

# Loudspeaker

October 2009

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## Welcome New Active Members!

The Junior League of Akron is pleased and proud to welcome a strong, vibrant and creative class of First Year Active members. These ladies spearheaded and coordinated a successful fundraiser and "awareness-raiser" for and about the Battered Women's Shelter in Akron. Their bowling night fundraiser funded the creation of high-quality posters that the new Active members distributed throughout targeted areas of Greater Akron to inform women that domestic abuse crosses all boundaries of class and race, and the BWS is here to help. Thanks to these dedicated women who made a positive impact with their very first project for the League and for a great community organization:

Michele Brown; Kristin Darrow; Laura Eberhardt; Erica Grigera; Jennifer Halm; Heather Herling; Brittney Klepper; Jessica Meli; Julie Miller; Emily Ochsenhirt; Jillian Pelland; Dana Saporito; Molly Stecz; April Trotta; Katy Wiles



Some of the 2009 New Active members at the May GMM



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## Sustainer Leadership Initiative

Many Leagues across the country have active Sustainer groups with established leadership. These groups organize social and/or community-service opportunities for their members. We would like to explore this prospect for the Junior League of Akron and need your help. If you would be willing to sit on a Task Force to determine how this would work best for our organization please contact the League office at 330.836.4905.

The tours are over, the guests have gone, the rooms are empty once again, but Akron's Hidden Gem, the M.A. Knight Manor sparkled as the Junior League of Akron's ShowHouse 2009 during May.

More than 3,500 visitors marveled at the beautiful, historical home, tucked away on six acres of property on Portage Path and explored its 8,000 square feet, magnificently transformed by designers, painters, and landscapers. Over and over again volunteers and designers heard, "I've always wondered what was back here". For those who visited the Knight Manor prior to its transformation the results were indeed stunning. On behalf of the Junior League of Akron, thank you again to the Knight family for providing us with their family home in which to hold ShowHouse 2009!

To our designers: What incredible talent we have in the Greater Akron community! Thank you for your participation, your vision, your investment of your time and talent to make this ShowHouse a success during a challenging economic environment. You are the **stars** of this event!

From the Preview Gala, the Lady's Tea, and the days of tours, ShowHouse would not have been possible without the countless hours put in by the many Junior League volunteers – new actives, actives and sustainers. Thank you for babysitting the house while designers were busy working on their rooms, for dealing with alarms that go off for no reason, for cleaning up in the mud after Gala, for making sure the house was open on time, for tackling the task of recruiting the volunteers to staff the house, for standing on your feet for hours and guiding visitors through the home, for sitting in the heat of the boutique and selling inventory, for getting on your hands and knees to clean floors, for stuffing bags of information, for negotiating the myriad of issues that arose in a diplomatic, confident manner, for offering words of encouragement...the list could go on and on. The women of the Junior League of Akron are extraordinary and are a force to be reckoned with when we put our minds to something!

Finally, to our Steering Committee members: **Thank you.** You were wonderful to work with, and we hope that your experience will serve as a good training for future involvement with the League and the Akron community as a whole.



Janis Worley (President); Keri-Ann Kalavity (ShowHouse co-chair);  
Paula Baker (ShowHouse heir); Kristi Fox (ShowHouse co-chair)



People's Choice Award presented to Kitchen Design Group



### Junior League of Akron Wins Award!!!



The *Because Green Matters Award* was presented by Jacquie Mazziotta of Project Evergreen to the Junior League of Akron at the Designer ShowHouse Gala in May. This award was given to recognize the League for its commitment to helping further the education of the importance of maintaining green spaces. The partnership between the League and Project EverGreen, along with the assistance of the participating landscapers, Impact Landscape & Irrigation, Edenscape and Suncrest Gardens, was able to show the environmental, economical and lifestyle benefits of maintaining green spaces. Visitors to the ShowHouse were able to see how managing green spaces can increase property value, improve quality of life and play a key role in environmental benefits. A big Thank You from the League goes to Project Evergreen and the landscapers for bringing together this successful partnership and for their help with improving the grounds of the Designer ShowHouse 2009.

## TEA AND TOURS

On Sunday, May 3, 2009, about 200 Junior League members and guests, donned hats and pearls to share good company and tea on the lawn of the M. A. Knight Estate. Prior to lunching on scones, truffles, and assorted tea sandwiches, the guest toured the 2009 Designer ShowHouse.

The tables were beautifully set and decorated by members of the Junior League of Akron who volunteered to serve as tea hostesses. As tea hostesses, Susan Flowers, Jennifer Towell, Alexandra Houser Vukoder, Shenan May, Janis Worley, Harriet Chapman, Terri Nass Reeder, Ann Wehener, Andrea Wlaszyn, Katie Keener, Jillian Pelland, Jeana Singleton, Dana Saporito, Kristi Fox, Kim Haic, and Stacey Buckshaw displayed their fine china, centerpieces, and creativity.

Harriet Chapman, Katie Keehner, and Jillian Pelland received Best Decorated Table awards. The Best Hat award went to Janis Worley.

“Tea and Tours” raised \$1400 for the Junior League of Akron’s projects.



