



Loudspeaker

Spring 2010



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Focus Project: Adopt-a-High Rise Historical Society Presentation

The Summit County Historical Society took the residents of the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) Saferstein Towers on a trip back in time to take a peek into "Grandma's Attic & Grandpa's Garage" through a *Remember When...* presentation.

On Saturday, January 23, 2010, Saferstein Towers residents gathered for the interactive program facilitated by Alison First, Summit County Historical Society Education Coordinator. Residents had the opportunity to view and handle antique tools, publications, sporting equipment and clothes while enjoying breakfast snacks provided by Junior League of Akron volunteers. First featured a variety of items and shared stories of yesteryear that many residents related to and found amusing.

As a continuing collaboration with Mobile Meals and the AMHA, the Junior League of Akron's Adopt-a-High-Rise Focus Project provides unique programming and socializing opportunities for Mobile Meals clients and residents.

Breakfast with Santa

The holiday spirit was in the air at the AMHA's Saferstein Towers this past December!

The Junior League of Akron was pleased to host the 4th Annual Breakfast with Santa for Saferstein Towers I and II residents and families on Saturday, December 5, 2009. Over twenty JLA volunteers delivered holiday cheer to nearly 100 guests while serving a spectacular breakfast catered by Moe's of Cuyahoga Falls. Saferstein Towers residents and their family members also assembled special handmade tree ornaments to take with them. In addition to the morning's activities, two special guests joined the festivities. Direct from the North Pole, Santa and Mrs. Claus sang carols and posed for photographs with children while hearing their Christmas requests.

Special thanks is extended to Janis Worley, Brian Reeder (Santa) and Moe Schneider for making Breakfast with Santa such a fantastic event.



JLA volunteers with Mrs. Claus, Janis Worley (A).



Jen Towell (A) & Cindy Murphy (A) serving breakfast.



Happy Spring to all Junior League members!

For Active and Provisional members engaged in committee work and project execution, this spring is especially busy. You can see evidence of this on the next page.

As always, however, the purposes of our hands-on volunteering, development and execution of programs and events (Adopt-a-High-Rise activities, the Kids in the Kitchen event), and our fundraising (the "Mafia Murders" Murder Mystery and Dinner) are manifold. . . .

We continue to offer members a variety of volunteer opportunities that can be "done in a day" to help expose you to the myriad needs in Greater Akron. Active and Sustaining members have a positive history of first learning about organizations through these activities, and investing more of their time and treasure in those closest to their hearts. This year, members will have contributed time to at least 15 non-profits outside our Focus Area.

This issue's cover stories don't relate that – over time – the Junior League's Adopt-a-High-Rise project (programs and meal delivery) has served not just the immediate need of nutrition, but has encouraged residents living in isolation to leave their apartments and enjoy the positive benefits of getting to know their neighbors in a non-threatening, enjoyable atmosphere. Internal residents' councils have been formed where, prior to our involvement, they did not exist. League members have learned about the lives of fellow citizens whom they might not otherwise have met. No other organization in Akron is executing a project quite like Adopt-a-High-Rise, and the League wants to introduce the positive potential of it to other groups. We have begun to investigate these, but we welcome input from you regarding organizations that might be interested in learning how to support Mobile Meals and/or AMHA residents in similar ways.

Launched in 2006, Kids in the Kitchen is a national initiative of the Junior Leagues designed to help communities learn how to reduce childhood obesity and improve childhood nutrition. In Akron, our large, well-organized Provisional class is spearheading our local event, a Family Fitness Picnic, to be held on Sunday, April 25 at the Shaw JCC. Children ages 5-10 can benefit from learning how to prepare healthy snacks at food stations and how to enjoy simple but effective exercises at fitness stations. Thanks to all who supported this event's bowling fundraiser, and we are grateful to our host venue and organization, the Shaw JCC. More information about our dynamic Provisional members follows in this issue.

