

THE MAGAZINE OF  
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TULSA

Volume 7, Issue 2  
SPRING 2010

# gulsley



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# from the editor..

As I look through this issue, I am truly amazed to see how much has been going on within our League. Our latest fundraiser, Decadence, was a resounding success. Our projects continue to make an impact in the community. Within JLT, the Nominating Committee has finished placing the 2010-2011 committee chairs and our training events have been fun and well attended.

Our cover honors our upcoming partnership with Community Schools where JLT will host "Operation JLT" at five elementary schools in April, see page 12 for details.

In this issue, we also applaud the sponsors, committee and many volunteers who worked Decadence. Turn to page 10-11 for photos of the event and the hard working ladies who made it happen.

Eleven ladies share with us why they have stayed committed to the Junior League of Tulsa long-term. We learn why these women joined an organization like the Junior League and became "Lifers".

As we look at all we have accomplished this year, we also want to ensure we are looking towards the future as well. As we prepare for our upcoming JLT Open House in May to solicit new members, we are also asking each of you to renew your membership and contribute to the Endowment Fund and recommit to our League and its projects. Organizations in our area depend on League volunteers to help them accomplish their goals. I hope this issue inspires you to continue supporting our League and give back to the community however you can.

I want to thank the Gusher production committee members who have been very eager to offer assistance with any task, especially since I was expecting a newborn during this issue. Our committee is also tasked with finding advertisers to support our Gusher production costs. This allows funds raised by JLT to go back into the community through our worthwhile projects. Please take a moment to review our Gusher advertisers and thank them when patronizing their business.



Many Thanks,

Jennifer Roberson  
Editor 2009-2010

**On the cover:** Kayla Robinson, Marshall Elementary Principal; Genie Shannon, Tulsa Area Community Schools Liaison; and Daniel Hing and Con'Tu Deal, Marshall Elementary Students. Picture photographed at the Marshall Elementary Library. Photograph by Leslie Hoyt, [www.lesliehoyt.com](http://www.lesliehoyt.com).

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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).

### Publications Committee 2009-2010

Jennifer Roberson, Editor

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Heather Luessenhop

Whitney Mathews

Katie Sylvester

### Thank you to our Guest Contributors

Cassie Barkett

Neil Dieterle

Sarah Dougherty

Heather Duncan

Shae Eby

Sarah Franzen

Katherine Haskell

Kelly Kirchhoff

Mary Leake

# Letter from the president

The signs of spring are everywhere as I look out my window. Flowers are blooming, seeds are sprouting, and birds are nesting. Everything is vibrant and full of color. There is a renewed energy and sense of purpose as the cold of winter falls away. Maybe it is the sun on my face or the warmth in people's smiles. This is my favorite time of year.

This is also the time of year I feel refreshed and recharged. Like so many I am motivated to enjoy the great weather and the company of others. I want to be active, to do something. I want to be a part of the positive change going on in our community.

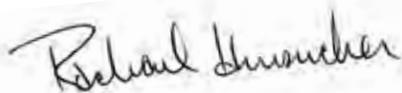
Members of the Junior League of Tulsa are a driving force behind this change. They welcome the opportunity to educate children and families on healthy eating as part of the 'Kids in the Kitchen' project at Harvest World Market and play games at community schools during OPERATION JLT. They will recognize two outstanding high school seniors with scholarships for their volunteer spirit and celebrate a new playground for the Laura Dester Emergency Shelter.

Volunteers do not often receive thanks for all they do. Our accolades are the children's smiles and parent's kind words. April is Volunteer Appreciation Month so take a moment to recognize all those around you making a difference in the lives of others. Also reflect on the impact you personally have had through your kind words and deeds.

"It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself." Ralph Waldo Emerson

Take the time to recharge. Find your passion for the things you do and remember that you are truly influencing not only those around you but yourself as well.

Sincerely,



Rachael Hunsucker  
2009-2010 President



*Junior League of Tulsa reaches out to women of all races, religions, & national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism.*

# Mission Statement

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

# 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

## Board of Directors 2009-2010

President Rachael Hunsucker  
 President-elect Cassie Barkett  
 Treasurer Neil Dieterle  
 Recording Secretary Kim Smith  
 Corresponding Secretary Kate Howell  
 Communications Council VP Emily Dunaway

Community Council VP Sarah Dougherty  
 Community Program VP Shea Eby  
 Financial Council VP Abigail Prescott  
 Membership Council VP Alison Wade  
 Nominating Chair Nicole Cameron  
 Strategic Planning Chair Thayla Bohn

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*Superintendent, Union Public Schools*
- Ken Busby  
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- Jan Creveling  
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- Carolyn Dalton  
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- Tim Harris  
*District Attorney, Tulsa County*
- Melanie Henry  
*Co-Founder, 918 Moms*
- Janet Levit  
*Dean, University of Tulsa College of Law*
- Kathy Taylor  
*The 38th Mayor of the City of Tulsa*



# Transitions

JLT Hugs Committee celebrates and supports our members. Let us share the times that are taking place in your life. You are encouraged to share the following announcements: births, engagements, weddings, condolences, community and business recognitions, new jobs, and/or new job promotions. Please send all details to Sarah Stewart, [sstewart73@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ss Stewart73@sbcglobal.net)

## Small Miracles



**Macy Kathryn Karlovich**  
Daughter of Kelly (A) & Trey  
Born September 15, 2009



**Andrew Evan Millwee**  
Son of Jean (A) & David  
Born November 17, 2009



**Maeve Eileen O'Mahony**  
Daughter of Tara (A) & Brian  
November 20, 2009



**Jenna Raelyn Roberson**  
Daughter of Jennifer (A) & Dustin  
Born March 13, 2010

## Wedding

**Mollie Rausch Lieux (P)**  
to Stephen Thomas Lieux  
on November 21, 2009  
in Fort Smith, AR



## Condolences

To **Donna Gantt (S)** on the death of her sister.

