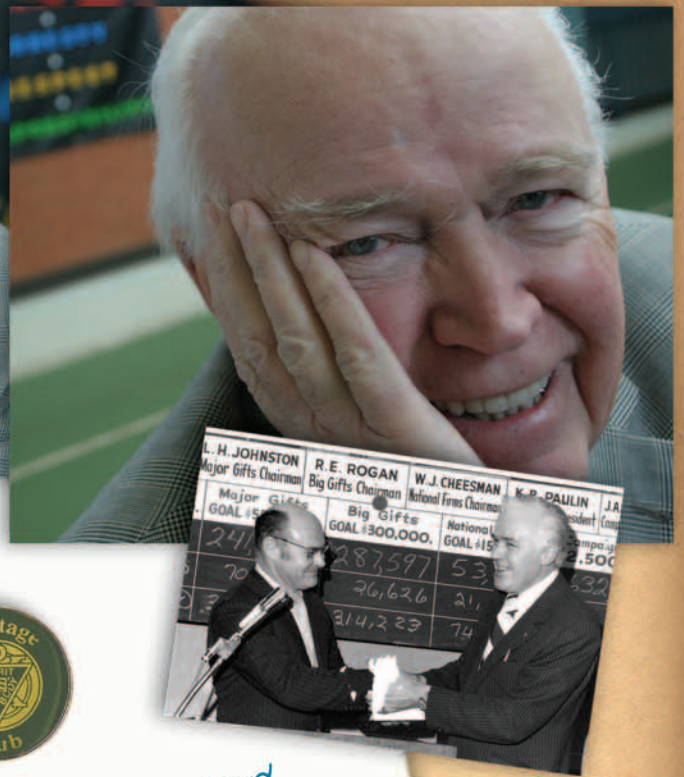


Hey, that's us

Yup, it's them again. But this time they were dressed for winter. Most of the swimmers are members of a class at the downtown YMCA and their picture is being used on billboards to promote the Y building campaign. The Spectator managed to round up the boys with the exception of three who apparently were visitors to the Y pool the day the first picture was taken in October. The regulars are, from left beneath their original

positions: Glen MacMillan, 10, Rymal Road West; Paul Mombourquette, 11, Seneca Court, Ancaster; Eric Somers, 12, of Iroquois Street Ancaster; Paul Szostak, 11, Alexander Road, Ancaster; John Manley, 10, Shirley Street, Dundas; Dave Robb, 10, West 5th Street; Lorenzo di Tommaso 9, Hyde Park; and Kenny Jobity, 11, of Bellingham Drive.

—Picture by Bob Chambers



"I credit the YMCA with my being alive today"

Jack MacDonald Recalls Life as a Member, Volunteer and Donor



"Public office can be a stifling place," smiles Jack, the long-serving Alderman and former Mayor of the City of Hamilton. "But it was nice to know I could retreat to the YMCA for a workout and a run on the old building's suspended track." Occasionally municipal matters would follow him there. Jack lightheartedly recalls a massage that was abruptly interrupted by a constituent. "He pulled the eye mask from my face, pointed a finger at me and asked me about a recent decision," laughs Jack.

Just as Jack's dedication to city politics strengthened during his years in office, so did his commitment to the YMCA. By 1974 the old YMCA building could no longer serve the growing membership. Jack embraced the challenge, churning the fundraising campaign for the new building. But Jack's deepening relationship with the YMCA didn't stop there.

Several years ago Jack and his wife Jessie joined the Heritage Club by including a bequest to the YMCA in their wills. "It's a way you can continue to be in touch with the YMCA when you're not in touch with anything else," he explains with a chuckle. The couple believes children are the most important beneficiaries of this gift. "Kids demonstrate joy better than any words can," says Jack. "The YMCA helps a lot of people who wouldn't get a shot otherwise. We want to see that work continue as it always has."

To Jack the true strength of the YMCA is the spirit that permeates the organization. "The YMCA has a genuine concern for others. The world can be a cruel place if you let it and it's at those times that you need the YMCA. It has a welcoming spirit and I don't know of a nicer place to come," says Jack.

Today at the age of 79, Jack has endured two open heart surgeries. "I never would have survived had I not been in good shape from my years as a member," states Jack. "I owe my existence to the YMCA. Each day I wake up and say 'thanks for one more day.'"



Leaders In Training are boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 14 years. These youth participate in a training program that will eventually allow them to become full-fledged leaders.



THE Y TRAINS LEADERS FOR TOMORROW!

The Leaders Corps is a nationally recognized Youth Leadership Development and Volunteer Service Program. Members of the Leaders Corps must be members of the YMCA and between the ages of 12 and 18 years.

Leaders In Training — L.I.T.'s are boys and girls between the ages of 12 years (as of December 31) and 14 years. These members participate in a training program that will eventually allow them to become fullfledged leaders. They must also serve as a volunteer assistant in a youth program each week.

Leaders — Leaders are boys and girls between the ages of 15 (as of Dec. 31) and 18 years. These leaders participate in a leadership development program geared to increase their personal and teaching skills. Each leader gives volunteer leadership in an on-going program under guidance of a staff member.

