

Original Tocqueville Members Celebrated

Thirty years ago, the Alexis de Tocqueville Society was founded to provide individuals and couples the opportunity to support the Tulsa Area United Way at a distinguished level.

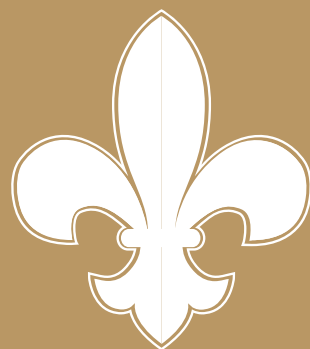
Of the 32 original members, eight have remained with the organization for each of those 30 years through today, including Pat and Keith Bailey, Gordona Duca and Larry Heiliger, Susie Hentschel, Roxana and Bob Lorton, and Milann Siegfried.

“These families have established unparalleled legacies in our community,” said Mark Graham, President and CEO of the Tulsa Area United Way. “They have truly been with us every step of the way.”

The Alexis de Tocqueville Society of the Tulsa Area United Way was created in 1987 to foster, promote and recognize voluntary community service and personal giving at an exceptional level.

The Tocqueville Society bears the name of French aristocrat Alexis-Charles-Henri Clerel de Tocqueville, who came to America in 1831. His keen observations of American society and politics formed the basis of Democracy in America, published in two volumes in 1835 and 1840.

Tocqueville applauded the volunteer spirit so characteristic of Americans. He wrote, “When an American asks for the cooperation of his fellow citizens, it is seldom refused; and I have often seen it afforded spontaneously and with great good will.”



SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Where There's a 'Will,' There's a Way

As a child, Will Turner never experienced safety, stability or success.

His father was not present. His mother struggled with addiction and was abusive toward Will and his sister.

At 14, Will was removed from his mother's home by the Department of Human Services. For the next four years, he was shuttled between dozens of foster parents, group homes and youth shelters across Oklahoma.

“I was a runner,” he recalls. “Each time I was placed, I would just take off.”

He lived with friends and became involved with a gang. At one point, he returned to his mother's home but after a few months, she went to jail.

A social worker arranged for him to enroll in the Tulsa Boys Home on two occasions. The first time, he “faked it” and ended up back on the streets. However, the second time, he began to work through his troubled childhood.

Once again, Will found himself bouncing around temporary residences, but at 17, a staff member at the Tulsa Boys Home invited him into his home. “I lived with him until I turned 18.”

At 18, Will landed a job at a pizza restaurant and moved into his first apartment. However, a misstep with friends resulted in a burglary charge. He spent the next 18 months in prison, where he earned his GED.

“When I got out, I knew something had to change,” he said. As a young adult, he returned to the Tulsa Boys Home, where Gregg Conway, its executive director, helped him enroll in welding school.

From there, Will's life has been a one-way track to success. He worked as a welder for a while, but when buying a car at Keystone Chevrolet, the owner insisted on hiring him. “They saw something in me,” he said. “I guess I'm pretty good with people and am a good salesperson.”

Today, he is manager of the dealership, and is married with three children ages 5, 3 and 1.

“Now, I have what I always dreamed of – a great home, career and a wonderful family. My children will never experience what I did.”



Will Turner

Firsts *(Continued from Page 1)*

The Siegfried family will chair the campaign as NORDAM celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2019. Family members also include siblings Hastings Siegfried, Terrell Siegfried and Milanie Siegfried Williams.

Ray Siegfried, the company's founder, served as Campaign Chair in 1987, and was the first to

lead a United Way campaign in excess of \$10 million.

“Ray established a strong legacy at the Tulsa Area United Way and we are thrilled to have the next generation serve in such a high-profile leadership role,” Graham said.



Ray Siegfried

philanthropie

Alexis de Tocqueville Society

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Next Three United Way Campaigns to Feature Several 'Firsts'

Planning for the next three Tulsa Area United Way campaigns is well underway as leadership roles have been determined through 2020.

“We are pleased to announce successive Campaign Chairs for the next three years,” said Mark Graham, President and CEO of the Tulsa Area United Way.

The Chair of this year's Campaign is John Hewitt, President and CEO of Matrix Service Company. Hewitt has already assembled his Campaign Cabinet, and is presently meeting with prospective company campaigns and touring partner agencies.

Next year, Rob Martinovich, Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer of ONEOK, has agreed to serve as 2018 Cam-

paign Chair. Presently, he serves on the United Way Board of Directors and is a member of the Finance and Audit committee.

In 2019 – for the first time in local United Way history – an entire family will chair the annual campaign for the community. The Siegfried family, led by Meredith Siegfried Madden and Bailey T. Siegfried, will serve as the first family to chair a campaign.

Finally, Caron Lawhorn, Senior Vice President, Commercial, of ONE Gas, will chair the local United Way campaign, in 2020. She has served on the United Way Board of Directors for six years, and helped launch the Women's Leadership Council.

