

Opus

Volume 63 First Movement Oklahoma City Orchestra League, Inc.
A quarterly publication for members of the Oklahoma City Orchestra League

Rhonda's Reflections

Did you know that you can take **six** eight-studded LEGO bricks and arrange them in **915,103,765 different positions**? Ron Hunter Jr. and Michael Waddell used this example in their compelling book *Toy Box Leadership: Leadership Lessons from the Toys You Loved as a Child* (2008). Extending this metaphor of LEGO bricks, you suddenly have a descriptor for relationships and limitless possibilities. One isolated LEGO brick found under the sofa creates nothing; but joining others with firm connections can create "castles reaching the sky."

Like that single LEGO block, I learned quickly not

much is accomplished alone. In the last two months serving as your president, I discovered "the toy box is overflowing"! What fantastic plans have emerged from the Vice-Presidents and their committees! What possibilities have already been realized from members working together to strengthen our organization and our positive impact for the greater Oklahoma City area!

Over **one hundred** League volunteers have been working these last two months! In July, the Executive Committee and special guests participated in a day-long leadership retreat. Jina Daigle, Creative Team Solutions, Dallas, Texas, led members through fun and interactive

activities to identify key values, manage change and develop new relationships.

Interviewing teams recently selected new individuals for supporting roles within our organization. Early August, **Julie Williams** was named the new Office Manager. With a great winning smile to all she greets, Julie brings years of experience and new skills to our organization. We want to extend our sincere gratitude to Sue Hanan Jones who has served as our temporary employee/volunteer in the office during the last four months. Sue is truly awesome!

After an extensive



search, a second interview team made a very special announcement. The Long-Range Planning committee recommended creating a newly shared position with the Philharmonic: Show House and Community Relations Manager. Following both boards' approval, responsibilities will include

(continued on page 2)

"Rollin' on the River" Note-Able Occasion

September 10, 2011



Picture this:

You are cruising on a beautiful river boat on the now world-famous Oklahoma River. It is a balmy September evening, You are enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres and a cool drink while chatting with some of your best friends. To the west, one of Oklahoma's glorious sunsets lends a special magic to the evening. Where are you? You are a part of the Orchestra League's fabulous "Rollin' on the River" fall fundraiser.

Your wallet is happy you

got all this...delightful cruise, bar, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, wine and musical entertainment for the modest price of \$250 per person. And, your heart is happy too, because the money raised will go to support the wonderful Oklahoma City Philharmonic and education projects the Orchestra League sponsors in conjunction with the Phil.

Your invitation is on the way, but mark your calendar so you won't be left out of this memorable evening.

Date: Saturday, September 10

Time: 5:30 pm

\$250 per person

Place: Oklahoma River near Chesapeake Boat House

Call the League office for reservations or information 848-6787

Thanks to our corporate sponsors: Devon, Chesapeake, SandRidge, Quik Print and Joulilian Vineyards.

Chaired by Jean McCown and LaDonna Meinders

Mark Your Calendars in
Red for the New
Note-Able
Occasions



September 10, 2011

“Rollin’ On The River”

Oklahoma River/Devon Boats

Cost -\$250 per person

Chairs: Jean McCown & LaDonna Meinders

November 10, 2011

**“Racing at Remington—
Winning for Music Education”**

Cost - \$65 per person

Chairs: Jill Mizel & Sue Francis

January 24, 2012

“Fine Dining Classics”

Cooking Class with Kurt

Fleishfresser at the Tasting Room

Chairs: Cheri Weintraub & Carol Bowman

April 2012

Gentleman’s Night Out

Show House

Chair: Dean Jackson

September 2012

“Aiming for the Arts”

Sporting Clay Shoot

Watch for your invitations and more information in the OPUS. And remember to share the good times with all your friends. These Note-Able Occasions are open to adults who want to support the great effort to provide music education and enjoyment to all ages.

Another NEW addition is the ability to pay by cash, check OR Pay Pal on line. (info on Pay Pal - page 7)

Rhonda’s Reflections (cont. from page 1)

facilitating Show House organizational planning and developing community outreach through social media and personal contact.

We are proud to announce **Katie Kucharski** has been selected for this key position. For the last five years, Katie has been serving as our Education Coordinator and successfully expanded all our joint music education programs. We know she will accomplish even greater outcomes in her new role!

