

THE MAGAZINE OF
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TULSA

Volume 8, Issue 2
SUMMER 2011

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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

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On the cover: Shellie Rae, 2011-12 IMPACT Chairman, and India Ford, age 9, Youth at Heart participant. Photograph by Leslie Hoyt, www.lesliehoyt.com.

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Tracy Guara

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Letter from the President

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President for 2010-2011. It was an honor for me to volunteer in such an esteemed capacity. I thank my Board of Directors and my Sustaining Advisor to the Board, Past President Sarah Jane Gillett, for all of the hard work and hours each of them devoted to making the future of the Junior League of Tulsa a brighter one. Thank you Sarah Dougherty, Liz Brolick, Mary Anne Thoman, Heather Duncan, Leslie Frazier, Amy Greene, Neil Dieterle, Meg Watkins, Kim Smith, Jennie Wolek, Ronda Lau, and Jennifer Roberson. In my opinion our 2010-2011 year will go down as a smashing success because of these ladies and many more. I am proud we re-launched our "Tulsa" blue logo, poured thousands of hours into helping our community, graduated an amazing provisional class, and raised plenty of money to do it all again and even better this next year. Thank you, everyone, for your dedication and heart for JLT, it is what makes our organization so unique and historically significant.

Fondly,



Cassie Barkett
2010-2011 President



Incoming President: Sarah Dougherty

By Charity Hatfield

“Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.” This quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson sums up my sister Sarah Dougherty’s approach to life. When she is committed to something, she gives it her all, with passion and dedication. Her service to the Junior League of Tulsa over the past twelve years is one example of this.

Sarah fondly recalls her provisional year at JLT. In addition to starting the JLT membership journey, she met her future husband Paul shortly after her provisional retreat. In fact, one of their first dates was taking quota to JLT’s former fundraiser Bloomingdeals. Sarah likes to joke that much of what she turned in for quota was from Paul’s home. Towards the end of her provisional year, Sarah began her career as a paralegal at Hall Estill Law Firm, which ultimately became her favorite professional opportunity.

This year presents more milestones for Sarah and her family. Acknowledging Past President Amy James’ advice “not to let Junior League get in the way of family life,” Sarah and her family have quite a few memory makers up their sleeves. They have a new puppy, a Goldendoodle named Hank. They have also purchased a new home, which Sarah is looking forward to decorating, although with her current time constraints she admits that might be a post-presidency project. This fall, five-year-old son Gabe is starting kindergarten and four-year-old daughter Anna will start preschool. Last month Sarah and Paul celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary.



Becoming a mother deepened Sarah’s desire to give back to the Tulsa community. She believes it has given her a new sense of empathy, especially for those in JLT’s focus area of Women and Children in Transition. Sarah and Paul make giving and volunteering a family affair. It is their hope

that by their example, they will inspire their children to make a lifelong commitment to voluntarism.

Leadership comes naturally for Sarah. As the eldest of six children, she sometimes jokes we were her first committee. She also admits it was a lesson in leading by consensus. However, Sarah is the first to give JLT credit for her development as a community leader. She believes JLT lets you start where you are with your leadership skills and helps women develop and find their path for growth. In her case, while volunteering had always been a part of our lives growing up, she did not have much experience with organized, trained voluntarism. She states “the Junior League has helped me develop a wide range of skills - from running a meeting and public speaking to setting and staying within a budget.”



According to Sarah, one of the greatest benefits of being a member of JLT is the mentorship and friendship of the

other women in the organization. Sarah is especially thrilled to have Past President Deidra Kirtley serve as her Board Sustainer Advisor. “Deidra was the first president under whom I served in a board position. She is such a thoughtful and inspirational leader. Having her advice and counsel this year means the world to me.” Sarah is also grateful for the team of women she is



working with this year. “The women on my board make it so easy for me. They have demonstrated their commitment to this organization and I have confidence with their leadership we will have a great year.”

Love, Serve, Lead is the theme for Sarah’s year. She believes it embodies her personal path in JLT in addition to the organization’s service to Tulsa. “I would love for everyone to love JLT the way I do. JLT has given me so much more than I have ever given it, and it is an honor to serve and lead this organization in the coming year.”

Growing up I wanted to be just like my older sister Sarah. I emulated everything she did. I loved any chance to hang out with her and later bragged about my cool older sister. As an adult, I admire her love and dedication to her husband Paul and to their adorable children, Gabe and Anna. I admire her loyalty to causes she supports and her selfless generosity. Most of all, I admire her heart. In the busyness of her life, she still makes time to volunteer with the hope of making a difference. Now that we are “grown-ups” many things have changed the dynamics of our relationship, but I still love hanging out with her and I still think she is pretty cool. I am excited about this new opportunity for Sarah as President of Junior League and join the rest of my family with pride and best wishes for a wonderful year.



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H3 Strategies Communications

Tim Harris, District Attorney
Tulsa County

Janet Levitt, Dean
University of Tulsa College of Law

Tish Stuart, Director of Mission Advancement
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Tulsa

September

14 **Community Advisor Luncheon**

21 **JLT ♥'s Tulsa**

October

18 **Love Serve Lead**
featuring Guest Speaker,
Shar McBee, author of
"To Lead is to Serve"

19 **League-wide Training Opportunity**

November

3-6 **Holiday Market**

16 **Annual Speak-Out Meetings**

December

14 **Holiday Party & Introduction of Incoming Board**

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Transitions

Small Miracles

Bryn Marie Warren

Daughter of Robin (A) and Mark
Born on March 2, 2011



Ty William Drullinger

Son of Shelly (S) and TW
Born on September 14, 2010

Maxwell Neil Mathews

Son of Whitney (A) and Blake
Born on December 9, 2010



Madison Ann Garrow

Daughter of Sarah (A) and Shane
Born March 21, 2011

Katherine Claire Franzen

Daughter of Sarah (A) and Matt
Born October 26, 2010



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 Amy Greene, sakssavvy@mac.com

Achievements

Kimberly Grayson awarded Pinnacle award for community service by the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women.

Condolences

Karen Fraser (S) on the loss of her son.

Melissa Mackey (A) on the loss of her father.

Wedding

Tracy Watler (A) to Christopher Guara on June 4, 2011



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Hello, Sustainers!



