

DECEMBER 2012

FOCUS

www.jllansing.org



Lunch with League a Huge Success!

Amy Lothamer, Fund Development VP, and Kelly Nicole Miller, Fund Development Chair

The Fund Development Committee has been hard at work completing our two main fundraisers for this year, Lunch with League and the Reading Rocks Raffle.

Lunch with League took place on November 8, 2012 and was a huge success, raising \$11,173.97. Texas Roadhouse provided delicious food and their staff was exceptional in making the whole event a success. The day would not have been the same without its spirit captured so wonderfully on film by **Yvonne Fleener** of Redwood Studios.

Of course the true stars of the day were our fantastic group of servers. Junior League cannot thank them enough for the time and spectacular energy they gave to Lunch with League. The friendly tip competition helped the servers reign in tips with a prize of a Tom Izzo signed basketball donated by Mark and Nancy Hollis. While all the servers were top notch,

Stella Cash, President of Sparrow Foundation, was our Server of the Year followed by Lisa Hildorf, incoming Chair of Sparrow W3, a very close second. The entire event was phenomenal and we are appreciative and thankful to all the servers, guests and event donors involved.

On November 19th, Becky Beauchine Kulka Diamonds and Fine Jewelry hosted our 1st Turn in your Raffle tickets cocktail party. It was a fun event where members could stop by to turn in their raffle tickets, socialize and do a little pre-holiday shopping. A great time was had by all.

On December 4th we will wrap up our fundraising season with our drawing for the Reading Rocks Raffle at the Holiday Open House. The prizes to Becky Beauchine Kulka Diamonds and Fine Jewelry set our raffle apart from the rest. A special thank you goes to **Becky Beauchine Kulka** for her generous donation.



Stella Cash



The winners will receive something truly special that will become a part of their families for years to come. Every member has done well selling their tickets and it has been so wonderful to see many go above and beyond “Just one More” and add on that extra ticket. It looks as if we will obtain our goal.

A special thank you to the Fund Development Committee, Publications, Junior League Board, Lunch with League volunteers, and everyone who sold a raffle ticket—it’s because of you that we can continue to fund our Mission.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MISSION STATEMENT

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.



President's Message

Becky Paalman, President 2012-2013

AT OUR MAY CELEBRATION DINNER, I ASKED EACH OF YOU TAKE A JOURNEY OF HOPE WITH ME. IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE BEEN ON THIS JOURNEY FOR ALMOST EIGHT MONTHS NOW. I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE A PERFECT TIME TO REFLECT ON OUR JOURNEY.

JOURNEY OF H.O.P.E.

Hearth—Our organization has provided items to the City Rescue Mission of Lansing, EVE (End Violent Encounters) and EPO (Expectant Parents Organization). We have also provided countless volunteer hours to Sparrow W3, St. Vincent's, Habitat for Humanity and Caring about Kids.

Optimistic—As I mentioned in May, optimism is the hidden asset in leadership. We as optimistic women are making a case for change and have the ability to create, initiate and execute this change that has and will have profound effects in our community. This optimism is what we will need to move forward after terminating our Signature Project contract with Capital Area Literacy Coalition. In May, I attached an anchor charm to each of the programs and encouraged you to look at it when the stormy weather hits. I have reflected on this and reminded myself to stand firm and solid knowing that we are proactive and intelligent women being an agent of change.

Passionate—Our passion for our Mission has allowed us to send four phenomenal women to the AJLP's fall Organizational Development Institute (ODI). A few members, including me, were fortunate enough to attend the Michigan State Council of Junior Leagues fall training. This continued support of our Mission through our dedication to the community and commitment to developing our Members proves that we are making our lives and the lives of those around us exciting, meaningful and special.

Enthusiasm—I cannot express enough that enthusiasm is the electricity of this organization. I hope some of you had the opportunity to join us for our Lunch with League at the Texas Roadhouse. What an incredible event! This year we doubled ticket sales and raised over \$11,000. These funds are what allow us to be the catalyst of change.

It is hard to believe that we only have 5 more months left on this journey. We have so many things to come including our holiday open house, slating day and DIAM/DIAD selection for 2013–2014. This holiday season I plan to bring my H.O.P.E home to my family and friends and wish the same for you. A time to reflect, renew and prepare for the great things to come.

Warmest Regards,

Becky



News from AJLI

Ann Vogelsang, President Elect

A feature of several recent training conferences has been discussion of the AJLI Strategic Roadmap as a means to add value to Junior Leagues across the world in response to the concern over declining membership and increased member turnover (members remaining active for shorter periods before going sustaining). In order to combat this, the Strategic Roadmap outlines ways to better connect Leagues, further develop the potential of League members, build a shared identity amongst Leagues, and provide the resources and tools necessary to help Leagues address current and future trends. To analyze these systematic issues, AJLI conducted member interviews, conference calls, and group discussions by assembling Action Learning Teams from seventy-nine Leagues. Conference workshops were also organized and attended by over 1000 League leaders. More recently, Junior League of Lansing members who have attended Annual Conference, Winter Conference, Michigan State Council (MSC) Training Meetings, and Organizational Development Institutes (ODI) have learned about

specific suggestions from the Strategic Roadmap to help address trends in our own League. These suggestions have centered on issue based community impact and aligning League placements for better cross-League support. We have just started discussing these suggestions and are looking to all our membership to think about how these suggestions might work for JLL, and how we would want to approach any possible transformation of our League.

What is issue based community impact and what could it mean for JLL?

Issue based community impact would involve JLL identifying an unmet need or opportunity—the issue—we see in the Lansing area and building multiple strategies and tactics around that issue which would allow our League to build a strong community platform, develop many partners and alliances, and foster the civic leadership potential of our members as a means to make significant impact on that issue. Addressing an issue would allow our League to develop multiple services or projects designed to meet a defined

need with a plan of action aimed at accomplishing a clear objective.

