

**JUNIOR LEAGUE
OF LANSING**

**BOARD OF
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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.

Taking a Training Moment...

Betsy Svanda, President Elect



“Take a moment to reflect and recharge; it’s time well spent.”

As I reflect on my year as President Elect, I am thankful for all the “training moments” I have enjoyed.

Not only have “training moments” been experienced with all of you through our informational meetings, time spent in the community, and learning opportunities with our wonderful Sustainers, but I have been privileged to share in weekends of training with AJLI (Association of Junior League International).

Three AJLI conferences this year were dedicated to train incoming presidents to have a better understanding of League and to equip each of us for the role of president. AJLI has created a Strategic Roadmap which looks at where Junior League has been and where we need to go to continue our outstanding reputation as the premier volunteer organization for women around the globe. The AJLI website has important details about the Roadmap as well as other League initiatives and I encourage you to go online at ajli.org for more information.

President, Tracy Jelneck, and incoming **Education VP, Shelly Bugg**, were each able to accompany me to one of the conferences during the past year. We thank you for giving us the opportunity to attend these conferences, to reflect, recharge and further develop our leadership skills for the benefit of the Lansing League. It was time well spent and I trust the benefits will be evident not only now, but in the years to come.



JLL Email Addresses

Just a reminder to use these emails:

FOCUS

focus@jllansing.org

New Member Recruitment

membership@jllansing.org

Webmaster

webmaster@jllansing.org

Public Relations

publicrelations@jllansing.org

Signature Fundraiser

fundraiser@jllansing.org

JLL Office (Nancy)

office@jllansing.org

FOCUS is the newsletter of the Junior League of Lansing, published 9 times each year for the use of its members. Any inquiries 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, Tiffany Dowling.

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 Monday before each GMM. Email submissions should be sent to Focus@jllansing.org in Microsoft Word, Times New Roman 12 pt. font. 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.

President's Message...

Tracy Jelneck, President



Image

What do you think of when you think of the Junior League of Lansing? And what do you want other people to think of when they hear the name Junior League of Lansing?

Shelley Davis Mielock did a great job of training us all at the last GMM. You can tell by her enthusiasm that JLL means something positive to her. She helped us identify what is important to us and how we would like for other people to see our organization. As Members of the Junior League of Lansing we described ourselves as strong women, generous, professional, and doers and not just talkers.

As Members we set the tone of what we are and how people perceive us. In order to present an accurate picture of JLL we must:

- Be knowledgeable (about our Mission and our projects)
- Support our Mission and our projects
- Speak positively of JLL
- Talk about JLL and let people know about our organization
- Be positive and outgoing during JLL events
- Be present in the community (be proud to be a Member)
- Make connections in the community (build bridges)

At our tables we brainstormed attributes of JLL, characteristics of members, how we want others to view JLL, and how we can keep JLL alive. Below are a few of those suggestions:

- Educated and competent
- Creative thinkers
- Women you can count on
- Open minded
- Flexible
- Sincere
- Training organization
- Develop leaders
- Develop new friendships
- Strengthen old friendships
- Invite people to come to JLL events
- Keep our commitments
- Inform people of the results of our activities
- Send thank you's for a job well done

There you have it. An abridged list compiled by the current Members of the Junior League of Lansing of what we can do and how we can project the image of the Junior League of Lansing. Now let's go out there and project.

You have two hands. One to help yourself, the second to help others.

—Anonymous

Tracy

Leadership Team for 2010–2011

Betsy Svanda, *President Elect*



“Great things are completed by talented people who believe they will accomplish them”
—Warren G. Bennis

Nominating Placement has put together an amazing leadership team for 2010–2011. I am so excited to be a part of this team and look forward to all we will accomplish together. Congratulations to each one of you who has taken on a leadership role. I look forward to serving with you this year!

