

Winter 2018

FOCUS



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LANSING

President's Message

By Alexis Chadderdon, President 2017-2018

Oh, what a year it has been! Last time you heard from me in my "Letter from the President" I was saying "hello," and now it is already my chance to say "farewell."

When some writers or speakers are looking for inspiration, they turn to the news; however, with so many things happening at a break-neck speed, I much prefer to look to the past. I can't begin to tell you how much time I have spent pouring

over the archives of The League Lore and Focus newsletters in the JLL office. They are such a treasure - brimming with our League's rich history. These newsletters are full of stories about our enduring legacy and the impact we have made in the community, along with hilarious tales of camaraderie that developed while dynamic women worked together side-by-side helping to fill in the gaps and address issues in our community. I hope that these newsletters can be scanned and uploaded to our website so that future generations of League members can easily enjoy and learn from them.

Lest you think that I am entirely old-fashioned, I am, in fact, writing this article on my iPhone far too late at night, or early in the morning, while under the covers and listening to my husband's light snoring. This is the glamorous life of the JLL President of today. While working more than 40 hours a week at my day job, staying on top of JLL business can be tricky. However, I am

surrounded by amazing, intelligent, courageous, and enthusiastic women on the Board of Directors and leadership team who are unafraid of hard work. Part of my President placement is really to stay out of their way and open doors for them (literally and figuratively) when needed. Whenever I leave a JLL meeting or event, I feel energized and excited about what the future will bring, because when passionate and driven women come together, we are unstoppable.

As the sun begins to set on my journey as JLL President, I want to share with you some wise words that I recently came across: how you climb down the mountain is just as important as how you climb up. Sometimes you are ahead; sometimes you are behind. Graciousness and gratitude are necessary traits to carry you through the highs and the lows. As we start to make our descent down the mountain this League year, let's take a moment to rest at the peak and relish in some of our accomplishments so far:



continued on next page

Junior League of Lansing Board of Directors 2017 - 2018

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Alexis Chadderdon

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Heather Frick

Communications Vice President

Emily Stevens

Community Vice President

Katrina Daniels

Education Vice President

Elizabeth Battiste

Fund Development Vice President

Anita Lindsay

Membership Vice President

Kim DeLucia-Drew

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Sustaining Advisor to the Board

Joan Bauer

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.

continued from first page

- 42 members were in attendance at the October OPS Training on "Forging Meaningful Connections with Others" from Lisa Parker with the MSU Alumni Association — and we contributed \$150 to the MSU Emergency Assistance Scholarship Fund to say thank you.
- 21 members assembled Weekend Survival Kits of food for local children that are food insecure (1 in 5 children in the area). We assembled double the number of kits in half of the time!
- In under 90 minutes, 11 members sorted enough frozen meat at the Greater Lansing Food Bank to provide 2,993 meals to those in need.
- 6 members attended AJLI's Organizational Development Institute for a weekend leadership conference in Grapevine, Texas.
- A dozen members attended a full-day Michigan State Council of Junior Leagues (MSC) training session in Ann Arbor.
- Began a discussion about strategic governance and management transformation.
- Purchased a new laptop to be used by the President, Secretary, and at GMMs.
- 30 dynamic women were welcomed as new members.
- Held a very exciting and profitable Lunch With League – netting over \$15,000.
- Completed a very successful Becky Beauchine Kulka Diamonds & Fine Jewelry Annual Fund Raffle that generated over \$20,000 for our Mission.

Thank you for joining me on this journey and working to make this year so successful.

Alexis Chadderdon, President

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

By Heather Frick, President-Elect

The Community Advisory Board's (CAB) purpose is to identify opportunities for JLL volunteers to participate in addressing critical needs in the Lansing area providing insight on how to increase public awareness of the JLL's Mission, our achievements and our involvement in the community. In November, JLL appointed and welcomed Rocco Rucinski, Tri-Star Trust Bank, and Diana Tarpoff, R.E. Olds Foundation President and JLL Sustainer, to the Board. Both have brought insight and feedback to further assist in JLL in fulfilling its Mission.

