



December 2007/January 2008

Volume XIII, Issue 4

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Junior League of Lansing

Junior League of
Lansing, Michigan is an
organization of women
committed to promoting
voluntarism, developing the
potential of women,
and improving the
community through the
effective action and
leadership of trained
volunteers.
Its purpose is
exclusively educational
and charitable.

Lights, Camera, Action..."Old Hollywood"

Becky Paalman, Signature Fundraiser Chair



The stars have arrived! The Junior League of Lansing rolled out the red carpet at the Country Club of Lansing for our annual Signature Fundraiser on Saturday, November 17.

The Tinsel Town Gala attendees enjoyed an ice sculpture featuring the Bella Blu signature martini. Attendees also savored wonderful hors d'oeuvres and delectable pastries provided by Bake n' Cakes, Shorty's and Troppo. Many tempted Lady Luck playing either Blackjack or Texas Hold'em and relaxed in our cigar bar while enjoying the sounds of Victor Traschel.

Fox 47's Jason Colthorp entertained us all as the celebrity auctioneer for the "Live the Experience" auction. The Dan Rafferty Band rocked the house and the salsa dancers got everyone to kick their heels up on the dance floor.

And of course, we can't forget the Graff Chevrolet Corvette raffle or the Becky Beauchine Kulka shopping spree raffle:

1st prize - \$2,500 shopping spree - Ms. Beth Cook 2nd prize - \$1,000 shopping spree - Mr. Chad Myers 3rd prize - \$500 shopping spree - Ms. Pam Ruth 1 Month Car Lease - Ms. Tracy Jelneck

I would like to thank the Signature Fundraiser committee for a fabulous night had by all and all of our guests for supporting and participating in our annual event. Also, thank you again to all of our magnificent sponsors who allowed us to create such a spectacular event.

That's a wrap!



Mary Boyer and Julie Howe

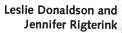
Becky Paalman,

Jason and Lori Nover,

Dave Jelneck and

Preeti Gadola

Becky Paalman, Jason Colthorp, Becky Myers and Amy Suhrheinrich







President's Message

Becky Myers, President



'Twas nearly the New Year, and all through the League, Not a member was stirring...

perhaps placement fatigue?

And I at my laptop typing away,
Knowing Kay was hoping for no further delay.
The meetings had ended, the minutes all sent,
Just one more newsletter to get into print.

Arrangements and Training keeping us on track,
For developing members they sure have a knack.
Our in-home meetings were greeted,
with abundant cheer,

What a gift our Sustainers are, year after year!

FOCUS is the newsletter of the Junior League of Lansing, published 9 times each year for the use of its members. Any inquires regarding FOCUS may be directed to the office staff or the following address

Junior League of Lansing

271 Woodland Pass Centre, Suite 115 East Lansing, MI 48823 517.324.3734

office@jllansing.org • Focus@jllansing.org

Junior League of Lansing, Michigan reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to voluntarism.

The JLL strives in all endeavors to be sensitive to the special needs of our members and guests. If there is a special need, please notify the Education Vice President, Kate Powers.

FOCUS accepts advertisements to help offset the publication costs. For advertising rates or to place an advertisement, please contact the Junior League of Lansing office.

FOCUS submissions are due by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday following each GMM. Email submissions should be sent to Focus@jllansing.org in Microsoft Word. Articles should include a title, author and author's placement.

All photos should be digital and sent to the Focus email address with the word "photo" in the subject line. Photos must include a caption with the names of those pictured and the title of the accompanying article.

The FEAST volunteers, finally getting a break,
Time with their families, nutritious snacks to bake.
New things in the hopper for Done In A Day,
Ten new projects to impact, in our League's special way.

What a success it was, the Tinsel Town party!

All our volunteers were there, not even one tardy.

Treasurer counting and Treasurer Elect too,

Adding and adding, could that number be true?

We had just finished up the important new slate,

Next year's board has such talent, they're going to be great!

A new leadership team all put together,

A team that can handle the most inclement weather.

Our New Member class had just finished retreat,
Thirty and counting, an incredible feat!
New faces, new smiles, ready to hear Robert's Rules,
They may seem boring, but they're really great tools.

The webmaster had the site all up to date,
Getting information to members, truly first rate.
Research had been started, a new project to find,
For the community's needs must not fall behind.

The newsletter soon mailed, the absentee ballots too, You would think with all that, there would be nothing to do. But for now, until, the new year begins, Some time to relax with our family and friends.

But as we all know, this League never stands still,

Sometimes keeping up can take a strong will.

May you find that we all, with our skills ever advancing,

Are in this together, the JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LANSING.

Many blessings to you, and your whole family too, From one who appreciates all that you do.





Sustaining Notes

Jane Bitsicas, Sustaining Advisor



The Active members enjoyed the hospitality of Sustainers at the November small group meetings. A big thanks to Pat Brogan, Kim Hartman, Debby Harrison, Phyllis Irwin, Debbie Petersmark, and Barb Wirtz for opening your homes and hosting this meeting!

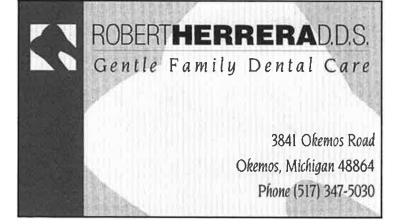
As you read this, Sustainers will have enjoyed another whirlwind trip to Chicago filled with shopping, food and fun! Thank you **Ginny Brooks** and **Kathy Colby** for hosting and organizing this treasured Sustainer tradition.

A huge thank you to **Kathy Colby** for hosting the December 5th Holiday Open House at her lovely home! And thank you to all who contributed refreshments and time to help make this a wonderful time to share with fellow League members.

Please remember that there will be another meeting of the Sustainer Committee on **January 16 at 11:30 at the JLL office**. You may bring your own lunch and drinks and dessert will be provided. We will discuss future events, and anything else you feel is relevant. All are welcome!

