



Elizabeth Caples
President

FOCUS



Benjamin K. Richmond
President/CEO

Issue 2005/06-8

April 2006

Entertainment announced for Derby Cruise

Sheryl Rouse will provide us with entertainment along with her DJ during the Derby Cruise. Sheryl promises us a night of Patti LaBelle, Tina Turner, and Billie Holiday, and lots of dancin' music and fun. Coupled with hors d'oeuvres, this year's Cruise will be a sure "winner" for everyone!

Tickets are now available. If you would like to purchase via credit card, please contact Audrey Poppe at the Urban League (561-6830 x 118) or online via www.lul.org. Or if

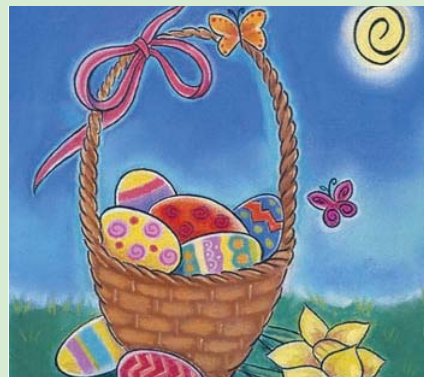
you would like purchase with cash or check, please see or contact Patty Van Vooren (551-4306 cell). All tickets must be paid for in advance and are \$30 per person.

A seating chart is shown on page 3. It would be helpful to let either Patty or Audrey know the table number/letter you would like to reserve. Every effort will be made to accommodate your seating request, however, it's first-come, first-serve.

Easter Egg Hunt and Cookout set for April 15

The Masons/Unity Lodge, who have graciously helped us in the past, will again donate hot dogs, buns, and chips for this year's THP Easter Egg Hunt/Cook-out on Saturday, April 15. We need your help in the donation of candy/trinkets for our bunny bags or plastic candy-filled eggs for the egg hunt. Please bring these items to our April 10 Guild meeting. (We will assemble the bags after the meeting.)

If you would like to provide dyed "real" eggs, please bring these to THP by 12:00 noon on Saturday, April 15. Special thanks to Jerry Wright for volunteering to "man" the



grill. If you would like to participate in this year's egg hunt, please arrive by 12:00 noon. Maybe your schedule has not permitted you to participate in some of our volunteer activities this year? We encourage you to join in the fun!

THIS MONTH

Guild Meeting - April 10
Easter Egg Hunt/Cookout - April 15
Thunder Over Louisville - April 22

Oaks Day - May 5
Derby Day & Cruise - May 6
Guild Meeting - May 8
Diversity Soiree - May 20

2005/06 Officers and Executive Committee

President -
Elizabeth Caples (231-6713)

1st Vice President/Program Chair -
Patty Van Vooren (502-829-9323)

2nd Vice President/Membership Chair -
Sheila Carson (425-9189)

Recording Secretary -
Deathra Shipley (587-1793)

Asst. Recording Secretary -
Shirley Fuqua-Jackson (239-8317)

Corresponding Secretary -
Bobby Atchley (821-4926)

Treasurer -
Mary Mahin (558-0554)

Member-at-Large -
Hazel Calloway (776-5229)

Committee Chairs

Courtesy - Jerry Wright

Finance & Budget - Mary Mahin

Membership - Sheila Carson

Program - Patty Van Vooren

Public Relations - Claudia Geurin

The mission of the Louisville Urban League Guild is to unite, strengthen, and support the Louisville Urban League in its endeavors with volunteerism and community service.



Spotlight on Claudia Geurin

Claudia Geurin embraces her undeniable Capricorn nature. She is aware that she likes routine and structure. She also exhibits another Capricorn tendency - when she believes in a cause, she commits wholeheartedly.

As a Guild member for 25 years, Claudia's dedication shows no signs of wavering. "This is my passion. I believe in the mission of the Guild and I will stick with it because of the good they do, not just for minorities, but for human kind."

Geurin has served in every Guild office available, aside from treasurer. She was Guild president from 2002-2003 and served as parliamentarian at different times for a cumulative total of 10 years. She was encouraged by her cousin's fiancé to join the Guild.

When she first joined, she brought her young son to the meetings. "His father worked nights, and often he would come with me and fall asleep." Claudia said that it benefitted her son to see her and others involved in community service and helped him set his own path for helping others.

During her tenure as Guild President, Claudia instituted several new programs including the Angel Tree Christmas project, Healing Place donations, and the Breast Cancer and Mammogram screening. These programs are still going strong and Claudia credits other Guild members for moving these programs to a new level. As President, Claudia also focused on increasing Guild membership and getting members to be active, rather than just paying membership dues without really participating.

