

# BOLD MOVES

SPRING 2026

THE CHICKS IN CHARGE  
MAGAZINE

## SHE LEADS

CREATEHER  
SPARK TALKS

READ & LEAD:  
10X IS EASIER  
THAN 2X

HOW HEN PALS  
PROVE SUCCESS  
IS WHO NOT HOW

SWEET OFFERS  
FROM LOCAL BOSS  
CHICKS

MEET OUR  
COVER MODEL  
& NEXT LEVEL  
BAKER  
CHAMPION

[CHICKSINCHARGE.CLUB](http://CHICKSINCHARGE.CLUB)

## CREATEHER '26 BY CHICKS IN CHARGE

# CREATING YOUR BEST YEAR YET



**Malena Putnam, CEO**

Photo from Loud City HQ, OKC, OK

**ON THE COVER: Stefanie Embree,**  
owner of OKC Sweets and winner of  
**Next Level Baker**  
Photo Credit: Natallia Potter

Dearest Chicks,

Last week, we hosted SHE Leads OKC where almost 50 women gathered to celebrate community and learn from one another. It was a beautiful day of connection and remembering that we have self-agency to be the CEOs of our own lives.

Recently I was at an Alpha Chi Omega alumni event where our guest speaker shared that we should each have our own personal board of directors in our lives. You know, the cheerleader, the truth teller, the adventurous one and so on.

That got me to thinking that it's exactly what we have created at Chicks in Charge. Not only do we have members of different life stages and experience levels, but we have also have different personality types and strengths. So my recommendation is to look among our flock at who could fill that "board seat" for you in a particular category. They don't need to be your best friend - it's often better if they aren't. They are there to answer you truthfully and help where needed.

As I celebrate my 54<sup>th</sup> birthday this go 'round, I'm feeling extra sentimental about our community and what a beautiful life I've led, even when it's been dark and very hard. Every stumble and challenge has helped shape me into the woman and leader I am today. Thank you for being that for me - and celebrating my wins with me, too.

Speaking of winning, it's Thunder playoff season so since our community is primarily in Oklahoma, let's cheer on our team and keep creating the life you TRULY want to live. Thank you to Stefanie at OKC Sweets (Next Level Baker Champ!) for being our cover model. Now, what goal can we help you achieve this spring, Chicks?

xo,  
Malena Putnam  
Publisher, Bold Moves  
CEO, Chicks in Charge & Yay Dude Media & Marketing

# STUFF YOU'RE GONNA WANNA READ



Community and connection at our Galentine's Day events. We love our flock!

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Why accountability feels different when you are not doing it alone.

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*Plus more Chicks spotlights and tips just for you.*



community



SPRING

2026

BOARD



createtter



# APRIL 2026

## Accountability



Accountability is one of those quiet forces that can completely change the trajectory of your life and career. It is not about pressure or perfection. It is about showing up for yourself, following through on what matters most, and allowing others to walk alongside you as you grow.



### It is easy to set goals.

It is much harder to stay committed when life gets busy, motivation fades, or self-doubt creeps in. That is where accountability becomes powerful. When you know someone is checking in, asking how it is going, and genuinely rooting for you, it shifts something. Your goals stop living only in your head and start becoming part of your real, everyday life.

At Chicks in Charge, accountability is woven into the community in a way that feels supportive and natural. Through Hen Pals, members are paired to meet monthly, building real relationships as they talk through goals, celebrate wins, and navigate challenges together. That support expands in the monthly Goal Getters meetings, where members pause to reflect, share what they are working toward, and gain fresh energy from being surrounded by like-minded women who are taking action. It all comes together in the twice-a-year retreats, where stepping away from the day-to-day creates space to think bigger, reconnect with your vision, and move forward with momentum, feeling supported by a community that continues to walk alongside you.

Accountability does not have to feel heavy. In the right environment, it feels like being seen, supported, and gently challenged to keep going. It is the difference between wanting something and actually building it. And when you have the right people beside you, the process becomes not only more effective, but a lot more meaningful too.



# A Sweet Vision, Creatively Pursued





Let  
them  
eat  
cake.

**S T E F A N I E E M B R E E**  
O W N E R , O K C S W E E T S & N E X T L E V E L  
B A K E R C H A M P I O N

Some businesses are built on strategy, and others on passion. And then there are the ones that are built from real life, when unexpected turns, hard seasons, big risks, and quiet moments of courage eventually lead to something beautiful.

