

## LITTLETON HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

1956 - 1981

By 1956 the importance of the Auxiliary to the hospital is almost legendary. Auxilians are skillful fund-raisers and money managers. They are ready to take on a new role of service to the hospital in particular and the area's health care in general. Through education of itself and then offering education to the public, the far-seeing auxilians become a broad-based organization.

Mrs. Winton Eastman holds the office of president as the Auxiliary begins its next quarter century in 1956. Important radiology equipment is purchased along with chairs, dishes and a refrigerator. Employees are still remembered at Christmas and this tradition continues to the present with sizable donations made yearly to the popular Christmas party. Auxilians are now making efforts to reach out to auxilians of other areas by attending the New England Hospital Assembly's annual meetings in Boston.

Mrs. John Cole assumes the presidency in 1958 and in this year a new \$3,000 kitchen is a gift to the dietary department. The front of the hospital is landscaped and the Hospitality Cart is introduced and chaired by Ginny Walsh.

In 1959 Mrs. Joseph Connors, Jr. takes the office of president for two years. \$10,000 from the Children's Fund is voted to the pediatric ward and a new fundraiser - The Country Fair - makes its debut in 1961.

Mrs. F. Bingham Walsh is president from 1961 to 1963 during which time the Auxiliary is involved in the interior decoration of the new building and the renovated areas of the 1962 expansion project. The Auxiliary's by-laws are revised for the first time since 1937; the Library Cart is established with Mrs. Sybil Hogan as chairman. The Candy Strippers' program is begun under the leadership of Patricia Topping. The Women's Board changes its name to the Women's Auxiliary of the Littleton Hospital Association. Mrs. Norman Liberty assumes the chairmanship of the Library Cart in 1963, a position she holds until 1980. Guest speakers who

speak on topics relative to the hospital highlight monthly meetings.

Mrs. Phyllis D. S. Gray is president during 1963-1965. The scholarship fund is formed at this time and President Gray will be a loyal member of this committee for more than fifteen years during which over \$20,000 in scholarships will be awarded to North Country young people pursuing careers in health care. The Occupational Therapy cart which will become the Handcraft Cart is begun by Ginny Walsh and Virginia Tenney chairs the Hospitality Cart. The December Membership Tea begins its ten-year tradition.

Mrs. George McAvoy is the president in 1965 through 1967 and 1970-1971 with Mrs. John E. Cyr presiding during 1967-1970 and 1971-1972. During their presidencies much money is raised and donated for electric beds, refurbishing of the solarium, the nurses lounge, the men's lounge, for linens china and medical equipment, a dishwasher and much more. The Cart programs are well established as is the Country Fair. The Auxiliary is beginning to be touched by the outside world with thoughts of those in Viet Nam and their comfort. Also the change in the role of the Auxiliary that is to predominate in the 1970's is noticeably beginning. In-service volunteerism is being explored during this time with auxiliaries attending state and regional meetings and state auxiliary leaders visiting Littleton. In 1971 the Country Fair raises over \$20,000 that will be used in the new Intensive Care Unit.

Mrs. A. Rowell Fogg is president 1972-1974 during a period when the Auxiliary becomes involved in educating itself and then others regarding legislation and its impact on health care and hospitals. Fair monies of 1973 are used to purchase equipment for the hospital's new emergency room and outpatient department. The December membership function becomes a fashion show and luncheon and the Auxiliary is growing rapidly in numbers and services. Thirty-eight new members are welcomed during this period. The Volunteens (Candy Strippers) program is disbanded due to the young women taking after school jobs and extra-curricular activities.

In 1974 Mrs. Robert C. Campbell takes office. The hospital is given funds

to purchase a fetal monitor and \$15,000 left to the Auxiliary by Mrs. Robert Edge and Mrs. Rene Mathey is given to establish the Mathey-Edge Respiratory Therapy Department. New programs of service are begun: the in-house volunteer program directed by Jewel Fogg, the newborn photo service, the gift case, the automated coffee shop, and the Nursery Guild which hostesses introductory meetings of maternity services to expectant parents.

