

## **Women's Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital Records**

**Dates Created:** 1904 to 1999

**Extent:** 3.75 linear feet; 9 clamshell boxes

**Creators:** Woman's Auxiliary of the University of Maryland Hospital; Woman's Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital of Maryland; Woman's Auxiliary Board of Lady Managers; Auxiliary of the University of Maryland Hospital

**Subjects:**

Woman's Auxiliary of the University of Maryland Hospital; Woman's Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital of Maryland; Woman's Auxiliary Board of Lady Managers; Auxiliary of the University of Maryland Hospital; Women volunteers—Maryland--Baltimore; Hospital Auxiliaries; University of Maryland at Baltimore; University of Maryland, Baltimore; University of Maryland, Baltimore. School of Medicine; University of Maryland at Baltimore. School of Medicine; University of Maryland at Baltimore. University Hospital; University of Maryland. University Hospital; University hospitals; Teaching hospitals; Hospitals—Maryland--Baltimore; Fundraising

**Abstract:**

The Women's Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital Records contains materials relating to the operations and history of the organization which served the University of Maryland, Baltimore University Hospital and School of Medicine from 1887 to 1999. The Women's Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital served as a fundraising and service arm of the University Hospital from its inception in 1887 until it was dissolved in 1999. This collection provides insight into the women who volunteered their time, money, and expertise to support the University Hospital and its patients. The records document an impactful organization in the history of the University of Maryland, Baltimore and its hospital.

**Administrative History:**

The Women's Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital traces its history back to 1887, when physicians suggested that women, could help with the "domestic administration" of the hospitals. As a result, women started volunteering at the Lying-In hospital, which at the time was across the street from the main University Hospital; the volunteers would clean, take care of linens and hospital supplies. At a faculty meeting in 1889, Professor Julian J. Chisolm suggested the women volunteers be formally organized as the Board of Lady Managers, replacing the Sisters of Charity, who were under contract in the Lying-In hospital until December 15, 1889.

In 1890 the Women's Auxiliary Board of Lady Managers was officially founded, under the leadership of its first president Miss Susan Williams. It was the first hospital auxiliary in the state of Maryland and perhaps the country. The women were tasked with performing the domestic duties of the hospital as well as uplifting the spirits of patients, especially poor patients.

Almost immediately, the board became a major fundraiser for the University Hospital; holding its first benefit concert December 15-17, 1891. Other fundraising events included card parties, luncheons,

dinner parties, and dances as well as annual rummage sales, and fashion shows. Proceeds from these events supported the purchase of small items like linens, china, nightgowns, beds, and electric fans for the comfort of patients, as well as the purchase of large, expensive medical equipment and additions to the building or later entirely new buildings. Throughout its history, the group also ran a small lending library (started with 800 books), a gift shop, and café. In addition to fundraising responsibilities, members of the board were required to pay dues (\$2 from 1890 to 1921), to visit patients, and support the nurses and physicians in the hospital.

Through the efforts of Florence M. Tyson (then organizational president), Grace V. Buckingham, Millicent Gear Edmunds, and Alice B. Matthai, the organization was incorporated in August 1919 as the Woman's Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital of Maryland, Inc. The Board also received tax exempt status. The name was again changed in November 1975 to The Auxiliary of the University of Maryland Hospital. Unfortunately, membership dwindled in later years and the organization was ultimately dissolved by Lorraine Fiset in 1999.

The following is a complete list of Board Presidents and their leadership dates:

1890-1895 – Miss Susan Williams  
1895-1918 – Mrs. Hamilton (Susan) Easter  
1918-1920 – Mrs. (Florence) Frederick Tyson  
1920-1922 – Mrs. Page (Millicent) Edmunds  
1923 – Mrs. Walter (Ellen) Alexander  
1924 – Mrs. Page (Millicent) Edmunds  
1925 – Mrs. Robert K. (Harriet) Noble  
1926-1935 – Mrs. Charles Rowland (Lucy Eloise) Posey  
1935-1939 – Mrs. Page (Millicent) Edmunds  
1939-1941 – Miss Florence P. Sadtler  
1941-1945 – Mrs. A. Greenfield (Bertha) Daniels  
1945-1948 – Mrs. Allen F. (Louise) Voshell  
1948-1949 – Mrs. M. Paul (E. Arminta) Byerly  
1949-1951 – Mrs. James G. (Francis) Arnold, Jr.  
1951-1953 – Mrs. Thomas R. (Billie) O'Rourke  
1953-1955 – Mrs. Harry (Elizabeth "Betty") M. Robinson, Jr.  
1955-1957 – Mrs. W. Kennedy (Jean) Waller  
1957-1961 – Mrs. Mervin G. (Lallah) Pierpont  
1961-1963 – Mrs. Wilford A. (Marie) Councill, Jr.  
1963-1965 – Mrs. Edward F. (Helen) Cotter  
1965-1969 – Mrs. Arlie R. (Ellen) Mansberger, Jr.  
1969-1971 – Mrs. Joseph B. (Adele) Workman  
1971-1973 – Mrs. John (Evelyn) Herold  
1973-1974 – Mrs. Leonard (Barbara) Scherlis  
1974-1976 – Mrs. Edward W. (Patty) Campbell, Jr.  
1976-1977 – Mrs. William S. (Evelyn) Spicer, Jr.  
1977-1978 – Mrs. Peter (Ann Virginia) Rasmussen  
1978-1980 – Mrs. Leonard (Barbara) Scherlis  
1980-1982 – Mrs. Edward (Nancy) J. Kowalewski  
1982-1987 – Mrs. Granger (Barbara) G. Sutton  
1987-1989 – Mrs. Edward (Patricia) N. Brandt, Jr.