The next fun event? Why it's the MSU School of Hospitality Auction on **February 9, 2008**. The auction starts at 5:00 in the Kellogg Center's Big Ten Rooms. The theme is Samba, a Brazilian Carnival. The auction benefits the JLL Endowment Fund and is open to all. You can learn more about the event and preview some of the fabulous packages up for bid at: http://www.sambaauction.com.

The Endowment Fund will be having the annual auction pre-party, hosted by MSU's School of Hospitality Business before the auction begins. JLL members are the special guests for the pre-party and we are limited to 80 people. Hope to see you all there, and happy bidding!





Mary Beth Pirich, Carolyn Boger, Kris Kildea



Phyllis Irwin, Ruth Ridgeway, Peg Brede



Speaker Vicki Clark with Kerry Zsigo

Member Relations

Member Relations Update

Darcy Pace, Member Relations Chair



I hope everyone is ready for the cold!! Winter is definitely on its way.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the MSU Women's Volleyball Team on the 10th. It

was a great time for those who attended. Thank you also to DeAnna Fenech and Cheryl Bartholic for helping to organize this

With the holidays approaching fast we are all very busy. Please remember to recognize your Junior Pal during this festive time of year!

Our GMM had a special twist this month and the KUDOS awards were tailored for the multiple venues. This month the Nominating/Placement Committee was given KUDOS for their efforts this fall. They have had to come together many times to find nominations for two Board positions, Nominating/Placement Advisor, Parliamentarian Chair, and New Member Advisor. In addition, they have been working really hard completing their fall interviews and keeping in touch with members on a monthly basis. Nominating/Placement is comprised of Beth Cook, Kristi Moore, Nancy Nyquist, Kim Watters, Katie Strong, Mary Boyer, Beth Latchana, and Amy Sue Melville. Also recognized was Cheryl Bartholic for stepping back into the action to fill in the recently vacated Tracking Chair

position. Thanks to all of our KUDOS recipients for their dedication!

Don't forget all of those who have gone the extra mile. You can let everyone know by nominating them for a KUDOS award! You can find the KUDOS Nomination Form on the website and send the name and reason for the nomination to Darcy Pace at dpace@pacehowedesign.com.



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New Member Recruitment Update

Renee Knake, New Member Recruitment Chair



We are excited to announce that 30 women have committed to becoming new members. They are a fantastic group with diverse backgrounds, and their profiles will be featured in an upcoming issue of Focus. On Saturday, October 20 we enjoyed a wonderful time together at the

New Member Retreat. Special thanks to Dean Transportation for the generous donation of a bus for our tour of the organizations that JLL serves in the Greater Lansing Community, as well as to Dusty's Cellar for providing a delicious breakfast and lunch at a discount. Thanks also goes to sustainer Debby Harrison who served as our tour guide, and the active members who attended - Kimberly Garrison, Becky Paalman, Samantha Hughes, Tracy Jelneck, Shelley Mielock, Christie Lemon, Ro Bellingar, Susan Lupo, Lori Noyer and Hillary Schmitt.

Our final event for 2007 will be the New Member Cookie Exchange December 18, 7-8PM at Becky Myers' home. New member training starts in January 2008!

Let me help you with buying or selling!

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LoriFuller@BriarWoodRealty.com





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>>>>>>>>>>>>

Membership

Active Birthdays December and January

Hatch, Holly12/01
Kroeger, Dawn12/03
Burditt, Jodie
Foster, Trish
Synk, Polly12/10
Donahue, Kay
Morgan, Julie12/20
Hutchison, Jaimie
Clark, Karyn
Ruth, Pamela
Lemon, Christie
Evangelista, Colette01/04
Mielock, Shelley01/12
Shumway, Nicole
Watters, Kim
Olson, Karen
Wiesner, Alex01/24
Shanker, Melissa
Robinson, Deborah01/29

Sustainer Birthdays December and January

Oetzel, Bev
Smith, Bunny
Moore, Betty
Seaman, Martha
Daugherty, Katherine12/06
Edwards, Caryn
Claypool, Cathy12/07
Maner, Phyllis
Anderson, Doris12/14

Cotter, Martha12/14
Forsyth, Gretchen12/14
Kildea, Kris12/14
Matter, Lorri12/14
O'Brien, Julie
Coy, DeDe
Marshall, Beverly12/21
Balesky, Bridget
Grua, Linda
Howell, Cheryl12/24
Ellsworth, Mary12/27
Berger, Nancy12/28
Hartman, Kim12/29
Brogan, Carol12/30
West, Mary
Rhodes, Caryn
Bassos, Zoe
Chick, Ann01/02
Stow, Shorty
Lawton-Essa, Julie01/06
Sexton, Jo01/06
Allis, Susan
Campbell, Paula01/08
Atkinson, Deb
Setas, Susan
Cleland, Barb
Shaheen Denise
Dowdy, Cinda 01/15
Broviac, Carol01/16
Fedewa, Paula
Weiss, Sue
Bauer, Joan
Brogan, Pat
Booth, Jane
Moore, Jean01/30
Riegel, Kay
Villas, Shelley01/31

Signature Project

FEAST

Marcia Gresens, Signature Project Chair



School is well underway and so is the Signature Project, FEAST. The committee has been busy contacting schools, bringing new ideas to the program, and training for the first day of classes.

training for the first day of classes. Through FEAST our League is providing second graders with an educational experience in healthy eating.

JLL members read a book to the class engage a discussion about nutrition and enjoy a healthy snack with the students. Each student receives their own copy of that day's book.

This year we are reading seven books once a month every second Friday starting in November. We are reading in five different Lansing elementary schools, Cavanaugh, Elmhurst, Fairview, Gier Park, and Kendon. We have roughly 250 second graders and each of these second graders will receive seven brand new books by year end.

