President’s Message...

Tracy Jelneck, President

Making Something Extraordinary Happen

…through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Alan Keith of Genetech stated that leadership is ultimately about creating a way for people to contribute to making something extraordinary happen. I believe that definition exemplifies what Junior League is all about.

Mary Roszel provided us with many examples of leadership during October’s GMM. Although she related her examples to starting and running her own business as co-founder of Biggby Coffee, we can also take those examples and relate them to our own organization.

• Be motivated.
• Recognize opportunity.
• Project a positive image.
• Hire (Recruit) the best.
• Recognize the potential of your employees (Members).
• Provide opportunities for training to employees (Members).
• Be willing to make changes.
• If someone (or something) is not working out, cut your losses and move on.
• When you hire (recruit) you should be looking for your replacement.
• Take care of yourself.

When we develop the potential of our Members we increase the potential of our own organization. Mary started her training by stating that one thing she learned was that American ends in ‘I CAN’. As I reflect on the upcoming month of November and what it represents, I am thankful that ‘I CAN’ so that is why ‘I DO’.

Thank you for allowing me to have the opportunity to lead and to be a part of this dynamic organization of women that continuously ‘makes something extraordinary happen’.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Tracy

“Life is what we make of it. Always has been, always will be.”
—Grandma Moses
JLL Women Working Wonders for 5K Race

Ginnie Gibson, Done in A Day Committee

On Sunday, September 13th, the Sparrow Foundation’s Women Working Wonders 5K race took place at Hawk Island Park. It was a beautiful day where everyone enjoyed the event.

The Junior League women helped to check-in those that pre-registered and register others the day of the race. We were quite busy for the hour and a half before the race! We all had fun and enjoyed meeting the racers. Thanks to the following women who participated in this event: Pattie McNiel, (from left, top) Katie Gallagher, Jen Pace, Christina Carr, Diane Sloan, Becky Paalman, (from left, bottom) Gabrielle Johnson, Gin Gibson, Nicole Schuppner.

Members:

Don’t forget to visit www.jllansing.org in order to review the Meeting Minutes from GMMs and Board Meetings.
2009–10 is off to a great start! Our first event of the year was held at Dream Dinners in Frandor and was attended by 13 Members. They each had the chance to whip up tasty and convenient meals to take home while enjoying conversation and a lot of laughs over snacks and a glass of wine. This event was such fun that we may do an encore during the winter months. If you would like to do it again—or if you didn’t get the chance to join us in October and would like to have the opportunity—please let the Member Relations Committee know by sending an email to Angela Emlet-Dardas at jiaphobe@aol.com. If there is sufficient interest we will plan another Dream Dinners event. Remember, your first three-serving meal is FREE!

Our next event is on November 20 at Art Unlimited in Okemos. Members and kids will enjoy pottery painting from 4:00 to 5:30. There will be after-school snacks and juice for the kids and fun for all! The cost is $5.00 per item from a selection chosen especially for kids! These pieces are perfect for holiday gift giving. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by email to jiaphobe@aol.com by November 16th.

Remember to send in Kudos nominations! We love recognize members who go above and beyond at each GMM, so please let us know who you think deserves a gift. If you see somebody doing a great job—and we KNOW there are lots of members who go above and beyond, especially this time of year—please send us an email at jiaphobe@aol.com to let us know!

We are pleased to report that the New Member Retreat was a smashing success! Following a delightful continental breakfast at Dusty’s Cellar in Okemos, New Member Recruitment Chair, Courtney Schnelker welcomed the group! Following, Chrissie Brogan, past Junior League President and Sustaining Advisor shared the fascinating history of JLL with us all. It was a treat to listen to Chrissie as she has a wealth of knowledge on the history and is so passionate about the Junior League. Next up was our very own President, Tracy Jelneck who shared with us her personal Junior League story.

Later, we traveled to St. Vincent’s Home, Ele’s Place, and The Ronald McDonald House. We were lucky to be able to hear from Lisa Gnass during our tour of The Ronald McDonald House. It was a moving day visiting three of the organizations that have so much need in our community. It also filled us with pride to know our League has been very helpful in assisting these organizations over the years. Betsy Svanda volunteered to be our bus tour guide and we thank her tremendously for the fine job that she did, especially since this was not planned. Thank you Betsy!

