

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LANSING

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- President Elect**
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- Membership VP**
Renee Knake
- Secretary**
Molly Chan
- Treasurer**
Alex Wiesner
- Sustaining Advisor**
Lynn Fiedler

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...

Amy Suhrheinrich, President

Celebrate



It's hard to believe that exactly a year ago, I was stamping party favors for the May meeting with the word "Celebrate" and now I'm giving thanks to those who have contributed to a great year! The tradition of our May Celebration is a tribute to the history of our organization and what great work happens throughout the course of a year. Most importantly, it shows us how a group of women, working together with a mission, can make such an impact within an organization and a community. I hope you join us on Wednesday, May 13 at the Country Club of Lansing to celebrate these accomplishments and welcome in the Board of Directors for 2009-2010.

At the April GMM it was a pleasure to have four Past Presidents serve as our Sustainer Panel and share what Junior League has meant to them personally and what impact we have on our community. Thank you to Kim Hartman, Lynn Fiedler, Amy Uecker and Kris Kildea for taking the time to share with all of us. I appreciated Amy's comment about the importance of longevity within the Junior League. She pointed out that, no matter what capacity you serve, you gain something from League, but over time you really see the big picture. Kris shared that it is a joy to see our children really do learn from our volunteering and it becomes a part of their life too. I personally hope that this is something my children will pick up from all of the time I spend with Junior League. Kim's passion is a testament to the importance of how we band together during unknown times as her first scheduled GMM was on 9/11. I thank Lynn for her guidance and experience throughout this Junior League year.

At our May meeting, we tend to be a bit more formal in expressing our thanks to the leaders within our organization and to the members who give of their time and talent. There is not enough time in the evening to thank all of you for your contributions. I would like to express my gratitude to every one of you as you have each given in your own way to League and that makes us function as a whole. I would especially like to thank the Board for their leadership and the time that they have given to this organization. I wish all of you could see the passion and care that they have given "behind the scenes" each and every month. It is this commitment that keeps us moving towards our Mission. I don't want to take any more away from the May meeting, but I truly appreciate the kind words and actions so many of you have passed along this year. Your giving and caring has been an inspiration to me.

One of the most enjoyable things this year has been getting to know the Incoming President, Tracy Jelneck, as I have worked closely with her all year. I encourage you to take the time to get to know her. She has an impressive depth of knowledge in numerous areas and truly cares about League. She is not only interested in League now, but in where League is going in the future. I have truly enjoyed partnering with her and I will miss this more than she knows next year. You are in good hands!

I am so grateful for this opportunity to serve and it will be cherished. I thank you all.
Kindest wishes,

Amy

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, Kate Quinn.

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. 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.

Community

Pregnancy Services of Greater Lansing— Done In A Day

Jodie Burditt, Done in a Day committee



The Done In A Day committee held a drive for Pregnancy Services of Greater Lansing, in March collecting one car seat, formula, diapers, toiletries, maternity and baby clothes, baby blankets and bedding, among other items. Special thanks to the Junior League members who selected Pregnancy Services for their DIAD. The Pregnancy Services representative was very grateful saying, "Thank you so much, this will benefit many at-risk women and their children in our community."

This outreach was also an opportunity to share the details of our Junior League organization. Upon delivering the items to Pregnancy Services we were asked several questions about the Mission of Junior League. Overall, the Pregnancy Services Done in a Day drive was a great success and the committee truly appreciates the generous support from membership.

Community

End Violent Encounters — Done In A Meeting

Kristin Hicks, Done In A Meeting



The Done In A Meeting recipient for April was End Violent Encounters (EVE.) This is an organization that provides shelter and support for victims of domestic violence.

Twenty-three members donated money with a total of \$60.75 collected to purchase the requested items of pillows and underwear. Three packages of underwear were also collected.

Thank you for supporting this project!



Sustaining Sustainer Notes

Lynn Fiedler, Sustaining Advisor



May is always a time of celebration and transition in the Junior League of Lansing. Congratulations to the New Sustainers! Thanks to all of you for your dedication to JLL. We also welcome back Sustainers Julie Trierweiler and Linda Burnham. We look forward to seeing all of you at next year's events.

My time as Sustaining Advisor comes to a close. It has been a great experience and I am always amazed at the skills of our membership and the power of women. Thanks to all of you for your help and support. JLL continues to be a dynamic force in our community. I applaud all of you.

Introducing the Sustaining Advisor for 2009/10—**Kris Kildea!** Kris joined League in 1998 and became a Sustainer in 2005. Kris brings great experience and knowledge as she held a variety of placements; Signature Fundraiser committee member, Signature Fundraiser Co-chair, DIAM, DIAD Chair, Provisional Advisor, President and Fund Development VP. Kris lives in Williamston with her husband. She has two children attending the University of Michigan. Many of you already know Kris as she is the Team Leader at Becky Beauchine Kulka Diamonds and Fine Jewelry. Her spare time includes bike riding, playing tennis, travel and spending time with her family. Kris is very excited about being involved with the Board and League next year. Best wishes to you and the Board!

