

LOUDSPEAKER

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF AKRON NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2015

IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
Community Impact Model.....	2
2016 Show House	2
Membership Report	3
KITK Grant.....	3
Membership Social	4
New Member Spotlight	4
Active Member Spotlight.....	5
Nominating & Placement	5
Sustainer Spotlight.....	6
Member Milestones	6
JLA 90th Anniversary.....	7
Calendar	8


JUNIOR LEAGUE OF AKRON
Women building better communities®

YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

If you'd like to contribute to the JLA's LOUDSPEAKER, please forward your story in a Word document or email to communications@juniorleagueakron.org. It will be published three times per year.



When people ask me why I have been in the Junior League for as long as I have I tell them it is because of the connection I feel. Have you ever done a connect the dots puzzle? I believe the path through Junior League is kind of like that. When you first see the puzzle you are not entirely sure what the picture is going to be. This is kind of how I felt in my New Member year. As a New Member there is so much in front of you and it is hard to know what to expect, but I was excited to learn and get to the next point. As I moved along in my League career, going from point to point and starting to connect the dots, I started to get a clearer idea of what that picture was going to be. Each League I have been in, committee I served on, fundraiser I supported, project that I worked on, each life the league helped change and most importantly each woman that I have met that has inspired me, represents one of the dots on my path. Every experience has helped to complete that picture of what the Junior League is all about for me and why I am so connected to it. Are there times when that line doesn't completely make it from point A to point B and I've felt a sense of disconnect? Of course, but you have to bring yourself back to your picture and pick up where you left off as there is still so much more to discover.

Earlier this year when I was talking to a very good friend and mentor I was trying to sum up my thoughts into 3 simple words and needed help. She came up with: Serve. Connect. Grow. That was it! That is exactly what I would love every JLA member to get out of their League experience. Serve: whether it be at a Focus Project, a DIAD, on our Board or at a Fundraiser find something you love and do it. Connect: maybe it is with a child at the Boys and Girls Club, a new member or an active you didn't know before or maybe it is a Sustainer, just make those connections. Trust me, it will add so much value to your member experience. Grow: try something new and get outside of your comfort zone, go on a council you know nothing about or seek out a leadership position. I look forward to seeing where it takes you over the next 2 years. Maybe your picture will turn out exactly how you thought it would or maybe it will be something completely different. You won't know unless you start connecting those dots!

Warmly,
Cindy

Community Impact Model

JLA has recently embarked on a journey with AJLI and roughly 50 other leagues to learn about and rollout the new Community Impact Model. The goal of the new Junior League Community Impact Model is to enable Leagues to have deeper community impact and greater membership satisfaction by focusing on issues rather than on individual projects. The Rollout will support Leagues in introducing a new process for choosing issues and designing multi-strategic and multi-tactical programs that drive impact. This new model creates greater choice for the member in terms of the types of community experiences available and also enables Leagues to work in partnership throughout their communities to drive sustainable change.

An issue focus as opposed to a project focus lets Leagues broaden the choices available to the member beyond the tradition of direct service. The model equips Leagues to expand their strategies to include advocacy, public education and awareness, strategic grant making and capacity building (e.g., helping community partners strengthen their operations in planning, board development, and volunteer management) in addition to their direct service or hands on volunteer efforts.

Over the next 12 months, members of the Community Outreach council and leadership within JLA will attend training webinars, online courses, and roundtables, that will help the league rollout this programing in the 2015 league year. During the process, we will provide updates to league membership and solicit feedback to help shape our very own Community Impact Model.



2016 ShowHouse Is On Its Way!

It may seem like a long way off, but 2016 Designer ShowHouse will be here before we know it! We are pleased to announce the 2016 ShowHouse Committee Chairs:

- Jacqui Flaherty-Ricchiuti
- Melissa Adams
- Emily Fernandez

Be on the lookout for further communications soon as we get started with important and exciting Junior League tradition!



