

# King's Daughters Organization



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

APRIL 2008

## Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend our Annual Corporation Meeting on **May 12, 2008** at 12:00 noon at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Your Board members will have tickets after our March Board meeting.

This will be quite an event, as we will be presenting our grants to deserving organizations aiding the elderly. As you recall, last year we awarded Senior Services of Central Illinois the money for the new van.

Let's make this one of

our best attended meetings! The recipients of the awards will be seated with circle members.

This will give them and our circle members a chance to interact.

The ticket price remains the same - \$17.00.

Special thanks to the KDO Fund Grants Committee: Chair- Cathy Schwartz, Barbara Archer, Barbara Bahr,

Pat Donnelly Cross, Caroline Cunningham, Posy Flatt, Willa Jean Jones, Lois Koenig, Mary Larson, Dorothy Ray, Mary Ann Walker.

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Check presentation from 2007 Annual Meeting. (L-R) Donna Jean Gibney (KDO President), Barbara Archer (Co-Chair of KDO Serve the Elderly Committee), Cindi Troutner (Director of Programming SSCI), Karen Schainker (Executive Director SSCI), and Cathy Schwartz (KDO 1st Vice President)

## Farewell to Amanda Kemper



Donna Jean Gibney and Amanda Kemper

In December, KDO said goodbye to **Amanda Kemper**, our Administrative Secretary. We can never express how much Amanda has meant to our ladies, our circle members, and especially to the General and Executive Boards.

She was always on top of the business aspects of the Organi-

zation, and when the ladies were still in the Home, she provided loving care and attention.

We wish Amanda good luck in her new job, and we will miss her.

The General Board members presented Amanda a gift certificate as a token of our appreciation.

Officers

Donna Jean Gibney  
President

Cathy Schwartz  
1st Vice President

Carolyn Stone  
2nd Vice President

Barbara Archer  
Secretary

Brenda Staab  
Treasurer

Joanne Roderick  
Assistant Secretary

Cindy Lash  
Assistant Treasurer

Board of Directors

Karen Barber

Barbara Bahr

Sherrri Barry

Caroline Cunningham

Diana Dedrick

Nancy Drake

Posy Flatt

Donna Grove

Jeannie Madden

Nadine Neumeister

Faye Oelheim

Arlowynne Pursell

Dorothy Ray

Maureen Schaaf

Sue Shevlin

Jone Van Winkle

Sharon Zook

## A Letter from the President



Did you know that since 1963 May has been officially recognized as "Older Americans Month"? To quote from the Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Aging website, it is a time to "acknowledge the contributions of past and current older persons" and "pay tribute in some way to older persons in the community". It is also a perfect time for those of us in the King's Daughters Organization to draw everyone's attention to the needs of the elderly in our community and to our organization's attempt to meet those needs.

May also represents a special time of year for King's Daughters as we close one year and usher in the next. This year at the May 12th meeting we will be bringing our 115<sup>th</sup> year to a close and embarking on our 116<sup>th</sup>. Isn't that amazing and inspiring! Even better, is that through the dedication and determination of our membership, KDO is in the position of being able to reach out to and positively affect the lives of more of our community's elderly than ever before.

The 2008 theme for Older Americans Month is "Working together for Strong, Healthy, and Supportive Communities". Through the new KDO grant awards program and through the KDO circles' community volunteerism activities, our members are doing just that. It is so very appropriate that it is during Older Americans Month that we gather at our Annual Meeting to commemorate our organization and its on-going mission of serving the elderly. This year's meeting will truly

be a celebration as we announce the very first recipients of the KDO Grant Awards.

With regard to the Grant Awards, the Grants Committee is currently in the process of receiving and reviewing applications. Response to this first cycle of competitive grant making has been very gratifying. The Board of Directors has approved the distribution of up to \$60,000 in grant money. The Grants Committee now has the difficult and demanding task of determining which of the applicants represent the best use of these funds.