Stefanie Embree, owner of OKC Sweets and winner of Next Level Baker, didn't set out with a perfectly mapped plan to own a bakery. Like many women, her story started with something simple. She loved baking. She loved feeding people. And over time, that love turned into something more.

After teaching music, Stefanie found herself in a new season as a stay-at-home mom. When her twins were born prematurely, baking became more than a hobby. It was an outlet. A way to create something good during a season that felt heavy. “I’ve always loved feeding people,” she said. “It just became something I loved doing for others.” She started baking for friends, then experimenting with her own recipes, and eventually selling from home. It was flexible, it worked for her family, and for a while, it was enough. But as her kids got older, she and her husband started asking a bigger question. What if they actually tried this?

“There really wasn’t a bakery like what we envisioned,” she said. “And we thought, if we don’t do it now, we probably never will.” So they went all in. They sold their home, moved into a small rental, and built their bakery in 2020. It was a risk, especially at that time, but they believed in what they were creating. Then life shifted again. When one of her children became seriously ill, Stefanie had to step away and focus on her family. The business kept going, thanks to a strong team, but it was a hard season. One where everything felt like it was just barely holding together. “It was isolating,” she said. “You’re just trying to keep everything afloat.”



By the end of 2024, things had caught up. The stress, the finances, the uncertainty. She and her husband had to face the reality of what might happen if the business didn’t make it. “I had to really think through the worst-case scenario,” she said. “And I realized, even if all of that happened, I would still have my family. I would still have my faith. That changed everything for me. I just decided, I’m all in.”

It did not change overnight. There were still bills to catch up on, still stress, still uncertainty. Then came a small idea that changed everything. During the Oklahoma City Thunder playoff run, Stefanie and her team created themed desserts for game

days. What started as something fun turned into lines out the door and record-breaking weeks. “It was like everything shifted,” she said. “Not just financially, but in how we saw what we were doing.” Because for Stefanie, it was never just about the desserts. “We’re part of people’s lives,” she said. “Their celebrations, their grief, their moments that matter.” That perspective shows up in how Stefanie leads her business —with generosity, intention, and a deep care for the people who walk



through the door, and that has shaped the culture of her business just as much as anything on

That same authenticity carried her onto a national stage when she was selected for Next Level Baker, a national opportunity that brought her creativity into a much bigger spotlight.. But even there, her focus stayed the same. “Yes, I wanted to do well,” she said. “But more than anything, I wanted to stay true to who I am and love people well.” That’s exactly what she did, and it’s what people continue to notice, whether they’re watching her on screen or meeting her in person. “My favorite thing people say is that I’m the same in real life as I was on the show,” she said. “That means everything to me.”

If you ask Stefanie what she would say to someone who feels stuck or afraid to take the next step, her advice is simple. Name the fear, and then look at what’s possible on the other side. “When you actually say it out loud, ‘What’s the worst that could happen?’ It takes away some of its power,” she said. “The best-case scenario is something we don’t even fully see yet.”

These days, she’s not waiting for everything to feel certain. “I wake up and think, I wonder what’s going to happen today.” And that’s how she’s turned something sweet into something truly special. Not just a business, but a place that brings people together, celebrates life’s moments, and reminds us that sometimes the smallest ideas can change everything.



Website: [OKC Sweets](https://www.okcsweets.com)

Instagram: [@okcsweets](https://www.instagram.com/okcsweets)

Photo Credits: Natallia Potter

Instagram: [@natalliapotter](https://www.instagram.com/natalliapotter)

*Express Yourself*



## **MEET CREATOR LEZLEY LYNCH, LEZLEY LYNCH DESIGNS**

This Edmond artist brings vibrant, color-rich paintings, murals, and custom finishes to homes, businesses, and designer spaces across the OKC metro area.



Lezley Lynch is a lifelong Edmondite who has been creating art for residential clients, business owners, and interior designers in the metro area for 30+ years. Collaborating on custom commissions to find just the right painting, mural, or decorative finish for each project is something that she really enjoys.

Her work has been featured in over 20 Designer Show Houses, many local businesses, countless homes, and a gallery showing at the Edmond Fine Arts Institute. From 2 story high murals to a variety art canvases ranging from abstract to florals, landscapes, and pet portraits, Lezley loves exploring new subjects to paint in her signature bright and bold color-saturated style.



To see more of Lezley's art, order a custom commission, or inquire about pricing, please go to her Instagram page [@LezleyLynchDesigns](https://www.instagram.com/LezleyLynchDesigns)



# First Quarter Goal GettHers

The last Monday of each month, our members are invited to “name it and claim it” to set their priorities for the month for work, wealth and wellness. You can participate in person at Yay on Broadway in Edmond or online via Zoom from anywhere in the country. Learn more at [ChicksinCharge.club](http://ChicksinCharge.club). Connect with our Chicks on our [online directory](#).