New this year we are introducing the "Passport". This is a one page learning activity that accompanies each of the books we read. And each Passport page also has a couple of healthy snack recipes. The students receive a passport stamp for each snack that they try. Huge thanks goes out to Jessica Schaub for bringing these pages to paper for the project. It was a very large undertaking which the teachers and students will appreciate.

Also new this year our committee participated in the Healthy & Fit Expo. Lisa Gnass headed up a FEAST booth for the Expo held September 30 at the Lansing Center. With much thanks going to Jane Campbell, Jessica Schaub and Lisa for manning the FEAST booth.

It was a fun day, and turned out to be an efficient way to reach hundreds of people interested in learning more about JLL's efforts to educate children about the virtues of nutrition. FEAST drew great interest, and both the program and JLL gained valuable support from everyone. In fact, many women were so intrigued by FEAST and JLL that they were eager to learn more about becoming a JLL member, so the booth became a recruiting tool as well!

Membership Corrections

- (A) Cook, Beth W: bcook@fbinsmi.com
- (A) Couling, Meredith Jagutis
 Transfer out to
 Kane & DuPage Counties, IL
 944 Arvle Circle
 Sycamore, IL 60178
- (A) Day, Bethe 5619 Silverleaf Court (not 5319)
- (NRS) Hagel, Katherine Transfer Out Indianapolis, IN
- (A) Proulx, Nicki New phone number H: 517-699-1774 Delete old one
- (A) Schnelker, Courtney
 Work Email change:
 courtney.schnelker@
 okemosschools.net
- (A) Shumway, Nicole 1092 Saint Johns Chase Grand Ledge, MI 48837-9781 517-749-7081

Nominating Placemen,

How to Slate in Ten Easy Steps

Mary Boyer, Nominating Chair



To me, slating has always seemed mysterious and complex. It seemingly does not lend itself to an easy explanation. I pictured the process as Wizard of Oz-like, with a

person behind the curtain making decisions. Au contraire, my friends! The nominating/slating process that occurs at JLL is democratic, easy to understand, and laid out nicely in the Red Book. Specifically, nominating information is covered in the Bylaws (Article VI, Sections 3 & 4 and Article IX, Section 2b), as well as the Policies (Sections 6.11 and 8). However, because we are all way too busy and the Red Book may not be everyone's cup of tea for light reading, I have attempted to boil down the nominating process into ten easy steps. You be the judge whether I was successful. Here goes . . .

- 1. The only positions that are slated (i.e. get voted on by membership) are the Board of Directors (President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer-Elect, Communications VP, Community VP, Education VP, Fund Development VP, and Membership VP), the Nominating/Placement Committee advisors, and the New Member advisors.
- The Board of Directors and the New Member advisors have a single slate, i.e. only one name is presented for each position. Nominating Placement advisors have a double slate, i.e. for each N/P advisor position that is open, two names are presented.
- The Nominating Chair and the Placement Chair do NOT have a vote regarding which members are on the slate for any position.
- The slate must be made public (i.e. published in Focus) three weeks before the annual meeting, which is in January.

5. Eligibility

a. Board: a member must be in good standing, have been active for the past two years, and have chaired a committee.

- b. Nominating/Placement Advisor: a member must be in good standing and have been active for the past two years.
 - c. New Member Advisor: a member must be in good standing.
- Self-submissions and recommendations are used to generate candidates for the slated positions.

7. Process:

- a. Each candidate is evaluated on eligibility and qualifications (both JLL and other relevant experience.)
- b. A pro-con discussion then takes place among the Nominating Placement committee. Your advisor is your advocate during this discussion.
- c. The Nominating Placement advisors then vote and rank order candidates.
- d. The position is offered to the candidate with the most votes. If the candidate declines, then the candidate with the next highest number of votes is offered the position. This goes on until a candidate accepts.
- e. Strict confidentiality is required during this process.
- Once the slate is completed, the Nominating Chair presents it to the Board and gives it to Focus for publication.
- Additional nominations, with the consent of the nominee and which meet eligibility requirements, may be made in writing by ten (10) active members. These additional nominations must be presented to the Nominating Chair at least two (2) weeks prior to the annual meeting.
- 10. The slate, including any additional nominations, is presented to Membership at the Annual Meeting in January for ratification of the single-slated Board and New Member advisors and voting on the double-slated Nominating Placement advisors.

So, there you have it. I hope this has helped demystify slating and let the sun shine in on the process.

New Member Advisor Announcement

Katie Strong, Placement Chair Courtney Schnelker and Hillary Schmitt



It is with great pleasure that the Nominating/ Placement Committee announces Courtney Schnelker as a New Member Advisor. Courtney joined Junior League in 2005 with a personal goal of building new relationships. However, the benefits of her membership have far exceeded her initial expectations. She feels fortunate to have the opportunity to



help so many others through her League experience and enjoys being a part of a League that that makes such a dynamic impact in the community. Courtney has served on the Community Service committee and she is placed on DIAD helping to coordinate the Caring About Kids program. Courtney and her husband, Adam, have a son, William who will celebrate his third birthday in December. She enjoys spending time with her family and running. Courtney is a speech-language pathologist in the Okemos Public School District and an MSU graduate.

Courtney has been approved by the Board of Directors to take the place of Hillary Schmitt. Hillary will be relocating to the Detroit area with her husband. The Junior League of Lansing will miss Hillary and we wish her all the best in her new endeavors in the Detroit area.



Parliamentarian

Need for a Change?

Gabrielle Johnson, Parliamentarian Chair



In August, the Board approved another policy revision. Due to the number of revisions made, we chose to present this policy revision on its own. We are an organization that has a

Strategic Plan to guide us in our decision making. Committees and councils shall work in interdependence with each other and with the community to reach our goals. Using this thought process, we have revised the way in which we go about change. The procedures for changing/revising a Bylaw and/or Policy are listed below. It was our intent to make the process consistent and provide for a tracking system of the change. We hope that each of you in your role is able to provide information when change is necessary. The revised policy is in your current red book. Please note one correction under Procedure for Changing a Policy: Number two should read as listed below. If you feel there is a need for change, refer to the policy below for guidance.

