

## **ANNOUNCING THE 2011-2013 PROJECT: BRIDGING THE G.A.P.!**

In June, JLCR voted in a new project for at least the next two League years. We are thrilled to share the project name with you all: **Bridging the G.A.P.** The letters in **G.A.P.** identify three approaches to the issue of teens in foster care: **Guide, Advocate and Provide.** The Community Council will be providing members opportunities to serve in each area through the Guide, Advocate and Provide “tracks.”

- **Guide:** Working with youth in the AMP Program (formerly Elevate). Positive interactions with adults are a key part of long-term success for youth in foster care. Foundation 2's AMP Program is a group of teens and young adults who are connected to the foster care system. JLCR members will spend time with the AMP youth. We'll be providing presentations, cooking healthy meals, and helping Foundation 2 staff guide the AMP youth toward adulthood and independent living.
- **Advocate:** Writing or speaking on the issue area and developing a public stance for JLCR. JLCR is exploring the broad issues that impact youth in foster care - funding, State and Federal laws, and best practices. JLCR will be having a variety of speaker series to educate all members. The first event was a huge success and featured State Representative Renee Schulte and a young woman who was in the foster care system five years ago.
- **Provide:** Remember your first apartment? Did you inherit a set of dishes from your parents? Use your high school graduation money to buy new towels? Many youth in foster care don't have these resources when they turn 18 and begin living independently. JLCR is compiling "Apartment in a Suitcase" kits for teens in our community who are exiting the foster care system - new suitcases filled to bursting with bedding, dishes, pots and pans, towels, laundry detergent and everything else teens need for their first apartment. At our future meetings, we'll let you know ways that you can help add an item to the suitcases.

In addition, a variety of project trainings will be available throughout the year – some will focus on “big picture” issues such as the August 30 event with Rep. Renee Schulte, and some will focus on skills needed for a particular track. We are looking forward to the next couple of years and making an impact in the community with **Bridging the G.A.P.**

Our next speaker series will feature **U.S. Senator Charles Grassley on Thursday, October 25** from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Human Services Campus. Senator Grassley is the co-founder and co-chair of the Senate Caucus on Foster Youth, and will explain why the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 represented the most significant and far-reaching reform to federal child welfare policy in more than ten years. You will also learn about Senator Grassley's efforts to focus attention on the needs of older children in foster care and young adults who have “aged out” of the foster care system.

Stay tuned for more information and opportunities to get involved. Please contact Maria Sanchez-Masi with questions.

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## President's Letter: Giving back to the Community



Wow! It is hard to believe that the summer has flown right by and the League year is underway! As I reflect back to our last time together at the Annual Meeting a lot of things have changed.

**We have a new office!** We are now located at the Human Services Campus downtown. If you have not seen this space, it is amazing and will be very efficient for JLCR.

**We have a new office manager!** Elizabeth Smith started working with us the middle of August. We are very excited to have Elizabeth on board. She has rolled up her sleeves, dug in and will be a fantastic addition for JLCR!

**We have an amazing new member class!** If you haven't had a chance to meet these ladies, I strongly recommend attending one of new member events. These ladies are dynamic and ready to get involved!

**We have a new Project!** Bridging the G.A.P. is an exciting opportunity for our League to have a SIGNIFICANT impact on teens in the foster care system. We are going to have an opportunity to GUIDE, ADVOCATE and PROVIDE.

As you can see, this has not been a summer of lazy days at the pool. Throughout the summer, the board and leadership team have met and developed a working annual plan that will accomplish key initiatives that were set forth in our three year annual plan. Many of our committees have been working throughout the summer. I can't say enough how impressed I have been with the ideas, excitement and energy I have felt throughout our membership. This is going to be a great year! The Junior League of Cedar Rapids is going to be known in the community this year as making a significant impact.

I strongly recommend you taking some time and determining how YOU want to give back to this community, how YOU want to grow this year, and then leap right in. You are going to have every opportunity you want to make a difference this year! It is going to take all of our heart, minds, and hands! Think big! I am truly convinced with our Active Membership and Sustainers, there is nothing that we can't accomplish.

In conclusion, THANK YOU! The work you are doing for JLCR is important. You are truly giving to this community and I hope that at the end of this League year you say "wow, I got way more out of this year, than I put in." If I can help you in any way to achieve that, please let me know. I look forward to working with YOU!

## Meet the New Sustainer Presidents!

Introducing the 2011-2012 Sustainer Presidents Diane Ramsey and Leah Rodenberg! The Junior League of Cedar Rapids is extremely excited about these ladies serving JLCR this year. Their energy, enthusiasm and dedication to improving women is a definite asset to Junior League.

Diane and Leah are busy planning for the year and are looking forward to working with our Sustainers on some exciting, fun things!



## Sustainer Update: How to Get Involved

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It's hard to believe that the leaves are falling and the holidays are just around the corner! Another busy League year is underway and we are proud to be representing the sustaining members this year.

We both have enjoyed getting back into the swing of participating in League meetings and events, but are finding that we do not have as much energy as we did when we were active members! We have identified a number of ways that we are hoping to reconnect sustainers with one another this year, including some upcoming Lunch and Learn sessions at local non-profits, our annual holiday parties and other social events. More information will be sent to you about each of these events in the coming weeks.