The King's Daughters Organization has come a long way in the past (almost) three years. When I took office on May 9, 2005, we were still operating the Home and were just acknowledging a rather dismal financial reality. Since then

we have negotiated and survived more changes than most organizations of any kind ever face successfully. It is thanks to the heart and soul ... and sweat and tears ... of our faithful members that this has been possible. As I prepare to come to the end of my final term as President, I ask all of you to remain dedicated to this very

special organization. Through the support of our KDO Fund and our grants we will be able to assist in meeting the needs of the elderly, both now and into the future. Through our community volunteer activities we will be able to add a personal touch that will not only touch the hearts of those we help but also touch our hearts and the very heart of King's Daughters and all it has stood for throughout the years.

Thank you for allowing me to have had the privilege of serving as President. Because of your support and friendship it has been a truly amazing experience!

Sincerely, Donna Jean Gibney

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## Festival of Trees

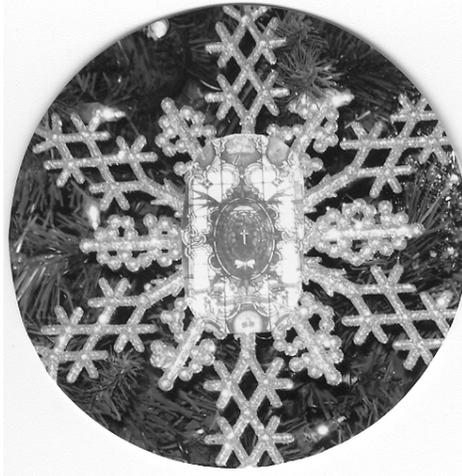
Members of the Public Relations Committee decorated a tree for the 18th annual Memorial's Festival of Trees.

The color theme was purple and gold. The snowflake ornaments were centered with a replica of the stained glass window in the foyer of the Home.

KDO was given a very nice framed certificate for participation.

Members of the Decorating Committee were Carolyn Stone, Brenda Staab, Maureen Schaaf, Sue Shevlin, Diana Dedrick, and Karen Barber.

The tree was purchased by the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel for display in the Hotel.



Snowflake ornament at the 2007 Memorial's Festival of Trees



2007 Festival of Trees

## "KD Ladies" Update

### FAIR HILLS RESIDENCE

Betty Coy	8
Leda Thorpe	29
Ruth Koepp	35
Nancy McDonald	46
Julia Wilson	48
Marge Aebel	61
Velma Rodgers	62
Joy Beath	67
Pat Holland	70
Naomi Derosear (Infirmery)	103

### Room Number

### "THE VILLA", Sherman, IL

Ann Banich

### LEWIS MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN VILLAGE

Lois Tillotson

### HERITAGE MANOR

Lucille McHenry

### REGENCY

Bernie Frankenfel

Esther Pulliam

Myrtle Rusciolelli

## Progress Circle's 62nd Annual Benefit

*"A Century of Progress"* was the theme for Progress Circle's 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Benefit. And what an appropriate theme, since Progress Circle was 100 years old in 2007.

The event was very well attended, with wonderful fashions being modeled from local clothing stores.

Many items of crystal, silver, linens, antiques, jewelry, crafts, and baked goods, as well as items donated by local merchants and Progress members, were available at a silent auction for all attendees to peruse, bid on, and purchase at their leisure.

Closing the Home was hard for all, but the future holds so much potential for reaching out and assisting, both financially and physically, so many organizations which provide services

for seniors within our community!

Preparations are already underway for planning of the 2008 Benefit (October 27<sup>th</sup>) with the theme "Change for the Season" being chosen by Chairman Cindy Denby.

Another change is that all the circles will work together planning this year's benefit.

Progress Circle looks forward to all the assistance, as well as donation of items!

Spring cleaning is a wonderful time to collect all those items you can do without and donate to the Benefit!

Also, hitting those fun auctions, flea markets or

craft shows throughout the summer can yield many items to be donated.

As Chairman Denby states, it is *"Change for the Season"!*



Progress Circle members present President Gibney with a check for \$12,500.00, the proceeds from the 2007 Luncheon & Style Show.

