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The Service League of Lutheran General Hospital, A Brief History, 1959 October

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THE SERVICE LEAGUE OF LUTHERAN GENERAL HOSPITAL
Park Ridge - Illinois

A Brief History as of October 10, 1959

* * *

May 19, 1959 - On this spring evening in the auditorium of Maine Township High School, a general meeting was held open to all women interested in becoming members of an auxiliary to serve the new Lutheran General Hospital and its patients. Those present were very much interested in the service program outlined, and many became members that evening. (Yearly membership dues were set at \$5.00.)

* * *

Because the Lutheran General Hospital will serve many northwest suburbs, it was decided to divide the Service League into six areas, grouped according to telephone exchanges. Following this division, the Hospital Board of Trustees appointed 14 women (including at least one representative from each of the six areas) to the Board of the Service League.

* * *

June 16, 1959 - On this date, in a brief and impressive evening ceremony held at Maine Township High School, members of the Board of the Service League were formally installed by Dr. F. M. Norstad, Hospital Director of Chaplains.

* * *

Early in May, at the suggestion of Mrs. Louise Hansen, a workmen's coffee and snack canteen was started at the construction site. Under Mrs. Hansen's untiring and inspiring leadership, this money-making canteen, staffed by volunteers, has been in operation all summer and fall and will continue until hospital construction is completed.

* * *

The Board of the Service League held its first meeting on July 1, 1959. At this meeting and at those held August 5 and September 2, detailed organization plans were made and money-raising ideas were discussed.

* * *

September 22, 1959 - More than 300 members and guests attended the first formal meeting of the Service League held September 22 at the Edison Park Lutheran Church. Members present unanimously approved the following recommendations of the Service League Board (as reported by Mrs. Lolita Bauer, Projects and Benefits Chairman):

1. That the Service League should buy 25 TV sets for rental to hospital patients.
2. That the Service League should assume the financial responsibility for the \$9,000 "construction cost" of a gift shop in the hospital.

Members present also voted on their choice of uniforms modeled by seven Board members. A "cheery cherry" broadcloth pinafore was the favorite of a large majority, and it became the official uniform of the Service League.

As of September 22 the Service League had 374 members and over \$6,000 (from dues and canteen proceeds) in its treasury.

* * *

October 10, 1959 - Tomorrow the hospital cornerstone will be formally laid, and in it will be all the names of our Service League members, now numbering _____. With this inspiring beginning, we dedicate ourselves to the service of God and man through service to this hospital.