To the family of **Betty Powers (S)**.

To the family of **Marian Morris (S)**.

To the family of **Catherine Holloway Mills (S)**.

**Leslie Hoyt**  
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# JLT helps with “Teach for the Stars”

By Cassie Barkett

**What do you get when you combine a critical need in the community and the volunteers of the Junior League of Tulsa? A successful partnership with Tulsa Public Schools and its “Teach for the Stars” program which provides our schools with trained volunteers and saves the school district hundreds of thousands of dollars. Faced with significant budget cuts, Tulsa Schools turned to the public for help.**

The members of Junior League met the challenge. On Saturday, February 6th, over 30 members of both the Junior League of Tulsa and the general public attended a three-hour training at Junior League Headquarters, receiving a certificate to be a “Teacher for a Day” upon completion. Those who attended the training found it to be both rewarding and educational.

Community Council Vice-President and incoming President-Elect, Sarah Dougherty completed the training. “The TPS training was a unique opportunity for JLT to meet critical and emerging needs in our community. The education of students in Tulsa is at risk and I am proud our organization stepped in to help,” Sarah said.

Attendee and first year active, Lauren Davis said, “As a JLT volunteer, I look forward to a completely different kind of volunteer experience that the TPS’s training offers preparation for.”

Said Rachael Hunsucker, Junior League President about the partnership, “One of The Junior League of Tulsa’s Core Values is Mentoring. ‘Providing essential growth for future generations’ is an important part of what we do as an organization and we are so pleased to be able to offer that support to Tulsa Public Schools in a way that benefits students and relieves the budget at the same time.”

Topics covered at the training included processes, instructional strategies and classroom management. For more information on how to help Tulsa Public Schools and join the volunteer Teach for the Stars program go to their website at [www.tulsaschools.org](http://www.tulsaschools.org).



**Among the attendees for the TPS volunteer training held at the JLT headquarters were Katy Houchin, Sarah Dougherty, Kristal Sack and Stephanie Coates.**



*When I grow up, I want to wear Moxie shoes and jewelry, just like my mom.*

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# Hello, Sustainers!



**Sue Curry**  
Sustaining President

## 2009-2010

### Sustaining Board

Mary Alice Ahlgren  
Laurie Brumbaugh  
Carol Bush  
Robyn Cannon  
Ann Foster  
Shari Graham  
Amy James  
Annabel Jones  
Brenda Jones  
Rachel Kopczynski  
Deborah Kurin

From beautiful fall colors to a dreamy white Christmas into cold winter days, JLT Sustainers have continued meeting together in the warmth and spirit of friendship. Our Restaurant Club celebrated the holidays at the Celebrity Club; Book Club met at Lisa Berry's lovely home and the Sustainer Holiday Party was held in the beautifully decorated home of Cindy Morrison. In January, many sustainers attended the JLT fundraiser Decafest at the Summit Club and enjoyed a wonderful evening honoring past JLT presidents. Also in January, the first Lunch Club gathering took place at the Wild Fork in Utica Square. On March 2nd, a special luncheon for Sustainers was hosted by the JLT Board informing us of current community programs and activities. The Spring Event will be held at the home of Helen Jo Hardwick on the evening of April 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Lunch Club** is off to a great start! In addition to the initial January meeting, a second luncheon was held in February at Calistoga Bar and Grill on the Riverwalk in Jenks. Great food and conversation established a new daytime club activity for JLT Sustainers. Those attending discussed many restaurants in different areas of Tulsa to try. Lunch Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at noon.

**Book Club** continues with great reads and discussions. In January, the book Shanghai Girls by Lisa See was reviewed at the home of Laurie Brumbaugh accompanied by tasty Asian cuisine inspired snacks prepared by her husband, Terry. The February book selection was Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks, the 2009 Helmerich Literary Author Award winner. The book is about a small English village told through the eyes of a housemaid, Anna Frith, during the plague year 1666. Mary Alice Ahlgren led a lively discussion dressed in a "plague" costume complete with bandages and plague "tokens", marking the devastating disease left on the body. Hostess, Connie Doverspike completed the evening with a "Fat Tuesday" celebratory meal of red beans and rice and a King Cake. Spring book selections include in March, Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Stout, in April, Last Child by John Hart and in May, The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton.

**Restaurant Club** also began the year with dinner at Calistoga Bar and Grill on the Riverwalk in Jenks. The cozy restaurant with its delicious food is owned by the owners of Ciao in Brookside. In February, Fleming's in Utica Square hosted the group with a special menu in the private room with superb service.

More fun is in store for Sustainers throughout the year! To join a club call Annabel Jones, Book Club Coordinator, at 629-7553 or [AJONES@samson.com](mailto:AJONES@samson.com); Amy James, Lunch Club Coordinator at 298-2823 or [amy@jandains.com](mailto:amy@jandains.com) and/or Ann Foster, Restaurant Club Coordinator at 694-6118 or [Ann.Foster@hilti.com](mailto:Ann.Foster@hilti.com). As always, if you have questions about Sustainer activities, please call me at 298.4651 or email [brent-curry@cox.net](mailto:brent-curry@cox.net). Welcome spring by joining us at the Spring Event or any of our upcoming club gatherings!

