

# King's Daughters Organization



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

SPRING/SUMMER 2010

## ***\$100,000 in KDO Grants for Seniors***

### **\$20,000: Senior Services of Central Illinois**

Provide Emergency funds for meals, transportation, counseling, rental assistance, utility aid or other emergency needs.

### **\$18,000: Illinois Retired Teachers Association Foundation**

Provide education & awareness campaign for *I Care* program which prepares volunteers for the Ombudsman program to assist seniors in nursing homes with complaints.

### **\$15,000: American Red Cross Capital Area Chapter**

Support the *Meals on Wheels* program, ensuring continuation of free and discounted special dietary meals to seniors.

### **\$15,000: Contact Ministries**

Provide emergency prescriptions to clients over 55 years of age.

### **\$10,000: One Hope United, Hudelson Region**

Support *Foster Grandparents* which gives seniors a stipend to act as "grandparents" for youth with special needs, while giving the seniors worthwhile community involvement.

### **\$8,000: The Parent Place**

Fund *Relatives as Parents Network (RAPN)* to provide support of relatives for children who are without parents.

### **\$5,000: Serving Jesus Willingly Urban Ministries**

Provide East Springfield seniors with education/information, socialization, roundtable discussions and support services.

### **\$3,000: Chatham Fire Department**

Purchase *knox-boxes* for seniors in the Chatham area, to be installed by the CFD. Knox-boxes are used by first responders to gain access to a locked door in an emergency.

### **\$3,000: Greater All Nations Tabernacle Church of God**

Funds to enhance the monthly information presentations for seniors and purchase food for the luncheons.

### **\$3,000: Springfield Fire Department**

Purchase carbon monoxide detectors for installation by SFD in seniors' homes.

**Thanks to these ten organizations for your services to our community. We are proud to join with you.**

### **KDO Circles Volunteered**

Circles of Friendship members provided an astounding **15,100 hours** of volunteer services for our community in 2010, the first year we recorded our hours. Valued by the State of Illinois at \$22.50 per hour, the total value of these services is **\$337,500.**

We helped many organizations: Senior Services of Central Illinois, Daily Bread; American Red Cross, Meals on Wheels; Third Age Living; St. John's Hospital Foundation; Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum; New Salem State Historic Site and other Lincoln sites; Parent Place and Parent Helpline; Contact Ministries; and local churches and schools. Members have spent times with 'Our Ladies', former residents of the Home; provided activities and shopping for Fair Hills residents; and watched over elderly family, friends and neighbors.

### **Consider these numbers to date:**

Grants/donations	<b>\$ 250,000</b>
2010 Volunteering	<b>337,500</b>
<b>Total Value</b>	<b>\$ 487,000</b>

***Many hands make light the work.***

**Many thanks to our sponsors, donors, and volunteers who make possible our support of seniors.**

**2010 Officers**

President  
Sue Shevlin  
1st Vice Pres.  
Teresa McElwee  
2nd Vice Pres.  
Maryann Walker  
Secretary  
Donna Freeman  
Treasurer  
Brenda Staab  
Assistant Secretary  
Lisa Metzger  
Assistant Treasurer  
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Willing

Myrtle Brady

Barbara Burris

Maxine Whitlock

Ellen Griesemer \*

Mary Larson \*

\*Alternate

## ON TO THE FUTURE

### *Cathy Schwartz, Mary H. Blackstock Circle*

I would like to extend a huge thanks to the support of all of the following KDO members who have supported me over these last two years as president, and before that as first vice president: The Executive Committee, members of the board, members of my Circle, John Stremsterfer and Jennifer Sublett of SCCF and the Financial Advisory Committee. The experience has been wonderful; I am thankful for all of the strong, vibrant women I have met.

Barbara Archer and Diana Dedrick will be going off the Executive Committee. I salute and thank them for all of the time and dedication they have shown for KDO; truly, they are as good as gold and worth their weight in it. To all I have had an opportunity to serve with on committees: Thanks for your guidance and support. I look forward to serving with Sue Shevlin, this year's incoming president; after her vital role during last two years, she will continue without skipping a beat.