Aquatic Corps

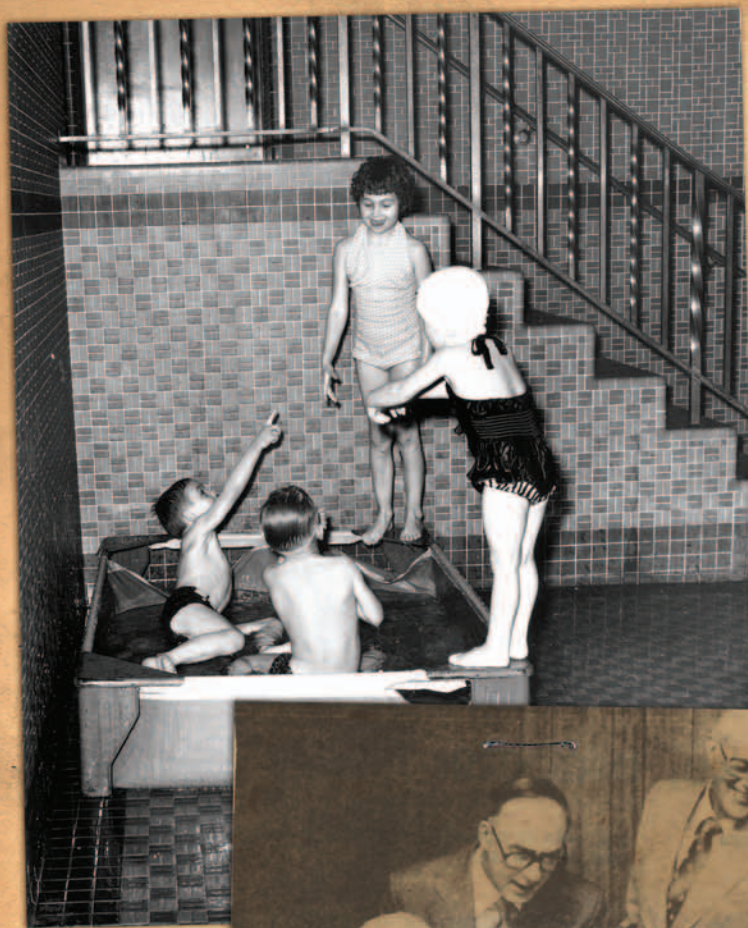
Leaders and Leaders In Training in the aquatic corps divisions follow similar entrance, training and service requirements as the regular corps but specialize in aquatic skills.

Although leadership development and volunteer service are very significant aspects, the fun and fellowship with the corps are also very important.

YMCA staff and Senior Leaders act as resource people. Potential members of the Leaders Corps are selected early in the Fall — if interested contact the appropriate staff person.

- Leaders In Training (12 - 14 years) meet Fridays 4:30 - 6:00 or 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Leaders (15 - 18 yrs.) meet Fridays 4:30 - 6:00 or 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (Contact Hugh Cuthbertson or Margaret Flint)
- Aquatic Leaders meet Thursdays 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (Those specializing in aquatic skills) (contact George Potter)





Membership at the Burlington Family YMCA is reaching an all time high and in order to accommodate the increasing membership and program needs, the YMCA is launching an Expansion Campaign.



Now that key campaign chairmen have been named for the Burlington Family YMCA's expansion drive, the planning for the addition is getting underway in earnest. Shown plotting strategy are, seated, from left, Ross Craig, general campaign chairman, and Bob Brechin, big gifts chairman; standing, Bruce Carey, president of the Burlington Y, Ron Edwards, executive director, and Bruce Chadwick, president of the Hamilton-Burlington Y.

As the decade comes to a close, the YMCA is changing its name to the Hamilton/Burlington YMCA, to better reflect the entire community served by the YMCA.



HAMILTON YMCA HANDBALL Hall of Fame

Year	A	B	C	Year	A	B	C
1921	Walter R. Price			1967	Al Runtze	John Rempel	Alvin Gindoff
1922	Walter R. Price			1968	Al Runtze	Benjamin Dreyer	Alvin Gindoff
1923	Sam Anderson			1969	Al Runtze	S. M. Dunbar	Alvin Gindoff
1924	Sam Anderson			1970	S. W. Dunbar	J. Nelson	A. Gindoff
1925	Sam Anderson			1971	Al Runtze	Joe Gindoff	F. Gindoff
1926	Sam Anderson			1972	Alvin Gindoff	F. Gindoff	A. Gindoff
1927	A. S. Gindoff	F. Gindoff		1973	S. M. Dunbar	F. Gindoff	G. Gindoff
1928	A. S. Gindoff	F. Gindoff		1974	Al Runtze	F. Gindoff	G. Gindoff
1929	A. S. Gindoff	F. Gindoff		1975	S. M. Dunbar	F. Gindoff	G. Gindoff
1930	A. S. Gindoff	F. Gindoff		1976	Al Runtze	F. Gindoff	G. Gindoff
1931	Walter R. Price			1977	John Price	Brian Goto	Alvin Gindoff
1932	Walter R. Price			1978	John Price	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1933	Walter R. Price			1979	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1934	Walter R. Price			1980	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1935	Walter R. Price			1981	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1936	Walter R. Price			1982	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1937	Walter R. Price			1983	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1938	Walter R. Price			1984	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1939	Walter R. Price			1985	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1940	Walter R. Price			1986	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1941	Walter R. Price			1987	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1942	Walter R. Price			1988	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1943	Walter R. Price			1989	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1944	Walter R. Price			1990	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1945	Walter R. Price			1991	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1946	Walter R. Price			1992	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1947	Walter R. Price			1993	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1948	Walter R. Price			1994	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1949	Walter R. Price			1995	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1950	Walter R. Price			1996	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1951	Walter R. Price			1997	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1952	Walter R. Price			1998	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1953	Walter R. Price			1999	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1954	Walter R. Price			2000	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff
1955	Walter R. Price			2001	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff	Alvin Gindoff

