Fall Edition





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about our LEAGUE

2014-2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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INFORMATION

Be sure to check your email every Friday for the Weekly Update. Get up-to-date information including upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, reminders, and more. Contact the Junior League office at jlwcfoffice@gmail.com if you are not currently receiving the Weekly Update.

Don't forget to like us on Facebook!

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OUR 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.

MEETING SCHEDULES

<u>GMM SCHEDULE</u> December 1, 2014 January 5, 2015 February 2, 2015 March 2, 2015 <u>BOARD SCHEDULE</u> November 18, 2014 December 30, 2014 January 27, 2015 February 24, 2015 March 31, 2015

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PRINT SPONSOR, BRAVO PRINTING

presidents MESSAGE

The quote "There's nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer" by Jimmy Doolittle may be overused, but should never be underestimated. It continues to amaze me the amount of work and effort each and every Member pours into their Junior League positions year after year. Without the commitment and dedication shown already this Junior League year, we certainly would not be in the current position we are to not only achieve our goals, but to far exceed them!

1. The New Member Co-Chairs set forth to create a more dynamic New Member Welcome To showcase a few items of success... Event and training program for our New Members. They researched and have executed a plan which has resulted in 15 New Members for our Junior League! This almost quadruples the number of New Members from last year and truly provides a boost to each Council and

Committee heading into next year.

2. The Touch-a-Truck Committee (of six) was able to pull off the most successful Touch-a-Truck Event to date. With more attendees and our most profitable year to date, this event continues to become more and more of a stake hold event in our community and a very strong fundraiser for Junior League.

3. The Marketing Council (of four) has become more integrated into each Council & Committee this year and the results of those efforts are starting to show in our events. Each event Junior League hosts now has a stronger presence in Social Media, an informational table about Junior League, and a consistent look in our volunteers.

4. Above nothing else, this year is all about the Community Impact Council's (of seven) charge to implement our Issue Based Community Impact Area of Teen Issues. Our Membership overwhelmingly voted for Teen Issues as our focus here in the Cedar Valley. The Council

has been meeting with Community Advisors and discussing and planning what options will make that deep impact that we are looking to provide to area teenagers. The Council is not only planning for this year, but also focusing on setting the ground work for many years to come. I feel as is if we are in the calm before the storm of truly showcasing our Membership's hearts of voluntarism and truly impacting our community.

With all the accomplishments already to date, it doesn't feel like this could only be the Fall League Log message. Thank you to all Members and keep up the great efforts heading into the second half of our Junior League year! #drivenbyourpassion

Jessi ca Decknog



President, Jess Krogh at the AJLI Conference in St. Louis

Touch-A-Truck

Touch-A-Truck's 5th Year; The Most Successful Yet

This year's Touch-A-Truck event raised over \$9,500 in just its 5th year. Great weather and a new location, the National Cattle Congress grounds, proved to be a recipe for success! In addition to the 23 trucks, cars, buses, and emergency vehicles at the event, kids also got to enjoy a bounce house, magic show, coloring contest, and the Waterloo Symphony Petting Zoo. There was truly something for everyone, allowing kids and their parents to enjoy some quality time together on a beautiful Saturday morning. It is fantastic to see that this event continues to grow in attendance and revenue, and that the efforts of the Touch-A-Truck committee continue to pay off in a big way. We have high hopes for 2015 as well, and look forward to seeing old and new faces next year!



Event Chair, Tammy Baish attributes this year's great success to her committee members; Brittney Weber, Elysia Jones, Jill Becker, Terri Briggs, and Leah Reiter. The committee sincerely thanks the vendors, sponsors, volunteers and all who attended!





A Look At The Numbers.....

Since its inception in 2010, Touch-A-Truck has grown year over year. We are very excited to see the success this event has had and look forward to more growth in the future. For more information on how to help us grow this event, Contact VP of Fund Development, Michelle Clark, at jlwcffunddev@gmail.com

A Special Thank You to Muse Photography for donating their services at this event free of charge!



2014 New Members •

We are thrilled to welcome 15 New Members to the 2014 class! In August, we hosted a New Member Welcome Night at the Cedar Falls Tourism Center with different tables for potential New Members to learn about what Junior League does for the community. Our tables included The History of Junior League, Touch-A-Truck, Charity Ball, Community Impact, Prom's Closet and Membership. We had a great turnout and support from our Active Members to work at each booth. We broke our training up into two classes and separated them from the General Membership Meetings in order to focus more on learning. The first class focused on Fund Development, Finances, and Membership. In the second class, New Members learned about Community Impact, Marketing and Prom's Closet. At each class, we had Council Vice Presidents and Board Members introduce themselves and talk about their position in Junior League.