Vice-Presidents in all division areas have been working diligently planning and developing new goals. **Martha Pendleton and Competitions** met last week with 100 % attendance—15 committee members. **Jeanne Jackson and Education** volunteers have held instrument playgrounds throughout the summer; different committees have been scheduling events for all 19 educational programs for the entire year! Sixty-five schools are already scheduled for “We’ve Got Rhythm”!

Wanda Reynolds, Membership, and her various committees have been contacting members; planning new members’ mentoring activities and preparing the yearbook. **Sandi Garrett** has completely reorganized **Public Relations**. Press releases for upcoming events have

already been sent to a wide variety of media outlets. Rachael Geiger has trained the Executive Committee on using Shutterfly, an internet photography program. **Lucy Cheatwood and Administration** volunteers have been especially busy training the new employee and planning the relocation of the League Office.

Sue Francis, through **Ways and Means** committees, has created an outstanding list of **Note-Able Occasions**. These events spark variety and excitement from riding a river boat and fine dining to horse racing and dinner buffet to cooking a gourmet meal. Dates are outlined in *The Opus*, so be sure to mark your calendars. You won’t want to miss even one! The invitations have been mailed for “Rollin’ on the River,” to be held at Chesapeake Boathouse September 10. **We are taking reservations now!**

The **2012 Show House** contract will be finalized by the end of August! And we have a very special announcement for all our members. The first **General Membership Meeting, Monday, September 19**, will be held in our new Show House location, 15516 Laguna Drive, Edmond, Oklahoma hosted by Susan Coles, the owner. For the first time ever, members and their guests will have a unique preview of the house. In addition, our educational programs will be highlighted with special music by guest trombone soloist, Trenton Howard, overall winner of the 2011 Music Olympics

and featured musician for the Side-by-Side concert last spring. What an exciting meeting this will be!

But the strength of our organization remains with **each member involved!** Don’t be like the isolated toy under the sofa. **Call the League Office today!** Reserve your place for the luncheon—purchase a ticket for “Rollin’ on the River”—select an activity to volunteer! Like the LEGO blocks, involved and committed volunteers form multiple interconnections! New relationships create new friendships and new realities! Then the possibilities for the Oklahoma City Orchestra League truly become limitless!

2011

Show House Review

With another fabulous Show House behind us, we want to thank the many volunteers who worked on this project. Without all of you, Show House would not be possible. Your tireless efforts are appreciated more than words can express. Even though the final number is still pending, the 2011 Show House was a great success!

Cindy & Yvette

2011 Show House Chairs

Membership Challenge from Wanda Reynolds

New Members are one of the goals for 2011-2012. The entire membership is invited to take part in this special goal of 25 or more new members. New members are vital to our organization....we all have a part in this goal. We will have our three new member parties again, which will include our 33 new members from 2010-2011 and any new members from May 2011 through April 2012. I challenge each of you of you to contact a friend and ask them to join our energetic group. Perhaps you might bring them to the first General Meeting on Monday, September 19. Just remember to make your reservations through the office and the *charge for a guest lunch this year will be \$15.*

If you get them to join, their next lunch will be FREE!

September General Meeting

Monday, September 19, 2011

“Preview of the Preview” Show House 2012

15516 Laguna Drive Edmond 73013

Lunch at 11:30 Call the Office for Reservations 848-6787

Remember - Guest Luncheon Charge is \$15

PHILHARMONIC PROFILE

Twin String Players, Julie Dodge and Laura Young

Twelve vibrating strings, 30 agile fingers and the happy smiles of 3 young girls having fun playing as a string trio in the garage they pretended was their concert hall. This portrays the life and career of violist Julie Dodge, her twin, violinist Laura Young - both Philharmonic musicians - and their sister, cellist Ann Wilson (only 13 months their senior). Their lives have always been intertwined with each other and largely with their shared love of music. Each of them was introduced to music in 4th grade; Ann was first and her sisters, enthralled as they watched her play a cello, were eager to learn an instrument, too. So when they were in 4th grade a year later, Laura selected the violin and Julie, to complete their ensemble, chose the viola. Interestingly, their grandmother, who had played violin in high school, got out her own instrument and joined the group.

As Julie says, they played and had fun together

but it wasn't until high school that they had formal lessons.

It was their public school teacher Larry Moore (Philharmonic bassist) who, realizing their promise as serious ensemble and individual musicians, encouraged them to take private lessons, enter competitions and later to study music in college. His confidence was borne out when they won a Buttram quartet competition and Ann a solo cello award. Each of them trained under excellent teachers, Ann on cello with Greg Sauer (former Philharmonic bassist), Laura under violinist Michael Ma (former Philharmonic Concertmaster) and Julie with the late Wayne Crouse - who taught the joy of music as well as mastery of the viola. In 1998, while still students, twins Julie and Laura both won auditions to play in the Philharmonic at age 19. All three earned a B.M. Performance Major Degree at OU.