Thanks for everything!

Lynn

Community Refugee Services Drive

Susan Soper, Community Service,
Refugee Services Drive Coordinator

The Community Service committee would like to thank those who generously donated items for Refugee Services of Lansing. We had curtains, blankets, pillow cases, comforters, sheets, towels, cleaning supplies and bathroom items donated. Thank you for caring for those in need.

Membership Winter Leadership Conference

Tracy Jelneck, President Elect



I had the privilege of attending the Winter Leadership Conference in Kansas City, Missouri on February 6 and 7, 2009 along with 305 other Junior League members representing 203 other Junior Leagues. I say this every time, but what a wonderful networking opportunity to exchange ideas with these other dynamic Junior League members. We were lead in engaging discussions with the following instructors in the following areas:

- Vicki Clark, Strategic Leadership and Servant Leadership
- Barbara Alden Taylor, Creating a Strategic Communications Plan
- Jean Lubas, Shifting from Governance to Management
- Wilson Wong, The Birkman Method, a Personality-Assessment Tool

When people ask you how big your League is, how do you reply? Do you say that the Junior League of Lansing has 40 New Members, 120 Actives, and 290 Sustainers? Or do you reply that the Junior League of Lansing has 450 Members? Does it really matter in which category of membership an individual falls? Aren't we all an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effect action and leadership of trained volunteers? Next time you are asked, I hope that you will say that we have a membership made up of over 450 dynamic 'Women Building Better Communities.'

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Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 7, 2009 • Junior League Office

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lynn Fielder, Dawn Kroeger, Renee Knake, Kate Quinn, Alex Wiesner, Nicole Maison, Amy Suhrheinrich, Molly Chan, Becky Paalman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tracy Jelneck

- I. Amy Suhrheinrich, President called the meeting to order at 6:35.
- II. Dawn Kroeger, Community VP added five minutes to Section 9d of the Agenda. Alex Wiesner, Treasurer changed the calendar year under the Treasurer Report Section of the Agenda.
- III. Amy Suhrheinrich, President called for a motion to adopt meeting agenda as amended. Lynn Fielder, Sustaining Advisor moved to adopt meeting agenda as amended. Dawn Kroeger, Community VP seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. Amy Suhrheinrich, President called for a motion to approve February 23, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes. Becky Paalman, Communications VP moved to approve the February 23, 2009 Board minutes. Dawn Kroeger seconded. Motion carried.
- V. Treasurer Report
 - a. Alex Wiesner, Treasurer passed out the Financials. Discussion ensued regarding certain line items and tracking of expenses. Discussion ensued regarding Spring Fundraiser budget and expenses. Discussion ensued regarding refund from the Signature Fundraiser Pilot for a Day prize which did not sell. Nicole Maison, Fund Development VP will follow up with SF to make sure refund will be received. Discussion ensued regarding which line item the engraving for Annual end of year Membership Awards should be deducted. Alex Wiesner, Treasurer will determine which line item to use and will inform the Board and Renee Knake, Membership VP.
 - b. Alex Wiesner, Treasurer handed out Financial Statement Review from Fairchild, Labelle and Rice for years 2007– and year ending June 30, 2008. Board reviewed the financial review page by page. The first page was pointed out for its importance as it states JLL is in compliance with accounting procedures and its financial practices. It was noted the decline in our net worth thru June 30, 2008 is down by seven percent due to the decline in our investments. Discussion and explanation by Alex Wiesner, Treasurer ensued regarding financial review. Board agreed the financial review was sound and satisfactory and that JLL is in a healthy position.
 - c. Alex Wiesner, Treasurer informed the Board that the late notices for Dues are out to members. Discussion ensued regarding number of members with dues outstanding and procedures being used in obtaining these outstanding dues. Board agreed that Nancy Sheppard has been priceless in her assistance with collection of dues. Renee Knake, Membership VP will ask Shelly Mielock if there are any New Members who work at JMB Sales. Alex Wiesner, Treasurer informed the Board that the Ad Hoc Rent Committee is still moving forward on locating other options for JLL space. Alex Wiesner, Treasurer is going to contact Tricia Foster regarding office space. Discussion ensued regarding Alex Wiesner's update on the Spring Fundraiser.
- VI. Michelle Thelen, Spring Fundraiser Chair presented the Board with a Spring Fundraiser update. The Spring Fundraiser Committee will be meeting prior to the GMM at Dublin Square at 5:30 p.m. Spring Fundraiser Committee has approximately 20 teams and are looking to have at least 40 teams. Discussion ensued regarding details of the Spring Fundraiser.
- VII. Dawn Kroeger, Community VP discussed the Signature Project contract with Care Free Dental. Polly Synk is assisting with the contract. Dawn Kroeger, Community VP will involve Lisa Gnass in the new Signature Project contract process for a smooth transition.
- VIII. Lynn Fiedler, Sustaining Advisor presented the Board with Transition documents for a smooth and clean transition between Chairs and Board Members. Discussion ensued regarding how to properly transition the new incoming Board and Chairs, and what information should be discussed. All Chairs should have a thorough transition packet. An Active Red Book Bylaws, Policies and Procedures Training sheet was handed out to the Board for review and for dissemination to the new Chairs and Board. Amy Suhrheinrich, President encouraged the Board to include the Annual Plan in their transition documents, and to highlight the areas on the Annual Plan where that Board member and Chairs are involved. The Transition Meeting will be at Renee Knake's house on April 28th.
- IX. Kate Quinn, Education VP discussed the Elevator Speeches and Potluck for the April GMM. Amy Suhrheinrich, President will discuss an elevator speech and what it is to the membership. Membership will be split into tables where a facilitator will be present writing down the thoughts of the membership. An elevator speech packet was handed out and Board members were asked to review the packet for errors and email Amy Suhrheinrich, President with the errors and corrections. Post it chart paper will be put over the room for writing suggestions down by the facilitator.
- X. Molly Chan, Secretary will do the Dear Jill article on the importance of minutes.
- XI. Renee Knake, Membership VP moved to approve New Members to Active Membership Status that were moved forward by New Member Committee. Kate Quinn seconded the motion. Floor was open for discussion. Discussion ensued. Vote was called. Hand vote was taken and the Board unanimously approved the motion as presented.
- XII. Renee Knake, Membership VP moved to remove members for failure to satisfy Signature Fundraiser Financial