This science-backed approach makes it more likely that you will hit your goals. Your fellow Goal GettHers provide feedback, guidance, resources and connections to help you along the way. But first, YOU have to prioritize what truly matters to you and leave the rest in the pond.

We call it Kiss the FROG, because it’s only by embracing the goal and doing the work that transformation can happen. If you’d like support & accountability for your goals, join us!



FROG = Focus Reaches Our Goals

*Where your focus goes, your energy flows, & your life grows.*

Magic happens in the present moment so what ACTIONS are you taking right now to make your dreams come true?

At Goal GettHers we use a Focus Pocus planner and prioritize up to 3 things in each category:

*I hit my booking goals at Yay on Broadway every month in the first quarter!*  
Malena Putnam-Yay Dude Media & Marketing & Chicks in Charge

*The Lymph Lab is expanding! We now have two dedicated Lymphatic Restoration Rooms and a Laser Room for Nervous System Reset & Fat Reduction.*  
Sunshyne Goodfellow-The Lymph Lab

*We survived our first month in business!*  
Kristie Sullens-Local Handyman



*I have found my joy and excitement again. Offered an opportunity to apply for a speaker position at Harvard University in a self development course. I made more money this year than last.*

Kim Jarman-Coach,  
Kimberly Jarman Coaching



*My team has exceeded year-over-year metrics for video views in our new Smart TV app! - Kari King-KFOR*

*I signed a new coaching client!*  
Julie Reising-Therapist and Life Coach

*I gave up my safety net by quitting my weekend job this quarter!*  
Snappy Doode-Photographer, Snap Branding Photography

*I automated 3 of my SOPs and they are working!*  
Heather Patterson-Benefit Solutions

*I surpassed my bare minimum goal in sales each month. Things are tight across the board for all of us and I know those purchases that seem small right now are HUGE...*

Shelli Hibbard-Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultant

*I ran my first Facebook ad!*  
Amy Shirola-Savor the Seasons



**“THERE ARE NO DREAMS TOO  
HIGH TO ACHIEVE, ONLY  
INTENTIONS TOO LOW TO  
TAKE A STEP”**

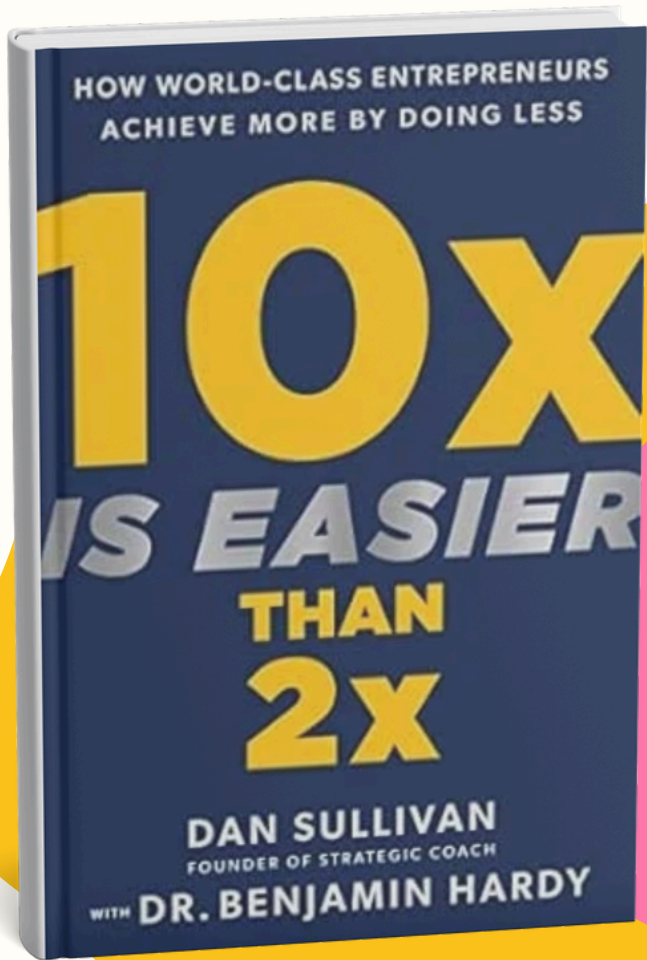


**THAT’S WHY WE LOVE GOAL  
GETTERS**



# READ AND LEAD BOOK CLUB

First Quarter pick: *10x Is Easier Than 2x: How World-Class Entrepreneurs Achieve More by Doing Less*  
by Dan Sullivan