How do we achieve better cross-League support?

AJLI is suggesting specialist or liaison placements. Liaisons would be assigned a “home” Council and from there given a cross-Council placement. The Communications Council is piloting this concept for JLL this year. Communications Council members have been designated as liaisons to other Councils. These liaisons work directly with a Council to better understand their events and to develop a plan for communication with JLL members and the outside community. We are really excited about the way this pilot program is working and will continue to explore other opportunities for better cross-League support in the future.

We anticipate learning more about the AJLI Strategic Roadmap and are anxious to talk to members from other Leagues about their experiences and ideas regarding these transformations. We look forward to discussing these concepts and seeing what members of JLL think and building their vision for our future.

SHOW ME THE MONEY

Bridget Seitz, Treasurer

JLL is having a wonderful financial year. Between the extremely generous contribution from the Endowment Fund and the smashing success of the “Lunch with League” fundraiser, we continue to support our Mission with strong finances.

In addition, the Finance Committee has implemented the use of “Square”—an online credit card processing service—to allow for credit card transactions. It has proven to be successful and is just one more way to meet the needs of our Members.

Finally, this is a friendly reminder that all dues (both Active and Sustainer) will be collected on February 28th, 2013. You will be receiving a letter in the mail soon regarding all the details. Also, please take time to consider “Rounding Up for Endowment” when making your dues payment. Last year, those few extra dollars paid by JLL Members added up to nearly \$4,500 for our Endowment Fund. This is one more way to secure our legacy.

COMMUNITY

The Benefits of Issue-Based Community Impact

Leslie Donaldson, Community VP

Recently, I attended the AJLI's fall Organization Development Institute conference in Cleveland, Ohio along with active members Julie Krueger, Anita Lindsay, and Nanette Naser. We enjoyed an intensive weekend training opportunity as we each participated in four different concentration tracks. Through these concentrated sessions we learned strategies and best practices regarding membership, nominating/placement, internal capacity, and community-based issues. My concentration track focused on issue-based community impact and AJLI's wish for Leagues around the world to adopt this model for making an even greater impact on the communities in which we live.

Issue-based community impact asks that each League focus its efforts on making meaningful change in the community by connecting the League to a broad-based issue of need. For example, if a League wanted to support children and youth, a League might research and hone in on issues like childhood obesity, teen pregnancy, or the treatment and prevention of child abuse. All members would be engaged in the process to select an issue—and would develop strategies and tactics to help

address that issue—allowing the League ultimately to make a more meaningful, positive impact on the community. Additionally, focusing on an issue and aligning all activities toward addressing that issue would allow the League to re-position itself as the organization working on the issue. This concentrated effort would also help the League become known as a thought leader in women's civic and community leadership, therefore expanding opportunities to attract more members, organizational partners, and donors.

How do we consider issue-based community impact for our own League? First of all, we cannot forget about all of the great work our League members have already done to support thousands of people in need in greater Lansing. From collecting diapers to establishing and strengthening non-profit organizations, our League has a long history of supporting our community and accomplishing great things. We need to understand and celebrate these accomplishments while also taking an objective look at our organization currently and where we want to be in the future. In focusing on a community issue, what might

we look like internally and externally? How we can become better known as a strategic partner? In these economic times, how can we utilize our resources more judiciously while widening our sphere of influence? And, how can we build deeper relationships with our community while supporting current members and attracting future members? I think this all starts by having a strategic conversation to assess where we are currently at with our programs, our relationships, and our skill sets, and where we want to be and how we might get there. With a focus on issue-based community impact, I am excited about how might be a great model for our League. I invite you to join me in thinking more about this and as a part of this, I challenge you to consider what needs you feel are being unmet in our community and what our League might be able to do if we focus in on an issue and align all of our activities around the issue.



Exciting New Projects and Some Repeat Favorites

Jennifer Edmonds, Community Vice Chair

New On-going Project for Junior League of Lansing

The Junior League of Lansing has begun collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan.



Pop tabs are a simple and compact way of collecting recyclable aluminum. The pop tabs are taken to a recycler where they are weighed and the Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan chapter is paid for the value of the aluminum. Some chapters raise thousands of dollars through their pop tab collections. In just a few short months JLL Members have already collected nearly 10,000 pop tabs. We hope to continue this project in subsequent years and ultimately make it into the million pop tabs club where the Junior League of Lansing would be added to a plaque displayed at the Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan in Lansing. If you would like to participate in this project with us, please contact Colleen Kushmaul at cbconnolly@hotmail.com or Jennifer Edmonds at jenniferedmonds08@yahoo.com.

Holiday Angels

Junior League of Lansing Members along with friends and family contributed over 70 volunteer hours in early November to help fill out over 2,500 Angel Cards for St. Vincent Catholic Charities. These cards are hung

(left) JLL Volunteers working hard completing Angel Cards for St. Vincent Catholic Charities. Pictured: JLL members Colleen Kushmaul, Dawn Hall, and Samantha Hughes, and several other friends and family.

Join the St. Jude Give thanks. Walk.™ November 17

I walk. I give.
To help her live.



on Christmas trees in the Meridian Mall and a number of Lansing area offices and businesses. Individuals can pick out an Angel card from one of the locations and purchase the indicated gift to help make the holidays special for one of the hundreds of children served by St. Vincent Catholic Charities during the year.

Give thanks. Walk.

On November 17th, Junior League of Lansing volunteers came out to Peacock Road Tree Farm bright and early at 7:00am to help with the St. Jude Give thanks. Walk. This event raises funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, which conducts research developing life-saving medical treatments and provides care to children from all over the country, including patients in the Lansing area. Participants enjoyed breakfast with Santa, a beautiful walk along the trails on the Christmas Tree farm, a petting zoo, hot cocoa, s'mores, and much more. This year's event was also a celebration of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's 50th Anniversary and JLL volunteers were proud to be part of making this event extra special this year.