continued on page 6

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2009 • Hannah Community Center, East Lansing

- I. **Amy Suhrheinrich**, President called the General Membership Meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Last call for Done in a Meeting was made. It was noted the roman numerals on the Agenda are out of order, so we will call the order of meeting by titles.
- II. **Amy Suhrheinrich**, President called for a motion to approve the March GMM minutes. Betsy Svanda moved to approve the March GMM minutes. Shelly Mielock seconded. Motion carried.
- III. **Kate Powers** notified membership that placement cards were passed out by Advisors at beginning of the meeting. All Placement Cards need to be turned in at the end of the night. Leadership team, Board members and other Chair positions still need to turn in their cards because they need to be assigned a DIAD.
- IV. **Kate Quinn** announced **Lynn Fiedler** who introduced the Sustainer Panel: **Kris Kildea**, **Amy Eucker**, **Kim Hartman** and **Lynn Fiedler**. The Sustainer Panel was seated and questions were presented. Discussion ensued with the Sustainer Panel and fun was had by all! Thank you Sustainers!
- V. **Alex Wiesner**, Treasurer gave the Treasurer Report. Up to date budgets thru March 31st were provided to the memberships. Chairs and VP's were asked to review the up to date budgets and email Alex Wiesner with any comments or discrepancies.

JLL received a favorable review on our accounting by an independent accounting agency. We are a sound non-profit. JLL received a great donation from the MSU Greek Community, more details to be discussed. Kudos was given by Alex Wiesner to the new member class for its Kids in the Kitchen fundraising and event. Alex Wiesner moved to approve the budget for the year 2009–2010. Tracy Jelneck seconded. Floor was open for discussion. Revenue for the fundraiser was lowered due to the economy. Discussion ensued regarding various line items. Amy Suhrheinrich, President called the vote. Membership voted.
- VI. **Tracy Jelneck**, President Elect updated membership on the possible fundraiser with Art Van. Art Van informed Tracy Jelneck that it was not going to pursue a gala fundraiser in the Lansing area at this time due to possible lack of community support.
- VII. **Dawn Kroeger**, Community VP presented the Community Service report on behalf of Jamie Hutchinson. Kaleidoscope is Friday, April 17th from 8:00 to 3:30. JLL has three complimentary passes. See Dawn Kroeger if you would like to attend the event and there will be a drawing if more than three people would like the tickets. Kaleidoscope winners are Patty Black, Gabe Johnson, and Samantha Hughes. Lansing 150 year Celebration Parade was discussed. JLL is going to be in the parade walking with a banner. Volunteers are needed to walk in the parade and carry the banner. There are two DIAD events left. If you haven't been contacted to participate in DIAD, contact Daniela Cibelli and she will sign you up for a DIAD. This is important as members receive points for DIAD participation.
- VIII. **Becky Paalman**, Communications VP discussed the Greek Week Songfest she attended with Amy Sue Melville. JLL received \$3000.00 from the MSU Greek Society. Many thanks to Amy Sue Melville who arranged for JLL participation in Greek Week.
- IX. **Michelle Thelen**, Spring Fundraiser Chair discussed the upcoming Dodge ball Tournament on May 2, 2009. Members were encouraged to turn in their registration forms for teams, because without teams, there will be no event. The day's events will start around 11:00 a.m. A DJ will be present and Tico Duckett has stepped in to help gather celebrities for the event. Food and beverages are being donated. What is missing right now are TEAMS! Event tickets can be purchased prior to the event. There has been a change to ticket prices: children under 6 are going to cost \$5.00, not \$10.00. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 and will be for sale prior to the event and the day of the event. Big Lug will be at the event for entertainment. Question was asked regarding how many teams are needed to make it a lucrative event. Discussion ensued. They would like to have 4 teams in each age bracket.
