



League Log

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WATERLOO-CEDAR FALLS

Women building better communities

April 2011

MISSION

The Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls, Iowa Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

General Membership MEETING

Monday, April 4
Location: Waterloo Schools ESC Boardroom
1516 Washington Street
6:45 p.m. Networking
7:00 p. m. Meeting

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Parenting Fair

Operation Threshold and the Family & Children’s Council hosted the 4th annual parenting fair at the Waterloo Center for the Arts on March 15th. The event featured seminars about the importance of reading to your child, giveaways, food and free information for parents. League provided hands on volunteers at the event as well as funding for giveaways and food. League has enjoyed partnering with the Family & Children’s Council throughout the year on our focus project—Safe Rides for Kids.



Left: Lindsey Nissen (A), Kristin Kline (A), Kristi Tibben (A), Gloria Congdon (A) and Sarah Pauls (A) stop to pose for a group photo while volunteering at the parenting fair.

Below: Kristin Kline (A) helps children at the craft and game station at the parenting fair.



President's Message

2010-2011 Leadership Team

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Cindy Braatz

President-Elect
Shasta Locke

Executive Secretary
Betsy Ratchford

Treasurer
Kari Jansen

Assistant Treasurer
Melissa Hansen

COMMUNITY IMPACT COUNCIL

Vice-President
Kristi Tibben

FUND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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Amanda Kline

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Lori Price

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

Michele Jensen

SUSTAINER REPRESENTATIVE

Raquel Oberheu

PRINTING BY:



Greetings from the President-Elect! I mentioned to our current fearless leader that I was having a difficult time with this article. Cindy said "the hardest part is getting the first sentence...after that it's easy." Well, Cindy, I'm still not sure I buy that.

I'll begin my first article by letting all of you in on a little secret...this is the part of being President that is the most frightening to me. The thought of writing a witty and compelling log article every month for a year TERRIFIES me. And trust me, witty and compelling are not necessarily my best attributes, but I'll do my best.

Okay - so that's what terrifies me. What excites me are all of the opportunities in front of us for the coming year. As previous Presidents-Elect can tell you, this is the time of year when we have so much energy and a MILLION ideas on how to save the world...or at the very least our community. In the real world, it's very difficult to accomplish all that you hope in one year's time.

I liken myself to the Ugly Duckling (metaphors - another area in which I'm lacking, but go with me) - I've spent a great deal of my life trying to make sure that all of the people in my life are happy, often to the sacrifice of my own happiness (this is the ugly duckling part). I feel like I'm finally becoming the beautiful (remember, it's a metaphor) swan. I've found peace and happiness in my life by surrounding myself with people that are supportive of me and truly care about my happiness as much as I care about theirs. Many of those people are members of the Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls...and I thank you. You've entrusted me with a great deal of responsibility and I promise that I will make every attempt not to let you down. And I'd be remiss if I didn't also credit my loving family with helping me to find my peace.

I believe that once you have found a way to make yourself happy, then it's time to find a way to make others happy. Studies show that volunteering can have much the same effect on your happiness as regular exercise or as much as double your current income...those same receptors in your brain are triggered when you do good for others.

I feel like it's time to focus on your happiness. Each and every member - and I'm including Sustaining and Emeritus members in this group - deserves to have a happy and fulfilling experience in League. Where should we focus our Community Impact efforts? How should we approach executing our Community Impact? How can we make the "paperwork" easier so that we can all focus on what we came here to do... help people? There are a variety of ways I believe that we can begin to accomplish this, and we'll talk about those more in the coming months (this is the witty cliffhanger).

Spring always makes me happy and has a feeling of renewed energy and spirit. I'm hoping that we can take that spring feeling into our next League year as we renew our membership in JLWCF and find the way to fulfilling not only League's mission, but our own personal goals.

Thank you and I hope to see you all at Annual Dinner on May 9.



Shasta Locke, President-Elect

Shasta

Membership



Thurs. Apr. 28, 5-7 p.m.

Hosted by: Sustainer, Raquel Oberheu
726 Eagle Ridge Rd., Cedar Falls

Sustainers, Actives, and New Members are invited to get together and catch up.
Don't miss this fun, casual evening.