One of the great joys was serving as a non-voting member of the Grant Committee. It gave me the opportunity to learn so much about the many not-for-profit groups serving the elderly. I commend the Circle representatives

for their thoughtful decisions on how best to expend our mutual assets in support of our KDO mission. Thank you for allowing me this amazing experience.

Perhaps the most amazing thing which all of you have supported is the coalescence of our diverse Circles into a single vital corporation, while retaining the individual identities of each Circle of Friendship, a traditional and unique hallmark of KDO. You have managed what many large corporations have failed in. The evidence is in the increased success of last year's Progress Circle KDO benefit made possible by inter-Circle cooperation, in the thoughtful management of the grant distributions, and certainly in the palpably vibrant energy in our meetings. You who participated have left a great legacy with these last two years, and a springboard to an expanding future.

I am reminded of the founding of our beloved country. Thirteen states with diverse interests, resources and personalities came together and defined a basis, through our constitution, to become a more perfect union, withstanding the test of time and becoming a stronger institution as a result.

### *E PLURIBUS UNUM*



*Representatives of the organizations which received grants at the Annual Meeting*

# MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

*President Sue Shevlin, Progress Circle*

## **Challenge #1:**

### **INCREASE MEMBERSHIP**

Increasing membership is my #1 goal for my term as your new President. Not only will it help us be self-sustaining, it will also provide hearts and hands for the #2 goal of building our endowment fund, and for providing even more significant volunteer services for the increasing population of the elderly we serve. As we have grown strong by sharing responsibilities under our new mission, let's now plan together for ways to meet these two major goals. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead the challenges ahead.

Many organizations die, either because they don't adapt to change, or because the membership ages without bringing in younger blood. KDO clearly responded to the first just a few years ago when change forced us to sell the Home. The loss and consolidation of Circles is a clear warning that the organization will continue to age until it ceases to be viable. Now we must find new ways to reduce our average age by attracting young women for the future. Of course, we welcome active members of all ages. Also, to keep in tune with societal changes I hope we will increase diversity in our membership.

### AGE

In the past, new members were usually either members' daughters or granddaughters, sisters, nieces, or personal friends. This was an important factor in the social advantage of membership. Let's keep up this tradition. Societal changes, with more younger women engaged in careers, make this difficult. Perhaps we can encourage them to start new Circles which would meet at their convenience. New ideas welcome.

### DIVERSITY

We especially want your ideas and help for reaching out to broader contacts, both geographically and ethnically. The university population and medical professionals or their wives, as well as charitable organizations in other parts of our community, are largely untapped sources. They may be fertile ground either for increases in membership of present Circles, or for forming new Circles with our help.

So please, think about someone or some group you know. The best way may be to use personal contact to let them know what we do and to interest them in becoming an important addition to KDO in whatever manner suits them. We're planning a *Get to Know You* event for this fall, so be thinking of someone to invite.

## **Challenge #2:**

### **INCREASE OUR FUND**

Money talks! The buzz about KDO is that we have just helped ten worthy organizations serving seniors in our community. Not only that, we've helped with the largest total yet of \$100,000 in grants. Top that with the fact that most charitable organizations are having to pull in their horns during the current economic situation and we are indeed buzzing bees. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could increase our total grant distributions for next year!

The Progress Circle annual benefit will surely continue to be a major source of funds. Last year Progress Circle added \$23,000 to the fund from the benefit's profit. I hope all of you who possibly can will participate in one or more of this year's committees so that we can add a greater amount to our endowment fund this year.

See Keya Bannister's article page 5 regarding the benefit.

### **GIVE US A NAME**

"Newsletter" isn't very exciting.

Send a great name for us to:

**kdo@sccf.us**

by July 12 for the August edition.

# 117<sup>th</sup> Annual KDO Corporation Meeting

May 10, 2010

## Westminster Church

Cathy Schwarz welcomed the representatives of the grant organizations, Advisory Board members, and Circle members. Polly Roesch once again sang the national anthem, accompanied by pianist, Glenna Holland. Hostesses directed us by table to the scrumptious buffet by Carol Fraase.