We do need to raise money, especially in a tough economy, to support the above outreach and the headquarters in which we meet. This year, our enterprising Fundraiser Committee chose to host two separate events that appealed to wine lovers (Wines Down Under in February) and to anyone who enjoys a good mystery. I encourage everyone reading this to sign up to attend one of our "Mafia Murders" murder mystery party nights: April 8, 9, or 10. We are hosting the event on three nights to expand guests' options. Whatever night you attend, you will enjoy a cast of fine actors who engage you and your friends as a local "godfather" dies of unnatural causes, and the one who did the deed is tracked down. Great food, the right atmosphere (think decadent 1920s "speakeasy" in the historic O'Neil House), and the humor and drama of actors and guests will combine to make this a hugely enjoyable event in support of a great cause. Invite your family and friends and RSVP!

We will cap our year with the Tea Party at the Woman's City Club on May 2, and our Annual Meeting at Fairlawn Country Club on May 18. Please bring your friends to the former and share fellowship and accomplishments at the latter.

Thank you for your support of the Junior League of Akron and our outreach. Your engaged membership propels our mission forward.

Warmest regards,

Harriet Chapman,
President 2009-10



Hear Ye, Hear Ye Calling All Sustainers!

All of our wonderful and talented Sustainers are invited to renew their JLA involvement! President-Elect, Keri-Ann Kalavity, is requesting Sustainer support and mentoring for all committees for the 2010-2011 League year. The goal is to match each committee with one Sustainer advisor. Please consider sharing your knowledge with the Active membership. Your insight and guidance will be an integral part of the success of the coming year.

For more information, contact Keri-Ann at 330-328-5874 or at keri_ann@hotmail.com.

Sustainer Emerita Status

Are you eligible for Emerita status?

Emerita status may be granted, upon request to the MDC (Membership Development Coordinator), to any Sustaining member who has reached the age of eighty (80) years and has requested Emerita membership. Upon being granted Emerita membership, the member shall no longer have a financial obligation to the League.

If you will become eligible during the 2009-2010 League year and wish to seek Emerita status, please contact Jan Alpeter, MDC, at 330-873-1946 or at gilkit@sbcglobal.net.

DIAD and Focus Area Volunteer Opportunities

Remaining Done-in-a-Days (DIADs) for the 2009-2010 Junior League of Akron year are listed below. DIAD opportunities are open to all members - Active, Sustainer, and Provisional. Actives must fulfill a requirement of ten (10) DIAD hours during the League year. A minimum of six (6) DIAD hours must be completed through Focus Area Project (FP) activities. A maximum of one (1) credit hour can be earned through donation DIADs. Please remember to sign up with the DIAD coordinators identified below to make sure they know to expect you for each opportunity.

To help increase JLA visibility in the community, please remember to wear your nametag lanyard when volunteering. Please consider volunteering for these worthy causes!

Contacts:

Julie Miller, julie518@neo.rr.com, 330-720-8101
 Emily O'Brien, emily@ranches.org, 330-836-2982
 April Trotta, grimmapril@yahoo.com, 330-635-6480
 Andrea Wlaszyn, awlaszyn@hotmail.com, 330-990-2470

APRIL 2010

- 4-1 **Pinwheels for Prevention of Child Abuse.** 3 - 6pm. Summit County Children's Services. *Patricia Roy*, 330-379-2055.
- 4-10 **Family Services Family Expo.** 10am - 12pm, 12 - 2pm, 2 - 4pm. Summit Mall. *Emily*
- 4-11 **FP: Game Event.** 3 - 5pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 4-17 **FP: Hot Meal Delivery & Crafts.** 10am - 12pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 4-18 **FP PROVISIONALS ONLY:** Game Event 3 - 5 pm. *Tanya Inama*, tanya.inama@nationalinterstate.com
- 4-20 **Pregnancy Care:** Baby supplies donation collected at April GMM. *Julie*
- 4-24 **Keep Akron Beautiful Volunteer Appreciation Picnic.** 9am - 12pm. Akron Zoo. *Emily*
- 4-29 **Keep Akron Beautiful Seedlings Delivery.** 9am - 12pm. KAB Office. *Emily*



MAY 2010

- 5-8 **FP: Picnic** 11:30am - 1:30pm. Tower One. *Andrea*
- 5-15 **Fanfare Akron Symphony Gala.** 5 - 7:30pm, 7:30 - 9pm. Akron Civic Theatre. *Julie*

On-going Donation Opportunity

Focus Area: Games collected for Game Night at any GMM or Game Night. Please notify Andrea or Emily of your donation.

