

History of Women's Auxiliary - Remington Unit *Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle*

The Remington Women's Auxiliary began in 1938 as the Calendar Club. The Calendar Club was organized to support the Community Boys' Club, which was housed on Winthrop Avenue in Mr. Walden's home. Mrs. Ida Cue was the first president. In 1942, when the club was meeting in the Eccles' house on Winthrop Avenue, the Community Boys' Club became a part of the Boys' Clubs of New Rochelle. The Calendar Club was reorganized as the Women's Auxiliary by Mr. Murray Fuerst, Sr., who at that time was the Executive Director of the Boys' Clubs of New Rochelle. Mrs. Mattie Jones was the first Auxiliary president. Mrs. Magdalene Ayers who was our last surviving member of the Calendar Club passed away September 2009.

The purpose of the Auxiliary is to promote the physical, mental, moral and social well being of the boys and girls by contributing to the upkeep of an adequate facility and to provide appropriate materials for educational and recreational experiences. Over the years, the Women's Organization has raised money by sponsoring teas, card parties, selling dinners and participating in services at various churches where a special collection would be received for the Boys' Club. The primary fundraiser has been the annual luncheon given on the first Saturday in December. The first luncheon was held in 1969 when Mrs. Mildred Banks and Mrs. Ida Cue was awarded the Boys' Club of America Keystone Award for years of meritorious service. The Auxiliary was present at the laying of the original cornerstone of the Remington Unit and again when Mrs. Gussie Wallace, Auxiliary president, struck the match that burned the mortgage.

Over the years, the organization has provided Remington with several stoves, refrigerators, carpeting, uniforms, musical instruments and craft supplies. The Auxiliary has provided summer camp scholarships, trips and even a lawn mower. For seven years, the Auxiliary presented the Lucy Forrest Educational Incentive Award to nine deserving Remington youths.

The Auxiliary members volunteered on the Bingo Committee at the Feeney Park Club. When bingo began at Remington, the women formed the Canteen Committee and worked with the Men's Club to support the bingo effort. Over the years, Auxiliary members volunteered with Remington After School Program as tutors and mentors. The Auxiliary has also made substantial contributions to the General Fund of the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle. Auxiliary members Inez Richardson and Jean Clark have served as officers on the Executive Committee for the Board of Directors.