Peter Sheldon has stepped down with regret from the Board. He was valuable contributor to the Board. We would like to extend a thank you to Peter Sheldon for his many years of dedicated service to the Board and continued support of League.

The 2017-2018 CAB is composed of the following Community Members listed below. We are appreciative of their time and commitment to the Junior League of Lansing and extend our appreciation to Rob Elhenicky of Kelley Cawthorne for hosting our CAB meetings.

Community Members:

- Rob Elhenicky, Kelley Cawthorne
- Suzanne Thelen, Director of Strategic Communications and Customer Engagement, Michigan Veterans Affairs
- Joe Wald, Executive Director, Greater Lansing Food Bank
- Rocco Rucinski, Tri-Star Trust Bank
- Diana Tarpoff, R.E. Olds Foundation President, JLL Sustainer



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2018 - 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Sarah Gonzales Triplett, President-Elect

Sarah is in her 7th active year with the Junior League of Lansing. Her previous placements include Communications VP, Nominating/Placement Advisor, New Member Advisor, New Member Recruitment chair, and member of the Community Outreach Committee. As a new member, Sarah served as co-chair of Kids in the Kitchen and was selected as the Super New Member Award recipient that year. Later, she was awarded the Outstanding Placement Award for her role as chair of the New Member Recruitment Committee. Currently, Sarah serves as the Nominating Chair. Sarah is a graduate of Hope College and is the Director of Public Policy and Advocacy for Creative Many Michigan. In addition to her work with the JLL, she serves as the chair of the East Lansing Arts Commission, chair of the national Americans for the Arts' State Arts Action Network (SAAN), and is the chair of the Advocacy Committee for the Tourism Industry Coalition of Michigan. Sarah lives in East Lansing with her husband Nathan and amazing son Teddy (2).



Stephanie Collier, Secretary

Stephanie is a lifetime resident of the Lansing area, growing up in Haslett. She attended Michigan State University to study finance and currently runs her own financial planning practice with Northwestern Mutual. Stephanie is married to Cody and together they have their cat, Jasper. In January of 2012, she joined Junior League of Lansing as a new member and is enjoying every minute of it!



Nicole Ceccacci, Treasurer-Elect

Nicole Ceccacci is an Auditor and a Certified Public Accountant with the State of Michigan. She has been with the Junior League of Lansing for two years on the Lunch with League Committee. Being a relatively new resident to the City of Lansing, she is always looking for ways to be involved with the community. Nicole enjoys competing in triathlons, traveling, reading, being outdoors and is always up for a new adventure. She is looking forward to another great year with the Junior League of Lansing.



Stacy Bogard, Communications VP

Stacy Bogard joined the Junior League of Chicago in 2011. Originally from East Lansing, she moved back to the area and transferred to the JLL in fall 2013. In Chicago, she served on the Special Events and Member Satisfaction Committees, and has served on Member Relations, as a New Member Advisor and New Member Recruitment and Training Chair, Secretary and Web Chair in Lansing. A graduate of Hope College, she is the Assistant Director for Communications, PR & Marketing for the Michigan Association of School Boards. She enjoys traveling, watching TV and movies, craft projects, learning about/drinking wine, baking, sporting events and concerts, and spending time with family and friends, as well as fixing up her condo in Okemos.



Lindsay Dangl, Community VP

Lindsay Dangl is in her fifth active year of Junior League. Lindsay has served all five years on the Community Council, first as a member of the Community Committee, then DIAD and DIAM, then DIAM Chair, then Community Chair. Lindsay is serving on the newly formed Community Grants Committee. Lindsay is committed to community service and ensuring Junior League is an influential part of making an impact on those who need food and shelter in our area. Lindsay is a shareholder at Murphy & Spagnuolo, P.C. and serves as the firm's Vice President of the Lansing Torch Club, as a Board Member of the Ingham County Bary Association, and is an active member with the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan. She is married to Brad Dangl and has two children- Jay and Parker.