Planning Committee: Kimberly Haic, Alex Vukoder, Jen Towell, Shenan May



Hostess Kristi Fox and guests



Hostess Sue Flowers



**Welcome to Newly Transferred Members!**



### ***Missy McGinnes***

Missy McGinnes is an Akron native who joined the Junior League of the City of New York in 1996 and has also been a member of the Junior League of Boston. Her husband Matt’s job brought them back to Akron last summer, and she transferred her membership to the JLA this spring. Missy and Matt have two boys, Graham, 5, and Peter, 3. Outside of her work with her family, she enjoys playing tennis and getting involved in a variety of activities, including those related to and supporting Akron. She has her M.B.A. and has spent part of her career as a marketing manager for a biotechnology company. Missy’s mother, Gail McCready, is a JLA Sustainer. Missy got to know the Showhouse well, as she lives nearby in West Akron. She is serving on the Fundraiser Committee.

### ***Cindy Retterer***

Cindy Retterer has just transferred to the JLA from the Junior League of St. Paul. Prior to her time there, she had been a member of the Junior Leagues of Chicago and Atlanta, and became Active in 1996. Cindy is a full-time mother to Colin, age 6, and Kate, who is 10 months old. Her husband Peter’s new job with Goodyear brought them to Akron. Previously, they had spent a sojourn overseas in Dusseldorf, Germany, from 2004-07. Cindy will be an Active Associate member but is already assisting with the Provisional Recruitment and Training Committee, and has served as an ambassador for the JLA at the Hudson Farmer’s Market’s Community Day. She enjoys scrapbooking, travel and spending time with her children and family.

### ***Inga Walker***

Inga Walker is a native of Northeast Ohio who transferred to the JLA from the Junior League of Cleveland, where she had been Active from 2002-03. Prior to her membership there, Inga spent her Provisional year with the Junior League of the City of New York. Currently, Inga is working full-time at home raising two children (ages 5 and 2). Before that, she was an art and pre-school teacher at Laurel School. Inga and her husband, Chip, also from Akron, moved back to this area in 2002 to be closer to their families. They live in Hudson. Inga is serving on the Fundraiser Committee.

On Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup>, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Junior League of Akron was held at Portage Country Club. Well over 100 women joined together to review a busy and exciting year and to celebrate many joyous announcements.

The evening began with Claire Hawkins' review of the *History of the Good Works* of the Junior League of Akron. With a great insight back to our beginnings, we began by recognizing those Sustainers present who had earned 25 or more years of service. We also took time to recognize those Actives who went above and beyond with DIAD service hours this past year, and also recognized the efforts of the ShowHouse Co-Chairs Kristi Fox and Keri-Ann Kalavity, and our Office Manager Susan Simpson.

Fourteen women from the Provisional Class were presented for membership. Jillian Pelland was recognized from the class as the Unsung Hero for her leadership role, great attitude, and willingness to take on extra assignments.

For the main awards portion of the evening, Janis Worley introduced the winner of the Rookie of the Year Award, Jenna Lehmann, and the winner of the President's Award, Jennifer Towell. Past President Betty Dalton presented the Sustainer Inspiration Award to Kathleen "Boo" Whitmer, which was accepted by Boo's husband, Jerry Whitmer. Past Sustainer Inspiration Award winner Christine Freitag presented the second Sustainer Inspiration Award to Sandra Roe Smith.

Five Actives were then recognized for their work as they transitioned to Sustaining membership. Recognized were Julie Babbin, Jennifer Doucet, Carolyn Felton, past President Susie Fernandez, and Rima Muakkassa. The outgoing committee chairs and Board members were also recognized for their hard work and effort.

Janis Worley then shared a story from Marian Wright Edelman, founder of the Children's Defense Fund and advocate for poor, handicapped and minority children who once said, "we must not, in trying to think about how we can make a big difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make, which over time, adds up to big differences we often cannot foresee." She then reviewed all the differences this League has made in just the last year, and how proud she was of the progress. As Janis put it, "this has been a year of change, of learning, of growing, and of discovering who we are and what we want to be. We have changed lives and made a difference in our community...because that's who we are – the Junior League of Akron."

Janis then introduced to the League our new President, Harriet Chapman. "Harriet has been a long time member of this League, as was her mother before her – and I know Mary would have been very proud to have been here with us. As a Seiberling descendant Harriet's roots go very long and deep into this community, and I know of no one who has the passion that she does for its history. Harriet brings an understanding of the importance of collaboration and the sharing of best practices, both within the league and within the community, and I think that understanding will develop into great successes for us. She is a very skilled and talented lady, and I am truly proud to call her my friend."

Harriet shared her thoughts on the coming year, "The sharp brains, creativity and solutions-oriented thinking of the women in this room tonight represent thousands of hours – indeed, decades – of service to the people and institutions that make Akron, Ohio a wonderful place to live. You, ladies, are the heart and soul of not only the Junior League, but of organizations and individual volunteer efforts that keep the engine of civilized life in this city and county moving forward....This year, I'm going to call not only on our Active membership, newly strengthened with these terrific new Active members, but also on our Sustainers for input and help as we plan ways to pitch the idea to other organizations -- to transplant the Adopt-a-High-Rise program, so it grows and lives.

...In the coming year, we face economic challenges as a city and as a League. We will manage our human and financial resources carefully, and we won't be shy in asking for your help and input regarding our Focus Area Project, our Fundraising, and our membership outreach and enrichment, so that future League members will find here those same endless opportunities to serve, effective training, and great friends.