“This succession plan will ensure robust leadership well into the next decade,” Graham said.

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Strategic Plan to Guide United Way through 2020

Providing leadership for shared community goals, using data to drive investments, and elevating relationships with volunteers and donors are among the key drivers of the Tulsa Area United Way's Strategic Plan 2020.

“This is more than a ‘roadmap’ or a work plan,” said Mark Graham, President and CEO of the Tulsa Area United Way. “It is a guiding document based on our core values that vigorously addresses upcoming opportunities and challenges.”

Those core values form the basis of the local United Way's three Building Blocks to a Better Life: Education, Financial Stability, and Health/Safety.

Led by Alison Anthony as Chair, framing of the Strategic Plan began with direction from members of the Board of Directors at its retreat last year. Extensive community outreach followed.

The plan features five Key Drivers, supported by organizational goals. Copies are available at www.tauw.org.

INSIDE:

Meet Your New Co-Chairs

ADT Members In the Community

Where There's a 'Will,' There's a Way



Tocqueville Society Announces 2017 Co-Chairs

Trading the smokestacks of Birmingham, Ala., for the oil rigs of Oklahoma, April and Sid McAnnally are no strangers to United Way or the Alexis de Tocqueville Society.

The couple were members of the highly successful Alexis de Tocqueville Society at the United Way of Central Alabama, before relocating to Tulsa two years ago.

This year, they will serve as Co-Chairs of the Tocqueville Society at the Tulsa Area United Way.

“We have been astounded at the generosity and giving spirit in Tulsa,” said Sid McAnnally.

Sid is Senior Vice President for Operations at ONE Gas, and is responsible for the operation of its three natural gas utilities – Oklahoma Natural Gas, Kansas Gas Service, and Texas Gas Service. Through these three utilities,

ONE Gas provides natural gas to more than two million customers.

April is a community advocate who is a volunteer with Reading Partners and a member of the Board of Directors of Tulsa CARES, a United Way partner agency.

Although relatively new to Tulsa, April and Sid have quickly become part of the community fabric. Recently, they chaired the Giving Spirits event for the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma and the Memory Gala for the Oklahoma Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association.

“Tulsans have been so welcoming to us,” April said. “We are looking forward to working alongside members of the TAUW Tocqueville Society to make the city an even better place to live.”



Message from the President

This year, we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society at the Tulsa Area United Way.

In the last three decades, Tocqueville members have contributed a total of \$79,104,071 to our United Way, an astounding figure.

I would like to recognize the original members of the Tocqueville Society, who have been with us for each of those 30 years: Pat and Keith Bailey, Gordona Duca and Larry Heiliger, Susie Hentschel, Roxana and Bob Lorton, and Milann Siegfried. These dedicated individuals and couples have established quite a legacy in our community. We are deeply appreciative of their support.

Last year, 253 members of the Tocqueville Society contributed more than \$4 million toward the United Way campaign. We also were fortunate to welcome 16 new members to the society.

We are looking forward to another successful campaign this year.

However, the need in our community will invariably outstrip the capacity of the United Way, our partner agencies, and the non-profit community to provide relief. In other words, philanthropy alone cannot meet all the needs of our fellow citizens. Federal, state and local governments play a crucial role, yet government support for social programs has plummeted in recent years in Oklahoma.

For example, in the last five years, Oklahoma has reduced funding for education more than any other state. And, as members of our Board of Directors recently learned through a presentation by Dr. Gerry Clancy, President of the University of Tulsa, our state ranks second in the nation in the percentage of people suffering from mental illness, as well as second in the nation in substance abuse. In addition, our suicide rates are among the country’s highest.

There are some bright spots as well: Tulsa is gaining a reputation for collaboration among its private foundations, schools, and social service agencies in addressing these challenges. Our

three major institutions of higher education – TU, OU, and OSU – are closely working together to increase our health care workforce. Finally, a community-wide health initiative has helped to increase life expectancy among residents of poor neighborhoods in Tulsa.

We must not take our foot off the pedal. By the time you receive this newsletter, the Oklahoma Legislature will have concluded its annual session and prospects of adequately funded services are slim.

As a result, this year’s United Way campaign may be among the most important in our 94-year history. We look forward to working together with you to provide help to those who need it and to make our community a better place to live, work and raise a family.



Mark R. Graham
Mark R. Graham
President and CEO
Tulsa Area United Way

Several members of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society attended the annual Live United Awards Luncheon and our first CEO Forum, a summit for Tulsa area CEOs, which included peer networking and a focus on improving the community.



Rob Martinovich and Sid McAnnally



Ron Peters and Howard Barnett



Alison Anthony and Marcia MacLeod



Mike Cooke and Fred Barnes



Mike Mears, Mayor G.T. Bynum and John Hewitt



Phil Lakin and John Lindsay



Gerry and Betsy Jackson, Pat Chernicky and J.W. Craft



Steve Bradshaw, Fred Dorwart and Marla Bradshaw



Libby Johnson and David Hentschel