

## Fine Arts Teachers Appreciate Betty Bradstreet Awards

By Carmen Kinsey and Marilyn Brill, Co-chairs

Visit opportunities are an important part of the Betty Bradstreet Award Fund Committee's responsibilities.

Judy Thomas, Carmen Kinsey and Marilyn Brill visited Amanda Clark's music class at Chouteau Elementary. We were entertained by 5th grade students playing 10, 12 and 14- inch Tubano drums and a Deep Bass xylophone that were purchased with Betty Bradstreet award funds. The xylophone adds a pitched instrument to the un-pitched drums. The students were enjoying playing the drums—great beats!!! A wonderful teacher/student rapport was also present.



Chouteau Elementary—5th Grade Music

Shelly Bruski, an art teacher in Mannford Middle School, has received funding from Betty Bradstreet for several years. Shelly wrote, "Thank you once again for funding our art projects at Mannford Middle School. Everything has turned out wonderful. The students got to make two ornaments this year. Right now we are busy with clay. The students are making coil pots, chickens, fish, masks and boxes. My favorite new addition to our clay experience has been clay gnomes. Clay is always such a great media for students to experience. We have been painting on canvas all year long. The seventh grade painted self-portraits and the eighth grade painted a parody of a famous painting. I so appreciate your continued support of the students and myself at Mannford Middle School. Thank you!" Assistance League® of Tulsa members are invited to visit the art show on May 5, 2016.



An art teacher from one of the small area school districts wrote, "This small school district would be in a terrible pinch if it were not for the Betty Bradstreet award fund. You are truly a blessing to us and to many other small schools that are

struggling to keep their art departments."

Another art teacher from an outlying district wrote, "Thank you for your kindness with my grant. At least I know this will not be cut or taken away from my students. Bless you all!"

It is very rewarding to witness first hand the wonderful fine arts programs that are ongoing in our area schools, due in part to funding from the Betty Bradstreet award fund.

We invite all members of Assistance League® of Tulsa to participate in a visit opportunity in April or May.



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Verdigris Elementary Thank You Posters

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Tulsa Public Schools

# President's Message

Volume 41, Issue 8

By Mary Sue Whitney, president

Spring is here, and aren't the flowers glorious? Their cheery color is always such a welcome change after the winter "browns"!

Assistance League® of Tulsa is greeting this change of seasons with some exciting changes of our own. Following an extensive selection process, GH2 architectural firm has been selected to work with us in planning the renovation of our future new home on 31st Street. They are an innovative and enthusiastic group of people who have been in Tulsa for 43 years and have done extensive work with other area non-profit entities. They bring a great deal of experience in the repurposing of buildings and are eager to get started working with us to plan a building that will work effectively to reflect the personality of our organization and help us accomplish our mission even more efficiently. The brainstorming, information exchange, and preliminary planning will take place in the next several weeks. Following that will be several months of groundwork necessary prior to start of actual construction. The entire process is projected to take at least a year in total. We will keep you updated on progress.

If you have never attended a National Assistance League® Conference and would like a chance to win an all-expense paid trip to the one this year at the Anatole Hotel in Dallas, Sept. 14-18, put your name in the drawing bag labeled for that purpose in the front office at the building, or at the April chapter meeting. Drawing will be at the May chapter meeting. National Conference is a wonderful opportunity to network with other chapters, get new ideas from workshops and just generally to realize how fortunate we are to be a part of an organization that makes such an impact in communities around the United States.

Nominations are being solicited for the Ada Edwards Laughlin Award. The award is designed to recognize



members who over an extended period of time have been tireless "behind the scenes" workers—not in the limelight as officers, etc. but faithful hard workers in the background to help us fulfill our Mission. Nominations can be placed in the box designated for that in the front office or at the April Chapter Meeting.

Assisteens® is an organization for high school students. The Tulsa chapter disbanded a number of years ago. Recently there has been interest among our membership in re-establishing a chapter. Assisteens® operate under the auspices of the local Assistance League® chapter and according to National guidelines but with their own officers, plan their own service projects, events, etc. with minimal involvement from the adult chapter. Assisteens® have an Annual National Conference which this year will be held on the University of Oklahoma campus! If you have interest in this or have perhaps a daughter/daughter-in-law and granddaughter who might be interested in attending the Conference in Norman to learn more about the program, please let me know. The Conference is June 24-26.