## DIAD Service Hours Recognition

Active members are required to perform 10 service hours each year, both within the league and within the community. Many of our members went well beyond that number this past year, and they were recognized for making volunteering in the community their passion.

28 hours - Katie Keehner; 27 hours - Keri-Ann Kalavity;

26 hours - Tiffany Ruwadi; 25 hours - Teri Incorvia;

21 hours - Harriet Chapman; 19 hours - Jennie Highfield;

18 hours - Melissa Young-Szalay; 17 hours - Cristy Cooley;

16 hours - Andrea Wlaszyn



A new Presidents' Sustainer Inspiration Award was begun two years ago for the first time. This award is presented to a woman who embodies the Junior League of Akron mission of empowering women for positive change in the community. The award's criteria are that it will be given to a Sustainer whose League and community service have inspired other League members, and whose League experience served as a springboard to for greater and more effective impact in the community.

The two winners of this award are Kathleen "Boo" Whitmer of Akron and Sandra Roe Smith of Akron. Boo Whitmer was a true inspiration to all that knew her. Through her years of teaching art at the elementary, intermediate and college level, she shared her talents and wisdom with all. As a cancer and heart transplant survivor, she reached out to thousands in her lectures and seminars on wellness and happiness. Through her various books that she wrote and through the paintings that she produced, she sought to bring joy into the world. Boo was the winner of several awards including the Outstanding Young Women of America, Woman of the Year – Summit County Women's History Project, Akron Beacon Journal Extraordinary Woman Award, American Cancer Society's Courage Award given to those whose encouragement to other patients is extraordinary, and the coveted KSU's Distinguished Teacher Award. Boo passed away in 2009 at age 72.

Sandra Roe Smith has made much of her time here in the Akron community. She has played a part in many local organizations including the Akron Art Museum, United Way, Akron Community Foundation, Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association, Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center, Old Trail School, Friends of Metro Parks, Akron Arts Alliance, Planned Parenthood, Keep Akron Beautiful, Stan Hywet, Blossom Music Center and the Women's Board of Children's Hospital. On the state level, Sandra has served on the board of the Ohio Citizens for the Arts, Ohio United Way and was a founding member of Scenic Ohio. She is a past president of The Akron Garden Club. Currently Sandra serves on the boards of The Akron Roundtable, Hale Farm and Village, Scenic Ohio and the Ohio Chapter of Trust for Public Lands.

Sandra's awards include United Ways Distinguished Service Award and The Garden Club of America's Creative Leadership Award among others.

Congratulations to Kathleen "Boo" Whitmer and Sandra Roe Smith for their inspired leadership and dedication to the Junior League of Akron and the Akron community.



Sandra Smith, center, receiving the Presidents' Sustainer Inspiration Award at the 2009 Annual Meeting in May.



Family of Boo Whitmer receiving Presidents Sustainer Inspiration Award at the 2009 Annual Meeting in May.

## 2009 Rookie of the Year Award

The Junior League of Akron created the Rookie of the Year Award to recognize a League member in her first Active year or in her Provisional year who has shown not only outstanding commitment to the League and to the community, but has demonstrated an immediate willingness to assume responsibility and take leadership in her service to both. The League is proud to announce that the sixth winner of this award is Jenna Lehmann of Cuyahoga Falls.

As a first year active, Jenna stepped into not one but two important roles as a member of the Provisional Training committee and as a member of the ShowHouse Designer committee. Both roles involved a lot of time, effort, and sometimes finesse, which she juggled effortlessly from airports and hotels around the country as she traveled with the Kent State women's basketball team. Jenna brings to Akron a long list of community service from the various places she's previously lived. In the few years that Jenna has been in Akron, we have seen her involvement with Right to Read in the Kent Schools, Relay for Life, Relay for Recess, and the Girl Scouts of America Fitness Fair. Congratulations, Jenna!



2009 Rookie of the Year, Jenna Lehmann (A), and Janis Worley.



An old saying holds that, “a wise leader plants the seeds of a tree whose shade she will never enjoy.” I was witness to many seeds being planted this year, some of which will bloom quickly, others may take years. Some of us worked with saplings of seeds that had been planted in years past, and we helped them further along to maturity.

We began the year with a simple goal – to clean up the League house. We wanted to develop some organization where there had been none, and to make the house a cleaner and healthier place to be. I never imagined as that process began that we would see the League house become the beehive of activity that it is today, or that we would be holding our monthly membership meetings there.

We recruited a class of 29 Provisionals this year – a number both daunting and exciting. We launched a revamped website that continued to reinvent itself all year as we learned how to post photos and handle credit card payments. We even took the Junior League of Akron to new frontiers by establishing a Facebook page!

We held our first ever Kids in the Kitchen event, partnering with the Foodbank and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Akron. This was a very well executed, successful event that I am sure we will see again next year. In February, instead of splitting apart to attend in-home meetings, we came together at Saferstein Towers to see and hear first hand how our work was impacting the residents there. To hear a resident say that “simply bringing your smiles to our building has changed our lives” was awe-inspiring and impactful. To see a group of our Provisionals pull together to help us host an Easter egg hunt at this location in April as part of our newest event, Breakfast with the Bunny, was even more so.