Communications Council
Public Relations & Marketing Chair
Vice Chair
Publishing Editor
Publishing Editor Vice Chair.
Community Council
Community Service Committee
Co-Chairs
Done In A Day Chair
Done In a Meeting/DIAD Vice Chair.
Signature Project Chair
Vice Chair
Education Council
Arrangements Chair
Assistant to the President & Scholarships
(includes Librarian/Historian)
Training Chair
Training Vice Chair & SPAC Chair
Finance Council
Dues/Bookkeeper
Endowment Treasurer
Treasurer Elect
Fund Development Council.
Grant Development (ad hoc)..
Signature Fundraiser Chair
Vice Chair
Tracking Chair
Membership Council
Membership Recruitment Chair
Vice Chair
Membership Relations Chair
Nominating Placement Chair
Placement Chair
Planning Council
Bylaws/Policy/Parliamentarian Chair
CRPD Co-Chairs
Secretary to the Board

Tiana Hawver
Traci Riehl
Ryonn Clute
Torye Santucci
Lydia Millbrook
Ann Vogelsang
Kellyan Hull
Bethe Day
Thuy Pham
Diane Sloan
Lynna Walta
Peggy Cole
Shelly Bugg
Dawn Hall

Becky Myers

Kristen Soltis
Mercedez Martinez
Julie Morgan
Kim Watters
Nicki Proulx
Lisa Keefer
Gabrielle Johnson
Bridget Seitz
Melissa Topolewski
TBA
Becky Paalman
Courtney Schnelker
Kate Marchyok
Kelly Kobus
Michelle Lange
Amy Sue Melville
Susan Lupo
Kate Powers
Pattie McNeil
Polly Synk
Erin Skene-Pratt
Amanda Purdy LaVoie

Office Key Assignment Policy Change

Christie Lemon, *Bylaw/Policy and Parliamentarian*



Rational: The new, Junior League office building will only provide keys for the office manager and Board Members. The Board Members will have their keys available to their chairs as needed. Please review the revised policy.

18.6 Office Key Assignment: All Members of the leadership team will be assigned a numbered key to the League office.

Scope: Committee Chairmen

Monitored by: President Elect

Effective: October 1999, revised March 2010

Procedure: Assignment and distribution

- The Assistant to the President will assign keys to the Board.
- Each Board Member will receive her key and assignment letter by the May Meeting, but no later than the Board retreat.
- Board Members will have their keys available to their chairs.
- Key cards will be kept in the Junior League office and can be signed out for access to the main building. Key cards must be returned to the office immediately following use.

Procedure: Accountability

- Board Members are the principle key holders.
- Chairs are responsible for contacting Board Members to obtain keys and returning keys to Board Members within 48 hours.
- Any Board Member who has not turned in her assigned keys by the May Meeting will be billed as stated in the key assignment letter.
- The Assistant to the President will submit names of the Board Members/Chairs that have misplaced their keys to the Treasurer Elect, who will send those Members a billing notice.

Pillows Benefit EVE

Thuy Pham, *DIAM/DIAD Vice-Chair*



The Done In A Meeting recipient for April was End Violent Encounters (EVE). The organization provides shelter and support for victims of domestic violence. They requested pillows.

Fourteen members donated money with a total of \$43 collected to purchase the requested pillows. One lonely pillow was collected. Thank you for supporting this project!

Kids in the Kitchen

Brianna Garrett



The goal of the Junior Leagues' Kids in the Kitchen (KITK) initiative is to empower youth to make healthy lifestyle choices and help reverse the growth of childhood obesity and its associated health issues.

The KITK program began this year on January 19th with myself, **Brianna Garrett** and **Ellen Bode** as co-chairs for the program. The remainder of the New Members were divided into subcommittees. New Member **Tobi Lyon** teamed us up with **Beth Spyke**, Director of Sparrow's Health and Wellness, and contact for the Fitness Initiative Targeting Kids Program (FITKids). Beth and the FITKids program brought a captive audience of Otto Middle School students where the program was already trusted among the students, and offered a larger venue to engage more student participation.

