



Spring 2008

King-Bruwaert House *Legacy and Leaders*

King-Bruwaert House, 6101 S. County Line Road, Burr Ridge, IL 60527
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Legacy and Leaders is a biannual newsletter produced by the Development Department. The purpose of the publication is to recognize the volunteers, donors, and organizations that support King-Bruwaert House.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



This year marks the 75th anniversary of King-Bruwaert House. Our staff has been hard at work planning many programs and activities to observe the occasion. We look forward to a busy, commemorative year as we celebrate the mission of our outstanding organization.

I am pleased to report that 2007 will be remembered as one of the most successful fundraising years in the history of King-Bruwaert House. We started the year with an extraordinary goal of raising \$200,000 for a major theater renovation project. By December, generous donors helped us to reach that goal, short of just a few thousand dollars. We anticipate theater construction will begin this summer with an anticipated completion date and grand opening in 2009.

The generosity of our donors continued as contributions to our Annual Fund campaign that began last fall raised almost \$70,000. This represents a strong testimony that our benefactors understand the importance of annual financial support.

The annual Staff Fund, traditionally collected at Christmastime, tallied \$35,000. Our wonderful families' generosity confirms their interest in recognizing trained and tenured employees for their professional commitment to exceptional care and service.

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Second Annual Legacy & Leaders Dinner

The second annual *Legacy & Leaders* dinner held Thursday, October 18, 2007 in our K-B Great Lounge recognized individuals for Board Leadership and Special Charitable Support and honored 11 confirmed charter members of the Suzanne King-Bruwaert Legacy Society.

Two prominent members of the community, Mr. Howard Dean and Mr. Hadley Pihl, both residents of Hinsdale, received accolades from Board President John Kayser for their lasting contributions to the King-Bruwaert organization. Mr. W.B. Martin Gross, a life-long friend of the two gentlemen, offered introductions to the audience before presenting the honorees with special awards.

Mr. Gross highlighted the many years of dedicated service Howard Dean brought to the King-Bruwaert Board of Directors. He recalled Mr. Dean's commitment to finalize the merger of Godair Park with the King-Bruwaert community. This merger created a new way of life for King-Bruwaert House in allowing both men and couples to live within the community. Prior to the merger, King-Bruwaert House admitted only women, reflecting an era of gender distinctions. Mr. Dean also encouraged the Board to accept different types of resident contracts. In addition to providing financial expertise to the Board, Mr. Dean also played a key role in overseeing building renovations that added new services and features to keep pace with market needs. Mr. Dean was presented with a silver tray inscribed with the names of all the K-B Board members with whom he served.



W.B. Martin Gross (right) presents Howard Dean with an engraved silver tray.

Mr. Gross described Mr. Hadley Pihl's extraordinary volunteerism to King-Bruwaert through his artists-in-residence program. For the past 11 years, Mr. Pihl has been leading and organizing a small group of local artists who meet Thursday afternoons in a lower level studio room. These artists share their interest in art and various artistic mediums. Once a year, they participate in a popular painting program for residents. In addition, Mr. Pihl graciously helped K-B to raise funds through the sales of his paintings at several annual Art Shows.



Hadley Pihl (left) holds his engraved silver artist's palette given to him by W.B. Martin Gross.

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President Message from page 1

Beyond the impressive charitable support, we point to several more highlights that made 2007 truly memorable. Our second annual Legacy & Leaders Dinner held in October introduced the charter members of our Suzanne King-Bruwaert Legacy & Leaders Society who pledged to include King-Bruwaert House in their Planned Giving and estate plans. The dinner also served to recognize community leaders who have made a significant impact on our community. Former K-B Board member Howard Dean and artist/community volunteer Hadley Pihl, both of Hinsdale, were presented with awards for their outstanding service and benevolence throughout the years.

We look forward to the upcoming 75th anniversary year and the special events that will bring us together to celebrate King-Bruwaert House.

Sincerely,
John Kayser

Legacy & Leaders Dinner from page 1

After receiving his recognition gift, engraved silver artist's palett, Mr. Pihl offered many comments including a favorite quote from Thomas Benton Hart, a well-known American painter of the Depression era who spent summers enjoying the beauty and tranquility of Martha's Vineyard:

"The poets say, there is no occupation so good for your soul as the contemplation of nature. I agree. However, its benefits are intensified and expanded when you, at the same time, try to record your findings with images. The landscape painter who contemplates a natural scene and works at it, has his soul doubly benefited. To the passive good of contemplation, he adds the active good of creation. While working under the spell of this two-fold good, he is likely to be the happiest of men."

