

THE MAGAZINE OF  
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TULSA

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FALL 2012

# gusher

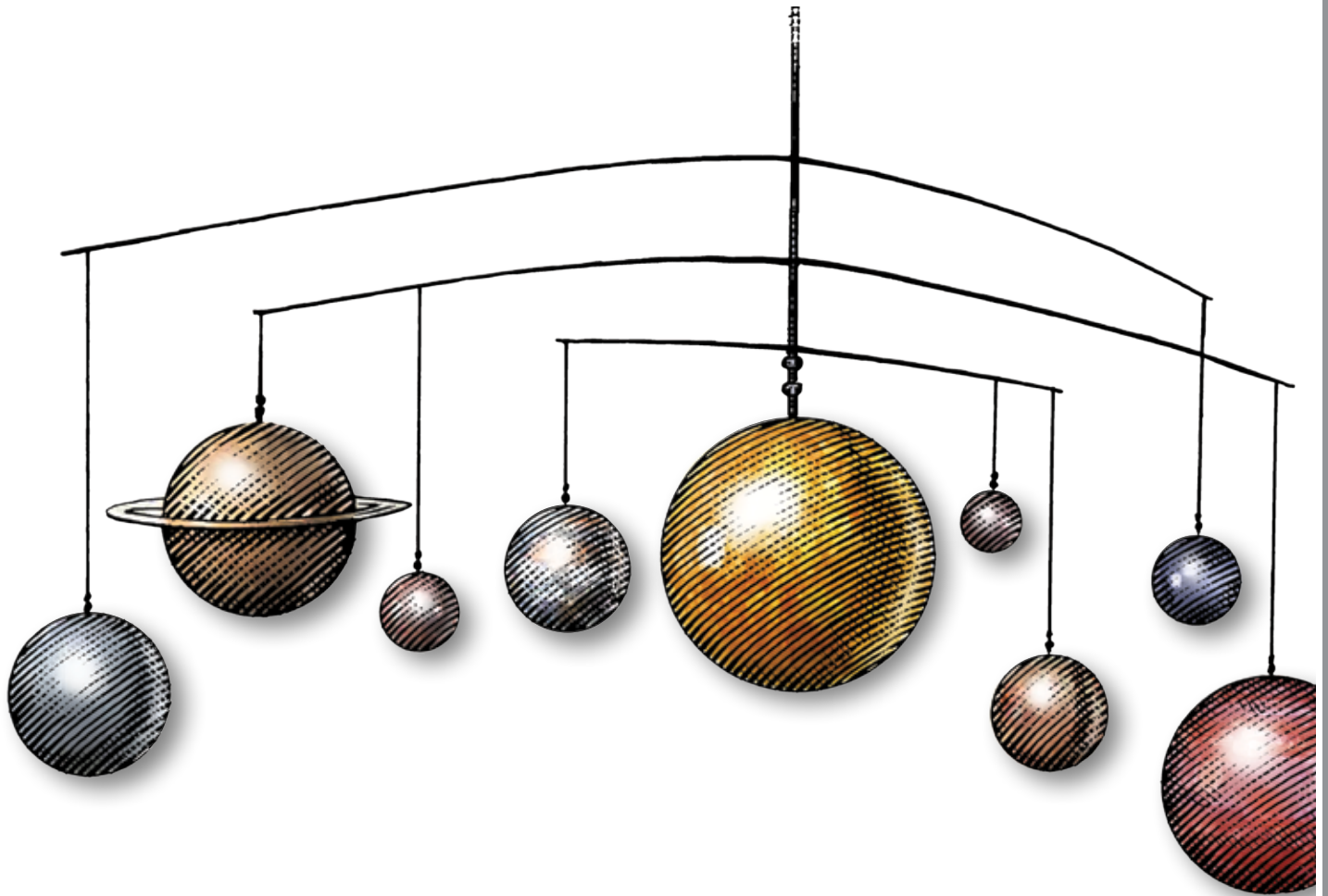
[WWW.JLTULSA.ORG](http://WWW.JLTULSA.ORG)



## OUR FAMILY TREE

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF THE  
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TULSA

PROVISIONAL CLASS WELCOME - JUST LEAGUE IT -  
UPDATE ON ZARROW CENTER FOR ART AND EDUCATION



# Children are the center of our universe.

With an emphasis on family-centered care, The Children's Hospital at Saint Francis provides state-of-the-art technology and a dedicated staff to meet the medical needs of children. Approximately 95 pediatricians and 45 pediatric subspecialists work as a team, so you can rest assured your child will receive the most comprehensive medical care available in northeastern Oklahoma.

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# from the editor...

*I've decided that 2012 is the "year of introductions" for me.*

As a newlywed, I've had a personal introduction into the true mind of a man. This includes cleaning the carpet with 4-0-9 to the belief that anything – and I mean anything (cough... cough...pot roast..cough), can be grilled .

I love my husband dearly...but, seriously. Pot roast?!?!? (To be fair, he didn't think that was his best idea either.)

On a related note, this year has also served as my introduction to the Junior League of Tulsa.

Now don't get me wrong, I've been a member of the League since 2010 and I could always tell you about our mission, our projects and the women who make up JLT. But could I tell you about our history? Probably not.

In the few short months that I have served as *gusher* chair, I've learned more and understood more about this amazing League and its heart for service. Did you know that our League played a major role in establishing many of Tulsa's leading non-profit organizations? From our early beginnings with the Convalescent Home for Crippled Children, to the Ronald McDonald House, to our newest project, the Henry Zarrow Center for Art & Education, our League has a family tree that would make even the Kennedy clan jealous!

As we celebrate our 90th year, we're also taking time to celebrate the future of JLT's family tree, including the largest Provisional class in recent history....talk about a lot of introductions!

So, on behalf of the *gusher* committee, I hope you enjoy reading about the history – and future - of our League as much as we did.

Happy reading,

Bridget Treadwell  
Editor 2012-2013

P.S. Following in the footsteps of editors who include a personal photo, here is a picture from my wedding to my pot roast grilling husband, Matt.