JLL Email Addresses

Just a reminder to use the following emails:

FOCUS-

focus@jllansing.org

New Member Recruitmentmembership@jllansing.org

Webmasterwebmaster@jllansing.org

Public Relationspublicrelations@jllansing.org

Signature Fundraiser-fundraiser@jllansing.org

JLL Office (Nancy)office@jllansing.org

SECTION 2: GOVERNANCE AUTHORITY

- 2.2. Policy/Bylaw Approval
 - a. Bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members voting at any General Membership Meeting of this League.
 - b. Policies. All new policies and policy revisions ("proposed policy") must be approved by the Board of Directors by a majority vote. Any proposed policy which increases membership financial or volunteer time requirements requires 2/3 membership vote. Any policy can be abolished or amended by a majority vote by membership.

Procedure for Changing a Bylaw:

- Member contacts appropriate committee to develop or revise the bylaw.
- 2. Member and/or Committee Chair contacts Council Vice President and Bylaw/Policy Chair with the proposed bylaw.
- The proposed bylaw is presented to the Board via the Bylaw/Policy Chair.
- 4. The Board either approves of the bylaw revision or sends it back to the Bylaw/Policy Chair and/or Committee Chair for further development.
- 5. After the Board has approved the proposed bylaw change, the bylaw change is added to the agenda of the next General Membership Meeting as an Action Item.
- 6. The revision is voted on by the general membership at a General Membership Meeting and must be voted in by a 2/3 majority vote.
- 7. If approved, the new Bylaw is published in FOCUS.

8. All of the above information will be tracked by the Bylaw/Policy Chair on the Junior League "New Bylaw or Bylaw Revision" tracking sheet.

Procedure for Changing a Policy:

- 1. Member contacts appropriate Committee Chair to develop or revise the proposed policy.
- Member and/or Committee Chair contacts Council Vice President and Bylaw/Policy Chair with the proposed policy.
- 3. The proposed policy is presented to the Board via the Bylaw/Policy Chair.
- 4. The Board reviews and takes action on the proposed policy or sends it back to Bylaw/Policy Chair and/or Committee Chair for further development.
- 5. If approved (and does not increase membership financial or volunteer time requirements), the policy will then appear be published in FOCUS.
- 6. If the policy approved by the Board increases membership financial or volunteer time requirements, the proposed policy change is added to the agenda of the next General Membership Meeting as an Action Item.
- 7. If the policy is approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the general membership it will be published in FOCUS.
- 8. All of the above information will be tracked by the Bylaw/Policy Chair on the Junior League "New Policy or Policy Revision" tracking sheet.

continued on page 8

Parliamentarian

2.3 Procedure Approval

All procedures or changes in committee procedures must be approved by the Council of the submitting committee and reviewed by the Board.

Procedure: Any new or changed procedures reviewed by the Board will be published in FOCUS at which time they go into effect.

Scope: Committee Chairs

Monitored by: Council Vice Presidents Effective: May 1998, revised August 2007

This month we have a policy change with regard to publication of GMM and board meeting minutes. As all members vote to approve GMM minutes, the communications council proposed a policy change to provide members with full GMM minutes via the Focus and the JLL website. The

change was adopted and you will start to see full GMM minutes and highlights of board meeting minutes. Get ready for some exciting reading!

The new policy reads as follows:

18.12 Publication of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors and minutes of General Membership Meetings shall be posted on the website. General Membership Meeting minutes and highlights of the Board Minutes shall be published in the FOCUS newsletter.

Procedure:

- 1. The Secretary shall prepare all Board of Directors meeting minutes and General Membership Meeting minutes.
- 2. The minutes shall be submitted to webmaster for posting on the website.

- 3. Minutes from General Membership Meeting shall be submitted to FOCUS for publication.
- 4. The President, Secretary, and Communications Vice President will review the Board minutes and capture highlights of events, activities and information for members.
- 5. The highlights from the Board meeting will be submitted to Focus for publication.

Scope: Communications and Secretary Monitored by: Communications

Effective: October 2006

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> or Send to: FOCUS@jllansing.org

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We will accept Business Card ads for Financial Institutions, Travel Agents, Real Estate Agents, and Insurance Agents.

Coucation

Leadership in a Time of Change Amy Suhrheinrich, President Elect



Attending the Fall Leadership Conference in Minneapolis provided me the opportunity to network with other Junior Leagues and to participate in many useful workshops. I thank

you for this experience. Leadership in a Time of Change was the theme of the conference. Our AJLI President, Sandi Kemmish, kicked off the conference with her thoughts on change. She pointed out that Junior League is about change. We want to change our communities for the better, we are a vital force. We want to change ourselves through volunteer opportunities and leadership development. Her final statement was that change is the only thing that remains the same.

The Association has been focusing on Organizational Change and Scenario Thinking. One aspect that is changing is our membership. The Keynote Speaker, Barbara Bylenga of Outlaw Consulting, provided information about Generation Y, our newest membership pool, and the impact of accelerated change. She discussed generational differences and their impact on our organization. We are so fortunate to have members of four different generations and should take advantage of the knowledge and experience that each brings.

I attended workshops that focused on Community Impact, Grant Development and Public Speaking. I would like to show my appreciation to those working on the Food Education And Story Time project. Many leagues came to me asking about our Signature Project after I shared this program during my public speaking training. I was fortunate to be a participant in Vicki Clark's workshop titled "Integrated Approach to Community Impact". Our FEAST project became a topic of discussion once again. We should be proud of our member's dedication and expertise in voluntarism.

The open mike and data gathering sessions were a wonderful opportunity to collect

information about what other Leagues are doing in their communities and organizations. The Association reported on our healthy status and many other programs that are underway. I would be happy to share this information with any of you that may have an interest. I encourage you to check out all of this information on the AJLI website and download the conference handouts.

