

The Torch



American Red Cross
Tiffany Circle

WINTER EDITION

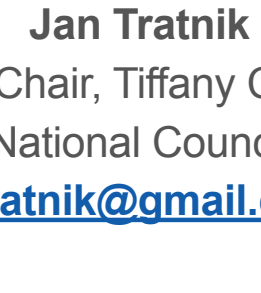
Dear Tiffany Circle members,

As the year draws to a close, we are reminded that our founder Clara Barton's 200th birthday would have been December 25, 2021. We are confident that she would be proud of the impact of the Tiffany Circle today. Our members carry forward Clara's legacy of service, innovation and hope through their generosity and volunteerism. While much has changed since Clara Barton's time, the mission of the American Red Cross—alleviating human suffering in the face of emergencies—remains the same. We are proud that Tiffany Circle members' gifts of time, talent and treasure continue to power this important mission.

In October, many of you and your guests attended the [2021 Tiffany Circle Virtual Summit](#), enjoying inspiring keynote speakers and informative break-out sessions on mission-critical topics. We are delighted that many women generously invested in the collective appeal to fund Amicus machines used to collect platelets—about 50% of which are used to help patients fighting cancer.

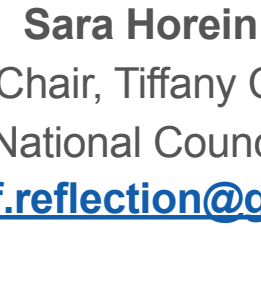
We hope you enjoy this issue of the Torch, which includes powerful stories of our members continuing Clara Barton's rich legacy. We wish you an enjoyable, safe and bright holiday season!

In Service,
Jan & Sara



Jan Tratnik
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National Council

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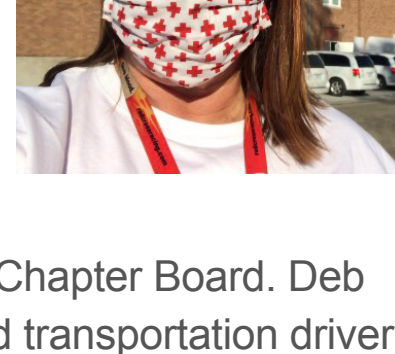


Sara Horein
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Co-Chair, Tiffany Circle
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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Deb Brinegar's Red Cross story started at the age of 4. When she and her family attended a community event in Wichita, Kansas, where the Red Cross was typing blood, they discovered that her father's blood was typed incorrectly while he was enlisted in the military.



After an early retirement from the aircraft industry, Deb joined the South Central and Southeast Kansas Chapter Board. Deb quickly became a Community Volunteer Leader, blood transportation driver and platelet donor and has taken lifesaving training courses through the Red Cross. This year, Deb added Tiffany Circle Member to her impressive Red Cross resume.

As a blood transportation driver, Deb sees firsthand the condition of the fleet and high mileage of Red Cross vehicles. She noted that one van she drove had over 400,000 miles! Since the passing of her parents, Deb wanted to give a gift to memorialize their legacy of philanthropy in the Wichita community. After witnessing the need for a new vehicle in her region, Deb realized this would be the perfect gift in honor of her parents.

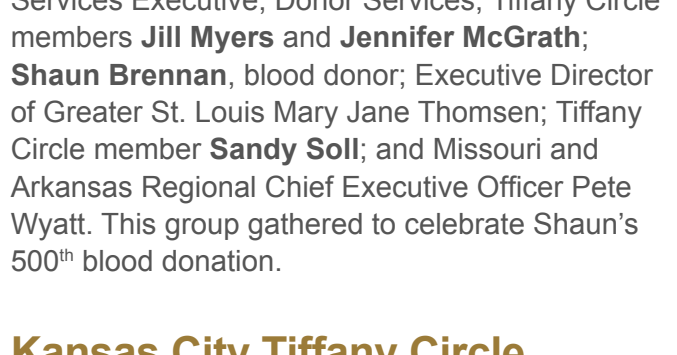
REGION SPOTLIGHTS

St. Louis Tiffany Circle Celebrates the Gift of Life

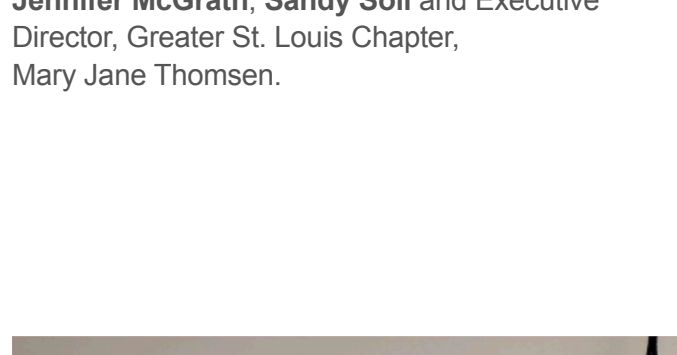
In celebration of Shaun Brennan's 500th blood donation, the St. Louis Tiffany Circle presented its new Blood Services vehicle in his honor. A special ribbon cutting ceremony was held on September 17, 2021, immediately following Shaun's 500th blood donation.