Sue Curry
Sustaining President

**2010-2011
Sustaining Board**
Mary Alice Ahlgren
Laurie Brumbaugh
Robyn Cannon
Sue Curry
Ann Foster
Dru Johnson
Deborah Kurin
Denise Piland
Pam Rosser

Want to get involved in Sustainer Activities?

*Membership Dues/
Communications*
Doris Brown at HQ
629-6100

Book Club
Annabel Jones
629-7553
ajones@samson.com

Lunch Club
Robyn Cannon
298-7753
robyn.cannon@dtag.com

Restaurant Club
Ann Foster
694-6118
ann.foster@hilti.com

JLT Sustainers closed 2010 in festive activities. The Holiday Party December 16 at the home of Pam Rosser was beautiful and fun! Pam and the Sustaining Board hosted over 40 guests to an evening of wonderful food catered by Lambrusco's and the culinary talents Pam Rosser, Denise Piland and Laurie Brumbaugh's husband, Terry. Guests also brought children's books which were donated to JLT projects. Pam's holiday decorations and gracious hospitality set the stage for a memorable party.

Sustainer clubs met for holiday gatherings as well. Book Club held a holiday party at the home of Mary Alice Ahlgren December 22nd. A book was not reviewed but guests enjoyed a wonderful array of delicious food brought by all and a "White Elephant" gift exchange. The gifts exchanged were clever and some were quite interesting and comical! Lunch Club did not meet in December due to scheduling conflicts. Restaurant Club met at P. F. Chang's December 10 in a fun celebration with a large group.

JLT Sustainer activities continued in 2011 not even hampered by the weeks of snowy and cold weather! Several sustainers attended the JLT fundraiser Decadence February 12th at the Hyatt Regency and enjoyed the enticing auction items, buffet and entertainment. Another lovely Sustainer Spring Luncheon hosted by the JLT Board and President Cassie Barkett was held April 5th at JLT Headquarters. The program was interesting and updated us about the League's many programs and services in the community.

Book Club met January 18 at the home of Annabel Jones and discussed the book *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. The book is about the unsuspected birth of twin brothers to a nun and medical doctor in a clandestine relationship serving in an Ethiopian hospital in a country on the edge of war and turmoil. The story is fascinating in complexities in the lives of the characters, in settings between countries involved with a strong medical emphasis. On February 15, the book, *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, a literary classic and a well-known movie, was complemented by the elegance and lovely setting of Chris Trabant's townhome view of the sunset over the Arkansas River paired with elegant food and champagne. On March 15, Connie Doverspike served as hostess. The book selection was *The Worst Hard Time* by Timothy Egan, a historical account of the Dust Bowl and its impact on the lives of many families and individuals who endured the years of drought and devastation during the 1930's. In discussion the consensus was it is also a book about the optimistic human spirit, determination and endurance.

Beginning in April, Book Club began a new system for book selection. The hostess of the month will select the book for reading and review it. On April 19th at the home of Debbie Luthey reviewed *The Distant Land of My Father* by Bo Caldwell, a mesmerizing chronicle of a father-daughter relationship told by Anna in her memoirs and father's journals. Beginning with her wealthy parents and charmed childhood in pre-World War II Shanghai, the story moves into a family torn apart by the Japanese occupation forcing she and her mother to move to Los Angeles leaving her father behind, then leading to loss of the father's wealth and imprisonment by the Japanese, hurt and betrayal and finally reconciliation between them. On May 17 Earlene Gathright hosted and reviewed the book *American Pastoral* by Philip Roth, a Pulitzer Prize winner, about Seymour Levov, a Jewish-American from Newark, New Jersey, upper middle class life entangled by the political and social upheaval of the 1960's and 70's. On June 21st, members met at the home of Sue Curry and discussed *The Forgotten Garden* by Kate Morton, a gripping story of mystery and suspense of a four year old little girl named Nell abandoned on a ship set for Australia from England in 1913. The story unfolds into a lifelong saga between Australia and England in the search for Nell's true identity beginning with the dockmaster and his wife who raised her, telling her the truth at age 21, to her granddaughter Cassandra's continued quest after her death in the 1970's.

Lunch Club met January 10th at El Rancho Grande and enjoyed a Tulsa favorite Mexican inspired restaurant owned by family members of Sustainer Denise Piland. Charleston's on South Yale was the February 16th location. March 9th guests met at P.F. Chang's in Utica Square. Other spring and summer locations were on April 13th, Wolfgang Puck's, May 11th at the Full Moon Café on Cherry Street and June 8th at The Brook on Peoria. Lunch club never lacks for great conversation along with great food!

Restaurant Club enjoyed the January 11th evening at Doc's Wine and Food in Brookside with a delicious Cajun meal in spite of the chilly winter air blasting through the front door. The blizzard's effects did not keep ladies from meeting at Ciao's! on February 11th. Abuelo's served as the site for the March 28th dinner. Other locations were on April 11th at the Waterfront Grill on the riverbank in Jenks, May 11th at the Daily Grill in the Hyatt Hotel downtown with a great menu and free valet parking, and June 11th at Duke's Southern Kitchen, complete with Southern charm, in the Spirit Center Complex, Bixby, operated by the same owners of the Brasserie and Sonoma in Brookside.

The Sustainer Spring Party happened on the evening of April 14th at the home of Sharon Voskuhl. A full-blown spring storm complete with warnings and sirens appeared at the same time. Not all could attend but those who did enjoyed the lovely home and backyard garden setting of lovely dogwood trees and flowers. This year continues in good times, good reads, good food and great conversations! Please come and enjoy!