In a time of high competition for volunteers, I would like to share a comment from our own President, **Becky Myers**. Her comment "we are premium volunteers" really hits home as to why I became a member of this organization. Junior League provides the opportunity for leadership development and making an impact in our communities. This is a winning combination and I urge you to take advantage of both opportunities in the near future. Thank you again for allowing me to attend the Fall Leadership Conference in Minneapolis.

Michigan State Council of Junior Leagues

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Invites all league members to participate in the Spring 2008 Training

Incoming Board of Director's/League Leadership Training
Facilitated by Jan Lutz and Cynthia D'Amour

February 9, 2008 ● 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Hannah Community Center, East Lansing

TOPICS WILL INCLUDE:

Unleashing the Passion of Possibility with Your Strategic Planning

Risk Tolerance: Sky Diving Anyone?

Major Duties of the Board: Care, Loyalty and Obedience

Making Decisions: Right or Wrong

RSVP to Veronica Valentine McNally, vvm@ameritech.net, 517/420-8525

rommuni

Caring About Kids Shop 'Til You Drop 2007

Courtney Schnelker, DIAD Committee



Every year, the Ingham County Department of Health Services investigates hundreds of complaints of child abuse and



neglect. Due to these unfortunate circumstances,

these children are often taken out of their homes to ensure their safety. The Department of Health Services places these children in safe environments that can include placement with relatives, foster homes, or in care due to delinquent behavior. These children have to deal with the loss of their families and often are very poor, having few clothes or other possessions. Caring About Kids was established in 1985 to raise funds to purchase the extras that public monies can't buy. At holiday time every year, it takes a total of about \$12,000 to buy the extras for these children. This year, 62 JLL members shopped for approximately 350 foster care children that ranged in ages from newborn to 18 years old. JLL members dropped the gifts off to the DHS on Friday, November 30th. Thanks to all of you who volunteered your time for this worthwhile project. These children now have a gift to unwrap and a smile to share because of you! Please look for a list of volunteers that helped with this project, along with pictures, in the February Focus.

> **Next FOCUS Deadline** Wednesday, January 16, 2008 5:00 p.m.

> All articles must be sent in Microsoft Word with Times New Roman 12pt font.

Email all articles as attachments to Focus@jllansing.org

Residential and Commercial Interior Design

> LAURA NUGENT Allied Member ASID

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4050 Hunsaker Dr. #128; East Lansing, MI 48823





October 17, 2007

Dear Junior League of Lansing

Thank you so much for your generous donation of twenty-nine rolls of paper towels, sixty-eight rolls of toilet paper, eighteen bags of candy, and box of crackers. Your donation will help with the day to day operation of the Women's Center.

The Women's Center of Greater Lansing is an independent 501 (c) (3) community-based, non-profit organization that helps women realize their potential, support each other, achieve economic self-sufficiency, and develop emotional and physical wellbeing, regardless of income level. We take a comprehensive, holistic approach to helping women and girls achieve their goals by eliminating the bureaucracy they experience when they try to get services from other agencies.

Your donation is tax deductible as allowed by law. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Cindle alward

Cindie Alwood, M.A., CRC, LLPC

Co-Director

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Community

Proposed DIAD Projects 2008-2009

Karen Olson- DIAD Chair



2008 – 2009

Done in a Day (DIAD) projects will be voted on at the January GMM. Ten projects will be chosen, up from seven for 2007-2008.

1. * Back to School Back Packs for Children of Ballentine Stepping Stones (August 2008)
This project relieves the minds of the mothers

at Ballentine Stepping Stones who may not be able to afford back-to-school items. JLL volunteers would buy school supplies and backpacks for school age children and clothes and/or art supplies for the youngest children at Ballentine Stepping Stones. Approximately 20-25 children residing at Ballentines during this project would benefit.

\$750.00 JLL dollars needed. 5 volunteers; flexible time.

- 2. * Caring About Kids (Fall 2008) JLL volunteers would shop for age appropriate gifts or the gift of the child's choice. Each volunteer shops for gifts for up to 6 children. Wrapped gifts are dropped off at the JLL office and then delivered to the Department of Human Services. No JLL dollars needed; Caring About Kids, Inc. will reimburse JLL. 75 volunteers needed; flexible time.
- 3. * Special Olympics (November 2008) Each Fall, The Summit hosts the Special Olympics for an amazing group of athletes. JLL volunteers would provide and assist athletes with arts and crafts projects between their events.

\$500.00 JLL dollars needed for art supplies. 10 volunteers; 2-3 hour time commitment.

4. Ronald McDonald House Dinners (Winter 2009) – JLL volunteers would be paired up to prepare a dinner for the overnight guests of Ronald McDonald House. Each pair would plan one meal, shop for the food, prepare the dinner, serve the meal, and clean the kitchen. Typically, 7 -20 guests are served dinner. JLL reimburses the volunteers for the food expenses.

\$500.00 JLL dollars needed. 10 volunteers; 3 – 4 hour evening time commitment.

5. * Mothers Day Gift Bags (May 2009) – Gift bags would be given to the mother's at Ballentine Stepping Stones, Haven House, and Cristo Rey. JLL volunteers would purchase, fill and deliver approximately 100 bags of goodies such as shampoo, soaps, manicure items, candies, etc. to Lansing area mothers in need.

\$1000.00 JLL dollars needed. 5 volunteers needed; 4 hour time commitment.

6. * Habitat for Humanity (Summer 2008) – JLL volunteers would work on the house one half day (four hours) and would be able to work with any additional, regular open crews. Necessary skills range from framing and roofing to interior finish work and landscaping. Precise job requirements would be determined by when in the building sequence JLL would participate. One low income family will purchase the home from the Habitat for Humanity Lansing organization with a no interest loan. Habitat provides a required orientation for all volunteers before the volunteers work on the site.