For those of you who utilize e-mail, you will begin receiving League updates twice per month to keep you informed. If you are not signed up to receive e-mails and would like to, please contact the office at [info@juniorleaguecr.org](mailto:info@juniorleaguecr.org). We'd like to update you on some exciting ways that you can get involved with active and sustaining members this year.

### ***New Project Focus Area – Bridging the G.A.P.***

The Board and membership have been hard at work and have done a great job of launching our new project area. For the next two years we will be working with teenagers in or transition out of the foster care system in the program "Bridging the G.A.P." There are various volunteer opportunities available for sustainers to assist the active members with that we will include in the e-mail updates and future newsletter articles.

We are excited to focus our efforts on this project and know that many of you have experience or expertise in this specific area. Thank you in advance for your support!

### ***AJLI Webinar Wednesdays***

The Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) recently launched a new series called "Webinar Wednesdays" as one of many methods to help Junior League women develop as community and civic leaders. These sessions, typically one-hour in duration, are designed to appeal to EVERY Junior League member, regardless of her membership status, as an easy way to increase her knowledge of and interest in community and civic leadership.

This is a new and FREE opportunity for Sustainers and Active members. Registration is now open for the following sessions:

November 2: Using Your Junior League Experience to Start a Non-Profit with Dee Dickinson

November 16: Women Lead the Way: Your Guide to Stepping Up to Leadership and Changing the World with Linda Tarr-Whelan

December 7: Simple Things You are NOT Doing to Raise More Money with Amy Eisenstein.

All sessions are at held at 12 p.m. (CST). To learn more and REGISTER, go to <http://www.ajli.org/?nd=webinarwed>.

As you know, there are many opportunities in our community to get involved and serve others. We are proud that our past and present League members continue to make a difference in the lives of others. One important aspect that we have both enjoyed about our League involvement is the lifelong friendships that we have made and the invaluable networking opportunities that League provides. We hope that we can find some meaningful ways to bring you all back together this year and celebrate the friendships and training that we received through our League experience, while helping to carry that legacy on with the active members.

We welcome your thoughts and suggestions on ways we can help League members reconnect and also show the value of your membership to the organization. We hope to see you at a future event!

Sustainer Co-Presidents,  
Leah Rodenberg and Diane Ramsey  
[leahrodenberg@alliantenergy.com](mailto:leahrodenberg@alliantenergy.com)  
[dhr Ramsey@rockwellcollins.com](mailto:dhr Ramsey@rockwellcollins.com)



## DONE IN A DAY: Brighten

On Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup>, Junior League of Cedar Rapids had a Done-In-a-Day (DIAD) event supporting **BRIGHTEN**. **BRIGHTEN** is a program that was created by The Community Corrections Improvement Association (CCIA), a non-profit foundation arm of the Sixth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services, focused on designing and carrying-out innovative solutions for safer communities in Iowa.

**BRIGHTEN** addresses exterior city code violations when homeowners – due to age, disability, or financial circumstances – are unable to independently restore their homes. **BRIGHTEN** supports the “broken windows” theory, which states that a maintained urban environment helps citizens take pride in their community, and in turn reduces criminal behavior. Thus, by helping private homeowners address city code violations, **BRIGHTEN** allows entire neighborhoods to enjoy the public benefits of beautification.

On October 8<sup>th</sup> from 8am to noon, members of Junior League had the opportunity to roll back their sleeves and sharpen their skills on exterior painting, minor repair work and lawn care, all while supporting **BRIGHTEN** and the Cedar Rapids neighborhoods they serve.

In addition to BRIGHTEN, below is a list of the organizations which JLCR will be partnering with for our 2011-2012 Done-In-a-Day Projects:

- Families Helping Families
- Hawthorn Hills/Affordable Housing Network
- AMP/Foundation 2
- Gems of Hope
- Metro High School
- The Arc
- Science Station
- Habitat for Humanity

Details on the upcoming projects will be available at the GMMs and in the Weekly News.



## MACARONI & PLEASE: Fall Session

This Fall, we have the opportunity to partner with Four Oaks to bring our Macaroni & Please Life Skills Playshop to many children in their program. We will be focusing on kids ages 5-10, teaching them leadership skills for everyday life. Our playshop will be made up of our most popular topics from the past year. We will have interactive playstations covering topics such as: Table Setting, How to Behave at a Birthday Party, Meeting New People, and other great leadership skills.

We are very excited for the opportunity to bring this educational and fun event to kids who might not otherwise have the means to attend. On October 17<sup>th</sup> we will be heading out to share Macaroni & Please with the kids at the Cedar Valley Resource Center, followed by The Bridge on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

In the Spring, we will bring these life skills to Middle School aged children. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months! Don't forget to sign up to volunteer to help out!



## MEET ELIZABETH SMITH: Our New Office Manager

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This summer, Elizabeth Smith joined the JLCR as our new office manager. She has done a fantastic job jumping in and learning! We are so pleased to have Elizabeth on our team. Elizabeth is a native Cedar Rapiidian. She is married to her husband, Paul, who is employed by Rockwell Collins, and together they have 3 boys- Gabe - 9, Asher – 6 and Isaiah – 4, who are all students at Trinity Lutheran School. This fall Elizabeth's youngest started pre-school and so Elizabeth was ready to start working part-time. In Elizabeth's spare time she enjoys her work as a consultant for CAbi clothing, gardening, church activities, Iowa Hawkeye football, and outdoor activities.