Sincerely,

Sue Curry

Holiday Party



Mary Alice Ahlgren, Denise Piland, Ann Foster, Pam Rosser, Dru Johnson, Laurie Brumbaugh, Sue Curry



Deidra Kirtley, Denise Payne



Kristen Howell, Laura Miller



Harriet Thomas, Ann Foster, Beverly Torr, Joyce Kaiser



Barbara Ford, Beverly Torr



Carla Gilbert, Teresa Flusché

Restaurant Club



Denise Piland, Carla Gilbert, Tucky Hazen



Ann Foster, Rita Foster

Dale Roberson, Jane Grimshaw, Kris Lovely

Book Club



Sue Curry

Mary Alice Ahlgren, Annabel Jones, Claire Schroeffer (Mary Alice's daughter)



Nancy Daniel, Terry Waller, Connie Doverspike

Spring Party



Robyn Cannon, Laurie Brumbaugh



Melissa Basse, Beth Winchester, Denise Piland



Sue Curry, Sharon Voskuhl (party hostess)

May Restaurant Club

Ann Foster, Carla Gilbert



Jane Grimshaw, Ellen Fuller



Tucky Hazen, Beverly Torr



Lunch Club

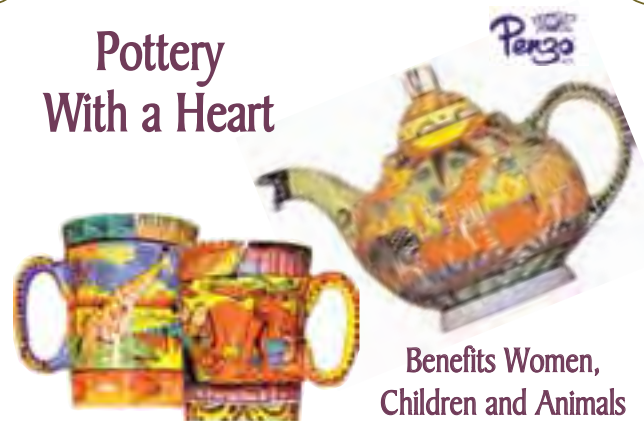
Maggie Cornell, Sug Selby, Fritzi Prather,
Connie Doverspike, Meredith Blackstock, Sue Curry,
Ann Foster, Robyn Cannon, Kate Davis

Sustainer Luncheon



Chris Traband, Sybil Tyler, Lynette Bennett Danskin,
Debbie Pinkerton, Sally Stewart, Erma Henson

Pottery With a Heart



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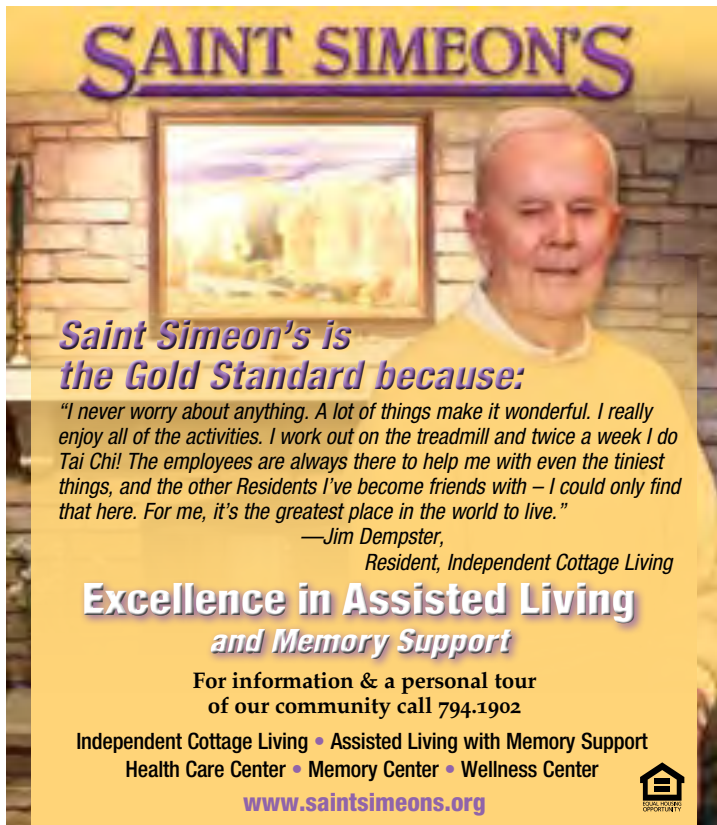
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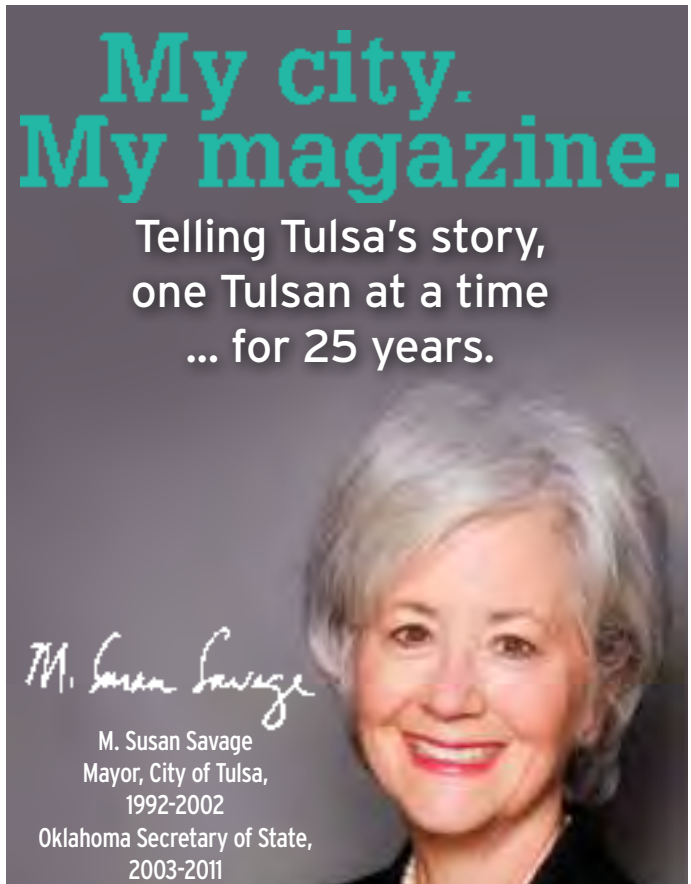
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TulsaPeople

Tulsa's Magazine for 25 Years

Remembering Catherine Costanza

By Neil Dieterle (A)

When I joined the Junior League of Tulsa in 2005, I had high hopes of sinking my teeth into new volunteer opportunities and expanding my post-college circle of friends. Though I was excited about my new endeavor, walking into the Mabee room that August to join my Provisional class for our retreat proved to be nerve-racking. I was anxious and a bit apprehensive about being thrust into a completely new social circle. Who were these women? Would I fit in with them?

My nerves quickly dissipated when one of my tablemates introduced herself. She was friendly and exuberant, but I could tell from the sparkle in her brown eyes that she was also wildly clever and had a wicked sense of humor. I liked her instantly – and told her so. Her name was Catherine Costanza, but to me she was always, “Cat.”

