

KidneyTexas Celebrates 25 Years!

I was a perfectly lovely fall morning as guests arrived for the much-anticipated KidneyTexas, Inc. The Runway Report 2024 Luncheon and Fashion Show themed Celebrating 25 Years of Giving With Style, one of the premiere events of the fall season. Guests filled the Brook Hollow Golf Club as they chatted with friends and welcomed new supporters, underwriters and sponsors joining in the celebration of KidneyTexas, Inc.'s 25th year.

Chairs **Claire Catrino** and **Kaleta Blaffer Johnson** with **Lauryn Gayle White** as honorary chair, welcomed guests to the reception as they enjoyed mimosas and champagne. Presenting sponsor, **Sam and Helga Feldman Foundation/David and Natalie Taylor** was represented by Natalie, who was joined by award recipients **Donna Arp Weitzman**, Sue Goodnight Award honoree; **Barbara Bigham** Lifetime Achievement Award honoree and **Everson Walls**, who presented his namesake Legacy Award to **Raymond Quigley, MD**. In celebration of this 25th year, **Emilyynn Wilson** and her late husband, **Claude Wilson**, were the 25th Anniversary Award honorees.

Jan Strimple, fashion show producer, was busy behind the scenes coordinating fashions from sponsors **Betty Reiter**, **TOOTSIES**, **St. John** and **NARDOS**, which was styled with fine jewelry from **Bachendorf's**. Jan has produced the KidneyTexas, Inc. show for 25 years.

Scott Murray, Murray Media, award-winning sportscaster and television journalist, served as emcee. KidneyTexas, Inc., has raised over \$4.7 million in the fight against kidney disease and has impacted countless lives with all funds raised staying in the North Texas area, he announced this year's beneficiaries: **Baylor Scott and White Health Foundation**, **Children's Medical Center Foundation**, **Methodist Health System Foundation**, **National Kidney Foundation/Camp Reynal**, **Southwest Transplant Alliance** and **Texas Health Resources Foundation**.

Monica Cooley, president of KidneyTexas, Inc., began welcomed the crowd and said, "Because of your generosity, we are able to fund a program that provides free kidney screenings in low-income communities. We support hardworking nurses and hospital staff by providing modern training devices and much-needed



Photo by Rob Wythe

Left to right; Kaleta Blaffer Johnson, Barbara Bigham, Monica Cooley, Emilyynn Wilson, Claire Catrino.

patient care equipment. We replace aging systems like dialysis machines and organ transport pumps. And, most near and dear to our hearts, we get to send our Kidney Kids to summer camp where they are able to just "be a kid" while having access to their dialysis and round-the-clock medical care."

Barbara Bigham, joined Monica at the podium and shared background on the formation of KidneyTexas, Inc. as its own 501(c)(3) nonprofit and the tremendous help the late **Claude Wilson** was as the attorney who made it all happen. She was joined on the stage by Claude's widow, **Emilyynn**, who said this 25th Anniversary Award is so very special to her and the entire family.

Kaleta and Claire thanked their committee, then presented a gift to Natalie representing the presenting sponsor, saying that the **Sam and Helga Feldman Foundation** had made the largest single donation to KidneyTexas, Inc. a few years ago in the name of Natalie and David Taylor. Thanking **Lauryn Gayle** for her dedication and enthusiasm for all things KidneyTexas, Inc. as honorary chair, the chairs also announced the awards to **Donna** and **Barbara**, presenting them with a lovely gift as a thank you. **Everson Walls**, presented **Raymond Quigley, MD** with the Everson Walls Legacy Award, so named for Everson in recognition of his having donated a kidney to Ron Springs, a fellow Dallas Cowboy.

President's Message

Photo by Rob Wythe



Hello, lovely friends – welcome to fall! These last few weeks have been absolutely incredible for me as I got to see our talented members create amazing events for us, where we got to honor beloved friends while raising money to support the fight against kidney disease. You are all so generous with both your time and your financial support, and I hope you enjoy looking through these photos because, y'all, we look DARNED good.

As we close out our 25th year, I'd like to congratulate our 2025 Executive Board that was voted in at the Fall Tea, and encourage all of our members to get involved by joining a committee or hosting an event. We also hope you'll join us in supporting the Children's Health Christmas Party by contributing a donation of any size to buy gifts for our Kidney Kids who are stuck in the hospital over the holidays. Also, please note that we have a date change for the Check Presentation Party. It will now be a day earlier on December 11th, so mark your calendar now for a lovely and fun evening at Jolie Humphrey's house.

I can't possibly express how much I appreciate the care and support I've received this year from all of you. This was a milestone year, and even though we have a little time left before it is over, I can't help but look back and marvel at the spectacular teamwork that made the time so very special. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Monica Cooley

Monica Cooley
President 2024

Officers for 2025

President
President-Elect
1st Vice-President Membership
2nd Vice-President Luncheon
3rd Vice-President Charity Selection
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer
Treasurer-Elect
Historian* /Social Media
Parliamentarian

Mari Epperson
Fran Cashen Wittenberg
Joanie Stephens, Giana dePaul
Allison Brodnax
Gail Vesledahl, Colby Baer
Barbara Dianis
Nancy Dennis
Cindy Hanson
Stacey Wiggins
Sarah Bowlby
Monica Cooley



KIDNEY  TEXAS, INC.
THE RUNWAY REPORT

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KidneyTexas Runway Show



Photos by Rob Wythe

1. Donna Arp Weitzman, Sue Goodnight Award honoree; Natalie Taylor, Presenting Sponsor, Sam and Helga Feldman Foundation/ David and Natalie Taylor; Lauryn Gayle White, Honorary Chair. 2. Scott Murray, emcee; Everson Walls, namesake of the Everson Walls Legacy Award; Raymond Quigley MD, Everson Walls Legacy Award honoree. 3. Niki Turner, Sarah Bowlby. 4. Angie Bullard, Margaret Chambers. 5. Reagan Pace, Sheridan Reeder. 6. Nardos. 7. St John. 8. Donna Arp Weitzman, Kaleta Blaffer Johnson, Monica Cooley, Claire Catrino, Emilynn Wilson, Barbara Bigham.