The Day of the Event, it was everything everyone could have anticipated and more. We were all smiles from ear to ear. The students arrived and were greeted by volunteers and briefed of the day's activities. They received packets of information for the



Ellen Bode and
Destiny Saucedo

day, a water bottle and a t-shirt and were divided into four food groups; fruits, vegetables, whole grains and proteins. Two groups went to the kitchen with Jason Keusch, Troppo's Head Chef to prepare lasagna to take home while the other two groups attended Boot Camp with **Jermaine Alexander** and intern **Samantha** from the MAC, and Nutrition with **Sarah Cullen** from Snap-Ed at the Michigan Fitness Foundation. The kitchen time with Chef Jason was to teach the kids how to prepare a healthy meal for their families and safety and cleanliness in the kitchen. The nutrition segment taught the kids about the food pyramid and how to make healthier decisions in their food choices. The boot camp segment taught the kids how to exercise without any exercise equipment.

The students really seemed to obtain a lot of knowledge from the nutrition segment and most of them either enjoyed preparing the lasagna or the boot camp segment. They seemed to be extremely pleased with the amount of goodies they took home. The Goody Bag Committee put together two goody bags for the students; 1 full of "fun items" such as gift certificates, games, crayons, hand sanitizers etc., and the 2nd bag was to consist of food for the students and their families such as cereal, granola

(continued on page 5)



MSU School of Hospitality Business Annual Auction Supports JLL Endowment Fund

Sue Mills, President, JLL Endowment Fund Board of Trustees



On February 6, 2010, eighty Actives, Sustainers and their guests gathered at The Kellogg Center on the MSU campus to attend a private cocktail party for League Members put on by the MSU School of Hospitality Business. Following the party, Members attended the school's Alumni Auction. This annual event, now in its 19th year, raises funds for scholarships for MSU students enrolled within the hospitality business school. For the past 8 years the Junior League Endowment Fund has been one of the selected local charities to receive a portion of the proceeds.

On April 5, Sue Mills, President of the JLL Endowment Fund Board, accepted a check for \$1,500 from Dr. Ronald Cichy, Chair of the Department and members of the Student Leadership Team. This is the 8th consecutive year that the JLL Endowment Fund has been a recipient of proceeds from the event bringing the total contribution to \$12,500.

Auction items are donated by alumni from the School of Hospitality Business and include wonderful packages featuring hotels, restaurants, golf, tennis, and stays at resorts such as Disney World and Yellowstone. You name the location and MSU has an alum working somewhere within the hospitality



Sue Mills, President of the JLL Endowment Fund Board of Trustees, accepts a check for \$1,500 from Dr. Ronald Cichy and members of the Leadership Team of The School of Hospitality Business at Michigan State University Annual Alumni Auction.

business in that area with the opportunity to donate a package.

Dr. Cichy indicated to Sue that they would like to continue the partnership with the Junior League again in 2011. The cocktail party and auction will be held the first Saturday in February. Mark your calendars for this fun event.

Kids in the Kitchen *continued from page 4*

bars, vegetables, soup, tuna, popcorn, fruit snacks etc. Knowing that each and every one of them had learned something from the KITK program meant that we had accomplished our goal!

The Public Relations Committee had three main goals for the KITK event: education, community partnerships and PR for Junior League of Lansing. The Public Relations Committee targeted media targets such as; local newspapers, WILX TV 10, radio and social networking, which included flyers and a press release. **Ellen Bode** was interviewed by WILX TV 10 to view the interview go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKZgW0YsGDs>.

All of the new members would like to send out a huge thank you to all the members who donated their time and efforts including active members **Jane Campbell** and **Connie James**, volunteers and the local businesses who donated their time and materials.

If the KITK experience is a showcase of what is to come with being involved with Junior League of Lansing I think I can speak on behalf of all the new members and say that I cannot wait to become a member and become more involved with the Junior League of Lansing!



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April New Member Training & Celebration

Kelly Kobus, New Member Advisor



Our New Members celebrated their final training at Beggar's Banquet on April 20th. They enjoyed learning more about Junior League and also celebrated the completion of their training period. They worked very hard this year and they are eager to finally have an active role in Junior League.

For the final training, New Members had the opportunity to ask First Year Active members about their first year in Junior League. Thank you to **Jen Charette**, **Dawn Hall**, **Michelle Lange** and **Pattie McNiell** for speaking to our New Members about their first year placements, their expectations and experiences, and any other information they felt would help prepare our members for their first active year. We truly appreciated your willingness to share your thoughts and advice!

