Holiday Party and Food Bank Donation

The Junior League Holiday Party was filled with fun and giving! This year’s party was hosted by past president Christa Miehe. Christa said, “The weather cooperated and we had a great turnout!” Over 100 women attended—it was a great way to bring new members, actives and sustainers together to celebrate the holiday season and to join efforts and give to others. The Board provided great food for the guests and the guests and Board provided food for the Cedar Valley.

Congratulations to those who attended on filling President Cindy’s trunk with donated diapers and food items for the Food Bank! Donations totaling 213 pounds along with some cash donations were delivered to the Food Bank on Monday, December 6, 2010. This will go a long way to supporting our families in need in the Cedar Valley this holiday season.

“The weather cooperated and we had a great turnout!” said past president Christa Miehe host of this year’s Holiday Party.

Left: Junior League members enjoying conversation and drinks at the Holiday Party.

Below: President Cindy Braatz’s trunk! Filled with donations for the Food Bank.
President’s Message

‘Tis the season of Giving.
And Lists.

About the time that the red kettles come out in front of all of my favorite merchants I start getting the itch to start buying presents for the people on my list.

My list includes parents, kids, grandkids, my husband, brother and sisters, some close friends, a few co-workers and the paper carrier. Your list probably looks a lot like mine. There are years that I get very creative and spend a lot of time selecting unique gifts. Those are the years that I really do enjoy the holidays. Other years I just have a hard time getting “the perfect gift”. I never feel quite right giving gift cards or cash, but sometimes it does resort to that.

Some of the people on my list give me a list! I love getting a list of what someone wants, right down to the size and the color. It’s practical and efficient. No creativity necessary. Bah Humbug, right?

I had a list this year too, but after some thought, I changed it from the “what I want to get” list to the “what I want to give” list. Feel free to put some of the things I want to give on your lists, too.

Give your undivided attention. Put away the phone for a little while and have a real conversation.

Give a hug. People thrive on human touch. It’s a fact.

Give praise. Let people know that they are doing a great job and that they make a difference.

Give freely. Share the blessings that you have.

Give with joy. Smile!

To all of my Junior League family I wish you a wonderful holiday season, and for all of you in my life, I give thanks.......

Cindy Braatz, President
Membership

Past President’s Luncheon Sunnyside Country Club

Over 200 collective years of Junior League experience came together for the annual Past President’s Luncheon, held this year at Sunnyside Country Club on November 11, 2010. Fifteen former presidents had a wealth of wisdom to share with Cindy and Shasta Locke, President-Elect. Immediate past president, Christa Miehe, hosted this year’s luncheon.

Above: Kathy, Camille, Shanlee, Nancy, Shasta and Jane.

Above: Laura, Chris, Lisa, Christa and Mary Ann.

Above: Kate, Teri, Susie, Cindy, Dee and Mary Ann.

Spring New Member Class

The Spring new member class will begin in January. If you know of someone that would like to join Junior League please contact the new member committee: Hillary Anniss — hanniss@msn.com, Kristin Kline—kristinkline@gmail.com or Julie Gardner—mattandjulie3341@yahoo.com.

Above and Beyond!

BIG thank you to Megan Hannam for the time she spent making the office look great. Fantastic decorating!

Slating/Placement Meeting

The Membership Mentors will be conducting slating for the 2011-2012 League year on January 9. In the January Placement meeting (to be held immediately following the January GMM), members will be encouraged to complete a straw ballot. Self-nominations for multiple positions are encouraged and will help us with the slating process. We will cover a brief discussion of the positions during the January GMM, but if you have specific questions about what a position entails, please contact your Membership Mentor and/or discuss it during your one-on-one. Sample straw ballot can be found on page 4 of this League Log.
STRAW BALLOT—LEADERSHIP TEAM—2011-2012

Executive Committee
President Shasta Locke
President-Elect*/**
____________________________________________

Executive Secretary
____________________________________________
Treasurer Melissa Hansen
Assistant Treasurer*
____________________________________________

Community Impact Council
Vice President Laura Lockert
Assistant VP/Enabling*
____________________________________________

Marketing Council
Vice President/Marketing Chair Mandy Gesme
Assistant VP/Log Editor*
____________________________________________

Fund Development Council
Vice President Megan Hannam
Assistant VP*
____________________________________________
Cookbook Chair
____________________________________________
Charity Ball Chair Jennifer Stevenson
Asst. Charity Ball Chair*
____________________________________________
Fundraising Event Chair Emily Cabbage
Asst. Fundraising Event Chair*
____________________________________________

Membership Development Council
Vice President Christa Miehe
Assistant VP*
____________________________________________
Membership Mentors Shawna Buckley (1)
(Three needed: 1 at one year, 2 at two year position)
____________________________________________
____________________________________________
____________________________________________

Meetings and Education Chair
____________________________________________
New Member Co-Chairs (2 needed)
____________________________________________

Non-Council Positions
Director-at-Large (1-year position)
____________________________________________
Sustainer Representatives (2 needed)
____________________________________________

*Indicates a move-up position.
**Indicates you will also be sitting on the Fund Development Council.
Please see your Yearbook for details on each position.
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 December 4, 2011

**Director ($3,000+)**
Dr. Ross Christiansen

**Developer ($1,500-$2,999)**
The Locke Family

**Leader ($750-$1,499)**
Steve & Terri Jackson, Cedar Valley Corporation

**Mentor ($400-$749)**
Cindy and Charlie Braatz

**Volunteer ($100-$399)**
Ann Enderlein
Anne Hennessey
Autumn Hurley
Benton’s Ready Mixed Concrete
Cathy Gallagher
Cheryl Galehouse
Donna Brown
Donna Harman
Fereday Heating Co.