A change from years' past, we are introducing the New Members at the December General Membership Meeting as they have completed their training. This will allow them to actively participate and vote at all future General Membership Meetings. The New Member class will also be responsible for running Prom's Closet in the Spring.

IN THE KITCHEN

In need of holiday inspirations?

Look no further than our First Impressions Cookbook. This line-up is sure to get one in the mood for the holidays! Try one or put them all together and impress your guests!

<u>Starter</u>

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Stuffed Phyllo Cups : page 30

<u>Salad</u>

Apple Walnut Salad with Bacon Vinaigrette : page 73

<u>Main</u>

Beef Tenderloin with Bordelaise Sauce : page 139 Hot Marinated Mushrooms : page 21

<u>Beverage</u>

Poinsettia Punch: page 41



Raspberry Fudge Brownies (page 202)

Brownies:

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
3 (1-ounce) squares unsweetened chocolate
1 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup flour
2 eggs, beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 cup raspberry jam
Confectioners' sugar to taste

Raspberry Sauce

1 (16-ounce) package frozen raspberries, thawed 2/3 cup sugar 1 tablespoon Grand Marnier

For the brownies, melt the butter and chocolate in a saucepan over low heat, stirring constantly, remove from heat.

Mix in the brown sugar, flour, eggs and vanilla. Spread in a greased 8x8-inch baking pan. Spread the jam over the top and swirl lightly to mix. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes. Cool in pan on a wire rack. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar and cut into squares.

For the sauce, purée the raspberries, sugar and Grand Marnier in a blender or food processor; strain. Drizzle over the brownies. Enjoy!

Yield: 16 servings



Jessica Benjamin



Suzanne Dripps



Annie Gougler



Angie Gray





Rachel Hardinger

Nicole Mathews



Brooke McKenna



Melissa Leg

April Ramsey



Stephanie Staack



BERS E S E NEV Σ



Cathy Stainbrook



Anna Strohbehn

Alex Washington

Want to volunteer and make life-long friendships? Consider Joining Junior League! Please contact the New Member Committee at jlwcfnewmember@gmail.com

In Other News Charity Ball 2014

"A Gatsby Soirée"

You Still Have Time to RSVP! What: Charity Ball - A Gatsby Soirée When: Saturday, December 6th, 2014 Where: Sunnyside Country Club Why: Because it is sure to be a great time and fun for all!



A special Thank You to Ladybugs Event Planning & Rental for donating their services and all decorations for this year's event!

Take a trip back in time to the Roaring 20's, and help support our largest fundraiser of the year, Junior League's 2014 Charity Ball! A Gatsby Soirée will be held on Saturday, December 6 at Sunnyside Country Club from 6:00-11:30 p.m.

The formal fundraiser is set to include a great silent and live auction, with auctioneering by Penny O'Connor, live music performed by the Cedar Valley Big Band, a raffle with the chance to win a beautiful piece of jewelry donated by Facets by Susong, and dinner and dancing.

We ask that all Active Members and Sustainer/Emeritus Members plan to arrive prior to 7:00 p.m. to be included in this year's group photos.

Please plan to participate in our largest fundraising event of the year! You will be sure to have a great time as well as help raise funds for Junior League. Tickets are \$75 each and may be purchased online by visiting www.jlwcf.org. Event sponsorship opportunities, silent auction basket donations, and cash sponsorships are still being sought by the Charity Ball Committee.

For questions on how to get involved, please email Julie Girsch at jlwcfcharityball@gmail.com.

Rock 'N Brews

On Saturday, October 11th, Junior League partnered with Rock 'N Brews for a new Fund Development opportunity. The event was held at the Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center and featured over 100 different craft beers as well as live entertainment from the local band WAGG.



Active members were able to volunteer at the event. They helped pour samples, answered questions, and also learned a lot about the unique brews. Junior League gained visibility and shared in the event's proceeds!

Terry Poe Buschkamp



Terry with her husband, Jim Buschkamp; daughter Katy Harbaugh and her husband, Matt, son Alex, and daughter Madalyn; and son Andy Poe.



featured SUSTAINER

As an Active Member for 17 years, Poe Buschkamp served in a lot of different areas of Junior League. Her favorite positions were Co-Chair of Charity Ball and Chair of the Nominating Committee. When asked what her favorite memories were of Junior League, she stated, "There are so many things.... Everyone always answers "the life-long friendships", and that is certainly the case for me, as well. I still maintain many of those relationships."

Since going sustaining, Terry hasn't slowed down a bit. She is on staff with the Iowa Economic Development's Main Street Iowa program, and works across the state in 52 communities. Terry states, "I can honestly say that my professional career is due in large part to the experience I got in Junior League. I was a stay-at-home mom when Nancy Showers, the Chair of the Waterloo Downtown Council, asked me if I would be interested in applying for the position of Executive Director for the organization. I had a college degree, but honestly very little work experience and no resume. What I did have was plenty of volunteer experience, thanks to Junior League! I dashed home, created a resume and got the job! Then I went on to be the Executive Director of the Waterloo Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Executive Director of Main Street Waterloo before joining the state staff for Main Street Iowa."