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

SUSTAINER TO SUSTAINER EMERITUS

- Ann Brennan

ACTIVE TO SUSTAINER

- Shenan May
- Jeana Singleton

NEW MEMBER TO ACTIVE

- Sarah Chula
- Lindsay Long
- Selena Myers
- Meetal Patel
- Tori Penso
- Dorothy Powell
- Suzanne Schick
- Claire Schwab
- Tiffany Sovik
- Amber Zibritosky

NEW MEMBERS

- Emily Murray
- Laura Sinclair
- Parul Patel
- Gina Ardillo
- Valerie Okonieski
- Calli Johnson
- Sarah Bloomhuff
- Emily Brady
- Erin Thompson
- Brenna Fasko



- Katy Miller

The New Member Class at Super Saturday in June!

The Junior League of Akron would like to thank

Lilly Pulitzer

for hosting a Sip and Shop for us in June!
And thank you to all of our members who came to shop or place an order. We were able to raise \$250.00!



From left to right: Joe Payne (Cargill), Kimberly Young (VP, Community Outreach of JLA), Steve Marsh (Cargill), Samantha Acosta (Cargill), and Cindy Retterer (President of JLA).

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN RECEIVES GRANT

We announced during our annual meeting in May that the Junior League of Akron was awarded a \$3,000 grant from Cargill Salt of Akron. The grant will be applied toward JLA's Kids in the Kitchen focus project. We are so grateful to companies like Cargill that see the value of what we are doing in the community and help us make an even greater impact!



We would also like to thank the Summit County Italian Council for their generous donation to our Kids in the Kitchen project.

Nominating & Placement News

Congratulations to the 2015 - 2016 Leadership Slate to be voted on in March:

President-Elect:

Kimberly Young

Treasurer:

Erin Thompson

Secretary:

Lindsay Salsburg

VP Community Outreach:

Julie Miller

VP Communications:

Sarah Chula

VP Nominating & Placement:

Denise Bracken

Nominating & Placement

Council:

Laura Mollenshot

Dana Saporito

Selena Meyers

Jacquie Tinnemeyer

Fundraiser:

Jessica Duncan

Valerie Okonieski

Members please start thinking about what council you would like to serve on next year. We will be placing members soon! More information to come!

What Is Sustainer Emerita Status?

If you are a Sustainer who turned 80 years old during this past League year, you are eligible for Sustainer Emerita Status starting next year (2015-2016). Upon achieving this status, you no longer have a dues requirement to the league. If you are eligible for Sustainer Emerita Status year please contact our office manager Susan or be sure to look for the dues statement in the coming months to change your status.

New Member Spotlight: Laura Sinclair

Current Council Placement: Community Outreach

What are some of your hobbies?

Right now I am training for a half marathon in May. I also love to cook dinner, read books (especially novels), shop, drink wine, go for long walks and volunteer at church. I also go to yoga classes at Bliss in Akron and One Love in Kent.

What's your profession?

I work as a Social Worker for Stark County Children's Services. I am passionate about helping to strengthen families and creating social change through building relationships. I have learned through social work that everyone has strengths and no situation is hopeless.

If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

I would love to learn how to dance! I like watching dance performances, especially modern dance.

What is your favorite childhood memory?

I have very fond memories of playing games with my Nana and trying on her jewelry. She is still one of my favorite people and I still covet her jewelry. She was a member of the Junior League in Cincinnati and was the one who recommended I join the League.

What story does your family always tell about you?

When I was a kid, I couldn't say "Laura" correctly, so my nickname is still "Ra Ra!"

What was your favorite vacation?

When I was a kid we took a family road trip to the Grand Canyon. My parents rented a big van and we drove for about two weeks - there and back. I have many happy memories of hiking and camping along the way. I think it really gave me a sense of how vast and majestic our country is!

What was your biggest success up until now?

My biggest success and challenge has been graduating with my Masters in Social Work from Case Western Reserve University.

If money was no object, what would you do all day?

I think I would still work as a social worker - really! But I would also travel, hang out with my boyfriend Andrew and my dog Zeno, go to the pool, and read a lot.