Sincerely,

*Sue Curry*

**Cindy Morrison,  
Deborah Kurin  
and Sue Curry**



**Denise Piland  
and Pam Rosser**



## *Christmas Party*

**Mary Alice Alghren,  
Terry Waller,  
Earlene Gathright,  
Francine Bandy,  
Annabell Jones  
and Ann Foster**



*Celebrity Club*



**Francine Bandy  
and Carla Gilbert**



**Beverly Tolson,  
Denise Piland  
and Pam Rosser**



**Annabell Jones,  
Tucky Hazen  
and Ann Crouch**



**Sue Curry and  
Francine Bandy**

*Wild Fork*



**Beth Rainey, Debby Hughes  
and Carla Gilbert**



**Stephanie Coates,  
Amy James and  
Shelli Holland-Handy**



**Tucky Hazen  
and Barbara Ford**



**Margaret Koro  
and Beverly Torr**

**Jocie Love, Kay Holmes,  
Jane Grimshaw and Tucky Hazen**

*Flemings*



**Susan Staudt, Ann Foster  
and Barbara Ford**



# JLT Elevator Pitch

By Katherine Haskell and Kelly Kirchhoff

*George Kaiser steps into your elevator in the BOK Tower. You know his foundation could provide an enormous donation, if only you could get his attention. “Mr. Kaiser, it’s an honor to meet you. Thank you for making Tulsa a better place.” “Thanks,” he replies, smiling. Then, your mind goes blank. You smile and nod; quiet ensues. 20 floors later, the doors open; he gets out.*

Or perhaps:

*At a cocktail party, someone you’ve worked with at the PTA mentions she just stopped volunteering at the food bank. You reply, “Sarah, you do great work on the PTA. Are you at all interested in working with the Junior League of Tulsa? We do so much around town like helping kids and throwing parties and I think you’d really enjoy it.”*

*Sarah looks confused. “I thought you had to be a certain age to join? Also, I don’t have that much free time.” “Uh, I don’t think there’s an age limit. And we work with Resonance and Children’s Hospital and do gardening and scholarships. But there are fun parties and American Girl and Holiday Market, too.” “Wow! Well, I’ll think about it. I’m not much of a gardener, you know.” Sarah drains her glass, quickly. “Looks like I need another drink. See you later!”*

Those scenarios might not unfold for most of us, but who hasn’t heard someone say, “What’s the Junior League?” or “I don’t think I’d fit in with the white-glove thing.” Or worse, “Don’t you have all the money you need?” Without having a quick, appropriate response on the tip of one’s tongue, golden opportunities to promote the Junior League are lost.

The solution? An “elevator pitch.” What’s an elevator pitch? Traditionally, it’s a succinct, on-point description of whatever you’re selling that could be spoken in the amount of time it takes to ride in an elevator (where Mayor Bartlett himself may be your captive audience). Also called an elevator speech, it’s a **30 to 60-second narrative that explains who the Junior League is, what we do, whom we do it for, and why the listener should care and become involved.** The language of the elevator pitch should be credibly natural, concisely factual, and immediately understandable.

Each member of the Junior League – active or sustainer – needs to have an elevator speech at the ready. Yes, that means you need to practice it! We are the best promoters of this amazing organization we’ve joined, and recruiting new members or attracting new donors is an ongoing process at which we should all become adept. This article is to set that challenge before you, and provide a few suggestions you’re welcome to adopt or amend at your discretion.

Why not just memorize the Mission Statement? While the mission statement is an eloquent written description of what we do, the language is just formal and vague enough to prevent it from resonating with most listeners. An elevator pitch is not a sales pitch. It’s an introduction, an enticement. Do not go into excruciating detail — leave your potential member wanting to know more. Think Cliff’s Notes, not Encyclopedia Britannica. If you’re pitching the Junior League to the woman on the street, you need: a) a few descriptive sentences – the “hook”; b) a few facts to wow them – with passion and energy; and c) a direct or indirect call to action – the request. For example:

## “What is the Junior League?”

*“The Junior League is a women’s volunteer organization that has two purposes. First, we train women how to be the most effective volunteers and community leaders they can be. Second, we partner with other non-profits to help strengthen their organizations by providing trained volunteers for a variety of projects. We give about 40,000 hours of volunteer service annually. We run the Family Resource Library at Children’s Hospital, and partner with Global Gardens, Laura Dester Children’s Shelter, Gilcrease Museum, and Kids in the Kitchen. The entire organization is run by volunteers, so all donations support our organization and our training and volunteer programs.”*

*“Do you like volunteering? I do. I’m a member of the Junior League of Tulsa. We are an organization of women who meet regularly to plan projects that improve*

*our community. Our main focus is to support women and children in transition. It’s so much fun. Junior League also offers more than just meetings — we have opportunities to experience specialized education and training, we volunteer for community outreach projects, and we attend various fundraising events. It’s an amazing outlet. I’d like to invite you to come experience all of the opportunities that Junior League has to offer. I promise you’ll enjoy this worthwhile organization.”*

*“The Junior League teaches women volunteers how to run a non-profit organization from top to bottom. We go out and volunteer directly in the community, throw fundraisers, and make friends. We give about 30-40,000 volunteer hours a year, and support several community projects for which we provide hundreds of volunteers. There are nearly 800 women in the organization and we’re looking to double that. There are no restrictions of any kind to membership. Want to come to a meeting with me and check it out?”*

It should be noted that several standing committees have the responsibility for fundraising, underwriting, donations, and partnerships. We’re not all tasked with doing that work, though we are each tasked with member recruitment. However, if you know someone, or an organization, that would make a great partner for the JLT, a well-placed elevator pitch can help open doors when the fundraisers go knocking.

The elevator pitches above are designed to capture the attention of a potential Junior League member or donor. If you achieve that, the odds are good that you’ll get a chance to present our cause in more detail at a later time. So practice one of the pitches above, or create your own, and feel confident you can interest someone into joining our community. Now the challenge is finding the proverbial elevator!

# Roll out the Red Carpet

Share Junior League of Tulsa with More Fabulous Women in 2010!

The wheels of the 2010-2011 Provisional Class are turning at full speed and we are looking for bright, motivated women to jump on board. We depend on these fresh faces to breathe new life and ideas into the League and, ultimately, to make a difference in our community. Do you know a woman who has a heart for volunteering? If so, please invite her to come visit with our Provisional Liaisons and learn why she should make JLT her volunteer choice.