Board President John Kayser recognized the charter members of the Legacy Society who each received a crystal paperweight depicting a cameo of founder Suzanne King-Bruwaert. Members include: **Mr. & Mrs. Carl Baker, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Barnes, Mr. & Mrs. Harold Brackett, Mr. Herbert Bruckner in memorium, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Dean, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Eshleman, Mrs. Ruth Gilchrist and the late Mr. Robert Gilchrist, Dr. & Mrs. John Halasz, Mr. & Mrs. Minnard Hanson, Mr. & Mrs. John Kayser, Mr. & Mrs. John Meaden, Mrs. Mary Parker, Mrs. Vivian Peterson, Mrs. Jody Pringle, Dr. & Mrs. John Ronning, and Mrs. Charlotte Schmitt.**

During his closing remarks, Mr. Kayser commented on the importance of leadership and charitable support to continue the long-held mission of King-Bruwaert House.

"Throughout the history of K-B, we have witnessed many dedicated leaders who have given their time, talents and resources to continue the legacy of our founder, Suzanne King-Bruwaert," he said. "We are proud to be part of this unique, outstanding community that offers exceptional care and services to senior residents."

75th Anniversary Programs and Activities

By: Bonnie Kohout

Each month during this anniversary year, King-Bruwaert House will be hosting a variety of activities. Please watch your mail for more details or contact Director of Marketing, Bonnie Kohout at 630-230-9521, for further information.

March – Chicago Tribune's Melissa Erickson's discussion of Alzheimer's disease article

April – Anniversary Proclamation from the Village of Burr Ridge

May – All-American Concert

June – Auctioneer Leslie Hindman's discussion of antiques through the ages

July – Big-Screen Movie Night

August – 75th Anniversary Ice Cream Social

September – 75th Anniversary Resident and Family Garden Party

September – Fashion Through the Decades

October – Annual Legacy & Leaders Dinner

November – Tea Celebrating Retired Professionals

December – Author Rochelle Pennington's discussion of The Christmas Tree Ship



Bonnie Kohout poses with K-B's Ice Sculpture at the Burr Ridge Ice Festival in the Village Center on January 26, 2008

Team Effort Leads to Success: King-Bruwaert House Receives Van From State

In Spring 2004, Mrs. Murnie Baker initiated and composed a grant to the Illinois Department of Transportation that asked for a handicapped accessible van for King-Bruwaert House residents. In 2006, we were notified that our grant was approved and K-B would be receiving a van.

With the assistance of letters of support from local government officials, such as Senator Kirk Dillard (R-24 Hinsdale) and K-B Board of Directors Secretary, Mr. W. B. Martin Gross, in Spring 2007, Governor Rod Blagojevich sent us a confirmation letter that K-B had been awarded a mini van and that we would receive it in the near future.

In December 2007, Mr. Carl Baker, Executive Director, picked up the new Chevy Braun six-passenger, handicap-accessible mini van with ramp from Kankakee, Illinois and brought it back to K-B House.

The new van will be used to transport residents who use wheelchairs, walkers and medical equipment. This vehicle will benefit many residents with its state-of-the-art safety features. We are grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of this effort.



Mrs. Alberta Youssi exits the van with her walker with the assistance of Senator Kirk Dillard. King-Bruwaert House President, John Kayser and Board Member, Jim Parsons express their gratitude to Senator Dillard on behalf of the Board and residents.



Educator's Tea Celebrates a Profession

The overwhelming success of the Nurse's Tea in fall, 2006 prompted interest in an Educator's Tea that was hosted Monday, November 19 in our K-B Great Lounge. About 20 retired educators, both men and women from our K-B community, joined Board members Dr. Diane Halbrook and Mrs. Carole Pyle in celebrating their roles as educators, sharing touching stories and enjoying delicious sandwiches and decadent desserts provided by Juanita Castro, Director of Food Services.

Common sentiments among the retired teachers focused on the various challenges they faced on the job. The teachers also discussed the tremendous pride they felt when making a positive impact on their students. Many recalled a feeling of excitement when sharing knowledge of a particular subject with young people. Others admitted their love of learning continues to this day.

Carole Pyle, a former elementary school administrator and curriculum coordinator, reflected upon the students' lives that were touched over the years by the teachers in the room, "Walking about the Great Lounge and visiting with the many educators, was almost a magical time for me. As I looked about the room I saw caring people who represented years of teaching experience. I was, then, overwhelmed considering the literally thousands of lives these people had touched and enriched! What a gift to live a long, good life having earned the fond memories, love, appreciation, and respect of so many former students."

Teachers attending the tea underscored the importance of continuing their own level of personal growth throughout their retirement years. Dr. Diane Halbrook agreed it is imperative to offer educational and cultural programming.

"Keeping our residents intellectually stimulated is part of our mission in caring for the whole person," Dr. Halbrook remarked. "The renovation of our K-B Theater will give us the opportunity to offer interesting educational programs for residents, as well as cutting-edge training for our staff."

The K-B Development Department would like to continue hosting afternoon teas for other professions. Anyone with a suggestion for the next tea in November 2008 should contact Director of Development, Julie Milam at (630) 230-9520.



Mrs. Alberta Youssi shares some of her teaching stories with Julie Milam



Mrs. Marilyn Halasz, Mrs. Jody Pringle, and Mrs. Elaine Matteucci reminisce about their teaching days.