Are you involved with any other organizations/groups?

I recently became a "Big Sister" through Big Brothers Big Sisters. I am also a member of Kent Unitarian Church, where I often volunteer in the religious education program.

If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to?

1969 - I would love to go to Woodstock!

What is the #1 most played song on your iPod?

"Bombs over Baghdad" by Outkast - the best running song of all time!

What is your favorite movie?

I love Mean Girls. I can watch it over and over again!

What is your favorite book?

I have many favorites! "Little Women," by Louisa May Alcott, and "Fear of Flying" by Erica Jong, are a few.

February In-House GMMs

Take a peek at our members getting out and about at our February In-House GMMs!



Cupcake Decorating at Main Street cupcakes in Hudson



Styling sessions at J. Crew - Summit Mall



Active Member Spotlight: Tanya Inama

Active Since: 2008

Current Council Placement: Membership Council

What are some of your hobbies?

Spending time with family, reading, and I love reality TV,

What's your profession?

I am an attorney. I work as in-house counsel handling corporate and securities related matters.

If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

To fluently speak multiple foreign languages.

What is your favorite childhood memory?

Going to Siesta Key, Florida.

What was your favorite vacation?

Disney!

If money was no object, what would you do all day?

Volunteer, travel, read, and relax.

Are you involved with any other organizations/groups?

I volunteer with the PTO at Woodridge Local Schools, Cuyahoga Falls Little League, and a mentor for the Ohio Women's Bar Association Mentoring Circles Program.

What is the #1 most played song on your iPod?

"I Need a Dollar" by Aloe Blacc

What is your favorite movie?

Pretty in Pink, Elf, and Lion King

What is your favorite book?

I don't have one favorite. I read *Gone Girl* recently, and thought it was *really* good. *The Last Lecture* was also very good. I loved the *Twilight* and *Hunger Games* series too.

What does your perfect day look like?

Sunny and warm...a palm tree wouldn't hurt...

If you were stranded on a deserted island, what three things would you want with you?

Family, water, and my iPhone (with a solar powered battery ☺)

What is the one thing that should be taught in school that isn't already?

Effective communication skills should be mandatory for everyone

What is one of your favorite quotes?

"Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind." – Dr. Seuss

Member Milestones

Little Leaguers

Brian and Susan Frerichs welcomed their daughter, Harper Charlotte, on June 3, 2014

Damien and Jennie Highfield welcomed their daughter Aelwyn Rhys on July 4, 2014

Jamie and Lindsay Salsburg welcomed their daughter Lauren on August 30, 2014

Jacqui Flaherty-Ricchiuti and Bruno Ricchiuti were married on August 23, 2014.



Tiffany Sovik, Kimberly Young, Claire Schwab, and Lindsay Salsburg volunteered at the Akron Canton Foodbank during a June DIAD!



Members enjoying JLA Sustainer Kristi Fox, during the special "Making the Ask" training in August

Sustainer Spotlight: Jennifer Towell

What are some of your hobbies?

I teach spinning, play tennis, volunteer, write and bake yummy treats. I'm an okay cook, but I love baking. It's not a hobby, but the majority of my time is spent raising our 5-month old daughter, Lucy, 4-year-old son, Joey, and 6-year-old son, Tommy.

What's your profession?

I am an attorney and served as a JAG officer in the United States Navy from 2000-2004. I then worked at Brouse McDowell when I moved to Akron and then I worked for Applied Discovery - a division of Lexis Nexis. Currently I am working as a project manager for Torchbearers. I also write a blog and hope to someday write a book.

If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

Play the piano and the guitar.

What is your favorite childhood memory?

Going to Disney World for the first time.

What was your favorite vacation?

This year I was in the hospital having an emergency appendectomy while 16 weeks pregnant. I ended having to stay in the hospital for 10 days and we had to miss our yearly vacation to Hilton Head Island. Two months later my husband re-planned the trip and we were able to all go. It was the best vacation of my life with my husband and kids!

If money was no object, what would you do all day?