Over the years, Cat became one of my closest friends, as well as an asset to the League as both a mentor and outstanding volunteer. She served on the American Girl committee, worked tirelessly in the St. Francis Family Resource Library and welcomed new members to JLT as both a Liaison and Vice Chair for the Provisional Committee. She could always be counted on to sign up first for work shifts or take on extra assignments for her committee. She worked tirelessly to better the community, even when her health was compromised, and was always ready to offer a suggestion for how to improve a process or creatively solve a problem.

Mary Leake (A), who served as Provisional Chair in 2009 when Catherine was placed as Vice Chair, said, “She was an amazing woman and I learned so much from her. She had the most generous heart and would give anyone

the shirt off of her back.”

More than anything, Cat was the kind of person who could bring together and create harmony within the most diverse groups of people. She was blessed with the ability to see the absolute best in people and coax them out of their shells with her wit, insight and keen listening skills. This was evidenced in 2008 with her Provisional charges, her beloved Group Six. The women in the group were, in Cat’s words, “unlikely friends” – different in more ways than they could count, but destined to be life-long friends, thanks to her guidance.

“From day one Catherine instilled a sense of pride in everyone for being part of Group Six,” said Giselle Martinez (A), a member of the group. “She quickly set up monthly meetings, which turned into brunch meetings one Sunday a month at Marie Callender’s at ‘our table.’ It wasn’t until we’d met a few times that I realized what an amazing thing Catherine had done for us all – she had created a group of friends that really enjoyed and cared about each other.”

Kelly Karlovich (A), another Group Six member, will always be thankful for the friendships that Cat helped to nurture, as well as her JLT-oriented coaching.

“She gave great advice, as far as how to enjoy League and get the most out of it,” Karlovich said. “I still take her advice, which was basically to do as much as you can, rather than just try to fulfill your requirements. She always said that you will get out of League what you put into it, and she was right.”

In addition to being a mentor, Cat was also was a gifted communicator who believed with all her heart in the value of hand-penned, “snail mail” correspondence. Birthday

cards, notes of encouragement, post cards from her travels, packaged goodies sent “just because,” or clippings from magazines that she knew friends would enjoy – she sent them, and often. Friends often joked that Cat may have been single-handedly keeping the United States Postal Service in business, but everyone knew that her rationale for doing so was no laughing matter. Catherine believed that people should never be shy about sharing

their feelings – particularly when gratitude was in order – and that they should never underestimate the power of a sincere reminder of friendship and support.

Karlovich said she will always fondly remember Cat’s cards and letters.

“She said it was important to hand-write some things because that would be more special someday when you were gone,” Karlovich said. “That inspired me to write journals to my kids. Because of her, I will have this amazing gift to give to my kids one day.”

Not only was she a skilled communicator; she was funny. Everyone who knew Cat cherished her sense of humor – she was boisterous, often irreverent in the best possible way, and could make a room full of people dissolve into side-splitting chuckles with ease. Meg Watkins (A), a Provisional-mate of Cat’s, will always remember her gift for producing laughter, even in tough situations.

“I wish cell phone cameras were around when our Provisional Group was collecting socks and undergarments for our project at the Laura Dester Shelter,” Watkins said. “Only Cat could get a group of teenagers excited about new undergarments! She lovingly joked and created an improvisational tighy-whitey; dance to make everyone feel at ease. Before you could blink, everyone – even the teens – was participating! It takes a special spirit to make things like that happen.”

Catherine’s spirit and positive attitude made an enormous impact on everyone she met, and those of us that knew her best will forever cherish our time with her, albeit much too fleeting.

“I know that she would want me to be a good person and to help others in any way that I can – it’s what she always did,” Martinez said. “So I will do that for her, and to honor her memory.”

Catherine passed away peacefully in San Francisco on April 10. Her father, Robert, precedes Catherine in death. She is survived by her mother Ysabel Costanza, sisters Ann DeLaat (Sean) and Carol Castro (Gary), her beloved nieces and nephews Colleen, Kurt, Natalie, Mark, and Dominic, many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, and numerous friends.

If you would like to send a card or other correspondence to the family, please contact Neil Dieterle at ncdieterle@yahoo.com for mailing addresses. Remembrances can be made to: the Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Fund (B2673) in honor of Catherine Costanza, UCSF, 220 Montgomery Street, 5th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104, attn: Sarah Krumholz; or to St. Francis Hospital at 6161 S. Yale Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74136, attn: Carrie Modrak. Per Catherine’s wishes, the St. Francis funds will be used to help patients who cannot afford to pay for hospital care and treatment.



Provisional Award

Catherine Constanza believed deeply in the power of the Junior League of Tulsa and the power of just ONE person to make an impact – even if that person was a new member, getting her feet wet in our genre of community service. For that reason, she loved working with our Provisional classes, serving as both a Provisional liaison and as Vice Chair of the committee.

Because of her commitment to mentoring new members, urging them to do great things and go the extra mile, and in honor of her exceptional life, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to name the new Provisional of the Year award after our friend, Catherine Costanza.

The woman who received this year's first ever Catherine Constanza Award for Provisional Excellence was Mindee Ferland.



dinating the behind the scenes work with the shows. Anyone watching Mindee in action would have assumed that she had been in JLT for years. Her chair, BJ Weintraub adds, "She is an exceptional individual who is a true asset to our organization. She is not only talented, but gracious."



Mindee took a lead role on the American Girl committee and largely contributed to their success. She went above and beyond, spear-heading the models and coor-



GARRETT WALLER

Eagle Scout

All-State Football Player

Robert C. Byrd Congressional Scholar

Villanova University Sophomore

Cascia Hall is pleased to announce that JLT Sustainer, Janna Roberson, has been appointed Assistant Principal of Cascia Hall.

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Done-In-A-Day Projects IMPACT Youth At Heart

By Lysa Little (A)

The Junior League of Tulsa (JLT) has participated and sponsored activities with Youth at Heart (YAH) for many years, starting with bowling events and this year increasing to five events ranging from bowling to tennis, hosting youth at the circus, craft projects with youth at a senior center and more. JLT appreciates and applauds YAH for its efforts in providing wholesome and fun activities for at-risk youth.