**Maggie Louks, Education VP**

Maggie Louks has been a proud and active member of the Junior League of Lansing since 2014. Her previous placements include serving on the annual fundraiser, annual fundraiser chair, serving on the member relations committee, and nominating/placement advisor. Maggie currently serves as placement chair. She received her B.A. in secondary education at Northern Michigan University and went on to graduate cum laude from Michigan State University College of Law. Maggie is an attorney at AF Group focusing in workers' compensation and Medicare law. Although she is originally from the Chicago suburbs, Maggie has called Michigan home for the last ten years. Maggie lives in Lansing with her husband Brandon, son Henry, and fur baby Jackson.

**Maureen Watson-Bolger, Fund Development VP**

I joined the Junior League in 2012 looking for a group of motivated women who wanted to make a difference in the community and have a good time together. It's been wonderful to meet so many great women that are fun to spend time with socially but have also taught me things I can apply in my professional life. I have had placements on the Arrangements Committee, Issue Based Community Impact, Member Relations, and the High Heels and High Tea Committees and also served as a New Member Adviser. I have enjoyed getting to know the people and the process of League and how we are able to help the Lansing area community by coming together. I work full-time as a multiclient lobbyist and in my free time I enjoy spinning, barre, traveling, and watching baseball. My husband, Matt Bolger, and I have been married six years and I have two stepdaughters, Kathryn (19) and Rachel (17). We live in Dewitt.

**Melanie Beil, Membership VP**

Melanie is a proud graduate of Michigan State University. Upon returning to Michigan in 2009 after a brief teaching stint in Memphis, TN with Teach for America, Melanie fell into a human resources entry level position and found a lot of her teaching skills transferable to the HR world. She has grown her professional career in the Human Resources field, most recently accepting a position as Talent Development Manager with a global tier 1 automotive supplier. Melanie's Junior League career has been focused with positions on the Membership council including: a double placement on the Member Relations committee and New Member Advisor during her first active year, New Member Training Chair, and Kids in the Kitchen Co-Chair. She is a past recipient of both the Leadership and Spirit Awards from JLI's annual Recognize Excellence Annual Awards. In her spare time Melanie enjoys experiencing new things through traveling the world, attending sporting events, playing volleyball, working on her first home, and spending time with family and friends.

2018 - 2019 NOMINATING/PLACEMENT ADVISORS



Jennifer Bott

Jennifer Bott joined Junior League in 2014 looking for opportunities for leadership, service, and connections with other women dedicated to the community. She has been involved with League as part of Community Outreach and Member Relations and currently serves as the Member Relations chair. Jennifer is a Program Coordinator for the Michigan Health Council where she connects high school students with job shadow experiences in health care. She is also employed quarterly with MSU to evaluate applications to the Broad Business College. Recently, she decided to take a leap into wine consulting to help fund her kid's extracurricular activities (soccer trips to Sweden, horse riding lessons, etc.) Jennifer, married to Dan, is also a full time soccer and basketball mom to Ava (13) and Dylan (11). When she is not working or acting as chauffeur to her children, Jennifer enjoys traveling, attending MSU sporting events, weight training at State of Fitness, spoiling her two golden retrievers--Breslin and Lolo, and spending time with friends and family.



Carrie Wagoner

Carrie joined the Junior League of Lansing in 2012. Carrie was a member of the Issue-based Community Impact Committee in 2013-2014 and 2014-2015, lead the Community Outreach Committee in 2015-2016, and served as Community Vice President in 2016-2017. This year, Carrie is a member of the Social Media committee. Carrie grew up in Milford, MI, and attended Central Michigan University and Michigan State University College of Law. Carrie works in Legal Affairs at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Carrie and her husband, Nicholas, bought their first house in 2016 and have been enjoying the various "projects" ever since. In addition to Junior League, Carrie is on the Board of Directors of the Greater Lansing Food Bank. In her spare time, Carrie enjoys traveling, baking, reading, and spending time with family and friends.