Back at Dusty’s, Becky Paalman, Fund Development Vice President, gave us an update on The Masquerade Ball and the ladies enjoyed a delicious lunch. The New Members also received an overview of their upcoming New Member Project, Kids in the Kitchen, by Ivana Marinig, New Member Recruitment Vice Chair. We then topped off the day with heavenly cupcakes generously donated from A Piece O’ Cake, by our own talented Kelly Kobus.

Judging by this wonderful group of women—next year should be a very productive and delightful one for our Junior League of Lansing!

The Junior League of Lansing extends sincere condolences to the family and friends of Active Member Alex Wiesner and husband Doug. Alex’s mother passed away October 6, 2009.
**Communications**

Stay Up to Date on the JLL Website

Jennifer Pace, Public Relations and Marketing Chair

Please take a few minutes to visit the Junior League of Lansing website at [www.jllansing.org](http://www.jllansing.org). In addition to general information about our Mission and projects, you can access the latest version of FOCUS online at any time. As a JLL member you have access to the Members-only section which includes past issues of FOCUS, JLL forms, meeting minutes, member contact info, and other information specific to League. You will need to log in to access the Members-only section of the website.

If you have never logged in to the Members-only section of the website, you can “Create a New Account.” You will select your own username and password. Please note that you will need to enter your membership number.

If you have forgotten your username or password, please contact Stephanie Bredahl at webmaster@jllansing.org and she can create your new account or reset your password.

Once logged in, please go to “Update My Profile” to verify that your contact information is up-to-date. Broadcast e-mails are sent to the e-mail address listed in your profile. If you are not receiving broadcast e-mails this is the place to verify that we have your correct e-mail address.

Please help us keep our site up-to-date! Send committee updates, event photos, forms, or anything else you think would interest membership or the general public to webmaster@jllansing.org.

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**Planning**

Policy Change Applies to Publication of Minutes

Christie Lemon, Parliamentarian

Rationale for change: In order to cut down the cost of printing and distributing the FOCUS, minutes will only be published in printed versions when deemed necessary by the President or Communications Vice President.

**FORMER POLICY**

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:

- The Secretary shall prepare all Board of Directors meeting minutes and General Membership Meeting minutes.
- The minutes shall be submitted to webmaster for posting on the website.
- Minutes from General Membership Meeting shall be submitted to FOCUS for publication.
- The President, Secretary, and Communications Vice President will review the Board minutes and capture highlights of events, activities and information for members.
- The highlights from the Board meeting will be submitted to Focus for publication.

Scope: Communications and Secretary

Monitored by: Communications

Effective: October 2006

**NEW POLICY**

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 may also be published in the FOCUS newsletter.

Procedure:

- The Secretary shall prepare all Board of Directors meeting minutes and General Membership Meeting minutes.
- The minutes shall be submitted to webmaster for posting on the website.
- Minutes from General Membership Meeting shall be submitted to the President and Communications Vice President who will determine if it is necessary to publish the minutes in FOCUS.
- The President, Secretary, and Communications Vice President will review the Board minutes and capture highlights of events, activities and information for members.
- The highlights from the Board meeting will be submitted to the President and Communications Vice President who will determine if it is necessary to publish the highlights in FOCUS.

Scope: Communications and Secretary

Monitored by: Communications

Effective: Revised October 2009

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**MSC Training for all JL members in the State of Michigan**

Saturday, January 16, 2010

9am–2pm

Hannah Community Center in East Lansing

Lunch Included

Free to Junior League Members

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Community

New Signature Project Brings Healthy Smiles to Lansing Kids

Ann Vogelsang, Signature Project Chair

Did you know that the most common chronic disease of childhood is dental decay?

On September 30, Paula Bates, the Administrative Dental Director of Care Free Dental, gave a training seminar for Signature Project Committee members. Members learned about the prevalence of dental decay and its causes in children. We learned the basics of the decay process and which children have high risk factors for dental disease. She talked to us about basic feeding and eating practices parents need to know to help reduce the risk of dental problems and about tooth and gum cleaning techniques all parents should use. We also tried out the fluoride varnish the clinic uses on Head Start kids to help prevent cavities. We can all assure you that it definitely sticks to the teeth!

On October 30, we will have a chance to put our new knowledge to the test when we hand out a quick quiz to the parents of Head Start kids while their children receive a fluoride varnish. The parents will have a chance to take the quiz again later in the year to see how much they have learned about oral health and to help Care Free evaluate their educational programs.