Youth At Heart (YAH), a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and United Way agency member, manages nine community centers located in Tulsa's public housing and low-income apartment communities. With a combination of Education Enrichment Programs and Social Enrichment Programs, Youth At Heart's mission is to shape, support and encourage Tulsa's inner city youth with the goal of maximizing their potential for success in life, school and their community.

IMPACT Chair, Sutton Murray, met YAH's Development Director, Lou Ann Marlar, through her husband's family due to their mutual Claremore heritage. "Lou Ann really recruited me at the end of last summer when she found out that I was JLT IMPACT Chair. She wanted JLT and YAH to increase its partnership" said Murray. "We met at the YAH offices and she spent a lot of time educating me about the organization and introducing me to staff and volunteers, as well as some of the youth."

Youth At Heart offers a wide variety of services including transportation, tutoring, and sports programs for youth ages six to eighteen. The long established and stable activities that Youth At Heart provides to Tulsa's underprivileged at-risk youth have reached thousands of lives physically, morally, and mentally.

"I was very impressed and tried to convey that enthusiasm at the first IMPACT Committee meeting last fall. It must have worked because the committee ended up voting on implementing several of the YAH application requests. They just seemed to really fit with what the committee, especially the new provisionals, wanted to do for done-in-a-day projects. The committee was drawn to the opportunity to work directly with marginalized youth who would otherwise simply fall through the cracks," said Murray.

Youth At Heart reaches 3,000 youth in the Tulsa area with over forty community enrichment partners to create successful programming. Whether by mentoring projects, after-school enrichment, financial literacy workshops or youth-led community service projects, Youth At Heart is creating success in the disenfranchised youth popula-

tion in Tulsa. Opportunities, both educational and social, are crucial fundamentals in transforming the lives of disadvantaged at-risk youth. With a successful history of merging organizations, dating back to 1976, Youth At Heart has ushered in an era of exceptional programming, with the continued mission of shaping, supporting, and encouraging Tulsa's at-risk youth. Past mergers allowed Destination Discovery and Helping Hands of Tulsa, two independently strong non-profit agencies, to increase the geographic scope of their services, as well to expand the opportunities available to at-risk inner city youth.

Junior League of Tulsa had the opportunity to support several Youth At Heart programs this year.

October – *Bowling*

Junior League took YAH youth to Andy B's.

January – *Quick Start Tennis*

Junior League purchased tennis equipment and played quick start style tennis with the youth at the Westside YMCA.

February – *Circus*

Junior League members hosted several YAH youths at the circus.

March – *Jordan Plaza Senior Center*

Junior League led a craft project with YAH youth and seniors working together in making crafts for seniors to keep.

March – *Photo Booth Event*

Junior League created a "dress closet" with costumes and props for youth to change into and have their picture taken. Pictures were printed that day and given to youth.

After its collaboration this year, Youth At Heart awarded Junior League of Tulsa its Community Partner Award. "It is so wonderful now that things have come full circle in a way," said Murray. "I wasn't able to attend the awards ceremony, but Shellie Rea, new IMPACT Chair for 2011-12, was there to accept it and she was able to really catch the wave of enthusiasm that Lou Ann Marlar had instilled me. Shellie told me that she was so impressed by all the programs that YAH does, as well as their long-standing volunteers and Board of Directors."

Thus, the relationship between JLT and YAH will no doubt continue into next year's IMPACT projects. YAH has even asked JLT to provide a member from JLT to serve on its Board of Directors for next year--quite an honor.

The young people served by Youth At Heart live in Tulsa's public housing communities and low-income apartment complexes, often come from unstable and increasingly volatile home environments, with 87% of these homes headed by single parents. Through innovative programming Youth at Heart strives to deliver educational, cultural, crime prevention, and recreational opportunities geared at providing these at-risk youth with a safe haven in which they can build character and life skills.

To learn more about Youth At Heart, visit their web site www.youthatheart.org.

Audrey McGill, YAH VP Programs; Shellie Rae, JLT Impact committee Project Planner; Jocelyn McCarver, YAH Executive Director; Bob Perugini, YAH Board President





Youth At Heart has presented the Community Partner Award to the Junior League of Tulsa for Excellence in Service to our youth. Many factors went into making this vote and decision. Overriding was the commitment to hands on volunteerism from the Junior League membership. It is truly remarkable that your organization not only helps support community efforts with the very important funding but also jumps right in the fray of helping change community and culture of disenfranchised youth populations that Youth At Heart serves. The modeling of commitment and compassion is a life example to our youth.

When the question was raised, "Which partner has made an impact on our population of supporting our mission of "shaping the lives of inner city youth" and connected with our youth in "supporting hopes and dreams." It was really no discussion, Junior League has come through year after year for Youth At Heart and we appreciate and acknowledge all that your organization has done.

Jocelyn McCarver
 Executive Director
 Youth at Heart



Community Corner

THANK YOU!

The Greater Tulsa Area Alumnae Chapter of Alpha Phi selected the Family Resource Library at the Childrens Hospital at Saint Francis to receive a Christmas donation of books and movies.

www.alphaphi.org



IMPACT

Done-in-a-day Projects

On March 5 IMPACT hosted a tea party for ladies at **OASIS Adult Daycare**. Ellen Dollarhide was the Project Planner for this event. Being a teacher at Nimitz Middle School, Ellen was also able to bring along four of her students who helped serve the ladies, as well as recite poetry and read personal stories about their grandparents. The tea party was a huge success--the ladies were so appreciative and especially loved interacting with the youth. We hope that IMPACT can expand on the project with OASIS next year, by hosting a coffee for the men who attend OASIS.



Also in April, IMPACT hosted another graduation party for the ladies at **Resonance** who have successfully completed the re-entry program there. Christina Rinaldi was the Project Planner for this event.

On May 1 IMPACT coordinated the League-wide service project at the Tulsa Zoo.

We hosted foster families from **Tulsa Advocates for the Protection of Children**

(TAPC), providing lunch, crafts and games, besides a day of viewing the animals at the Zoo.



On May 2 IMPACT hosted a baby shower for women in the SafeCare and Great Beginnings programs at the **Parent Child Center of Tulsa**. Marnie Fernandez was the Project planner for this event, and will provide pics, if at all possible.

On May 6 Mary Dana Laird headed up a résumé workshop at **Resonance**, and in late May, Michelle Dickason and the IMPACT team escorted students from **Marshall Elementary** to the Tulsa Aquarium.