## JLCR Moves to the Human Services Campus

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**This June, the Junior League of Cedar Rapids moved to the Human Services Campus. This location is the home of many local non-profits. There are some great benefits to this new location! Below highlights some important information about our new home:**

### **Conference Room and Open Area Access:**

The Human Services Campus building is unlocked Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM. A security guard is available to let JLCR members into the building Monday-Thursday 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM. During these hours, JLCR members may use the JLCR common areas for committee meetings without requiring a building key or reservations. A building access key will be required for use of the conference room and / or open area during non-staffed evening and all weekend/holiday hours. See below for instructions regarding borrowing an access card. Please note: the use of the HSC Conference Room requires an advance reservation. Please contact [JoannaNohr@hotmail.com](mailto:JoannaNohr@hotmail.com) if you would like to reserve a time. To see if the conference room is available go to: <http://www.hsceci.org/Content/Conference-Center/Conference-Center-Schedule.aspx>

### **JLCR Office Access:**

A building access card AND hardcopy office keys are required to access the JLCR offices during all hours (weekdays, weeknights and weekends). JLCR members may borrow a building access card from their Council VP or may use the back-up card kept at Holmes Murphy (available only 8 - 4:30 pm weekdays). Members are responsible for returning the card promptly and are asked to provide as much advance notice for the request as possible.

A spare set of hardcopy keys to both offices is stored in the common area adjacent to the JLCR offices. The locked key box is located inside the cabinet marked Junior League of Cedar Rapids, near the recycling bin. **The keys must be returned to the key box and the box locked as soon as you are done in the office.** Contact your Council VP for the access code. The code was also disclosed verbally at the September GMM. For security reasons, the code should NOT be conveyed in email or print in conjunction with our organization's name or the key box location.

### **PARKING:**

Please note, all parking spots in the HSC parking lot are reserved for clients and employees only during normal business hours. JLCR members are kindly asked to please use downtown street parking if they will be at HSC during the day. JLCR members may use any of the HSC parking spots during evening and weekend hours.

### **HOUSEKEEPING:**

Pick up after yourself! No trash should be left out. The conference room can be set up however you like and you do not need to return the conference room to a set format after utilizing.

## 2010-2011 Standing Ovation Award Winners

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The 2010-2011 Annual Meeting was held at the Cedar Rapids Country Club on Tuesday, May 17, 2011. The following awards were presented by Vanessa Rogers, Vice President of Administration:

**UNsung HERO AWARD:** An Active or New Member not currently serving as a committee chair or board member is eligible for this award. The award is presented to someone whose participation has had great impact on JLCR, through encouragement, participation, and support. This recipient shows willingness to step up to the plate on short notice and go beyond the call of duty to get things done. The 2010-2011 Unsung Hero Award recipient was Nicole Ridge.

**LEADERSHIP AWARD:** The Leadership Award is presented to a member of League who motivates, inspires and leads others to further the vision of the organization through her League placement. This member is someone who has had a meaningful impact on other League members and uses her talents to mentor and train other League members. The 2010-2011 Leadership Award recipient was Nicole Ridge.

**SPIRIT AWARD:** The recipient of this award embodies the spirit of League voluntarism in her actions and interactions within the community, and with JLCR members. This person consistently inspires others with her caring, understanding, enthusiasm, and pursuit of excellence while embracing JLCR's values. The 2010-2011 Spirit Award recipient was Emily Ernst.

**WHEELS IN MOTION:** The Wheels in Motion Award goes to a member who deserves special recognition for her dedication of time, effort, creativity, and leadership, and who has contributed in a special way to one of our fund raisers, marketing endeavors, current projects or Done in a Day events. This person's efforts symbolize the "Wheels in Motion" that help drive JLCR's focus. The 2010-2011 Wheels in Motion Award recipient was Maria Sanchez-Masi.

**SUSTAINER OF THE YEAR:** This award is presented to honor the sustaining member who has made outstanding contributions to League and/or the community. This year's recipient has fulfilled JLCR's mission by maintaining an active role in League throughout the past year. The 2010-2011 Sustainer of the Year Award recipient was Cecelia Harmeyer.

**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP TO JUNIOR LEAGUE OF CEDAR RAPIDS:** This award is presented to an individual, business or association in the Corridor area whose involvement and contributions to the efforts of Junior League of Cedar Rapids during the past League year have been so outstanding that they should be recognized by honorary membership in our organization. The 2010-2011 Honorary Membership to the Junior League of Cedar Rapids was presented to Tom 'O'Shea for his work on the Duramed Futures Tour.

Cristiane AbouAssaly recognized the 2010-2011 **RISING STAR**, Katie Schroeder. Only New Members are eligible to receive the Rising Star Award.

Special thanks to Laurie Wahlert, Abbie Covenah and Emily Ernst for serving on the 2010-2011 Awards Review Committee.

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Stephanie Mellor,  
DNP, ARNP

## ANNUAL FUND: What is it?

A stop at Starbucks each morning, a gossip magazine in the check-out line, another new lip gloss, each week every one of us spends a small amount of money on small luxuries we don't need. What if you chose to give the money to an organization that uses your small gift to improve our community? The JLCR Annual Fund needs your support!