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**gusher** is a quarterly publication of The Junior League of Tulsa, Inc., 3633 South Yale Ave., Tulsa, OK 74135; devoted to informing the membership and the community of current League projects, events and issues. For more information on advertising, please visit [www.jltulsa.org](http://www.jltulsa.org) and click on *gusher* or e-mail [gusher@jltulsa.org](mailto:gusher@jltulsa.org).

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# Letter from the President

One of my very first responsibilities as president, was the honor of speaking to prospective members at a series of events this spring and summer. It was a great opportunity to meet wonderful women living, working, raising families, and enjoying life in Tulsa. My favorite part about these events was the simple platform to be able to share the Junior League of Tulsa (JLT). What a gift it was to have the opportunity to speak specifically about our amazing members and the impact they are making on Tulsa. While it is ALWAYS a treat to be able to share JLT with a new friend, I thought I might take advantage of this opportunity and invite YOU to ReMember why you joined our League too.

As many of you know, JLT will celebrate its 90th anniversary this spring. Our history is strong and our impact on the Tulsa community is deep. We can still see the touch of our members on many past community partners such as the Arts & Humanities Council, the Child Abuse Network, and the Laura Dester Shelter. From committee members to the board of directors, JLT is still present and providing support to these outstanding organizations. Past JLT projects such as Oxley Nature Center, the Ronald McDonald House and Philbrook will all celebrate monumental anniversaries this year. These celebrations not only mark our community partner's impact on Tulsa, but also commemorate the support given by our membership.

Where else could one give back to the community, receive capacity building leadership training and benefit from life changing mentorship? Plus, this class will make history by being one of the largest classes in our history. It was clear that joining JLT is an opportunity that these prospective members did not want to miss. It was also a great reminder to me of why I love JLT. Chuck Williams, founder of Williams Sonoma Inc., once told me: "If you love what you do, others will want to do it too". I think Chuck was right on. I love working for our community, our membership and our League. And I love it because my mentors, and so many amazing leaders before me, loved it too. So this year, when you think of JLT, ReMember why you joined, ReMember why you served, ReMember who you mentored, and ReMember who mentored you. ReMember JLT.

I would like to give special thanks to Katie Mabrey, Tracy Guara and our members that assisted with the assembly of our 2012-2013 provisional class. What a great group of leaders that are sure to remind me all year long of why I love being a Member of the Junior League of Tulsa.

Loyally,



Heather Duncan  
2012-2013 President

**Heather Duncan**  
President  
2012-2013



# 'ReMember' JLT

By Briidget Treadwell

In recent months, the Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) Board of Directors launched a new campaign to encourage inactive Sustainers and Members to "ReMember JLT" and the legacy of caring that began 90 years ago. The campaign encourages individuals to provide updated contact information and/or submit their dues to rejoin as either an Active Member or Sustainer.

"We all know that sometimes really great obstacles might arise and prevent us from fulfilling our goals with JLT. In honor of our 90th anniversary, this would be an opportunity to jump back in and pick up right where they (inactive Members) left off as far as years of service," said Heather Duncan, President.

"ReMember" communications began in late August and will continue through the fall with special letters sent to inactive Sustainers and Active Members, in good standing, encouraging them to reconnect with JLT. In addition, special gatherings scheduled later this year will provide inactive Members with a chance to learn more about current JLT initiatives and join a current committee to immediately reconnect with the JLT mission.

For Sustaining members, various activities exist from the Book Club to Restaurant Club and assist in maintaining the friendships formed during their active Member years and even help to develop new friends.

"I love keeping up with my JLT friends and making new friends with Sustainers that I never knew while in League," said Denise Piland, Sustainer. "JLT has been a part of my life for more than 16 years, I enjoy being a part of such a great group of women."

Sustainer, Nancy Daniel, agreed, "I enjoyed my active years filled with friends and learning. I try to stay informed on the League of today – though it is very different. I am still making new friends and learning."

Sustainer board advisor, Janna Roberson (on right) joins JLT President, Heather Duncan to address Provisionals during the class retreat.



During the 2012-2013 year, Sustainers are encouraged to enhance their role in JLT in a number of ways, including:

- Serving as committee advisor and taking advantage of the "been there, done that" experience and mentorship of the Sustainer role.
- Attending a fundraiser or event to show support to JLT. A calendar listing of upcoming events is available through [jltulsa.org](http://jltulsa.org).
- Staying in touch! Whether it is through the *gusher* magazine, electronic or traditional, mailed communications, take the time to learn what is happening and what a difference JLT makes on the community.

"I don't even consider NOT giving back to JLT. It has been a part of my life since I joined right out of college," said Ann Foster, Sustainer. "I gave 18 active years and now will give even more as a Sustainer."

For more information on how to "ReMember JLT" or to help us reconnect with a past JLT Member or Sustainer, please contact Sharmien Watkins, JLT Business Manager, at (918) 663-6100, [swatkins@jltulsa.org](mailto:swatkins@jltulsa.org), or simply fill out the ReMember Form on page 18 and return it in the reply envelope included within the *gusher*.