Y changes name, bylaws

WHAT WAS the Greater Hamilton Young Men's Christian Association is now the Hamilton/Burlington YMCA. The name change is intended to "tie together more formally the Burlington Family YMCA with the (other) YMCA operations in the Greater Hamilton area," according to Ted Patterson, director of marketing, promotion and membership. The Burlington Family Y will have its own board of management to deal with local policy, but major decisions will be made by the Hamilton/Burlington YMCA board of directors. Besides making the name change, the YMCA has reorganized its committees, cut the size of its board from 36 to 30 members and rewritten its constitution. The YMCA is proceeding with plans for a \$1.8 million expansion of the Burlington facilities and for sale of its Hamilton Mountain building.



"The YMCA is such an effective force for good in our community"

Vic Hryhorchuk Reflects on his Career

"The Core Values of the YMCA are the hallmark of my strong affinity for working at the YMCA," declares Vic Hryhorchuk, President & CEO of the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington from 1976 to 1993. "If someone asked me to do it all over again, the answer would be 'absolutely!'"

Following YMCA positions in Ottawa and Montreal, Vic and his wife Betty moved to the Greater Hamilton YMCA. "My goal was to set organizational goals and objectives that could be supported by everyone," says Vic of his early days. "I was building a united team of staff and volunteers to give everyone the opportunity to contribute." With this challenge addressed, Vic knew the YMCA would enhance its ability to achieve its mission in the community.

"By 1980, membership at the Burlington Family YMCA was outgrowing its space so we built the addition to expand programs and serve more people. At YMCA Wanakita we built the Central Core and purchased the camp next door, acquiring 35 acres to enhance programming in the process," recounts Vic. "It was a major satisfaction knowing we could adapt to meet new and emerging needs. The introduction of early childhood education to respond to the needs of young children and working parents is a classic example of this," says Vic. "Today the YMCA is the largest provider of licensed child care in Canada."

During his tenure the YMCA began the International Development program, initiating a partnership with the YMCA of Costa Rica. "Closer to home we started bringing programs to economically disadvantaged children in North Hamilton, helping them build peer group relationships, confidence and self-esteem," smiles Vic about the Community Outreach programs that continue in under-served areas today. "Helping to determine a person's job potential through employment counseling or encouraging a high school dropout or a teen mother to continue their studies are further examples of how our YMCA met new and critical needs of the day," says Vic.

"The YMCA has always provided experiences and growth opportunities under an umbrella of values," notes Vic. Nurturing the concept of philanthropy, of people helping perpetuate the work of the YMCA, is another of these opportunities. "As a charity we have a duty to encourage this amongst our leaders and members," asserts Vic. "The YMCA is such an effective force for good in our community. I don't hesitate for a moment to give something back."

After much deliberation, the YMCA has sold the Hamilton Mountain YMCA. And after reviewing the poor performance of Hoover Park over the past few years, the YMCA has decided to get out of the family trailer camping business and sell the 100 acre property.



The Spectator, Saturday, September 19, 1981 1a



The Spectator Advertising Feature
THE HAMILTON/BURLINGTON YMCA

125th
 Anniversary
 1856-1981



The Burlington Family YMCA has officially opened a 22,000 square foot addition following a second successful community campaign. New additions include a second gym, new enlarged exercise room, 4 racquetball courts, locker room, fitness testing room, additional staff offices, enlarged babysitting room and second lounge.



Under the leadership of Anne Rajczak, a 45-year-old mother of five, the Burlington Women's Runners Club has sprung up at The Burlington Family Y. There are approximately 25 women in the group and plans are being made to have clinics on topics such as nutrition, foot and leg injuries, etc. The gals have a regular date, leaving the Y every Saturday morning.
 Photo by GEORGE TANSLEY

Y women run to good health

The Mountain YMCA and Stoney Creek Family YMCA are in makeshift facilities with programs that cater to children and their parents, such as crafts and pre-school recreation. Financial assistance for these programs is high.



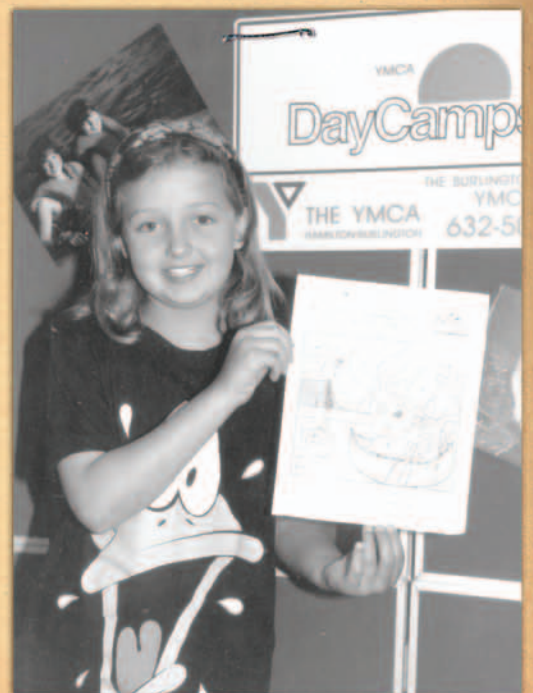
The YMCA opens its 5th Pre-School centre in as many years, making it the largest provider of day care in the Hamilton-Wentworth and Burlington metropolitan area.