\$1000 JLL dollars needed.
15 volunteers; 4 hour time commitment

7. * Sparrow Foundation Women Working Wonders 5K/0K (September 2008) – Volunteers would be assisting the race committee in any number of roles the day of the race. The funds raised will be used to purchase new equipment to offer an alternate treatment to traditional external radiation for stage one breast cancer patients.

No JLL dollars. 8 – 10 volunteers; three hour time commitment.

8. * Girls on the Run 5k (November 2008) — Girls on the Run is a fitness/mentoring/life skill development program for girls in grades 3-5. It uses running as the vehicle to teach girls about their personal power and the importance of making healthy decisions. An annual Celebration 5k run/walk is held at Hawk Island Park. JLL volunteers would help in a variety of ways on race day.

No JLL dollars needed, 10-15 volunteers, 4 hour time commitment.



9. Volunteers of America Soup Kitchen (2008-2009) – Volunteers of America provides meals to the homeless in the Lansing area. The Junior League of Lansing would volunteer two three hour shifts either dinner or breakfast and help prepare, serve, and clean up after the meal. No JLL dollars needed, 8 volunteers, two 3 hour time commitments.

10. Haven House Repair/Renovation (Summer 2008) – Haven House is a shelter for women and children and has served 5,400 residents including 3,000 children since their move to their building in 1989. The Haven House also has assisted approximately 18,000 people through their food pantry. Their current facility is in need of repair and renovation. The JLL would offer up their "woman power" and help renovate, paint, and improve the Haven House for the women and children sheltered there.

\$1,000 JLL dollars needed, 10 volunteers, 5 hour time commitment.

11. Pregnancy Services Center of Lansing (Spring 2009) — Pregnancy Services of Lansing offers clothes, diapers, food items to mothers and children at risk in the Lansing area. The JLL of Lansing would collect gently baby and maternity items from the members and have them delivered to the Pregnancy Services Center.

No JLL dollars needed. 3-4 volunteers, 4 hour time commitment.

12. City Rescue Mission (Fall 2008) – The City Rescue helps the women & children at risk in a variety of ways, one way is their food pantry. The Junior League of Lansing would help stock the food pantry at the City Rescue Mission in downtown Lansing. Junior League Volunteers would shop and then drop off nonperishable food items to the food pantry.

\$400.00 JLL dollars needed. 3-5 JLL volunteers needed. 3 hour time commitment.

13. Children's Play Area – City Rescue Mission (Spring 2009) – The City Rescue Mission will be moving to the Maplewood School and will be renovating it for a shelter for homeless women and children. The JLL volunteers would help create a children's area by decorating with children's furniture, create an area with murals and toys for the homeless children. \$1,000 JLL dollars needed, 8 JLL volunteers – 5-8 hour time commitment.

* Projects supported 2007-2008



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LANSING BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

October 2, 2007

- Amy Suhrheinrich was welcomed to the 2007-2008 Board as President Elect.
- The Community Service Committee will take a survey of membership to see if there is any interest in working with Habitat for Humanity in New Orleans in the Spring.
- We have a phenomenal speaker lined up for the April GMM. Sue Carter is an amazing woman who once led an expedition to the Arctic.
- Get Ready the Signature Fundraiser is right around the corner on November 17th. Currently the Signature Fundraising committee has raised \$30,480 in total donations.
- Please be advised that the FOCUS deadline is 5:00 p.m. the day after the General Membership Meeting.
- At the end of this year, there will be one to two Community Advisory Board positions open.
- On October 20th, the New Member Retreat will be held at Dustys.
- The Sustainers had a wonderful luncheon this month with sixty-eight women in attendance. Several Sustainers will host the Junior Leagues General Membership Meeting in their homes on November 13th.
- The Sustainer Open House will be on December 5th at Kathy Colby's home.
- Spanx is providing a fundraising opportunity for the JLL. For every pair of Spanx sold at www.spanx.com/juniorleague with the password Lansing, the JLL will receive \$5.00. You will also receive 25% off your purchase. Tell your friends and family.

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LANSING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUSTAINERS HOMES

November 13, 2007

- I. Welcome and Call Meeting to Order Becky Myers, President, greeted the members and called the meeting to order at 7:27PM.
- II. Approve minutes from September and October GMMs Nancy Nyquist made a motion to approve the September General Membership Minutes. Second by Molly Chan. Minutes approved. Karen Olson made a motion to approve the minutes from the October General Membership Meeting. Second by Jasmine Breslin. Minutes approved.
- III. Icebreaker & Discussion Becky Myers, President, requested that each member please state their biggest surprise this year and the biggest challenge. Each member stated the proceeding information. Becky then requested each member provide five suggestions for the General Membership Meetings that they would like to see utilized. Becky advised that these ideas will be taken back to the Board and look for an "Extreme Makeover" in January.
- IV. Signature Fundraiser Update Signature Fundraiser Committee Member, Jasmine Breslin, provided an update on the upcoming event. She encouraged all members to attend and to bring friends. After tonight's meeting, there is a Cabi show where 10% of proceeds will be donated to the Junior League of Lansing Fundraiser.
- V. Skills Based Assessment and Slating Day Process Nominating Placement Member, Nancy Nyquist explained how the process of slating and positions to be slated. Requested members fill out "She'd be great" form for Nominating Placement. Within Nominating Placement, there is currently an ad hoc committee working to create a skill based assessment for the P.I.G. Each position will be looked at and reevaluated according to the skills assessment. The committee will begin with Board positions.
- VI. DIAD 2008-2009 Proposed Projects DIAD Chair, Karen Olson provided a list of all proposed projects for next year. There will be 10 projects selected from this list. Please review this information and be prepared to vote in January. She also provided an update on Caring About Kids. Remember to use tax-exempt form. Need volunteers on 11/30 to drop off gifts at shelter.
- VII. DIAM Raffle DIAD Committee Member, Karen Olson accepted donations for Pregnancy Services.
- VIII. Kudos Awards- Board Member, Becky Myers advised that the Nominating Placement Committee received this months Kudos for all their hard work this year.
- IX. Website update WKAR going to film FEAST activity. Lands End/JL logo items. Website has Community Needs lists. St. Vincent intends to provide a link on their website to the Junior League of Lansing's website.
- X. Adjourn Meeting Karen Olson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by Samantha Hughes. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM.

