



Loudspeaker

Spring 2012

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SAVE THE
DATE

Annual Membership Meeting
Tuesday, May 15, 2012
Fairlawn Country Club


THE ASSOCIATION OF
JUNIOR LEAGUES INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Women building better communities®

Community Outreach & Focus Project

The Junior League of Akron is excited to announce that they will partner with Boys & Girls Club of Western Reserve on the League's newest focus project, Kids in the Kitchen.

After much work and planning the league is excited to partner with Boys & Girls Club on this exciting program designed to help local children understand the importance of making healthy choices regarding fitness and nutrition. With their strong history of partnership and shared goals to help develop healthy children with good habits the Boys & Girls Club is a natural fit to partner with Junior League of Akron on Kids in the Kitchen.

This multi-year initiative will include four yearly events at the LeBron James and Arlington Clubhouse locations. Each event will consist of different hands-on activities designed to help students gain an understanding of why making healthy choices is important, and learn practical tips on how to make these choices a little more easily.

In addition to food options that will be easy for children to help prepare, participants will learn kid-friendly fitness activities they can do at home to keep them moving. Holding multiple events with the same group of kids allows the program to be changed and expanded to include a variety of topics, activities, and lessons for the participants.

Junior League members continue to be active in other areas of the community through Done In a Day Opportunities. By the end of the league year, members will have completed more than 450 hours of community service. In the coming months league members will participate in Keep Akron Beautiful's Clean Up Akron Super Saturday and the Summit County Children's Services Family Expo.

The council continues to engage even more community organizations with DIAD opportunities related to childhood wellness. If you know of an organization that might benefit from Junior League volunteers please contact **Jacque Tinnemeyer** at jtinnemeyer@oldtrail.org, or 330.730.8764.



MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT

SPRING OPEN HOUSES SCHEDULED

Our Spring Open House dates have been set! Continuous recruitment efforts are underway to expand year-round prospective member outreach. Mark your calendars with the following dates:

- Wednesday, May 2nd, 2012 from 6:00-8:00pm
- Saturday, May 5th, 2012 from 10:30am-12:30pm

Please continue to email Cindy Retterer with name and address information of people you would like to have invited at cynretterer@aol.com

NEW MEMBER UPDATE

Our New Members have completed the 3 required training sessions:

- An Organization of Women
- Promoting Volunteerism
- Trained Volunteers

All New Members were placed on various councils in November, and have made an immediate impact within the League. The Council VPs have been very impressed how these ladies have jumped in and helped out wherever they were needed. Be sure to attend the Annual Meeting in May when this amazing New Member Class officially goes active!

AJLI ROADMAP PROJECT UPDATE

Today’s woman brings business savvy, volunteer experience, rapid learning ability and highly individual expectations when she considers joining a Junior League in her community. Many other organizations are competing for her limited time and many talents. *Are the Junior Leagues’ current provisional programs the best “entry point” for new members today*, and do they offer the most effective way to “onboard” (orient) a new member to provide the experience each woman is looking for?

As part of AJLI’s Roadmap process, thirteen teams composed of League representatives from across the U.S. , Canada and Great Britain are working together to generate new ideas, test new strategies and propose effective ways to help the Association of Junior Leagues International fulfill its vision to be the premier developer of women as community and civic leaders.

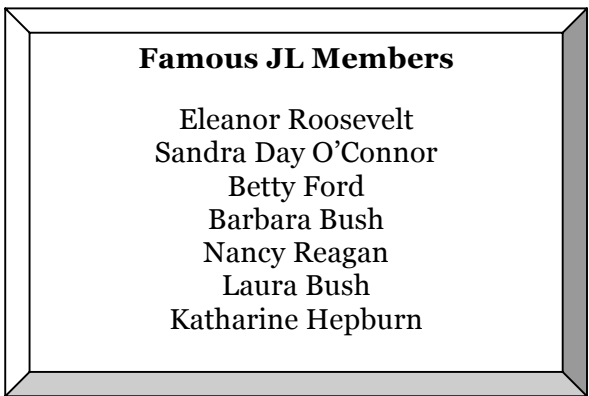
JLA sustainer Patricia Roy is serving as coach for one of the teams focused on membership issues. The eight Leagues represented on her team are innovating and testing new strategies *for “onboarding” new members at “multiple entry points.”*

The Leagues represented on this team each have fewer than 100 active members. Each League has many responsibilities to spread across its active membership, and attracting and retaining new

members is critical. New members can be impatient with an inflexible provisional program, and each new member today expects her individual expectations to be met quickly during her League experience.