THEATER CAMPAIGN COMPLETE

King-Bruwaert House has met the challenge set forth by the Board of Directors and raised the \$200,000 fundraising goal for our lower-level theater. Over the last year, our generous community has given us their leadership and financial support to make this important renovation project a reality. Renovation is scheduled later the year.

We are happy to report that each of the 75 theater seats have been named. "We were so touched at the number of people who made donations in memory of a loved one," said Dr. Diane Halbrook, Chairperson of the Development Committee. "They were able to use the theater seat naming opportunity to memorialize their loved one. While they may no longer reside at K-B House, their spirit will continue and the time they spent here will not be forgotten."

The importance of the theater for the community was underscored by Carl Baker, Executive Director. "The community supports this project. They see the benefits that this theater will bring to the greater community. We expect that once the theater renovation is complete, a variety of programs will be scheduled to which the community will be invited. We encourage outside organizations to use this space and include our residents in their programs."

We would like to thank the Theater campaign Committee and community advisors who met with us to give us their guidance. With their support and the following donors this dream will become a reality.

Campaign Committee

Mr. W. B. Martin Gross
Mr. John Grube
Dr. Diane Halbrook
Mr. Robert Harbour
Mr. John Kayser
Mr. Michael Meagher
Mr. James Parsons
Mrs. Carole Pyle
Mrs. Katharine Sylvester
Mr. Carl Baker

Community Advisors

Mrs. Patricia Bruder
Mr. Charles Pipal
Mrs. Charron Traut

Major Donors over \$5,000

Mrs. Lee Smithwick
Mr. and Mrs. David W. Fox, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. William Voss
Witz Family Foundation
Mrs. Ruth Anderson
Ms. Regina Schurman
The Tuthill Family

Seat Donations of \$1,000

In Honor of Jean Acton
Adventist Midwest Geriatric Specialists
Geraldine Alvarez
The Anderson Family
Mrs. Jennie Barlick
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brackett
Julie S. & Robert C. Brown
Mr. George M. Burditt
Nan & Dick Burr ridge
Dr. & Mrs. David Chiang
"H" & Callie Ann Clark
Mr. & Mrs. Richard K. Decker
Ron & Judy Eshleman

In Memory of Loved Ones
from Chuck & Jane Foster
In Memory of Helen K. Fox
In Memory of Wayne S. Fox
In Memory of David F. Gilchrist
Mr. & Mrs. W.B. Martin Gross
The Grube Family
John & Marilyn Halasz
In Honor of Ann Halbrook &
Art Institute of Chicago Grad Students
Dusty & Carol Hanson
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harbour
Alan Ross Hurst
Bettie J. Ironside
In Memory of Mrs. Mary G. Johnson
Noel C. Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Jones
In Memory of Francis Matz Kayser "Sis"
Mr. & Mrs. John P. Kayser
King-Bruwaert Department Heads
In Honor of K-B House Residents
In Memory of Terese Ann Kinney
Mr. Robert P. Lamons
In Memory of Richard A. Low
In Honor of Donna Manion
The late Mrs. Claire Martin
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. John M. Martin
In Memory of Lois McCullagh
from Keith McCullagh
Mr. Hank Messerschmitt
In Memory of Barbara Ann Moir
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Mary B. Mulhern from Joseph Mulhern
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The Children of John and Fran Parise
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Bob & Ruth Vogeles
The Gerald G. Warner Family
In Memory of Melvin J. Warner
from Elin L. Warner
In Memory of H. H. Whiteside, Jr.
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Other Donations

Helyn Bradshaw
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The late Mr. & Mrs. Ricahrd Lomastro
Dorothy Newby
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Schrohe
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Stitt
Rev. & Mrs. Dudley Stroup
Jeanette Uebele
Betty Jean Wright

If you would like to make a change to your theater seat, please call Julie Milam at (630)230-9520.

Nursing Scholarships

After receiving a \$25,000 grant from Tellabs Foundation for seed money for Nursing Scholarships, a committee was assembled to develop policies, procedures, and an application to begin distribution of these funds to CNAs and RNs who want to continue their education.

Nurses who have worked at least 24 hours per week at K-B House for at least one year are eligible as long as their performance is in satisfactory standing. The scholarship will be renewable every year. The application asks the nurses to discuss their educational goals, career plans, and how their education will benefit K-B House. For each year of scholarship, the nurse will be required to work at K-B House for one year.

Over the last several years, King-Bruwaert House has received many generous donations earmarked to Nursing Scholarships from grateful families who want to recognize the unsurpassed levels of care their loved ones received. Currently, one CNA is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. These classes have helped her better care for her residents.

“King-Bruwaert House is committed to assisting all employees’ education,” commented Director of Human Resources, Nicole Sightom. “In the next year we plan to roll out a tuition assistance program to any employee who wants to further their education in work-related areas.”



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