We saw first hand how fun and successful a bowling fundraiser could be, and what great works the Provisional class could produce out of the monies raised. We not only enjoyed a new and wonderfully girly event this spring, Tea and Tours, but we may have experienced the start of a new Junior League of Akron tradition.

And of course, no mention of this League year could go by without all thoughts turning to Designer ShowHouse 2009 at the M.A. Knight manor. This 8<sup>th</sup> ShowHouse was certainly a grand one, and the designers work was simply inspirational. Was it a lot of time, effort, and hard and sometimes dirty work? Absolutely. Was it a project that we will always remember with pride and that we will wear as a badge of honor at future Junior League of Akron gatherings? Absolutely.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your President this past year. As I prepare to step back and turn over the responsibility to our new President, Harriet Chapman, know that I will always be grateful for being given this wonderful opportunity. I will cherish both the memories made and the friendships formed, and I look forward to the opportunity to work with and serve you all again.

Warmly,

Janis Worley, President 2008-2009

### 2009 President's Award

Each spring, the past Presidents of the Junior League of Akron meet to select for the President's Award an Active member who best exemplifies the mission of the League. The winner must have shown not only outstanding commitment to the League and to the community, but also have demonstrated a willingness to assume responsibility for and serve as a leader within the League. This woman is both an exemplary volunteer and a leader – the best a Junior League member can be.

The Junior League of Akron is proud to announce the recipient of the 2009 President's Award, Jennifer Towell of Akron. Jennifer jumped right into service with the League by serving on the Cookbook Committee her first year, while also taking on the task of Focus Project Assistant Chair in 2006-2007. This was the first year of the new focus project, Adopt-A-High-Rise, and much had yet to be defined or understood. Due to the absence of the Chair, Jennifer had to step up many times to handle both jobs. She was recognized for this outstanding work by being named the Rookie of the Year her first active year. Since then Jennifer has served as Focus Project Chair in 2007-2008, doubling the number of events at Saferstein Towers; hosted the 2008 Monte Carlo Magic Patron party at her home; served as Assistant Chair for Membership Training in 2008-2009, played a key role in the planning of the first Tea and Tours event, and will serve as Membership Training Chair in 2009-2010. Outside of the League, Jennifer has taken on active roles with several organizations, most notably the Akron Art Museum where she served as the inaugural SWITCH fundraiser Co-Chair, on the steering committee for the Wine Auction and the Beaux Arts Ball. Jennifer's dedication to detail, her infectious enthusiasm, her communication skills and dependability all speak to her incredible abilities.

Congratulations, Jennifer, on this deserving award!



Jen Towell, with her husband Tom, receiving the President's Award from Janis Worley



Dear Fellow Members:

I hope this summer is progressing well for you and your families. It's a time to rest and regroup, and also to plan for the upcoming expectations of work, school and the nonprofit obligations that lie ahead.

First, on behalf of the Junior League of Akron and all who will benefit from it, thank you for your tremendous support of Designer Showhouse 2009. This important fundraiser – with its complex logistics and significant demands of time and planning – could not have occurred without your help, input and care. Sustaining and Active members gave not only donated your valuable “sweat equity,” but you also gave financially and in kind, by contributing to our silent and live auction at the Gala, by hosting tables and bringing friends to the Tea, and by helping to underwrite our costs.

More than 3,500 people came to see the historic M.A. Knight mansion rejuvenated with the stunning creativity and taste of enthused local designers. Words are not enough to thank all of you who worked so hard, who smiled despite challenges, and who infused visitors and designers with positive good will toward the League and our Focus Area project, Adopt a High Rise in support of Mobile Meals.

Thanks to Showhouse Steering Committee Co-Chairs Keri-Ann Kalavity and Kristi Fox for their leadership, to President Janis Worley for her significant guidance and help, and to the Showhouse Steering Committee, listed elsewhere in this newsletter, for going above and beyond their obligations in myriad ways.

Even in summer, the League's work and activity moves forward as we plan for a year ahead that will include: the valuable input and support of 13 vibrant new Active members and three newly transferred members, the Adopt a High Rise concept growing beyond the Junior League, and training to help us all be better contributors to and stewards of our community. Challenging economic times means that more people in our community will have basic, vital needs to be met. Whatever we can do to transplant the concept of our Adopt a High Rise project so that other organizations can follow our model at other sites will be invaluable to fellow Akronites in great need. It is a worthy goal this year.

I look forward to a terrific year ahead and am grateful to work with a superior group of accomplished women who can and do, to quote Sir Winston Churchill, “make a life by what [you] give.” Thank you for giving your time, talent and treasure to the JLA, to Adopt a High Rise, and to our community at large.

