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2008 Ak-Sar-Ben Ball Committees Organize

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The 2008 Ak-Sar-Ben **Women's Ball Committee Kick-Off Luncheon** was held on Thursday, January 10th at Happy Hollow Club. Six new members were introduced and six retiring members of the WBC were bid farewell. The luncheon marked the beginning of planning for the **112th** Coronation Ball, which will be held on October 11, 2008 at the Qwest Center Omaha.

Chris Murphy, chairman of the Coronation Ball Committee, announced the members of his committee. They are Bill Cutler, **vice chairman**, Ann Hergenrader, chairman of the Women's Ball Committee and Joni Lindquist, past chairman and advisor to the Women's Ball Committee.

Mr. Jeffrey Taxman, coronation prime minister, announced the six new members of the Women's Ball Committee. They are Ann Blunk, Jeannie Dudzinski, Patti Pryor, Heather Russell, Amy Schmid and Kelley Stuckey. Each new member was presented with a gold crown pin and a red rose.

Honored for their service were retiring members including Dawn Dinsdale, chairman of the 2006 Women's Ball Committee, who completed four years of service and Donna Erker, Karen German, Susan Lapp, Diane Whitted and Heidi Wilke.

Joni Lindquist, **past chairman and advisor** to the Women's Ball Committee, provided an overview of the 111th Coronation Ball. The committee accomplished its objective by recognizing over **200 families** for their community service and by providing a venue to raise funds to support the Ak-Sar-Ben Scholarship Program.

Through the efforts of the Coronation Ball Committee and with generous communitywide support, **\$662,000 was contributed to the Ak-Sar-Ben Scholarship Program and 229** Heartland Scholars will attend universities and colleges in the 2007-08 school year. The Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben are proud of these results which fulfill their mission to build a better Heartland for all.

Hergenrader announced the following committee assignments: Cathi Arnold, Countess Chairman, Coronation Week Events and Hotel Chairman and Ak-Sar-Ben Friends Liaison; Laura Doll, Heartland Escort Chairman and Entertainment Chairman; Ann Hofmann, Omaha Escort Chairman and Coronation Week Transportation Chairman; Darlene Mueller, Court of Honor Chairman and Floor Committee Chairman; Vicki Wampler, Princess Chairman and Flowers Chairman.

Mimi Gleason, Royal Court Supper Chairman and Social Chairman; Shelley Homa, Page Chairman and Social Assistant; Stephanie Horeis, Scholarship Chairman, Site Chairman, Royal Court Brunch Assistant and Endowment Committee; Mary Johnson, Production Chairman;

Lori Pirnie, Treasurer, Royal Court Welcome Chairman and Investment & Endowment Committees; Louri Sullivan, Royal Court Brunch Chairman, Gifts, Courtesy and Tribute Cards Chairman and Yearbooks Chairman.

Ann Blunk, Photography Chairman, Publicity Chairman and Production Assistant (Inventory); Jeannie Dudzinski, Community Support & Endowment Chairman, Invitations Chairman and Program Chairman; Patti Pryor, Page Luncheon Chairman, Production Assistant (Scenario) and Scholarship Assistant; Heather Russell, Reservations Chairman, Files and Lists Chairman, and Royal Court Brunch Assistant; Amy Schmid, Standard Bearers Chairman, Page Assistant and Page Luncheon Assistant; Kelley Stuckey, Scrapbook Chairman, Tickets Chairman and Royal Court Supper Assistant.