**What is the JLCR Annual Fund?** The JLCR Annual Fund is a fundraiser just like Butterfly Kisses and LTTC. Its purpose is to underwrite the daily operations of JLCR and to support projects in a manner consistent with JLCR's mission. It is the financial framework of JLCR which enables us to promote voluntarism, develop the potential of women, and improve the community. It is an integral part of our organization, and a foundation for all of our endeavors as an organization. Without it, there is no Junior League of Cedar Rapids.

**What does the Annual Fund support?** The JLCR Annual Fund covers expenses such as postage for Sustainers to receive Impact, a salary to support our Office Manager, expenses for the leaders of our

organization to attend rewarding seminars, and the rent for our office space and meetings...essentially everything we need to function allowing us to continue to support women who build our community.

**YES! I can give up two Starbucks per month!**

**How can I give?** The Annual Fund is supported by our membership and contributing has never been easier. You can donate a one-time amount, payable by check, credit card, or debit card. Another option this year, allows you to donate each month through a credit card transaction..

**And don't forget...** A contribution to the Annual Fund IS tax deductible!

A contribution also counts towards an Active member's annual \$90 financial requirement.

Your employer may match your gift – please ask!

Annual Fund pledge forms will be available at the October GMM. If you cannot attend this meeting, it will be mailed to your home. As always, the JLCR office will also have pledge forms on hand.

## Welcome Night Attended by Many

On Tuesday, August 23, twenty-eight women interested in membership with the Junior League of Cedar Rapids attended a New Member Welcome Night at Guaranty Bank in downtown Cedar Rapids. Also in attendance were approximately one dozen active members. The event was hosted by the Membership Retention Committee, which is chaired by Nicole Lee with Laurie Wahlert serving as assistant chair.

In addition to enjoying refreshments, potential new members were also introduced to several Board members and learned more about this year's project. Presenting to the group were Kari Cooling, President, Maria Sanchez-Masi, VP of Community and Mindy Sorg, VP of Membership.

All members of the Membership Recruitment Committee also shared their personal reasons for joining League during the formal presentation: Cindy Adkins, Erica Bergfeld, Anna Kucera-Pint, and Heather Saysait.

To give the prospective members another opportunity to meet with each other and additional League members prior to Structure Night and the Retreat, the committee hosted a New Member Social at Zin's on Thursday, September 8. More than one dozen prospective members, many of whom who had also attended Welcome Night, met downtown after work.



## ABOVE & BEYOND: Fall 2011

Thank you to **Malora Cosgrove**, **Joanna Nohr**, and **Kari Cooling** for all their work in the office move and the transition from Tina to no one! Malora, Joanna, and Kari have been rockstars.

Thank you to the **Community Council** for getting us a Project that our membership is truly excited about.

Thank you to the **Placement Committee** for getting all the advisors set up with advisees---and all have been contacted thus far! We are off to a great start!

Thank you to **Kari Cooling**, **Nicole Ridge**, **Molly Baynes**, **Kathy Crosby**, **Ruth Hart**, **Kristin Roberts**, **Maria Sanchez-Masi** for all of their help on moving day. I could not have accomplished this alone.

Thank you **Mindy Sorg** for such a GREAT first meeting!!! So excited to be on this Council – you're a great leader and you keep us focused and on track! Thank you for being so organized and to the point with emails—it's great working with you!

Thank you to **Crystal Hardinger** for volunteering to be the liaison between Community Council and E&T, and for her amazing work on the Renee Schulte event – Crystal is an absolute rock star!

Thanks to **Kathy Crosby** for suggesting [www.volunteerspot.com](http://www.volunteerspot.com), which will help us manage our events with much less energy.

Special thanks to **Ashley Ernst** for assisting with phone interviews of possible candidates. Thanks to **Mindy** for assistance with office painting, to **Malora** and **Kari** for assistance with office maintenance

and to **Nicole Ridge** for securing food for the meetings!!!

**Nicole Ridge** for her excellent follow-up on LTTTC!

**Shantelle Franzen** is on top of it! A request is made to contact and she does it. Her messages are clear, detailed and engaging. Love it!

Thank you to **Kari Cooling** for helping us connect with possible speakers!!

Thanks to **Malora Cosgrove** for planting the idea of contacting Chuck Grassley's office (he is a long-time supporter of foster kids).

A belated thank-you to **Mindy Sorg** for suggesting the room set-up for the June GMM & Project Vote. Feedback was incredibly positive and I suggested using this format again for the September LTTTC vote.

Despite being a small council, my two **Planning Council** members have stepped up, representing our council at two upcoming meetings that I can't attend.

Thank you to **Malora Cosgrove** for assisting Placement in printing/coordination all of their distribution materials for Advisor Kick Off meetings!

Thank you to **Christine Young** for her immediate attention to completing/updating the internal PR materials!

Would like to thank **Mindy Sorg** for her assistance in making the calls and fulfilling the need for more committee members on Mac-n-Please. Additional thanks **Malora Cosgrove** for her assistance in helping the Placement Committee get all the needed documents printed! Rock Star!

Thank you to **Jenn B** for updating the core competencies and for finding Keely, our amazing foster care alum who spoke at the Renee Schulte event.