Kids in the Kitchen on April 25th!

The 2009-2010 Provisional class is pleased to announce its partnership with the Shaw JCC of Akron for Kids in the Kitchen (KITK). The afternoon event will be held on **Sunday, April 25, 2010**, from 1 - 3pm at the JCC, located at 750 White Pond Drive. A local chef will be on-hand during the event, which will feature interactive cooking demonstrations to teach young participants how to make healthy snacks, fitness stations to teach about physical fitness, games, great giveaways, and more.

KITK is an Association of Junior Leagues International focus project aimed at helping children and their families find ways to make healthy lifestyle choices a part of their lives to help reverse the trend of childhood obesity and its associated health issues.

For more information or to reserve space for your child, please contact Susan Simpson, JLA office manager, at 330-836-4905 or at jrleagueakron@sbcglobal.net.

Wines Down Under Fundraiser

On Saturday, February 6, 2010, 39 guests braved the winter cold and snow to attend our **Wines Down Under** fundraiser at Mustard Seed Market. In addition to sampling delectable appetizers prepared by the executive chef at Mustard Seed Market, guests were given the opportunity to taste 13 wines. Ten wines were from Australia and New Zealand, while three hailed from California's Napa Valley.

A PowerPoint presentation was shown during the event to highlight our Focus Area project, Adopt-a-High-Rise. In addition, gift baskets were donated as raffle prizes.

A sincere thanks is expressed to the following individuals for their generous monetary or "in kind" donations:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Janice Alpeter | Tim & Nancy Ochsenhirt |
| Shelly Brown | Jillian Pelland |
| Heather Herling | Patricia Roy |
| Mustard Seed Market | Jeana Singleton |
| Emily Ochsenhirt | Katy Wiles |

The 2009-2010 Provisional class is comprised of 23 highly accomplished and talented women. A brief bio is provided below for each Provisional. Please take the opportunity to welcome our newest members!

Melissa Adams graduated from Bowling Green State University with a degree in interpersonal communications and holds a Master's degree in communication from the University of Akron and is currently the Program Manager for Keep Akron Beautiful. She was born and raised in West Akron and enjoys spending time with friends and family, shopping and baking.

Amy Berens is married and lives in Sharon Center. She holds a bachelor's degree in environmental studies and a M.A. in early childhood education. Amy is the Education and Volunteer Coordinator at Crown Point Ecology Center and teaches gardening and ecology programs. She enjoys gardening, knitting, crafts, hiking and sailing with her husband on their boat, Dragonfly.

Meghan Beringer moved from Kentucky to Akron in 2008 with her husband. She holds a degree in finance and international business from the University of Dayton and a J.D. from Northern Kentucky University. Meghan is manager of the Supply Chain Contracts and Compliance Department at FirstEnergy. She has a little boy and enjoys **cooking, reading, movies and running.**

Denise Bracken is an Akron native and holds both a bachelor's degree in computer science from the University of Detroit Mercy and an Executive M.B.A. from Case Western Reserve University. She is an Advanced Business Analyst for First Energy. Denise enjoys biking, hiking, photography and traveling to far away places like Istanbul and Athens.

Sarah Chuba, originally from St. Paul, MN, is married and is a stay-at-home mom to one child. She met her husband while working at the same company in Connecticut. Sarah holds a degree in mechanical engineering from Purdue University and spent 15 years in the bearing industry focusing on sales, marketing and business development.

Bronlynn Eberhardt is originally from Akron and attended Copley High School. She holds a B.S. from Salisbury University in Maryland and received a DDS from the Ohio State University. Bronlynn and her husband are both dentists and have a practice in West Akron. She enjoys outdoor activities and anything involving arts and crafts.

Tiffany Edwards was born and raised in Akron, along with 7 siblings who are all still Akron residents. She holds a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Akron. Tiffany owns a coffee shop, "The Daily Brew," at Akron Children's Hospital and loves the shop and the children. She enjoys reading, running, pilates, yoga and traveling.