Like it? **Buy it!**  
Want to earn it free? **Host a party!**  
Want it all? **Join my team!**  
**Contact me today!**

  
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INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT  
(Chocolate)  
[amuggle83.velata.us](http://amuggle83.velata.us)

  
INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT  
(Fashion)  
[amuggle83.graceadele.us](http://amuggle83.graceadele.us)

Mary Gregory  
580-378-2082  
[mgregory.scents@gmail.com](mailto:mgregory.scents@gmail.com)  
Buy\*Host\*Join

# Transitions

## Small Miracles

### **Audry Ruth Blair**

Born June 26, 2012  
Son of Carolyn (S) & Jack



### **Catherine Craig Buchan**

Born Apr. 17, 2012  
Daughter of Sarah (A) & Craig

### **Adam Thomas Hasty**

Born Nov. 14, 2011  
Son of Gina (A) & Neil



### **Lucy Elizabeth Leake**

Born Dec. 30, 2011  
Daughter of Mary (S) & John

### **Taylor Nicole Philbeck**

Born Apr. 23, 2012  
Daughter of Jordan (A) & Tim



### **Henry Scott Robinson**

Born Nov. 30, 2011  
Son of Maggie (A) & Casey

### **Eli William Swanson**

Born May 31, 2012  
Son of Jackie (A) & Jamin



The Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) family wants to know what is happening in your life. Please take a moment to let us know about your important events, including:

- Birth announcements
- Engagement or wedding announcements
- Condolences
- Special community or workplace recognition
- Career changes

Please email information to the *gusher* at [gusher@jltulsa.org](mailto:gusher@jltulsa.org)

## Wedding

**Amanda Brumby (A)**  
to Alex Alvarez  
on Jan. 21, 2012



## Congratulations

**Devon Miller (A)** is the new Events Coordinator for the Juvenile Diabetes JDRF Research Foundation.

## Condolences

**Jean McGill (S)** passed away.

**Sarah Dougherty (S)** on the loss of her grandfather.

**Annabel Jones (S)** on the loss of her mother.

Award-winning photography!

Leslie Hoyt  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
LeslieHoyt.com  
918.200.9436 LeslieHoyt@gmail.com



## *Women Building a Better Tulsa*

### Mission Statement

The Junior League of Tulsa, Inc.,  
is an organization of women com-

mitted to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. Junior League of Tulsa reaches out to women of all races, religions, & national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism.

### Core Values

**Community:** It is the heart of all we do

**Diversity:** The synergy of different perspectives

**Voluntarism:** An essential component of our society

**Mentoring:** Essential growth for future generations

**Leadership:** The development of individual potential

**Respect:** For our members' time, energy and skills

**Collaboration:** Forming partnerships and strategic alliances

**Well-being:** Physical, mental, emotional and social

---

## Community Advisory Board 2012-2013

**Colleen Ayers-Griffin**  
Community Service Council

**Victoria Bartlett**  
First Lady of Tulsa

**Ken Busby**  
Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa

**Michelle Choquette**  
Community Action Project

**Doug Dejarnette**  
F&M Bank

**Debi Friggel**  
QuikTrip

**Karen Larsen**  
KJRH, Channel 2

**Mike Neal**  
Tulsa Metro Chamber of Commerce

**Brian Paschal**  
Tulsa Young Professionals

**MaryQuinn Cooper**  
McAfee and Taft

**Kathy Seibold**  
OU-Tulsa Schusterman Center

**Sarah Stephens**  
Persimmon Group

## October

**15 Fall Sustainer Event**  
@ Henry Zarrow Center for  
Art and Education

**17 General Membership  
Meeting**

**26 Hot Chocolate Chat**  
(aka "Happy Hour Summit")

## November

**14 Member Speak-outs**

## December

**5 General Membership  
Holiday Meeting**

SAVE THE DATE!

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## Board of Directors 2012-2013

**President** Heather Duncan

**President-elect** Liz Brolick

**Treasurer** Jenny Lizama

**Treasurer-elect** Rita Burke

**Recording Secretary** Bj Weintraub

**Corresponding Secretary** Courtney Wilson

**Communications Council VP** Toni Moseley

**Community Council VP** Carissa Cooper

**Community Program VP** Jennifer Roberson

**Financial Council VP** Ashley Farthing

**Membership Council VP** Ashleigh Boedeker

**Nominating Chair** Mary Anne Thoman

**Strategic Planning Chair** Paula Settoon

**Sustainer Advisor** Janna Roberson

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For more information about the Association of Junior Leagues  
International Inc. or to find out more about how Junior Leagues  
build better communities, please contact:

**The Association of Junior Leagues International Inc.**  
80 Maiden Lane, Suite 305  
New York, NY 10038  
Tel: 212.951.8300 • Fax: 212.481.7196  
E-mail: [info@ajli.org](mailto:info@ajli.org)  
[www.ajli.org](http://www.ajli.org)

# SEVEN YEARS AND SEVEN REASONS TO ATTEND...



**6 VENDORS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY**  
Holiday Market is the one-stop shop for anything from pickles to holiday décor to purses. More than 100 vendors from around the country are waiting to help shoppers find the perfect gifts for family, friends and even themselves.

**7 CELEBRITIES LIKE JUSTIN BIEBER AND BEACH BOYS IN ATTENDANCE**

Okay, so this is a little misleading (but it did get your attention, right?). Celebrities may not physically be in attendance, but their music will be. Holiday songs from beloved artists play throughout the weekend and enhance the holiday shopping spirit.

The Junior League of Tulsa's (JLT's) largest fundraising event is back for its seventh year! Holiday Market: "Tinsel in Tulsa" takes place November 2-4, 2012.

In honor of this "lucky" year, the Holiday Market Committee has provided seven reasons for Members and Sustainers to get excited about this holiday shopping tradition:

**1 NEW EVENTS THIS YEAR**  
This year Holiday Market includes THREE new events. Guests are invited to attending a "Christmas and Croissants Brunch" on Friday morning, November 2. That same day, the "Tinsel for Teachers" provides area teachers with an afternoon shopping event, complete with a chance to win prizes. Teachers can shop after school and receive free admission to the event by presenting a valid teacher ID. The third event features a "Sunday with Santa"! From 12 - 3 p.m., Sunday, November 4, Santa Claus will take photos with children.

**2 SUPPORT JLT**  
JLT's motto is "Women Building a Better Tulsa". Shopping dollars spent at Holiday Market help fund JLT's community projects such as Harvest Market and the Henry Zarrow Center for Art & Education.

**3 PREVIEW PARTY**  
Vintage glamour returns to Tulsa during the Holiday Market Preview Party, "Tinsel and 'Tinis." From 6 - 9 p.m., Thursday, November 1 guests have the first chance to shop while enjoying a signature cocktail, fashion show, wreath auction, and designer raffle.

