



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Over six months ago, the world as we knew it made a drastic change. For most, it is still hard to believe that something as small as a virus could wreak havoc on so many areas of life. I do believe there is not one of us out there whose world hasn't been impacted by the pandemic.

In June, our quarterly newsletter was due. Those who make regular newsworthy contributions were set to share their content, but it was I who held it back. I guess I was trying to be cautiously optimistic that life personally, professionally, socially, and philanthropically would return to some type of "normalcy." I was trying to be hopeful about getting The Shop at Day Kimball Hospital reopened and moving forward with some of our signature events. However, as COVID-19 became more problematic, I knew the writing was on the wall, and any glimmer of hope to hold those events started to fade.

Keeping our name out there was important. I did my best to maintain our visibility and keep our momentum going. To show appreciation, I put together fruit baskets for DKH employees, had an advertising sign made and placed in town to thank essential workers, profiled health professionals on my news page, and made donations on behalf of the Woman's Board to the four area food banks. Many of these things had to be done alone in order to comply with COVID-19 guidelines. Also, in May, with the help of Kim



Lecuyer and Denise Baum, the merchandise at The Shop was inventoried and soon-to-expire candy and treats were put into baskets and distributed to all DKH departments operating within the hospital. Lastly, with the June raffle needing a little push, I was able to recruit family and friends to assist with the fundraiser. With their assistance, we were able to sell about 150 booklets. My Mom was a big help with this. I believe that we made a slightly larger profit than last year.

In mid-May, I started a conversation with Interim CEO Joe Adiletta about reopening The Shop, after several employees reached out to me saying how much they missed this diversion in their workday. Though most thought reopening should have been a straightforward task, it was not. Since the hospital was operating under strict guidelines put forth by the State, our status as a "retail establishment" did not fall under the same reopening guidelines as other retail businesses. Our business had to follow protocols deemed health- and safety-approved by the hospital.



The Shop at Day Kimball Hospital

Under Joe Adiletta's direction, we were given the go ahead to open but had to wait for Dr. John Graham, DKH's Medical Director, to give final approval. Upon notification that Joe was leaving as Interim CEO, I continued the process to reopen with CFO Paul Beaudoin. Paul, with assistance from Kristen Willis and Greg Harubin of Facilities, continued to move things forward by deeming us set to open "for hospital staff



only” from 9 am to 4 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Shop reopened on Tuesday, September 1 and brought in \$1,000 in its first week! A big shout out to Kim Lecuyer, Sue Gregoire, and Woman’s Board member Deb Carabina for staffing The Shop and doing it so successfully! There are only five of us who have been cleared through the Volunteer Office to be the first volunteers to return and enter the hospital since the start of the pandemic. Visitors to the hospital are still not permitted on site.

As your President, I am grateful to those who have stepped forward to volunteer. These small steps represent the way in which most things will need to be approached from here on out during the pandemic.

In mid-August, I had a meeting with the Executive Board and The Ways and Means Committee. I felt it was time to start a conversation about what direction we need to be moving regarding fundraising for the remainder of 2020 and the start of 2021. In light of the pandemic and limited progress made on conquering COVID-19, we decided to cancel all of the usual fundraising events for 2020 (i.e., Ladies Only Golf Tournament, Author’s Night, and Dining-For-A Cause), as well as the 2021 Valentine’s Dance.

On Thursday, August 27, we met again to discuss the details of two fall/winter fundraising events: a **Christmas Wreath Sale** that will take place in September/October with an ordering deadline of October 23rd and delivery in November, and (2) a **Prize Calendar Raffle** that will take place in October with daily drawings occurring in November. These fundraisers, which will be consistent with State guidelines and mandates, need as many of you involved as possible to make them successful.

As with many things during COVID-19, the way we move forward will be different and may sometimes need adjustments. Patience,

adaptability, and open-mindedness will be key. I believe working together like this will help bring back some of that sense of normalcy we are all trying to achieve.

Personally, the last six months has given me an opportunity to forcibly slow down a bit and take a keener look at all that matters most in life. Having experienced a brother with COVID-19, an aging mother taken ill in Florida with a stroke the week before the pandemic shut things down, the loss of a married aunt and uncle within two weeks of each other in June, and other profound life-changing events, I feel stronger, better adapted, resilient, and more peaceful in thought, and with perspective on all that matters most in life. I hope many of you can say the same.

Be well, remain safe, and please stay connected. We will need each and every one of you to help bring us back to where we were.

With Warm Regards,
Valentine Iamartino

Fundraising Report

*Co-Chairs Arlene Baril,
Linnea Sarantopoulos, & Cheryl Medlyn*

Annual Raffle

The winning tickets for the Woman’s Board **Annual Raffle** were drawn on June 11 at DKH. The winners were as follows:

- \$500 VISA Gift Card – Joy Nelson
- \$400 VISA Gift Card – Joy Nelson
- Gift Certificate for Overnight Stay with Breakfast at The Mansion at Bald Hill – Shirley Houle
- Gift Certificate for Dinner for 4 at Sharpe Hill Vineyard – Denise Archambault
- \$250 Gift Card Redeemable at Lowe’s – Patricia Bachand



- \$100 Gift Certificate Redeemable at The Shop at Day Kimball – Helen Ballou

A total of **\$4,856** was raised. Thank you to all who purchased tickets.