Harriet Chapman

President, 2009-10

### Welcome to the 2009-2010 Committee Chairs!

Provisional Training&Recruitment Chair: Tanya Inama ; Asst Provisional Training&Recruitment Chair: Stacey Gardner-Buckshaw

Member Training Chair: Jennifer Towell; Assistant Member Training Chair: Casey Kelly

Retention and Transitions Chair: Nita Kay Richardson; Assistant Retention and Transitions Chair: Jenna Lehmann

Community Outreach/Focus Area/DIAD Chair: Cindy Chen; Community Outreach/Focus Area/DIAD Asst Chair: Nicole Hilker

Communications Chair: Carrie Kandes; Loudspeaker: Vanessa Riedlinger; PR: Jaclyn Laurich; Web site: Janis Worley

Slating Committee: Janis Worley (Chair); Kimberly Haic, Kathleen Houck, Meredith Marchand, Cindy Murphy, Vanessa Riedlinger

### Welcome to the 2009-2010 Board of Directors!

President: Harriet Chapman; President-Elect: Keri-Ann Kalavity

Treasurer: Terri Nass Reeder; Assistant Treasurer: Kristi Fox

Vice President of Community: Jennifer Highfield;

Vice President of Membership: Alex Vukoder

Recording Secretary: Stefani Carlson

MDC: Jan Alpeter; Sustainer Representative: Patricia Roy

Ad Hoc Members: FUG Co-chair: Stefani Carlson; Fundraiser Chair: Jeana Singleton; Headquarters Chair: Connie Repko



The ShowHouse 2009 Gala was met with rains of fury but that didn't dampen the spirits and excitement of the 200+ guests who enjoyed the evening's festivities May 1, 2009, at the Maurice A. Knight manor. Guests arrived via Stan Hywet shuttle and were courteously escorted to the festivities, via umbrella, by University of Akron volunteers over a beautiful carpet of green, created by Sustainers Joanne Delapa and Beth Amer. The trees were dripping with light, while inside the tent bouquets of red balloons hung from the ceiling, courtesy of Rima Muakkassa.

Upon entering the tent, guests were greeted by passed hors d'oeuvres, open bar and the musical stylings of Mr. Tim Hunt. The silent auction edged the dance floor with 45 items, and brought in little more than \$1700.00 for the League, thanks to the efforts of Carolyn Felton, Tanya Inama, Cristy Cooley and Tiffany Ruwadi.

Prior to dinner, the house was filled with the sounds of old friends and new, while designers shared their visions with local media and their cameras. It was during this time that attendees were asked to vote for their favorite design space, which would later determine the recipient of the first ever, People's Choice Award. The ShowHouse boutique, located on the third floor, was bustling and beautiful, selling designer-inspired wares.

Following house tours, guests enjoyed beef tenderloin prepared by Acme Fresh Market catering, at tables adorned in candlelight and phalaenopsis orchids, potted by the Seedlings Garden Club. Cathy Nasca, Seedlings President, organized volunteers who took special care to plant the orchids in terra cotta, to reflect the history of the manor, and the work of Maurice A. Knight.

A successful oral auction provided by Kiko Auctioneers and our many generous guests, made the evening complete. Janis Worley League President closed the evening by presenting the People's Choice Award to the Kitchen Design Group, for their work in the Butler's Pantry. The inaugural crystal award was accepted by owner J. Niggemyer and staff.

As guests turned to leave, much remained. The electric tent lights and candles continued to flicker, the catering truck, guest tables and our shoes continued to sink into the soft earth, and the Knight Manor continued to glow awaiting the next party.

It was a great event and it all came together beautifully because one by one, someone answered, "yes, I can do that." Thanks to all of you who donated lights, attended meetings, chose the perfect linens and said "good job." Kudos to all, and my sincerest thanks to my friends for saying "yes."

The Gala Committee: Lisa Pardi *Chair*, Joanne Delapa *Sustainer Advisor*, Jacqui Camara, Cristy Cooley, Carolyn Felton, Tanya Inama, Amanda Keeler, Jacki Laurich, Rima Muakkassa, Tiffany Ruwadi.

*"Thanks for including us in the show house!  
The charitable work done by the Junior League  
is an inspiration and we were honored to be part of it."*



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The Junior League of Akron Designer ShowHouse 2009 was a tremendous success, both in terms of raising funds for our projects and of raising our profile in the community. Such a tremendous undertaking would not have been possible without a lot of help from a lot of people: JLA active members and sustainers; designers; in-kind donors; and corporate and individual sponsors and donors. The Junior League of Akron wishes to thank everyone who made this event possible, including, but not limited to, the following organizations and individuals.

### Regent

Cambria; Williams Hardwood Flooring

### Noble

Akron Children's Hospital; Andrea's Furniture

### Peerage Benefactor

Elizabeth and Mark Hamlin; Sanjiv and Elena Tewari



### Courtier

Armour Painting Corporation; Blaser Painting; Blokes Custom Interiors; Dutch Dannemiller Electric Co.; The Final Coat, Inc.; Forbo Flooring; Gleb Industries; Jeannie Brown Painting; J.M. Smucker's Co.; Lehner Family Foundation; Metro Disposal; National City Bank; Unique Paint Designs, Inc.; Wolff Brothers Supply/Kohler.