A big thank you goes to **Jen Pace** for training the New Members on the use of the Junior League website and e-mail. This training was very valuable and necessary, as our website is a great resource for Active Members. Thank you, again.

Finally, thank you very much to Sustainer **Sue Mills** for presenting on our endowment. This was incredibly valuable information for our New Members. **Mary West** was also present and spoke to New Members about life as a Sustainer. The New Members definitely learned about some fun social opportunities to look forward to!

This was a fantastic year for recruiting and we are grateful for our dedicated New Members! **Courtney Schnelker**, New Member Recruitment Chair, thanked the New Member Recruitment committee members for a successful and enjoyable year. Thank you to our New Members for all of your hard work, we look forward to your first active year!





where parents go to know

Dear Members of JLL,

I would like to thank you for all your support of the EPO 2010 Charity Auction, "The Bid That Benefits Babies." Your financial support as a sponsor was greatly appreciated. Also, the volunteers that helped the evening of the auction were wonderful. Please give my thanks to Connie James, Peggy Cole, Jennifer Brewer, Patty Black and Patty McNiel for donating their time to help make the evening a success. It was also wonderful to see others from the Junior League in attendance at the event.

As you know, the Auction took place on Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at the Country Club of Lansing. Although we do not have a final tally of all revenue and expenses yet, we anticipate our profit for the evening will be over \$17,000.

EPO's Mission is to improve the health and well being of our community's children by empowering parents with key knowledge, skills, and resources needed for a safe and nurturing family environment. Your support helps us get closer to meeting our mission.

Thank you,

Carol Buzzitta
Executive Director

Calendar of Events

May

- 5-8 Poker Fundraising Event—
Club on the River
- 11 Celebration Dinner
- 25 Past Presidents Luncheon

June

- 8 JLL New board Meeting

July

- 5 Last day to submit 2009-10 check requests

NEXT FOCUS DEADLINE

Monday, July 12, 2010 • 5 pm

All articles must be sent in Microsoft word with Times New Roman 12 pt font. Email all articles as attachments to Focus@jllansingit.org

The Junior League of Lansing sends sincere condolences to the friends and families of Louise Cooley-Sutherland and Polly Person McKouen.

Louise Cooley-Sutherland – Louise passed away in August of 2009 at the age of 102. She was a life long member of JLL (over 70 years) going back to the Junior Service League. Louise made many contributions to the Endowment Fund and was their 3rd largest supporter with \$15,000.00 given. Cooley Gardens was her father's home and was gifted to the City of Lansing.



Polly Person McKouen – Polly died on April 3, 2010, after a brief battle with cancer, at the age of 90. She was a life long Member of JLL (over 60 years). The Lansing area will miss her as she was an active volunteer in many civic organizations.

Membership Changes

- (S) **Brede, Peggy** Deceased
- (A) **Bugg, Shelly**
Delete Home phone and use 517-410-5463 as home
H & W: sbugg@sbcglobal.net
Director of Tennis, Court One Athletic Clubs
- (S) **Cooley-Sutherland, Louise** Deceased
- (S) **Duncan, Susan**
Home Email: spd6585@aol.com
- (S) **Ellsworth, Mary Louise** Deceased
- (A) **Emllet-Dardas, Angela** Resigned
- (A) **Gibson, Virginia** Delete all work information
- (A) **Hall, Dawn** Email: Use work email only
- (A) **Kobus, Kelly**
1509 Barns Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48910
- (A) **Lynwood, Katie** Email: klynwood@gmail.com
- (S) **McKouen, Polly** Deceased
- (A) **Morgan, Julie**
1405 Cambridge Rd., Lansing, Michigan 48911
- (A) **Schick, Jennifer** Delete all work info
New Work Email: jschick@DP.company.com
- (S) **Sessions, Elizabeth (Betsy)**
H Email: rexsession@att.net (not Comcast)
- (NM) **Stieber, Elizabeth** W Email: estieber@diz.com
- (A) **Vlahakis, Angela** Reverse Emails to:
H Email: Vlahaki1@msu.edu
W Email: angela@lansingit.com