Ane Veloso Muller Goes de Araujo and her husband have lived in the United States for five years, four in Ohio. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration with a specialization in marketing. Her most recent job was senior buyer for WalMart in Brazil. Ane, a stay-at-home mom with one daughter, enjoys reading, watching movies and going to plays.

Andrea Hartley Bishop was born and raised in Atlanta, GA and holds a B.A. in Interior Design from Salem College in NC. She is employed with an Atlanta interior design firm and telecommutes from Akron. Andrea moved to Akron in 2008 after getting married and enjoys cooking, reading, painting and helping family and friends with their interior design projects.

Francesca Jirsa graduated from the University of Akron in 2008 and holds a bachelor's degree in political science. She lives in Copley with her husband and for the last two years has been working as a legal assistant at a law firm in Medina. Francesca enjoys yoga, reading and traveling.

Abigail Keating is a lifelong resident of Akron and holds a B.S. in Communication and Business from Ohio University, as well as a M.A. in Communication from the University of Akron. She works at FirstMerit in their training department and is active in politics with campaign volunteering. Abigail enjoys learning how to cook, hiking, fashion, reading, and going to Broadway shows.

Lisa Knapp, born and raised in Akron, holds a B.A. in English/Journalism with a minor in film studies from Miami University. As Communications Director at Downtown Akron Partnership, she manages marketing programs, coordinates fundraising/event planning for First Night Akron, and manages media relations. Lisa enjoys reading, shopping and traveling.

Jamie Malick lives in Copley with her husband and two children. She attended Miami University and is an account manager for International Database Management. Jamie has varied marketing experience from event planning for a national beef brand to fundraising and public relations for a local non-profit. She enjoys marketing, fundraising and spending time with her children.

Stephanie McIlvaine is married, has four children and lives in Bath. She holds a master's degree in social work from Case Western Reserve University with a focus in counseling. Stephanie enjoys traveling with her family. They have recently been to Argentina and Panama and are planning a trip to Egypt. Stephanie enjoys reading, exercise and nutrition.



JLA President Harriet Chapman at an Open House with Provisionals Lindsey VanDoros, Lisa Knapp, and Jen Victor.

Meet the Provisionals

Amy Mulcahy and her husband live in Akron. She is an Advanced Business Analyst, Integrated Business at FirstEnergy. She holds a B.S. in Accounting and Finance from Indiana University. Amy enjoys cooking, especially using fresh foods from local farmers markets. She enjoys running, reading, and biking on the Towpath with her husband.

Katie O'Brien and her husband live in Bath. She grew up in California and has since lived in Indiana, where she went to college at St. Mary's, and Florida, where she got married. Katie is an account manager for a Fairlawn marketing agency, ST&P Marketing Communications. She enjoys walking Metropark trails, furniture shopping, cooking, entertaining, and traveling.

Debra Spatz moved to Bath from Chicago three years ago with her husband and three children. She holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Illinois and a J.D. from Chicago-Kent College of Law. Debra is working as a contract attorney for a litigation firm in Cleveland and enjoys running and flying with her husband, who is a pilot.

Heidi Summers attended the University of Akron and Kent State University and has been an interior designer for twelve years. She is currently a stay-at-home mom to twin boys and enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading, yoga, pilates and boxing. Heidi lived in the Netherlands for two years and in Croatia for a year. She currently resides in Canal Fulton.

Jacque Tinnemeyer holds a B.A. in public relations and a M.A. in communication from the University of Akron. She currently works for Old Trail School in the Development Office and has previously worked for other nonprofit organizations. Jacque enjoys hiking, reading, spending time with family and friends and this summer started learning how to golf.

Lindsey VanDoros, an Akron native, received a bachelor's degree in fashion merchandising from the University of Akron. She lived in New York for four years while working for Ralph Lauren. Lindsey moved back to Akron to be near her family and changed careers becoming Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Mobile Meals. She enjoys yoga and scrapbooking.

Jennifer Victor is a lifelong Akron resident and holds a bachelor's degree as an Intervention Specialist for K-12 children from Bowling Green and a Master's in School Counseling from University of Akron. She is married and works as a special education teacher for Akron Public Schools. Jennifer enjoys working with children and outdoor activities.