- X. **Suzanne Johnson**, Member Relations Chair handed out the Kudos Awards. Betsy Svanda was given a Kudos for stepping up to be Arrangements Chair. Lisa Gnass was presented with a Kudos for bringing Care Free Dental back into the Signature Fundraiser pool. Mary Boyer was given a Kudos for assisting Amy Suhrheinrich with her red pen editing of the President's articles. Alana Reome and Heather Conway were given a Kudos for their Kids in the Kitchen leadership. Becky Paalman was given a Kudos for her taking over the production of raffle tickets for the Spring Fundraiser. April 23rd is the Dream Dinners Event at 7:00 p.m.
- XI. **Courtney Schnelker** spoke on behalf of Alana Reome and Heather Conway regarding the Kids in the Kitchen event. It was a HIT! Thank you to all new members for your hard work.
- XII. **Renee Knake**, Membership VP pointed out that the forms for end of the year Membership awards were on the tables. Please fill out the forms and turn them into Renee Knake before members leave tonight.
- XIII. **Amy Suhrheinrich**, President discussed an in house training being done tonight on Elevator Speeches. A power point presentation was shown to membership on what an elevator speech is and how to develop one. Elevator speeches are developed to provide a clear, concise and accurate message. How the elevator speeches are going to be developed was discussed. Membership was divided into tables for discussion. Discussion ensued. A few Elevator speeches were presented and members were thanked for their participation.
- XIV. **Amy Suhrheinrich**, President discussed what to do if you take Raffle tickets for the Spring Fundraiser to sell. You will have to sign out tickets for sale. Once you sell the tickets and

continued on page 6

Board Minutes *continued from page 4*

- Requirements. Alex Wiesner, Treasurer seconded the motion. Floor was opened for discussion. Discussion ensued. Vote was called. Hand vote was taken and the Board unanimously approved the motion as presented. The following members removed were Cecelia Borema, Whitney Ezis, Jennifer Faber, Valerie Green, Jennifer Rigterink, and Stacey Shaffner.
- XIII. Nicole Maison moved to approve changes to Policy 9.4, Member Obligations as presented to Board. Renee Knake, Membership VP seconded. Floor was opened for discussion. Discussion ensued. Vote was called. Hand vote was taken and the Board unanimously approved the motion as presented.
- XIV. Sustainer Panel will be at the April GMM. The Sustainers present will be Kim Hartman, Lynn Fiedler, Amy Ueker, and Kris Kildea. Discussion ensued regarding topics to be discussed by the Sustainers. Possible topics are: why you joined, what you got out of JLL, how you have used JLL experience in the Community. Lynn Fiedler, Sustaining Advisor will introduce the Sustainers. Kate Quinn, Education VP will contact the Sustainers to discuss the possible topics.
- XV. Renee Knake, Membership VP discussed the Sustainer Gifts for this year's Sustainers. Discussion ensued.
- XVI. Amy Suhrheinrich, President discussed the Lansing 150 Parade. The Parade people are requesting a JLL banner and some JLL walkers. Dawn Kroeger, Community VP will ask Jamie Hutchinson if she would like to rally the troops to get some walkers for the parade and let the Board know what she says.
- XVII. Dawn Kroeger, Community VP notified the Board of the 4 complimentary passes to the Kaleidoscope event on April 17th. Amy Suhrheinrich and Becky Paalman will attend.

The remaining two passes will be opened to membership to be drawn.