I would start a non-profit and help facilitate the adoptions of domestic and international children who have Down syndrome and have been put up for adoption.

Are you involved with any other organizations/groups?

I serve on the Board of United Disability Services and the Akron Children's Emerging Leaders Board. I also serve as the Athlete Coordinator for Buddy Up Tennis, which is an adaptive tennis program for individuals with Down syndrome, and I am on the Up Side of Downs Buddy Walk Committee.

What is the #1 most played song on your iPod?

Jimmy Buffet's "He Went to Paris." One of my favorite lines is "some of it's magic, some of it's tragic, but I had a good life along the way."

What is your favorite movie?

Gone With the Wind and Moulin Rouge

What is your favorite book?

To Kill a Mockingbird

What does your perfect day look like?

Working out early in the morning, going out to breakfast with my family, spending the day together, and then ending the day with dinner and a movie with my husband.

If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to?

I'm all about living in the present.

What is the one thing that should be taught in school that isn't already?

Tolerance, kindness, open-mindedness, compassion, grace. Those come directly from the home and it would be wonderful if they were reinforced at school.

What is one of your favorite quotes?

"The way to happiness: keep your heart free from hate, your mind from worry. Live simply, expect little, give much. Fill your life with love. Scatter sunshine. Forget self, think of others. Do as you would be done by."

-Norman Vincent Peale, Positive Thinking Every Day

A Look at the League

JLA Approaches 90th Anniversary

In 2016 the Junior League of Akron will be celebrating our 90th Anniversary. As we are leading up to this milestone event, over the next couple of years we will be taking a journey back in time and visit several organizations the Junior League helped start.



Sustainer Award honoree, Rebecca Considine, with family and friends at the 2014 Annual Meeting in May

Our first stop in July was at Child Guidance & Family Solutions. CG&FS was established in 1930 by The Junior League of Akron, as 'Child Guidance Center,' for the purpose of relieving the suffering of children who faced mental, emotional, and behavioral health challenges. Judy Fowler, Vice President of Institutional Advancement at CG&FS and a JLA Sustainer, was kind enough to arrange for the JLA to have our meeting at their beautiful new building. We received a tour of the building and listened to Judy talk about the impact this organization has in Akron. Patricia Roy, Vice President of Human Resources at CG&FS; Mary Briggs, Susan Kirksey, and Debbie Prinz, all of whom are JLA Sustainers, also shared their experiences and passion about this incredible organization.

We are looking forward to seeing the impact JLA has had in Akron for the last 90 years and hope to see many of you on the next stop of our journey.



2014 New Members at the 2014 Annual Meeting

We have also begun sorting through JLA Historical Documents in our attic. It is quite a treasure trove of history we have! If you have anything that you think would be of interest at your home or would like to help out with this project, please contact Cindy Retterer at cynretterer@aol.com.



Members at the 2014 Early Bird Bustle in November!



Holiday Party at Pub Bricco!

Left to Right: Emily Murray, Emily Brady, Brenna Fasko, Kimberly Young, Kim Thomas, Jamie Malick, Denise Bracken, Melissa Adams, Jacqui Flaherty-Ricchiuti, Jessica Duncan



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF AKRON
Women building better communities®

929 W. Market Street
Akron, OH 44313

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AKRON, OH
PERMIT NUMBER 103

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PHONE: 330.836.4905
FAX: 330.836.4906
info@juniorleagueakron.org
communications@juniorleagueakron.org
www.juniorleagueakron.org

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF AKRON CALENDAR

March 11, 2015 **7:15PM – 8:15PM**
JLA Social – Tru Barre

April 25, 2015 **8:00AM – 12:00 PM**
DIAD: Keep Akron Beautiful Super Saturday

April 26, 2015 **12:00 PM**
JLA Tea Party, Fairlawn Country Club

November 1, 2015 **8:30 AM**
3rd Annual Early Bird Bustle
More details to follow!

Interested in hosting a table at the tea?
Please contact info@juniorleagueakron.org