Fundraising

“Masquerade Ball”

Amanda Campbell, Signature Fundraiser Committee

On behalf of the 2009 Signature Fundraiser Committee, we would like to thank all of our guests and sponsors for attending the Masquerade Ball on October 30th. You made this event the great success it was!

Attendees had many options for entertainment during the night. Having your palm read, listening to the pianist or saxophonist and of course the black jack tables kept everyone busy inside. Outside guests enjoyed the beautiful décor from Petal and Forrest while listening to the music from Tunes Are Us and dancing the night away in the tent!

Between mingling, pampering our queen with Becky Beauchine Kulka jewelry and listening to the raffle prizes being drawn, guests were able to enjoy tasty hors d’oeuvres such as blue cheese bruschetta and chicken almond puffs from A Catered Affaire, Inc.

The fun and excitement of a party at the Turner Dodge house and your valued support allowed us to raise money to support Junior League of Lansing’s Mission. Keep an eye out for pictures of the ball and raffle winners in the January FOCUS.

Dear Jill,

I just started a new business and I think that it would be a great opportunity for JLL Members. Can I send a group email or mass mailing explaining my new business and how I think it could benefit the members?

Sincerely,

Raring and Ready to Go

Dear Raring and Ready to Go,

Congratulations on your new business! Although we wish you the best of luck, I must inform you that Policy 18.3 Membership Directory List states that the membership list can be used only for Junior League activities. This policy which adopts the Association of Junior Leagues International policy in regards to membership lists is as follows:

AJLI Policy: A Junior League membership list is for the use of the Junior League only and cannot be used for promotion of an activity unrelated to the Junior League. It shall not be used for personal gain, or made available for commercial or solicitation purposes. (Important: At a minimum, violation of this policy could endanger this League’s gender restriction status.)

Thank you for asking prior to using the membership list as this activity could endanger the League’s gender restriction status. Restricting membership to women only helps to empower women to lead among their peers and become better leaders.

Congratulations and good luck.

Jill
It seems like the JLL year has just begun and the Nominating/Placement Committee is already planning for Slating Day in November! Slated positions are those that are voted on by Membership for the following League year. Unless you have been involved in the Slating process on the N/P Committee, this process can be a mystery to you. The slating information is covered in the Bylaws as well as the Policies sections of the Red Book. However, a short, easy, 10-step version of the procedure is presented below for your information and it should help you better understand this process.

1. The only positions that are slated include 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.

2. The Board of Directors and the New Member Advisors are on a single slate, i.e. only one name is presented for each position. Nominating Placement Advisors are on a double slate, i.e. for each N/P Advisor position that is open, two names are presented.

3. The Nominating Chair and the Placement Chair do NOT have a vote regarding which Members are on the slate for any position.

4. 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.

6. Self-submissions and recommendations are used to generate candidates for the slated positions. (e.g. your fall interview is a great opportunity to do this with your Advisor!)

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. (This is why it is of the utmost importance that your Advisor can reach you on Slating day, if you are unreachable, it can hold up the entire process.)
   e. Strict confidentiality is required during this process.

8. Once the slate is completed, the Nominating Chair presents it to the Board and gives it to FOCUS for publication.

9. 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).

Remember, if you have informed your Advisor that you are interested in a slated position, please give a phone number to your Advisor where you can be reached on Saturday, November 21, which is slating day for the N/P Committee.
Sustainer News

Kris Kildea, Sustaining Advisor

Sustainer Fall Luncheon
The lunch was a great success as 60 Sustainers gathered to catch up and enjoy a wonderful meal at Lansing Country Club. Our President, Tracy Jelneck updated us on current League happenings. Communications Vice President, Shelley Mielock gave a brief overview on the changes FOCUS has made to the publication process and Sustainer’s and Endowment committee member’s Sue Mills and Mary West gave an update on the Endowment Celebration. Thank you to my wonderful committee of Maggie Frankland, Cathy Kerwin, Joan Stapleton (table center pieces were beautiful!), Suzanne Tuck and Amy Uecker.