Thanks to **Molly Baynes** & the **Marketing Committee** for all of their hard work on the Project this month! From developing a Project Name, PR for the Renee Schulte event, creating and approving flyers, and more! I appreciate the speed, professionalism & efficiency they brought to the table!

Thanks to the Board for bringing food to the Renee Schulte event, especially **Kari**, **Malora**, **Crystal** & **Stephanie** for setting up, and everyone who helped clean up.

Thanks to **Natalie Ditmars** for scheduling a local judge (and past JLCR member) for the October Project Training.

A huge thank you goes out to the **Education and Training Committee** for helping us identify and contact speakers for the project speaker series. **Jen Byers** sent out an email to Cedar Rapids school counselors asking for suggestions for speakers who were foster care alums. **Natalie Ditmars** contacted Judge Barbara Liesveld and she's agreed to speak at a future event. **Krable Dougherty** provided us with great feedback when it came to the format of the speaker series. Everyone really stepped it up in the past 4 weeks and has put together a great line up of diverse options for members to choose from the first half of the year – great job ladies!!!



## THIRD ANNUAL LTTC RECAP

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One word can be used to describe the 2011 Ladies Titan Tire Challenge (LTTC) this June : FANTASTIC! In just its third year, this event has made a name for itself in the Cedar Rapids community and the fan support showed with an attendance of almost 2700 people! More than 200 community volunteers also logged over 3500 hours for this one-of-a-kind Iowa event.

The 2011 LTTC week took place Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> through Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at Hunter's Ridge Golf Course in Marion. Tournament week went by in a blur as volunteers helped host nine different events before the main tournament started Friday. Events began on Tuesday with a Free Junior Clinic, and a "Meet the Pros" party was held at Theatre Cedar Rapids for sponsors and upcoming Pro-Am players. Wednesday sunshine was perfect for the women's clinic and Cedar Rapids area Pro-Am event. Thursday treated Titan Pro-Am players to some of our more interesting Iowa June weather with cold, wind, and a little rain. Fortunately both the morning and afternoon Pro-Am events were still able to be played. Throw in two additional private clinics and the week was more than full!

Official LPGA Futures tour play began Friday morning with the first round of 150 women professionals. Volunteers and Hunter's Ridge staff arrived early to make sure everything was ready. By day's end, Kathleen Ekey had taken the first round lead with a 5-under score of 67. Ekey, 24, is a second-year pro from Ohio still looking for her first tour win and had a three shot lead.

Saturday's second round quickly turned interesting as lightening entered the area just after 10 am. Play was suspended and the LTTC committee quickly went about evacuating the course. After a 45 minute delay, play resumed and thankfully there were no other weather issues. At the end of the day, Kathleen Ekey was still in the lead with a five stroke advantage at 138. Ekey was trailed by Jane Rah, and Carling Coffing, and Leanne Bowditch, all tied for second at 143.

Sunday proved sunny and warm for the LTTC Championship round. Committee members had a bounce in their step knowing the event had gone off without any major hiccups, and another LTTC champion was soon to be crowned. The crowd continued to grow as it rounded the turn and followed the leaders toward the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. Hundreds gathered to see Kathleen Ekey sneak out her first LPGA Futures tour win. Ahead by just one stroke as she headed to 18, Ekey ended the round with a score of 77 for a one-under finish at 215. Jean Chua and Carling Coffing tied for second at an even-par 216.

What a great week! These young women professionals are such positive role-models, and to help them work towards their dream was fantastic. Sadly, the one downfall of this year's event was the monetary outcome. While sponsor support continued to be strong, the LTTC committee was not able to equal the level of funds raised in 2010. However, thanks to some larger in-kind donations, and the committees' ability to lower several costs, the event was able to break even. Given the enjoyment of the community, sponsors, and the education of junior golf fans, JLCR is still proud to call the event a success! A huge thank you goes out to everyone who participated in the event this year. Plans are already in the works to improve on 2011 and we look forward to seeing you next year!

## Thank you Cibo!

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Cibo Fusion has been a supporter of the Ladies Titan Tire Challenge and several other JLCR events since their opening a few years ago. This year they are our Board meeting sponsor and are providing meals at a discounted rate for the GMMs. Please show your support of this one-of-a-kind local restaurant. Please be sure to visit Cibo Fusion on 7th Ave in Marion, or think of them for catering your next party or meeting. They have a great variety of appetizers and entrees and will work to provide a menu that will fit any occasion. Visit them online at [Cibofusion.com](http://Cibofusion.com).



**EDUCATION & TRAINING: October-December**

**October**

**Digital Photography Tips and Tricks – October 27<sup>th</sup>**

- Presented by Ed & Molly Kempf, Owners of Impact Photography/Joe Photo
- For Members and Friends

“Digital Photography Tips and Tricks” will train you on photography basics, tips and tricks to help you have the best photographs of your family and friends for the upcoming holiday season and beyond!

**When:** 5:30pm – 7:00pm, October 27, 2011

**Where:** Human Services Campus Conference Room, 317 7th Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids

**About the Speaker:** Ed & Molly Kempf are the owners of Impact Photography/Joe Photo

Register online at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NK9Y9Y8>

**November**

**Public Speaking 101 – November 9<sup>th</sup>**

- Presented by Vanessa Rogers, Vice President of the Cedar Rapids Downtown District
- For Members and Friends

“Public Speaking 101” is the perfect training for anyone with a fear of speaking in public or who just wants to improve on his/her presentation skills. This session will teach you how to prepare for a basic public speaking engagement such as a work presentation, Junior League presentation or speaking at a community event.