KidneyTexas Runway Show



1. Lynn Dealey, Vicki Howland . 2. Patty Jo Turner, Pat Denechaud, Judy Abington, Melissa Renee. 3. AB Aston and Rose Gault. 4. Linda Spina, Maggie Cook Kipp. 5. Pat McDonough, Dyann Skelton. 6. Betty Reiter. 7. Sara Woodall, Meredith Connally, Fallon Hennessy. 8. Tootsies. 9. Shane Martin, Cindy Pierce, Store Director, TOOTSIES.

Group Photos by Thomas Garza

KidneyTexas Runway Show



Photos by Rob Wythe/Thomas Garz



1. Cile McCormick, Claire Catrino. 2. Nancy Connor and Carol Resnick. 3. Kaleta Blaffer Johnson and Bach Mai. 4. Donna Arp Weitzman, Claire Catrino and Jan Strimple. 5. Scott Murray interviewing Eli and Emilee. 6. Nardos Imam, Kaleta Blaffer Johnson, Emily Ash. 7. Front: Dyann Skelton, Mary Black, Kim Dale, Renee Winter, Terri Bumgarner. Back: Cindy Hanson, Fran Cashen Wittenberg, Stacey Wiggins, AB Aston, Suzette Derrick.

Patron Party



1. Emilyynn Wilson, Brent Christopher. 2. Natalie Boerder, Kaleta Blaffer Johnson, Michael Catrino, Claire Catrino, Niki Turner, Sarah Bowlby. 3. Kaleta Blaffer Johnson, Monica Cooley and Claire Catrino. 4. Lauryn Gayle White, Calvin Lyons, Ramona Jones; Bob Bigham, Barbara Bigham. 6. Mary Griggs, Catherine Awtrey, Joni Krieg, Kim Hodge. 7. Donna Arp Weitzman, Nancy Greenbach, Natalie Taylor.

KidneyTexas Tootsies



Photos by Rob Wythe



1. *Therese Rourk and Dyann Skelton* 2. *Stacey Wiggins, Pam Brannon and Jeannie Nethery.* 3. *Carol Seay and Venise Stuart.* 4. *Kathy Dewbre, Jill Goldberg and Ann Galbraith.* 5. *Rose and Jeff Gault, Ramona Jones.* 6. *Angie Bullard, Carmen McTaggart* 7. *Doris Bonvino, Suzette Derrick.* 8. *Kaleta Blaffer Johnson, Lauryn Gayle White, Monica Cooley, Natalie Taylor and Claire Catrino.*

KidneyTexas Spring Tea



Photos by Rob Wythe



1. Anne Seanor, Joni Krieg, Monica Cooley. 2. Rose Gault, Jill Goldberg. 3. Mari Epperson, , Donna Arp Weitzman, Anne Seanor, Natalie Taylor, Nancy Greenbach. 4. Julia Pierce, Kaleta Johnson, Kristen Cannon. 5. Andrea Alcorn, Fran Wittenberg, Patty Jo Turner, Mari Epperson. 6. Therese Rourk and Monica Cooley. 7. Center: Joni Krieg with Tea Guests. 8. Debbie Murray, Tricia Sims, Angelika Hudgins, Tammany Stern.

KidneyTexas Spring Tea



1. Therese Moncrief, Anne Seanor, AB Aston. 2. Sarah Bowlby, Morgan Pieper, Claire Catrino, Kaleta Johnson, Julia Pierce. 3. Ramona Jones, Patty Jo Turner. 4. Colby Hanks Baer, Joni Krieg, Emilynn Wilson, Mary Black. 5. Allison Brodnax, Monica Cooley. 6. Christy Rose, Joni Krieg, Barbara Bigham.

KidneyTexas, Inc. Calendar

Check Presentation Party

December 11, 5:00 p.m.
3500 Lexington
Dallas, TX

Home of Jolie Humphrey

Valet Parking provided

www.kidneytexas.org
info@kidneytexas.org

Patient Christmas Party at Children's Hospital

Thank you to everyone who has already sponsored a toy for the Patient Christmas Party at Children's Hospital. This event is designed to bring Christmas cheer to children undergoing treatment for kidney disease.

*We only need 32 more toys (or \$800) to reach our goal.
Please consider sponsoring a toy. Thank you!*

Give 1 toy for \$25

*You may also give toys by mailing a check to:
KidneyTexas Inc
8215 Westchester Drive Suite 314B
Dallas TX 75225*

Thank you for your support!

*Sincerely,
Allison Brodnax and Jenni Thakkar
Kidney Kids Christmas Party Co-Chairs
Arbrodnax@gmail.com
619-206-4007*

www.kidneytexas.org