

March  
2010

Volume 7, Issue 5

Think  
Gala! Gala! Gala!

WOMEN OF  
THE SOUTH  
Since 1995

15th Annual Southern Gala

*Thank You All Ball*

Saturday, May 8, 2010

6:30 p.m.

Petroleum Club  
100 North Broadway  
Oklahoma City

2009-2010  
EXECUTIVE  
BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT  
Shauna J. Smith  
895-7111 or 306.2555

CO-PRESIDENT  
Connie Mashburn  
691-0123

PRESIDENT ELECT  
Grizelda Loy-Kraft  
819-4162

SECRETARY  
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691-1513

TREASURER  
Trish Guthrie  
919-6837

CO-TREASURER  
Belleva Johnson  
692-2850

PARLIAMENTARIAN  
Cathy Estes  
623-9762

...

2009-2010  
HONORARY  
BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS  
(Non Voting Members)

LIFETIME ADVISOR  
Linda Neimann

EX-OFFICIO  
Mary Blankenship-Pointer

Board Continued...Page 2

Women of the South Sponsors Native Daughter Award



Mary Blankenship-Pointer (left) and Nancy Wallace (right) presented the Native Daughter Award to Leona Mitchell (center).



Leona Mitchell with members of Women of the South who attended the South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet.

The Native Daughter Award, sponsored by Women of the South, was presented to Leona Mitchell at the South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet by WOS members Mary Blankenship-Pointer and Nancy Wallace on January 21, 2010. The Native Daughter Award honors an outstanding native Oklahoman for their accomplishments.

Ms. Mitchell is a native of Enid, Oklahoma. Her mother was an only child and dreamed of having a large family. Her parents were blessed with fifteen children, ten sons and five daughters. Leona was the tenth child and the youngest daughter.

Leona's singing career began in her father's church at an early age. However, it was her choral teacher, Ms. Maurine Priede, that discovered her beautiful voice and encouraged her to pursue a vocal career. Ms. Priede drove Leona to Oklahoma City University for an audition for the vocal program. Not only was Leona accepted, she received the first vocal scholarship in the history of Oklahoma City University. She has a Bachelor's in Music from Oklahoma City University and two honorary doctorates, one from The University of Oklahoma and one from Oklahoma City University.

She has emerged as one of America's most beloved and celebrated sopranos. She spent 18

seasons as a leading Spinto Soprano at the Metropolitan Opera in New York. Ms. Mitchell has performed for four United States Presidents, one vice-president and Governor Henry's inauguration.

Ms. Mitchell has received many well-deserved awards. She belongs to The Oklahoma Hall of Fame, The Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame, The Jazz Hall of Fame and The Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame.

3rd Annual  
United We Stand  
Blood Drive



- ♥ Women of the South
- ♥ Junior League
- ♥ Edmond Women's Club

Monday, April 12, 2010  
10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.  
at the following locations:

South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce  
UMB Penn Square Branch  
Edmond Chamber of Commerce

**Let's have a huge showing!!**



"Promoting educational, cultural and civic opportunities in the South Oklahoma City area."



Established on April 1, 1995

Photos courtesy of ahshoot.com



**2009 - 2010  
BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS**

**HISTORIAN**

Elaine Lyons - Angie O'Keefe

**ARTS FESTIVAL**

Linda Blundell - Beth Odom

**BENEVOLENCE**

Millie Tibbits - Dottie Klepper

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Pati Thurman

**GALA**

Carol McDonald - Nancy Wallace

**GOLF**

Brenda Fleming - Ashley Spann

**HIGH SCHOOL**

Judy Williams

**MEMBERSHIP**

Traci Robbins

Jan Girdner

Cathy Estes

Anita Ingram

**NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE**

Dianne Krob - Diane Laase

**PHONES/CONTACTS**

Candy Hines - Pati Thurman

**PRIMARY PROVIDER**

Amy Simpson

Amanda Mason

**PUBLICITY**

Mary Blankenship Pointer

**RESEARCH &  
RECOMMENDATION**

Connie Mashburn

Belleva Johnson

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Joyce Mauldin

Linda Neimann

Sherry R. Howell

**STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Mina Acquaye

Patricia A. Berryhill

**UNDERWRITING**

Cindy Sparkman

Nancy Wallace - Debbie Self

# Gala News

## Think Gala! Gala! Gala!

Please get your Gala donations in ASAP!

Invitations will be mailed the second week of April. Remember . . . **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED!** There will be limited seating so get your return reply cards in ASAP!

## 2010 Gala Auction Items

**Hate to Cook?** This item contains gift certificates from various eating establishments. You won't have to cook for weeks.

**OSU! OSU!** 50 yard tickets to a game, OSU blankets, coolers, OSU signed football by Coach Gundy, Boone Pickens autographed book, Dez Bryant framed "Sports Illustrated Print"

**Got Grandkids?** \$100 savings bonds from five local banks.

**Need Art?** A painting from the OCCC Arts Festival and one from Ms. B's Gallery

**Men! Into Boxing?** A mystery boxing package for men.

**Like to Golf?** A golfing adventure courtesy of several golf clubs in the OKC area.

**Like Rodeos?** A surprise special package for the rodeo fan.

**Like Jewelry?** Black pearls are all the rage and we have them plus a surprise item from Hill's.

**Need a Thrill?** Try an aerobatic plane ride for two.

**Tool Man or Woman!** \$100 gift certificate from Steve's Wholesale and a RYOBE scroll saw.

**Outdoor Christmas Trees** Four yard Christmas trees.

**Live Tree** Choose from 50 varieties. Will be delivered and planted.

***This is just a tease. Check out the next edition of the newsletter for more items.***

## A Word From Your 2009 - 2010 President



### Shauna J. Smith

Hello All!