**4 HASSLE-FREE SHOPPING AND PARKING**  
Why mess with mall crowds and parking wars? A \$6 Holiday Market ticket provides unlimited entry for all three shopping days. Plus, parking at the Expo Center is upfront and plentiful. Remember, shopping should be FUN, not stressful!

**5 NO FOOTBALL CONFLICTS**  
For die-hard college football fans, there are NO home games for the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University or the University of Tulsa on the weekend of Holiday Market. So bring family and friends to shop!



*Tinsel & 'Tinis*





# Twas the Night Before Holiday Market

Twas the night before Holiday Market, when all through the city,  
not a creature was stirring, not even a kitty.

The wreaths were hung for the auction with care,  
in hopes that bidders would soon arrive there.

The Provisionals were nestled all snug in their beds,  
while visions of work shifts danced in their heads.

The Sustainer in her pearls and the Active in her robe,  
were preparing for the event that puts Tulsa on the globe.

When out at the Expo there arose such a clatter,  
the Holiday Market Committee arrived to see what was the matter.

Away to the windows they flew like a flash,  
Peeked through the poinsettias and threw up the sash.

With that bustling noise of anticipation and grunts,  
they knew in a moment, it must be the merchants.  
The sellers were hard at work, and many they came,  
to sell their holiday goods, and we'll call them by name!

Now purses! Now wines! Now artwork and décor!  
And pickles! And scarves! And so much more!  
From the front of the building to the back of the site,  
these booths will open from morning to night.

The Holiday Market Committee also had something up their sleeve,  
to add new events to the weekend, and that they did achieve.  
From "Christmas and Croissants" to "Tinsel for Teachers,"  
To "Sunday with Santa," and these are the features.

The favorites remained, including Preview Party,  
where guests sip on cocktails and shop in hearty.  
Designer raffle is back, with upscale goodies,  
Its a raffle to be sure that will erase any bad moodsies.

And so with their work done, the merchants waited,  
along with the Holiday Market Committee, all breaths baited.  
The building fully decorated, the trees all standing,  
work to be proud of, no matter how demanding.

With proceeds supporting the Junior League's causes,  
shopping this weekend should bring you no pauses.

And with this blessed event so near in sight,  
"HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL,  
AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!"



  
Tinsel in  
**TULSA**



# Hello, Sustainers!

What does the Junior League of Tulsa's (JLT's) 90th Anniversary mean to me? It's a question Sustainers should ask ourselves, for without each of us, JLT couldn't have reached this milestone. Initially, thoughts of placements, trainings, parties, or running fundraisers come to mind. Or maybe our thoughts are about Provisional year, working with friends, or reconnecting after several years of being away. For me, the 90th anniversary is about each one of us and our own unique stories in Junior League, which combined together, create 90 years of JLT history.

My story begins with my mother, Mary Jane McSwain, who was extremely active in Junior League of Daytona Beach. As a young girl, I sometimes accompanied her to projects or the "Bundles Tea" each year. It was in 1986 that she rallied some friends, and I was admitted to that League. I transferred my membership to the Junior League of Dallas to complete my Provisional year and spent 4 years as an Active. Upon moving to Tulsa in 1991, I transferred to JLT and was hopeful about starting to build my new life in Tulsa. Through our organization, I immediately made friends all over town and adopted the JLT nickname, "Mary Alice from Dallas!" I knew, as a member of JLT, that I had a place in this city.

My first placement was the Tulsa Style Show program. At first I was nervous, because I wasn't sure how to do it and lacked connections in Tulsa to get pages sponsored. Thankfully, the committee supported me and step-by-step I was able to produce a program of which I was proud. From there, I became Assistant to Community Council, served on PEC, Chaired Going to Bat for Tulsa Kids, and the Provisional Committee. I took non-resident status for a year and a half while I lived in Ireland, but when I found out I would be returning, I contacted JLT and asked them to think about a placement for me. They responded quickly, and with a large task: co-chair of BloomingDeals. While it seemed like a heavy responsibility, I took it on and it has remained my favorite placement of my Active years. I was on the JLT Board of Directors several times, Corresponding Secretary, assisted the original Endowment Committee, and ended my Active years as Chair of Community Connection. In 2000, after 14 years as an Active, I became a Sustaining Member.

As Sustainers, we are still making JLT history. We gather for Book Club, Lunch Club, Restaurant Club or Sustainer events. We serve as Advisors to the active board and committees. But, mostly, we are out in the community doing what we are passionate about: volunteering and representing JLT to our fullest potential.

So I present the question again: What does the Junior League of Tulsa's 90th anniversary mean to you? What is your JLT story? Remember, reflect and be proud of your impact on this city, this community and this group of outstanding women.

Sincerely,

  
Mary Alice Ahlgren  
Sustainer President

**Mary Alice Ahlgren**  
Sustainer President

**2012-2013**

**Sustainer Board**

- Laurie Brumbaugh
- Robyn Cannon
- Sue Curry
- Ann Foster
- Dru Johnson
- Annabel Jones
- Deborah Kurin
- Denise Piland
- Pam Rosser

**Want to get involved in Sustainer Activities?**

*Membership Dues/ Communications*  
Sharmien Watkins at HQ  
(918) 663-6100  
swatkins@jltulsa.org

*Book Club*  
Third Tuesday each month  
Annabel Jones  
(918) 629-7522  
ajones@samson.com

*Lunch Club*  
Second Wed. each month  
Robyn Cannon  
(918) 298-7753  
rlcannon@cox.net

*Restaurant Club*  
Second Monday each month  
Ann Foster  
(918) 694-6118  
ann.foster@hilti.com