(L-R) Maureen Schaaf, Sue Shevlin, Donna Jean Gibney & Diana Dedrick, Leader of Progress Circle

## Spotlight on a Resident

**Ruth Koepf** is a resident of Fair Hills Residence. She turned 97 on November 30, 2007. She was born and grew up on a farm near Pittsfield, Illinois. She graduated from Pittsfield High School and left the farm after graduation. She went to Denver, Colorado, at age 18.

She made a friend there, and they decided to go to Los Angeles, California, to look for work. The girls (19 then) decided to hitchhike. They were picked up by two men in a big black car

who said they were on their way to L.A. and would take them. Ruth said they were perfect gentlemen, but at one point they shot guns out the car window. They journeyed on, and when they arrived in L.A. the men treated them to a nice breakfast and left them.

Ruth had a brief marriage; her husband died less than a year after their marriage. While married to him, they lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After he died, Ruth returned to Califor-

nia and did office work, and she married again. After her husband died, her nieces living in Illinois went out to California and moved her back to this area. They helped her find a home at King's Daughters.

She was a great asset to King's Daughters Home, and she loved it. She has made the adjustment to Fair Hills and is still ready with a joke. Nightingale Circle has been very blessed to have her as our lady for so many years.

## Circle News and Views

**Grateful Daughters Circle** provided the entertainment at Fair Hills in December. *The Singing Senators* from Springfield High School performed and were enjoyed by all in attendance.

Some members of **Nightingale Circle**, along with Amanda Kemper, celebrated our lady Ruth Koepf's birthday on November 30 by having lunch at Fair Hills with her. She was presented with a gift of clothes and a lovely bouquet from KDO. Our Circle chose to help fill Christmas bags at the Senior Center, and we donated items for the bags. In February we provided a great program for Fair Hills residents. Jane Lowder as *Mary Todd Lincoln* entertained the residents and was enjoyed by all who attended.

In November, **Willing Circle** provided Gus Gordon (weatherman/entertainer) as entertainment for Fair Hills. Three or four Circle members are participating as drivers for St. John's Third Age Living. At Christmas, at least one member provided items for Senior Ser-

vices Christmas baskets. Interest has been shown for participating in delivering Daily Bread meals.

**Friendship Circle** participated in the American Red Cross Meals on Wheels Program the second week of January. Being a small group, we were only able to cover two of the many delivery routes of the Red Cross. Four of our members volunteered for the week, and one of our members volunteered to do two more weeks with the help of her son. This was a very rewarding experience for all who volunteered. Each group delivered meals to the same people each day. In the beginning, we were greeted by some with smiles and a warm welcome, while others were a little more reserved. As the week went by, we found ourselves becoming quite fond of our new friends. When the week was over, we were remorseful that we would not be seeing them for a while. We will participate in Meals on Wheels again in April. We would encourage others to par-

ticipate in this program, as there are many routes that need to be covered and not enough volunteers.

Last fall, **Marjorie Post Circle** voted to adopt the Regency as our Community Volunteerism activity. Since that time, the Circle has invited Maryann Walker to visit two different times to fill us in on what we could do for the senior residents there. We now have adopted another lady (who never has anyone visit her), along with our KDO former resident "Bernie". We hope to bring a little cheer to our new lady. By the way, Bernie is a TV star in the new Regency ad. We will probably make a big point of this at her next birthday (98<sup>th</sup>) in May. Also, during the Festival of Trees, several members of MPC volunteered to assist people from the Regency when they came to see the trees. They all seemed to enjoy the outing very much and thought the KDO Tree was so beautiful. Further plans are in the making to help in other ways at the Regency.