**When:** 12:00pm – 1:00pm, November 9, 2011 Learn over

Lunch  
(The Marriott offers a lunch buffet or you can order off of the menu)

**Where:** Willow Private Dining Room in the Cedar Grille at the Marriott - 1200 Collins Road NE, Cedar Rapids

**About the Speaker:** Vanessa Rogers earned her Master’s degree in Interpersonal Communication from the University of Texas at Austin. During her time there she taught Public Speaking 101 to undergraduate students at a community college in Texas. Vanessa’s current position as VP of the Downtown District requires a wide variety of public speaking, including board presentations, City Council presentations, television/ radio interviews and press conferences.

**Register Online at:** <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NDNJZ7T>

**December**

**Culinary Arts at Kirkwood - Pate a Choux Pastries**

**Two Date Options!!!! December 1<sup>st</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup>**

- Presented by Marjorie Jensen, Kirkwood Instructor
- For Members and Friends
- Special Note: There is a \$25 per person fee for this session

“Culinary Arts at Kirkwood - Pate a Choux Pastries”  
Learn to prepare Pate a Choux with Kirkwood Bakery Instructor, Marjorie Jensen! This delectable recipe will provide you with new culinary skills that can be showcased in many versatile ways. Come experience how Pate a Choux can be served as a savory

appetizer or sweet treat and learn how to display Pate a Choux as a puff pastry, elegant swan or even a playful snowman! Join Marjorie at Kirkwood’s Culinary Arts Learning Laboratory to discover a new recipe and skills that you can incorporate into your next gathering!

**When:** 6:30pm - 8:00pm, December 1, 2011

**Where:** Kirkwood Culinary Arts Learning Laboratory - Connected to the Kirkwood Hotel

**Special Notes:** We will collect the \$25 per person fee prior to the class beginning, please bring cash or a check made out to Kirkwood Community College (no cards please). Also, please bring a 9"x13" dish to take home your creations!!

**About the Speaker:** Marjorie Jensen and her husband, Glenn owned and operated the International Pastries store in Lindale Mall for about 15 years in the 1970’s to mid 90’s. They both returned to their educational roots several years ago, teaching culinary and math classes, respectively.

**Register Online for the December 1<sup>st</sup> Class at:** <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NNWJ5P9>

**Register Online for the December 8<sup>th</sup> Class at:** <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/N3H7S2Q>

## Meet the 2011-12 Board



**Kari Cooling, President**, has been in Junior League for seven years. She has had two years of board experience which has been extremely helpful in preparing for this year. Being an Advisor allowed her to really gain a further understanding of League. It made her more aware of what the JLCR members want to get out of League and what challenges people may be having. Kari's involvement in Slate Day also opened her eyes to JLCR and all the amazing leadership opportunities that are available.



**Kristin Roberts, President-Elect**, has been in Junior League for seven years. Her favorite position, so far, has been serving as the At-Large Board Member, and believes this was the most influential placement in her JLCR career. It gave her the opportunity to see how the organization works, the ability to discover the amazing women who lead JLCR, and the chance to grow her own passion for League. In addition to serving as the At-Large Board Member, she also served as VP of Finance and VP of Marketing, and she believe these helped her prepare for my current role on the board.



**Maria Sanchez-Masi, VP Community**, has been in League for three years. She spent two years as a Project Co-Chair and has worked in non-profits for over ten years - a huge chunk of that time was in a building built by the Junior League of St. Petersburg, Florida and in a position supported by the Junior League. The advice she gives to a new JLCR member is if you have any interest at all in a Leadership position, go for it - you really get a different perspective on League. And have fun while you're doing the work.



**Molly Baynes, VP Marketing**, is in her fifth active year in Junior League. Her Marketing/Public Relations experience was definitely essential for the VP Marketing position, but chairing Placement also gave her a better handle on JLCR as a whole and knowledge of more councils. Her advice to others is to get out of your comfort zone! Talk to strangers and try scary new experiences.



**Malora Cosgrove, VP Finance**, has been in JLCR for five years. She has served her JL career on the Finance Council, but has held various positions within this council. This has allowed her to understand how the all the committees on the Finance Council interact with each other and the many ways in which they rely on critical information from each other. Her advice to a new member would be to roll up your sleeves and dig in. If you don't understand how or why something is done, ask questions. Then realize sometimes you're just going to have to figure it out and DO IT to learn. In the end, it's that kind of doing that will make you a better member and leader.



**Mindy Sorg, VP Membership**, is a native Cedar Rapidian who came back after graduating from Iowa State University to get married to her husband David - celebrating their 16th Wedding Anniversary this year! Since becoming an active member in 2005, she has served on the board as President, VP Planning, VP Marketing and this year as VP Membership. She has also served on numerous committees such as Placement, LTTC, Butterfly Kisses, Mini Fundraisers, Habitat For Humanity and 75th Anniversary. Mindy has been very active in organizations such as Waypoint Services for Women Children & Families, HACAP, Relay For Life and Leadership for Five Seasons. She has 3 children: Emma 8 and Carlie and Landon who are 4.