Respectfully submitted, DeAnna Fenech Secretary to the Board



It is with great pleasure that the Nominating/Placement committee presents the 2008-2009 Junior League of Lansing Board, New Member Advisors and the candidates for Nominating/Placement Advisors. Congratulations!



President Elect Tracy Jelneck

Tracy transferred from the Junior League of Flint in 2003 and has been an active member since 1997. Her past placements have included Treasurer, Signature Fundraiser, and Nominating Placement. She currently serves as the Fund Development Vice

President. Tracy resides in Williamston with her husband David and their three children, Savannah, Brianna, and Ethan. She enjoys reading and is an active leader with the youth group at church, as well as Sunday school.



Secretary to the Board Molly Chan

Molly has been an active member of League since 2003. She has served as Member Relations Chair, Signature Fundraiser Co-Chair, Arrangements Chair and as a Signature Fundraiser Committee member. Molly lives in Okemos with her husband,

Edward, two children, Piper and Bella and is expecting a new addition to the family in April. Molly is an attorney and enjoys reading, tennis and cooking.



Communications Vice President Becky Paalman

Becky has been an active member of League since 2006. She has been the Vice Chair and Chair of the Signature Fundraiser. Becky lives in Dimondale with her husband, Chad and two children, C.J. and Sydney. Becky enjoys downhill skiing, running,

and reading.



Community Vice President Dawn Kroeger

Dawn has been an active member of League since 2005 and was the Public Relations/Marketing Chair, as well as an advisor on the Membership Recruitment Committee. She is currently the Dues/Bookkeeper. Dawn lives in Lansing with

her husband Andy and her 12-month-old daughter, Audrey. Dawn is a Marketing Manager for Two Men and a Truck and enjoys outdoor activities such a camping, fishing, biking, cooking and scrapbooking.



Education Vice President Kate Quinn

Kate has been an active member of League since 2005 and has served as Done-In-A-Meeting Chair, Arrangements Committee member, and Signature Fundraiser Committee member. Kate is a resident of East Lansing, where she lives with her husband,

Brian, and her sons, Declan and Brody. Kate is a stay-at-home mom and just started a part-time position with the Expectant Parents Organization.



Fund Development Vice President Veronica Valentine McNally

Veronica has been an active member of League since 2006 and has served as the Training Chair and as a member of the Training Committee. Veronica is a resident of East Lansing, where she resides with her husband Sean and her 8-month-old son

Sean, Jr. Veronica is the Associate Director of Trial Advocacy Programs at the MSU College of Law.



Membership Vice President Renee Knake

Renee has been an active member of the League since 2002, transferring from the Junior League of Charlottesville, VA in 2005. She has served on New Member Recruitment, both as a committee member and a Vice Chair, in Lansing. In Charlottesville, she

served on the Signature Fundraiser and was the Administrative Vice President to the Board. Renee is currently the Chair of the New Member Recruitment Committee. Renee lives in East Lansing with her husband Jeff and two children, James and a new baby girl, Grace. She teaches at the MSU Law School. Her hobbies include attending book club and getting a good work out in, whether in the gym or chasing her son and dog!



Treasurer Elect Nicki Proulx

Nicki has been an active member of League since 2005 and has served on the Done-In-A-Day and Training Committee. She currently serves as the CRPD chair. Nicki lives in Holt and is an attorney at Fraser, Trebilcock, Davis and Dunlap. In her

spare time, she enjoys athletics and coaching eighth grade girls basketball.

Nominating Placement Advisor Double Slate



Stacy Carl

Stacy joined the Junior League of Lansing in 2004. She has served on the Signature Project Committee, the Arrangements Committee, and the Done-In-A-Day Committee. She is currently serving on the Community Service Committee. Stacy is keeping very busy these days with her family (husband Curt and children Emily and Ben), as well as pursuing an interior design degree from Michigan State University. She will graduate in

May 2008. She is very interested in deepening her commitment to JLL and believes that a Nominating/Placement Advisor position would be a great way to accomplish that goal.



Sara Gillespie

Sara has been a member of League since 2001. She has served on the Signature Fundraiser Committee for two years, the Done-In-A-Day Committee, the Done-In-A-Day Chair, and most currently serves on the Community Service Committee. Sara lives in Lansing with her husband, Scott. She works as a guidance counselor at the Okemos High School. In her spare time, Sara enjoys singing (and does so professionally), playing the piano,

working out, cooking and traveling. This position appeals to Sara as she thoroughly enjoys working with people and assisting with highlighting their strengths and developing areas of growth.



Nicole Godby

Nicole has been a member of the Junior League of Lansing since 2004. She has served on the Signature Fundraiser Committee for three years, both as a chair and as a committee member. She lives in Okemos with her husband George and children Madeline and Aidan. Nicole works at Between Friends and teaches catechism at St. Thomas. She believes that JLL is a great organization and would love to work with members to

develop a "career path" in League.



Hillary Henderson

Hillary has been a member of League since 2005. She served as Focus Chair and as a member of the Signature Fundraiser Committee for two years. She and her husband, Brett, live in East Lansing and have two children, Hayden and Beccett and are expecting a third little Henderson any day now! Hillary enjoys her job as a dance and Pilates instructor so much that she dances in her spare time as well. This position appeals to Hillary as

a way to continue to contribute to the well being of JLL.



Susan Lupo

Susan has been a member of League since 2006. She has been on both the Arrangements and New Member Recruitment committees. She lives in East Lansing with her husband, Tony. Susan is an accounts receivable manager at Lansing Ophthalmology. In her spare time she enjoys volunteering with League, with her sorority, and attending sporting events. This position appeals to Susan because she is interested in continuing to work with

others closely and getting to know membership better.