Ana Whitman

Ana Whitman is so proud to be a member of the Junior League, she joined League to make new friendships and to give back and get more involved with my community. This is her third active year in Junior League and it has surpassed my expectations. Ana is honored to be surrounded by such a dynamic, driven, and successful group of women. Outside of Junior League, she is employed at Wharton Center as a House Manager (aka theater manager). When she's not working weekends, she spends her time visiting my niece and nephews in the Upper Peninsula and Columbus, OH. Ana Whitman attended MSU and received her Bachelor's in Criminal Justice. She enjoys cooking, reading, and the gym, focusing on strength training.



Becky Brewer

Becky is a lifelong resident of mid-Michigan and joined the Junior League in 2015. During her time with League, she served on the Training Committee, including one year as Chair. Becky is a proud Spartan with a BA in Humanities and an MA in College Administration. She works at Michigan State University as the Assistant Director for Outreach where she manages a small team and the University Tour Office. Prior to that, she was a Career Advisor for MSU undergrads going into the non-profit, government, creative, and private sectors. When she is not at work, she lives in East Lansing with her 5-year-old daughter & 3-year-old son and enjoys traveling, cooking, and seeing movies with friends.

2018 - 2019 NEW MEMBER CHAIRS



Emily Stevens, New Member Recruitment Chair

Emily is in her fifth active year with Junior League and has loved the opportunity to be involved. She is currently serving as the Communications VP, and just attended an ODI on the Communications track. She has served as the Webmaster, Social Media Chair and assisted on the Lunch with League Committee twice. In her new member year, Emily served as a Co-Chair for the Lunch with League event hosted at Gier Community Center serving over 400 people and bringing in several community partners. In her working hours, Emily is the Manager of Leisure Services with the City of Lansing's Parks and Recreation Department, overseeing all recreational activities the City offers. Emily is also married to Chad Stevens and the proud mother of two sons, Anderson (11) and Beckett (9).



Alicia Barefield, New Member Training Chair

Originally from Metro Detroit, after eight years, Alicia considers herself a Lansing native. A passionate member of her community, she loves positively impacting others. Her volunteer experiences, outside of Junior League, include the Downtown Neighborhood Association of Lansing, the Greater Lansing Food Bank and most recently, the Capital Area Humane Society. In her spare time, Alicia enjoys hiking, struggling through hot yoga class, traveling, and appreciating the arts. When she isn't slinging drinks to keep the lights on, she's planning her next adventure or further developing her creative skill set. This is Alicia's second active year; she currently serves on the Community & New Member Recruitment Committees.

2018 - 2019 NEW MEMBER ADVISORS



Danielle Grubaugh

DJ is a lifelong Lansing-area resident, and serves as a Peckham's Assistant Manager to Eaton County programs. Four years in human services and countless courses in social policy has molded her passion for human rights, advocacy, and serving others. DJ enjoys being an advocate for inclusion and social change, making new friends, being married to her handsome husband, and exploring all of the beauty that Michigan has to offer!



Audra Putt

Audra has been a proud member of Junior League of Lansing since 2017. She began her Junior League career serving as a member of the Kids in the Kitchen committee. Audra is a Palliative Care Consultant with the State of Michigan's Cancer Prevention and Control Section. She is a graduate of the University of Kentucky where she obtained her Master's degree in Public Health with a concentration in Health Management and Policy, and a Certificate in Gerontology. Audra is also a member of Delta Omega, the honorary society in Public Health. Originally from Auburn, MI, she attended Saginaw Valley State University for her undergraduate studies. Her past volunteer work has included working with the aging population, hospice, and health promotion initiatives. Audra enjoys the opportunity with Junior League to learn more about her community and becoming involved with volunteer activities in the local area.