**Joanna Nohr, VP Administration**, is in her sixth active year in Junior League. She says experience as a chair of several different committees was most helpful in preparing to be VP of Administration. Knowing the day-to-day needs of several committees prepared her to better represent her council during board meetings as well as understand the big picture of JLCR's future direction. She advises others to jump In – it's more fun to play the game than to watch it. Become a Self-Learner – There is great information on our Online File Folder, JLCR and AJLI websites. Use these to your advantage.



**Nicole Ridge, At-Large Board Member**, is in her sixth active year. Her experience as LTTC Co-Director has been absolutely amazing. She is the first to admit that she was not sure she wanted to do it (even though she loved the event), but she is SO glad she did. Nicole learned so much and gained many new skills and all the while had JLCR supporting her. She learned a lot about the workings of the board and many positions in League just from running the event. While she knows she certainly still has room to grow, she is thrilled to be At - Large board member this year. It is the perfect place for her to learn more.

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES: June 2011-Sept. 2011

### JLCR Board Meeting Minutes June 7, 2011

**Those present:** Kari Cooling, Mindy Sorg, Leah Rodenberg (Sustainer Co-President), Diane Ramsey (Sustainer Co-President), Maria Sanchez-Masi, Kristin Roberts, Nicole Ridge, Molly Baynes (via phone)

**Those absent:** Malora Cosgrove

#### Call to Order

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM in the conference room of the Human Services Campus (HSC) building.

#### Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

#### Active Agenda

##### **President's Report**

All members are to sign Code of Conduct which will be maintained in JL files.

LTTC – final profit numbers pending. One sponsor payment outstanding; Nicole Ridge to follow-up.

Office Manager position is still open. Board members are encouraged to send candidate information to Joanna Nohr, VP Administration.

Office move – Telephone/internet/copier will be moved from Four Oaks Bridge office to the HSC office Friday June 24, 2011. 'Live' date at HSC Monday June 27.

Board Reports – Proper completion of monthly board reports discussed. Each VP to fill in VP name, all committee chair names and the total council budget in her VP report (each committee member to include committee budget). VP's reminded to closely monitor budget use every month. Note: volunteer hours NOT tracked on board reports this year. Council board reports due to Kari Cooling

by **6 PM the Friday** immediately preceding the JLCR board meeting (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month).

Dashboard - fluid document highlighting JLCR statistics including: membership status, membership count, member dues and fundraising tracking, sponsorship and grant status, member placement updates, volunteer hour tracking (total available and worked hours). Leadership Retreat is to be held Saturday June 25, 9 AM – 1 PM at HSC. VP's are to send annual plan goals to Kari Cooling by Friday June 18 along with council member RSVP's. The Board will provide food for retreat.

Transitions – Done in a Day (DIAD) and Impact committee chair transitions pending.

##### **Two Cents**

Leah requested discussion of status of City of Cedar Rapids request for EIEIO support. Sustainer co-presidents will communicate information to sustainer members and contact city representatives to determine type of assistance requested and allow sustainers to participate on their own. JLCR will not provide financial support to this project at this time.

##### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM Respectfully submitted by Joanna Nohr, VP Administration

### JLCR Board Meeting Minutes July 5, 2011

**Those present:** Kari Cooling, Maria Sanchez-Masi, Nicole Ridge, Molly Baynes, Malora Cosgrove, Joanna Nohr

**Those absent:** Mindy Sorg, Leah Rodenberg (Sustainer Co-President), Diane Ramsey (Sustainer Co-President), Kristin Roberts

#### Call to Order

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM in the conference room of the Human Services Campus (HSC) building.

#### Agreement on the Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

#### Consent Agenda

The June 2011 JLCR board meeting minutes were unanimously approved as published. A motion to amend the Consent Agenda by moving the discussion of the Dashboard to the Active Agenda under Finance Council was made and unanimously approved.

#### Active Agenda

##### **President's Report**

GMM Time – Kari Cooling proposed changing the GMM start time from 7 PM to 6:30 PM. The September GMM will begin at 6:30 PM; a member poll will be conducted at the end of the meeting to determine if that time will be acceptable for the remainder of the 2011-12 year.

Speakers at GMM – Factual information should be submitted for inclusion on the GMM Agenda Back Page vs. presented during GMM. All VP's should train committee chairs appropriately on presentation etiquette and content i.e. the focus should center on member training. One idea is for each VP to answer council – related inquiries at each GMM with the intent of training all members on council and position – related information.

Annual Plan – All VP's are to meet with committee chairs and submit final annual plan modifications/goals to Kari Cooling prior to the August JLCR board meeting.

Transition Update – Impact committee transition session pending.

**Continued, Page 11**

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES: June 2011-Sept. 2011

### Continued from Page 10

#### Administration Council

Office Manager Update – position still to be filled. All JLCR members are encouraged to forward possible candidates to Joanna Nohr. Tina working is one day / month temporarily to train Malora on office functions.