- XVIII. DIAD winners did not go into Focus so they will be included with the Agenda.
- XIX. There is \$700.00 left in the Community Sponsorship Grants. Westside/Northwest Initiative sent in a Community Response Grant asking JLL to sponsor Westside Summer Fest. Discussion ensued regarding their request. Dawn Kroeger moved to grant \$500.00 to Northwest Initiative for the Third Annual Westside Summer Fest. Becky Paalman seconded. Floor was opened for discussion. Discussion ensued. Vote was called. Hand vote was taken and the Board unanimously approved the motion as presented.
- XX. Becky Paalman, Communications VP discussed the Greek Week donation to JLL of \$3,000.00. Thank you MSU Greek System! Board would like to further a relationship with the Greek System as a potential non-profit sponsor. Excellent work by Amy Sue Melville.
- XXI. Amy Suhrheinrich, President discussed Board response to Pregnancy Services of Greater Lansing discussion. Amy Suhrheinrich, President will handle the Board response.
- XXII. Annual Plan will be moved to the next Board meeting.
- XXIII. Motion to adjourn made by Lynn Fiedler, Sustaining Advisor. Molly Chan seconded. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.



Respectfully Submitted,
Molly Chan
Secretary

GMM Minutes *continued from page 5*

- collect the money, put the stubs and the money into an envelope and deliver it to the JLL office (or make other arrangements with Spring Fundraiser committee). Ticket stubs and money need to be turned in by May 1st.
- XV. May meeting will be at the Lansing Country Club. Social hour will be first with cocktails for purchase, and a dinner for purchase will follow. Checks should be made payable to JLL and sent to Maggie Terry. Betsy Svanda will provide all the details as the event draws near, but it is believed dinner will be around \$25.00.
- XVI. **Kate Quinn** notified membership that the Leadership transition meeting will be on April 28th at Renee Knake's house. Snapshot calendars of the year are on the table for Leadership team and Board members to take and fill out. You must transition with incoming chair or board members. Email Kate Quinn with your RSVP for transition

meeting. Please bring JLL office keys to the transition meeting even if you are staying in a leadership position.

- XVII. **Kristin Hicks** announced that the DIAM was for EVE. 23 people participated collecting \$60.75 and three packages of underwear.
- XVIII. **Kate Powers** asked for Placement cards that have not been turned in.
- XIX. **Amy Suhrheinrich**, President called for a motion to adjourn. Deb Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Kate Quinn seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.



Respectfully Submitted,
Molly Chan, Secretary

Membership Member Relations

Suzanne Johnson, Member Relations Chair



Spring Greetings to everyone! We had a lot of kudos nominees this month. Thank you to everyone who recognized the extraordinary efforts of the following members: **Betsy Svanda**, who stepped up to chair the Arrangements Committee halfway through the year and has done a fabulous job putting a lot of thought and planning into making the meetings fun and original. **Lisa Gnass**, for bringing Carefree Dental back in the running for our Signature Project. The person who nominated Lisa felt that it was a "bold" move, and obviously a good move, since it was voted on as our next Signature Project. **Mary Boyer**, aka "red pen Boyer," for her diligence in editing and offering sound advice on the President's messages each month. Her second set of eyes has been a big help to Amy on very short notice! The two New Member chairs **Alana Reome** and **Heather Conway** for their fabulous job chairing the New Member Kids in the Kitchen project, and **Becky Paalman** for her outstanding job proofing and editing in a very timely manner. Her help with raffle and event tickets for the Dodgeball tournament has been most appreciated, especially since many of these time sensitive items have come at the same time as her class exams. Kudos to you all!

Community

The Vote Is In— DIAD Projects 2009-2010

Daniela Cibelli, DIAD Chair



We are very excited to announce the 2009-2010 DIAD projects which you voted during the March meeting!

Our new year of projects will start out with **Potter Park Zoo Rhino Walk** in June 2009, **Habitat for Humanity** in the summer of 2009, followed by **St. Vincent Catholic Charities Operation Back Pack** in August, **Sparrow's Women Working Wonders** September 13th. **Special Olympics**, **Caring About Kids** and **Girls on the Run** in November, followed by **City Rescue Mission Food Pantry**. We will wrap up the year with **Volunteers of America Soup Kitchen** and **Ronald Mc Donald House** dinners.

Remember that you are required to fulfill one DIAD, but you are welcome to participate in as many events as you like.

Looking forward to a great year!!



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Questions? Please contact Lori Noyer at 517-694-1037

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We will accept business cards for financial institutions, travel agents, real estate agents, and insurance agents.