Lindsey Wlaszyn has a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from the University of Toledo. She spent a semester after college at Camp Adventure on a U.S. military base in Germany working with children whose parents had been deployed to Iraq. Lindsey, who works for ANS Distributing, lives in Akron with her husband. She enjoys running, cooking, and shopping.

Carrie Zapka is originally from New York. She moved to Ohio to attend Youngstown State University, where she met her husband and received B.S. degrees in chemistry, biology, and education-comprehensive science, and a M.S. degree in chemistry. Carrie is a microbiologist in R&D at GOJO Industries. Carrie enjoys biking, bird watching, trips to Vegas, reading and writing.

ShowHouse 2009 Update

We were fortunate to have raised more than \$40,000 during last year's ShowHouse. Thanks to ALL members and their friends and relatives who volunteered, attended, and supported that magnificent event, which was led by President-Elect, Keri-Ann Kalavity, and Treasurer, Kristi Fox.

Training Opportunity

ALL members are invited to attend an interactive presentation and training session by Jeff Vengrow of the Center for Nonprofit Excellence at the League Headquarters at 6 pm on April 22, 2010. For more information or to reserve your spot, contact Susan Simpson at jrleagueakron@sbcglobal.net or at 330-836-4905 by April 16th.

Did You Know...?

There are 160,000 Junior League (JL) members in 293 Leagues in four countries: Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The majority of Junior Leagues - 285 - are in the US.

Junior League Members Give Back:

Average hours per week in JL activities: 5.3

JL members involved in other voluntary organizations: 80%

JL members donating \$ to a charity in the past year: 98%

Junior League Members are Influential Citizens:

41% of Junior League members are "Roper Influentials" – political and social trendsetters. These women are a commanding force in the marketplace in terms of their purchasing habits, as well as those of the wide circle of friends and associates to whom they provide advice and guidance.

Source: www.ajli.org

Save These Great Dates!



“Murder,” Dinner and Fun at the O’Neil House!

For a little mystery and merriment with your friends, join us for "The Mafia Murders"!

Mark your calendars for **April 8, 9, and 10, 2010**, because the Junior League of Akron will be solving one of the greatest mysteries to ever hit the O'Neil House! Courtesy of some super actors and your own imagination, we'll take a trip back to 1929 where there is a special party at the Godfather's speakeasy. However, the Godfather is having a very bad night when he discovers someone in the family is out to destroy him. So much for loyalty to "the boss." Wear your best 1920's costume and put on your detective hat as we follow actors' leads to search for clues and figure out the answers to "The Mafia Murders"!

Tickets are \$65 for general admission and \$100 for patrons, whose names will appear in the program. A delicious cocktail supper is included. The party begins at 6:30 PM. Please come, join in the fun, and support the Junior League and its focus project at the historic O'Neil House on April 8, 9, or 10, 2010 for "The Mafia Murders"!

For more information, contact Susan Simpson, JLA office manager, at 330-836-4905 or at jrleagueakron@sbcglobal.net.

Member News

Births

Erica Grigera (A), Tomas Barbosa Grigera born June 23, 2009.
April Trotta (A), Carmen Trotta born January 12, 2010.

Deaths

The Junior League extends sincere sympathy to the families of:

William “Randy” Adams, father of Melissa Adams (P)
Jane Hutchinson Cauffield (SE)
Sue Butler Hoyt (SE)
Letitia “Letty” Roderick Holden (SE)
Helen Tomkinson Jeter (SE)
Patricia A. Nass, mother of Terri Nass Reeder (A)
Mary Helen Banker Siess (SE)

Engagements

Laura Eberhardt (A)
Susan Simpson (Office Manager), August 7, 2010 wedding
Molly Stecz (A)
Lindsey VanDoros (P)

Resignations

Suzon Bukovey (S)
NiCole Hilker (A)
Inga Walker (A)
Julie West (S)

Transfers

Melissa Young Szalay (A) to the Junior League of Des Moines

We're Having a Tea Party on May 2!

Start shopping for your best tea party hat, and clean those white gloves and pearls!