# Restaurant Club



Chris Lively, Lindsay Dunn



Doris Brown, Mary Alice Ahlgren, Nancy Daniel



Pam Rosser, Dru Johnson, Jane Grimshaw

**What's your JLT story? How about finding a Sustainer friend and sharing it with each other?**



Denise Piland, Laurie Brumbaugh, Pam Rosser

## Here's what's coming up in Sustainer clubs

*The Sustainer Book Club will read...*

**October**  
*Hotel at the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford

**November**  
*Mudwoman* by Joyce Carol Oates

**December**  
Holiday Party, no book

*In Lunch Club, Sustainers will eat at...*

**October**  
Wild Fork

**November**  
Smoke on Cherry Street

**December**  
Polo Grill

*The Restaurant Club will dine at...*

**October**  
Café Ole

**November**  
Riverside Grill

**December**  
Warren Duck Club

# Book Club



Pebble Miss, Nancy Daniel, Doris Brown



Lynda Brownson, Annabel Jones, Francine Brady

# The JLT Family Tree

## *A Look Through the Decades*

By Laura Long Swan and Bridget Treadwell

It began in 1923 when a group of women established the Junior League's Tulsa chapter – becoming the nation's 61st league. These forty founding members planted a seed, embracing a mission of voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities.

Fast forward 90 years and that original seed has grown in to a full family tree, touching millions of lives. Today, the Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) boasts 800+ members, including the largest provisional class seen in recent years. As JLT marks its 90th birthday, the mission remains relevant today, driving League members forward and empowering women to make a difference.

Throughout the decades, the JLT family tree continues to grow.

### *1920s*

The Convalescent Home for Crippled Children is considered to be JLT's first major initiative, spanning across several decades. The project began in 1926 when the League founded the first location of the Convalescent Home to care for crippled children, mostly polio victims, in

various stages of recovery.

As the years continued, the Convalescent Home continued to grow and eventually became the Children's Medical Center. By 2000, services provided through the Center were moved under Hillcrest Hospital and the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Long-term fundraising projects established during this decade included the Tea Room (1924) and the Junior League Follies (1927).

### *1930s*

Serving a lunch menu with prices starting at just \$0.05 for a glass of buttermilk, the JLT Tea Room raised funds for the Convalescent Home and other League projects for more than twenty years. By the time it closed down in 1948, the Tea Room had raised \$129,138.00.



Another highly successful fundraiser, the Junior League Follies proved wildly popular during the 1930's. Each year, League Members and local community leaders participated in large casts, directed by various New York City producers and held at the Akdar Theatre.

A free public art gallery also opened in the 1930s. From exhibits in oils, watercolors, lithographs and sculptures,



the Junior League Gallery was housed on the third floor of JLT's first-owned Headquarters. The gallery hosted both local and nationally recognized artists including Walt Disney, who appeared in Tulsa in 1936 to exhibit his original drawings.

### *1940s*

In the 1940s, JLT Members joined the war-effort by selling more than \$200,000 in war bonds as well as furnishing day rooms at Camp Gruber, which provided enlisted men with a "home away from home" while in training.

In 1948, the League introduced a curriculum program on Oklahoma history for Tulsa sixth graders, which later became the Philbrook Museum Docent Program.

### *1950s*

Working with Community Chest (the predecessor of the Tulsa Area United Way) the League established the Volunteer Bureau in 1951, providing a clearing house

for both individual volunteers and the agencies that needed assistance. The League received a community





## LCDR BRIAN RHOADES

*B.S., Purdue University*

*M.S., Oakland University*

*US NAVY Nuclear Power Engineer*

*US NAVY Submarine Executive Officer*

**Cascia grad**



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**ENTRANCE EXAM** for 2013-14  
Saturday, November 10, 9 am  
for all grades (6-12).  
Register online.

**Preparation for a Top-Tier College Experience**



of Tulsa – a service provider to more than 60 arts and cultural organizations throughout Tulsa.

### *1970s*

The League's work in the 1970's gave life to many of the programs that are integral to the Tulsa community today. In 1973, JLT marked its fiftieth anniversary with a celebration of the arts. The festival Jubilee '73 encouraged people of all ages to become physically involved in the arts and included an international foods pavilion, children's discovery area and a performance by Sammy Davis,

service award from the Tulsa Council of Social Agencies for their work on this project.

In 1957, the League established the Gilcrease Museum Docent program, sponsored in part through the Tulsa Public Schools and the Gilcrease Museum. In its 14 year history, League Docents took more than 11,000 fifth and ninth grade students through the program.

### *1960s*

By 1960, the League's focus had once again returned to the arts, forming the Arts Council of Tulsa – known today as the Arts and Humanities Council



Jr. The Jubilee '73 is the predecessor for the current Mayfest, one of the most successful festivals in northeastern Oklahoma.

This same year also marked the beginning of a partnership between JLT and the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce to form Leadership Tulsa, an organization designed to develop emerging leaders by familiarizing them with each other and

the community. Today, Leadership Tulsa has graduated 46 classes of productive Tulsa residents who serve on 200 different non-profit boards and give an average of 100 service hours each year.

The Oxley Nature Center was formed in 1978 to create an environmental conscience and to inspire environmental action in the Tulsa area. The League was responsible for paying the salary of the first naturalist and developing a volunteer program for the center, which is now run by the City of Tulsa.

### 1980's

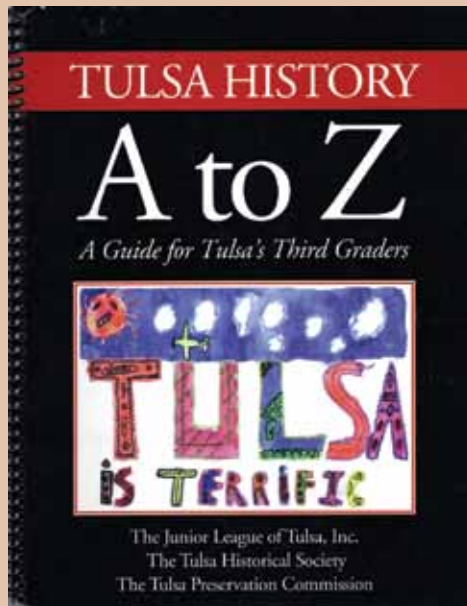
In the mid 1980's the League's priority shifted to the acquisition of a local headquarters. After several years of location deliberation, the property of the present day headquarters was purchased and construction was completed in 1991.