### Vassal

ADT Alarm Systems; Anstine Drywall, Inc.; Atlantis Security; January Paints + Wallpaper; Laurel Brook Designs Custom Draperies; Oldham Kramer; Whitmer's Lighting

### Media Sponsors

Cleveland Magazine; Ohio Magazine; Summit County Women's Journal; West Side Leader

### Premiere Round Table

Francia Albrecht; Becky Babcox; Judith Bigelow; Bonnie Childs; Becky Considine; Betty Eastman; Patricia Palmer; Marguerite Tremelin

### Round Table

Janice Alpetter; Daniel and Shelley Butcher; Deborah Cook; Lois Gerstenmaier; Suzanne Henninger; Mary Ann Jackson; Susan Kinnamon; William and Sally Manby; Janise Parry; Lois Pfluger; Terri L. Nass Reeder; Elizabeth Sandwick; Sandra Roe Smith; Jane Thompson; Carolyn VonWyl

### Special Thanks To:

Michael Sweeney; Paula W. Baker; Lorinda K. Silverstein; Acme Fresh Market; Project Evergreen; Edenscape; Impact Landscaping & Irrigation; Suncrest Gardens; Sherwin Williams; Akron Symphony; Beau's/ Hilton Fairlawn; Cleveland Metroparks Zoo; Inventure Place; Janis Worley; Miller Ferry; Monsoon Lagoon; Pro Football Hall of Fame; Rinky Dink; The Little Gym/Fairlawn; The Palace Theatre/Canton

## Do Your Part, Help Us RECYCLE!!!

The Junior League of Akron has decided to take a step to help the environment through paper recycling. Five blue or gray recycling bins (they look like the City of Akron garbage bins with wheels) are now located in the side parking lot near Highland PR. You can stop by anytime to deposit newspaper, magazines, junk mail or office paper in these bins. No cardboard or plastic please! Each time we have these bins emptied, the Junior League is paid a fee based on the weight recycled. So help US while helping the ENVIRONMENT!



## Member Recognition

**Susie Fernandez**, Sustainer and Past President of JLA has been appointed a Fellow of the Ohio State Bar Association. Over the next 18 months, Susie will work with approximately 40 other attorneys and judges from around the State to identify a need in the Public, to address an issue in the legal system, and to develop and implement a program to address the identified need.

**Rebecca Ann Zurava** (S) has been elected to The Ohio State University College of Education and Human Ecology Alumni Society Board of Governors.

**Jeana M. Singleton** (A), was recognized in the June issue of "Inside Business Magazine" as one of a group of 15 lawyers under 40 making a difference in their firms and in our communities. An excerpt from the article: "If music lessons can make kids smarter (and research suggests that it does), then Jeana Singleton must be one heck of a brainy lawyer. A classically trained pianist, the 2005 University of Akron School of Law grad works in the health law department at Brennan, Manna & Diamond. Singleton says the skills she learned as a pianist transferred very well into law school. "When you're a musician studying to be a professional musician, you have to be very detail-oriented," she says, "and the law is the same way." See the June issue of "Inside Business Magazine" for the complete article.

## 30 for the Future



Thirty Greater Akron Region young professionals have been named the recipients of the third annual "30 for the Future" award. Part of the Greater Akron Chamber's strategy to attract and retain talent in the region, the "30 for the Future" award honors young professionals (ages 25-39) whose stellar contributions impact their industries and the Greater Akron Region. A list of the award winners included:

Dr. Stacey Gardner-Buckshaw, Girl Scouts of North East Ohio

Katherine (Casey) Silver Kelly, The University of Akron School of Law

Dana Lobalzo Saporito, H.C. Lobalzo & Sons, Inc.

## Jan Alpeter Induction

On Oct. 6, 2009, Jan Alpeter (S) was inducted into the Stow-Munroe Falls City Schools' Wall of Fame. The Wall of Fame commemorates retired administrators, teachers and staff who have at least five years of service with the district and who have been retired at least two years.

Superintendent Dr. Russ Jones praised the inductees, calling them "the building blocks of the school district. Those selected have demonstrated unusually high standards of character, achievement and respect from peers and students," Jones told the audience. "We look to them as examples of what we aspire to be."

Jan started her 35-year career as a French teacher in 1970 in Stow, was also adviser to the French club and National Honor Society. She was introduced by Cindy Finley, a former Stow-Munroe Falls High School principal. "Teaching was an art, something she did with love," Finley said. "She always expected students to give their best. She taught in a gentle and kind manner, and took pride in her work," Finley said.

## Provisional Committee Update

The Provisional Recruitment & Training Committee would like to again thank everyone who hosted, attended and supplied food and drinks for the two provisional open houses held in August and September. Our August open house was graciously hosted by Active member Jen Towell and we were welcomed into Sustainer Beth Amer's home for the September open house. We sent out about 65 invitations, and 35 prospective provisionals attended along with many actives and sustainers. We have 20 provisional members officially signed up for this year so far and a few others who are still planning to join.

In case you haven't heard, the provisional project will be Kids in the Kitchen and we are looking forward to partnering with Crown Point Ecology Center on the project. One of this year's provisional members is the educational director/volunteer coordinator at Crown Point and has agreed to be the liaison between the JLA provisional class and Crown Point.

**Births, Deaths, Status Changes**

**Births**

Emily O'Brien (A), Henry Royer Manahan born April 28, 2009.  
 Stacey Gardner-Buckshaw (A), Carter Zachery born September 7, 2009.  
 Kristi Fox (A), Sophie Ann born October 2, 2009.