As early as June 2012, the most promising ideas and innovations in the areas of *onboarding* and *multiple entry points for new members* will be tested in the eight Leagues participating on this team. Successful solutions can then be presented as options to other Leagues in the future.

The one-size-fits-all provisional programs may eventually become a much more fluid series of experiences into which a new member can enter in multiple ways.



DESIGNER SHOWHOUSE 2012

An important message for our membership regarding Designer ShowHouse 2012...

As you are aware, plans are underway for our signature fundraiser, Designer ShowHouse 2012, to be held this October. Interior Designers had been invited to view the home and were expected to submit bid proposals. Our ShowHouse location has a maximum potential of 22 separate design spaces to fill, yet only 5 firms submitted proposals by the deadline.

After reaching out to those designers that viewed the house and did not submit proposals, we have learned that there were concerns regarding the ShowHouse's location. Many designers felt that it would be difficult for the League to interest the public in a home that was not in a prominent location, and therefore lacked the "snoop" factor which tends to draw in the larger crowds. The designers did not want to make a large investment in our event if they did not think people would be interested in attending.

Additionally, due to push-back from the neighborhood residents regarding street parking for the event, it was determined that we would be obligated to provide shuttle service to/from the event from a remote parking location. This service alone would have cost the League nearly \$7,000 in expense.

After reviewing the situation, the Strategic Board has decided that we cannot move forward on ShowHouse 2012 at its current location. The event cannot be a public success if we cannot interest designers in participating, and it cannot be a private success if we cannot cover our expenses.

However, the Strategic Board does feel that the Designer ShowHouse concept is still a viable fundraiser for our League if we can locate the right home. We have tasked the Designer ShowHouse committee to find a new, more suitable location by the end of May. If they are able to find a new location quickly, it is conceivable that we would still aim for an October event, but it is likely the event may have to be postponed until springtime of 2013. They will also be reaching out to one or two

designers to be a part of the search to help strengthen the decision process. In addition, in an effort to focus on the long-term fiscal needs of the Junior League, leadership will begin reviewing and researching other fundraising options to ensure a continued and consistent revenue stream in order to support our mission.

We recognize that many people have put in a great deal of time and effort to make our original ShowHouse location a success. We appreciate and are grateful for your support, and you can be assured that your work will not go to waste. To aid in our search, if you are aware of a home that may qualify as a ShowHouse location, please forward that information to the Junior League office manager at jrleagueakron@sbcglobal.net. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about this decision please feel free to contact any member of the Strategic Board.

Thank you all for your continued support as we work through this new plan.

Keri-Ann Kalavity, President
Jennie Highfield, President-Elect
Teri Incorvia, Treasurer
Jeana Singleton, Secretary
Beth Amer, Sustainer Representative
Jan Alpeter, MDC



COOKBOOK CORNER

The Junior League of Akron’s very own cookbook, *Beginnings*, is the official cookbook of the City of Akron. In addition to over two hundred recipes for tasty treats and appetizers (Portage Trail Mix, anyone?), this beautiful hardbound book contains interesting tidbits about the history of our city, our community and our League. It makes a wonderful hostess gift, especially when traveling. Bring a bit of Akron to your out-of-town relatives and friends! **Special JLA pricing: only \$5 per copy when you purchase your books at the League house! (Pricing will vary at retailers and online.)**

The JLA Development Council has been hard at work obtaining an accurate inventory of remaining cookbook stock, renewing sales efforts, and brainstorming new cookbook sales initiatives. As a result, we have raised

\$1053 towards our community projects for the 2011-12 League year!

In addition to *Beginnings*, the Junior League of Akron stocks dozens of cookbooks from Junior Leagues around the country. Let us know if there is a book you are looking for and we’ll be happy to get it for you! Exchange books are priced as follows (often a substantial savings off the cover prices): \$20 for the first book, \$15 each additional. Look for an online “catalog” of exchange books to be posted on our website at www.juniorleagueakron.org by the end of the year.