Kate Powers

Kate has been an active member of League since 2004. She has been the Dues Bookkeeper, Arrangements Chair, and currently Education Vice President. She lives in East Lansing with her husband Jeff and her son Joe. She enjoys exercise, reading, enjoying time with family and friends and cooking. This position appeals to Kate as her previous leadership on the board would allow her to assist members in discovering their interests and deter-

mining a good fit within Junior League.



Jessica Schaub

Jessica joined the Junior League in 2003 and has served as the Grant Writing Chair, Vice President for both the Community and Communications Councils. Jessica lives in Lansing with her husband Bill and their three daughters Madeline, Emma, and Elizabeth. Jessica keeps busy home schooling her daughters, and in her free time enjoys reading, running and writing. This position

appeals to Jessica because she values the vision of Junior League and wants to make it a reality.

Polly Synk

Polly has been an active member of League since 2006. She has been on the Member Relations and Membership Directory Committees. She lives in East Lansing with her husband, Jim Curran, and her six month old son, Liam. Polly is an attorney with the State of Michigan and enjoys drawing, painting, skiing and exercising. This position appeals to Polly as a way to continue to contribute to the well being of JLL.

New Member Advisor Single Slate



Samantha Hughes

Samantha's first active year was 2006 and she served on the Signature Fundraiser. She lives in East Lansing with her boyfriend, Mike, and works as a claims adjuster at AIG. Samantha enjoys spending time with family and friends, attending the theater and musicals, going to concerts, dancing, and reading.



Christie Lemon

Christie joined Junior League in 2006 and has served on the Signature Fundraiser Committee and as an advisor on the New Member Recruitment Committee. Her plan is to assist the New Member Recruitment Committee again this year as the committee looks at new and creative ways to recruit the future of our League. Christie resides in Haslett with her husband, Lance and their two children,

Cameron and Olivia. Christie is an Occupational Therapist and enjoys baking, traveling and exercising.



Ivana Marinig

Ivana has been a member of League since 2005. She has served on the Signature Fundraiser and currently serves on the Community Service Committee. Ivana works as an actuary at Jackson National Life and lives in Haslett with her husband, Michael O'Farrell, and children, Ethan, and Madeline. She enjoys skiing, gardening, home renovation activities, reading, and traveling.



Julie Morgan

Julie has been a member of League since 2006. She currently serves on the Done-In-A-Day Committee and works as the Associate Bank Manager at Independent Bank South Michigan. Julie lives in Lansing with her husband, Mike and dog Maggie. She enjoys spending time with her family, working out, traveling and thoroughly enjoys studying the French language.

Absentee Ballots for the January 15, 2008 General Membership Meeting

If you are unable to attend the January GMM, please use the Absentee Ballots Refer to Redbook Bylaws, Article VII, Page 13, Section 4.

- 1. Mark your Ballot.
- 2. Place Ballot in envelope
- 3. Seal the envelope
- 4. Write your name and the word "Ballot" on the envelope
- 5. Put sealed envelope into larger envelope
- 6. Mail ballot

Ballots MUST be received BEFORE the start of the January 15th GMM. Mail to: Kimberly Garrison, 2005 Timberview Dr., Okemos, MI 48864

ABSENTEE ABSENTEE BALLOT (2) A check mark next to the name indicates a YES vote. You may vote for up to 9 candidates. For each candidate to be ratified, a majority vote of the total votes cast is required. 2008-2009 BOARD (single slate) Tracy Jelneck, President Elect Molly Chan, Secretary Becky Paalman, Communications Vice President Dawn Kroeger Community Vice President Kate Quinn, Education Vice President Veronica McNally, Fund Development Vice President Renee Knake, Membership Vice President		ABSENTEE BALLOT (2) 2008-2009 BOARD		
Nicki Proulx, Treasurer Elect		Signature		
ABSENTEE BALLOT (3) A check mark next to the name indicates a YES vote. You may vote for no more than 3 candidates. The 3 candidates receiving the most votes will be elected. Nominating/Placement 2008-2009		ABSENTEE BALLOT (3) 2008-2009 Nominating/Placement		
Stacy Carl Sara Gillespie Nicole Godby Hillary Henderson Susan Lupo Kate Powers Jessica Schaub Polly Synk		Signature		
ABSENTEE BALLOT (4)		ABSENTEE BALLOT (4)		
A check mark next to the name indicates a YES vote. You may vote for up to 4 candidates. For each candidate to be ratified, a majority vote of the total votes cast		2008-2009 New Member Recruitment		
is required. New Member Recruitment 2008-2009 (single slate)				
	tie Lemon	Signature		
Ivana Marinig Julie				
	J			
Absentee DIAD Ballot A check mark next to the name indicates a YES vote. Please vote for 3 proposed DIADs.		Absentee DIAD Ballot		
Back to School Backpacks for Children of Ballentine Stepping Stones (August 2008)		Signature		
Caring About Kids (November 2008)	008) Girls on the Run Race (November 2008)			
Special Olympics (November 2008)	Volunteers of America Soup Kitchen (2008-2009)			
Ronald McDonald House Dinners (Winter 2009)	Haven House Repair/Renovation (Summer 2008)			
Mothers Day Gift Bags (May 2009)	Pregnancy Services Clothes Drive (Spring 2009)			
Habitat for Humanity (Summer 2008)	City Rescue Mission Food Pantry (Fall 2008)			
Sparrow Women Working Wonders 5k/0k (September 2008)	Children's Play Area City Rescue Mission (Spring 2009)			

Galendar of Events

December

18th - New Member Cookie Exchange

January

15th - OPS, GMM and Annual Meeting

February

9th - MSC Training

9th - MSU School of Hospitality Auction

12th - GMM

28th - Deadline for Membership Dues

March

11th - Day At The Capitol

That's a wrap!

Chad and Becky Myers



Traci Riehl and Becky Paalman

Sam and Michelle Thelen



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LANSING

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