Mrs. Richard Johnson, Jr. becomes president in 1975 and during her term the volunteer program celebrates its first anniversary with 4,413 hours being given. The highly successful Country Fair is featured in the nationally circulated "Handicrafts Magazine". The president of the Auxiliary becomes a voting member of the Board of Trustees of the Hospital Association. The infant car seat rental program is begun and \$2,000 for restoration of the solarium is donated to the hospital.

Mrs. Milton Bratz is president from 1976-1978. During this time the fast growing programs of the Auxiliary are strengthened and polished. Monies from the Beattie Children's Fund are used to purchase infant undershirts and cribs. The Gift Case, in its success, donates funds to the hospital for the purchase of a pediatric crib. Over fifty infant car seats are in circulation and \$50,000 is pledged to the hospital's building fund. A special highlight of this time is the discovery of a silver Revere bowl which was presented to Mrs. Charles Lane in 1932 in appreciation of her many years of service to the Auxiliary. The Lane estate was bequeathed to the hospital in 1978 and the hospital returned the bowl to the Auxiliary which in turn voted to pass the bowl from one president to the next to keep during their terms.

Mrs. Richard C. Monroe becomes president in 1978 for a two-year term. The Auxiliary purchases a pediatric playpen and a television for the new pediatric room. An ambitious television rental program is planned and will be instituted upon the completion of the new building and renovation project under the direction of Marion Daft. The Gift Case is replaced by the Gingham Goose Gift Shop in the

new lobby. The Art Cart, which becomes the Art Library is begun by Ginny Walsh. This project will provide art works of the patient's choice to be hung in their room. \$5,600 is donated for renovation of the solarium. June Liberty resigns as chairman of the Book Cart after almost two decades. She will remain as honorary chairman with Betty Snow the active chairman.

Mrs. Robert W. Arbuckle becomes president in 1980 and the emphasis of this term is placed on steadying the rapid growth of the Auxiliary and its services. Long-established programs are up-dated and the Country Fair celebrates its twentieth anniversary with a face-lift. The Fair and the Fashion Show Membership luncheon have attained a delightful air of loving professionalism. The \$50,000 pledge is paid off one year early and the Auxiliary's first male member pays his dues.

The past twenty-five years has brought an incredible growth to an organization steeped in tradition. Auxilians have served the State Auxiliary to the point of Mrs. A. Rowell Fogg being named president of the N. H. Association of Hospital Auxiliaries for a two-year term. The Auxiliary has been watchful of legislation in the 1970's which has affected health care and it has participated in letter-writing campaigns to representatives voicing its concern with this legislation. The Auxiliary has taken seriously the charge of promoting health care and sickness prevention by having outstanding speakers on a variety of subjects at meetings to which the public is always invited. Topics such as mental health, cancer, delinquency, drug abuse, child abuse, the eye bank, obstetrics, pediatrics and geriatrics and many more have been addressed at these meetings. The hospital has been blessed with a growing and vigorous medical staff, members of which unhesitatingly make themselves available to the Auxiliary for educational presentations. Members of the hospital administration and trustees also attend Auxiliary meetings to enlighten members of hospital programs. The end of the Auxiliary's first seventy-five years sees the Auxiliary with a close relationship to the administration, board of trustees and the medical staff.

We are proud of our heritage and we would like to think that those who have gone before us to begin this heritage of caring would be proud of us.

September 1981 finds Mrs. Edwin Harris the Auxiliary's president who will lead us into the next twenty-five years toward our centennial. If her energetic co-leadership of the 1979 and 1980 Country Fairs is an indication of her devotion to the Auxiliary then her term promises to be an exciting and eventful one in the tradition of the seventy-five years which preceded.

Mrs. A. Rowell (Jewel) Fogg  
Mrs. Robert C. (Carroll) Campbell  
1981