*Cathy Schwartz introduces the new officers for 2010.*

Deborah Deopere, our Advisory Board member from the Lincoln Land Department on Aging, addressed us, saying that “senior” is defined at many ages, from 45 to 66 years. She complimented KDO highly for supporting seniors from age 55, saying that our mission fills gaps left by government. She said that our “vision is right on target”—“the ten groups chosen for our grants are outstanding.” She also commented on how successfully we adopted and acted upon our new mission.

John Stremsterfer provided a brief summary of the status of

our KDO fund, administered by the Sangamon County Community Foundation, which makes disbursements based on our recommendations. He said that our fund did very well in the past year compared with the average performance of the market. He highlighted the total of gifts to the fund from individuals and Circles reflected in the report by Brenda Staab, KDO Treasurer. For those who were not able to



*Memorial for members and former residents of the Home deceased the past year. Kim Collins placed a yellow rose for each name read by Paula Ryan with Linda Younkin's quiet piano.*

Incoming President, Sue Shevlin of Progress Circle, related her vision of KDO, both past, present and future, with a beautiful and moving analogy called *A Magic Garden*. You can read it on our website. She also introduced Stuffany Bee, the garden's pollinator, representing the force for new growth. Sue asked for the support of all members working together to make our garden flourish and grow. The meeting closed with our traditional mizpah benediction.



*Cathy turns over the set of historical gavels to incoming President, Sue Shevlin.*

tend, the information will be sent to you on request.

Minutes of the 2009 Annual Corporation Meeting, and the Treasurer's financial report and proposed budget for 2010-2011 were approved. Cathy introduced the new Officers, Circle Leaders, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee members. She particularly thanked outgoing members for their contributions. She reflected on the growth since our change of mission: our growing endowment fund, the increased money available for grants, and especially for the strength of our membership.

*If you are considering an estate gift to KDO, planned gifts should be made for the benefit of: **Sangamon County Community Foundation, Inc. – KDO Fund.***

## "SERVING WITH STYLE"

### *KDO Progress Circle 2010 Luncheon and Style Show*

*Keya Bannister, Chair*

What an appropriate name for our next KDO major benefit:

#### **SERVING WITH STYLE.**

Babs Dickerman, last year's co-chair, came up with it in a moment of inspired creativity. Perfect! Again we'll be at the Crowne Plaza on **November 1.**

Donna Jean Gibney is my co-chair.. We have long been busy making plans for an event even better than last year's – a major challenge. Last year's *Living the Legacy* produced a record profit, helped by members from other Circles. I'm pleased that so many of you have already agreed to participate with Progress Circle for **Serving With Style.** Donna Jean and I welcome all to join in the fun and excitement. Your

Circle Leader has a list of committees.

We have already had a meeting to discuss and kick off the effort to enlist sponsors, donors and contributors. You can help. Give us names of businesses you use, or whose owners you know, who might help us. If you are willing to make the contact, we will provide information of opportunity levels, and persuasive talking points to use. Work you do for KDO counts as community volunteer hours for your Circle.

During the summer keep the event in mind when you are going through closets and drawers; set aside those treasures you really don't use any more for

the Bazaar. Brush up your favorite old recipes for the Bake Sale, or try something new and exciting.

Some members bring friends, or even get together to purchase a table with and for friends. The more the merrier, and the greater the opportunity to enhance our profit and add to our fund. Let them know about the bazaar and silent auction so they can have checkbooks handy. Also, this is a particularly good opportunity to demonstrate KDO to potential new members.

Have a great summer. Come back full of energy for our most exciting event, largest fundraiser, and recruiter.

#### Getting to Know You

KDO members who attended last fall's *Meet & Greet* had a delightful visit. However, only two potential members came. Since the purpose is to increase membership, we're trying something different. Put this date on your calendar now, and start thinking of who you will invite as a prospective new member. More information on plans in the next newsletter.