In 1987, JLT helped turn the dream of building a Ronald McDonald House for Tulsa in to a reality. The League helped to establish a volunteer organization and donated \$50,000 for construction of the building. The house opened in October of 1991, and over 4,500 families have since benefitted from Tulsa's Ronald McDonald House.

In the early 1980's child abuse services were scattered all throughout the city, in 1987 JLT partnered with the Community Service Council to establish a central location, the Child Abuse Network (CAN), to help child victims. Since its inception, CAN has helped over 30,000 children in Tulsa.

### 1990's

In 1994, the League was asked by the Tulsa Historical Society to assist in developing a third grade curriculum based



on the history of Tulsa. After thousands of volunteer hours, JLT published "Tulsa History A to Z" and began piloting the book in 10 area schools. On Jan. 17, 1998, a copy of the book was included in Tulsa's centennial time capsule and buried in Central Park

In 1999, the JLT Scholarship Program began as an idea by then President-Elect, Laurie Brumbaugh. Today, the program continues to offer scholarships to deserving high school women and non-traditional students interested in furthering their education.

### 2000's

The 2000's brought a new wave of projects, many of which the League still actively support. The Laura Dester IMPACT began as a provisional project in 2005 and continues to garner assistance from the League as a community project. Annually, the Laura Dester Shelter serves between 1,300 to 1,500 children who are removed from parental custody and placed temporarily in the home.

In 2008, JLT began its partnership with Global Gardens. As an extension of the Association of Junior League's International healthy eating initiative, Kids in the Kitchen, JLT members offer cooking classes that focus on nutritious, affordable meal options. The Harvest Market serves over 1,000 individuals in the Tulsa community.

### Today

Projects such as the Saint Francis Children's Hospital Resource Library and the newest initiative, the Henry Zarrow Center of Art & Education assist in shaping the future of Tulsa, helping to fulfill the mission of improving the lives of women and children that began 90 years ago.

As the JLT family tree continues to grow strong, League Members, Sustainers and Provisionals celebrate the rich history of an organization – and the projects – that continue to touch the lives of thousands of Tulsans each year.





1939



1926

**Convalescent Home  
for Crippled Children**  
(Children's Medical Center)

# FAMILY TREE

1948



Philbrook Docent Program

1952

**Volunteer Bureau**

1957



Gilcrease Docent Program

1960



ARTS & HUMANITIES  
COUNCIL OF TULSA

1974



Youth  
Services  
OF TULSA

1977



MARY K. OXLEY  
NATURE CENTER

1981



DVIS  
Call RAPE

1989



c a n  
child abuse network  
*Stop the hurt. Begin the healing.*

1990



Ronald  
McDonald  
House

1993

**Harmon Science  
Center**

1995



TULSA A-Z

2000



TULSA  
DAY CENTER  
FOR THE HOMELESS

2006



Laura Dester Shelter

2007

**Family Resource Library  
at St. Francis  
Children's Hospital**

2009



global  
gardens  
*science. peace. empowerment.*

2010



WESTSIDE  
HARVEST MARKET

2011

**Zarrow Center  
for Art  
and Education**

# Provisional Retreat Introduces Largest Class to JLT Mission

by Laura Long Swan

What do 102 and August 25, 2012 have in common? Here's a hint, it has nothing to do with the weather. Give up? On the morning of August 25, 102 Provisional members filled the headquarters of the Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) for the annual Provisional Retreat. In an action-packed day that involved everything from ice-breaker activities, committee placement previews, to a bus tour of some of JLT's most popular projects, the largest provisional class in recent history was introduced to the League.

A variety of reasons brought this group of women together, but the most common reason was the positive experience from active League Members and the League's reputation for outstanding service in the community.

"I have a few friends in Junior League that absolutely love it.

I went to a recruiting event to learn more about it and to meet a few more Members, I ended up feeling totally comfortable. I signed up that same day," said Provisional member, Keely Gobbo.

Embracing the "Just League It" theme, JLT's headquarters transformed into a sports-mecca, complete with Provisional Liaisons dressed in their favorite athletic uniforms. The incoming Provisional class began their retreat with an overview of the history of Junior League and spent some time getting to know their fellow classmates.

"My favorite part of the day was getting to know the other women at Table 11. I was so impressed with each of them. Sitting at my table were a writer, a dentist, a public relations professional and a doctor! It knocked my socks off!" said Kendall McPeters, Provisional member.

It seemed that nothing could dampen the spirits of this diverse group of Provisionals, not even a little bit of thunder and rain, as they boarded buses for their community tour. Stops on the tour included two well-known JLT-supported projects, Harvest Market and the Laura Dester Shelter.

"I was particularly impressed by the community building spirit of Harvest Market. It is amazing how addressing a very specific need, the need for a grocery store in walking distance,







can develop into a space where a whole neighborhood can come together,” said Provisional member, Barbara Moschividis.

The conclusion of the bus tour brought the Provisional class back to headquarters where they received an overview of the committees (Denim and Diamonds, Holiday Market, Hospitality, Laura Dester, Harvest Market and IMPACT) available for selection in the 2012-2013 year. The Provisional Retreat wrapped up with a summary of requirements and ended in time for a welcome reception for the new JLT staff and to say goodbye to retiring staff members, Doris Brown and Laurie Brumbaugh..

While the summer of 2012 is destined to be remembered for the amount of days over 100 degrees, the Provisional class of 2012 is likely to be remembered as one of the largest classes in JLT’s history.. Entering its ninetieth year with a large and promising Provisional class, the Junior League of Tulsa is poised to make history.



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# Helping Zarrow Plan for Tomorrow

by Melissa Snyder

The Junior League of Tulsa's (JLT's) partnership with the Gilcrease Museum and University of Tulsa (TU) helped get the new downtown Henry Zarrow Center for Art & Education off to a successful start.