After college the threesome briefly parted

ways. Julie married soon after leaving OU and Ann married at about the same time, both to active duty USAF officers: Julie to pilot, Lt. Col. Richard Dodge, and Ann to Lt. Col. James Wilson, who is in air weapons control. Military assignments took Ann and her husband to Germany and, coincidentally, Julie and her new husband were sent to the same place. That is how Ann and Julie found the prestigious Maastricht Conservatorium in the Netherlands, where together they each earned a Master's Degree in Music Performance.

Meanwhile, Laura earned her second Bachelor's - a degree in dietetics at OU, became a Registered Dietician, taught violin at Casady School and rejoined the Philharmonic playing violin part time. She and her husband Howard Young, a medical physicist, have two daughters, Abigail, 3 and Rachel, 1.

Currently both Air Force husbands have been

reassigned to duties in the U.S., the Wilsons to Virginia where Ann plans to resume her cello career, and the Dodges to Oklahoma where Julie now has two jobs, caring for children—Isabelle, 5 and Troy, 2—and performing full time on viola in the Philharmonic.

Twins Julie and Laura, remain close companions. They live near one another in Edmond, they both play in the Philharmonic, they both enjoy running and kick-boxing and they both actively support diabetes organizations. This has special importance for them since they have had Type I diabetes all their lives and the use of insulin pumps has made their active lifestyle possible. Not long ago, while Ann was visiting here, the three sisters gave a performance at a garden party for the Philharmonic's Encore Society. Their delightful appearance in that setting was exceeded only by their beautiful music—just as the three little girls in their garage rehearsal hall dreamed it would be.

Jay Bass



Instrument Playground

Undaunted by triple-digit temperatures, Katie KucharSKI and the Education Committee forged ahead with an ambitious schedule this summer and have charged into the new Philharmonic season with renewed vigor.

Cheri Weintraub and her crew of hardy **Instrument Playground** volunteers helped Katie bring music-making to children in a variety of locations throughout the Oklahoma City area. One of the most rewarding Playgrounds took place June 23rd on the Civic Center grounds. There we worked with over three dozen children attending the **Hearts for Hearing** summer camp hosted this year by the Oklahoma City Museum of Art.



Hearts for Hearing is a non-profit health care provider that helps people with hearing impairments develop speech and hearing skills.

Each of the children we met had either hearing aids, cochlear implants or both. With animated faces and frequent exclamations of “That’s cool!” and “Thank you!” the children took obvious delight in exploring the distinctive sounds of different brass, string and percussion instruments. We felt privileged to work with these amazing young people.

If bringing the joy of music-making to children in our community appeals to you, consider volunteering for **Instrument Playground**.

Jeanne Jackson

Previous experience with musical instruments is not required.

For more information, contact Cheri Weintraub at 945-0170
cweintraub@cox.net

Upcoming Instrument Playgrounds include:

September 24 at the Down’s Syndrome Buddy Walk,
9:00 a.m.-noon

October 1 for Plaza District Day
noon-6:00 p.m.

October 2 at the Civic Center for Discovery Concert #1
12:45-2:00 p.m.

“We’ve Got Rhythm” Newsflash

Schools are already signing up for **“We’ve Got Rhythm.”** To prepare volunteers for this worthwhile program, docent training is scheduled for 10 am in the Orchestra League office on **Tuesday, September 13 and Wednesday September 14.** Attending one of those sessions is helpful but not mandatory. If you are interested in volunteering but can’t attend either session, just contact Susan Gertson at 216-5863, sooieag@cox.net or Kathlyn Reynolds at 721-6067, bobkatrey@cox.net. Once again, previous experience with musical instruments is not required. If you enjoy working with elementary school children and occasionally have some spare time during weekdays, you’ll enjoy WGR, as we often acronym it.

For anyone new to this rewarding adventure, here’s a brief summary of the program. WGR is comprised of four components or sessions spread out during the school year. **Component 1** involves docents taking instruments and posters of instruments and the Philharmonic into 3rd grade classrooms to introduce students to orchestral music. If you’re a new docent, **fear not**—you won’t have to go by yourself. Experienced docents are always glad to have you observe or help with their presentations.

