



LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBER

Linda Landes

by Bonnie Dorrans

Assistance League of Long Beach has always been a part of Linda Landes' life. In 1940 her mother, Clare Hossom, was one of the founding members. As a young child, Linda heard about many of the events that took place in those early years. She recalls her mother telling about members rolling bandages during WWII and about baking desserts the women served at the *Tea Room* as an ongoing fundraiser. The *Tea Room* was really a part of the Jones Cafeteria, but the husband and wife who owned it were Seventh Day Adventists and were happy to loan out the space to this worthy endeavor on Saturdays. And so, the Assistance League ladies served tasty pies and cakes along with coffee to those who might be downtown on a Saturday. Not surprisingly, their husbands and children were often their best customers!

Linda is proud of her family's many connections to Assistance League of Long Beach. Her aunt, Betty Smith, was also a Life member and her godmother, Josephine Paap, was past president. Linda's daughters, Cynthia Landes and Allison Stordahl, were Assisteens as well as Debutantes, and because of their early exposure to the values of giving back, they both continue to do volunteer work where they live today.

Linda became a chapter member in 1988 after her younger daughter went off to college. She was part of the *Mad Hatters* class, named for Harriett Ibbetson, the president that year who always wore a hat. As a member, Linda most enjoyed her Fridays working at the Thrift Shop. With her mother, she is sure she visited every location the Thrift Shop ever had. She enjoys being a Life member now.

Other organizations in which Linda has been active and a board member include Junior League, Lawyers Wives of Long Beach, and Long Beach Day Nursery. She has also been an active and involved member of the Bay Shore Community Church and has sung in the choir for many years. In addition, she spearheaded a committee that makes blankets and scarves which are donated to those in need of something warm and comforting. Linda uses her talents of knitting, sewing, and singing to bring joy to others as well as to herself.

Known for her kind heart and fun-loving spirit, Linda has many friends in the Long Beach area. She has known her husband Dick since they were eleven years of age. Both of them grew up near the water and have been boaters all of their lives. They love cruising their own boat and after years of going to Catalina, they now can be found on the waters of Washington and Canada each summer. However, their greatest joy comes from their family – two daughters, a son, and four grandchildren.

Recently Linda donated her parents' antique ivory Chinese figurines to the Howard and Asian Art Collection. Her mother Clare loved art, and Linda felt it was a fitting tribute that this beautiful set should be shared with all who visit the Philanthropic Center. She also set up the Hossom-Smith Scholarship in her mother's and aunt's names. This scholarship helped women restart their education at Long Beach City College.

Assistance League of Long Beach has always been present in Linda's life, but she has not taken it for granted. She knows that the wonderful work accomplished through its philanthropies requires ongoing financial support as well as many hours of involvement by its members to keep it going strong. She is proud to support the Endowment and Legacy Society so the organization can continue serving the community for many years into the future.

If you are interested in learning more about Assistance League of Long Beach's Endowment Program or Legacy Society membership, please contact Annette Kashiwabara, Executive Director, at (562) 627-5650.