Last Names A-M - Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share.
Last Names N-Z - Please bring a beverage or bottle of wine to share.

For more information, contact Sustainer Representative,
Raquel Oberheu, at 266-1246 or email roberheu@cfu.net.

After Hours/Placement Meeting

We will be having our Placement Meetings during our "After Hours" gathering following the April 4th GMM. We will be meeting at Jameson's in downtown Waterloo. Members unable to attend the placement meeting will need to schedule a one-on-one with their mentor.

Annual Dinner

This year's annual dinner will be held on Monday May 9th at Gatsby's Restaurant, located within the Elks Club in Waterloo. Please join us in honoring our remarkable scholarship recipients and Golden Rose honoree. The evening will also highlight all of the amazing accomplishments of our group during this last League year.

We have a lot to celebrate!

Sponsors

Junior League Sponsors 2010-2011

We kindly thank these sponsors for their continued support in making the Cedar Valley a better place!

Sponsor List current as of 3-30-11

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Lost Island Waterpark

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Martin Bros.

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Merry Maids

Patrick & Mary Ann Moore

Montage/CF Brown Bottle

Mr. Nick, magician

Marcella & Roger Olesen

Overhead Door Company of Waterloo

Panera of Iowa

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Elements Therapeutic Massage
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Sustainer Spotlight—Meet Kae Lind

Kae joined Jr. League in 1976. She had heard a lot about League but at the time membership was by invitation—you could join only after 3 active members co-sponsored your nomination. Kae stated that she enjoyed her 10 years in League because of the wonderful friends she met, and for the many opportunities to not only learn about the community but to become an active part of it.

Kae's provisional class was small—only 13 - and as the year progressed, the group discovered that about half of the class was pregnant. "Going on community tours was quite an experience as we neared the end of the year!" said Kae.

Kae served on several committees but she said her favorite was co-chairing Community Research with Kate Thorpe. They researched community endeavors as part of determining what would be financed in part by League funds. Kae reported that one wonderful experience was arranging financing for the opening catalogue for the University of Northern Iowa Gallery of Art. Kae stated, "The opening was a significant event and we were there!" Other community agencies were also approved for funding and Kae was proud that League was a part of it.

Kae recalled another placement - volunteering for the Waterloo Cedar Falls Symphony as Liason for the Guild Board and the Symphony Board. She said it was at the time when performances were moved from the "old West High" auditorium to the "new West High" auditorium. Now concerts are at Gallagher/Bluedorn—and Kae stays involved in hosting Notable Affairs fundraisers.

"Jr. League was a learning experience for all of us," said Kae. She said that she learned how to effectively volunteer and that she and many of her fellow League members took that training to a new level as they became sustainers. Kae noted that she and fellow sustainer and friend Marty Clark both were Volunteer Directors for many years –Marty at the Waterloo Public Library and Kae at the Waterloo Center for the Arts. Kae recalls engaging 100's of volunteers, training them, scheduling them for events and tours, wining and dining them; and making some "grand lifelong friends." Kae stated that several other League members chose careers in similar fields.

Kae continues to volunteer at the Waterloo Center for the Arts and at UNI in the CIEP program now—but she states that she mostly enjoys family and friends. She has three sons and one daughter, 2 sons-in-law and a daughter-in-law. Five grandchildren (see pic) with one more due in September. "This is the best time."



Last Summer: Kae's husband Tom, Kae and their grandchildren—Grace 10, Lily 8, Jack 6, Frank 5 and Rudy 2.



Kae Lind's grandchildren: Back Row—Frank 5, Grace 10, Lily 8. Front Row—Jack 6, Frank 5, Rudy 2.

JLWCF Announcements

Happy Birthday!

April Birthdays

Ashley Shaw (A) 4/20
Leah Crouse (NM) 4/23
Rita Burns (A) 4/25



Junior League Blog

Check out the new Junior League Blog at
<http://jlwcf.blogspot.com/>

Check back regularly for new blog entries
or subscribe to our blog by entering your email address
and be notified by email when a new post is available.