Jessie Roy

Jessie grew up in Farmington Hills, MI and moved to the Lansing area to attend MSU in the fall of 2008. Upon graduating with a degree in Hospitality Business, Jessie worked at a number of hotels in the area before finding her current role as the Director of Membership at the University Club where she has worked the last 4 years. When Jessie is not working or attending Junior League functions, you will usually find her curled up with husband, Steve, and dog, Zongo. The 3 of them are huge fans of the many Lansing area parks and trails, specifically near their home in Williamston. There is nothing Jessie loves more than spending an afternoon wandering around a trail on a beautiful Michigan day with her pup. Jessie also has a passion for travel and is always brainstorming her next getaway! She is very much looking forward to serving as a New Member Advisor for the Junior League of Lansing!



Leah Ann Sherer

Leah Ann is in her third year of Junior League. She joined JLL because of the mission statement and to meet like minded women in the community. Leah has served on the Communications council, High Heels and High Tea committee, as the 2016-2017 Marketing and Publications Chair and on the Fund Development Council. Leah also was the recipient of the 2016 JLL Spirit award. Born and raised in Detroit, MI, Leah has lived in Lansing for the past 16 years. She is employed with Aetna and has a Bachelor of Science degree from Davenport University in Medical Case Management. Leah returned to school at Lansing Community College in the CPA prep program, to learn accounting, earn her CPA designation and to become fluent in Spanish. Leah volunteers her time with Ele's Place, Habitat for Humanity, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Capital Area United Way. She is also on the Finance committee and the Women United committee with the Capital Area United Way.

Leah enjoys reading, listening to music, watching movies, walking, traveling, and spending time with her family and friends. Especially her 3 year old great nephew Davin. She has enjoyed her time in Junior League and considers joining JLL as one of her best decisions. Leah had the pleasure of attending the Organizational Development Institute in Raleigh, NC in October 2016 and will always be grateful for the opportunity.

MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL UPDATE

By Kim DeLucia-Drew, Membership VP

The Membership Council kicked off the year in September with a Member Relations Pedal Tour and a joint New Member Recruitment/Member Tailgate. New Member Recruitment held successful events in October and November at Buddies in Holt and Harpers in East Lansing. In October and November, Member Relations hosted an Escape Room event and mani/pedi party for Haven House residents. New Member Recruitment's efforts are wrapping up in December in conjunction with Member Relations, with a Cookie Exchange hosted by sustainer Deb Atkinson for both active members and prospective new members. Collaboration of events has been a great way for some of the new members to participate in JLI's social offerings and see what we're all about. Thanks to those who came to mingle with the prospective new members.

A Murder Mystery Dinner Cruise on the Michigan Princess is being planned by Member Relations for March. Stay tuned for other Member Relations planned and pop-up events!



Questions about new member recruitment?
Contact committee chair Melanie Beil at melaniebeil2009@gmail.com

For further info on upcoming Member Relations events please contact Jenn Bott at jennifermbott@yahoo.com



NOMINATING & PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

By Sarah Triplett, Nominating Chair and Maggie Louks, Placement Chair

The Nominating and Placement Committee has been very engaged this fall. Their goal was to move the slating process to one that is more fair and transparent based on competencies, skills, self-nominating/application, and interview-based. They adhered to several best practice recommendations from AJLI. The Fall Interview process was formalized and they created a Governance Position Application and drafted a Placement Brochure and Placement Wish List. Slating Day was held November 19th and the final slate was announced November 20th. Active members will vote on the slated positions during the GMM and Annual Meeting on January 9th.

Please contact Sarah Triplett at sntriplett@gmail.com and Maggie Louks at maggielouks1@gmail.com with any questions.

2018-2019 Board of Directors

President-Elect Sarah Gonzales Triplett	Community VP Lindsay Dangl
Secretary to the Board Stephanie Collier	Education VP Maggie Louks
Treasurer-Elect Nicole Ceccacci	Fund Development VP Maureen Watson-Bolger
Communications VP Stacy Bogard	Membership VP Mel Beil