Compassionate Feast

The Junior League of Lansing collected over 100 items that make up the traditional Thanksgiving feast, including green beans,

French fried onions, sweet potatoes, stuffing, canned pumpkin, roasting pans and over 200 1 gallon zip lock baggies. Through the Old Town Commercial Association, these items will be included in holiday meal boxes provided to over 200 families in need in the Lansing area.

DIAD & DIAM (DONE IN A DAY/MEETING)

Latest and Greatest News from DIAD–DIAM

Virginia Gibson, Done in a Day Chair, and Kristen M. Pricco, Done in a Day Vice Chair (DIAM)

Community Service has been a busy area so far this League year for the ladies working on Done-in-a-Day and Done-in-a-Meeting events.

Junior League Done-in-a-Day committee members participated in the popular, well received, back-to-school donation drive known as Operation Backpack on August 27th. This donation drive was held to benefit the worthy children in the care of St. Vincent Catholic Charities.

Operation Backpack was co-chaired by Congressman Mike Rogers and Lupe Izzo. The generous community of Greater Lansing donated school supplies and new backpacks in collaboration with Andy Provenzano, WILX-TV Channel 10 and TWO MEN AND A TRUCK. Junior League members participated in the sorting of school supplies and packed the backpacks full of school supplies at St. Vincent Catholic Charities. It was a wonderful, fulfilling experience to know that by contributing our time many children in our community would get to start school with new supplies and a new backpack to carry. The event was a great success as there were 905 backpacks given to children at St. Vincent’s back-to-school rally on August 28th.

Junior League found a couple of different ways to help out Habitat for Humanity of Lansing this year. In August, League Members assisted at the registration tables for an annual fundraiser called Bike to Build. Over 100 cyclists rode 15, 45 or 75 miles for the cause and it was a great success for Habitat.

League Members who participated in the Bike to Build event were **Leah Arendt, Samantha Hughes,** and **Trisha Garvey.**

In September, League volunteers worked on a Habitat for Humanity house that was built in 1913. This house was gutted and given new floor plan for a local woman and her two children. The house was dedicated in November and it was a proud moment for the people who took part in its transformation!

Since 1987, Habitat for Humanity Lansing has built or rehabilitated over 100 homes and is currently building three houses in the Greater Lansing area. Habitat acquires houses and property through donations, tax foreclosures and Land Bank. They have helped numerous people become homeowners who were once living in substandard housing, under circumstances

perhaps with no heat or even sewage in the basement. These families will have a mortgage but with a zero percent interest rate. Families qualify if they are currently renters, if their income meets requirements, and if they are willing to give back 300-500 hours of volunteer work to Habitat, of sweat equity. Most of these families have never owned a home before and this gives them a good idea of what goes into it!

League Members participating in the Habitat build were **Courtney Schnelker, Leah Arendt, Ann Bertsch, Nikki Proulx, Andrea Barnes,** and **Trisha Garvey.**

A beautiful Sunday morning on September 9th found the Junior League of Lansing assisting with the Sparrow Women Working Wonders 5K/8K/0K Race. The 2012 race marked the 9th anniversary of the race. Local celebrities on hand included Honorary Chair of the race, MSU Head Women’s Basketball Coach Suzy Merchant along with the members of the MSU Women’s Basketball team, and Sparty who helped cheer on race participants as they crossed the finish line. Over 700 people participated in this year’s race. Individuals taking part in the race

can run or walk the 8K or 5K route or enjoy the health and wellness services provided by Sparrow and other health and beauty professionals.

Junior League Members’ presence was found registering racers for the event, running in the actual race itself, and in the planning phase to ensure the day was a success! The funds raised for the event are used to support equipment and resources aimed at improving women’s health.

Thanks go out to League ladies who helped out and supported this great event!

With the help of Prima Civitas and the Junior League of Lansing, there were a few more ghosts and princesses out on Halloween this year!

On October 20th, several League Members met to distribute costumes for the children at the Boys and Girls Club of Lansing. **Jennifer Edmonds, Sarah Anthony, Melissa Seifert, Allison Sevegny-Reynolds,** and **Jennifer Charette** organized and help distribute more than 75 costumes to young children. It was very evident that there is a big need for gently used costumes for children who wouldn’t normally have access to costumes. The children at the *(continued)*

DIAD

Trish Garvey

Junior League found a couple of different ways to help out Habitat for Humanity of Lansing this year. In August, we assisted at the sign up tables for an annual fundraiser called Bike to Build. Over 100 cyclists rode 15, 45 or 75 miles for the cause and it was a great success for Habitat.

In September, we sent our volunteers over to a house that was built in 1913. This house was gutted and given a new floor plan for a local woman and her two children. The house was dedicated in November and it was a proud moment for the people who took part in its transformation!

Since 1987, Habitat for Humanity Lansing has built or rehabilitated over 100 homes and is currently building three houses in the Greater Lansing area. Habitat acquires houses and property through donations, tax foreclosures and Land Bank. They have helped numerous people become homeowners who were once living in substandard housing, maybe with no heat or even sewage in the basement. These families will have a mortgage but with a zero percent interest rate. Families qualify if they are currently renters, if their income meets requirements, and if they are willing to give back 300-500 hours of volunteer work to Habitat, or sweat equity. Most of these families have never owned a home before and this gives them a good idea of what goes into it!