A new project to assist unemployed youth was launched with a feasibility study in late 1985 to determine its potential. To be located in Burlington, this Youth Employment Service has already indicated high potential for start up based on youth unemployment statistics in that community.



Youth Employment Services more than doubled its client base over 1986 and with added financial support from the Ministry of Skills Development of Ontario, this important area of youth service made a significant contribution to helping young people prepare for the job market and seek additional education or training.

Child care and child development has been the fastest growing program service in the Association and now represents the largest budgetary volume of overall YMCA services.





"I want to get the message out"

Roy Springstead Recounts his Commitment to Youth

"It's unfortunate but there are people that don't know what the YMCA does for the community," says Roy Springstead, long-time member and volunteer. "I want to get the message out about the assistance we provide kids."

As racquetball's popularity took off in the 1970's so did Roy's volunteer involvement. He taught the game to hundreds of kids at the YMCA and arranged tournaments for his fellow members. That involvement nearly ended when he suffered a heart attack. "I was in the hospital for 12 days," remembers Roy. "But I was touched by the calls from people at the YMCA, the visits, the cards and flowers - gee, I never realized I meant so much!" That was merely the beginning of Roy's impact.

On his feet again and back at the YMCA, Roy was approached by Physical Director, Ross Cheng, with an idea to help kids in North Hamilton. "The idea had a lot of merit," nods Roy. "So we brought in Len Reddick and a few others and made this thing happen." That was 15 years ago and the idea was Breakfast with Santa.

It was an instant success, hosting nearly 200 children for breakfast, entertainment and gifts that first year. "There we were, cooking up on the roof in sub-zero temperatures," laughs Roy. "It was worth it. The kids were so happy to see Santa. It just snowballed from there!" Soon members stepped forward to cover expenses, including catering. "Last year Breakfast with Santa raised more than \$5,740 and gave 500 kids a happy holiday," beams Roy. "I want to see that event carry on forever."

"Since retirement, the YMCA has been my lifeline," says Roy. "I'm here daily, faithfully rowing, bicycling and walking. It controls my weight, keeps me fit and gives me opportunities to socialize." Alongside the camaraderie, Roy enjoys sharing his passion for the YMCA Mission. As a long-time storyteller for the YMCA Strong Kids Campaign, he clearly loves helping the YMCA reach more kids. "I don't mind approaching people for donations. We need to get more kids off the streets and into the YMCA," declares Roy. And that's what he is doing, one story at a time.



Why is the Y open on Christmas Day?

The YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington opens its doors on Christmas Day to the whole community free of charge.

On this special day, the YMCA reaches out to everyone, offering an opportunity for fellowship and participation especially for those who do not have family close by. The YMCA provides a gathering place for members, families and individuals of all backgrounds to come together and enjoy each others company while participating in a YMCA activity. YMCA staff voluntarily work to host the occasion offering refreshments and a warm welcome.

On Christmas Day, the Burlington Family YMCA will... and the Hamilton Downtown... your generous cooperation.



The Hamilton YMCA achieved full family access with the introduction of memberships for women.

1990



THE YMCA OF HAMILTON/BURLINGTON
Be yourself
(and a little bit more)

1991

In co-operation with the Ontario Ministry of Housing and Kiwanis Non-Profit Homes Inc., the Association launched its first social housing project on Aberdeen Avenue in Hamilton. The YMCA's Non-Profit Homes Corporation purchased property in the North End of Hamilton for its second project, opening at a time when the need for affordable housing has never been greater.



Adults Under Construction...

As the region's largest provider of quality licensed child care, we're laying the foundation for a healthy adulthood for our community's children.

The YMCA - We're more than you think!

THE YMCA OF HAMILTON/BURLINGTON
 Hamilton (905) 574-9400
 Burlington (905) 639-4434



Camp Wanakita Capital Campaign raised \$1,145,000 to acquire Wanakita East, formerly Haliburton Hockey Haven Camp, and to build a new central core/dining hall facility.



The YMCA initiated outreach programs in the North End of Hamilton involving over 160 youth.

Exchange visits between the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington and the YMCA of Costa Rica officially launched an international partnership. Support from CIDA and the YMCA Endowment Fund allowed for \$20,000 available to assist them in the development of systems to provide clean water and properly refrigerated food at its new residential camp.



1992

A comprehensive community needs study was launched with findings validating the Association's commitment to expansion in the Hamilton Mountain community and to revitalize the Burlington and Downtown branches.

YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington **PARTNERS with YOUTH**



YMCA Spirit Winter 1999

YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington

Inside • YMCA Centres of the Community • Adult Programs • Child/Youth Programs • Schedule at a Glance



YMCA SERVICES

Statement of the Community	
In Burlington	632-5000
In Hamilton	317-4904
Center Development & Learning	
In Burlington	681-1140
In Hamilton	317-4934
Childcare	
In Burlington	632-5000
In Hamilton	574-2483

YMCA Building Healthy Tomorrows Campaign is about more than raising money!



One of the values that guides the work of the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington is Philanthropy and Voluntarism. The YMCA believes that the partnership between volunteers and staff is the cornerstone of the effectiveness of YMCA programs and that records need to





The Burlington Career Development and Learning Centre moved to a new and larger facility on Brant Street making it possible to increase service to more youth.

1993

INTERNETWORKING

Looking for Work? Learn to use the Internet.