*10x Is Better Than 2x* promotes the shift from incremental improvement to intentional expansion by simplifying, focusing on your Unique Ability, delegating non-essential tasks, thinking exponentially, and cultivating an abundance mindset. This ultimately leads to more freedom and less burnout by cutting the 80% of activities that yield little return. Rather than focusing on doing more, the book challenges us to do what truly matters—better and with greater impact. It’s a reminder that real growth comes from clarity, focus, and aligning your time and energy with the highest-value work, instead of spreading yourself thin chasing “more.”



## **Leading Boldly.** **Q&A with Kathy Bondy,** **Owner, French Hen Tulsa**

Kathy Bondy, owner of French Hen, is a Tulsa restaurateur and leader whose passion for hospitality started early while working in her father's fine dining restaurant in Arkansas at just 14. Although she initially studied accounting at the University of Tulsa, she quickly found herself drawn back to the restaurant world, where she's spent her career building, leading, and elevating local dining concepts.

From co-founding Table 10 to taking ownership of French Hen in 2011, Kathy has focused on honoring tradition while guiding teams to deliver consistently exceptional experiences. Today, she leads with a people-first approach, building strong teams, supporting her community through charitable involvement, and continuing to shape one of Tulsa's most respected fine dining destinations.

***What drew you to French Hen, and how have you made it your own while honoring its 40+ year tradition in Tulsa?***

Anytime you change careers, it feels like a bold move. What drew me to the French Hen is that it has always had a reputation for timeless elegance and genuine hospitality, which really resonated with me. I was drawn to the idea of being part of something with such deep roots in the Tulsa community. Stepping into ownership, it was important to me to preserve that legacy while thoughtfully adding my own perspective, making sure it still feels familiar to longtime guests while continuing to evolve.

***How has your approach to hospitality evolved as an owner over the years?***

Over time, my perspective has shifted from simply delivering great service to creating meaningful, memorable experiences. Service is black and white, it's about doing things right. Hospitality, on the other hand, is colorful. It's about how people feel when they walk through the door, the energy of the space, and the little details that turn a meal into something special.

***What's one bold move that shaped your journey in the restaurant world?***

One of the boldest moves was relocating the nearly 40-year-old business to a new location and trusting that the community would follow. There's always risk in changing something people know and love, but it was a step forward that allowed us to grow while staying true to who we are.

***What does creativity look like for you, both in the kitchen and in business?***

Creativity, to me, is all about balance. It's honoring the classic dishes that guests return for again and again, while also finding ways to surprise and delight them. That often comes to life through our monthly wine dinners, where we have the opportunity to introduce new flavors, pairings, and experiences while still staying rooted in what makes French Hen special.



APRIL 8, 2026

THE GREENS COUNTRY CLUB

# SHE LEADS



Thank you to our speakers & attendees! Phenomenal day!



From powerful conversations to honest moments of connection, this year's gathering was a reminder of what happens when women come together with purpose, passion, and a willingness to grow. Every speaker brought something meaningful to the stage, but the real magic was in the energy in the room. Women showing up for themselves, for each other, and for what's next.

We're leaving inspired, challenged, and more grounded in the belief that leadership looks different for everyone, but it's always stronger in community.

Already counting down to next year!

**SHE LEADS  
SHE CREATES**

JUNE 28-30, 2026

LAKE MURRAY, OK

# Chicks in



# the Sticks

ADVENTURE, NATURE, CONNECTION.



# fun in the sun

Guys may hit the golf course. We're hitting the pool and the lake! Join us for connection, mid-year review and planning and lots of fun in the sun (and the shade!) Limited to 20 women. Learn more at [ChicksinCharge.Club](http://ChicksinCharge.Club)

# CHICKS IN THE STICKS HOCHATOWN

Save the dates! - November 5th-8th



Fresh air, real conversations, and meaningful time with other Chicks--our annual fall retreat in Hochatown is a perfect opportunity to connect while recharging in nature and reviewing 2026 and planning for 2027  
Email [Malena@readyaimgrow.com](mailto:Malena@readyaimgrow.com) to get on the waitlist!