"Blood donation is the gift that keeps on giving," Shaun shared. "My body replenishes everything I donate. If you're thinking about donating, move past your fears and reservations. Making your first donation is the first step. You can keep scheduling appointments and donating on a regular basis like I do. Every time you donate, remember that you're helping to save lives."

Jennifer McGrath, co-chair of the St. Louis Tiffany Circle, expressed how delighted the Tiffany Circle was to donate this brand-new vehicle. "The vehicle is a very tangible expression of our commitment to the Red Cross. Like Shaun, it will help support the vitally important role that Blood Services plays in our community."



Pictured left to right: Chris Baker, Regional Donor Services Executive, Donor Services; Tiffany Circle members **Jill Myers** and **Jennifer McGrath**; **Shaun Brennan**, blood donor; Executive Director of Greater St. Louis Mary Jane Thomsen; Tiffany Circle member **Sandy Soli**; and Missouri and Arkansas Regional Chief Executive Officer Pete Wyatt. This group gathered to celebrate Shaun's 500th blood donation.



From left to right: Tiffany Circle members **Jill Myers**, **Jennifer McGrath**, **Sandy Soli** and Executive Director, Greater St. Louis Chapter, Mary Jane Thomsen.

Kansas City Tiffany Circle Saves Lives with Blood Drive and New Vehicle

On August 23, 2021, Kansas City Tiffany Circle members held their first blood drive, surpassing their 25-unit goal with a total of 32 units collected—the most collected at one drive since the blood donation center opened two years ago.

Members held a virtual telethon, calling more than 300 blood donors and personally donated \$40,000 to purchase a new vehicle for the Kansas City Chapter of the Red Cross.

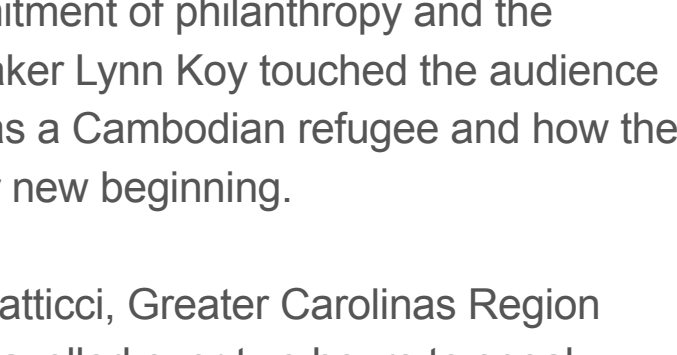
"Bravo to incredible work by incredible women," shared Randee Krumwiede, Executive Director, Greater Kansas City Chapter. "Thank you, Kansas City Tiffany Circle. What a privilege it is to serve alongside you. I'm grateful and inspired!"

Our Blood Services vehicles are crucial to delivering nearly 6.4 million blood products each year, securely transporting them from storage facilities to patients at hospitals and cancer treatment centers in local communities nationwide. Our fleet is also essential to fulfilling rare blood and emergency requests — when blood is needed within a matter of hours. Each year, the Red Cross responds to over 137,000 of these urgent requests. The journey from blood donor to recipient is complex, but we know every step matters when lives are at stake. Without our reliable community emergency vehicles, this lifesaving work simply wouldn't be possible.

To learn more about the vehicle funding opportunities available in your region, please contact your regional Tiffany Circle staff liaison.

Eastern North Carolina Region Tiffany Circle Hosts a Reception

On September 28, the Eastern North Carolina Region hosted a Tiffany Circle reception for current members and guests at The Umstead Hotel in Cary, North Carolina. It was a perfect blue-sky day as guests mingled on the patio before the program.



Pictured left to right: Missouri and Arkansas Region CEO Pete Wyatt, Tiffany Circle Members **Sheri Odell**, **Diane Johnson**, **JoAnn Woody**, **Susan Spaulding** and Executive Director of the Greater Kansas City Chapter Randee Krumwiede.

Regional Chief Executive Officer Barry Porter provided a historical overview of the significance of women in the Red Cross and our founder Clara Barton. Much like the women in Red Cross history, Tiffany Circle members are leading and inspiring hope today.