September 13
It was a sunny fall Sunday morning and I started the day by attending the W3 (Women Working Wonder’s) Sparrow event. It was really nice to see so many familiar faces from League, both Active and Sustaining. Sustainer, Barb Hagan was the chair of the event this year. I then made a wardrobe change and headed to the Endowment Celebration held at Sustainer Marcia Horton’s spectacular new home on Lake Lansing. I am just going to tell you it was a beautiful day and let the chair’s Mary West and Sue Mills fill you in on the event!

Holiday Open House – December 8
This is a really fun event open to New Members, Actives and Sustainers so mark your calendars! This year’s event will be at Sustainer Becky Kulka’s home, 3912 Crooked Creek Drive, Okemos. Thank you to her and her committee of Laura Nugent and Debbie Petersmark. The open house will be from 4–7pm.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and I hope to see everyone at the Holiday Open House!
ACTIVES
Gibson, Ginnie 11/12
Vlahakis, Angela 11/14
Martinez, Mercedes 11/15
Lupo, Susan 11/21
Chan, Molly 11/24
Latchana Beth 11/28
Marchyok, Kate 11/29
Krueger, Dawn 12/03
Burditt, Jodie 12/06
Seitz, Bridget 12/09
Millbrook, Lydia 12/10
Synk, Polly 12/10
Donahue, Kay 12/12
Morgan, Julie 12/20
Hull, Kellyan 12/21
Hutchison, Jamie 12/22
Lynwood, Katie 12/24
Dwyer, Rosie 12/31

SUSTAINERS
Carr, Janet 11/01
Walworth, Mary Lou 11/05
Cawood, Becky 11/08
Galloway, Barbara 11/08
McCoy, Sally 11/08
Cornelius, Marilyn 11/09
Duncan, Susan 11/10
Nolen, Sally 11/10
Overholt, Frances 11/14
Peters, Van-Anh 11/16
Gross, Jan 11/17
Frankland, Maggie 11/18
Harrison, Debby 11/18
Logan, Kay 11/18
Ballein, Michele 11/19
Tarpooff, Diane 11/19
Richards, Bea 11/20
Scott, Toni 11/20
Obstnik, Marilyn 11/21
Fauquher, Grace 11/22
Fiedler, Lynn 11/23
Burnett, Beth 11/25
Collins, Mary 11/25
Brennan, Catherine 11/26
Gallagher, Michelle 11/30
Oetzel, Bev 12/02
Moore, Betty 12/03
Seaman, Martha 12/04
Edwards, Caryn 12/06
Claypool, Cathy 12/07
Foster, Trish 12/09
Archiple, Joan 12/10
Maner, Phyl 12/10
Anderson, Doris 12/14
Carter, Martha 12/14
Forsyth, Gretchen 12/14
Kildea, Kris 12/14
Matter, Lorri 12/14
Coy, DeDe 12/17
Marshall, Beverly 12/21
Balesky, Bridget 12/23
Grua, Linda 12/23
Ellsworth, Mary 12/27
Berger, Nancy 12/28
Hartman, Kim 12/29
Ruth, Pam 12/29
Brogan, Carol 12/30
West, Mary 12/30
Rhodes, Caryn 12/31

November/December Birthdays

Junior League of Lansing
25th Anniversary
Every Member Drive
$25 for 25 years

The JLL Endowment Fund Celebration Party is over, but YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO CONTRIBUTE.
WE HAVE REACHED ONE GOAL. WE HAVE RAISED $50,000+ but we have not reached our goal of 100% participation.

Our Every Member Drive ends December, 2009
Our final Contributors’ Honor Roll will be listed in the December FOCUS.
We hope we can see your name on the list.

$25 $250 $2,500 Other
Name (as you would like it to appear in the Focus)

Please make checks payable to the JLL Endowment
Send to: Junior League of Lansing Endowment Fund
271 Woodland Pass Centre, Suite 115
East Lansing, MI 48823

The Junior League Endowment Fund
A Legacy For League, A Legacy For Lansing

Holiday Boutique
Thursday, November 19 10 am – 4 pm
6 pm – 8 pm
Friday, November 20 10 am – 4 pm
Eagle Eye Golf Club, 15500 Chandler Road, East Lansing, MI

Ingham County Medical Society ALLIANCE
Join ICMSA, Sparrow Health System, and Ingham Regional Medical Center for a healthy holiday event.
For more information contact Lisa Hildorf at (517) 339–9255 or Tammy Guastella at (517) 336-9019
Funds raised support local medical and nursing scholarships
SHOP! SHOP! SHOP!
Words cannot fully express how grateful we are at the MSU Community Music School to receive a $800 grant from the Junior League of Lansing for financial aid for CMS students and therapy clients.