## Memorials to KDO

**CIRCLE MEMBERS & FAMILIES** – Memorial Gifts have been made in memory of....

...*Peg Wallace* from Mary H. Blackstock Circle

...*Donna Dormire* from Willing Circle

...*Helen Lutz* from Progress Circle

...*Winifred Barringer* from Willing Circle

...*Christie Adkins* from Margaret Garfield Circle

...*Bob Solomon* from Margaret Garfield Circle

...*Elizabeth Chapin* from Progress Circle

...*Winifred Barringer* from Sharon Zook

...*Mary Turner* from Margaret Garfield Circle

## Remembering Those of Our Ladies Who Have Passed Away

### Former KD Ladies

Irene Walsh, December 9, 2007

Lorraine Blasko, March 27, 2008

### Current Circle Ladies

Winifred Barringer – Progress Circle – February 21, 2008

### Former Circle Ladies

Mildred Grey – Willing Circle – November 3, 2007

Dottie Jones – Ann Clark Circle – November 5, 2007

Lucille Baughman – November 14, 2007

Billy Beam – Ann Clark Circle – December 3, 2007

Georgia Luttrell – Marjorie Post Circle – December 8, 2007

Madeline Thompson – December 9, 2007

Elizabeth Chapin – Progress Circle – December 20, 2007

Sharon Osing Maher – Lincoln Circle – December 21, 2007

Helen Lutz – Progress Circle – December 31, 2007

Annabelle Patton – Willing Circle – January 21, 2008

Nina Patia - February 24, 2008

**MAY THE  
GRACE OF  
THE LORD BE  
WITH THEM  
ALWAYS.**

## 2007-2008 Pledge Drive

The KDO Board of Directors would like to extend a special **“thank you”** to all those who have generously contributed to the 2007-2008 Pledge Drive.

Barbara Archer

Frances Black

Carol Dove

Helen Evenson

Mr. & Mrs. C.B. Flatt

Donna Jean Gibney

Donna Grove

Jeannie Madden

Georgia Northrup

Joanne Roderick

Kim Rusciollelli

Cathy Schwartz

Brenda Staab

Carolyn Stone

Cressie Torgerson

Dr. Charles & Karen Williams

Sharon Zook

## Upcoming Birthdays

Myrtle Rusciollelli	April 27	Ann Banich	September 28
Bernie Frankenfeld	May 10	Leda Thorpe	October 23
Lois Tillotson	May 19	Betty Coy	November 6
Naomi DeRosear	June 16	Esther Pulliam	November 7
Peg Wallace	July 23	Ruth Koepp	November 30
Pat Holland	August 29	Joy Beath	December 25
Nancy McDonald	September 5		

# KDO Circle Activities at Fair Hills Residence

The following is a list of KDO and circle activities held at Fair Hills Residence during the year.

“Thank you” to the Serve the Elderly Committee and to the Circles and their members for making these activities possible.

The KDO Activities Coordinators are Maryann Walker (Friendship Circle) and Barbara Bahr (Marjorie Post Circle).

Activities are scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month.

### Previous Events

**November:** *Willing Circle* - Entertainment by Gus Gordon

**December:** *Grateful Daughters Circle* - Springfield High School’s “Singing Senators”

**January:** *Nightingale Circle* hosted Mary Todd Lincoln played by Jane Lowder

**February:** *Mary A. Lawrence Circle* - Singers from Westside Christian Church

**March:** Choir from Lutheran High School

### Upcoming Events

**April:** hosted by *Progress Circle*

**May:** hosted by *Friendship Circle*

**Monthly:** *Margaret Garfield Circle* - Cash bingo



## 2007 - 2008 PLEDGE DRIVE

### KING’S DAUGHTERS ORGANIZATION

The King’s Daughters Organization is committed to the support and well-being of the elderly in our community. In addition to the Community Volunteerism activities, KDO will “serve the elderly” through Grants and Donations. Your contribution to the King’s Daughters Organization Fund at the Sangamon County Community Foundation will greatly assist our organization in this worthy endeavor.

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to the **SCCF- KDO FUND**.

Mail to SCCF, One West Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 816, Springfield, Illinois 62701.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City/State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_

You may publish my name in the KDO newsletter.  I wish to remain anonymous.



**King's Daughters Organization**

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
**[WWW.SCCF.US/KDO](http://WWW.SCCF.US/KDO)**

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Sharing Life in Circles of Care