2018-2019 Nominating/ Placement Advisors

- Jennifer Bott
- Becky Brewer
- Carrie Wagoner
- Ana Whitman

2018-2019 New Member Team

New Member Recruitment Chair
Emily Stevens

New Member Training Chair
Alicia Barefield

New Member Advisors

- Danielle Grubagh
- Audra Putt
- Jessie Roy
- Leah Ann Sherer

STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

By Elizabeth Battiste, Education VP

The State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) has had a productive year so far! The Assurance of Quality Foster Care Act (House Bills 5121, 5122, and 5123) passed the state House and is awaiting action from the state Senate. This legislation would turn MDHHS policy into law, and increase state accountability for better service access for children and youth in the foster care system. This legislation has received broad support from foster parents, advocacy groups and MDHHS. Thank you to all of the members who responded to our advocacy call and reached out to your elected officials to encourage them to pass this important legislation!

A bill that speaks directly to our focus area of ensuring food, access, and shelter introduced by former State Representative and Lansing Mayor Andy Schor passed both chambers of the legislature and signed by Governor Snyder. The bill will allow communities to utilize a portion of the Michigan Economic Development Corp.'s Commercial Revitalization Program to go toward urban grocery stores in downtowns and corridors.

Finally, Day at the Capitol is coming up on March 20. This year we will be in the Mackinac Room in the House Office Building with some interactive sections, Capitol Tour, and – of course – an Afterglow hosted by our League. Stay tuned for sign up details, and remember it counts toward your Done In A Day obligation.



TRAINING COMMITTEE

By Elizabeth Battiste, Education VP

The Training Committee was proud to welcome Lisa Wiley-Parker of the Michigan State University Alumni Association to give our October OPS Training on establishing meaningful relationships – and when to know that a moment can just be a moment! As a thank you, the League contributed \$150 to the MSU Emergency Assistance Scholarship Fund on Lisa's behalf.

Mark your calendar for the upcoming OPS Training on April 10! We look forward to providing a valuable training to help members continue to develop personally and professionally.

We also hope you have found our mini-trainings at each GMM valuable.



If you have an idea for a training, please email education@jllansing.org!

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COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

By Katrina Daniels, Community VP

The beginning of our 2017 - 2018 Junior League started off with the news of a devastating natural disaster, Hurricane Harvey. Hurricane Harvey devastated areas of Texas and left thousands without food, shelter, transportation and other necessary items. The Community Committee wanted to find a way to help and support the victims and their families in this horrible tragedy. Natural disasters affect so many lives and it can feel quite daunting when trying to figure out how to help. One of the greatest strengths of the Junior League is that we are an International organization and we are dedicated to helping out our sister Leagues when in need.

We soon learned that the Junior League of Kalamazoo was collecting monetary donations and gift cards to support the victims of Hurricane Harvey. The need for monetary donations and gift cards was determined by connecting with the Leagues in the most devastated areas of Texas and finding out what the biggest needs were. Due to the fact that many homes were destroyed or badly damaged, the Leagues in the most devastated areas were collecting donations to help the victims rebuild. The donations that were collected were sent to those Leagues who had their “boots on the ground” so to speak so they were able to direct funds to the most pressing needs.

Although we normally don't have a DIAM at our September GMM, we made a call to our members to donate what they could in order to assist our sister Leagues (Houston and Woodland, TX) in their effort to rebuild. In that one meeting \$530 was raised in addition to gift cards to Lowes and Home Depot! This collection far surpassed our expectations and the money and gift cards were sent to help those in need. This collection was inspiring as it showed what individual members and the Junior League of Lansing can do when we come together. Not only does League support local organizations but we have the power to make an immense impact on a National level and support those in need!



SUSTAINER UPDATE

By Joan Bauer, Sustaining Advisor to the Board

It is such a pleasure to serve as the Sustaining Advisor to the JLL Board this year. I am happy to report that the organization we love is in good hands. I am so impressed by the board, the chairs, and the active members who continue the tradition of developing leadership skills and making our community a better place. They are 112 strong and with our 232 sustaining members the JLL membership totals 344. We are a major force in our community and because of our AJLI affiliation, we are collectively making a difference on a global scale. Sustainers were active this past fall with 37 of us attending the fall sustainer lunch at the Country Club of Lansing in October. A big thank you to last year's sustaining advisor, **Lori Fuller**, for all her help with the luncheon. We enjoyed catching up with Junior League friends and hearing from JLL President Alexis Chadderdon. December brought our annual holiday open house at the beautiful home of **Sandy Grettenberger**. Thank you to **Kim Hartman** who coordinated the entire event and appreciation goes to the many sustainers and JLL board members who brought food, wine, set up, cleaned up, and acted as greeters. It "takes a village" and I am continually amazed and grateful for the way League members help out . . . time and time again!