\$25 for 25 Years—Every Member Drive Contributions (as of 4/14/2009)

Sustainers

\$25.00

Ellen Allman
 Mary Ann Austin
 Candace Barnes
 Susan Benivegna
 Carolyn Boger
 Mrs. Alexander Brede III
 Catherine Brennan
*In Memory of
 Jan VanGorder*
 Ginny Brooks
 Julie Buckberry
 Judy Burns
 Julia Campau
 Arlie Ann Campbell
 Gengen C. Chan
 Ann Chick
 Barb Clark
 Georgia Z. Condon
 Gene & Marilyn
 Cornelius
 Betsy Costello
 Amy and Dan Crites
 Patricia Crouse
 Linda Dansby
 Marilyn Desjardins
 Peg Stone Dickman
 Jane Drake
 Darrell F. Duffield
 Caryn Edwards
 Wendy Faulhaber
 Maggie Frankland
 Lori Hacker Fuller
 Barbara Galloway
 Donna M. Gardner
 Melody Glick
 Linda Grau
 Jo Hacker
 Jody Haddad
 Barbara Hagan
 Annie Hayes
 Alica and Andy Hopping
 Anne Aymond Hopwood
 Catherine Hornback
 Cathie Hotchkiss
 Karen Hubbard

Phyllis Irwin
 Karen Kiser
 Marilyn Doty Larson
 Cathy & Craig Lazar
 Joan Legg
 Mary Liechty
 Patricia Linnell
 Phyllis E. Maner
 Beverly J. Marshall
 Ellen McKay
 Betty Moore
*In Honor of Sue Mills and
 Mary West, my friends,
 for their work for the JLL
 Endowment Fund*
 Sally and Art Nolen
 Shelley Olson
 Maggie Papesh
 Candy Parker
 Mary Beth Pirich
 Kay E. Riegel
 Matt and Caryn Rhodes
 Barbara Schaberg
 Betsy Sessions
 Joan Stapleton
 Marlene Russell Stover
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 Mary VanWieren
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\$50.00

Nancy Berger
 Jane Bitsicas
 Lynn Dwight
 Lynn Fiedler
 Gretchen & John Forsyth
 Marge Joslin
 Kris Kildea
 Jan Moore
 Deb Murray
 Mary Lind Olson

Jan Reed
 Denise Shaheen
 Nancy Shepard
 Judy Wilkinson
*In Memory of
 Ruth Ann Runquist*
 Lisa Whiting Dobson
 Barbara Wirtz

\$100.00

Susan A. Allis
 Joan Bauer
 Margaret Guy Brodbeck
 Susan Brewster
 Shary Carr
*In Memory of
 Virginia Atayan*
 Jeannie Chamberaers
 Kathy Colby
 Frank and Janet Freund
 Pat Hagan
 Barb and Larry Hamilton
 Kim Hartman
 Jan and Bill Kahl
 Miriam Loomis
 Eleanor Marazita
 Shirley Paxton
 Sharon Regan
 Ruth Nolen Ridgway
 Polly Schwendener
 Martha Seaman
 Nancy C. Sheldon
 Dotty Spousta
 Suzanne Tuck

\$125.00

Suzanne Kregel

\$250.00

Chrissie Brogan
*In honor of
 Joan Stapleton*
 Barb Cleland
 Debby and Mike
 Harrison
 Diane & Bill Hollister
 Kevin and Jamie Kelly

Nanette V. Martin
 Sue Mills
 Tunde Rigel
 Barbara Sukenik
 Mary & Ken West

\$500.00

Patty and Jim Croom
 Jan and Joe Foster
 Beverly Oetzel
*In honor of
 Donald and June Whipp*
 Marcia Jensen Spencer

\$1000.00

Cheryl Martyn

\$2,500.00

Brenda & Stephen
 Ramsby
 Linda L. Smith

\$25,000.00

Char Roe

Pattie McNiel
 Becky Myers
 Julie Morgan
 Lori Noyer
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 Rachel Rosenbaum
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Jennifer K. Schick
 Meghan Sifuentes
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 Sheila J. Steger
 Katie and Philip Strong
 Betsy Svanda
 Maggie Terry
 Angela Vlahakis
 Christina Williams

\$30.00

Jaimie Hutchison

\$50.00

Mary Boyer
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 Valerie Green
 Erin and Doug Pratt
 Michelle Thompson
 Ann Vogelsang

\$75.00

Thuy Pham

\$100.00

Kim Garrison
 David & Tracy Jelneck
 Ivana Marinig

\$150.00

Rich & Amy
 Suhrheinrich

\$250.00

Cheryl Bartholic

Actives

\$25.00

Andrea Billups
 Patricia Black
 Stephanie Bredahl
 Shelly Ann Bugg
 Molly Chan
 Amanda Campbell
 Daniela Cibelli
 Beth Cook
 Barb Fishell
 Katie Gallagher
 Elizabeth Goebel
 Marcia Gresens
 Samantha Hughes
 Suzanne Johnson
 Lisa Keefer
 Renee Knake
 Kelly Kobus
 Christie Lemon
 Susan Lupo
 Kate Marchyok

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Membership Changes

- (NM) **Removed**
Maria Gandhi
Darcy Martin
Katrina Rhea
Kelly Sweet
- (A) **Trinh Pham**
Delete work email
- (A) **Ivana Marinig**
H: milfarrell@att.net (not cablespeed.com)
W: ivana.marinig@jackson.com (not jnli.com)
- (S) **Karen Quinn**
1087 Prescott Drive
East Lansing, MI 48823-2457
- (A) **Kirsten Soltis**
Delete home email
- (A) **Stacy Young**
H: stacers.young@gmail.com (not staceys)
- (NM) **Mercedes Martinez**
W: mmartinez@ymcaoflansing.org
- (A) **Stephanie Bredahl**
stephaniebredahl@gmail.com (not hotmail.com)



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Know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em, and
join the Junior League of Birmingham, Michigan, Inc. for the...

