



November, 2020

President's Message

Happy Fall Y'all!

I hope you are all enjoying some fall weather finally and gearing up for what will be a unique, different, and new way of celebrating the upcoming holidays. I know we will all miss our normal Oakmont League holiday events like Mannequins and serving Christmas Dinner for the Blind. These events are such staples in the Oakmont League calendar and their loss will be another reminder that this year is unlike any other.

The good news is that after the success of the General Meeting via Zoom we are going to continue having our monthly general Meetings that way and starting in December will be having presenters join us! So please stay tuned for some upcoming programs that I think we will all enjoy.

For those of you who were unable to join us, I assure you that Zoom is safe and as easy as clicking a link. You can join the meetings from your computer, phone, or tablet just by clicking the link in the Evite invitation. I hope that we will see more of your faces this month on November 18th at 10am for our next General Meeting on Zoom. While we cannot have our normal night meeting, we can at least get together virtually during the day!

The Kiwanis Duck Races were, once again, a great success and we were able to raise \$840. Many thanks to Ellen Farewell for coordinating and Allison Weir for being our social media guru.

November will also be our Online Boutique! Attached to this Lily is the beautiful flyer that I hope you will all forward on to family and friends. The more shoppers we get, the more money we make! This is a great way to do some safe holiday shopping! The 3 vendors we chose all had strong, viable websites and they graciously agreed to give us 20%



of their sales from November 15-22 if you use the promo code OL20 at check out. So please help us make some money and shop during our online boutique! Many thanks to Mary Broerman, Mary Kay Prather, and Allison Weir for pulling this all together!

Our amazing Courtesy/Hospitality/Outreach team continues to reach out to those members needing some extra love during these hard times and the pumpkin deliveries this past month were a huge hit! As always, with our mission being to foster friendship, it is essential that we remain connected and present in each other's lives. So, whether you are receiving some extra outreach or not, please know that each and every one of you is cared for, thought of, and missed.

I send all my virtual hugs to each of you and hold you all in my heart. Hope to see each of your faces on Zoom soon...

Jackie Kubel
President



Benefits

Here are the photos of our Honorees from October's front yard presentations. Each honoree received a gorgeous bouquet created by Tayah Howard and an award. We are so proud and grateful for our honorees.



Donna Sauer—Honoree



Julie Budimir – Honoree

Thank you!

**Jackie Kubel, Pam Sorem, Allison Weir
Benefit Chairs**

Philanthropy

Thank you so much Ladies! We made \$840.00 on the Duck race! I appreciate so much all of your support and it was a win-win for us!

Cheers!



**Ellen Farewell
Shauna Lehman
Philanthropy Chairs**



Liz Isenman –Honoree



On-line Programs

Join us for a Holiday Floral Presentation, by Tayah Howard of Origin Elsewhere Designs, who originates from well, elsewhere! Origin Elsewhere Designs offers a variety of floral design services producing unforgettable floral moments within an impactful, enhanced, and memorable experience. With training completed at London's *Covent Garden Academy of Flowers*, Tayah seeks originality in all creations and takes major inspiration from the world and all the wonder that comes from other places. She looks forward to sharing floral holiday design ideas with you!



Save The Date!

Friday December 4th, 2020

10:00 AM

Via Zoom

**Shauna Lehmann
Program Chair**

Treasurers Report

Monthly report. Beginning Balance was \$28,276.01 with income of \$205 and expenses of \$603.89. Ending balance was \$27,877.12.

20/21 is an Assessment Year

Standing Rule 21-Bylaws states:

*Active Members are required to support the annual benefit obligation with the purchase of two (2) event tickets. Sustaining members are required to support the annual benefit with the purchase of one (1) event ticket. **In an off-benefit year, there will be an assessment equal to the cost of the prior year benefit ticket obligation.***

Since this is an off benefit year the assessment will be \$260 for active members and \$130 for sustaining members. Assessments will be due by March 1, 2021. Due to the unusual circumstances of this year and out of respect for everyone's financial situations, you may pay your assessment obligation in monthly payments, starting now-thru March. Please contact me to discuss options at kimtpa@yahoo.com, or (818) 970-8516.

Kimberly Klosterman

Treasurer

Online Boutique Fall Fundraiser

In place of the usual fashion show and boutique at our October meeting, this year we are having an online boutique from November 15th-22nd. This is open to EVERYONE! So invite your family and friends to join us for some shopping and to support our philanthropies. There is a flyer attached to the Lily that you can share with your friends. We have partnered with three of our favorite vendors for this Boutique. Use code OL20 when you make your purchase so we will be credited with the sale.