2010-2011 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:



Mary Anne Thoman
Community Program Vice President

Amy Greene
Community Council Vice President

Ashly Hensley
Community Council Assistant

Ashleigh Boedeker
Saint Francis Chair

Ashley Farthing
Global Gardens Chair

Stephanie Currington
Laura Dester Impact Chair

Sutton Murray
Impact Chair

Ashwini Vaidya
Scholarship Chair

Christina Rinaldi
Resonance Impact Vice-Chair

Paula Settoon
Gilcrease/TU Task Force Chair

Shea Eby
Harvest Market Chair



SCHOLARSHIP

By Jennifer Andrade (A)

Every year, the Junior League of Tulsa awards scholarships to four worthy women in Tulsa community. The Mrs. W. Albert Cook scholarship is based primarily on financial need and a commitment from the recipient to complete her college education. With the assistance of Sharon Bartlett, the Junior League of Tulsa increased the number of Mrs. W. Albert Cook scholarships from two to three this year. The two Founders' scholarships are awarded to two graduating high school seniors who demonstrate an exceptional commitment to volunteerism and

academics. The five \$1500 scholarships were all awarded this spring and will be applied to the fall academic session.

This year, the Junior League of Tulsa found three deserving applicants to award its annual Mrs. W. Albert Cook scholarships and two recipients for its Founders' scholarship.

The stories of the women receiving 2011's Mrs. W. Albert Cook Scholarships are as diverse as their backgrounds, yet each share a desire to continue their education.

Christina Lynne McKinzie recently

returned to college and earned her Associate's degree in Business from TCC, and is now pursuing her B.S. in Finance from OSU-Tulsa. Her path to the Mrs. W. Albert Cook scholarship has been a hard one. While all the built-in excuses in the world could have affected her decision to return to school, McKinzie had a large one: her father's death.

"In July of 2009, I realized a couple of things: that I no longer wanted the person and event that so abruptly changed my life's path to continue to dictate my present and my future; and that if I truly wanted better for myself, I needed to make my college education a priority."

McKinzie is a single mother, had to consider everything from cost to scheduling, from getting a car to quitting her job, to clear out the excuses and set herself to the task.

"One reason I left my job as a legal assistant at the end of 2009 was so that I could spend more time with my son. He was diagnosed with Infantile Glaucoma at three months of age and has endured multiple surgeries ... he is now 14 and, although he is in a TPS special education program for vision difficulties and receives assistance with reading and spelling classes, he is currently reading at a second-grade level." From this, McKinzie said she wanted to spend more time with him to see if she couldn't help improve his reading before he enters high school.

That wasn't her only reason for leaving her job to return to school, though. She only needed 12 more credit hours for her Associate's degree in Business, so she enrolled in evening classes. She received her Associate's degree in the summer of 2010, and she moved on to OSU-Tulsa from there. She is currently employed as a legal assistant at Barber & Bartz in Tulsa.

Kristin Marie Edwards cites her diagnosis of *vasa previa* during her second pregnancy and her youngest son's premature birth as the two life-



changing events that renewed her desire to become a physician assistant. "I owed my son's life to the doctors that detected this condition and for their wonderful care during the subsequent weeks of my pregnancy," she said. "Becoming a physician assistant is my way of giving back to the medical community who literally saved my son's life."

During her researching on PubMed for information about her son's prematurity, Edwards discovered a love of research about his condition. "[I] liked the rewarding feeling of finding the clinic that finally treated my son," she said. "Having a direct impact on Jack's care rekindled my aspiration to become a physician assistant."

Edwards is a recipient of the OU-Tulsa Kaiser Family Scholarship and said she will work in an underserved area after graduation. "I am very thankful for the award; however, it covers only half of my tuition. I am a single mother and work as an adjunct professor at TCC to pay the bills not covered by my loans." She said the Mrs. W. Albert Cook scholarship would facilitate her goal of becoming a P.A.

Currently, Edwards is a second-year P.A. student at OU-Tulsa. "I went through a divorce the year before and decided to go back to graduate school. During that time, my ex-husband was fired from his job and our house went into foreclosure." To cut back, Edwards and her two children live with her mother.

Denise Marie Marsh is currently attending nursing school at TCC. After attending classes and clinical rotations during the day, she has a part-time job at night. While she is assisted by a scholarship funded by St. John's Medical Center, she also uses student loans, grants and her earnings from her part time work to stay afloat.

"As long as I can remember, I have wanted to be a nurse," she said. "However, I ended up as a divorced mother of two, and never had the time, energy or financial resources to go to nursing school. I worked in the corporate world, and went through multiple layoffs due to company closings."

Without a degree, Marsh faced tough competition when applying for jobs.

"After divorcing an abusive, alcoholic husband, I was left financially destitute,

and decided to go back to school and fulfill my lifelong dream to be a nurse."

Marsh enrolled at TCC to get her prerequisites for nursing school, where she is now in her third semester. Marsh uses a walker to facilitate moving about, an act made difficult by hip-replacement surgery. "I recovered from that, and then was diagnosed with diabetes a few months ago; I am currently adjusting to oral medication to control it," she said. Currently, Marsh is without health insurance, which makes her situation more difficult, and she said she is grateful for the assistance offered by the scholarship committee.

This year, the Junior League of Tulsa awarded two Founders' scholarships.

Sheyda Zakerion is a recent graduate from Union High School, where she earned a GPA of 3.22 while ranking 201st out of a class of 1,012. Zakerion's multitude of activities center around her passion for philanthropy.

"I have the honor and the privilege to be a part of an unbelievable leadership and service experience in my community," she said. "Youth Philanthropy Initiative has given me the opportunity to use my people skills, my public speaking skills, and my project-enhancing skills to better the community."

Zakerion said that due to YPI, she is more community-service minded and looks forward to becoming a "change-agent in our world."

"My future plans include finding projects I am passionate about, much like YPI." Among other things, she plans on joining the Peace Corps after earning her degree in college.

"Volunteering has been a majority of my time spent in high school and it will continue to be important in my life as well as encouraging others to do the same."



Zakerion and her family are Iranian immigrants and have faced hardships over the past decade, beginning with her sister's diagnosis of myelodysplastic syndrome, requiring a million-dollar bone marrow transplant in 2005.

"My family had moved away from Iran during the revolution years ago in hopes of providing a better life for me and my sisters. My parents have worked hard from the moment they decided to leave their homeland and my sister's illness only forced them to work even harder."