For more information about cookbooks, please call the League house or contact Stefani Carlson at secarlson5@gmail.com or 234-380-1441.

MESSAGE FROM THE STRATEGIC BOARD

As you are likely aware, AJLI is in a Strategic Planning and Roadmapping process that has greatly changed the structure and support from AJLI to member leagues. Following the lead of AJLI, the Junior League of Akron underwent a roadmap process during the 2011-2012 JLA year. This in-depth process not only internally analyzed our processes and policies but looked at best practices and trends nationally. A 2011-2014 Strategic Planning Document was created and from that was borne many new initiatives and changes.

One of these changes was the consolidation of councils, committees and ad hoc task forces to create a streamlined Council Structure governed by a Management Board. There are four Councils: Fund Development, Community Outreach, Communications, Membership and Nominating and Placement. Nominating and Placement meant the JLA has moved from the slating process to a process where members will be nominated for voted position and then placed on a Council.

During the 2011-12 year as we monitored the progress of this new structure it became apparent that the duties historically handled by the Membership Development Coordinator were processes that should/had been handled by Membership or Nominating and Placement. It was also noted that we were unique in

having this paid position within our League. The Strategic Board met and determined that in order for these Councils to be effective and most efficient in their responsibilities to our membership that they should the member-to-member relationships.

After much thoughtful consideration and discussion, the Strategic Board decided to eliminate the paid staff position of Membership Development Coordinator. The elimination of this paid position and structural changes are bringing our League more into alignment with AJLI and its ongoing Roadmap and Strategic Planning process.

We are so grateful for all of the contributions made by Jan Alpeter while in the MDC position, as her predecessors. Jan has been a confidant and sounding board for many members over the years. Her record keeping and summaries of annual interviews will undoubtedly continue benefit the League. We sincerely appreciate everything Jan has done for the JLA membership during her tenure.

Please join us in wishing Jan well in her future endeavors. PAGE 4

~ Keri-Ann Kelavity, on behalf of the Strategic and Management Board

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

What Does the Junior League of Akron Mean to You?

Membership in the Junior League of Akron has given us all many gifts:

- Lifelong friendships
- The opportunity to make a difference in the community
- The chance to learn and use new skills
- A passion for voluntarism
- Involvement in a vibrant international organization of women

When you wish to give a gift to someone else, to acknowledge one of life's milestones, please consider a tribute gift to the Junior League of Akron. Whether it is in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, bar/bat mitzvah, wedding, legacy member, recovery from illness or other happy event, or in sympathy for a death or other loss, a gift to the Junior League of Akron lets the recipient know that you are thinking of her and connecting her to all of the wonderful work that the League does in our community. You can even designate your gift to the fund of your choice:

- ❖ *Community Fund:* Supports the League's Community Projects, including our new Kids in the Kitchen initiative.
- ❖ *Headquarters Fund:* Supports the repair, restoration and maintenance of our beloved League House.
- ❖ *Endowment Fund:* Creates a lasting tribute by providing a long-term source of income and support for the League.

You may make a tribute gift at any time by using the form below, visiting our website at www.juniorleagueakron.org, or calling the League House at 330-836-4905. Gifts will be acknowledged with a letter to the donor and a card to the honoree (we will, of course, keep the amount of the gift private), and will be listed in the Loudspeaker.

So we reach out to you, our old and new members and friends, to help us. Any donation that you may decide to give is so greatly appreciated. Your kindness will put your stamp on making our

community better and stronger. The donation form is provided below. It is never too late to give in order to improve our League!

Most importantly, we want to take this time to say **Thank You** to all that have donated to our cause so far. Your generosity is noticed and much appreciated. We are grateful to you and the love you have in strengthening our community! You make the difference in making the League and the people we touch better. Again, THANK YOU!