At the grand opening week in May, League members volunteered over 200 hours to help welcome and assist crowds with various planned festivities. According to Susan McWatters, Vice Chair for the Zarrow Steering Committee, volunteer hours have continued throughout the summer.

McWatters can see the level of enthusiasm and pride that members have with the League's new partnership. In fact, several members signed up for more volunteer hours at the center based on the positive feedback from their initial volunteer experience. Most recently, League members helped with fun family art activities at the opening of Zarrow's new Guthrie Green Park on September 7 - 9. The highlight of the event came from assisting families in designing a colorful art

installation in the park with whirling pinwheels.

When looking to the future of the Zarrow steering committee, McWatters said that her committee just completed research for Zarrow's future planning efforts. The research focused on prominent museums throughout the country with well-known children and family programs. The committee compiled their findings and submitted a proposal. The proposal will be key in identifying the types of programs that Zarrow eventually offers.

"I think that this partnership makes it an exciting time to be in League. It really is a revitalizing endeavor for our organization to be a part of the Center at the ground level, that supports our mission and one that we can greatly impact the direction of," said McWatters.

For now, the Henry Zarrow Center for Art & Education is offering fall art classes to the public. For more information, visit [gilcrease.utulsa.edu/Explore/Zarrow](http://gilcrease.utulsa.edu/Explore/Zarrow).

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*We would like to thank JLT for all of their dedication in making Tulsa a better city!*

# SPOTLIGHT ON: Community Advisory Board

## What is the Community Advisory Board?

The Community Advisory Board plays an important role in the Junior League of Tulsa, serving as advisors to the Board on affairs that affect the community and the League. These Tulsa area leaders place particular emphasis on the status of the League's projects and properties.

### Colleen Ayers-Griffin, Community Service Council

#### What is your role in the community.

I am a planner for the Community Service Council (CSC), a non-profit, United Way agency that provides leadership for community-based planning and mobilization of resources to meet human service needs. At CSC we strive to understand the issues through available data and research then bring stakeholders together to address problems and find solutions. There are several initiatives that I work on primarily related to the health of our community. Nutrition, physical activity, prevention of substance abuse and infant mortality are all issues that I work with others to impact.

#### How do you see the Junior League impacting Tulsa?

Tulsa has a rich history of volunteer leadership which is a considerable strength in the community. I see the Junior League as an invaluable resource preparing today and tomorrow's volunteer leadership.

#### Looking toward the next 90 years, what would you like to see the Junior League of Tulsa accomplish?

I would like to see the Junior League continue its practice of dedicating its efforts towards specific well defined issues; working together with professionals in the human services field and bringing the organization's talents to the table. I would also like to see the Junior League promote itself as a necessary partner in addressing our community's challenges. Many of your members sit on boards, coalitions and planning sessions but I don't think the community sees your individual members and relate their contributions to the Junior League. When human service professionals consider who needs to come to the table to address issues, I would like to see Junior League on their list of groups that need to be present.



### Victoria Bartlett, First Lady of Tulsa

#### What is your role in the community.

After 27 years employed as an attorney with the federal judiciary, I retired this past February to serve as a full time volunteer to promote Tulsa Mayor Dewey Bartlett's social initiatives including: Mentoring to the Max, Get Lean Tulsa, Across the Generations and Operation Bridges of Faith. Additionally, I speak on behalf of Mayor Bartlett at public events and ceremonies.

#### How do you see the Junior League impacting Tulsa?

As an organization that promotes voluntarism, the impact of the Junior League on the well-being of Tulsa is immense. The generosity, service, creativity, fundraising, and skills offered by its members, empowers our community. Non-profit, charitable, and educational organizations could not flourish without the volunteers who help fulfill their missions.

#### Looking toward the next 90 years, what would you like to see the Junior League of Tulsa accomplish?

As a strong proponent of health and fitness and mentoring children, I envision the women of the Junior League using their skill sets and leadership roles to help lift our city from its overall poor health rankings and assist public school children in improving academic rankings, drop-out rates, enrichment courses and other challenges which impact our community.



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Thank you for ReMembering the Junior League of Tulsa by renewing your dues or making a gift.

Follow the steps below and simply return this form in the reply envelope included within *gusher*.

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Sustainer Dues – over 65 years of age.....	\$75
Sustainer Dues – over 80 years of age.....	\$0

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## Step 2: Stay in touch

Stay in touch with JLT and provide updated contact information, including adding an e-mail address. (While email correspondence might not always be the easiest way to stay informed, it is the least expensive and most timely.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if your address is incorrect on the *gusher*.

If incorrect, advise us of changes here:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you do not want to receive updates from JLT via email.

Preferred email address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please share your preferred contact number for the JLT directory:

\_\_\_\_\_

## Step 3: Stay connected

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you are interested in getting involved with a committee or task force. A member will contact you for more information and your areas of interest.

*Thank you for supporting  
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# Annual Leadership Retreat Focuses on Effective Team Meetings

By: Bridget Treadwell

Members of the 2012-2013 Board of Directors, committee chairs and appointed vice chairs learned the essentials of leadership and administering effective team meetings during the annual Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) leadership retreat, held in June.

President-elect, Liz Brolick developed the agenda and set the goals for the retreat. "The goal of the Leadership Retreat this year was to help the incoming chairs get motivated and excited about their upcoming year while providing important training on how to be a leader," said Brolick. "We wanted to be able to provide training that will help them this year and for years to come. Honestly, much of what we learned can be transferred to work and other positions our Leaders may hold."

Community Advisory Board member, Sarah Stephens, represented the Persimmon Group and provided training sessions on effective meeting

management and building teams of engaged members. Among her discussion points, Sarah focused on the characteristics of high performing teams and how to bring ideas in to committee meetings to produce the best results.

"I am excited to implement processes to make our committee meetings efficient and effective. With Holiday Market coming up so quickly, I really took away tools to help us get the job done as a team" said Whitney Mathews, Holiday Market Chair.

Britney Hall, Technology Chair, agreed, "I learned so many new things about effective leadership, and for the things I already knew, it reminded me of the importance of focusing on being an effective leader."