Component 2 is a classroom visit from a string quartet. In **Component 3**, a Philharmonic musician accompanies each docent or docent team for an in-depth look at that musician’s instrument. Also included in this classroom visit is an introduction to some of the music and composers to be featured in **Component 4**, the Philharmonic Youth Concert the students will attend at the Civic Center in the spring. As a docent, you’re welcome to attend these wonderful concerts, as well. Talk about perks!

Jeanne Jackson, VP Education

OCOL Honored at National Conference

The League of American Orchestras 66th National Conference was held June 6 - June 9, 2011 in Minneapolis, MN. "Creative Orchestras - Strong Communities" was this year's theme. Rhonda White, President, Cindy Raby, President-Elect, and Katie Kucharski, Education Coordinator attended as delegates. Also in attendance were LaDonna Meinders, National Representative to the League Volunteer Council of the LAO and Debbie McKinney, who will succeed LaDonna as a representative of the Volunteer Council.

Our delegates attended many interesting sessions including volunteer roundtables and a networking luncheon. During the volun-

teer roundtables, ten outstanding fundraising projects were presented and we came away with some great new ideas!

One of the highlights of the conference was the outstanding presentation of the Oklahoma City Orchestra League by Rhonda and Katie for the "Gold Book Award of Excellence." OCOL was honored to receive one of seven national awards for the "Society of Strings" program. This unique program targets adults learning to play stringed instruments with little or no previous musical training.

Minneapolis is a very metropolitan city and we were able to enjoy a wonderful performance of the

Minnesota Orchestra. After the concert, we attended an exciting party on the 50th floor of the Marquette Hotel, one of the city's tallest skyscrapers!

The conference was a great experience and provided each of us with an opportunity to learn many new and innovative ideas that will benefit the OCOL in the years to come. We can be proud of OCOL and all we have accomplished as an organization of dedicated volunteers.

Thank you for allowing us to represent OCOL at the conference this year. The 2012 conference will be held in Dallas.

Cindy Raby, Pres-Elect



Rhonda White and Katie Kucharski accepting the Award of Excellence from Sue Ashby, League Volunteer representative from Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra.



Katie Kucharski, Debbie McKinney, LaDonna Meinders and Cindy Raby at League of American Orchestra conference in Minneapolis.

A New Season Begins!

The opening Classics concert of the season features the Grammy Award winning JAMES EHNES who makes his first appearance with the PHIL on Saturday, September 24 at 8 pm. He's been called "effusively lyrical...hair-raisingly virtuosic" by the London Guardian and he will perform the popular Tchaikovsky violin concerto for us.

The concert opens with Maestro Levine leading the orchestra in heroic music by Richard Wagner, followed by

the first symphonic poem of Liszt.

The music of Spanish composer Joaquin Turina is a special treat. The piece mixes rhythms and melodies from the exotic regions of Spain in characteristic styles including "gypsy" and "flamenco." The work has never been performed on our stage and should delight the audience.

Season tickets are still available and single tickets are available by calling the Philharmonic ticket office at 405-TICKETS, that's 842-5387.

**Grand Opening Night:
September 24, 2011 at 8 pm**

**Maestro Joel Levine Conducting
Soloist James Ehnès, violin
Wagner: Lohengrin: Prelude to Act III
Liszt: Les Preludes
Turina: Danzas Fantasticas
Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto**

Don't miss the first concert Preview speaker at 7:00 pm on September 24, "Grand Opening Night." It's Maestro Joel Levine!

Greetings from Eddie



Eddie Walker, Executive Director of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic

Dear League Friends:

The 2011-2012 Season is about to begin, and the stage is set for wonderful things this year. Audiences have responded in big ways to our three concert series and we anticipate full houses. If you haven't yet purchased tickets—DO IT NOW! And invite friends to join you. There's nothing better than sharing live music with loved ones.

I've enjoyed working with the League leadership over the summer on some new initiatives that we believe will spur great progress for both of our organizations. And the boards of both the League and the Phil are to be commended for their vision and commitment to our shared missions.

Thanks to you personally for your role in our greater successes. Together we make OKC a better and more vibrant place to work, learn and live. See you at the concerts.

Eddie

Welcome to the Technology Age Exciting News for OPUS

Beginning in January, we will start sending the OPUS by email. Several reasons prompted this idea: more eco-friendly, faster delivery, less printing and mailing expense and ability to make it larger with more information. It will NOT come as an attachment to download, but as a newsletter which automatically pops up when you open the email. You may choose to print it or just read and save to refer to later.