Habitat Build

Courtney Schnelker
Leah Arendt
Ann Bertsch
Nikki Proulx
Andrea Barnes
Trisha Garvey

Habitat-Bike to Build Fundraiser

Leah Arendt
Samantha Hughes
Trisha Garvey

EDUCATION & TRAINING

SPAC for Change Across the State

Allison Sevegney-Reynolds, Training Vice Chair & SPAC Chair

Trying to make a difference in the lives of others is at the heart of what we do as Junior League of Lansing members. This year our Junior League's State Political Action Committee (SPAC) is focusing on making a difference in the lives of individuals who are being exploited through human trafficking as well as focusing on the improving the health of children in Michigan through increasing their access to nutritious foods. SPAC is comprised of representatives from all nine Junior Leagues across the State of Michigan, all of who are dedicated to creating change toward the betterment of our communities.

We are excited to be in the beginning stages of exploring a partnership with the Department of Agriculture and Michigan State University to develop and institute a program in which local farm foods can be utilized effectively in our schools. Helping to fuel our children with healthy and nutritious food is the goal and the positive effects on our children are exciting to consider.

100,000 to 300,000 children in the United States are at risk for being trafficked, with the average age of these children being between 11 to 14 years old. SPAC is committed to protecting the victims of human trafficking in our state. We are currently seeking legislators to sponsor a set of three bills. The first would prevent victims of sex trafficking, under the age of 18, from being prosecuted for prostitution. The next would clear the criminal convictions from their records, and the third bill would allow victims to be able to hold their traffickers accountable by taking them to court.

One important way that you can become involved in supporting these efforts are to consider attending the Junior League's "Day at the Capitol," slated for March 13, 2013. At this event you will have the chance to share our goals with legislators and ask them for their support.

Training League

Ryonn Clute, Training Chair

The 2012-2013 year was off to a great start with terrific speakers for our first two GMM's. To begin the year, Cindie Alwood, the Executive Director of the Women's Center of Greater Lansing, was our featured speaker. Cindie, joined by colleague Patsy King and Women's Center board member Anna Scott, offered terrific insight into the organization and the resources they provide to the community.

In October, our first OPS meeting took place, led by Bob Hoffman in a hands-on, interactive workshop aimed at leveraging natural talents and strengths to help achieve personal and professional success. And as a nice segue, Bob was also our featured speaker for the October GMM, talking about community engagement activities on two fronts: first from an educational perspective with the MSUFCU Institute for Arts & Creativity at Wharton Center, where Bob is the Public Relations Manager, as well as community engagement through ePIFanyNow, a non-profit initiative that Bob started several years ago that gives participants the chance to Pass It Forward and touch people's lives through acts of kindness.

We look forward to more education events and speakers throughout the year.

Arranging GMMs at the CCL

Paula Wilcox, Arrangements Chair

The Arrangements Committee is charged with handling the details and arrangements for regular meetings and special events conducted by the Junior League of Lansing. This year, Junior League of Lansing made a change in venue to the Country Club of Lansing. This provides us with an exceptional space to conduct business during our General Membership Meetings each month and we would like to thank them for their generosity and support. This year's 6-member committee gathered over the summer to plan the year's events and determine a theme for each meeting. We kicked off the year with JLL Past, Present, and Future, and other meetings have included a tailgate, fostering a casual and fun atmosphere where our attendees could show their team spirit, and a focus on literacy. Future meeting themes include a Little Black Dress party in January and our May Celebration. The committee uses their talents to create unique table centerpieces to correspond to the meeting's theme and will continue to incorporate these into our monthly meetings to encourage Member participation.

Boys and Girls Club of Lansing were overjoyed to have a costume of their very own for Halloween!

On the Done-in-Meeting front, Expectant Parents Organization (EPO) was the recipient for Junior League of Lansing's November DIAM project.

Expectant Parents Organization (EPO) has been in existence for nearly 70 years in the Lansing area. Expectant Parents Organization (EPO) provides families-to-be with the latest information and education on pregnancy, labor & delivery, infant care, and parenting. Their mission is to better the health and well-being of this community's children.

The organization requested a donation of newborn size diapers and packages of large size crew socks.

Thanks to everyone's generous support, we collected 8 packages and boxes of diapers, 3 packages of crew socks, and 1 package of baby wipes at the meeting.

We also collected \$159 in monetary donations.

The monetary donations allowed us to buy additional packages and boxes of diapers and socks. These additional purchases for EPO brought the total number of donated items to 16 packages and boxes of diapers, 112 pairs of crew socks, and 1 package of baby wipes.

I wish to extend my gratitude to both **Lydia Millbrook** and **Wesley Reece** (members of the Done-in-a-Meeting Committee) for their help with the November DIAM collection. Thanks to both Lydia and Wesley for their help at the November GMM. Thanks also to Wesley for her extra time spent in shopping for the additional diapers and socks and for delivering the donated items to the EPO organization!

Thank you as well once again for everyone's generous support!

The Done-in-a-Day and Done-in-a-Meeting branches of the Community Council thank all League Members for their help and support! We've had a great first 3 months to our League year and we're looking forward to a wonderful 2013 with future DIAD events and DIAM collections.

Happy Holidays and a blessed New Year to all of you and your families!

MEMBERSHIP

New Member Recruitment

Susan Lupo, Membership VP

The New Member Recruitment committee has been very busy with five recruiting events on their calendar this fall. The recruiting year commenced with a very successful recruitment event held at the MICA (Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art) Gallery in Old Town in August. The room was bursting with prospective members, active members and sustainers. This was such a great way to kick off our recruitment! The September recruitment event was held at ALIVE in Charlotte. Thanks to all prospective and active members who drove out to Charlotte to share such a great evening at this special location. Very special thanks go to JLL Member **Dana Pray** for helping us coordinate this event and giving 'behind the scenes' tours! The October event was held at Petal and Forrest in Haslett. This was another successful event for the committee. The committee would like to thank **Dawn Hall**, JLL Member, for opening up her business to us for this lovely event. The committee has held one New Member social event in November at Sapier Gallery and they have their upcoming 'Cookie Exchange' in December, which will

be held at the home of Sustainer **Dr. Sarah Knapp**. The New Member Recruiting will conclude on Saturday, January 26, 2013 when they will hold their New Member Retreat in conjunction with their first New Member training meeting. JLL is looking to have another great class of New Members this year. Great job New Member Recruitment! If you have any questions regarding New Member Recruitment, please direct them to committee chair **Alexis Derrossett** (alexis.derrossett@gmail.com) or vice-chair **Meghan Vanderstelt** (msifuentes34@hotmail.com).