Membership

47 Active Members
2 Non-resident Active Members
0 Leave of Absence
14 New Members

63 Total Members

230 Sustainers
26 Emeritus

256 Total Sustainer Members

Junior League New Member Project—Prom's Closet

After a successful event the past two years, Junior League of Waterloo is having the 3rd Annual Prom's Closet. We are collecting gently used prom dresses, bridesmaid dresses, ball gowns, shoes and accessories for local high school girls. Drop off locations are at (Cedar Falls) ME&V Advertising, (Hudson) Community Church of Hudson, (Waverly) Wartburg Volunteer Action Center, (waterloo) Cedar Valley Community Church, Crossroads Center Management Office M-F 8-5, Hawkeye Community College - Brock Student Center, and Cedar Valley United Way until April 6th.



We gather previously used dresses and accessories and sell them for a donation of just \$10 to individuals who may have a limited income when looking to purchase a Prom dress. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.

The "sale" will take place Saturday, April 9th from 10am-5pm at Crossroads Center lower level next to JcPenney's.

For more information please contact Katie Lansing with Waterloo Junior League at katie.lansing@gmail.com

Above and Beyond!

Know a League Member that has gone "Above and Beyond" for Junior League. Recognize them in the next issue of the League Log. For details, contact Mandy Gesme at amandagesme@yahoo.com.

Have a name, address, phone, or e-mail change? Know of marriages, births, deaths, job or volunteer accomplishments?
Contact
Assistant VP of Membership

Christa Mieke

Phone: (319) 961-1960
Email: christa.mieke@vgm.com

Have a question, comment, suggestion, or concern regarding League?
If so, the **Director-at-Large** is your connection to the Board.

Michele Jensen

Phone: (319) 269-2958
Email: mjensen@meandv.com

Need to miss a General Membership Meeting?
Don't forget to contact the **Executive Secretary**

Betsy Ratchford

Email: Betsy.ratchford@uni.edu

**Junior League of
Waterloo-Cedar Falls**
Phone: 319-232-8687
Fax: 319-232-0171
E-mail: jlwcf@jlwcf.org
Website: <http://www.jlwcf.org>

Office Hours
Monday and Friday
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Office Manager
Harriet Quick

Junior League President
Cindy Braatz
Phone: (319) 240-5992
E-mail: shebraatz@mchsi.com

**Dates To
REMEMBER**

- April
16 Hansen's Dairy Tour**
- April
19 Food Bank, back pack
Stuffing 6:00-8pm**
- April
25 New/Old Board
Meeting 6:00pm
JLWCF Office**
- April
28 "Spring Mingle"
Raquel Oberheu
726 Eagle Ridge Rd.
Cedar Falls
5:00-7:00pm**
- May
9 Annual Dinner
Gatsby's Restaurant
At the Elk's Club
5:30pm Social
6:00pm Dinner and
Presentations**

**Please send Log articles
to Mandy Gesme at
amandagesme@yahoo.com**

**Submissions must be
received by the 10th of
the month.**

Meet Amanda Kline

Amanda Kline is in her third active year of League. She served on the Charity Ball Committee in 2008-09. She was responsible for auctions items. She was also a member of the ad-hoc focus project selection committee. In 2009-10 she was the Assistant Vice President of Fund Development and chaired the ad-hoc committee that developed the new family fundraiser. This year she is the Vice President of Fund Development.



**Amanda, David, Simon,
Nate, and Andrew Kline**

Amanda joined League with her sister-in-law when Michele Jensen was the New Member Chair. She had wanted to join for a while; because she said she, "needed something to do that was both meaningful and got me out of the house alone." At the beginning of her new member year, her two older sons were both under two, and she said she didn't have a lot of adult interaction.

Amanda said that what she loves most about League is attending the events League members coordinate—e.g. charity ball, touch-a-truck, Friday Fitday during her new member year, food bank opportunities, etc. She also likes that League is something she can do where "I'm not known as someone's wife or someone's mother, I'm just me. Everyone needs a place like that in their lives, and for me it is at League."

Amanda is a stay at home mom with three little boys – Andrew (5), Nate (3), and Simon (born October 17). She loves to read, bake and be outside with her kids once it warms up. She said she started running a couple of years ago, and "even though I'm really slow, it is always nice to be able to get outside for an hour or two by myself." Amanda also volunteers on the Trinity Episcopal Preschool and Child Care Board and at her church.



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**P.O. Box 568
Waterloo, IA 50704**

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