The benefits of joining the Junior League of Tulsa are tremendous. We welcome women who want to:

- Be trained for effective community leadership, including community research, fundraising, finance, leadership, public relations and personal development
- Work with other women to create positive community change
- Gain insight into community needs and strategies for solutions
- Be exposed to creative strategies in problem solving and administration of a non-profit organization
- Build friendships with a diverse group of current and emerging women leaders
- Share talents with a network of interested women
- Increase interaction with community agencies and civic leaders
- Improve our community through organized and effective teamwork
- Become a part of an international association of nearly 200,000 women. Membership is transferable throughout all Junior Leagues in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Great Britain

## Prospective Member Open House

May 4, 2010

6:30 p.m.

Junior League Headquarters

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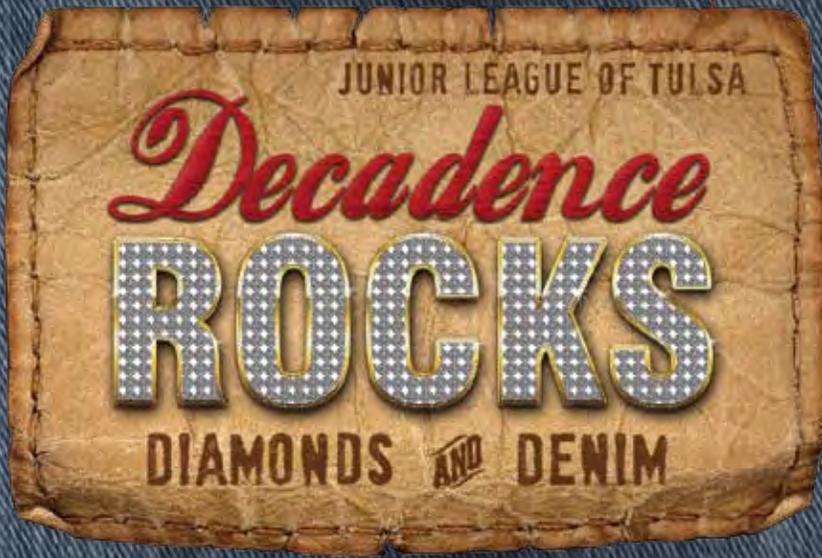


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The Decadence Committee.

On Saturday, February 6th, the Junior League of Tulsa presented its 3rd Annual Dinner Gala Fundraiser. This year's theme was Decadence ROCKS, Diamonds and Denim. Over 200 guests enjoyed dinner at the Summit Club overlooking beautiful downtown Tulsa. Active and Sustaining Members as well as friends of the league rocked out to LIVE MUSIC by Admiral Twin and participated in LIVE and SILENT Auctions. The event was organized with the help of this year's sustaining liaisons: Mrs. Debbie Luthey and Mrs. India Carter. JLT past presidents were the highlight of the evening with 12 past presidents in attendance! The Decadence Committee and Jr. League of Tulsa would like offer their appreciation to all of this year's in-kind donors. Special thanks goes to all of our event patrons and to Meig's Jewelry for underwriting the Diamond Champagne Raffle. The event was a huge success and a night that we will all remember!

**THANK YOU,  
PATRONS!**

India and Jason Carter  
Debbie and Dean Luthey  
Ann Crouch  
Dr. Angelo Cuzalina, Tulsa Surgical Arts



Special Thanks to our Master of Ceremonies and Platinum Sponsor, TODD MUTZIG, MEIG'S Jewelry



Front Row: Left to right, Janna Roberson, Sarah Jane Gillett, Frances Chandler, Debbie Luthey, Amy James, Shelly Drullinger; Back Row: Left to Right, Patty Lawson, Debbie Starke, Lisa Berry, Carol Bush-Brett, Deidra Kirtley



# IN-KIND DONATIONS



**Mrs. Frances Chandler, President Emeritus, celebrates her 50th Anniversary as League President as she stands next to a ball gown she wore to a League event in 1960.**

- ABCO Rents
- Accent Picture Framing Gallery
- Amy Cakes / Amy Greene
- April Madden Studio
- BBD
- Benjamin Buchanen
- Biga
- Black Optical
- Blue Dome Diner
- Blue Moon Bakery
- Bodean Seafood
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- Mom and Me Events
- Moxie Shoes
- Muse Intimates
- Nattie Bleu
- Notably Noted
- Old Village Wine and Spirits
- Panera on 15th
- Paper Chase
- Pavilion
- Pengaros
- Petroleum Club
- Phat Philly's
- Polo Ralph Lauren/ Heather
- Nichols Cowdery
- Pottery Barn Kids
- Reasor's
- Rick Miller
- Rick's Americana Café
- Saks Fifth Avenue
- Salon Glo
- Sarah Jane and Matt Gillett
- Skin Care Institute
- Skin Medic
- Sonoma Wine Bar
- Southwest Aesthetic Services/ Paige and Steve Morris
- Strictly Ballroom
- Surcee
- Symphony Orchestra
- T. A. Lorton
- The Brasserie Restaurant
- The Buckingham Group
- The Canebrake
- The Dolphin
- The Gadget Company
- The Guitar Center Tulsa
- The Inviting Place
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- Tulsa Boot Camp
- Tulsa Children's Museum
- Tulsa Symphony
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- Animal Hospital
- Virginia Jackson
- Ward Wiseman Animal Shelter
- White Owl Pub
- Wild Fork
- WillStaff Inc. / Liz Brolick
- Yoga Room
- Yokozuna



## DECADANCE COMMITTEE

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Vice-Chair

INDIA CARTER  
Sustainer Liaison

DEBBIE LUTHEY  
Sustainer Liaison

TAI ALLEN

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KATIE BURKETT

KALAN CHAPMAN

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BROOKE WEAVER

# OPERATION JLT

## Junior League of Tulsa spends an evening with TPS students and their families!

By Sarah Dougherty

Each year the Junior League of Tulsa identifies and researches critical and emerging unmet needs, and develops projects specifically to fill those voids. Our partnership with the Tulsa Area Community Schools Initiative (“Community Schools”) has been particularly successful and is addressing needs not fulfilled through other organizations.