Member Relations

Susan Lupo, Membership VP

The Member Relations committee has held a cornucopia of events this fall! The committee kicked off the year with the annual JLL Tailgate party at the MSU vs. Eastern Michigan University game. Thanks to committee member **Kim Drew** who organized a special serenade by the MSU marching band. In October, the committee held a private shopping event at JCrew in Eastwood. This was a great opportunity to work with a

private shopper and enjoy light hors d'oeuvres with League Members and friends. In late November, Member Relations had a wreath making event at Petal and Forrest in Haslett. JLL Member, **Dawn Hall**, will be donating her time to teach League Members how to make a fresh flower wreath for the holidays. 'After-GMM socials' have continued to be a popular event and a great way for us to meet New Members and relax after the GMMs. The committee would like to recognize the Kudos award winners from this fall. September- **Julie Krueger** (Communications Committee), **Kelly Miller** (Fund Development Committee); October- **Amy Lothamer** (Fund Development VP) and **Torye Santucci** (Communications VP); November- **Becca Budde** (Communications Committee) and **Jennifer Edmonds** (Community Service Committee). For further information on upcoming Member Relation events, please contact the committee chair, **Jackie Lillis-Warwick** (jelillis@gmail.com).

Nominating Placement

Susan Lupo, Membership VP

The Nominating/Placement Committee has been very busy this month completing fall interviews with members and preparing for Slating Day. Slating Day is fast approaching for all members that are thinking about being on the 2013-2014 Board, an Advisor to the New Members or a Nominating/Placement Advisor. Slating Day is scheduled for December 1, 2012. If you have any questions about the Slating Process or are interested in any slated positions or a leadership position for next year, please contact your advisor.

UPCOMING *Projects & Events*

Some of the exciting projects coming up in the rest of the year include:

- » Holiday Cookies for Volunteers of America food baskets (collected at the New Member Cookie Exchange)—December 2012
- » MDA Muscle Walk—March 2013
- » Mother's Day Gift Baskets for Haven House—May 2013
- » MSU School of Hospitality Business Auction*, Kellogg Center—February 9, 2013
Private pre-party for JLL Members and Friends**, Lower Level—4:00 p.m.
Silent Auction, Big Ten Room—5:00 p.m.
Live Auction, Big Ten Room—6:00 p.m.

*A portion of the night's proceeds will benefit the JLL Endowment Fund **Pre-party includes appetizers and cocktails prepared and served by School of Hospitality Students ***Pre-party is a non-ticket event (no cost)
**Pre-party RSVP to Ginny Brooks at Californiakids2@gmail.com or 517-655-8153. Limited to 70 guests.



READING ROCKS

\$2,500 Al Harrison **\$1,000** Nanette Naser **\$500** Sarah Triplett

Congrats to the winners!

SLATING DAY BIOS 2012

President-Elect: Courtney Schnelker

Courtney joined Junior League in 2006. She has served on the Done in a Day committee, Membership VP, New Member recruitment chair and a New Member Advisor. She lives in East Lansing with her husband Adam and their 3 royally-named children—William, Henry, and Ella Cate. Courtney works as a speech pathologist and in her spare she runs, puts together gorgeous and fashionable outfits, and enjoys spending time with family and friends. She is honored and excited to be president-elect.

Communications VP: Katie Gallagher

Katie joined Junior League of Chicago in 2003, transferred to Junior League of Washington, D.C. and then to Lansing in 2007. She has served on the Training Committee, as Publications Chair, on DIAD Committee and as a Nominating/Placement Advisor. Katie was the Communications Manager at MSU Law before she became a full-time stay at home mom to Conor (4), Doyle (2) and Ronan (7 months). Katie enjoys her time at home with her boys and also spending time with her family and friends, working out, and her involvement with JLL. Katie and her glorious mane of chestnut-colored hair will be a welcome addition to the JLL Board of Directors.

Community VP: Jennifer Edmonds

Jennifer Edmonds is in her third active year in JLL. She has served on the Community Service Committee as a member, co- chair and Chair. Jennifer lives in Grand Ledge with her husband Matt. She works for the State of Michigan and enjoys sewing, volunteering, attending music festivals and spending time with her family and friends.

Education VP: Gabrielle Johnson

Gabrielle joined Junior League in 2007. She has served as Parliamentarian, SPAC statewide chair, Training Chair, Fund Development VP, Member Advisor, and Placement Chair. She is a lawyer and lives in Lansing. She sits on the boards of Grand River Connection and the Free Being Yoga Network. Gabe loves cooking and baking, book club, writing about Lansing-area restaurants for the City Pulse, and doing lots of yoga to counteract the effects of all the delicious food she finds in her beloved hometown.

Fund Development VP: Kelly Nicole Miller

Kelly joined Junior League in Chicago in 2008 and transferred to JLL in 2011. She has held positions on the Cookbook Committee and Prospective Membership Committee in Chicago, and Fund Development here in Lansing. She stays at home with her 3 year old daughter Madeline and her hobbies are dancing and yoga, and she loves her involvement with JLL.

Membership VP: Alexis Chadderdon

Alexis is in her second active year in JLL. During her first active year she served a double placement as a member of the Communications council and Vice-Chair of New Member Recruitment. She

currently serves as Chair of New Member Recruitment. Alexis is a lawyer and works as a manager for the State of Michigan. She is a native of Kansas City and recently married Allen in a beautiful ceremony in Curacao. Alexis loves baking, reading, and entertaining her friends and family.