**Thursday, October 7, 2010**

**5:30 – 7:00 pm**

**Dove Conference Center**

**St. John's Hospital**

#### Collection Coffee

Summer is a great time for evaluating that "stuff" you've been storing. A great use would be to increase our endowment fund by stocking the Bazaar for the *Serving With Style* fundraiser event. Collect your jewelry, linens, silver, china, crystal, tableware and decorative items to bring to the annual gathering. Coffee and tidbits will be on hand.

**Tuesday, September 14**

**9:00 - 11:00 am**

**Jo Bunn's home**

**43 White Birch Road**

**529-1793**

#### Fresh Idea

Keya's idea for a menu / recipe cookbook is gaining steam. The name is a natural: *Serving With Style*. Barb Archer, the driver behind *A Cookbook of Epic Portions* which is in its third printing, has agreed to spearhead one for KDO. This to be an excellent fund-raising project.

This summer mentally recreate the menu and recipes from your two or three most successful meals in any category, from picnic to formal dinner. The next issue will let you know the format and details.

## "Happiness is Giving to Others" ... Polly Roesch

*By Barbara Archer and Nancy Watson*

Our title epitomizes the life of Pauline "Polly" Roesch. This lovely, gracious lady believes and follows the philosophy that "those more privileged than others are blessed, if they give back to their communities".

Polly was born in Farmersville, IL, December 6, 1910, the 7<sup>th</sup> of 9 children of Otto Phillip and Mary A. Zorn Wenneborg. The family moved to New Berlin when she was ten where she attended a one room school house. Their graduation held on the Sangamon County Court House steps remains a memorable event in her life. Her family and the life in which she grew up influenced her greatly and are very important to her. She spoke of her father as a "strict" German who insisted that the children learn to do things correctly, properly and timely. Her father's personal beliefs and personality definitely molded the Polly we all know.

She always understood the value of a fastidious, fashionable, well dressed lady. At age 13 she learned to drive, and she and her younger brother drove to Springfield to shop. They became separated, and her brother asked a policeman to help find her. His description of her to the officer was, "She has black hair, about 5'2" tall,

has on a red coat and stops and looks in every window."

As a young lady, she was a secretary at the Sangamon County Courthouse (now the Old State Capitol). Growing up in New Berlin she always knew who the Roesch boys were. Her first offi-



*Polly, taken for a dime at Kresge's photo booth*

cial date with Walter Roesch was a matinee movie at Springfield's Orpheum Theater. The theater impressed her so deeply that when it closed she salvaged the top stone scroll from the façade; it is in her lovely gardens. She and Walter were married in 1934. During WW II, she held her first presidency at the New Berlin Woman's Club. In 1953, the Roesch's moved to Springfield where she became very active in community work. Walter died in 1977, after 43 years of

their marriage.

After Walter's death, Polly began her life of philanthropy. Walter, a successful businessman, had shared Polly's commitment to giving. He left her financially comfortable, but *she* is the investing mastermind behind her philanthropy. She often says "I am just happy to be able to donate to worthy projects". Polly's first donation was for a wrought iron fence at St. Mary's Cemetery at New Berlin in memory of her husband.

An avid singer, gardener, and civic leader, Polly's music career began at the age of 3 and continues today at age 99. Since her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday she has sung at the Illinois State Fair Harness Races (National Anthem), at the Illinois Symphony Orchestra's Christmas Pops Concert (Silver Bells), and KDO's Annual Meetings.