Gracious donors as of this printing:

Mrs. Janice Alpeter
Mrs. William Considine
Mrs. John Dalton
Mrs. Joanne Dannemiller
Mrs. Donald Dieterich
Mrs. Carol Eiber
Mrs. John Gerstenmaier
Mrs. Sally Ann Manby
Mrs. James McKenzie
Mrs. Ronald Miller
Mrs. George T. Parry
Mrs. Andrew Raynor
Mrs. Timothy Roy
Mrs. John Rumble
Ms. Nancy Ryland
Mrs. Richey Smith
Ms. Virginia Sperry
Ms. Anne Sperry
Mrs. Willis Zeigler, Jr.



Please include this form with your donation. Thank you!

The Junior League of Akron

Annual Fund 2011-12

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Yes! I would like to support the Junior League of Akron with a gift of \$_____

Enclosed is my check made payable to the Junior League of Akron

Please charge my credit card (MasterCard or Visa only, please)

Cardholder's Name (as it appears on the card): _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code (on back of card): _____

Signature: _____

My gift is (please circle) in honor of/in memory of/in celebration of:

Please send acknowledgement to (amount will not be listed on honor/memorial acknowledgement card):

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Please designate my gift to: Area of Greatest Need Headquarters Fund
 Community Fund Endowment Fund

Please mail to: Junior League of Akron, 929 West Market Street, Akron, OH 44313

DONE IN A DAY CALENDAR - AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Keep Akron Beautiful April 28, 9 a.m.-11 a.m.- Great American Clean Up – 31st annual Clean Up Akron Super Saturday. Visit www.keepakronbeautiful.org for more information on events throughout the week



DIAD Self Directed Opportunities (2 hour credit max)

National Inventors Hall of Fame / Invent Now Kids

Year-Round Shifts Mon. – Fri. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Contact: Teresa VanLieu 330-849-6899 or tvlieu@invent.org

Project Learn

Year-Round Opportunities. Contact: Marquita Mitchell 330-434-9461 or info@projectlearn.org

Pregnancy Care

Year-Round Opportunities. Contact Shannon Wolf 330-253-4071 or pregnancycare@sbcglobal.net

Habitat for Humanity

Shifts Tues. - Sat., 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Call 330-785-2700 for more information, or visit www.hfhsummitcounty.org

LEAGUE MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations!

Bill Considine, the husband of Sustainer Becky Considine, for the honor of being awarded the Bert A. Polsky Humanitarian Award for 2011 by the

Akron Community Foundation. The awards ceremony, attended by many Junior League of Akron members, occurred on Becky’s birthday, October 18, 2011.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Transfers

Victoria Todd(S) Akron to Cleveland
Gail Arrington(A) Shoals, AL to Akron)
Brianna Kelly(A) Lancaster, PA to Akron
Melissa Adams(A)Akron to Washington DC

Resignations

Jennifer Douglas
Margaret Franz
Claire Stonestreet
Sarah Chuba

Deaths

The Junior League extends sincere sympathy to the following members and their families:

Sustainer Emerita, Charlotte Enyart Staiger in the death of her husband, Richard W. Staiger, on Dec. 26, 2011. They were married for 60 years.

Sustainer Emerita, Patty Graves in the death of her son, John Harvey Graves, Jr., on February 24, 2012



The Junior League of Akron
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Akron, OH

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Loudspeaker email:
jlaLoudspeaker@hotmail.com
Web: www.juniorleagueakron.org

The Junior League of Akron empowers
women for positive change in the community.

CALENDAR

April

14 Saturday

- Summit County Children Services Family Expo, 10am - 5pm

17 Tuesday

- Communications Committee meeting at League house, 6 pm
- GMM at League House, 7 pm, social at 6:30

24 Tuesday

- Management Committee meeting at League house, 7 pm

28 Saturday

- Keep Akron Beautiful "Clean Up Akron" Super Saturday, 9-11am

May

1 Tuesday

- Strategic Board Meeting at League House, 7pm

2 Wednesday

- New Member Open House, 6-8pm

5 Saturday

- New Member Open House, 10:30-12:30pm

6 Sunday

- Safferstein Towers Game Day, 4-6pm

15 Tuesday

- Annual meeting at Fairlawn CC

19 May

- Crown Point Ecology Center, Plant Sale

20 May

- Crown Point Ecology Center, Plant Sale

August

18 Saturday

- SAVE THE DATE - Crown Point Ecology Center, Taste of Earth, 4:30-9:30pm