Secretary: Julie Morgan

Julie joined Junior League in 2007 and has served as Treasurer, Done In A Day committee member, and is currently a Nominating/Placement Advisor. Julie is a sales representative for Coca Cola and lives in a beautiful historical home in Lansing with her husband Mike and her pup Maggie. Julie is a fantastic baker and serves on the MSU Sideout Club. She likes to spend time playing volleyball, running road races, and never finishing the book for book club. Julie, Mike, and Maggie are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the newest Morgan, due in March 2013.

Treasurer-Elect: Patricia Scott

Patricia joined Junior League in 2010 as a New Member. She has been on the Done in a Day Committee and is currently serving as the Dues Bookkeeper. Patricia is the youngest of 6 children. She lives in Dewitt with her husband Mike and daughter Megan. Patricia is an attorney at Foster, Swift, Collins and Smith in Lansing.

New Member Advisor: Single Slate

Karissa Chabot-Purchase

Karissa is in her first active year. She is on the member relations committee. She lives in Lansing with her husband Steve. She works for the Michigan Legislature. She loves to cook with her husband, read, go to movies and spend time with her friends and family. She is thrilled to work with new members!

Alyson Kechkaylo

Alyson joined the Junior League of Lansing in 2011. In her first year of League Alyson served on the arrangements committee and now in her second active year, she has been a new member advisor. During her new member year she was the co-chair of the very successful Kids in the Kitchen event. Alyson works for the Office of Highway Safety Planning and she and her husband live in Haslett. Outside of Junior League, Alyson enjoys reading, traveling and wine tasting and is a reluctant runner.

Julie Krueger

Julie joined the Junior League of Birmingham in 2004 and transferred to Lansing in 2011. She has served on the Signature fundraising committee in Birmingham and Member Relations in Lansing. Julie is currently the Publications Editor. She lives in Haslett with her husband Nick and two daughters, Allison and Lindsay. Julie is a graphic designer at the MSU College of Law. She enjoys yoga, interior design and spending time with her family. Julie is looking forward to being a new member advisor.

Mona Walter

Mona joined Junior League in 2010. She has served on the member relations committee and is currently the vice-chair of the Signature Project committee. She and her husband Kevin have been married almost 10 years. They have 2 children Ava, 7 and Luke, 3 ½. She works for Stewart Title Company as a Business Development Officer. Mona enjoys reading, scrapbooking and sewing.

Nominating/Placement Advisor: **Double Slate**

Kristin Clark

Shortly after moving to East Lansing, Kristin joined the Junior League of Lansing in 2010.

Kristin has served as both the chair and a member-at-large of the signature fundraiser committee and is currently a new member advisor. Kristin and her husband Sam are the proud parents of seven year old Charlie. Beyond JLL, Kristin will try anything- she is an avid runner who has also completed a triathlon recently. She loves to garden and when she's not busy in the great outdoors she is an avid wine connoisseur.

Kate (Marchyok) Hude

Kate joined Junior League in 2007 and has served as Training Chair and Vice-Chair, as a member of the Signature Fundraiser committee, and is currently Education Vice President. Kate is a lawyer with Kordenbrock and Associates and lives in Lansing with her new husband, Dan, and her menagerie of dogs and cats. In her spare time Kate loves going to art museums, meeting with her book club, and traveling to visit her widely-flung network of family and friends.

Amanda Purdy Lavoie

Amanda joined Junior League of Lansing in 2007. She has held a variety of positions, including Community Service, Signature Fundraiser Chair, Secretary to the Board, and Member Relations. She currently lives in East Lansing with her husband, and has just started her own tanning business.

Abbie Matthews

Abbie joined Junior League in 2008. She has been on the arrangements committee, the member relations committee and has also served as a New Member Advisor. Abbie is the director of music and dance industries at Immanuel Community Reformed Church and lives in Lansing. She enjoys music, reading and spending time with friends.

Melissa Seifert

Melissa joined Junior League of Lansing in 2009, after being roped into it by one of her

good friends, and has never looked back. During her first active year Mel served on the community service committee, following that she chaired the signature fundraiser committee, sat on the board as VP of fund development and is currently a new member advisor. Melissa enjoys cooking and spending time with her husband, Paul, and their 5 month old son, Jack.

Amber Terakedis

Amber is in her 3rd active year in Junior League. She has been on the member relations committee and is currently on the fund development committee. She lives in Dewitt with her husband Dave and son Drew. She is expecting a daughter in February. Amber works as a Senior Financial Advisor at Plante and Moran in their Wealth Management Group. She enjoys outdoor activities, travelling and reading.

Sara Triplett

Sara joined Junior League of Lansing in 2010 and served as the co-chair for Kids in the Kitchen. She has served on the community service committee and is currently a New Member Advisor. Sara and her husband Nathan live in East Lansing. She works at the Early Childhood Investment Corporation as the Assistant Director of Communications and Community Engagement.

Jackie Lillis-Warwick

Jackie joined Junior League in 2010 and served on the Public Relations committee on Kids in the Kitchen. Currently she is chairing the Member Relations committee. Jackie works at the MSU Museum and lives in Lansing with her husband and dog and two cats. Her hobbies include reading, archaeology and traveling. She is excited about the possibly of becoming Nominating Placement Advisor and getting to interact with many of JLL's amazing women.

SUSTAINING LINE

New . . . “Simply Social” Sustainer Groups

Deb Atkinson, Sustaining Advisor

The age of electronic communication is embraced by many—especially current JLL Actives. I’ve watched in awe as Active members give presentations from iPads or mobile phones and seamlessly switch between them when a battery runs out midsentence. They text or e-mail and quietly get answers to questions during a meeting. They pull documents up on phones instead of carrying around big binders. They use terms like “Survey Monkey”, “Mail Chimp”, “Google Doc”, or “Cloud” in sentences like they were real words everyone should know! They use E-Blasts to make announcements and send reminders. They have reduced JLL expenses by making several Focus issues electronic.