If your email address is already in our data base you are covered - if not, just call the office and add it to the list. Don't worry if you are unable to receive emails - we will still be printing a few "hard" copies to send out. Please let us know if you would prefer a mailed copy. We hope you will like the new format, appreciate the new delivery and help us march into the "techno" age.

The Strings in Stereo Quartet with narrator Katie Kucharski gave four memorable Musical Stories performances for large, enthusiastic audiences. See the "Center Stage" feature story on this popular Education program, page 7.

Thank You from the Education Division

Katie Kucharski, our superb Education coordinator for the past four years, has been named to an exciting new position. Congratulations, Katie, on being chosen the Show House/Community Relations Manager for the Oklahoma City Philharmonic and the Orchestra League.

We in the Education Division are delighted for you, but how we'll miss your winning smile, your "can do" attitude toward even the most last-minute school schedule changes for "We've Got Rhythm" and your amazing logistical skill in packing nine instruments including a cello and a snare drum plus a suitcase of percussion objects into your little red hatchback.

Best wishes for success in your new job, Katie, and a heartfelt "thank you" for your tireless devotion to Education.

2011 Show House Designer On National TV Show -Kellie Clements



A newcomer to this year's Show House, designer Kellie Clements just finished competing in HGTV's Design Star. True to her bio on the HGTV site, she is a "fireball" ready to tackle any challenge. She brought enthusiasm and whimsy to the Show House and was a joy to work with.

Midway through the dirty work, we received a cryptic message from Kellie that she was going to be leaving for 6 weeks and an associate would be filling in for her until she returned. Little did we know she was jetting off to compete on the show, filming in New York City. True to her word, she worked double-time to get every detail finished before leaving on this mystery trip.

One of the highlights to this year's Show House, Kellie's room was a whimsical take on a play room with modern and transitional pieces sourced locally. The crowning jewel was a hand blown glass chandelier created by Bella Forte Glass Studio specifically for the Show House.

Fast forward past the Show House—Kellie was finally able to let the cat out of the bag and let us know that she had gone to compete in this season of HGTV's popular show, Design Star. (You can log on to www.HGTV.com/DesignStar to watch all of this season's episodes, find out more about Kellie and the rest of the contestants and vote for your favorite.)

We're thrilled that Kellie and dozens of nationally-recognized and talented designer professionals, are willing to give their time and resources to make Show House a continued success. Their expertise and creativity bring a new experience each year for visitors to the Show House, which enables the League to continue its musical education programs and support for the Philharmonic.

You can still see Kellie on this season's Design Star on HGTV at 8 pm, Monday nights. We don't know if she wins the title but we do know she is a "STAR" in our eyes.

Simon Shingleton & Karen Smith
Design Chairs



Kellie's "hallway" room in the 2011 Show House

“There’ll be Some Changes Made”.....check this out



We welcome our new Orchestra League Office Manager,

Julie Williams. This summer several candidates were interviewed for the position and Julie is already hard at work.

She is a transplant from Nebraska, but spent her middle and high school years growing up in McAlester, OK. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from the University of Oklahoma. She is married to Mike Williams and they have a daughter, Lindsay, who has blessed them with

two grandsons, Bryant and Grant. Julie enjoys the role of being a “grandmother,” taking walks around Lake Hefner and cherishes being with family and friends.

Welcome to the League, Julie!



A huge THANK YOU to Sue Hanan Jones for stepping in this spring and handling the office in a very professional and organized manner. We are grateful to have had someone with your experience to help during the busiest time of our year.

Thanks Sue!

WE’RE MOVING!

By the time you read this notice, the Orchestra League will have relocated its office to a larger space on Level K of 50 Penn Place, in the area recently vacated by the 50 Penn Management Office.

Happily our office suite will remain the same - K110 - but we are just located in the other corner of the hallway.

If you have “gently used” area rugs, table lamps, small side chairs or framed art you no longer need, you might consider donating them to the Orchestra League for possi-

ble use in our expanded space. If we are able to make use of your items, we will give you a donation slip for use when filing your 2011 taxes.

Come by, check out the new “digs” and welcome our new employee.

PAY PAL INFO

To get to the membership link to use Pay Pal for reservations, or to make a donation, go to www.okcphilharmonic.org/league-membership_or www.okcphilharmonic.org/rollin-on-the-river. Additional links will be provided as events appear.