She plans on attending OU or Colorado State in the fall.

Lindsey Michelle Bach is a recent graduate of Holland Hall. She completed her work with a 3.6 GPA and graduated in the second quartile of her class.

Bach is thankful for the hard work of her parents, work that enabled her to attend Holland Hall through a series of scholarships.

"Coming from a low-income family, I had first-handedly seen the challenges of living in poverty," she said, citing the loss of electricity and the family's car.

An anonymous benefactor helped change her life. "The unknown donor who changed my life inspired me to give back everything that I possibly can to help those less fortunate. My passion for volunteering has taken me from Tanzania, to Mexico, to North Tulsa and taught me more about myself than I ever thought I would know."

She said that, as a volunteer, she thinks it is important to be compassionate, creative and selfless.

"My experiences in non-profit work have sparked my interest in some day running or owning my own non-profit organization because I want to impact the lives of others in a positive way."

Although she is unsure of where she will attend college, her school of choice is Texas Christian University, where she has already been accepted.

Meet your Junior League of Tulsa Board Members:

Amy Greene

Community Council VP

Place of Birth: Tulsa, OK

Provisional year: 2003-2004

Education: Oklahoma State University with a degree in Apparel Design and Production

Family: Married to Clay Greene for 12 years, 3 kids: John (9), Josie (7) and Cameron (almost 5) plus 2 dogs, Zuulie and Stella



Employment: Stay at home Mom, Volunteer, and MonaVie Distributor

Hobbies/Interests: I love anything fashion; reading; baking; organizing/cleaning; anything artistic

Favorite Sport: is shopping a sport?

Favorite Childhood Memory: putting make-up on my Grandma Eleanor at her kitchen table for hours and playing dress up with my cousins in my Grandma's basement. It started my love of all things fashion.

Goal yet to achieve: I would call this a "bucket list item" but I want to take a hot air balloon ride

Greatest achievement so far: facing death and over-coming it
Have you learned any skill in League that you have applied to other aspects of your life? Believing in myself

If you could travel back in time: I would love to go back to a quiet night in the rocking chair with each one of my kids as a newborn, just snuggle

If time and money were no object: I would take all 5 of us on a tour of the United States, going to all 50 and staying at really nice B&B's and hotels and just experiencing as much as we could for a few months and along the way helping others that we see have needs. (And get a bigger closet??)

Favorite JLT placement/why? I have enjoyed all of them very much but I loved being on Nominating for 2 years

My favorite volunteer activity: I enjoy the Membership side of League, I love the GMM's and the Committee meetings. I enjoy getting to know others and making people smile. I love to laugh.

Favorite food or restaurant: Mexico Joe's in Stillwater, OK

Favorite place you have traveled: I love NYC

Benefits of membership in JLT: the friends I have made!

Advice to provisional's: Start a conversation with someone new at every single thing you go to and do it with a smile. It doesn't have to be long. We all joined JLT at least partially for social reasons.

Jennifer Roberson

Treasurer Elect

Place of Birth: Wichita, KS

Provisional year: 2005-2006

Education: Master in Business Administration from Oklahoma State University and Bachelor of Science in Finance from Northeastern State University.

Family: Dustin, Kaiden (15), Jacob (3) and Jenna (1)

Employment: Manager at Stinnett & Associates

Hobbies/Interests: Reading, running and spending time with my family and church.

Favorite Childhood Memory: Each summer, my Grandma took me, my brother and my cousin on a vacation. We visited a host of locations during my childhood including Mt. Rushmore, Grand Canyon, Washington DC, Memphis, Niagara Falls, etc. I feel so lucky to have been able to travel the U.S. by car and Amtrak as a child.

Goal yet to achieve: I would like to return to school and obtain my Ph.D. in Organizational Behavior.

Greatest achievement so far: Being a mommy!

If time and money was no object: I would travel with my family. I would love to give my children the experience I was able to have as a child with so many educational vacations.

Favorite JLT placement/why? Treasurer-elect & Treasurer. It has been a wonderful learning experience where I've gotten to experience several aspects of the league and how the spokes of the wheel (each council) turn and give the League movement. I'm in awe of the accomplishments achieved with dedicated ladies.

Favorite food or restaurant: I love a good medium rare steak and Mexican food.

Favorite place you have traveled: Mexico. We went to Maya Rivera on our honeymoon and that has stayed as my favorite spot since it was our first trip as husband and wife.

Benefits of membership in JLT: The friends and mentors I've obtained on my JLT journey.

Advice to Provisionals: Don't be scared of commitment levels. Give yourself an opportunity to learn and grow and give JLT is a chance to change you. You only can grow when you do something that might push you out of your comfort zone a little.





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JLT Wins AJLI Award

by Sarah Dougherty, 2011-2012 President

The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (“AJLI”) awarded The Junior League of Tulsa (“JLT”) Honorable Mention in the Vision category at its 2011 awards ceremony. AJLI cited JLT’s new, innovative strategic planning initiative, which was developed to assess community needs, raise client and member satisfaction, increase revenue and better position the League for growth.

“By introducing this new strategic plan, JLT has been able to remain true to The Junior League’s overall mission and values, while building a clear platform for the future that is easily understandable to its membership,” said Delly Beekman, AJLI President. “We would like to congratulate JLT for creating this new structure, which will help bolster the league internally and have a positive long-term impact on the greater Tulsa community.”

The award was made at AJLI’s 89th annual convention in Philadelphia on May 14, as delegates from 292 individual Junior Leagues from the U.S., Canada, Mexico and the UK came together to celebrate the organization’s diversity, renewal and community impact.

In developing the new plan during the 2008-2009 League year, JLT’s goal was to provide clarity of purpose and build its profile in the community, while remaining nimble, easily understandable, and accessible. After gathering member input through an electronic survey and its annual member “speak out” meetings, JLT used a series of small group discussions to map out the challenges faced by the organization.

As a result of these planning sessions, JLT introduced a series of changes and new programs aimed at making volunteer assignments more meaningful to members, including substitute teacher training, and a partnership with five at-risk elementary schools in the Tulsa area. To improve member communications, the JLT also launched a new website and developed a one-page strategic plan. Since the program’s introduction,

membership satisfaction has improved and Sustainer members have become more actively involved engaged in assessing community needs and in positioning the League in the community.