Sadly, the age of electronic communication has dragged many of us along kicking and screaming, and left others totally behind. The unintended consequence is some Sustaining members may feel “unconnected” to League. When the dues paperwork arrives, it gets put in the “I’ll take care of this later

pile”, and eventually gets forgotten. JLL’s Sustainer membership has experienced a slow decline in recent years, a common trend seen in Leagues throughout the organization.

So, here is the four-word phrase you will see used regularly this year...Sustainer Retention And Reinstatement. Last May, **Pam Ruth**, Past President of JL of Saginaw, and current JLL Sustainer, joined a conversation **Joanie Stapleton** and I were having about Sustainer retention. When asked about how the Saginaw League is dealing with declining Sustainer membership, Pam answered, “They don’t have declining membership, they have Garden Clubs”.

The Saginaw League’s Garden Club is a very simple social way for members to stay in contact and connected to League. There are no by-laws, policies, procedures, or commitments. They have two requirements...that anyone participating be a Sustaining member of the League and that each member contribute \$5 to show their

commitment. The Garden Clubs meet once a month at the same time and place. The clubs are organized by “league generations”...those who have served League in the same time period. Approximately every 10 years a new Garden Club is formed.

Since May, I’ve been sharing the Garden Club concept with individual Sustainers, lead a small group discussion at **Barb Cleland’s** home last month with **Ginny Brooks**, **Debby Harrison**, **Pam Ruth**, **Cathy Kerwin**, and more recently at the Fall Sustainer Luncheon. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. **Kathy Kerwin** came up with the name “Simply Social”. Other Sustainers have made terrific suggestions that expand on the Saginaw League Garden Club concept.

JLL’s “Simply Social” Sustainer groups will work like this:

» A gathering of any interested Sustainers will meet and make the initial divisions for the “Simply Social” groups

» All Sustainers will be contacted personally by another Sustainer to let them know about Simply Social and what group they have been placed in

» Newly formed groups will be encouraged to have their first meetings in January or February of 2013

» Sustainers may switch groups if they feel a closer affinity to another group

» Each group will determine when, where and how often they will meet

» Each group will decide the perimeters of their gatherings...for example:

- Host or organizing responsibilities may rotate between Members, or select one leader for the League year

- How they will communicate details of their gatherings

- A group may choose to meet same place, same time for each gathering or they may choose to switch up places and times

- Groups may decide to just be simply social at each gathering, or organize activities like review a book, select a movie to watch and review, organize a “field trip” like traveling to art prize in Grand Rapids or have their gathering be the JLL Bus trip to Chicago

The ultimate goal of Simply Social is to keep Members connected and enjoying the company of fellow League Members without the commitments of Active membership. Once groups are up and running, they will be encouraged to have a gathering in the spring that asks members to bring a former Sustainer as their guest. The anticipated result is an increase in member retention, and hopefully reversing the trend of declining JLL Sustainer membership around into a growing membership by even having Members reinstate.

News

Debby Harrison was involved with the founding of the JLL Endowment, and as a result, has seen first hand all of the benefits for the Lansing Community. Debby, a two year Breast Cancer Survivor, said “It seemed right to set up the Deborah L. and Michael G. Harrison Endowment for Mammography at Sparrow. We hope this will be a continuing funding source for all mid Michigan women to receive the best diagnostic care.”

Debby Harrison, along with **Donna Oade**, one of the co starters of 100 Women Who Care, will be presented a check \$12,700 to the Old Newsboys on December 3rd. This gift brings the organization close to \$100,000 given to local charities in two years!

SUSTAINING LINE CONTINUED . . .

Welcome . . . Welcome . . . Welcome . . .

Deb Atkinson, Sustaining Advisor

WELCOME to the 2012-13 Junior League year. As Sustainers of JLL, you'll have the opportunity to enjoy many of the traditional Sustainer events, plus a few new opportunities. You'll also notice a reoccurring conversational theme...Sustainer retention and reinstatement.

So...in keeping with that theme, JLL extends a heartfelt WELCOME back to our most recent Sustainer reinstatements, **Patty Croom** and **Phyllis Harden**.

It was a pleasure to **WELCOME** 51 Sustainers to this year's Fall Sustainer luncheon. The room was "a buzz" with laughter and conversation as members reconnected with each other. Highlights of the gathering included guest speaker, JLL President **Becky Paalman**, sharing news about membership status, JLL Endowment, and the new Signature Project. Sustainer **Becky Beauchine Kulka**, owner of Becky Beauchine Kulka Fine Jewelry, was acknowledged for 20 years of consecutive sponsorship of JLL.

Pam Ruth, Past President of the Junior League of Saginaw, and current JLL Sustainer spoke about the Saginaw League's "Garden Clubs" and how they affect Sustainer retention. This year JLL will start our own version of "Garden Clubs"...they'll be called "Simply Social". Look in this edition of Focus for more information.

Chrissie Brogan announced that she will **WELCOME** Actives and Sustainers to her home December 4th for the JLL Holiday Open House. She laughingly claimed, as hostess, it was within her authority to change the name of this year's extravaganza to "Jingle Bell Rocks". Her reasoning is "solid as a rock"...the JLL raffle drawing, "Reading Rocks", will be held during the "Jingle Bell Rocks" open house and 3 lucky winners will be able to redeem their gift certificates at Becky Beauchine Kulka Fine Jewelry for "sparkling rocks"! Chrissie proudly proclaimed that after a several year hiatus, "Punch Ladies", **Susie Crippen** and **Tunde Rigel** have agreed to attend and prepare their super-secret recipe for this year's "Jingle Bell Rocks".