InternetWorking™ is a free 2-week program designed to teach unemployed people how to use the Internet to search for jobs.

You'll learn how to:

- Access hundreds of local job listings
- Send your resume using e-mail
- Find and research companies online.

Classes start every second Monday at the YMCA Career Development & Learning Centre in Burlington.

For info call: 905-681-1140 or 1-866-244-7244 toll free.

YMCA Wanakita celebrates 40 years at their current site. Over the last 15 years, it has become a four-season, 70 building, 1,000 acre facility which attracts thousands of participants from Ontario, across Canada and other countries each year.



THE YMCA OF HAMILTON/BURLINGTON

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

Early in 1993 the Burlington Family YMCA has a serious fire which closes the branch for more than 10 weeks.

Join in! Support the new Flamborough Family YMCA. See YMCA Spirit enclosed.

YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington
79 James Street South, Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2Z1
Phone: (905) 529-7102 Fax: (905) 529-6682



We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

A new Mission and Vision is developed to focus the YMCA on the next 10 years.

1995



The YMCA Board of Directors approved a new Capital Development Strategy, Building Healthy Tomorrows, which will double the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington's service to the community by investing \$29.2 million into developing and improving YMCA facilities. Specifically, Building Healthy Tomorrows will build a new Flamborough Family YMCA; renew the Burlington Family YMCA; build a new Hamilton Mountain Family YMCA and improve the Hamilton Downtown Family YMCA, YMCA Wanakita and YMCA Child Care



1996 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

1997



"The YMCA has kept our family close"

The Foremans share their Passion for YMCA Involvement

"The YMCA has been important to our entire family," says 18 year-old Vanessa Foreman, who grew up at the YMCA. Some might say the YMCA is in the Foreman blood but it wasn't always that way. When Vanessa's father, Brent, was in high-school, he played pick-up basketball at the old YMCA. "At that time, it was just a gym to me. I had no concept of what the YMCA was about," admits Brent. Today his perception is much different - the YMCA has changed the lives of him and his family.

As an adult member, Brent joined the Hamilton YMCA Advisory Board, which piqued his interest in governance. By 1994, Brent was deeply involved in assessing the need for the Association to double its service to the community. A few years later, Brent felt privileged to be chair of the Board as it kicked off the Building Healthy Tomorrows capital campaign, the biggest expansion in the Association's history.

"Brent's experience with volunteering and fundraising at the YMCA prompted my own interest," says Brent's wife Sally. "I realized it was something I wanted to be a part of as well, but I was not sure in what way." With their children, Vanessa and Julian, involved in many YMCA programs, particularly the Hammerheads tri-athlon team, Sally soon discovered her opportunity. "There was a core group of us who all worked hard, not only helping the team support these young tri-athletes, but also as volunteer fundraisers for YMCA Strong Kids," says Sally.

Last year, Sally joined the YMCA staff team to focus on volunteer and membership outreach; a natural evolution for the passion that she and Brent share for philanthropy. "I love what the YMCA represents. I would like to see us do more for children in our lowest income neighbourhoods," declares Sally. Brent, who is now a Director on the YMCA Canada Board, adds, "It's these kids that benefit most from the YMCA."

Brent and Sally are grateful for what the YMCA has done for their own kids. When Julian, their oldest child, went to YMCA Wanakita, he developed an enthusiasm for camp experiences that motivated him as a teen. "I loved the freedom and independence at Wanakita," Julian states as he fondly recalls his 9 years as a camper and counselor. "I also worked as a counselor in Switzerland," an opportunity that grew from his love of camping, kids and the skills he learned at the YMCA.

"The YMCA has meant something different to each of us, as individuals," says Brent. "It has kept us really close to each other," Vanessa adds. "I always felt like this was my other home. It's so full of familiar faces, I feel like I know people without really knowing them. Individuality is celebrated and there is a sense of belonging. I love working here," enthuses Vanessa, now a member of the YMCA Staff Team.

Letters to the Editor

Let goodwill be the legacy of tragedy

The YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington deplors the violent acts against so many innocent people in the United States. These have left people around the world with strong feelings of shock, sorrow and anger. Many have poured their hearts and compassion into tremendous contributions of time, skills and resources to help our American neighbours.

Members and participants of the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington have already contributed more than \$3,000 to support YMCA recovery work in New York City and Washington. All proceeds from the YMCA's Annual Peace Medal Breakfast (Nov. 20) will

also be sent to the YMCAs of Greater New York and Metropolitan Washington.

At the same time, we are troubled by recent incidents of harassment and intimidation in Canada against certain religious and ethnic groups.

The YMCA believes in a society modelled on values of openness, tolerance, and respect for people of different races, religions and abilities. We must not allow the fear and anger we feel to become a licence for increasing intolerance and aggression toward our fellow citizens.

In these troubling times, justice will prevail for the victims, with

ing a climate of intolerance. Through our common humanity we must foster the respect, understanding and co-operation that is part of our tradition and values.

As a charity involving 45,000 residents of Hamilton and Burlington, we hope that our actions teach our children and tolerance and respect for all. Let us stand together in goodwill and respect across our community. Most important, we must create a future for our children and grandchildren.

Robert Tansley
President and CEO
Hamilton/Burlington



YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington members generously donated funds to the YMCA of the USA Relief Fund contributing to the \$11,000 gift made by the Association to help the YMCA's that provided grief counseling, emergency shelter and child care in areas affected by the September 11th terrorist attacks.