Community Schools is comprised of 18 area schools and serves at-risk students and their families by creating a web of support that nurtures the development of children and adults. JLT has made a commitment to Community Schools through outreach programs such as Global Gardens and Impact projects by providing financial assistance and volunteers. Another successful venture with Community Schools is related to family enrichment opportunities. A few years ago we hosted a family enrichment opportunity at Cooper Elementary School. The evening was so successful, this year’s Community Council decided to take the concept to a higher level.

Community Program Vice President Shea Eby states “The Board asked us to come up with some ideas for a JLT wide project. I worked on the Cooper Elementary family enrichment night and knew it was rewarding for the families and our volunteers alike.”

To fulfill a need of members to have the opportunity to serve the community, in lieu of a General Meeting, JLT will be hosting “Operation JLT” at five Community Schools on April 21st

to promote healthy family activities such as having dinner together and playing games. Inspired from the Milton Bradley board game, Operation, we will be providing the families with a hot meal and game to take home with them at the end of the night. There will be games and door prizes throughout the night. JLT will also provide care kits with useful personal items such as deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste as well as school supplies. Our volunteers will host the families and provide mentoring on wholesome family activities.

According to Community Vice President Sarah Dougherty, “The Gelvin Foundation is generously underwriting the cost of the games and the care kits. They have been a long time supporter of JLT and we are thankful for their continued involvement in our community projects.”

The following elementary schools have been selected for the evening: Eugene Field, Marshall, Mark Twain, Grove and McAuliffe. Eugene Field has been designated as a sustainer school and will be staffed by our sustainer members. Members from the Impact committee will serve as project coordinators for each school. All members are encouraged to take part in this fun evening and support these families as they raise and mentor their children.

For more information, please contact Sarah Dougherty at [shdougherty@aol.com](mailto:shdougherty@aol.com) or 743-8010.



# JLT's Impact committee hosts the annual Christmas Party for the Down Syndrome Association of Tulsa



## 2009-2010 Community Projects

*Each year the Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) conducts in-depth research to identify critical emerging needs within our community and respond by developing projects to address those needs. Through collaboration with sponsoring agencies, intensive training of our membership, and direct service through volunteer hours and fund development, JLT strives to establish each community project as self-supporting before it is returned to its sponsoring agency for long-term implementation, usually within three years. This unique leadership model has allowed JLT to serve a vital role in the success of Tulsa's most prominent community agencies, such as Ronald McDonald House, Youth Services of Tulsa, Mayfest and the Francis Willard Home for Girls, while providing essential training for Tulsa's next generation of community volunteers. Current community projects of the Junior League of Tulsa include:*

### **The Children's Hospital at St. Francis Family Resource Library Signature Project**

Chair: Kathleen Jones

JLT volunteers staff the Family Resource Library in the new Children's Hospital at Saint Francis to assist families in obtaining information about their child's medical condition and help them become informed participants in the health care process. In conjunction with this project, JLT also donated \$25,000 to the hospital to completely furnish the library.

### **Scholarship**

Chair: Ronda Lau

This committee oversees all aspects of awarding two \$1,500 scholarships to high school seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to volunteerism. Also, the committee will oversee the awarding of a \$1,500 need-based scholarship to a woman in transition living in our community. The committee will also work to maintain contact with former recipients.

### **Laura Dester**

Chair: Mary Anne Thoman

This committee provides volunteer assistance to the Laura Dester Children's Shelter. A variety of "Done in a Day" projects are chosen, planned, and implemented by the committee with direction from shelter staff.

### **Resonance Connecting Women with Careers- Career Services**

Chair: Betsy Endicott

This project provides financial assistance and volunteers to support the Career Services Program at Resonance Center for Women, Inc. The Career Services Program currently provides job readiness and life skills training for women re-entering the community from the state and federal criminal justice system.

### **Impact**

Chair: Belinda Hedgecock

Impact provides short-term volunteer assistance to 501(c)(3) organizations in the Tulsa community. Organizations apply for assistance and short-term ("Done in a Day") projects are chosen, planned, and implemented by the committee. Also falling under this committee is *Kids in the Kitchen*, a national initiative designed to promote healthy eating and lifestyles among children. In addition, we also participate in the Tulsa Metro Chamber's Partners in Education through our activities at Project 12, an alternative learning environment in the Tulsa Public Schools.

### **Community Schools - Global Gardens**

Chair: Elizabeth Edwards

JLT works with Community Schools to provide financial assistance and volunteers to expand the Global Gardens after-school program to establish garden spaces for high-risk students and their families at Rosa Parks Elementary School. Global Gardens also serves about 30 third-grade through fifth-grade students at Eugene Field Elementary School and with JLT's assistance, the project has expanded to Rosa Parks.

# Meet your Junior League of Tulsa Board Members:

## Neil Dieterle

Treasurer

**PLACE OF BIRTH:** ouston, TX, but my mother calls it "an accident of geography" that occurred because of my father's job at the time. We moved to the Tulsa-area when I was two years old, so it's the only place I've ever called home.

**PROVISIONAL YEAR:** 2005

**EDUCATION:** University of Oklahoma - Print Journalism & Political Science; Oklahoma State University - B.S. Business Administration - Marketing. My brain is a "house divided," but my heart - and my football loyalty - will always be with my Sooners!