# Chicks Happenings

2nd Quarter, 2026



*Chicks in the Sticks Summer Camp*

JUNE 28TH-30TH, 2026 | LAKE MURRAY LODGE



**Likeable BADASS**  
HOW WOMEN GET THE SUCCESS THEY DESERVE  
Alison Fragale, PhD

**OKC & TULSA  
READ & LEAD  
BOOK CLUB  
HAPPY HOUR**

FEATURING A DISCUSSION  
OF OUR Q2  
READ AND LEAD BOOK  
CLUB SELECTION

OKC, June 17<sup>th</sup> Tulsa, June 24<sup>th</sup>  
MEMBERS ONLY EVENT  
WATCH OUR FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM  
PAGES FOR MORE DETAILS

# BOLD LOCAL BOSS CHICK OFFERS

**LOCAL Handyman**

**\$25 OFF**  
Any Service Project. Must Present Coupon At Time Of Service. Expires 1/1/27

Fully Insured & Guaranteed Work | Same Trusted Team Every Time | Clear & Upfront Pricing

Home Repairs & Finishing Touches  
Installations & Mounting  
Custom Carpentry & Woodwork  
Rental & Property Maintenance  
Outdoor & Exterior Work

Scan To Request A Call From Our Team & Free Estimate

**CALL LOCAL HANDY MAN TODAY! 405-817-6411**



## AMY SHIROLA-SAVOR THE SEASONS

A quarterly subscription box for women designed to help them slow down and intentionally mark each season. The Mother's Day Box was inspired by spring mornings and blooming gardens, and includes:

- An assortment of premium tea flavors from Tea with Tae
- A bone china green floral mug with a delicate gold handle
- A floral tea towel inspired by garden blooms
- A rattan photo frame for a cherished memory
- Organic honey stick straws for the sweetest finishing touch

## KRISTIE SULLENS- LOCAL HANDYMAN

We understand that finding a reliable handyman can be challenging. That's why we're committed to providing top-quality workmanship, transparent pricing, and exceptional customer service. No job is too big or small—we're here to help with all your home and property maintenance needs. Present the coupon above for \$25 off any service project.

[localhandyman.com](http://localhandyman.com)

[oklahomacity@localhandyman.com](mailto:oklahomacity@localhandyman.com)

[savortheseasons.com](http://savortheseasons.com)

[Instagram-@savortheseasonswithamy](https://www.instagram.com/savortheseasonswithamy)



**BOOK 4 HOURS, GET 1 HR FREE**  
**YAY ON BROADWAY, 501 N. BROADWAY,**  
**EDMOND, OK 73034**

Celebrate Community is the mission at Yay co-work and event space in north Downtown Edmond. Book those holiday parties and planning retreats. Three private rooms, a large flex room, kitchen+ veranda and outdoor space. Follow us: @yayonbroadway |www.yayonbroadway.com. NEW! PODCAST STUDIO BY TRICIA DANIEL COMING THIS SUMMER.

Community. Connection. Collaboration.



## CHICKS IN CHARGE CLUB

### CreateHer 2026

*Where women leaders gather & grow.*

*Greater Oklahoma City*

let's create magic.

Goal GettHERS Collab & Co-working Day, **LAST Monday of each month**

Monthly: Hen Pals 1:1 Matches

Start Strong - Finish Proud Luncheons:

January - Vision Board

December - Year End Review

Social Events:

August 20th  
Fire & Ice Event | Public

December 6th  
Merry Chicksmas Party | Members

All City Lead & Learn:

Nov. 18th: Chicksgiving Speed Networking

Chicks in the Sticks Retreats

Summer Camp: Lake Murray, JUNE 28-30

Fall Luxury Cabin: Hochatown, NOV. 5-8

Read & Lead Book Club

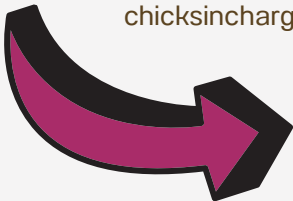
June 17th (OKC) & June 24<sup>th</sup> Tulsa, Sept.  
23<sup>rd</sup>, Dec. 2nd

Plus special CreateHer Seasonal Pop  
Up Events




# Promote your biz in Bold Moves, the quarterly magazine for boss Chicks.

Share your story and elevate your brand in Bold Moves in 2026, the quarterly magazine for boss chicks who learn, inspire, and grow together. The magazine is a FREE digital download on our CIC site + our linktr.ee and promoted in OKC and regionally with and ad spend plus our email newsletter and our social channels to reach local and national boss Chicks and women in business. See booking deadlines and details at [chicksincharge.club](http://chicksincharge.club).



[APPLY HERE](#)

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*Kari Ernest*  
Associate Editor