1989-1990 – Mrs. Granger (Barbara) G. Sutton  
1990-1992 – Jacquelyn J. Johnson  
1992-1994 – Mrs. Paul (Lorraine G.) Fiset  
1995-1998 – Mrs. Harry M. (Elizabeth “Betty”) Robinson, Jr.

### **Scope and Content:**

This collection is divided into six (6) series: 1) History, 1934 - 1987; 2) Business Papers, 1919 - 1999; 3) Minutes, 1904 - 1998, with two sub-series a) General Meeting Minutes, 1904 - 1995 and b) Board of Directors/Executive Committee Minutes, 1921 - 1998; 4) Reports, 1971 - 1999; 5) Activities, 1925 - 1999; and 6) Newsletters, 1977 - 1998.

### **Series:**

#### **Series 1 – History, 1934-1987**

Box 1; 4 folders

This series contains published and unpublished histories about the Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital. It includes centennial celebration materials created in 1987 during the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization. The published histories were written in 1934 and 1987.

#### **Series 2 – Business Papers, 1919-1999**

Box 2; 9 folders

This series contains legal documents and paperwork supporting the association’s efforts to become tax exempt and a corporation; they date from 1919 to 1999. It also includes the organizations’ bylaws and handbooks as well as legal documents and paperwork for the dissolution of the Board in 1999.

#### **Series 3 – Minutes, 1904-1998**

Boxes 2-7; Sub-series a) Boxes 2-4; 23 folders; Sub-series b) Boxes 5-7; 13 folders

The Minutes series is the largest in the collection and is divided into two sub-series a) General Meeting Minutes and b) Board of Directors/Executive Committee Minutes. The minutes document the decisions, activities, and business of the Auxiliary Board from 1904 to its decision to dissolve in 1998. Sub-series a) The General Meeting Minutes include notes from meetings including the entire membership and date from 1904 to 1995. Sub-series b) the Board of Directors/Executive Committee Minutes contains notes from meetings conducted by the administrators (president, vice president, secretaries, etc.) of the organization and date from 1921 to 1998.

#### **Series 4 – Reports, 1971-1999**

Box 8; 10 folders

This series contains annual reports of the presidents and treasurers of the organization from 1971 to 1999. This also includes reports written by some special committees and final reports on special events.

#### **Series 5 – Activities, 1925-1999**

Boxes 8-9; 29 folders

This series contains materials including photographs, newspaper clippings, letters, programs, and invitations to events organized and hosted by the Board.

**Series 6 – Newsletters, 1977-1998**

Box 9; 1 folder

This series is the smallest in the collection and contains newsletters sent out by the organization from 1977 until 1998. These report on events and activities of the organization as well as election results.

**Arrangement:** Thematic and then chronological

**Access Restrictions:** This collection is open for research; however, it is suggested that researchers use the digitized materials available in the digital archive:

<http://archive.hshsl.umaryland.edu/handle/10713/6630>

**Language:** Materials entirely in English

**Custodial History:** Records were held by the administrators and executive board of the Women's Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital. When the organization disbanded in 1998 the records were transferred to the HS/HSL by Lorraine G. Fiset, president; Nancy R. Brown, treasurer; and June D. Winkler, secretary.

**Acquisition:** Records were turned over to the HS/HSL historical collections by the executive committee members Lorraine G. Fiset, president; Nancy R. Brown, treasurer; and June D. Winkler, secretary sometime after the Board dissolved in 1998.

**Related Copies:** Digitized copies of some of the materials in the Women's Auxiliary Board of the University Hospital Records are available in the Health Services and Human Services Library's Digital Archive: <http://archive.hshsl.umaryland.edu/handle/10713/6630>

**Sources Used:**

Bowe, Faith Willis, Helen M. Cotter, Grace L. Merlis, and Barbar U. Sutton. (1987). *History of the Woman's Auxiliary Board University of Maryland Hospital*. Retrieved from: <http://hdl.handle.net/10713/6640>

Merlis, Grace Logan. (1987). *The Auxiliary of the University of Maryland Hospital, Inc.: Celebrating 100 Years of Service 1887-1987*. Retrieved from: <http://hdl.handle.net/10713/6637>

**Processing Information:** Materials are mostly in original order. The materials were processed and the finding aid written in Fall 2018 by Tara Wink, Historical Librarian and Archivist.