

AZ Insider: Celebs Turn Out for Childhelp's Drive the Dream Gala

Written by Written by Kathy Shayna Shocket

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"The AZ Insider" with Kathy Shayna Shocket: Get the inside scoop on Arizona's social scene and celebrity news.



This week: Childhelp and Barrett-Jackson team up!

Childhelp and Barrett-Jackson rolled out the red carpet again for this year's Drive the Dream Gala. The multi-talented **Jane Seymour** and **John O'Hurley** co-emceed and **Willie Nelson** performed at the charity dinner. Held under a giant tent at WestWorld, the dynamic venue of the Barrett- Jackson Collector Car Event gave guests the chance to preview and mingle amidst the collector cars. Ticket prices alone started at \$1,000 per person and went as high as \$5,000 per person for the higher priced dinner table seating.



Craig Jackson and daughter Shelby Jackson with Willie Nelson backstage

Yes, this is the fancy to-do at which the auctioneers were driving up the prices in the live auction, but the bidding wasn't for the cars.

"Do I hear \$20,000? How about \$25,000?" the auctioneer bellowed in a deep voice. The guests with big pockets were bidding on the celeb and luxury live auction packages and helping to raise more money for the coffers of the Scottsdale-based Childhelp organization.



Sara O'Meara, Cheryl Ladd, Governor Jan Brewer, Yvonne Fedderson, John O'Hurley

The bidding was competitive for the chance to go back stage and meet Willie Nelson. The same went for the trip to Los Angeles for the opportunity to have a walk on non-speaking role in a **Dennis Quaid** movie and for yet another Los Angeles trip for a walk on non-speaking role on the television show, NCIS.

Jinger Richardson chaired the Drive the Dream Gala with **Missy Anderson** and **Susie Wesley**. During the evening **Craig Jackson** announced a generous \$100,000 donation to Childhelp.



Craig Jackson, Governor Jan Brewer, Cheryl Ladd, Kurt and Brenda Warner

The 700 partygoers were transported into the "cowboy, cars and stars" theme. The glitzy theme embraced the 1959 birth of Childhelp and its founders, **Sara O'Meara** and **Yvonne Fedderson**, former entertainers who lived in Hollywood and met on the set of "The Adventures of Ozzie & Harriet", when they played the girlfriends of **Ricky** and **David Nelson**.

The party swelled with high profile politicians and movie industry notables. Actress **Cheryl Ladd** was there, along with Governor **Jane Brewer**, Scottsdale Mayor **Jim Lane** and Sheriff **Joe Arpaio**. **Cheryl Ladd** presented Governor Brewer with the Childhelp Woman of the World Award.

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Missy Anderson, Jinger Richardson and Susie Wesley

Jim Pierce, king of Isagenix who also underwrote the event's cocktail hour, was honored with the Childhelp Heart of Compassion Award. **Kurt and Brenda Warner** received the Childhelp Spirit of the Children Award. Honorary chairs were **Linda and Bill Pope**. **Carol Hebets** was Event Advisor.



Stealing Angels

By the way, the Stealing Angels also performed. You probably will be hearing more about them. They are fantastic. The country music trio got together when they were approached to appear on music based reality TV show. The show didn't come to life, but their trio did- **Tayla Lynn**, (granddaughter of **Loretta Lynn**), **Caroline Cutbirth** (decedent of **Daniel Boone**) and **Jennifer Wayne** (granddaughter of **John Wayne**).



Kathy Shayna Shocket is a Phoenix based writer. If you have a good item for The AZ Insider, you can email her at redkarpetgirl@aol.com.