Sustainers played an important role once again in the JLL raffle which is a major Junior League fundraiser. Our heartfelt thank you to sustainer **Becky Beauchine Kulka** who once again sponsored the raffle by donating five \$1,000 gift cards to Becky Beauchine Kulka's Diamonds and Fine Jewelry. This was Becky's last year sponsoring the raffle and we cannot thank her enough for the funds she has helped JLL raise over the past years. This year's raffle raised a record \$21,100 (surpassing all past raffles by a wide margin!) and the annual sustainer competition alone resulted in 232 tickets sold for a total of \$4,640 of the total raffle proceeds. Congratulations to **Sue Mills** for selling 141 tickets (the most tickets sold by any JLL member!) and to **Deb Atkinson** for selling 91 tickets. As a result the Chardonnays/Champagnes once again won the wine and cheese party . . . but the real winner is the Junior League which will put the funds raised to good use in training our members and impacting our community.

Sustainers continue to be involved in the organization in many ways. **Kim Hartman** is serving as sustaining advisor for the very important Nominating/Placement Committee and **Donna**

Gardner is advising the Governance and Management Transition ad hoc committee. **Deb Atkinson** once again hosted the very popular member recruitment Cookie Exchange. President Alexis Chadderdon has included a "JLL history" component at the beginning of every general membership meeting so our active members will better understand our amazing organization. So far Alexis, **Lori Fuller**, **Sue Mills**, **Joanie Stapleton**, and I have shared information on our history starting with our founding in 1931. At midyear we are through the 1970's! Our thanks go to **Mary Jane Wilson** and the late **Marilyn Culpepper** who captured our history when they researched and wrote "The Junior League of Lansing 1948-2003."

Thank you to those of you who have donated to the Endowment Fund in 2017. It's quite remarkable to think that this fund we started over thirty years ago has grown to an incredible \$642,000! Because of this fund and your generosity, the Junior League was recently tendered \$29,170 for 2017. Our gratitude is extended to sustainer **Ginny Brooks** who so ably chairs the Endowment Fund and to **Kate Powers** who is the Vice Chair. An ambitious one million dollar goal has been set. Please contribute and help us reach it by the end of 2019!

I encourage the Simply Social sustainer groups to continue their outings and get together. The Chardonnays and Champagnes have merged under the capable leadership of **Sue Mills**, **Maggie Franklin**, **Barb Clark**, **Joanie Stapleton**, and **Susan Allis**. Twenty Cosmos and Manhattans gathered for a Halloween party at the home of **Kathy Lazar**. Thank you to **Cathy Kerwin** and **Deb Atkinson** for taking the lead with this group. If you have any ideas or would like to organize and/or host a Simply Social event for your group, just let us know!

Sustainer communication continues to be a goal. I hope you find the monthly sustainer e-newsletter informative. For those of you with Facebook, be sure to check our sustaining page. A big thank you to **Kate Powers** who helps with the electronic communication! Please be sure to update your email address and other information with JLL office manager, sustainer **Nancy Shephard**. You can call her at 517.324.8716 or email her at office@jllansing.org. And if you are an Instagram ([jloflansing](https://www.instagram.com/jloflansing)) or Twitter ([jllansing](https://twitter.com/jllansing)) follower, you can see what's going on there!

We were saddened in 2017 to lose sustainers **Phyllis**

Maner, Patricia Crouse, Barbara Schaberg and Jamie Haley. These three women were longtime members and strong supporters of the Junior League of Lansing. We extend our sympathy to their families and friends.