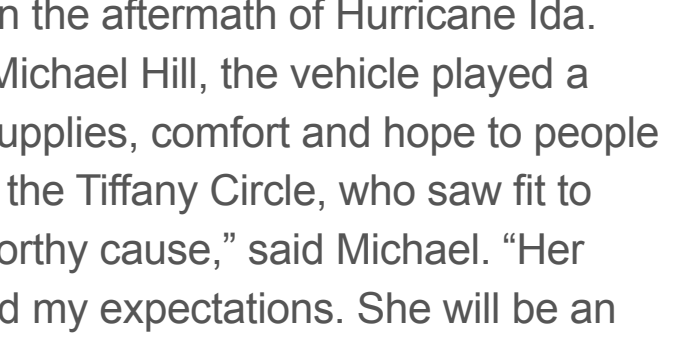
Tiffany Circle member and business leader **Linda Craft** humbled the attendees with her personal commitment of philanthropy and the importance of giving back. Guest speaker Lynn Koy touched the audience with her struggle to come to the U.S. as a Cambodian refugee and how the Red Cross helped her family with their new beginning.

Along with Tiffany Circle liaison Jerri Fatticci, Greater Carolinas Region Tiffany Circle member **Martha Allen** travelled over two hours to speak about her dedication and passion for the Tiffany Circle. **Amy Edge**, a Tiffany Circle member and business owner, spoke about a serious car accident several years ago. The only thing Amy still remembers about that horrible day is seeing the Red Cross on a volunteer's jacket. As Amy said, "The American Red Cross gave me hope." Amy then surprised everyone with an announcement of a gift of \$25,000 from her and her husband, Monty, on behalf of her company, Active Threat Solutions.

It was a momentous day for the Red Cross and everyone in attendance.

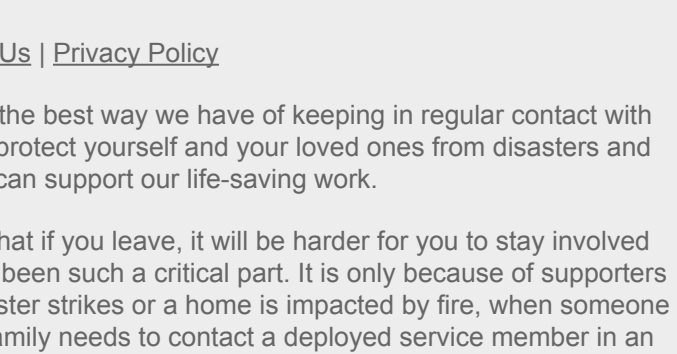
Kentucky Region Tiffany Circle Gets a Tour of Churchill Downs

On October 14, the Kentucky Region Tiffany Circle enjoyed a special behind-the-scenes tour of Churchill Downs, including a breakfast at the Trackside Café with a special presentation by Rob Barnes, member of the First Aid Services Team. It was a gorgeous fall day, and everyone enjoyed learning about the horses and participating in Red Cross activities!



Maiden Journey for Tiffany Circle Emergency Response Vehicle #78561

During August and September, the emergency response vehicle funded by the Tiffany Circle of the Central Florida Region embarked on its inaugural journey to Alabama and Louisiana to help those suffering in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida. Driven by volunteers Ed Paulton and Michael Hill, the vehicle played a critical role in delivering meals, relief supplies, comfort and hope to people in need. "Thanks to the great ladies of the Tiffany Circle, who saw fit to donate "Tiffany" (ERV # 78561) to a worthy cause," said Michael. "Her maiden voyage was successful beyond my expectations. She will be an outstanding asset in years to come."

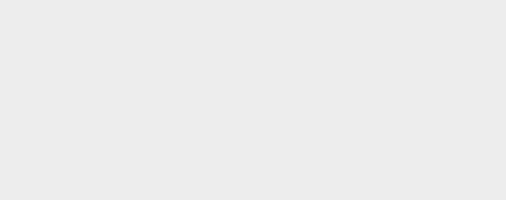


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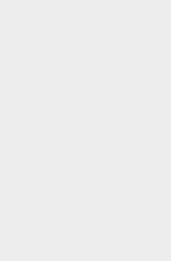
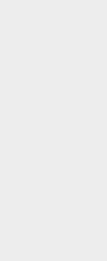
Staying in touch via the American Red Cross email list is the best way we have of keeping in regular contact with supporters like you, letting you know about how you can protect yourself and your loved ones from disasters and other emergencies, and how you can support our life-saving work.

[Click here](#) to unsubscribe from our list, but please know that if you leave, it will be harder for you to stay involved with the Red Cross and continue the work of which you've been such a critical part. It is only because of supporters like you that the Red Cross is able to respond when a disaster strikes or a home is impacted by fire, when someone needs CPR or a lifesaving blood transfusion, or when a family needs to contact a deployed service member in an emergency. And we don't want to lose you! Thanks for your support!

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[Help people](#) affected by disasters big and small.



90¢

The Red Cross is proud that an average of 90 cents of every dollar we spend is invested in delivering care and comfort to those in need.