“It’s an honor to be recognized by our Association for our accomplishments,” said 2010-2011 Junior League of Tulsa President, Cassie Barkett, “and we are proud to be a part of an organization that has an outstanding record of developing the potential of women to make immediate positive impact in their communities.

The new Strategic Plan has achieved significant results for JLT. It has given us a succinct set of objectives and strategies and renewed interest in the Strategic Planning process on the part of our membership. Perhaps our greatest satisfaction has been the development of the potential of women in JLT. We have a new sense of purpose and desire to fulfill our mission and meet the objectives we have set. We have learned we have to be nimble and responsive to our membership and the community, while balancing the need to provide structure and processes to achieve our desired outcomes. Our value in our community, while always respected, is generating a new look as we boldly identify ourselves as women with a mission to build a better Tulsa.



May Meeting Awards and Highlights

Volunteer of the Year

This year's Volunteer of the Year award was presented to Nicole Randolph, who served as the Technology Chair—a job she did not originally sign on to do. But



Nicole stepped up to the plate and completely overhauled the League's website. Paula Settoon, who nominated Nicole, said it best, "I believe she has certainly gone above and beyond to create a terrific product for all members of our League, and she did it without a committee."

Sustainer of the Year

The Sustainer of the Year award was presented to Sharon Bartlett, who served on the scholarship selection panel. Sharon worked endlessly to raise funds for Mrs. W. Albert Cook scholarship. This year, the panel raised the funds to award two scholarships, but felt there were actually three deserving recipients. Sharon immediately put the word out to her friends and within two weeks, enough money was raised to award another full \$1500 scholarship.

Spirit of the League

This honor is bestowed annually to a committee that has simply gone above and beyond to support, promote and further the mission of the Junior League of Tulsa. This year's Spirit of the League award went to the Provisional Committee, led by Chair Joy Hulver, Vice Chairs Margaret King and Abigail Prescott, and rounded out by these fantastic liaisons:

Krystie Cupp
Brandy O'Brian
Stephanie Eckman
Katherine Haskell
Whitney Mathews
Rania Nasreddine
Heather Sher
Whitney Stauffer

15-Year Service Award

Leslie Frazier



10-Year Service Awards

Cassie Barkett
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Kristen Lowell
Stephanie Milburn
Nicole Pearce
Jennifer Roberson
Emily Turner
ReAnda Walker
Mary Catherine Ward
Meg Watkins
Courtney Wilson
Shannon Wright

Actives to Sustainers

Five of our active members made the decision to go sustaining. In order to become a sustainer, a member must have completed seven active years of service with our organization.

Cassie Barkett
Sarah Stewart
Ailee Nowlin
Michelle Bolden
Belinda Hedgecock

Passing the gavel



JLT Fall General Meetings

September Meeting:

Our first General Membership Meeting will be held September 21st. The theme is JLT ♥'s Tulsa and we will have a distinguished panel of community leaders educate us about our city to increase our effectiveness as trained volunteers. We will also introduce our Community Advisory Board. And, of course, there will be surprises and fun in store for everyone.

October Meeting:

We are thrilled to announce an engaging and dynamic speaker for our October General Membership Meeting. We will feature bestselling author and motivational speaker Shar McBee, who wrote *To Lead is to Serve* and *Joy of Leadership* (which went to number seven on the Amazon business bestseller list). The leadership method espoused by Shar will make your life easier at home, at work, and in the community. The Board of Directors has been reading and discussing *To Lead is to Serve* at our monthly meetings and we are excited to share her leadership principles with our membership. The meeting will be held Tuesday, October 18th in advance of our local schools' fall break.

Additionally, we will host a community wide training event with Shar on Wednesday, October 19th from 9 a.m. to noon. This will be an opportunity for JLT and other non-profits in Tulsa to learn how to double our donations and increase volunteers. Shar organized the largest voter registration drive in California history and has raised millions of dollars for non-profits around the world. As a keynote speaker, Shar presents much wisdom in humorous, original stories that energize you to take action. We are thrilled to share this opportunity with our members and our community. More information about Shar McBee can be found at www.joyofleadership.com. Further information about this event will be announced in our email blasts and on our website, www.jltulsa.org.



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2011 Leadership Retreat & Training

By Heather Duncan,
2011-2012 President-Elect



Robert Greenleaf coined the term "Servant Leadership" in his seminal 1970 essay, "The Servant as Leader." The servant-leader serves others, rather than others serving the leader. Serving others comes by helping them to achieve and improve. This aligns perfectly with the Junior League mission of developing the potential of women and enhancing women as community and civic leaders. On Saturday, June 17th, the Junior League of Tulsa was pleased to host its annual Leadership Retreat. Special Guest, Vicki Clark led members through dynamic, interactive sessions covering the 12 Principles of Servant Leadership and Our Mission. Special thanks to all whose generosity made this retreat possible. Old School Bagel, Edible Arrangements,

Dr. Pepper, The Warthan Family, Spectra Press, and Freckles Frozen Custard. To download handouts from sessions by Vicki Clark, please visit our website www.jltulsa.org or email Heather Duncan at hduncan@casciahall.org



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Global Gardens Celebrates 5 Years!

By Ayschia Saiymeh
Global Gardens Community Outreach Director & Educator

Global Gardens celebrated the start of its fifth year this spring. Being the recipient of so much support, the Global Gardens team wanted to celebrate this milestone with a party to thank everyone who has played a part in our success including financial supporters, volunteers, and community ambassadors!

The Junior League Global Gardens committee, led by Ashley Farthing, stepped up to make its five-year celebration possible by donating space and planning all of the logistics. On March 24th approximately 125 people gathered at the Junior League Headquarters to celebrate.

The Global Gardens students were there to display their current projects from worm composting to the student-led fundraiser, “Bike for a Life.” The students proudly spoke to attendees about their experience with Global Gardens. The evening culminated with a video tribute to five people and organizations that have been extremely integral to the success of Global Gardens over the last five years. The honorees included Tulsa Community Foundation, Hille Family Foundation, Clark Millspaugh, Michael Potter and the Global Gardens students.

A big thanks to the Junior League of Tulsa and the wonderful Global Gardens committee!!



Congratulations Shea Eby (A) for your appointment to the Board of Directors of Global Gardens!

JLT Out & About



JLT Out & About



March's provisional meeting featured the theme "Go Green With Global Gardens" in honor of St. Patrick's Day.



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