3RD ANNUAL GOWBOY ★ COUTURE

Saturday, May 16, 2009 7:00 p.m.

Bloomfield Open Hunt
405 East Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
Ticket price: \$75/person

Tickets available online at www.jlweb.org/birmingham or by calling 248-203-9841.
Please respond by May 4, 2009

Dear Jill,

During Leadership Training, we were told that it
was very important to take minutes at every meeting.
Why is this so important?

Sincerely,
Wondering Wanda

Dear Wanda,

According to the AJLI website, "Minutes are the
accurate and official recording, in summary form, of
the discussion, decision and actions that occurred in a
meeting. They are crucial to the effectiveness of the
group (Board, council or committee) whose activities
they document. They keep League members and
leaders informed, serve as a guide for planning the
agenda of the next meeting and are essential for the
transmittal of accurate information within the League
from year to year."

Those on the Leadership Team refer to the
minutes from previous meetings often. They help
answer questions that come up from time to time.
After taking minutes at your meetings and having
them approved by the members present, they should
be forwarded to your council vice president and Nancy
at the office to keep on record.

Sincerely,
Jill

Thank you!

to the Junior League of Lansing



Ronald
McDonald
House of
Mid-Michigan

Dear Junior League of Lansing,

Thank you for your recent donation of food and gift bags of various items valued at \$600.00. Your generous gift will help us provide a warm and caring Home-Away-From-Home for our families.

Thank you so much for caring and sharing with us.

Sincerely

Kay Backs

for Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan
Board of Directors, Staff & Volunteers

Pregnancy Services of Greater Lansing

Wow, what a wonderful surprise. Thank you for all the beautiful baby items that you delivered. How sweet and special! Thank you so much! I know that many, many little babies and their families will be super blessed by these gifts!

When everyone just does their "part" in helping us, it all combines together so that we can offer all the free services that we do. It's so great that we can all join hands and bless others! Through your help and those of others, we can meet the needs of our young parents.

Thanks, again . . . for sharing and giving to those in need.

Sincerely,

Nancy Kujawa
Director



PROVIDING HELP
CREATING HOPE.

Dear Junior League Members,

Thank you for selecting St. Vincent Catholic Charities as the recipients of your collection during the month of March. Your generous in-kind donation of assorted linens, personal hygiene products and cleaning supplies will be used to help set up homes for those we serve. Your gift helps ensure St. Vincent Catholic Charities is able to fulfill our mission of creating a stronger, healthier community. I would like to extend a special thank you to Susan Soper for coordinating this event with our staff and delivering the items.

I invite you to take a 'Tour of Hope' of St. Vincent Catholic Charities. The Tour lasts one hour and highlights various aspects of our rich history, our services and our vision for the future. We will share a number of stories guaranteed to inform and inspire you. Please call Rhonda at 323-4734 ext. 1205 or e-mail aboodr@stvcc.org for more information on dates and times.

In service to children, adults and families, I am gratefully yours,

Andrea E. Seyka
CEO



where parents go to know

April 1, 2009

Dear Junior League Members,

Please accept our thanks for all the support JLL gives to the Expectant Parents Organization. At our recent Charity Auction, many of your members played a vital role in helping to be sure things ran smoothly throughout the evening. We are very grateful to Maggie Terry, Gabrielle Johnson, Angela Emlet-Dardas, Patty Black, Deanna Fenech, Peggy Cole, and Kristin Hicks for their help. They certainly made my job a lot easier that evening.

We are still tallying the results and some bills are not yet in, but we feel certain that we will profit over \$15,000 which we feel is great in these difficult economic times. Those dollars will help a great deal as we continue to serve families in our community.

Thanks again for your help and support.

Sincerely,

Carol Buzzitta
Executive Director

Winter Interview Results

Nicole Godby, Nominating/Placement Committee Member



The Winter Interview process provided leadership with a lot of good information—thanks to all of you who participated! The following is a brief summary.

First, some demographics: 26% of respondents are single, 30% are married, 1% are single with children and 43% are married with children. Broken down further, 38% of respondents do not have children, 55% of respondents children are in the 0–5 years age bracket, 35% in the 6–12 years age bracket, 8% in the 13–18 years age bracket and 1% are in the over 18 years age bracket.

