



Assistance League® Tulsa

MISSION : Assistance League® volunteers transforming the lives of children and adults through community programs.

May/June 2020

Volume 45 Issue 9

Committee Placements for 2020-2021



How do you want to be involved in AL Tulsa next year? We strongly encourage all members to participate in Chapter committees. Assistance League® Tulsa is member driven and your connection is the key to our success. An engaged and informed membership shares ideas, develops policies and implements actions. For our highly-productive organization, things get done at the committee level.

It is essential that our members understand both what we do = Philanthropic Programs and where the money comes from = Resource Development. Each AL Tulsa member is encouraged to serve on at least one (1) program committee and one (1) fundraising committee. In addition, there's a category of committees that support our Chapter's administrative, membership and social functions. Help is needed in these areas, too.

In coming weeks, you will receive a 2020-2021 Committee Placement request from SurveyMonkey in your email. Please take a few minutes to complete this online form. This will save us the postage of mailing you a paper version. Descriptions of our committees and their activities are listed in the Standing Rules on pages 118-120 of your yearbook. The STEM Education program and partnerships with 12 & 12 Rehabilitation Center and Tulsa Day Center will be added next year.

Consider serving on committees that spark interest and where you can make an impact. In these days of Covid-19, many committees will be developing new ways to involve members from home. The survey will also ask you about your life experiences and skills. Do you like to write, draw or speak in public? Do you know something about finance, technology or social media? What were your special interests in school? In your work, what daily skills did you use? Do you love kids? Do you love clothes? Please put thought into your response. This is important information, as it helps us match our needs to the right volunteers.

If you have questions, please contact Mary Peterson, Placement chair.

2020-2021 promises to be a memorable year for AL Tulsa. As we continue to celebrate our 50th year of service, we will overcome new and unique challenges. Join the adventure. Choose your committees.

Above: Mary Peterson, Placement Chair, asks you to review pages 118-120 in your yearbook. New programs/partners are also being added in 2020-2021.

Assistance League® Tulsa

Board of Directors 2019-2020

Officers:

President: Marianne Pickering
President-elect: Yolanda Taylor
Secretary: Pat Banzhof
Treasurer: Brenda Dinan
Vice Presidents:
Education: Jacque Hickman
Marketing & Communication: Julie Ryker
Membership: Deloris Taylor
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Orientation: Nancy Kingery
Strategic Planning: Pat Holder

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Parliamentarian: Martha Nichols

Business Administration

Assistant Treasurers: Carole Hale/ Martha Nichols/
Edie Slack/Ginny Thomas
Office Administration: Glenna Morrison /
Loretta Raschen
Recorder of Service Hours: Mary Sue Whitney
Technology: Glenna Morrison / Loretta Raschen

Membership

Placement: Mary Peterson
Yearbook: Marinee Ricks

Philanthropic Programs

Betty Bradstreet Arts Education: Betsy Manis/
Donna Spielman
Community Action Programs: Sharon Coffman
Care & Protection of Children: Deni Phillips
LIFE Senior Services: Sharon Atcheson/
Liz McDoulett
Mental Health Association Oklahoma: Patti Ross/
Debra Lockerman

Resource Development

Grants : Kathleen Moss
Estate Sales: Julie Burton
Letter Donation Campaign: Susie Hyden/ Lynne Hoe
Waste Not: Mary Dotson

Public Relations

Historian: Deloris Taylor
Newsletter Editor: Julie Burton

Social/Relationships

Care and Concern: Michele Morris
Hospitality: Elisabeth Harrington / Barbara Walters
Luncheon: Kathy Elliott / Judy Roberts



Assistance League® Tulsa is consulting with community, public health leaders, National Assistance League® and other Chapters on best safety practices. An ad hoc committee, chaired by President-elect Yolanda Taylor, will review and make recommendations on protocols to ensure member safety, procedures to reopen Bargains, and much more.