Take a look at their websites now to make up your wish list, but wait to purchase til November 15th. Website are below, on the flyer and will be on our oakmontleague.com website on the 15th. The vendors are:

The Classy Bag Lady

Classybaglady.com

Sonnie Owens Jewelry

sonny-owns-jewelry.square.site/s/shop

The Treasured Accessory

thetreasredaccessory.com



Oakmont League Autumn Fundraiser

You're invited to enjoy some shopping at our on-line Boutique. Three of our favorite vendors are participating and will be donating 20% of their sales back to Oakmont League to support our philanthropies.

The vendors, and their websites are listed below, and are also available from our website oakmontleague.com

Our Boutique will run from **November 15th-22nd**.

Use the code **OL20** when you are checking out so the purchase will count towards our fundraiser.

Get a head start on your holiday shopping and support our Oakmont League philanthropies!

Classy Bag Lady 

Shop for fashionable purses and bags at The Classy Bag Lady

classybaglady.com



Find unique, handmade jewelry at Sonnie Owens Jewelry.

sonnie-owens-jewelry.square.site/s/shop



Find some elegant and sparkly gifts or treat yourself at The Treasured Accessory.

thetreasuredaccessory.com



BUNDLES FOR BRITIAN By Katherine Yamada

Last month's article about Oakmont's early years brought a couple of questions about our members' involvement with 'Bundles for Britain.'

Bundles for Britain started in 1940 - - thanks to a woman who has gone down in history simply as 'Mrs. Latham.' She was inspired to organize a knitting circle in a storefront in New York City. Now, I don't know what kind of store it was, but can't you just see a group of women with the leisure time available to engage in knitting in the afternoon - - - instead of cooking, cleaning, looking after children and going to the market.

These women knitted socks, gloves, hats, sweaters, and scarves and Latham (who must have had a lot of connections) found a way to get them shipped off to Britain.

The knitting circles were an instant hit. In the days before social media, when ideas spread through face to face conversations, letters, phone calls, newspapers and yes, telegrams, Bundles for Britain exploded! Soon there were 975 branches and almost a million contributors.

By the spring of 1941, these knitters had delivered 40,000 sleeveless sweaters, 10,000 sweaters with sleeves, 30,000 scarves, 18,000 pairs of 'sea boot' stockings, 50,000 pairs of socks, and 8,000 caps.

And they didn't stop there. By 1941, Bundles had also shipped ambulances, surgical instruments, medicines, cots, blankets, field-kitchen units, and operating tables, along with used clothing of all sorts. The total value of goods shipped reached \$1,500,000.

Another \$1,000,000 was raised in cash.

One way of raising cash to ship these items overseas was thru the sale of mementos. According to Wikipedia, the most common items were button lapel pins displaying the British War Relief emblem. They came in two sizes: large brooches for women, and smaller pins for men. In 1941, the pins were sold for \$2.50 and \$1 respectively.

Other items included ceramics, books, stamps, celluloid badges, Cinderella's, (WHAT ARE THEY?) cigarette cases and compacts. Plus, local branches of the BWRS and Bundles for Britain produced their own matchbooks.

Mrs. Latham was later recognized for this wartime effort. King George VI himself made her an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1946. She was the first non-British subject to receive this

honor.

Her story may have even served as inspiration for a Cary Grant movie 'Mr. Lucky.' I looked that movie up on Wikipedia and read the plot - it involves Grant as a 'shady gambler' and Lorraine Day as a wealthy socialite and was inspired by a 1942 article in Cosmopolitan Magazine about - you guessed it - - Bundles For Freedom. So can we deduce from that article that Mrs. Latham was a wealthy socialite?

Well, turns out that in 1953, Mrs. Latham married for the fourth time: to Lord Malcolm Douglas-Hamilton. So that should indicate that, yes indeed, she was a wealthy socialite.

There's another movie and another connection: The song "Thumbs Up!" (aka "British Delivers the Goods"), composed in 1941 by Moe Jaffe, Jack O'Brien, and Bert Lee, was the official theme song of the British War Relief Society. The song became the theme and movie title for the 1943 film, 'Thumbs Up.'

My good friend Wikipedia informs me that 'Thumbs Up' is a 1943 American musical drama film directed by Joseph Santley and starring Brenda Joyce, Richard Fraser and Elsa Lanchester. For a publicity stunt to boost her career, an American nightclub singer volunteers for a stint in a British munitions factory. She is so impressed by the spirit of her fellow workers that she decides to stay on.

Alas, I can't find either one of these movies on my Netflix account. And TCM doesn't seem to have them either.....

Here are the Wikipedia articles mentioned above:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_War_Relief_Society

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mr._Lucky_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mr._Lucky_(film))

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thumbs_Up_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thumbs_Up_(film))

I even found a site offering a WWII British War Relief of Southern California Celluloid Pin by Western Badge for \$45 (quite a bit more than what it cost in 1941!

<https://www.flyingtigerantiques.com/wwii-british-war-relief-of-southern-california-celluloid-pin-by-western-badge.html>