Work doesn't end when Poe Buschkamp leaves the office. Her passion for historic buildings and architecture is close to home, literally. She owns 2 historic homes, one in Des Moines where she stays during the week for work, and one in Waterloo. She lends a hand whenever she gets a chance for the Main Street programs in Waterloo as well as West Des Moines' Valley Junction. Most of (and her favorite) volunteering includes watching her grandchildren. "Nothing is more important to me than my family," Poe Buschkamp explains. This includes Jim (husband of 20 years), daughter Katy and her husband Matt and son Andy. "And I absolutely love spending time with my grandkids Alex and Madalyn," she adds.

Fall Sustainer Event......

On October 16, Sustainers gathered to mingle and shop at For Goodness Sake in the Kimball Ridge Plaza. Sustainers received a discount for shopping at the event and part of the proceeds went to Junior League.

<u>Sustainer Holiday Party!</u> Tuesday, December 16 @ 4:30-7:30 p.m. At the Home of Joni Hollen: 415 Kingbard, Waterloo



Community Impact

Our New Focus: Teen Issues

Impacting Cedar Valley Teens

At the September General Membership Meeting, the Active Members voted to establish Teen Issues as our official focus area. Last year, Community Impact sponsored two events related to this topic, a Healthy Teen Living Night and a Teen Service Day. In addition, the Community Impact Committee met with local organizations to determine what the needs are in the community and if Junior League will be able to make an impact on the lives of Cedar Valley teens. It was met with great enthusiasm by the local organizations the committee met with, and we are confident we can use our time and resources to make a positive impact.

For the foreseeable future, Teen Issues will be the focus of our fundraising efforts and it will drive the organizations we get involved with, as well as the events we coordinate. With that being said, we will continue to offer volunteer opportunities for our Members and help other organizations in the community such as the NE Iowa Food Bank. We will also continue with the ever popular Prom's Closet as our annual New Member project. We are very excited about all of the doors that this new focus will open. There are many niches within Teen Issues that we will be able to connect with and make a lasting impact for teens in the Cedar Valley. Look for many new, exciting events and volunteer opportunities to come!

Enabling Grant

The first enabling grant of the 2014-2015 year has been given to the Salvation Army, to be used to support their teen mentorship program. The \$1,000 grant will be used to provide rewards once the mentorees have reached certain academic-based goals. The next Enabling Fund Grant deadline is February 10, 2015. See our website or contact the VP of Community Impact, Holly Risetter, for more

Active Members Get Valuable Leadership Training

On October 30, Active Members attended a speaker night at VGM featuring Melissa Reade, the program director of Leader Valley. Melissa spoke about Stephen Covey's Leader in Me program, its presence in the Cedar Valley schools and how it relates to Junior League's Issue Based Community focus; Teen Issues.

Leader Valley Developing Cedar Valley leaders of tomorro

Sponsors Listing

Junior League Sponsors 2014-2015

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

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featured MFMBER

Jennifer Stevenson

Busy is the best way to describe Active Member, Jennifer Stevenson. Jennifer is a dentist who has owned and operated All Smiles Family Dentistry in Cedar Falls since 2009. She has a husband, John, who she has been married to for 8 years. They have a son, Samuel (1.5 years old) and a dog, Carver.

Jennifer joined Junior League in 2009 after learning about it from some of her friends. After graduating from college and moving to Cedar Falls, where her husband is from, she



wanted to branch out and make some of her own friends and get more involved in the community.

Since joining, she has served as the Charity Ball Assistant, Charity Ball Chair (2011), Meetings and Education, and was on the Touch-A-Truck Committee. She currently is a New Member Co-Chair, helping New Members learn about and connect with Junior League. Her favorite part of Junior League is meeting new people, completing major projects and learning how to use new technology and other skills that she would have never been exposed to otherwise.

In her spare time, Jennifer likes to sweat it out at Next Level Extreme Fitness, take her dog for walks, and experiment with new baking recipes. She and her husband also love Iowa Hawkeye Football and travel to as many games as they can in the Fall.

Jennifer was also a pioneer in our community for the Halloween Candy buyback program. Each year, she pays kids \$1/pound for their candy. That candy is then donated to Operation Gratitude, where it is distributed to military personnel overseas for their holiday gift packages. They typically collect candy from about 75 children in the Cedar Valley and accumulate 200 pounds of candy annually. Jennifer and her staff also take the time to educate children in the daycares and elementary schools throughout the Cedar Valley on oral hygiene and forming good habits. Last year, she and her staff visited over 500 children under the age of six in our community.