Thank you to all our sustainers for your interest in and support of this organization which played an important role in our lives. The friendships and memories continue for all of us and our support is critical to the continued success of the Junior League of Lansing.

JUNIOR LEAGUE COMMUNICATION



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ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD

By Ginny Brooks, Endowment Board Chair

Happy New Year! A new year brings both the opportunity to review the past, celebrate the present and look forward to the future. The Endowment Board would like to thank our members for their support of the Junior League of Lansing Endowment Fund over the years. We are grateful to our Founding Members who created an enduring legacy for the JLL and its' community efforts. The Endowment Fund was created in 1984 and is celebrating its' 33rd year!

Every November, the Endowment Fund tenders a check to the JLL to be used to support their community endeavors. This year, a check was presented in the amount of \$29,170.93. As our fund balance grows, the funds we're able to tender to league do also. As of the writing of this column, our current Portfolio balance is \$641,746.00. We would like to thank our Investment partner, Tri-Star Trust Bank, who manages our investments and works with our Board. We appreciate their expertise and support of our investment goals.

The future brings an opportunity to reach the \$1,000,000 mark through the newly announced Legacy Society Campaign. The Endowment Board realizes This is a lofty goal, but one that we believe is achievable. Our goal is to reach this milestone by the fund's 35th Anniversary year, which is 2019. This campaign will focus on planned gifts in addition to pledged funds. We will be hosting events in 2018 to introduce this opportunity to our sustaining and active members.

It is my pleasure to serve on the JLL Endowment Fund Board with Vice Chair, Kate Powers, Endowment Treasurer, Kayla Byrd-Daniels, JLL President-Elect, Heather Frick and Community Trustees, Nathan Triplett and David Wakeland.

Thank you for your support of the JLL Endowment Fund – every dollar you donate has significance in the lives of our fellow Lansing area community residents. I personally, am grateful to be given the privilege to be a part of this wonderful organization!

Warmest regards and best wishes for 2018!

Ginny Brooks, 2017/2018 Endowment Fund Chair



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
LANSING**

ENDOWMENT FUND

ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

By Elizabeth Battiste, Education VP

Arrangements has had a fun year of developing creative ways to engage our members at General Membership Meetings. From festive themes to interesting icebreakers, the committee has done a great job of encouraging members to make new connections in League. Great work, Arrangements!



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ORDINARY TO EXTRAORDINARY
WHEN YOU STAGE BEFORE YOU LIST!

To some, the “For Sale” sign is just the beginning. I think it should feel the opposite; that’s when the bulk of the sales, marketing, design, and even construction is behind us. Once the sign is up it’s time to let all that hard work do what it’s designed to do:

Sell faster & keep your list price high.

I have been a member of the Junior League of Lansing for 10 years. My extensive career in real estate and home renovation means I’m always looking for a find! If you’re starting to think about **Buying or Selling**, start a step ahead and give me a call. *Kristin*

LUNCH WITH LEAGUE

By Anita Lindsay, Fund Development VP

On November 17, 2017, the Junior League of Lansing hosted the annual Lunch With League fundraiser at The University Club of MSU. Looking back over the past several years, we have done a fantastic job expanding the event! Many of you probably remember the excitement the event brought while hosting it at the local Texas Roadhouse restaurant – since 2012 we have nearly doubled our revenue from this event. The event also does a fantastic job sharing its' story with key audience members and stakeholders by showing a video during the lunch. Not only do we have a goal to raise money for the JLL Mission from this event, but it also is important to show the impact we have within the community we serve.

Thank you to all of the servers who spent their day making this event possible and to our 2017 sponsors: Foster Swift, Walmart and the University Club. And thank you to all who attended! Job well done by the Lunch with League Committee members.



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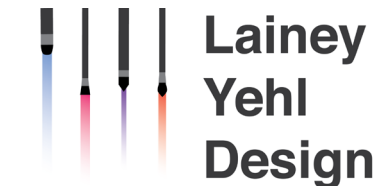




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