Assistance League® Tulsa Advisory Council

Ken Busby

Executive Dir./CEO Route 66
Alliance

Phyllis Dotson

Community Volunteer

Adam Doverspike

GableGotwals Counsel

Heather Duncan

Community Volunteer

Danielle Hovenga

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Dr. Ebony Johnson

Executive Dir. of Student and Family
Support Resources,
Tulsa Public Schools

Nancy McDonald

Community Volunteer

Brian Paschal

Foundation for Education for
Tulsa Public Schools

Gary Percefull

NeWSolutions/Tulsa School Board

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Christina da Silva

Assistant to the Mayor for
Community Development and
Policy

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Schnake, Turnbo, Frank/PR

Mollie Williford

Chairman of the Board
Williford Companies

President's Message By Marianne Pickering



This is a time when **w**e all have more questions than answers. How will AL Tulsa **e**nter into the new normal? How **w**ill we re-open Bargains Thrift Shop? How will Operation School Bell[®] prov**i**de services to students next year? How do we ensure the safety of our precious members? How do we help local people in need right now? AL Tulsa's Leadership Team can't answer all of these "How" questions yet, but I can sincerely tell you that "we are working on it."

Answering the "Why" question is a lot easier. The focus of our Mission is clear: "Assistance League[®] volunteers transforming the lives of children and adults through community programs." A **f**ew weeks ago our goal was to support people in reaching their potential. Now our goal will be directed at helping people rebuild their lives. Essential needs in our community have changed and **g**reatly expanded since we temporarily closed our **d**oors back

on March 17. We **m**ust prepare AL Tulsa to meet new needs and new challenges.

The Covid-19 crisis has arrived at the same time AL Tulsa is finishing **g** our 2019-2020 year. Many positions and duties **w**ithin our organization are transitioning to new people. We are most fortunate to have Yolanda Taylor as our incoming President. Yolanda's experience, skills and personality are just the combination we will need in 2020-2021. It is time to **t**hank members of our outstanding Leadership Team who have **s**erved this year. Your Board members and committee chairs have been dedicated and innovative in their **e**fforts. Your leaders in Bargains Thrift Shop and Operation School Bell[®] have enhanced our success by achieving record income and increasing the number of students we served. Other committees have **s**treamlined their processes and **r**eached out in new ways to provide improved **s**ervices. All of this was only possible with the caring and committed **w**ork of our member volunteers. You made everything possible!

For weeks, we've **b**een sheltering at home with a mix of strong emotions. As **w**e slowly emerge and **t**ake measured steps to resume our activities, it will be more **i**mportant than ever to treat each other with **t**ender care. AL Tulsa is recognized **d** for the kindness and compassion behind the services we provide. Let us be equally known for the **a**ffection with which we treat **o**ne another. AL Tulsa is our **o**ther family. Under **s**ocial distancing, we may not be able to embrace each **o**ther, but we can embrace empathy, patience and trust as we bring our building back to life. Thank **y**ou for an extraordinary year. **I**t has been my honor to serve as your president.

* A special **s**hout out to Julie Burton who has served as **e**ditor of the newsletter the past two **y**ears. Thank you, Julie, for a job well done!

President's Puzzler: Decode an important message by writing down the **red letters** in order. Answer to the puzzle is on the last page. Don't peek!

Annual Meeting Has Been Cancelled

Celebrating our eventual large group reunion will be even sweeter! Our 2019-2020 Ada Edward Laughlin Award winner will be announced electronically, but the award presentation will be made in the fall. Officers on the AL Tulsa Board and committee chairs will transition, beginning their duties on June 1. Past and present Board members will be recognized in the fall. Year-end statistics and our many accomplishments will be published in the 2019-2020 Annual Report.

Assistance League® Tulsa thanks the following people for their generous contributions in the second half of February 2020 through April 15, 2020