2001



Beating the odds against diabetes
A group of aboriginal families from Hamilton participated in a week-long Outdoor Adventure Camp of YMCA Camp Woodside. The goal was to prevent diabetes through physical activity and learning about a healthy diet. Participants in traditional aboriginal activities and ended the week with a pow-wow. From left, Whistle Chant group members, Rubin Rivera and Lyle Anderson beat the drum and chant as Jutra Hones, in back, leads his group of children in a grass dance.

2000 With the Youth Serving Agencies Network (YSAN), the YMCA is providing subsidized recreation programs for Hamilton children whose families are on social assistance. This program is based on McMaster University research showing that recreation improved the skill levels of these children and doubled their families' exit from social assistance.

Y offers new day camp

The Hamilton/Burlington YMCA is offering a new day camp program. Young 'campers' will be led on an exploration of the environment in the Discovery Project Wilderness program, known as DISCO.

Nature education, weird science, experiments and crazy outdoor games that promote learning ecology will be part of the day camp.

DISCO is one of 13 day camp programs offered by the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington at its seven locations. There are an assortment of bus pick-up locations.

For more information, call 905-317-4939 or visit the Web site www.ymca-ahb.on.ca.

June 22nd Burlington Post



The first Virtual YMCA after-school program was launched at Robert Land School in Hamilton's North End offering school children values-based programs combining literacy, academics, social activities and recreation.

Children and seniors form caring community

Transgenerational facilities are trendy

By LISA GRACE MARR
The Hamilton Spectator

The day-care children call the seniors at the Wellington Centre in Hamilton the grandmas and grandpas.

The kids are not making a visit. This is their home for the day. And that sense of family and a nurturing, caring community is one of the bonuses of having a child care facility on the same site as a nursing home and seniors' residence.

"It's all part of the intergenerational day care program offered by the Hamilton-Burlington YM-YWCA.

"They keep me young," said Jenny Divery, a 90-year-old resident of the nursing home wing of the Wellington Centre. "It does wonders for me. It's an incentive to me because on your down days they'll come in and just pick you up."

Wanda Amer, the Y's day-care centre supervisor, said the program is accepted by most folks, and interaction with the children is entirely up to each resident.

"Some like to just sit in their rooms and watch the children play in the courtyard below. Others, like Jenny, take part in crafts, games and singing whenever or wherever they can.

"Sometimes we do things spontaneously, we might stop and listen to the choir (seniors) and applaud from the balcony," Amer said.

"Our purpose at hand is to enrich the lives of children and residents through interaction. This happens by sharing a space physically together and so much from that happens developmentally, cognitively and socially, it's incredible, it's magical."

The magic is catching on.

This week, Brantford city council was approached by Robert Tansley, executive director of Brant Family Services Inc., a non-profit agency, to fund up to \$250,000 for start-up costs for a similar program there. The money is needed to renovate the area and cover some initial operating costs.

The agency is drawing up a business plan and was to present it to Brantford's social services committee sometime this month.

Brant Family Services hopes to administer a day-care program for kids at St. Joseph's, which is closing as a hospital in March. Brant County and the city jointly run the John Noble Home for the Aged and are moving 200 chronic care beds to St. Joe's.

There are plans to make the centre a multi-service facility.

Tansley said his agency is opening a family resource centre in another building on St. Joe's property and

hopes to open an intergenerational day-care like the Wellington's through the old outpatient clinic at the hospital.

Tansley said the Brantford site's operating hours would be longer than most day-care centres, stretching from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to accommodate workers at the charity casino and the call centres downtown.

The cost for parents is much the same as at most private or public centres.

"The philosophy is that the more stimulation for the seniors, the more stimulation for the children — both populations benefit."

ROBERT TANSLEY

But he said the family services agency is interested in offering an alternative, affordable and quality facility that will appeal to parents who value intergenerational interaction.

"The philosophy is that the more stimulation for the seniors, the more stimulation for the children — both populations benefit," Tansley said.

"We're not just looking at this from a business perspective. The point is, we need to offer more options to children."

Hamilton Spectator March 13/01



Pal penny rollers
Benny Ehler, Grade 3 and Mariela Libedinsky, Grade 4 had their hands busy rolling pennies at Queensdale Public School recently. The school raised \$405 to send three kids to the YMCA summer camp. The campaign was dubbed Strong Kids Campaign and each school that has a YMCA attached program was encouraged to raise \$135 to send one kid to camp. Queensdale came through.

Build strong kids...

YMCA STRONG KIDS

Ask me for details!

The YMCA has embraced four Core Values: Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility. These character development values have been selected as the leading principles of the YMCA that will guide all interactions with the people served by the YMCA.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DEAR FRIENDS...

I AM INCREDIBLY PROUD OF BEING PART OF AN ASSOCIATION THAT HAS BECOME A FOUNDATION OF OUR COMMUNITY OVER THE PAST 150 YEARS. I'VE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE YMCA IN MANY CAPACITIES. PERHAPS YOU CAN RELATE - ONCE YOU GET INVOLVED, YOU'RE HOOKED FOR LIFE!

AS A FIRST YEAR UNIVERSITY STUDENT I WORKED AT THE OAKVILLE YMCA CLEANING AND SETTING UP FOR PROGRAMS. AT NIGHT AND ON WEEKENDS I WORKED AS THE FITNESS CENTRE MANAGER. THEN I BEGAN TEACHING ARCHERY AND LATER THAT SAME YEAR I STARTED AS A CAMP COUNSELOR, EVENTUALLY BECOMING A DAY CAMP DIRECTOR.