Bakeless Bake Sale



Helen Ballou has again graciously decided to run our semi-annual **Bakeless Bake Sale**. So far, **\$2,200** has been donated by our members, and we thank you. Our sincere appreciation also goes out to Helen for her work in raising funds for Day Kimball Hospital. If you have not yet contributed, you may still do so by sending a check to: WBDKH, c/o Helen Ballou, 300 Barlow Cemetery Road, Woodstock, CT 06281.

Christmas Wreath Sale

As we all know, COVID-19 has caused the Woman's Board to cease all the usual in person fundraising events. In our efforts to find creative solutions, we have come up with two projects to raise funds. We are very excited about introducing a **Christmas Wreath Sale**. Available for purchase for \$30 apiece will be 24-inch fresh balsam wreaths decorated with pinecones and a gold-backed red bow. Order forms and an accompanying flyer will be mailed with all the details. The Christmas Wreath Sale will take place in September/October with an ordering deadline of Friday, October 23 and delivery in November (date TBD based on shipment).



Be sure to keep in mind that family, friends, and coworkers might like to purchase a wreath for personal use as well as for gift giving. Each wreath comes with an appropriately decorated holiday bag and includes instructions for taking care of it.

Prize Calendar Raffle

November 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!
PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!
PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!
PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!
PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!
PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!
PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!	PRIZE!

In anticipation of the gift giving season, we are providing you with the opportunity to win various prizes. The **Prize Calendar Raffle** will offer daily drawings

during the month of November. The cost of each prize calendar will be \$10. They will be mailed to you sometime around October 9, and you will have three weeks to submit your entries for a daily November prize drawing. If you win, your entry will go back in for subsequent drawings. If you are willing to donate a prize for the raffle drawing such as cash, a painting, or a gift card, please contact Heidi Hare by September 30 at hjhare@sbcglobal.net.

Remembering Betty Church (1928-2020)

Elaine Turner



While working as the Community Education Specialist Nurse, I had the opportunity to meet Betty Church, a Day Kimball Hospital volunteer since 1996. Betty worked in the Development Office and Human Resources, but I knew her as a dependable lady with a ready smile, who was prompt, was organized, had an eye for detail, and handled payments with ease at my Community Flu Clinics. We chatted a bit and realized that we shared similar Greek ancestry as our families were within 30 miles of each other in small villages in southern Greece. She reminded me of my Mom and aunts.

In the mid-2000s, I began teaching "Weight Loss with Hypnosis" classes, and Betty joined. An eager student, she was enthusiastic and focused, and she started the program with



commitment. Two weeks in, Betty and her husband, Don, were in a car accident, and she could no longer attend. She called me at my office, and I offered to drop off the weekly assignments so she could stay on track. Thus began our "Tea, Greek Sweets, and Conversation" custom that would continue for years.



Many a problem is solved over a nice cup of tea, and Betty and I talked about family, politics, religion, philanthropy, and life. She was fiercely loyal and committed to customs and routine. In a way, she took me, the young grasshopper, under her wing, introducing me to the

world of philanthropy and culture. It was Betty who sponsored me for the Woman's Board, driving us to that first luncheon meeting and introducing me proudly to the members. She recruited me for the spring tea fundraiser, which included acquiring gift certificates and labeling raffle ticket collection cups at her kitchen table. Next was Author's Night, for which my job was to calculate the exact number of food servings needed so that each attendee could sample seven items. We called the committee members to ask them how many servings they would bring so that Betty could ensure that there would be sufficient food for all the attendees without their being too many leftovers. But we would have gladly taken a few desserts home!

Some of Betty's most cherished recognition awards were those she received because of her generosity and selfless giving. Among them were the George J. Racine Sr. Humanitarian Award and the Volunteer of the Year Award for Retirees.

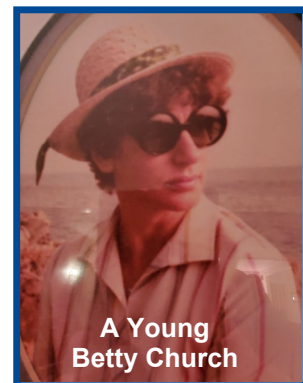
Betty's sense of social justice was fierce. Although she did not have children of her own, she took care of newborns, donating countless

outfits to the Birthing Center through the Greek Orthodox Church Women's Group.

An active card writer, Betty was probably one of the most conscientious correspondents I have had the pleasure of meeting. If you did something to help, she sent you a thank you card and took you out to lunch at the Golden Lamb Buttery! She never forgot your birthday, name day, or anniversary, and she often sent cards just because she was thinking of you. On her kitchen table and counter were all the cards she herself received (she did not discard cherished notes) as well as all the cards she had purchased, ready to be mailed.