Kenneth and Suzanne Adams—*in honor of JoAnn Quarles*
Ben and Pat Abney
Martha Alford
James and Cherry Bost
Roy and Julie Brockmeier
Terry and Laurie Brumbaugh
Ken Busby—*in honor of Phyllis Dotson*
Gary and Alma Buscombe
Joe and Patty Cappy
Gordon and Pamela Cecil
Bryan Close—*in honor of Phyllis Dotson*
Geneva DeLoach
Richard and Elaine deJongh
Steve and Diana Earl
Judy Ellis
Silvia Furgason
Scott and Jessica Grover—*in honor of Judy Thomas*
Gerald and Julie Gustafson
Ron and Deanna Harvey
Jim and Janice Henshaw—*in honor of Nancy Kingery*
Jacque Hickman
Patricia Holder—*in memory of Don Neal*
Donald and Linda Hoose
Sussie Hyden—*in memory of Dick Dibble*
Sussie Hyden—*in memory of Ross Copley*
Eric and Nancy Kingery
Bill and Kaye Klintworth
Peter and Lora Marschall
Joe and Nancy McDonald
Jerry and Jana McKee—*in memory of Lyle Hunter*
LeRoy and Glenna Morrison—*in memory of Ross Copley*

Paul and Marilyn Nance
Anne Waller Neal
Anne Waller Neal—*in honor of Jean Hunter's sister and husband*
Glenda Neeley
William and Lynn Peacher
Gary Percefull
Clara Perkins
Mary Peterson
Greg and Kathy Phillips—*in honor of Marjorie Phillips*
Jerry and Kay Quinton
Robert W. Sears
William and Melanie Schnell
Doc and Nancy Shannon—*in memory of Tom Coffman*
Robert and Pat Van Triest
Chuck and Julie Watson
David and Carolyn Watts
Grady Whitaker
Mollie Williford—*in honor of Priscilla Harris*
Grace and Franklin Bernsen Foundation
The David E. & Cassie L Temple Foundation
ONEOK Inc



Please consider leaving a gift to Operation School Bell® in your estate plans. You'll help ensure that our program's good work lives on.

Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Award-*Betsy Manis*

Hello from Betsy Manis and the Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Awards Committee

We have had a very rewarding year providing awards to 46 public school teachers despite the early school closures as the teachers were able to purchase their art supplies or musical instruments before the closure and were able to use them this year or save them for next year. The best part of working on this committee is hearing feedback from the teachers and visiting the classrooms.

- “The kids love being visited by the Assistance League. Where many of the arts are performance based (vocal, instrumental, theatre, dance) and get a lot of outside attention, our visual artists don’t often get visitors or outside validation. They appreciate the questions, interactions and extreme positivity of the visitors.”
- “I can see how my students are becoming more adventurous in selecting media now that they have a chance to work with acrylics, watercolor, and pastels and have access to more than just pencils and crayons. Students are taking initiative to enter in some area contests which they have never done in the past.”
- “The visit was a great experience for my classroom. It showed the students that there are people out there that care for them and want them to succeed. Having someone walk around and asking them about their work gave them pride in what they were making and gave them encouragement to keep putting in all their effort because they were not being overlooked. The little things like that tend to make the biggest difference in their belief in themselves. “
- “We were able to have plenty of clay for everyone to use what they needed when they needed it. Sometimes that is rare: art supplies are often rationed because they are sometimes less affordable, more specialized and in great demand. It meant a great deal to my students to be able to create whatever they wanted and not be limited by supplies.”
- “Instruments purchased with this award will benefit students for years to come.”
- “This painting rack will last for years.”
- “One particular student calmed and quieted when “carding” or brushing out the wool. It was like he had a

pacifier. Several students used the word “satisfying” to describe what they felt about working with the wool.”

- “The girls were thrilled to have new concert dresses as the old ones had not been properly maintained. The new look will certainly enhance their look, which helps define better confidence, which will help in performance.”

Our goal for 2020-2021 is to put all of our forms online on the ALTulsa website. This will improve and speed up our communication about the award and increase the number of applicants for the award as superintendents, fine arts directors and teachers can easily forward the information online to others. It will also expedite the application, approval and reimbursement process for the awards.



Art projects at Mannford School, funded by the Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Award 2019.