**Deaths**

Mary Prinz (SE); Jean Godard (S); Jane Headley (SE); Eleanor Kuss (SE); Jane Cauffield (SE); Mary Banker Siess (SE); Linda Kersker (S); Letty Holder (SE)

**Resignations**

Marjorie Dettling (S); Kathleen Keener (S); Bridgette Kovacevich (A); Jacqueline Mabry (S); Jayne Nicholson (S); Emily Smucker (S); Kathryn Welsh (S)

**Status Changes:**

**Provisional to Active**

Michele Brown; Kristin Darrow; Laura Eberhardt; Erica Grigera; Jennifer Halm; Heather Herling; Brittney Klepper; Jessica Meli; Julie Miller; Emily Ochsenhirt; Jillian Pelland; Dana Saporito; Molly Stecz; April Trotta; Katy Wiles

**Active to Sustainer**

Julie Babbitt; Jennifer Doucet; Carolyn Felton; Susie Fernandez; Rima Muakkassa

**Sustainer to Active**

Christine Beckner

**Sustainer to SE**

Betty Dalton; Joanne Dannemiller; Patricia Graves; Jeanne Larose; Sally Orrok; Elizabeth Sandwick; Jane Schwab; Jean Smith; Charlotte Staiger

**Transfers**

Inga Walker; Missy McGinnes; Cindy Retterer

**Address Correction**

Patricia Milestone Zonsius  
 7465 Coder Road Maumee, OH 43537  
 419-865-5201  
 email: [pmzons@gmail.com](mailto:pmzons@gmail.com)

**Save the Date Reminders**

***2009 JLA Holiday Party***

Please join your fellow League members for a festive evening at the ***2009 JLA Holiday Party*** on ***Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009*** at Portage Country Club.



***2010 JLA Tea Party***

The Membership Committee cordially requests that you please

*Save the Date*

**Junior League Tea Party**

*Sunday, May 2, 2010*

Start shopping for your best tea party hat and stay tuned for additional details.

If you are a Provisional, Active or Sustaining member and are interested in being a Tea Hostess, please email Jennifer Towell at:

[jennifertowell@att.net](mailto:jennifertowell@att.net) or

Call: 330-836-7073

**Seedlings Upcoming Events**

Looking for some good times with exceptional ladies and great programs? Look no further than Seedlings. Just take a look at our plans for this year.

In November we are going to Becker's Herb Farm for a hands-on holiday decoration. In February we will learn all about fairy gardens and March will be a program on shade gardening. "Progress through Preservation" is scheduled for April, then our field trip to either Kingwood Gardens or Malabar Farms in May and we end in June with our annual flower show.

Programming may change, so please check the Junior League website for updates. We traditionally meet the third Monday of every month. Please contact president Katarina Cook or any member if you would like to attend a meeting.

Welcome back to a new year of community service! Actives must fulfill a requirement of ten DIAD hours during the 2009-2010 League year. A minimum of six DIAD hours is required to be completed through Focus Project activities. A maximum of one DIAD credit hour can be earned for a donation DIAD. In order to increase our visibility in the community, the JLA is issuing lanyards to all members. Please remember to wear your lanyard when volunteering.

DIAD opportunities for the 2009-2010 League year are listed below. Opportunities are open to all members - Active, Sustaining, and Provisional. Please consider volunteering for these fun and worthy causes!

**Contacts:**

*April Trotta* [grimmapril@yahoo.com](mailto:grimmapril@yahoo.com) 330-635-6480  
*Julie Miller* [julie518@neo.rr.com](mailto:julie518@neo.rr.com) 330-720-8101

*Emily O'Brien* [emily@ranches.org](mailto:emily@ranches.org) 330-836-2982  
*Andrea Wlaszyn* [awlaszyn@hotmail.com](mailto:awlaszyn@hotmail.com) 330-990-2470

**NOVEMBER 2009**

- 11-1 **FP: Game Event** 3-5 pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 11-6 Habitat for Humanity's **Wines of the World** 6 pm – 9 pm. Portage Country Club. *April*
- 11-14 **FP: Hot Meal Delivery & Craft** 10am –12pm Tower One. *Andrea*
- 11-17 **Victim Assistance Program:** New toys donation collected at November GMM. *Emily*
- 11-19 **Taste of Vintage** 2-6 pm setup, 6-9 pm modeling. Tangier. *April*
- 11-21 **Holiday Tree Festival** 1-4 pm. John S. Knight Center. *April*
- 11-30 **Summit County Children's Services Toy Room** 1-4 pm. SCCS, 264 S. Arlington Street. *Emily*


**DECEMBER 2009**

- 12-5 **FP: Breakfast with Santa** 8am–12pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 12-12 **JLA Cookbook Sales** . 12-3 pm. West Point Market. *Julie*
- 12-13 **Deck the Halls** 5-8:30pm. Stan Hywet. *Emily*

**JANUARY 2010**

- 1-9 **FP: Hot Meal Delivery** 10 -11am. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 1-19 **Humane Society:** Bleach, paper towels, dish & hand soap donations collected at January GMM. *Julie*
- 1-23 **FP: Historical Society Snack** 10 am -12:00 pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 1-28 **Arthritis Foundation's Red and White on Thursday Night.** Shifts: 5:30 - 7pm, 7pm - 9pm. John S. Knight Center. *Julie*

**FEBRUARY 2010**

- 2-7 **FP: Game Event** 3-5 pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 2-12 **American Heart Association's Heart Ball** setup. Quaker Square Inn. *April*
- 2-13 **American Heart Association's Heart Ball** Event 6-11 pm. Quaker Square Inn. *April*
- 2-13 **Akron Children's Hospital Radiothon** 9-11 am. Akron Children's Hospital Atrium. *Julie*
- 2-16 **Open M:** Toiletries donation collected at Feb. GMM. *April*
- 2-20 **FP: Hot Meal Delivery & Crafts** 10 am–12pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 2-26 **Akron Canton Regional Food bank** 9am – 12pm. Foodbank. *Emily*