**FAMILY:** Husband - Kevin; Sweet and sassy identical twin daughters - Cooper and Reese (2 1/2); and our 85-pound Basset Hound, Murphy, who thinks he's a lap dog.



**EMPLOYMENT:** I'm temporarily retired from the professional workplace to spend time with the girls, but have served in the past as the public relations director for two Tulsa nonprofits.

**HOBBIES / INTERESTS:** Cooking, reading, interior design, golf, snow skiing, dreaming about all the trips we may never have time to take, and trying to figure out the mechanics and intricacies of the toddler brain in an effort to be a better mommy.

**FAVORITE SPORT:** OU FOOTBALL! I'm also a winter Olympics junkie - this February was Heaven for me.

**FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY:** Visiting my maternal grandparents on their cattle ranch in Osage County. I consider myself an urbanite (though lately more suburbanite), but I loved riding around with my Grandpa on chilly fall mornings feeding cattle - it was always my job to hop out and open gates, and to turn on the water in the stock tank. I'll never forget the way the inside of that truck smelled, or the way it bumped through the pasture on those morning rounds.

**GOAL YET TO ACHIEVE:** There are so many - I'm a chronic goal-setter! My top two, though, have to be: 1) Raise compassionate, successful, thoughtful, healthy children and 2) Somehow morph myself into a long-distance runner. At this point, option one seems infinitely

more attainable than option two.

**HAVE YOU LEARNED ANY SKILL IN LEAGUE THAT YOU HAVE APPLIED TO OTHER ASPECTS OF YOUR LIFE?** To listen to everyone's ideas - and really HEAR them - before making a decision or a recommendation. There are so many different personalities, backgrounds and viewpoints that make up League membership - if you don't give everyone a voice and give those voices an opportunity to be heard, it's impossible to fully consider a situation or make an informed decision. I've definitely used that skill at home, at work and everywhere in between.

**IF YOU COULD TRAVEL BACK IN TIME:** There are other time periods I would love to visit or be a part of in history - the 40s and the early 60s in particular - but, generally, when I think of traveling back in time it's because I want to correct a mistake I've made. Kind of a life "mulligan."

**IF TIME AND MONEY WERE NO OBJECT:** I would travel EVERYWHERE I could think of with my family - I would love the opportunity to see the world with my husband and children, and through their eyes.

**MY FAVORITE JLT PLACEMENT/WHY:** I've loved being Treasurer this year - there is no better placement to learn all the ins and outs of the League - but my favorite placement thus far was Blooming Deals my Provisional Year. It was a labor-intensive job, but I met so many fantastic people, many of whom I'm still friends with today.

**FAVORITE FOOD OR RESTAURANT:** Hands down - the spaghetti carbonara from Dalesandro's.

**FAVORITE PLACE YOU HAVE TRAVELED:** I've loved visiting the Eastern Seaboard of the United States - from the big cities to the tiny coastal settlements. If I could permanently retire tomorrow, I would head to the Outer Banks in North Carolina and retreat to a grey-shingled cottage on the beach.

**ADVICE TO PROVISIONALS:** Don't be afraid to try something new! If anyone had told me five years ago that I would spend three straight years on Financial Council, including a term as Treasurer, I would have laughed out loud - accounting and juggling numbers have never been high on my list of extracurricular activities - but I've LOVED it. Also, if you joined League to meet new people, join a fundraising committee your Provisional year. You'll work hard, but because you're "in the trenches" working toward a common, measurable goal with a group of ladies, you're bound to bond and make friends for life.

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**Achievements:** The Dishes was awarded Top Seller for three consecutive years, ranked 10th territory and top seller for a company 15 years for Top year in a row by GuideStar. The company also has been awarded Best of the Best "Gold Star" top 100 award every year of its 15 year business.

Barwick sat on the Board of Future Drug Abuse and Disposal the most "Quality Matters" Barwick also has been the American Cancer Society's "Gift of Hope" award in honor of her mother Cristina Woods and has been recognized by Junior Achievement® for being a Business Consultant. Woods has been honored and recognized by the American Cancer Society for her volunteer efforts.

**What inspired you to become a business owner?**  
Cristina: My children were grown and she told me to the Dishes and I am thankful for it every day.  
Kellie: We never said to be. This was something about things you love and you love fine things. So, here I am 17 years later and I am so happy I followed her for a moment it has been an amazing experience - thank you, Wood!

**What makes your business unique?** We are a mother-daughter team with different talents and styles. Dishes is a restaurant for adults only. This allows our customers to have a full array of choices. Anyone from young to old can find just what they are looking for at The Dishes.

**The keys to success in business are:** Being flexible to your customer to provide them with knowledge, education and what they can't find anywhere else.

**Most satisfying aspects of your career:** That we have been providing a place where you see the customer's smile enjoying their time in the store. We are so blessed to have most of our customers feel comfortable enough to just join to say "hi" or share their latest experiences that are there to tell us they have a new baby or grandchild and show us all!



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# Why I'm a Lifer

By Katherine Haskell

Caring for your kids. Or a sick parent. Doing the jobs of two people. Going back to school. Picking up a crop-til-you-drop scrapbooking hobby. Remodeling your house. Having a baby. Or three. What a stressful list! How could anyone possibly volunteer when these kinds of things come up?

Over the course of a lifetime, dozens of situations can cut into volunteering time. Interests change, motivation wanes. Joining an organization like the Junior League and volunteering for a few years is easy enough, but for decades? Gulp. That seems like a huge commitment. But many Junior League members have done just that. They're the "Lifers." Those who stayed active for more than 10 years. Who joined the JLT at an age when some think to hang up their volunteer aprons. Who transferred in and dedicated themselves to their new League. Who have remained Sustaining members for 20, 30, or 40 years.