I QUICKLY LEARNED THE VALUE OF THE YMCA IN THE COMMUNITY BY SEEING THE DIRECT BENEFITS ON THE KIDS. EVEN IN AFFLUENT COMMUNITIES THERE EXIST LOW-INCOME NEIGHBOURHOODS. MANY OF THE CHILDREN WERE SUBSIDIZED BY THE YMCA AND THEIR KIND DONORS. SEVERAL OTHERS HAD BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS AND HEALTH ISSUES. YET EVERYONE WAS MADE TO FEEL WELCOME AND BETTER YET, THEY HAD FUN, TOGETHER!

THE YMCA IS A COMMUNITY-BASED, COMMUNITY-MINDED AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN CHARITY. IT'S BREADTH OF SERVICES CAN IMPACT EVERYONE AT ALL STAGES OF LIFE. EACH FACILITY IS A VIBRANT AND BUSTLING PLACE, WHETHER IT'S A FITNESS CENTRE, CHILD CARE CENTRE, CAMP OR CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, IT'S ALIVE WITH PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE. EVERYONE IS TREATED EQUALLY AT THE YMCA - AN EXPERIENCE THAT ENRICHES US ALL.

THIS IS THE SUCCESS OF THE YMCA - DEDICATION TO MISSION, VISION AND VALUES. TO BE TRULY EFFECTIVE, THEY MUST BE EMBODIED BY STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, DONORS, MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS. AT OUR YMCA WE DO JUST THAT! WE THRIVE THROUGH OUR PEOPLE.

I VOLUNTEER BECAUSE THE YMCA LEADS POSITIVE CHANGE IN OUR COMMUNITY. IT'S A CONTRIBUTION THAT CAN BE COUNTED UPON TODAY AND IN THE YEARS TO COME. I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR CELEBRATIONS THIS YEAR BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, I LOOK FORWARD TO DELIVERING THE YMCA INTO THE NEXT 150 YEARS AND WATCHING IT THRIVE.

KIND REGARDS,

JUSTIN HOGETERP
CHAIR, YMCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Friday, January 19, 2001

New Y inching closer to March opening

BY KIM ARNOTT
Special to The Post

The pool is being tiled, staff have been hired and memberships are being sold. The Flamborough YMCA, due to open in March, is actually beginning to look more like a fitness centre than a construction project.

"The building is coming along wonderfully. I really like it," said Brenda Gervais, general manager of the facility. "It's a nice, open building."

Located on Purvis Drive next to the high school, the 45,000 sq. ft. facility will offer area residents access to much-needed recreational opportunities.

A hot leisure pool, complete with swirl tub, and a lap pool dominate the public area at the front of the building. A sauna is located off the pool deck, while a café and viewing area are situated outside the pool area. Burlington-based J.C. Bagels will be setting up shop in the front area of the building to supply refreshments for pool viewers. The main floor of the building also contains a large gymnasium complete with climbing wall, a play centre and child care area and a multi-purpose room.

Multiple change rooms, including one catering to family use and two for premium-member adult use, are located in the centre of the building. On the second floor, accessible by elevator, will be the fitness equipment

\$9-million facility will offer something for all ages



physiotherapy and rehabilitation centre. "The design of the building is great from a program stand point and from a user stand-point," said Gervais.

With walls, windows and the roof complete, construction workers are currently working on details, such as change room interiors and gymnasium lights. However, the timing of the building's March opening will rely mainly on the speed at which workers can tile the pool area, Gervais said.

The glass and brick building has been designed to allow for additions and expansions, as demand requires.

The \$9-million facility, built by the Hamilton/Burlington with a contribution of \$4 million from the town of Flamborough will offer public swimming lessons for swimmers, as well as a variety of fitness and recreation programs for members.

Along with recreational opportunities, the facility will also deliver a First Step program for students at Allan Greenleaf public school, until school opens, and an after-school program for students until 6 p.m.

Staff are currently selling YMCA memberships out of the trailer on the corner with more than 100 memberships. Pre-registered members are being given a first registration option for swimmers likely to be one of the most popular

Thanks to the generosity of hundreds of donors, the first phase of the Capital Development Strategy is complete with the official opening of the Flamborough Family YMCA. The \$9 million facility welcomed 3,800 members, achieving its first year target membership in just 8 months of operation.



YMCA says thanks to donors

BY TAMARA HOLMES
Flamborough Post

The arrival of the Flamborough YMCA has been anxiously awaited by countless people in the community.

It has fired up community spirit and touched the hearts and lives of all living here.

A glimpse of the almost-completed facility was given to an invitation-only crowd Wednesday in an unveiling of the donor wall showcasing those who financially contributed to the YMCA.

The well-attended reception allowed volunteers and donors to take a sneak peek at the project.

Legislative Assembly. It is time to move onwards and upwards. We have the historical record. Now let's make our own history."

East Flamborough councillor Margaret McCarthy delivered an emotionally-charged reflection of the hard work put forth by everyone involved.

"Congratulations to the silent majority who made this possible. I am so proud and so happy to see this goal a reality," said McCarthy. "This is truly something for the whole community to enjoy."