**Volunteer ($100-$399)**
George and Mary Warren
Jackie Malecek
Jim and Ardy Rydell
Lee and Barbara Miller
Magee Construction Company
Marcella and Roger Olesen
Margaret Langlas
Mr. Nick, magician
Schmitt Telecom Partners
Sinnot Agency
Susan Loveall
Technology Staff Development
The VGM Group
Wayne and Glynis Worthington
Black Hawk Hotel
Grand Harbor Resort

**Friend (up to $99)**
Mark and Kathy Schreiner
Betty Dalton
Jane Gerard
Scheel’s

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Congratulations to our Enabling Fund Grant Recipients!

During the first grant cycle in September 2010, Waverly Shell-Rock Jr High’s Loving Stitches project received a $900 Enabling Fund Grant. The money will be used for materials and the students will make pillow cases for terminally ill children in the hospital.

During the second grant cycle in October 2010, Allen Child Protection Center received a $600 Enabling Fund Grant. The funds will be used for the purchase of age appropriate toys for the ACPC Treasure Chest that will help comfort children in great need when they visit the center.

Application deadlines for the two remaining grant cycles are January 17 and March 14, 2011. Applications are available on the Junior League website, [www.jlwcf.org](http://www.jlwcf.org), under the Community section. The grants are available to groups for the sole purpose of helping to fill immediate community needs. Please contact Laura Lockert at lklock@cfu.net for more information.
Sustainer Spotlight—Meet Terri Jackson

Terri was “thrilled” in 1980 to be invited to join Junior League and she said she was “honored to have my volunteer career placed in the spotlight!” Junior League is where Terri said that she honed her leadership skills. The organization afforded her the opportunity to network with women who had a strong sense of social responsibility and who were willing to respond to the needs of our community with courage, compassion and commitment. She said that she feels certain that describes today’s members as well.

Terri’s favorite quote is from George Bernard Shaw who wrote, “I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatsoever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. Life is no brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations”.

Speaking of future generations, Terri said that the brightest light in her life has always been family and now she and Steve are blessed with 3 great son-in-laws and 5 beautiful granddaughters. She is proud of the fact that all three daughters have served on volunteer boards in their respective communities and she likes to think that growing up with a JL mom had a little to do with that!

Terri’s words of advice to JL members would be to avoid the adjective “just” in front of the word volunteer. She said that she used to find herself explaining to others that she was “just” a volunteer – when indeed, volunteering is the most important job in the world, next to being “just a mom.” Terri said, “Keep up the good work and together we will keep that torch burning brightly in the Cedar Valley.”

Terri’s Community Impact can be felt in a variety of places:
- Community Foundation
- Friends of the Symphony
- Phelps Youth Pavilion
- Board of Northeast Iowa Cyclone Club
- ISU Foundation’s Women and Philanthropy Committee
- Trinity Episcopal Church
- Friends of the Gallagher Bluedorn
- Library Board
- West High Site Council

Terri and her husband Steve with their daughter Kate her husband Ryan and their three daughters, Margaret, Elizabeth and Anna at a Fourth of July picnic.

Terri’s daughter Kelly and son-in-law Matt at the recent baptism of their twin daughters, Niah and Teagan.

Newlyweds—Terri’s daughter Whitney with husband Andy.
Happy Birthday!

December Birthdays
Kellie Clarke  12/21
Julie Gardner  12/27
Jill Waddle  12/27

January Birthdays
Hillary Anniss  01/03
Angie Stafsholt  01/07
Betsy Ratchford  01/19
Jenny Graeser  01/28

Membership
48 Active Members
1 Non-resident Active Members
0 Leave of Absence
13 New Members
62 Total Members

230 Sustainers
26 Emeritus
256 Total Sustainer Members

Save the Date
Charity Ball
Saturday, April 2, 2011
Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Waterloo

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.

Sympathy
We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Amy Page (S) on the passing of her father-in-law.

Sympathy
We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Jennifer Stevenson (A) on the passing of her father.

Change of Address
Sustainer Chris Olds
1879 Falcon Ridge
Waterloo, IA  50701
319-269-0984
chrisolds@mediacombb.net

Weather Cancellation Policy
If either the Waterloo or Cedar Falls schools close, all Junior League activities will be rescheduled. If the GMM must be cancelled, members will be contacted by their Membership Mentor about rescheduling.

Have a name, address, phone, or e-mail change? Know of marriages, births, deaths, job or volunteer accomplishments?
Contact
Assistant VP of Membership
Christa Miehe
Phone: (319) 961-1960
Email: christa.miehe@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
Meet Mary Watson

Mary Watson is in her third active year in League. She has served on the Community Impact and Fall Fundraiser Committees. This year she served as chair of the first annual Touch-A-Truck event.

Mary said that she learned about Junior League through Deb Young who invited her to a new member meeting. Mary liked the idea of getting involved in the community.

Mary said “I like getting to volunteer and know I won’t have to go alone. There is always someone else there to keep me company.”

Mary’s family include her husband Bryce who works as an engineer for Viking Pump in Cedar Falls, her daughter Lily age eight and her son Ryan age six. As for her hobbies, she and her family like to play games and go hiking. They love to travel, especially going to zoos and aquariums.

Mary also volunteers at the Cedar Valley Arboretum and in the her kids’ classrooms.

“I like getting to volunteer and know I won’t have to go alone. There is always someone else there to keep me company.”