Your gift is much needed and appreciated. This year, we have seen requests for financial assistance triple and charitable gifts diminish due to the tough economic circumstances facing so many in our community. It is CMS’s goal to bring music to all members of the community, including youth, families, the elderly and those with special needs, while turning no individual away due to inability to pay. Your support will help us reach this goal.

On behalf of the students, therapy clients, faculty and staff at the MSU Community Music School, please accept my sincere thanks for your generosity. Music and the people who support music, together, change lives.

If you should ever wish to arrange a tour of the school or if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

With huge gratitude,
Rhonda Buckley
Associate Dean for Outreach and Engagement
Executive Director, Community Music School
College of Music, Michigan State University
Thank you so much for presenting a Community Response Grant to WKAR’s Ready to Learn Service. Your gift will help us provide books to children in the Greater Lansing Area who might not otherwise be able to have a home library.

We appreciate your support and value the work the Junior League does in our community.

Regards,
Beany Tomber
RTL Coordinator, WKAR, MSU
Thank you so much for the gift of postage stamps. The many stamps you sent will cut down on our postage costs over the next few months. In these difficult financial times, gifts like yours really make a difference.

Something new at EPO is that we are now on Facebook! We would like to invite the Junior League of Lansing to become fans of EPO and receive our latest news and updates. We are also encouraging our clients to join us on Facebook to keep in touch with EPO and their classmates. To become a fan please visit our EPO website at www.epobaby.org or search for our pink and blue EPO logo on Facebook.

Thank you so much for your continued support of prenatal and parenting education.

Sincerely,

Carol Buzzitta, Executive Director
Holiday Boutique

Presented by...

“Humor Me” ... “Through the Holidays”

Friday, November 20th

Holiday Boutique @ Eagle Eye Golf Club

Doors open at 8:15am
The laughter begins at 9:00am
Continental Breakfast

Maureen Burns will guide us through an interactive humorous holiday advice hour so we can all say “Humor Me....Through the Holidays”
Check out her website at www.maureenburns.com

Cost $20.00 per person / Includes $5.00 admission to Holiday Boutique
Eagle Eye Golf Club
1550 Chandler Rd., East Lansing

RSVP

Name: __________________________________________

Email address so we can confirm your reservation please ____________________________________

Number of tickets: ______

Payment must be included and returned to:
ICMSA, 120 W. Saginaw St., East Lansing, MI 48823

Questions contact Lisa Hildorf at (517) 339-9255 or Tammy Guastella at (517) 336-9019
RSVP’s held at Registration

Please plan to attend and support the efforts of The Ingham County Medical Society Alliance
Funds raised support local medical and nursing scholarships.
The Lucile E. Belen Award

The Ingham County Women’s Commission (ICWC) created an award to help recognize women from the county who do extraordinary things. The ICWC named their award the Lucile E. Belen Award in recognition of Miss Belen’s contributions to quality of life in Ingham County. Women strengthen our community every day in a various ways and go unnoticed. This award creates an opportunity to shine a spotlight on those who have had a positive impact in our community.

The Lucile E. Belen Award recognizes women who make someone’s day brighter, neighborhood safer, or encourage those who need it most in ways great and small. These women and the amazing things they do make each of them deserving of the Lucile E. Belen Award by caring enough to share of themselves, their knowledge, and their time, and we need your help to identify them. The Ingham County Women’s Commission is soliciting nominations for the honor of being honored with the Lucile E. Belen Award.

Nominations are solicited and accepted by the Commission on an ongoing basis. When nominees are selected to be recognized, the honoree will be acknowledged with a certificate stating her identification as a Lucile E. Belen Award recipient and the Commission will issue a press release telling her story.

For more information, visit
http://www.ingham.org/BC/wom/index.htm

Please attach an additional sheet describing (in 300 words or less) why this woman should be honored with the Lucile E. Belen Award.

*Prior to any information release, both the woman nominated and the nominator will be contacted.

Submit completed forms via email to InghamCountyWomenMI@gmail.com or by mail to:
Attention: Ingham County Women’s Commission, Lucile E. Belen Award, P.O. Box 319, Mason, MI 48854