**MARCH 2010**

- 3-7 **FP: Game Event** 3 – 5pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 3-16 **Focus Project:** Easter eggs donation collected at March GMM. *Andrea*
- 3-20 **Haven of Rest "Hope Totes"** 9 am-12 pm. Haven of Rest Donation Center. *Julie*
- 3-27 **FP: Breakfast with the Bunny!** 8am–12pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 3-27 **Catholic Social Services' Monte Carlo Night** 6-10 pm (5-9 pm or 7-11pm) Todaro's Party Center – *Julie*

**APRIL 2010**

- 4-11 **FP: Game Event** 3 – 5pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 4-17 **FP: Hot Meal Delivery & Crafts** 10am – 12 pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 4-20 **Pregnancy Care:** baby supplies donation collected at April GMM. *Julie*
- 4-21 **Keep Akron Beautiful Seedlings Delivery** 9 am-12 pm. KAB Office. *Emily*
- 4-24 **Keep Akron Beautiful Volunteer Appreciation Picnic.** Akron Zoo. 9am-12pm. *Emily*

**MAY 2010**

- 5-8 **FP: Picnic** Tower One. *Andrea*
- 5-15 **Fanfare Akron Symphony Gala.** 5-10 pm. Akron Civic Theater. *Julie*

Thank you to the following Junior League of Akron members who have so generously supported the following League funds:

Sophie Albrecht – Headquarters Fund  
Kay Archer – Headquarters Fund  
Judith Bigelow – Headquarters Fund  
Ann Amer Brennan – Headquarters Fund  
Bonnie Childs – Headquarters and Endowment Funds  
Rebecca Considine – Community, Headquarters and Endowment Funds  
Barbara Cruce – Headquarters Fund  
Pam Ellis – Community Fund  
Susan Flowers – Headquarters Fund  
Jean Foust – Community Fund  
Michelle Gaskins – Community Fund, in honor of Boo Whitmer  
Elizabeth Hamlin – Community, Headquarters and Endowment Funds, in memory of Sue Pavloff, Grace Renner, Marjorie Wheeler, Boo Whitmer, and Linda Guran  
Claire Hawkins – Headquarters Fund, in honor of Janis Worley's Presidency  
Patricia Heslop-Baker – Headquarters Fund, in honor of her granddaughter, Kayla Knaze  
Mary Ann Jackson – Headquarters Fund  
Jane Jensen – Headquarters Fund  
Kathleen Keener – Community Fund  
Ginny Knoll – Headquarters Fund  
Jeanne Larose – Headquarters Fund  
Margaret Lloyd – Headquarters Fund  
Sally Manby – Community and Headquarters Funds  
Sylvia Martin – Endowment Fund  
Missy McGinnes – Headquarters Fund  
Rima Muakkassa – Headquarters Fund  
Catherine Nasca – Headquarters Fund  
Janise Parry – Headquarters and Endowment Funds  
Rebecca Pool – Endowment Fund  
Janice Raynor – Community and Endowment Funds, in honor of Heather Day  
Sandra Smith – Endowment Fund  
Emily Smucker – Headquarters Fund  
Lynn Stamp – Headquarters Fund  
Kathryn Taus – Headquarters Fund  
Jane Thompson – Headquarters Fund  
Shelley Webb-Butcher – Community, Headquarters and Endowment Funds  
Ann Wehener – Headquarters and Endowment Funds  
Susan Weiss – Headquarters Fund

Thank you to those who made donations in furtherance of the League's Focus Project, Adopt-a-High-Rise:

Chris Beckner  
Mary Briggs  
Bonnie Childs  
Kristi Fox  
Jennifer Towell  
Ann Wehener  
Andrea Wlaszyn

## Upcoming Fundraisers

This year's Fundraiser Committee has pursued many fundraiser options for 2010 and is pleased to announce the selection of two fundraisers that will occur in early 2010. These fundraisers include a beverage tasting event in January or February and murder mystery parties in March or April. Our goal is to create two events that are fun, affordable, and intriguing to participants inside and outside the League. Please watch your mail and e-mail for further details in the near future.



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF DEDICATION  
TO THE AKRON COMMUNITY

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## 2009-2010 Junior League of Akron GMM Schedule

The 2009-2010 General Membership Meetings will be held at 7 pm on these Tuesday evenings, with a pre-meeting social time to begin at 6:30 pm. Please come early to socialize with fellow members, and get to know our new First-Year Active and newly transferred members. Most meetings will be held at the League Headquarters, and the Membership Training and Special Events Committee will announce ahead of time those to be held off-site.

- November 17, 2009
- No December meeting
- January 19, 2010
- February 16, 2010
- March 16, 2010
- April 20, 2010

Do you have information to share? A birth? An adoption? A marriage? A promotion? Please let us know!

Send your information to the League office or submit it to [jlaloudspeaker@hotmail.com](mailto:jlaloudspeaker@hotmail.com).

Are you on Facebook?

If you are a member of Facebook, please consider joining the Junior League of Akron group! We would love to have you!