

**2011 STEFANIE SPIELMAN HUMANITARIAN AWARDS BREAKFAST:
JUNE 13, 2011**

I want to thank everyone for coming out to the second Stefanie Spielman Humanitarian Awards Breakfast and the 8th Awards Ceremony overall for the Upper Arlington Women's Club.

The Board and Members all want thank Chris Spielman and his family for presenting these awards today. We honor your wife, your daughter, your sister. She was very special to us and she helped this Women's Club to succeed. She also saw the possibility that the community could come together and do good and I believe we continue to achieve that goal. Not too long ago I happened across a photo of the original Board Members. It was such a great and colorful photo and they all looked like they were having such a good time and were just very happy. I would hope that each of you were welcomed this year with those same smiling and laughing faces. Maybe not from an original Board Members but one just like her who has stepped in to take her place and make sure the Upper Arlington Women's Club is always fresh and fun and a place where every member feels comfortable.

This year I was able to watch our scholarship committee chairs Cathy Wheaton and Patti Sisto on a detailed level. The amount of time and detail they put into making sure all the "t's" are crossed and all of the "l's" are dotted it truly amazing. When we first looked at all of these amazing kids whose applications come across our tables – I just can't tell you how difficult it is to narrow down the decision to only award 5 Humanitarian Awards. Cathy and Patti really made it easier to make hard decisions with their experience and careful thoughts. And with that.....we have these 5 fantastic students here today – minus one who is taking an exam – a very excusable excuse!

Izzy Esler, Sophie Ray Lee, Jaclyn Lowry, Erin O'Brien, Drew Sylvester We thank you for the service you have provided your community. We wish you great luck as you continue to grow and become independent adults. Stay focused, stay true to who you are now because it's working for you. Thank your parents and aunts, uncles and grandparents for allowing you to grow because you have done so well.

I have no doubt that the Upper Arlington Women's Club will continue to thrive in the years to come and that fantastic students such as yourselves will continue to bring tears to our eyes and hope to our futures.

Thank you to all of the students, parents and teachers that help make this Award meaningful.

And thank you to all of the members that continually support our group with their annual dues.

But, the biggest thanks should go out to our Board Members who – if they would please stand – deserve a great round of applause for their unselfish work towards a goal of community. I am nothing without them and together we can make a difference.

I want to finish with a poem that I filched from the Powel Women's Club that I thought was perfect.

With that...this concludes **THE 2011 STEFANIE SPIELMAN HUMANITARIAN AWARDS PRESENTATION.**

Sisterhood of the Traveling Butterfly

Time Passes...
Life happens...
Distance separates.
Children grow up...

Jobs come and go. Love waxes and wanes. Men don't do what they're supposed to do...

Hearts break. Parents die. Colleagues forget favors. Careers end...

BUT...Sisters are there, no matter how much time and how many miles are between you. A girl friend is never farther away than needing her can reach...

When you have to walk that lonesome valley and you have to walk it by yourself, the women in your life will be on the valley's rim, cheering you on, praying for you, intervening on your behalf, and waiting with open arms at the valley's end...

Sometimes, they will even break the rules and walk beside you...or come in and carry you out. Girlfriends, daughters, granddaughters...

Daughter-in laws, sisters, sister-in-laws, mothers, grandmothers, aunts, nieces, cousins, and extended family, all bless our life!

The world wouldn't be the same without women, and neither would I. When we began this adventure called womanhood, we had no idea of the incredible joys or sorrows that lay ahead. Nor did we know how much we would need each other. Every day, we need each other still.

Susan Maslyk, *President of Powell Women's Club*