Many of you are active in the community outside of your work with the Junior League of Lansing. We have members on the Board of Directors for St. Vincent Catholic Charities, MSU Varsity S Alumni Club, Women’s Lawyer’s Association of Michigan, Great Start Collaborative Board, Distinguished Alumni Board at the University of Florida, Educational Child Care Center, Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan, Expectant Parents Organization and Impression 5 Science Center. Many of you volunteer with your children’s schools and with your church. You support your college sororities and MSU Volleyball. You’re involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Lansing Symphony and the East Lansing Commission on the Environment. And the list goes on; if there is a worthy organization in the greater Lansing area, you’re likely to find a Junior League member involved.

For planning purposes, you were asked several questions about our General Membership Meetings (GMMs). Here is how you answered:

- 73% love the Evites, 22% said Evites are alright and a few really wish there was another method of reminding us about GMMs
- 54% like the 7:00pm GMM start time, 28% would like it

moved up to 6:30pm and 18% would like it moved way up, to 6:00pm

- 25% like having meeting sponsors and use their products/services, 63% like having meeting sponsors but find they typically don’t use their products/services and 12% feel we should not have meeting sponsors
- 37% would be willing to bring snacks to a GMM once a year, 27% would be willing to pay more for the food to continue at GMMs and 36% would rather not have food at future GMMs

The majority of respondents would like speakers at the GMMs. However, the speakers need to teach us something—preferably in 45 minutes or less. Brief recaps are felt to be helpful and the FOCUS is felt to be an excellent source of detailed information. However, it was pointed out by a few respondents that the information can be a bit dated. We all need to be more aware of the FOCUS deadlines and make an effort to keep the information current.

Many respondents would like to see more interaction at the meetings. All agree that first and foremost, it is a business meeting and we need to get our work done, but more ice breakers were requested by several respondents.

Finally, we asked you to tell us what you think—and tell us you did! Thanks to all of you for your great responses to the questions regarding training opportunities and whether or not you feel JLL is meeting its mission. Your complete responses have been forwarded (no names attached) to next year’s leadership so the information can be used during the planning process.

Overall, respondents feel that Junior League of Lansing is meeting its mission, but there is always room for improvement. Training requests varied from individual committee training to training on women’s health issues. Essentially, we want information and tools we can put to work, both in our personal lives and in our community.

May & June Birthdays

ACTIVES & NEW MEMBERS

Topolewski, Mel	05/09
Goebel, Elizabeth	05/10
Noyer, Lori	05/12
Lake, Amanda	05/13
Vogelsang, Ann	05/15
Cole, Peggy	05/16
Moore, Kristi	05/16
Hawver, Tiana	05/20
Hubbard, Sebeena	05/20
Tanis, Becky	05/23
Gregory, Kim	05/26
McNelly, Kristen	05/27
Suhreinrich, Amy	05/29
Griggs, Samantha	05/31
Santucci, Torye	06/06
Thelen, Michelle	06/07

Brown, Laura	06/09
Brewer, Jennifer	06/18
Johnson, Gabe	06/21
Burnham, Cristina	06/23
Schick, Jennifer	06/26
Lanstra, Emilie	06/27

SUSTAINERS

Olson, Mary	05/01
Krogulecki, Lisa	05/09
Loomis, Miriam	05/11
Hubbard, Karen	05/14
Mills, Sue	05/14
Whipp, June	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
Princinsky, Joanne	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
Nichols, Christy	06/07

Hollister, Diane	06/10
Schwendener, Polly	06/12
Mooney, Nance	06/14
Couling, Meredith	06/18
Nugent, Marilyn	06/18
Zsigo, Kerry	06/18
Freund, Janet	06/23
Hirt, Linda	06/23
Tarquini, Noreen	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

Calendar of Events

May

- 5 Joint Board Meeting at the home of Lynn Fiedler
- 6 Past President's Luncheon, contact Becky Myers
- 13 Celebration Meeting, Country Club of Lansing

NEXT FOCUS DEADLINE

Monday, May 11, 2009 • 5 pm

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

Community Actives, New Members and Sustainers Needed

Jaimie Hutchison, Community Service Chair



JLL has been asked to participate in the **Lansing 150 Parade of the Decades** on Saturday May 16 at 11:30 p.m. We are not making a float but we are looking to have some walkers and a banner to show our support to the Greater Lansing Community as well as

to promote JLL.

Please contact Jaimie Hutchison, Community Service Chair at jaimjohutch@hotmail.com or by calling 517-285-2118 if you are interested in representing JLL in the parade by walking in the parade and carrying a banner. GO JLL!!

**COME ON LADIES—
Let's finish the year BIG!**



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