Another upcoming opportunity for networking is Texas Networking to be held in Austin June 13-14. Representatives from chapters in Texas and Oklahoma will meet to share ideas, etc.

We recently received a generous Grant from the David E. and Cassie L. Temple Foundation for which we are most grateful.

Enjoy this beautiful spring weather and remember that a photographer will be available at both the April chapter meeting/luncheon and the fashion show on April 29th to take new pictures for the yearbook.

## AL Tulsa Letter Campaign Let's Go All Out: 100%!

We are moving toward our goal of 100% participation from AL Tulsa's membership.



If you haven't joined in yet, now's a good time.

Contributions may be sent to:

Assistance League of Tulsa  
3408 E. 11<sup>th</sup> St., Tulsa, OK 74114.

Attention: Letter Campaign or  
Operation School Bell®.

Assistance League® of Tulsa thanks the following people for their generous contributions in the second half of February 2016 through the first half of March 2016.

Larry and Le Akers  
Bank of America Matching Gift Program  
Natalie Brundred  
Roger and Lin Cleary  
Don and Pat Hardin  
Robert and Ann Harrolle  
Fern Lassman  
Sallye Mann  
Craig and Irene Osgood  
Doc and Nancy Shannon  
Joe and Melanie Sutton  
The David E. & Cassie L. Temple, Foundation  
Generous Anonymous Donors

Thank  
You!

## Bargains Resale Shop

March was a very busy month for Bargains. Most of our winter clothing has been sold and the store is full of color with spring items.

We have been receiving many nice donations of both in and out of season clothing. I have already taken over 40 bins of women's winter clothing to our storage unit. We also have several winter jackets hanging in the side storage areas of the back room. When you are working at the women's pricing table, please put fall and winter items in bins or hang them up. I've been trying to have separate bins for holiday clothing so that they are brought out at the appropriate times. I have also been inventorying the bins before I take them to storage. Hopefully, that will make things easier at inventory time.

**One area where we are short is nice men's clothing. If you or your friends are cleaning out closets, please remember that we need men's clothing also.**

The big news for this month is that beginning Saturday, April 2, we will resume our late hours on Thursday and Saturday. If you prefer working afternoons here's your chance. Please remember to sign up on Sign Up Genius or when you are at the building. The customers are excited about our staying open later. I hope that you are too.

## Community Action Programs: Mental Health

By Diane Wells

The Community Action Programs: Mental Health committee has been busy outfitting models for the Mental Health Association Oklahoma Style Show that will happen on May 6, 2016. Bargains donates both women's and men's clothing, shoes, purses and jewelry. Thank you Bargains!

## Going, Going, Gone!

### Circle Fund

By Mary Sue Whitney

Last chance to make your donation to Circle Fund, National's only fundraiser, for the 2015-2016 fiscal year! Donations in any amount are welcomed. For a minimum donation of \$25.00 you will receive the current year's pin. To participate, see Mary Sue.



Donate to Circle Fund!

By Deanna Mendenhall

Once again, thank you to all who work at Bargains. We have fun and your help is what makes Bargains a success.



Jana McKee, Dayon Smith and Marsha Darden in the men's department of Bargains. Let us have your donations!

*Assistance League® of Tulsa*



**Assistance League® of Tulsa**  
A chapter of National Assistance League®

3408 E. 11th St.  
Tulsa, Oklahoma  
Phone: 918-832-8832  
Fax: 918-832-1994



President: Mary Sue Whitney

Newsletter Editors: Marinee Ricks  
and Marianne Pickering



The Betty Bradstreet Assistance Fund awarded money to purchase xylophones for the music program at Verdigris Elementary. These posters were their thank you note to AL Tulsa.



We are on the web!

[www.altulsa.org](http://www.altulsa.org)



Assistance League® of Tulsa

**Vision:**

Assistance League® of Tulsa aspires to meet the needs of the most impoverished in our community.

**Mission:**

Assistance League® of Tulsa is dedicated to clothing students in need and aiding the most vulnerable in our community.

**Core Values:**

- Commitment-showing compassion for all.
- Accountability-being fiscally responsible to our donors and our community.
- Leadership-demonstrating professionalism that is visionary and ethical.
- Respect-appreciating and considering others.
- Self esteem-enhancing success in the people we serve.