May, June & July Birthdays

ACTIVES &

NEW MEMBERS

Hall, Dawn	05/07
Seifert, Melissa	05/09
Noyer, Lori	05/12
Lake, Amanda	05/13
Vogelsang, Ann	05/15
Cole, Peggy	05/16
Moore, Kristi	05/16
Hawver, Tiana	05/20
Neugent, Maureen	05/22
Gregory, Kim	05/26
Sancedo, Destiny	05/26
McNelly, Kristen	05/27
Stieber, Elizabeth	05/28
Suhreinrich, Amy	05/29
Griggs, Samantha	05/31
Santucci, Torye	06/06
Briggs, Laura	06/09
Brown, Laura	06/09
Brewer, Jennifer	06/18
Wilcox, Paula	06/20
Johnson, Gabielle	06/21
Teasley, Cherise	06/21
Bode, Ellen	06/25
Schick, Jennifer	06/26
Jelneck, Tracy	07/06
Gnass, Lisa	07/09
Rhorer, Kristen	07/11
Fleener, Yvonne	07/12
Boyer, Mary	07/13
Myers, Becky	07/18
Garret, Brianna	07/19
McHenry, Ann	07/19
Naser, Nanette	07/22
Campbell, Jane	07/23
Callaghan-Keefer, Lisa	07/26
Slone, Diane	07/26
Carr, Sherri Marie	07/27
Emlet-Dardas, Angela	07/28
Shewsbury, Rochelle	07/30

SUSTAINER BIRTHDAYS

Olson, Mary	05/01
Krogulecki, Lisa	05/09
Loomis, Miriam	05/11
Hubbard, Karen	05/14
Mills, Sue	05/14
Ridgway, Ruth	05/20
Drolett, Kathie	05/21
Nugent, Laura	05/22
Bitsicas, Jane	05/23
Siebold, Mary Rose	05/23
Colby, Kathy	05/24
Nowak-Baker, Darlene	05/24
Campau, Julia	05/27
Pirich, Mary Beth	05/27
Smith, Linda	05/28
Brogan, Chrissie	05/30
Lindquist, Barbara	05/31
Duda, Barbara	06/02
Duffield, Darrell	06/02
Frangos, Tula	06/03
Irwin, Phyllis	06/03
Joslin, Marge	06/04
Brooks, Ginny	06/05
Hollister, Diane	06/10
Schwendener, Polly	06/12
Mooney, Nance	06/14
Couling, Meredith	06/18
Nugent, Marilyn	06/18
Zsigo, Kerry	06/18
Burnham, Cristina	06/23
Freund, Janet	06/23
Hirt, Linda	06/23
Brewster, Susie	06/26
Drake, Jane	06/26
Hacker, Jo	06/26
Spencer, Marcia	06/27
Dansby, Linda	06/28
Wilson, Patty	06/30
Linnell, Pat	07/01
Oade, Donna	07/01

Rosekrans, Elizabeth	07/01
Petersmark, Debbie	07/02
Lasch, Suzanne	07/04
Stapleton, Joan	07/04
Croom, Patty	07/05
Liechty, Mary	07/05
Bartholic, Cheryl	07/06
Crouse, Patty	07/07
VanDeventer, Jackie	07/07
Merando, Marcia	07/09
Hamilton, Barbara	07/10
Hauser, Shirlean	07/11
Chambers, Jeannie	07/12
Moore, Denise	07/13
Freiberg, Barbara	07/14
Chan, Gengen	07/15
Abbott, Amy	07/16
Allman, Ellen	07/16
Legg, Joan	07/16
Perry, Mary	07/20
Haddad, Jody	07/21
Whiting Dobson, Lisa	07/22
Engle, Carri	07/24
Hotchkiss Cathie	07/24
Sheldon, Nancy	07/24
Hines, Jan	07/25
Rahimi, Carol	07/27
Born, Marty	07/28
Crites, Amy	07/28
Schaberg, Barbara	07/30