Hope this finds you all doing great and staying warm. We have a lot going on and I challenge each of you to step up and volunteer.

Please don't assume someone else will do it. With each of us putting forth an effort, we will continue making a difference in the lives of people in the South Oklahoma City Metro Area.

### Upcoming Events:

#### **3rd Annual United We Stand Kick Off Rally**

Monday, March 22, 6:30 p.m.  
Junior League Headquarters

#### **3rd Annual United We Stand Blood Drive**

Monday, April 12, 10 am-2 pm  
South Chamber of Commerce  
(Thanks, Elaine!)

#### **15th Annual Southern Gala**

Saturday, May 8th  
Petroleum Club

See you there!

Blessings,

Shauna



# 2009 - 2010 CALENDAR

## MARCH

- 2nd ..... OCCC ..... *Cultural Arts Series - Valery Kuleshov*
- 8th ..... 6:30 p.m. .... *Board Meeting - Excell Homecare & Hospice  
1200 SW 104th, Suite D*
- 9th..... 6:00 p.m..... *Judge High School Scholarship Applications  
Contact Judy Williams for more information.*
- 15th .... 6:30 p.m. .... *Membership Meeting - Earlywine YMCA  
Nominating Committee To Present Slate Of Officers*
- 22nd.... 6:30 p.m. .... *United We Stand Kick Off Rally  
Junior League Headquarters*
- 30th..... *Women Entrepreneurs Inspire Conference  
(WE Inspire) For more information, see below.*

## APRIL

- 12th ..... *3rd Annual United We Stand Blood Drive  
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Details on page 1.*
- 12th..... 6:30 p.m. .... *Board Meeting - Excell Homecare & Hospice  
1200 SW 104th, Suite D*
- 13th .... OCCC ..... *Cultural Arts Series - Rowan*
- 19th .... 6:30 p.m. .... *Membership Meeting - Earlywine YMCA*

## MAY

- 8th ..... 6:30 p.m..... *“Thank You All Ball” (15th Annual Southern Gala)*
- 9th ..... *Mother’s Day*
- 10th .... 6:30 p.m..... *Joint Board - Excell Homecare & Hospice  
1200 SW 104th, Suite D*
- 17th .... 6:30 p.m..... *Membership Party & Drive Kickoff*

## JUNE

- 14th .... 6:30 p.m..... *Board Meeting - Excell Homecare & Hospice  
1200 SW 104th, Suite D*
- 20th ..... *Father’s Day*
- 21st ..... 6:30 p.m..... *Membership Meeting*

# WOS Family UPDATES

## WELCOME

to Gracie Mikelle, Sharon Greene’s new granddaughter. Born to Sharon’s daughter, Julie, on February 16, she weighed 5.8 lbs. and was 18½ inches long.

## PRAYERS

Cindy Sparkman’s father-in-law, Ron Sparkman, passed away February 8, 2010. Harvey and Cindy are tireless promoters of WOS. Keep them in your prayers.

Sharon Greene’s mother-in-law passed away. Please keep Alan, Sharon and Julie in your prayers.

Please keep these members in your prayers: Rachel Odom, Debbie Self, Brenda Fleming, Linda Carr.

Mary Blankenship Pointer’s mother has improved.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congrats to Grizelda Loy-Kraft on her promotion!

PLEASE let the Benevolence Committee, Millie Tibbits and Dottie Klepper, know of any member needs.

### →The Women Entrepreneurs Inspire Conference (WE Inspire)

will take place March 30, 2010, in Oklahoma City. WE Inspire will be a full-day conference to help celebrate women and entrepreneurship. The conference will explore the unique obstacles, demands and challenges women face when creating ventures. The day will combine inspirational role models, wisdom from the school of hard knocks, and informative sessions on key facets of starting and growing ventures. The Early Bird Registration is only \$35 until March 15 and includes breakfast, lunch, networking reception and resource binder. Check out the website for more information: [www.weinspire.net](http://www.weinspire.net)



### →Oklahoma Drivers License Renewals

The Oklahoma Department of Public Safety now allows you to give them an email address so you can be notified 45 days prior to your license expiration. They are not mailing notices to your address anymore due to budget issues, so if you do not fill this out, you will not be notified. Here is the link: <http://www.dps.state.ok.us/renewal>

\*For Your Information

## RESEARCH & RECOMMENDATION

All community service project ideas and donation requests.

Contact  
Connie Mashburn  
691.0123



NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE  
20th of each month

Contact  
Diane Laase - [dlaase@hotmail.com](mailto:dlaase@hotmail.com)



WOMEN OF  
THE SOUTH



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

P.O. Box 892802

Oklahoma City, OK 73189-2802

## WOMEN OF *Past Presidents* THE SOUTH

1995 - 1996 Linda Neimann  
1996 - 1997 Linda Neimann  
1997 - 1998 Sherry Howell  
1998 - 1999 Connie Mashburn  
1999 - 2000 Joyce Mauldin  
2000 - 2001 Kyle Dahlem  
2001 - 2002 Kathy L. Williams  
2002 - 2003 Susie Bradshaw Kalivoda  
2003 - 2004 Mary Hornbuckle  
2004 - 2005 Dianne Krob  
2005 - 2006 Dr. Linda Miner  
2006 - 2007 Beth Odom  
2007 - 2008 Vickie Munsey  
2008 - 2009 Mary Blankenship Pointer

*Women of the South*

*Southern Gala*

*Saturday, May 8, 2010*

*"Thank You All Ball"*

Petroleum Club, Downtown, Oklahoma City



"Best Seat in the House"

For more information  
call OCCC Foundation 682-7591 or contact  
WOS member Pat Berryhill at [pberryhill@occc.edu](mailto:pberryhill@occc.edu)