I transferred here from the Junior League of Boston, and have become very involved in the JLT, despite my life becoming very busy. I just love the work. As I near the time when I might go Sustaining, I'm wondering what drives other people to plug into a new Junior League, or stick it out 'til that pretty silver tray lands in their hands. What are others' motivations? How do they continue to find the time and energy?

Well, it must be love. Love of helping others, and feeling the satisfaction of good work. Love of friends old and new. Of being a part of a dynamic, changing, and challenging organization. Love of strangers who need assistance. Love of getting out of the house and using your brain for something besides reciting nursery rhymes, for once (can you tell why I volunteer? Hint hint.) Since Junior League "Lifers" love to share their stories about their commitment to the JLT, let's ask them why they've hung around so long!

## THE SILVER TRAY

**Leslie Frazier joined the JLT in 1995, and there's almost no project she hasn't undertaken. Leslie, why have you remained active so long?** I wasn't ready to quit. I always wanted to do nominating so I



stayed another two years when given that chance. Great placements keep coming up, and I just can't say no! I have made such wonderful friends through my League experience and that is another reason I stay active. I love the people I work with.

**What were your favorite placements?** Community placements, definitely. The reason I joined the League was to make a difference - leave the community better than I found it. It was also important to me to show my children that vol-

unteering is important, and to take them with me to help when it was appropriate. I wanted them to realize they have been very fortunate and that it's our obligation to help others. Also, working with Provisionals was an amazing opportunity to meet exceptional women, help them chart their path and hope that they have a long career in the League.



**Alison Wade has served on Board and as Chair for several years past her Sustainer eligibility year. Alison, what has made you continue to work so hard for the JLT?** Well, of course, I want that tray! Have you seen it? It is gorgeous! I have remained active because I strongly believe in the mission of this organization. After receiving my tray this May, I am planning to remain an active member. I am excited about serving on the Nominating Committee next year. I will stay active as long as I can commit significant time and energy to JLT!

**Toni Moseley joined the JLT in 1998. Her most significant reason for staying? Her son.** Tulsa is home and I always felt this was the way to serve my community. The social activities keep me balanced, since it's too easy to get wrapped up in work and home. As my son grew up, he read the "Tulsa A-Z" book in school (I told him that was a JLT project); visited Oxley Nature Center; and did Youth Leadership Tulsa work at Margaret Hudson (again I mentioned they were JLT projects). Then when we were talking about his Eagle Scout service project at Ronald McDonald House, he said, "I know Mom, EVERYTHING good in Tulsa is a Junior League project!"

**Kim Smith has been a member since 1991 and like Leslie Frazier, there are few hats she hasn't worn.** I think what the Junior League does to try to solve emerging problems in the community is amazing and I have to stay busy and involved. Placements outside my "comfort zone" have generally turned out to be the most rewarding. Plus I have friends of all ages, another great thing about JLT membership!

**How long do you plan to remain active?**

At least for 20 years so they have to think of a length of service award! The ability to double place has helped keep me around. I can place on something I love (like Blooming Deals, which I did six times) and also place on something new so things stay fresh.



## BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

**Mary Anne Thoman is joining Board next year, but that wasn't her original plan.** Actually, I intended to go sustaining. Then I received the chance to serve on the JLT Board as Community Program VP. What an opportunity to use the connections made as editor of Gusher to strengthen our position in the community and look for other emerging needs that JLT can answer. "Retirement" will have to wait for another year. Whether I'm Active or a Sustaining member I will always



be a lifelong member of the Junior League of Tulsa.

**Why did you join the JLT later than the “average” member?** I had helped one of my friends, JLT member, Connie Hussein Rivers, at the Mayfest Invitational Gallery for a couple years. One day she put her hands on her hips and asked me, in an incredulous tone, “Why are you not in Junior League?” I didn’t have a good answer and the next thing I knew I was a provisional.

**Charlotte Shillingford moved to Tulsa in 1982. She joined JLT in 2002 when her good friend, Brenda Lloyd-Jones, became President.**

When I moved to Tulsa, I was not aware of JLT activities. Brenda was instrumental in getting me to join. Her friendship, enthusiasm and praise of the League sparked my interest. I’ve enjoyed meeting the members and participating in League activities. I’ve remained active for seven years and been involved with a group of women who are passionate about making a difference and taking action. I’m now ready to go Sustaining.



**Anne Nunnelee, a long-time JLT Sustainer, originally joined the Junior League of Wichita, KS. She transferred to Chicago; Kalamazoo, MI; and finally, Tulsa.** With every transfer, I was required to take a Provisional course to become acquainted with that new League. It was a great way to learn about that city’s volunteer activities and of course to get acquainted with people with whom I shared ideas. I’ve remained a Sustainer because what the JLT supports are projects I want to support. I read the Gusher thoroughly, and donate when there’s a big fundraising activity. Going Sustainer is a great decision because you never know when you’re going to want to be involved. If you have a project you love, as a Sustainer, you have a voice, however small, in the selection process for new partnerships or IMPACT projects.



#### NEW IN TOWN

**Abigail Prescott was a provisional at the Junior League of Northwest Arkansas and stayed as a non-resident member for two years after moving to Tulsa.**



My sister-in-law, who encouraged me to join the Junior League in my home town, gave me very straightforward advice: “You get out of League membership what you put into it.” I’ve always tried to let that approach guide me as a member of JLT and I think it has proven true. The more committed and passionate I am about my involvement, the more fulfilling League membership becomes.

**Have your placements influenced your staying Active?** My favorite placement is always my current

placement. Each position I’ve held in JLT has brought its own unique rewards and they’re very hard to compare. As long as I continue to find value in active membership, I don’t have any plans to go Sustaining. If I ever stopped learning new skills, being challenged, or feeling like I was making a difference in my community, I would consider becoming a Sustainer at that point. However, I don’t see that happening in the near future — there are still plenty of new experiences to be had!