Retreat participants wrapped up the day by meeting with council leadership and learning about the goals and activities that make up each council.

**NFL players Robert Meachem of the San Diego Chargers and Dominique Franks of the Atlanta Falcons, pictured here with JLI President Heather Duncan and President-Elect Liz Brolick, made a special visit to the JLI Leadership Retreat to promote the Follow Your Dreams Foundation. Founded by Meachem, a Tulsa native, the foundation works to inspire and empower youth to envision limitless possibilities through the promotion of after-school activities. Meachem personally credits after-school activities as a key factor in his success.**

## JUST LEAGUE IT.

Ask President, Heather Duncan about the 2012-2013 League year and you're sure to hear a lot of excitement in her voice as she discusses her goals and vision for the Junior League of Tulsa. It is this excitement that ultimately helped her identify her slogan/theme for the year – Just League It.

Selecting a slogan for the year initially was a challenge. "I felt overwhelmed when I tried to come up with a few words to represent the year. We have so many exciting things going on and so much momentum right now. Every time I tried to sit down and sum up our year, I found myself excited and full of energy. I also felt an adrenaline rush, similar to what I always feel before a race or sporting event. That gave me the idea for Just League It."

For Duncan, the slogan not only conveys the excitement of the year but also provides an accurate description of the attitude of League members, "when we League It, we do whatever it takes to get the job done, do it well and make a lasting impact on ourselves and our fellow members."



# Bloom Where You Are Planted

By: Bridget Treadwell



## New Business Manager, Sharmien Watkins is ready to make a difference for JLT

If energy and attitude are any indication of success, then the new Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) Business Manager, Sharmien Watkins, will go far.

Following the early-summer retirement of Doris Brown and Laurie Brumbaugh, Watkins' began her new role, which combines the office manager and the financial manager

responsibilities. The result of this combination establishes the new Business Manager role. Among her various responsibilities in managing the day-to-day aspects of the League, Watkins will also focus on facility and technology upgrades at headquarters. The goal is to make headquarters more accessible for League use and to help to attract additional renters for the facilities and thereby supplement JLT's income.

In her personal life, Watkins is a mom of three (Ramari, 11; Railyn, 6; and Rodney III, 5), a small business owner - she and her husband, Rodney recently opened a financial services company; a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and she serves as a trustee for Aim High Gymnastics Academy. Having a full schedule and long-list of responsibilities hasn't stopped Watkins from making a difference. "It's all about blooming where you are planted and using your expertise to help wherever you can," she said.

"I am very excited about working with the Junior League of Tulsa and being a part of this great legacy of training and serving the Tulsa community," continued Watkins. "I have a go-getter attitude and am ready to get things done! Nike says just do it. I say go get it."

JLT Members and Sustainers are encouraged to stop by headquarters, call (918) 663-6100 or email [swatkins@jltulsa.org](mailto:swatkins@jltulsa.org) and send a word of welcome to Watkins.

## New Development Director Focuses on Fundraising

It may not be a Jerry McGuire movie...but for Alex Paschal, the first Development Director for the Junior League of Tulsa (JLT), the phrase "show me the money" may accurately sum up her new role.

From researching grants to establishing planned giving opportunities, Paschal is focused on expanding the impact of the League through identifying new, un-tapped opportunities for community donations. "We want to do the most good for our community and to do the most we can, we must have individuals and organizations who are willing to invest in the League," said Paschal. "There are many opportunities the League has not had the resources to take advantage of; that's why I'm here now, to devote my time to these opportunities and cultivate relationships with donors so that there is an easy transition when JLT leadership changes."

As a native Tulsan, Paschal, her husband Brian (director of the Tulsa Young Professionals organization) and their three children - Jack (5), Anne (3) and Benjamin (1) - returned to Tulsa in 2010 after spending 11 years in Los Angeles. During her time in California, Paschal's appreciation for volunteer organizations took shape

as she worked as the supervisor for the Los Angeles Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) organization. From there, she later moved to the position as a Special Events and Volunteer Coordinator for Villa Esperanza Services in Pasadena, California, a nonprofit organization serving children, adults and seniors with developmental disabilities. "During this time, I realized just how contagious a volunteer's enthusiasm can be for projects they believe in," she said.

Since returning to Tulsa, Paschal has served as Project Manager for the opening of the Henry Zarrow Center for Art and Education, working as a liaison between the Junior League and University of Tulsa and Gilcrease Museum, assisting in establishing the initiatives of the League's Zarrow Committee and coordinating the grand opening and summer events of the Zarrow Center. This early interaction with JLT gave her a taste of what it is like to work with a strong, devoted group of women. "The League is made up of women doing great things to improve Tulsa. I'm excited to be a part of it."

League Members and Sustainers are encouraged to stop by Headquarters to say hello and to provide introductions. Her office hours are 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, or by appointment. She can also be reached via email at [apaschal@jltulsa.org](mailto:apaschal@jltulsa.org).



# Join the JLT "Happy Hour/ Hot Chocolate Summit"

It may not be the same as President Obama's Beer Summit back in 2009. But, the Junior League of Tulsa's "Happy Hour/Hot Chocolate Summit" will offer the same opportunities. Grab the drink of your choice – in the morning or evening - and join JLT President, Heather Duncan, and an additional member of the Board, in a casual setting to ask questions, bring ideas or provide feedback on the League.

"Happy Hour Summits" are open to Members, Sustainers and prospective members and are scheduled throughout the year across Tulsa. Mark your calendar today and watch for additional reminders through the [jltulsa.org](http://jltulsa.org) site or through your email....including information on special guests.

## Happy Hour/Hot Chocolate Summits Schedule

- 7:30-9 a.m., October 26
- 8-9:30 a.m., December 28
- 5-6:30 p.m., January 23
- 7:30-9 a.m., February 8
- 5-6:30 p.m., March 27
- 7:30-9 a.m., April 12
- 5-6:30 p.m., May 29

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