WHAT'S *New?*

WELCOME home to **Betty Moore** who spent 4 amazing weeks in Dubai. If you haven't had the chance to experience Dubai, Betty describes it as a cross between Disney World and Las Vegas!

Congratulations to **Janet Freund** for achieving certification as a life coach and image consultant. She is launching a new business, Aura Image Coaching, LLC.

Pink Books were passed out at the Fall Sustainer Luncheon, Sustainers unable to attend will find theirs arriving by mail in the near future.

The annual JLL Bus Trip to Chicago will take the year off as we focus on establishing "Simply Social" Sustainer groups. Once the groups are up and running, it will be easier to organize, promote and reinvigorate interest in this long-standing JLL tradition.

If you have news to share, please contact Deb Atkinson at sosf@sbcglobal.net or 517.256.5349

CHARLOTTE ROE: LOSS OF A JLL VISIONARY



On May 23, 2012, the Junior League of Lansing lost another of its special Sustainers, Past President Char Roe. A woman who was instrumental in the Establishment of our Endowment Fund which is now in it's 28th year. If you read her obituary, you saw a person who gave her time, talent and leadership to our community, and our state. Her goal was always to make the groups she was involved in even better.

It is hard to think of one word to describe Char but that was what I asked of several of her friends.

Jane Drake said honorable. She always did the right thing.

Insightful, a visionary remarked Mary West.

Dedicated, whether it be to raise funds for cancer or to pull donations together to raise a new church from the ashes wrote, long time friend, Rex Session.

Caring with action, all for the good of the Lansing area, Barb Cleland recalled.

Mine would a philanthropist. Char saw financial challenges as opportunities. With perseverance, needs would be met. She will be remembered for many worthwhile endeavors. However for the JLL, she will noted for so carefully guiding our group toward a permanent funding source for our community. Thus, a true leader who had a vision for our future of giving.

Debby Harrison

Sustainer



We are here.

Join us!



Torje Santucci, Communications VP

I am happy to report that the Communications Committee has been hard at work so far this year. In addition to re-branding Lunch with League (formally Celebrity Luncheon) and Reading Rocks Raffle (formally It's All about the Sparkle Raffle) we have updated our website, sent out countless e-newsletters, kept up with our numerous social media accounts including: twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Flickr, connected with the local media, and launched a new branding campaign, We are Here, Join Us!

Although our Communications plan is markedly different than it was five years ago we are trying our best to reach our membership on the smallest budget we have had in years. In the past we strived to publish the FOCUS on a monthly basis, this year we will publish two full issues of the FOCUS, the Winter Issue and the Summer Issue. Other

important information will be published via JLL Postcards and e-newsletter.

One of the most exciting projects that the Communications Committee has undertaken is the new branding campaign. The Junior League of Lansing is unique from other local non-profits in that it provides support to multiple organizations, member training, social opportunities amongst several other benefits to membership. In order to market and illustrate the ways that Junior League is unique, we have launched the "We are Here" campaign. We have partnered with Adams Outdoor, Lansing's Largest Outdoor Marketing Firm to have Junior League of Lansing Billboards strategically placed throughout our community.

We are excited to share this new campaign with our membership and our community!

ODI (ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE)

Members Attend AJLI Training in Cleveland, Ohio

Anita Lindsay, Public Relations & Marketing Vice Chair/Webmaster; Julie Krueger, Publications Chair; Nanette Naser, Secretary; and Leslie Donaldson, Community VP (see notes in Community article)

Anita Attending AJLI's Organizational Development Institute training session was such a great opportunity.

This 48-hour training session really opened my eyes about the effort that all leagues put towards the overall mission of the Junior League. I met so many different women; all who came from different sized leagues, doing various annual charitable projects, but who strived to maintain the same vision.

My breakout session covered topics surrounding operations of the League. Topics such as effectively managing the League for a long term future, League's financial and administrative operations, internal and external controls, risk management, etc. were covered. I would be happy to discuss this specific session with any current or future members of the Finance Council, or any others interested.

Julie Membership Development was such a fun track to be in at ODI! The most interesting part was learning about all four of the generations that are involved in League—

Veterans, Baby Boomers, Gen X'ers, and Millennials—and their role and importance within the organization. There were four main concepts we discussed during our sessions that apply to this depth of membership:

- » Generational differences are real but may not be the most relevant lens for leadership development
- » Mentoring is a critical aspect of leadership development
- » Successful organizations make leadership development an intentional part of the culture
- » Nonprofit organizations have unique challenges and need external supports to advance sector-wide leadership development

More importantly, I was able to come home with many practical tips that could be implemented right away, particularly with recruitment efforts.

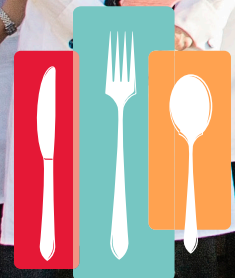
Nanette Have you ever walked into a room filled with so much positive energy that you instantly felt comfortable and excited at the

same time? That's the best way I can describe my initial impression as I walked into the gathering space at the Association of Junior Leagues International, ODI training.

We (Julie Krueger, Leslie Donaldson, Anita Lindsey, and I) set off early Friday morning for an inspirational week-end. We met women from all over the US, Canada, and Mexico. We shared our successes and struggles. We gained valuable insight from each other, and made a number of new friends.

The sessions were informative, and interactive. Not only did we discover much about Junior League, but we learned a lot about ourselves and how we can better serve League. In order words, we were developing our potential. ODI is designed to help us develop our potential through workshops that give us tools, plenaries on thought-provoking topics and networking opportunities to share best practices and common solutions. It's a powerful experience.

Please ask us more about what we learned. You may be surprised at what you hear!



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