**Cathey Capozziello was a member of the Junior League of Washington, D.C., for eight years before transferring to Tulsa. How did joining the JLT help you transition to living in Tulsa?**

It was great to meet other transfers to Tulsa, and actives who’d lived on the East Coast reached out knowing I’d lived there. I love the

Junior League. I love the friends I’ve made, the adult conversations, even just to hear what’s going on outside of my own world. I’m taking a Leave of Absence this year since having my twins but I’m not ready to become a Sustainer just yet!

**Once you go Sustaining, do you plan to remain a Sustainer?**

My aunt is a longtime Sustainer and I can’t imagine ever “not” being a member of the Junior League! Plus I can’t wait until my girls are old enough to get plugged in.

#### THE LONG HAUL

**Sally Davies joined the JLT in the mid-eighties after moving to Tulsa in 1979, and went Sustainer when she reached the then-applicable age limit of 40. She remains a member to “keep up with what’s going on.”**

Many of my friends who’ve remained Sustainer with me have done so because they have daughters they wanted to see become active in the Junior League. I remain involved because I stay a member of everything I think it’s important for Tulsa to have. Tulsa needs organizations like the JLT, plus I really support the work that JLT does. If the JLT doesn’t have money to operate, they can’t do the important work they’ve taken on.

**Erma Henson has been a Sustainer for 32 years. Erma, what do you think of your time in the Junior League?** I wouldn’t trade my time in the Junior League for anything. As Actives, we were all so well trained and served on community boards throughout the city. That’s really what the training is all about. Volunteering wasn’t just a chance to get away from the babies, but it enabled me to learn things about the community and gave me valid work to do.

**Do you have any advice for Actives?** People should stay active long enough to learn about the community. If you go sustaining after seven years, you might not have learned all you need to learn about the community. But after you’ve been active and served on committees and done fundraisers and led meetings, you should be ready to go sustaining in order to take those skills out into the community.

**Do you have any advice for people who are going Sustaining?**

I have a lot of friends who are Sustainers. I’m in a book club where there are young sustainers as well, and we really enjoy each other and the mix of ages. The JLT is our common bond. People going sustaining should be active in the community, and keep Tulsa alive and vibrant. If you do that work, it will keep you alive and vibrant. At least until your grandkids come along, or you find time to travel a lot, ha ha!

# JLT Training and Education

By Sarah Franzen

When sitting down to dine, do you know which side of the chair you are supposed to enter? According to Jana Christian of the Etiquette School of Oklahoma, you should enter from the left side of the chair. When you get up, exit from the right.

JLT members who attended the “Polished Professional” etiquette training in October learned this rule and many other helpful tips to polish their etiquette skills. Christian, a professional etiquette consultant, not only discussed dining rules but guidelines for professional and social settings as well.

Training & Education, a new committee on membership council this year, was developed to meet one of the council’s stated goals of providing beneficial training for all JLT members. This year the committee has worked to provide a variety of learning opportunities to enhance the JLT membership experience.

Based on member feedback, various trainings have included: The “Polished Professional” Etiquette Training, Holiday Handmade Gifts and Office & Home Organization Tips. Our upcoming training is hosted by the Red Cross and will focus on CPR and First Aid training.

On Wednesday, April 14, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at JLT headquarters, a CPR and First Aid Training class will be presented by the Tulsa Chapter of the American Red Cross. Come equip yourself with some of the essential life saving skills that could save a loved one. This training will focus on CPR for adults and children and basic first aid skills everyone should know.

All Junior League of Tulsa trainings are open to both actives and sustainers. To access handouts from previous training sessions, login on to [www.jltulsa.org](http://www.jltulsa.org) and go to the membership center and click on the Training & Education handouts.

A valuable part of the JLT experience, Training & Education will continue to evolve and offer learning opportunities for JLT members as we strive to carry out our mission. To submit your ideas for future trainings, please e-mail Sarah Franzen at [sarah\\_franzen@hotmail.com](mailto:sarah_franzen@hotmail.com).



Left to Right: Ashley Post, Michelle Lehman, of Organizing Solutions “Clear the Clutter”, Alison Wade, Tina Holden and Tracy McLawhorn

AMERICAN RED CROSS

# HERO



## Training & Education Opportunity

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Junior League of Tulsa headquarters

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Watch for an Evite coming soon.



## 2009-2010 Training and Education Committee

Back Left to Right- Sarah Franzen, Jill Corey, Ashley Post, Jennifer Lark; Front Left to Right- Tina Holden, Tara Sutherland, Jenny Belford; Not Pictured- Tracy McLawhorn



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# SAVE THE DATE!

*April*

**10**  
**21**

### **Global Gardens**

Rosa Parks community day. Time TBA.

### **Operation JLT!**

League-wide IMPACT project. Fun night with TPS students and their families from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

**30**

### **JLT Membership Dues**

Dues (\$150.00) for 2010-2011 will need to be paid by April 30th.

**12**

### **General League Meeting**

League meeting at 6:30 held at the Gilcrease Museum. The Year in Review!

**14**

### **Red Cross Training**

CPR and First Aid Training class will be presented by the Tulsa Chapter of the American Red Cross from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at JLT headquarters.

**15**

### **Global Gardens**

Come visit our booth at the second annual 'Spring in the Square' at Utica Square from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

**28**

### **Poverty Awareness Training**

Presented by the Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at JLT headquarters. CSC will address conditions, trends and needs impacting our area's quality of life and future.

**31**

### **Memorial Day**

JLT office is closed.

*May*

**4**

### **JLT Open House**

Open house for anyone interested in Junior League. Meet with the 2009-2010 Provisionals at 6:30 pm at JLT headquarters.



# 2010-2011 Incoming Board Retreat held at The Canebrake on February 27, 2010.



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