Operation School Bell® Outcomes

At the end of each school year, counselors are surveyed in three areas to rate our work. Here is a small selection of their responses:

Student Confidence

- ◆ “I have observed on a first-hand basis the smiles expressed on my students’ faces. Heads are held higher. There is a definite spring in their step and efforts made in class are more pronounced. This is because of new, clean, and properly sized clothes.” (Delores Huerta)
- ◆ “After OSB the kids are always so excited to show off their new shoes and clothes. This year in particular, OSB was so important to our kids. We had over 50 kids that had to evacuate their homes due to flooding in spring 2019. Many ended up with only the clothes and shoes they had on when they left their homes. Most of them lost their winter coats in the flood. The families were so appreciative of the help this year. Programs like OSB are so important to so many families.” (Pratt-Sand Springs)

Classroom Behavior

- ◆ “When students feel good about themselves they are able to perform their best. OSB helps eliminate issues caused by embarrassment.” (Grove-Union)
- ◆ “When students experience OSB they attend school much more regularly and focus more on their classwork.” (Sequoyah)

Is OSB a high priority need in (your) school

- ◆ “Yes, I believe OSB is a high priority. I have parents sending me emails even before school starts requesting that they be included. It takes a huge burden off their shoulders.” (Patrick Henry)
- ◆ “Yes. So many students benefit from this program. The parents are so thankful that the school is able to offer this program to meet a need that they could not do themselves.” (Glenpool)

Many thanks to Loretta Raschen for compiling the responses. We don't know exactly what OSB will look like this year, but we will do the best we can to help these children.

New STEM Education Program Coming!



The proposed partnership with the STEM Alliance grew out of the AL Tulsa ad-hoc committee charged to investigate new program opportunities and partnerships. Funding would support STEM training for teachers. Training is provided, at a cost, by the STEM Alliance. Classes are taught by faculty from area colleges and universities and focus on strategies to incorporate STEM education in the curriculum. Cost is \$100 for a weekend to \$400-500 for an extended summer program.

Additionally, STEM Alliance provides weekend and summer camps to encourage students, particularly students from underrepresented groups, to major in STEM degree programs. The cost for camps varies depending on length. Program costs range from \$25 to \$200. Awards will be based on participant applications that will be reviewed by a committee of AL Tulsa members. You will be able to sign-up to serve on this committee during our Placement process in May.

AL Tulsa Community Participation

Hello all ya'll Howl and Holler-ers!

I just wanted to reach out and say thanks for being apart of the Great Tulsa Howl and Holler. I was blown away by the response from the community. I stepped out on my porch at 7pm and heard at least a dozen houses in my neighborhood taking part. I've seen videos from downtown and other neighborhoods that had a ton of participation. A few neighborhoods reported not much activity, but based on that, I'd say probably in all 15,000—30,000 Tulsans took part in some way in the event. That's incredible!

Ryan Howell
River Parks Authority

Thanks to all who helped make this event happen or shared about the event!

ahha Tulsa
Assistance League® Tulsa
Black Wallstreet Chamber of Commerce
Booksmart Tulsa/Magic City Books
Brain Injury Recovery Foundation
Cain's Ballroom
CAP Tulsa
Casa de la Cultura
Cherry Street Farmers Market
Church Studio
City of Tulsa
Cox Media Tulsa
Emergency Infant Services
FleetFeet Tulsa
Gathering Place
Gilcrease Museum
Harwelden Mansion
Joy In The Cause
Mythic Press
Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice
Oklahomans for Equality
OkPop Museum
River Parks Authority
Riverfield Country Day School
Root Tulsa
Rugby Club of Tulsa
Saint Simeon's Senior Community
St. John's Episcopal Church
Studio Row
This Week in Tulsa
Tulsa Art Alley
Tulsa Artist Fellowship
Tulsa City-County Library
Tulsa County
Tulsa Dream Center
Tulsa Health Department
Tulsa Irish Festival
Tulsa Juneteenth

Tulsa Kids Magazine
TulsaMoms.com
Tulsa Opera
Tulsa Parks
Tulsa Public Schools
Tulsa Runner
Tulsa Urban Wilderness Coalition
Tulsa Zoo
TulsaPeople Magazine
TYPROS
Up with Trees
Visit Tulsa
Woody Guthrie Center
YMCA Tulsa



Assistance League® Tulsa

Mission

Assistance League® volunteers transforming the lives of children and adults through community programs.

Vision

Essential needs are met in our community and families flourish.

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



Tulsa

President: Marianne Pickering
Newsletter Editor: Julie Burton

www.altulsa.org



Assistance League® Tulsa

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National

Assistance League®

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We will get through this together. Be kind to each other!