It seems quite fitting that she established the Polly Roesch Scholarship Fund to benefit undergraduate, primarily vocal, students in music. She also has honored her father by providing funding to place a dome on the UIS observatory in his memory, and her late husband Walter, by funding a scholarship for the benefit of students in the College of Agricul-

... continued on Page 7



## 2010 HONORS

### 50 Year Members

Betsy Newman  
*Grateful Daughters*  
 Florence Smith Bunn  
*Mary A. Lawrence*  
 Ahbee Robinson  
*Mary A. Lawrence*  
 Maxine Whitlock  
*Willing*  
 Barbara Burris  
*Willing*

### 25 Year Members

Nancy Bunn  
*Mary H. Blackstock*  
 Willa Furkin  
*Grateful Daughters*  
 Margie Stuart  
*Mary H. Blackstock*  
 Fran Telsey  
*Mary H. Blackstock*



*Hostesses were assigned to each table to welcome our members and guests at the KDO Annual Meeting. Our guests included grant recipients and members of the Advisory Committee.*

tural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences on the Urbana-Champaign campus. Other outstanding charitable contributions include Christ the King's Social Hall, SCI's new computer center, The Hoogland Center Social Room, the Vachel Lindsay Association, St. Joseph's Home, and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

Polly's recognition abounds, for community involvement and for as philanthropy. She received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree at SCI's commencement in 2002, the Outstanding Philanthropy Excellence Award for an Individual, and the Civic Garden Club new Margaret

Gaule Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008. As speaker at that SCI graduation, her message to the students was not only direct and concise but also a microcosm of her life. She told them that everything comes to use from a greater source than ours - if we let it - and we let it come to us by observing primary rules of life, including honesty, good habits, proper manners, creating an interesting life, participating in your church and understanding that love is one of the greatest attributes of life: Love of God, family, friends, and Nature. Polly has em-



*Polly at 99 singing the Star Spangled Banner at our 117th annual meeting. Her star still shines.*

bodied these characteristics in her life and has felt and cherished those special blessings. She continues to encourage others to "Live, laugh, and love to the fullest".

## King's Daughters Organization

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Phone: 217-523-4332  
Email: KDO@sccf.us

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Sharing Life in Circles  
of Care and Friendship

## Contributions January 2010 - May 2010

### Gifts in memory of...

*"My Mother" on Mother's Day* by  
Diana Dedrick

*Ileus Buckley* by Mary Dowson  
Smith

*Eileen Ensel* by Mary H. Black-  
stock Circle

*Shirley Greenwalt* by Dick & Jeanne  
Madden, Mary A. Lawrence  
Circle

*Charlene Kennedy* by Marjorie Post-  
Nightingale Circle

*June McKee* by The Willing Circle,  
Sharon Zook

*Anita Marriott* by Kevin Bosman  
Family, Jack & Janice Butler,  
Dan & Peggy Cadigan, Mark &  
Ellen Edwards, Gloria Gib-  
bons, Betty Haffner, Catherine  
Houska, Frank & Dody Kata-  
linich, Rick & Beth Moore,

Russell & Sally Martin, Kathe-  
rine Pettit & Family, John &  
Mary Pruitt, Mark O. Roberts  
Family, Phil & Polly Spengler,  
Mark & Janet Zeigler

*Lois Tillotson* by Barbara Archer

### Gifts / Annual Fund Drive

Barbara Archer

Mina Bentsen

Mary Lou Booker

Ann C. Davis

C. Bryant & Posy Flatt

Donna Freeman

Donna Jean Gibney

Kay Gulley

Teresa & Terry McElwee

Pauline Roesch

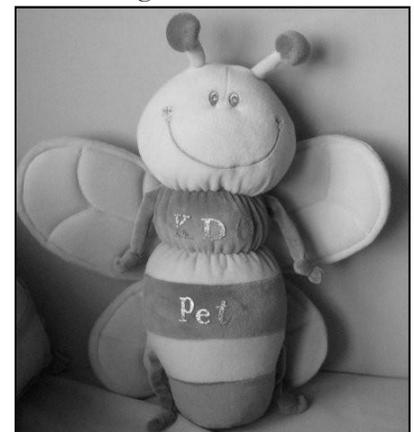
Nancy Simpson

Evelyn Yurdin

### For 2010 Grants...

Marjorie Post-Nightingale Circle

Mary H. Blackstock Circle  
Progress Circle  
The Willing Circle



New mascot, **Stuffy Bee**  
reminds you to **stuff any** amount  
into the KDO Fund.

Contributions can be made to  
**SCCF - KDO Fund** and mailed  
to the address above.