Before becoming a Guild member, Claudia had a long history of volunteerism. As a sophomore at Central High School, Claudia began tutoring at the Market Street Neighborhood House, which is now one of the Louisville Community Centers. She served as board chair from 1993 to 1994.

Claudia was born in Louisville - the oldest of three children. She grew up in an integrated neighborhood and schools were desegregated when she was in the 4th grade. "I cherish my childhood. Growing up black in the '50s and '60s, I didn't experience prejudice like some of my peers. My family protected me."

"This is my passion. I believe in the mission of the Guild and I will stick with it because of the good they do, not just for minorities, but for human kind."

Claudia cites her mother as her greatest role model. "She is strong and can handle anything. She enjoys her life and is always jolly." She also credits many of her teachers in the public school system for being a positive influence on her life.

After 30 years of service, Claudia retired from a management position at Bell South. She now works full-time for Jefferson County Public Schools in the Mathematics Curriculum and Assessment Department at Gheen Academy. Among other job duties, Claudia helps plan and organize professional development for teachers of all grade levels.

Recently, the Jefferson County Public School District was selected by the GE Foundation as the first national recipient of a \$25 million grant to improve math and science achievement. Claudia anticipates playing an active role through her department in the math/science project. Her involvement will likely be

two-fold since the Urban League, along with other organizations, will lead a community engagement sub-committee with a goal of enlisting and training community volunteers for out-of-school tutoring programs.

Claudia also works part-time as a counselor for the Families In Transition Program through the Jefferson County Family Court. In this capacity, Claudia counsels children whose parents are divorcing. Her focus is to help children and acknowledge and discuss their feelings and to let them know that the divorce is not their fault.

Claudia is also a part-time student at Louisville Bible College. She will earn an associate's degree in Sacred Literature next Spring. "I had the desire to attend years ago, but I wanted my son to get the best education he could get, so I put it on the back burner. Once he graduated from high school and went on to college, there was time for me to do those things."

Since Claudia currently teaches a Sunday School class and a class to senior citizens, she wanted to obtain her degree to become a better teacher of the Bible and to enhance her ability to teach on the national level.

Claudia also enjoyed her time as Louisville-Courier Journal Forum Fellow. Forum Fellows are selected from Kentucky and Indiana to offer opinion on local, regional, national and foreign affairs. They attend two weeks of daily editorial conferences.

Married for 35 years, Claudia and her husband have one son. He is a graduate of Morehouse College and is a narcotics investigator in Atlanta.

An avid reader, Claudia admits to being interested in books of many different genres. She also likes to cook and baking is her specialty. Her homemade rolls even took third place in the State Fair.

**LUL Guild
Announcements**

Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets are here! Audrey Beasley distributed some tickets during our March meeting and will do the same at our April 10 meeting. Please remember that each member is responsible for the sale of five tickets. Proceeds benefit our Charles T. Steele Scholarship Fund.

Third Annual Legislative Policy Conference/Regional Conference

Bobby Atchley, Nola Howell-Bullitt, and Elizabeth Caples attended these conferences in March in Washington, DC. This year's report on The State of Black America continues to examine the equality gaps, as researched in the Equality Index, that remain virtually unchanged from 2005 between Black and White Americans. Also, included in the report are essays on Hurricane Katrina. An executive summary is included in this issue of FOCUS. The entire report may be purchased online at www.nul.org. More information to come in the next issue of FOCUS. The 2006 Annual Conference will be held in Atlanta, July 26-30.

**Corporate Spotlight:
J.Y. Legner Associates, Inc.**

J.Y. Legner was founded in 1999 and is headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky. The company provides professional services in areas including staffing, human resource management, and engineering support.