Betty was happiest when her social calendar was full. Refrigerator magnets held flyers and invitations for WBDKH events, cookouts, weddings, chamber dinners, and Corporators meetings. She loved being in the know and knowing everyone. Her yearly trips with Don to Maine to see friends, New York to see her niece, Myrtle Beach to vacation, and Mystic in the summer brought her much joy and important lifelong connections.

It was the people she worked with, cared for, and celebrated life with, who appreciated who she was, what she stood for, and all that she shared with others. And that was unwavering. Many of us can say, we are better, more generous, and more thoughtful because of Betty Church. We miss you!



A Young Betty Church

Membership

Chair Wanda Mineo

Please join us in welcoming our newest Woman's Board member!



Kristine Erickson

Kristine resides in Brooklyn, CT. She is the owner of Roemega Health, a health education and coaching service.

East Woodstock where she worked as a substitute teacher in the Woodstock school system. Miriam was an active volunteer throughout her life, serving as a member of the Woman's Board since 1976 and a hospital escort volunteer for over 35 years. For more information about Miriam, go to:

<https://www.gilmanandvalade.com/9193-2/>

Renew Your Membership Now!

Our annual membership renewal began at the end of May and concludes on September 30. All renewal forms must be submitted prior to the end of September. Please update your contact information when returning your renewal. Your generous pledge and donation of your time enable us to continue our unwavering support for Day Kimball Hospital.



It is with great sadness that we report the loss of Woman's Board member **Dr. Louise Pempek (1933-2020)**. She was a lifelong, accomplished educator who began her career in 1955 teaching at Woodstock

Elementary School. She received numerous awards and honors throughout her career, and she was a passionate community organizer. Louise had been a Woman's Board member since 1998. More information about her can be found at:

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/norwichbulletin/obituary.aspx?n=louise-c-pempek&pid=195956661&fhid=14894>

In Memoriam



We are sad to report the passing of **Judith Roue (1940-2019)**. She moved to Pomfret in 1972 and taught at Pomfret Community School for many years. She spent the last 19 years of her long teaching career at the

Rectory School, sharing her love for music, teaching reading and geography, and helping children to overcome learning disabilities. She had been a Woman's Board member since 1979. More information about Judith can be found at:

<https://www.dinotofuneral.com/Obituaries.htm>



Event Calendar

- **Prize Calendar Raffle** – Purchase your prize calendars by the end of October and be entered into a daily raffle drawing throughout the month of November. Be on the lookout during the first week of October for the calendars in your mail.
- **Christmas Wreath Sale** – Order your fresh balsam Christmas wreaths by October 23 for delivery in November.



It is with a heavy heart that we inform you that **Miriam Boldry (1931-2020)** passed away in August of this year surrounded by her family. Born in Johnston, PA, she married and then settled in





Contact Information

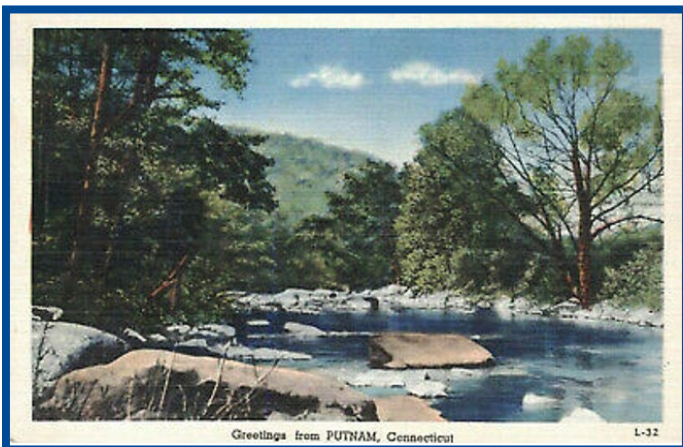
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- Elaine Turner – Historian & Archivist
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Make the Woman's Board Your AmazonSmile Charity

You can contribute to the fundraising efforts of the Woman's Board without ever having to leave the safety and comfort of your home! When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will make a donation to the Woman's Board if you designate it as your favorite charity. Just do your shopping as you normally would, but do it at smile.amazon.com rather than at amazon.com, and the Woman's Board will benefit. It costs you nothing extra! To set this up, do the following:

- In your Internet browser, go to smile.amazon.com, and log in using your Amazon credentials.
- Look for the "Supporting" link directly under Amazon's search bar.
- Type in "Womans Board Day Kimball Hospital" (no apostrophe).
- Each time you make a purchase from smile.amazon.com, they will tell you the total you have donated to the Woman's Board!



Greetings from PUTNAM, Connecticut

L-12



Greetings from PUTNAM, Connecticut

L-15



More information about the Woman's Board can be found on our website at wbdkh.org or on Facebook at facebook.com/wbdkh.

WOMAN'S BOARD
OF DAY KIMBALL HOSPITAL

The Burdick Family Birthing Center Renovations

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\$140,000

\$120,000

\$100,000

\$80,000

\$60,000

\$40,000

\$20,000



“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”
- Coretta Scott King