*Education Programs have **Center Stage** by Jeanne Jackson*



Picture of Katie and the Strings in Stereo Quartet at Mustang Library’s Musical Stories courtesy of Carolyn Cole.

This is the first in a series of feature stories on the Education programs of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic and the Oklahoma City Orchestra League.

Green Eggs and Ham, The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog, Bear Wants More—remember those childhood favorites? Now imagine them narrated to the music of a string quartet and performed live

before your very eyes! Welcome to **Musical Stories**, one of the best-received Education programs.

Bassist Dr. John Schimek is the creator, director and guiding force of **Musical Stories**. Originally, the presentations were intended solely for the Children’s Center in Bethany to give medically fragile patients new musical experiences. Now the program travels to area libraries and other public locations.

With her engaging manner and expressive voice, narrator Katie KucharSKI could charm her listeners with a reading of the logarithm tables. Given the delightful texts of Slowly, Slowly Said the Sloth and Tippy Toe Chick Go, she never fails to enthrall the audience. The Strings in Stereo Quartet provides accompaniment that perfectly captures the changing moods of the stories.

In addition to the musical inter-

pretation of the books, the quartet members take turns introducing and demonstrating their instruments. John Schimek is always a crowd favorite, choosing some of the smallest members of the audience or an unsuspecting adult to try their luck with his “giant fiddle.” John fingers the notes with his left hand while guiding the novice’s hand on the bow across the strings with his right hand. When the familiar sounds of “Star Wars,” the Harry Potter theme, or the menacing first notes of “Jaws” emerge, the child’s face reflects the thrill of making music.

If you’ve never been to a **Musical Stories** performance, give yourself a special treat and attend one this season. Is Musical Stories just for children? Yes, it’s for children of all ages!

OKLAHOMA CITY ORCHESTRA LEAGUE

General Board Meeting

April 25, 2011, 5:00 p.m.

Symphony Show House, 1701 Drury Lane, Oklahoma City

On behalf of Show House Co-chairs Yvette Fleckinger and Cindy Raby, President Sharon Shelton welcomed OCOL members to the beautiful 2011 home for the Spring Party and General Meeting.

The minutes of the February 14, 2011 General Meeting were approved as printed in the *Opus*.

Sharon thanked Kirstin Reynolds and Cathy Wallace for putting the party together, and Susie Booth, caterer, for providing the delicious and beautiful cocktail buffet.

The treasurer reported all divisions are working within their budgets.

Sharon said the Note-Able Occasions Chef's Dinner at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club, chaired by Marie Gravley and Sue Francis, was both exquisite and delicious, with 32 in attendance. It made almost \$3500. Sharon thanked Marie and Sue for their hard work in making it such a success. The next Note-Able Occasion is "Aiming for the Arts" chaired by Rhonda White. OCOL members were urged to attend and invite their friends.

Philharmonic Executive Director Eddie Walker congratulated the League on having so many ongoing activities that are so amazing and wonderful. He said he knows how hard we work to support the Philharmonic and its musicians. He also congratulated the League on the beautiful show house.

Maestro Joel Levine seconded Eddie's remarks and said the musicians would want him to tell us the same thing. Concerts coming up include the Classics, Discovery and Pops. As he finishes his 22nd year, Joel said he feels he is a very lucky guy for the incredible support he has received from Oklahoma City and the League. He again thanked us for everything we do.

Wanda Reynolds reported on the New Membership drive for the year, "Who We Are and What We Do 3 Times Over." There were three parties, with hosts Grace and Pat Ryan, Sue and John Francis, and LaDonna and Herman Meinders. She once again thanked them for their generous, beautiful parties. She also expressed her thanks to League members who volunteered as mentors for their guidance and encouragement of the 33 new members. She then announced the winner of the New Member Drive – Sandi Garrett! Sandi could not be present, but Wanda showed us the beautiful plaque which will hang in the League office. It will be inscribed with Sandi's name as this year's winner. In addition, Sandi will be given two tickets to the upcoming classics concert.

In concluding the meeting, Sharon told us about acquiring the home for this year's Show House. Work actually began last Christmas and has continued until now to bring the whole thing together. She said if it takes a village to raise a child, then it takes a large metropolitan city to build a show house!

Cinda Lafferty, Government Affairs Chair, gave out information to members on how to contact our congressmen. She asked that we write and let them know how important it is to continue funding for the arts as they work on the budget.

Sharon again thanked everyone for coming and for their support. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Betty Burns, Recording Secretary

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