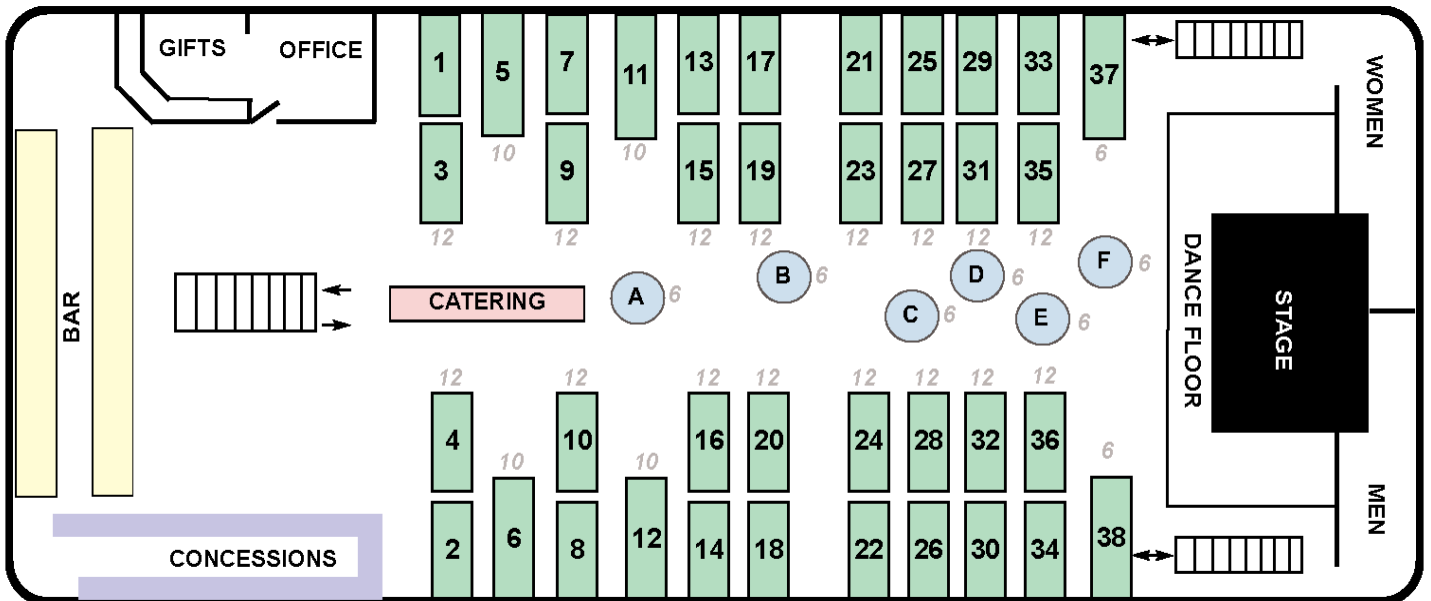
The firm was founded by Jozi Legner, President/CEO, and Matt Linville, Vice President. The two met while doing research for engineering companies. They decided to put their experience and talents to work by forming their own company.

The company has experience phenomenal growth over the last four years and was listed as Number 1 in the 2005 Business First Fast 50, a supplement to Business first that ranks the fastest growing private companies in the

Louisville area. JYLA acquired Power Staffing in 2004.

JYLA has nine employees in its Louisville office and has 110-160 employees placed in positions in Kentucky and other states. Their office is located at 10000 Shelbyville Road, Suite 105.

JYLA serves clients throughout Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, Missouri and Michigan. The firm is certified as a Minority/Woman Business Enterprise Corporation with Kentucky Minority Supplier Development Council (KMSDC), MSD, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, and the City of Louisville.



**LUL Guild
Calendar**

April

- 8 VITA
- 10 Guild Meeting and Easter Baskets - 6:15 p.m.
- 15 Easter Egg Hunt and Cookout VITA

- 8 Guild Meeting - 6:15 p.m.
- 20 LUL Diversity Soiree - Galt House Hotel

June

- 12 Guild Meeting/Annual Reports/Election of Officers - 6:15 p.m.

May

- 6 **Derby Moonlight Cruise** - 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

Diversity Quotes

In a country well-governed, poverty is something to be ashamed of. In a country badly governed, wealth is something to be ashamed of.

Confucius

When the man who feeds the world by toiling in the fields is himself deprived of the basic rights of feeding, sheltering, and caring for his own family, the whole community of man is sick.

Caesar Chavez



You may pay your dues, fundraiser reservations, and/or raffle tickets by check or credit card.

Please return to:

Louisville Urban League Guild
1535 W. Broadway
Louisville, KY 40203
Attention: Mary Mahin

Fax: (502) 585-2335



✂ Detach here

- Dues \$35
- Old School Dance # _____ @ \$30/each (minimum 1) \$ _____
- Derby Moonlight Cruise # _____ @ \$30/each (minimum 1) \$ _____
- Raffle Tickets # _____ @ \$1/each (minimum 5) \$ _____
- Total \$ _____

Payment:

Check enclosed for \$ _____ payable to "Louisville Urban League Guild"

MasterCard Visa Expiration Date: _____

Account Number: _____

Signature: _____ Name: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____