The Membership Committee cordially requests that you please save the date for the:

Junior League Tea Party

Sunday, May 2, 2010

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

The Akron Woman's City Club

732 West Exchange Street, Akron, Ohio 44302

Reservations are \$35 for Patron guests, \$30 for guests and \$25 for children 12 and under. Special pricing is available for complete tables of 8 or 10. Any League member (A, S, P) interested in being a Tea Hostess, please contact Jennifer Towell at jennifertowell@att.net or at 330-836-7073.

To make a reservation, please mail your check payable to the Junior League of Akron to the JL Headquarters or use our website, www.juniorleagueakron.org. A small service charge will be applied for online payment. Please also note guests with whom you would like to be seated.

Sustainer Recognition

Christine Freitag (S) received the Sustainer Inspiration Award in 2008 for her commitment and outstanding service to the community. Christine and her husband, Robert, were honored on January 31, 2010 with the Award of Excellence from the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association. The Metro Parks, Serving Summit County nominated the Freitags because "they volunteer to make a difference, and the missions of the groups they support become their own. The retired couple has made a second 'career' out of volunteering to improve their community, often without recognition."

The Women's History Project of the Akron Area, Inc. (WHP) selected 10 women to be their 2010 Women of the Year. At the WHP Awards Dinner on March 3, **Sandra Roe Smith (S)** was honored with the award for Perseverance, which recognized her ability to persist – sometimes in the face of great adversity – to complete every task undertaken. **Linda Kersker (S)**, who passed away suddenly in July 2009, was given the Posthumous Award, which remembers Akron-area women who died before their contributions were acknowledged.

With its Women of the Year Awards, the WHP has highlighted for nearly 30 years the continuing contributions women make to the city, the county, the region and the nation. We congratulate Sandra Smith and her family and, with the family of Linda Kersker, we honor her memory.

The proposed Junior League of Akron slate for the 2010-2011 League year, to be voted on at the April 20th GMM, is:

President: Keri-Ann Kalavity

President-Elect: Jennie Highfield

Treasurer: Kristi Fox

Assistant Treasurer: Teri Incorvia

VP Community: Stefani Carlson

VP Membership: Jennifer Towell

Recording Secretary: Tanya Inama

Chair Retention & Transitions: Jenna Lehmann

Assistant Chair Retention & Transitions: Tiffany Ruwadi

Chair Membership Training: Casey Kelly

Assistant Chair Membership Training: Emily Ochsenhirt

Chair Community Outreach/DIAD/Focus Area: Julie Miller

Assistant Chair Community Outreach/DIAD/Focus Area: Terri Nass Reeder

Chair Provisional Recruitment & Training: Stacey Gardner-Buckshaw

Assistant Chair Provisional Recruitment & Training: Jillian Pelland

Slating: Cindy Chen, Cristy Cooley, Emily O'Brien, Connie Repko, Nita Kay Richardson

Janis Worley (A), past President, thanks Kim Haic, Kathleen Houck, Cindy Murphy, Meredith Marchand, Vanessa Riedlinger, and Jan Alpeter for their hard work on this year's Slating Committee.



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Do Your Part, Help Us RECYCLE!

Every day each of us throws away over one pound of recyclable paper office waste. This paper ends up in a landfill, costs our organization money, and is not environmentally friendly.

Help us protect our natural resources and turn trash into a resource. The Junior League of Akron has blue and gray bins for paper recycling located in the side parking lot of the JLA House. Materials that can be placed in the recycling containers include: newspapers, magazines, envelopes, junk mail, copy paper, and white paper.

We earn cash back for each pound of paper recycled, so help the League while helping the environment!



May Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for the **Annual Meeting** on **Tuesday, May 18, 2010**, at Fairlawn Country Club. The social will start at 5:30 pm with dinner served at 6 pm. The cost of dinner is \$25 per person. The meeting will begin promptly at 7 pm. Watch for your invitation in April. We look forward to seeing you there!

Annual Membership Dues

Don't forget! Annual membership dues for the 2010-2011 League year must be paid by **May 1, 2010**.

Active dues are \$120; Sustainer dues are \$80.



Do you have information to share?

A birth? A marriage? An adoption? A promotion? Please let us know! Send your information to the League office or submit it to jlaloudspeaker@hotmail.com.