Karl Schanz of Schanz Studios designed the intricately cut glass wall that will commemorate the opening of the Y and was present along with several

"Between Mel (Hawkrig, a notable donor and volunteer)'s leadership and Margaret (Robertson, host of meetings at her restaurant and active volunteer)'s hospitality, working on the Flamborough YMCA was prosperous and fun."

John Mayberry, President and CEO of DoFacco, was also present, and praised the fundraising efforts that made the Y possible.

In a later conversation, Mayberry described to the *Post* the driving force behind his involvement.

"I really used to think that the people of Flamborough should fund their own workout facility," he said. "But after a tour of the Burlington Y, I learned that

Agreement was reached with the City of Hamilton, Hamilton Police Services and the Hamilton Public Library to develop a campus-style facility that will include the new Hamilton Mountain Family YMCA as the recreation provider.

2002



The YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington has opened an exciting and innovative new career and resource centre for youth called careerworx! located in Hamilton's core. Employment Counsellors are available to help youth with resume writing, internet resources and job searching.

VIRTUAL YMCA



The YMCA hosted its first ever YMCA Leader Corps Conference which welcomed 69 youth from four YMCA associations across Ontario, who took part in activities focused on team building, leadership development and philanthropy.

2003

In its 50th Anniversary year, YMCA Wanakita opened the first summer-long YMCA Family Camp, the first of its kind in Canada, thanks to the generosity of donors to the Spreading Our Wings Campaign.

YMCA WANAKITA

Why should kids have all the fun!!

A summer of family memories at YMCA Wanakita on Koshlong Lake in the Haliburton Highlands

Now available...

9 one-week family camps starting June 29th, 2003

Do it all... or just lay back and relax!

- Sailing
- Kayaking
- Swimming
- Archery
- Basketball
- Horsehoes
- Evening campfires
- Outdoor cooking
- Soccer
- Rocketry
- Canoeing
- Boarding
- Rope adventure courses
- Performing arts
- Ultimate frisbee
- Adult and kids crafts
- Environmental activities
- Overnight camps
- Yoga
- Golf tournaments
- ... and much more!

Activities as a family or on your own with trained and certified staff

Register Now - Space is Limited - Avoid Disappointment

Cost for the week includes all accommodation, food, programs, equipment and instruction. Adults \$335, kids (10-14) \$230, (3-9) \$195, under 3 free.

To register, request a 2003 brochure or for more information contact:

YMCA Wanakita
705 457-2132 1-800-387-5081
www.ymca-wanakita.on.ca

YMCA
We build strong kids.
strong families, strong communities.

YMCA OF HAMILTON/BURLINGTON

Liz Weaver and Ron and Esther Edwards breaking-ground for the Burlington Family YMCA expansion

2004

After a year and a half of extensive facility renewal, the Burlington Family YMCA officially reopened as the revitalized Ron Edwards Family YMCA, named after its first Executive Director.

Renovations were completed at the Hamilton Downtown Family YMCA which included the addition of a new female Adult Only Change Room and a Special Needs/Family Washroom, which will allow the YMCA to meet the broadest range of needs.



An international partnership was formed with the Sorocaba YMCA in Brazil to strengthen the work of both YMCA Associations through the sharing of staff and volunteer ideas, expertise, knowledge and culture.



Les Chater with Eileen and Ralph Connor.



2005

At a special announcement event in October, the Mountain Family YMCA was officially named the Les Chater Family YMCA. In a unanimous vote, the Board of Directors chose to name the new facility after Les as a testament to his commitment & leadership

150 years strong 1856-2006 YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington



Message From the President & CEO

Dear Friends...

"Great things happen when you don't worry about who gets the credit." That humble statement has rung true at the YMCA for 150 years. But as we celebrate this milestone, I'd like to credit the generations of people who have welcomed the YMCA into their lives, making us the vibrant community force we are today.

The original Hamilton YMCA, opened in 1889, was the first facility on the continent built specifically for YMCA work. It housed Hamilton's first indoor pool, an achievement that our YMCA later duplicated in Burlington. We were the first to offer health and fitness programs for young people; a service that remains highly relevant today. Throughout three major wars, the Hamilton YMCA served as a retreat, training centre, and leisure facility for thousands of soldiers stationed in the city. These are just some of the many accomplishments that have shaped our cities and our lives.

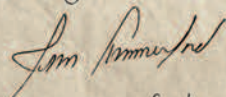
There are few organizations that touch the community to the same extent as the YMCA. We work with all ages, with varied backgrounds and in all aspects of life, whether it is health, education or alleviating poverty - we give people hope. Giving leadership to all of this is stimulating and motivating.

Like many within the YMCA, I started at a young age as a part-time lifeguard. Soon I was operating 30 pools. I realized early on that the YMCA entrusted me with areas of significant responsibility - a trust that I honoured. It gave me leadership opportunities that empowered me to do well at a young age - I have never forgotten that. That's what we do at the YMCA to build strong kids.

Amongst our peers, the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington is well-respected. We have more members with over 50 years of membership than any other Canadian YMCA. Our Board of Directors is filled with strong and committed volunteers. Our staff are recognized leaders within the YMCA Movement and locally, as we work to benefit our entire community. All of this has earned us tremendous support from elected officials and business leaders - unparalleled at other YMCAs in which I've been involved.

I hope that you share my pride in being a part of this vital Association. The people and programs will change over time, but the fundamental mission of the YMCA, to develop people in spirit, mind and body, remains unchanged. Thank you for your involvement. You are a part of our history and a piece of our story.

Sincerely,



Jim Commerford,
President & CEO





YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.