Office Move Update – HSC outside doors open 7:30 – 5:30 pm Monday – Friday. Security guard staffing is available from 4:30 – 8:30 Monday – Thursday. Members may access the building during any of these times without key or access card. Joanna Nohr will obtain building access cards for all board members and hard key copies to both offices and cabinet for appropriate VP's and members, a locked key box or cabinet, and will send an outline of building access and room reservation process to membership prior to September GMM. A back-up key set will be maintained at Holmes Murphy. A desk and locked file cabinets were provided by Welter Storage (\$295 spent to date). Malora Cosgrove and Joanna Nohr will obtain another file cabinet, a locked box for confidential document storage and a folding step stool for the storage room. Malora will follow up with Qwest for service appointment to connect internet and our computer to the copy machine. Malora requested an estimate for signage from Sign Productions; Joanna will confirm signage arrangement with Vanessa Rogers (2010-11 VP Administration).

#### Finance Council

LTTTC – Nicole Ridge presented LTTTC profit / loss statement and volunteer turnout. JLCR lost approximately \$5,000 on the 2011 tournament (see itemized budget provided prior to meeting). JL

volunteer turnout was very low. Strategies for improvement include: increasing fundraising efforts (get more members involved), holding a Women's Clinic, turn the Meet the Pros into a more prestigious event, sponsoring a Fall Walk and/or Golf Outing for Fall 2011, increase ticket sales, increase merchandise sales during event. The Marketing and LTTTC committees will combine event fundraising activities. The 2012 event date may be pushed back by one week to avoid competition with other area events with the intent of increasing attendance and revenue generation. The 2012 event contract is not yet signed. The tournament may change the purse to a points system which may result in increased start-up money for JLCR and player award money. Nicole Ridge will find out the profit margin of other tournaments for comparison to JLCR and confirm if the point system will be enacted for the 2012 tournament.

Motion Presented – Nicole Ridge moved to vote on the following motion 'The Finance Council will bring forth at the September GMM a revote on the continuation of LTTTC in 2012. The motion passed 6 – 0.

Dashboard - Malora inquired about the notification process for member resignations and requesting position replacements in response to situations where chairs have been the last to know they have lost a committee member. Status change documents should be completed and filed by the VP Membership and Office Manager. Kari Cooling will ask Mindy Sorg to notify affected chairs immediately upon receipt of a status change. Kari Cooling will ask Mindy Sorg if the Leave of Absence (LOA) form can be modified to include the question, 'Has your committee chair been notified of your status

change'?

#### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM Respectfully submitted by Joanna Nohr, VP Administration

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### JLCR Board Meeting Minutes September 6, 2011

**Board members present:** Kari Cooling, Maria Sanchez-Masi, Nicole Ridge, Molly Baynes, Malora Cosgrove, Joanna Nohr, Mindy Sorg, Leah Rodenberg (Sustainer Co-President),

**Board members absent:** Diane Ramsey (Sustainer Co-President), Kristin Roberts

**Guest attendants:** Andrea McVay, Abbie Covenah

#### Call to Order

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM in the conference room of the Human Services Campus (HSC) building.

#### Agreement on the Agenda

A motion to amend the Agenda by removing the topic of Education and Training from the Membership Council discussion was made and unanimously approved.

#### Consent Agenda

The July 2011 JLCR board meeting minutes were unanimously approved as published. The consent agenda was unanimously approved.

#### Active Agenda

##### **President's Report**

GMM Powerpoint Slides – all committee chairs should submit GMM Powerpoint slides and Back Page information directly to Kari Cooling via email by 5 PM the Friday prior to the GMM.

Annual Plan – Final plan pending one more council's information.

**Continued, Page 12**

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES: June 2011-Sept. 2011

Continued from Page 12

### Membership Council

Nominating – Chair Andrea McVay presenting. Nominating Committee liaisons have been appointed for all JLCR committees. Purpose is to serve as a resource to members for information regarding JLCR leadership position application process. An explanation was provided for splitting Nominating and Placement into distinct committees (The nominating committee serves as an objective resource in application processing and works to further League wide goals. The placement Committee serves to assist members in completing membership requirements and to help ensure a successful committee or leadership position experience.). All board members and committee chairs requested to encourage applications from committee members. VP's can submit position recommendations directly to the Nominating committee (not necessary to send through liaison). All nominating applications are on the Online File Folder (OFF). Dates: Nov ODI applications are due Sep 23, slated position applications due Dec 31, PE applications due Nov 30 (interviews end of December). Andrea will email ODI applications to members. Nicole will forward LTTC job description to Andrea for inclusion in application packet. Bring a Friend to League Competition – Mindy proposed holding a vote at the Oct GMM to determine if members would like to waive the \$90 Fundraising requirement for the current JLCR

member that brings the most friends/possible members to the Bring a Friend event that end up joining JLCR. Both conditions would have to be met in order for the fee to be waived. Leah will talk with Diane Ramsey about possibly sponsoring a second person who brings the next most friends that join as members.

### Community Council

We are planning for late September / October social and speaking event presenting Senator Grassley; date to be confirmed. Council proposed including a Purse Fundraiser at this event, with proceeds to be used for Project Committee activities. After discussion of potential difficulties with this type of fundraiser (logistics of set-up, what to do with leftovers, how to handle items selling for less than new retail price), council modified proposal to the following: at conclusion of speaker event, project committee will ask for full sponsorship or partial donations to be used for purchase of items needed for foster child suitcase project. Monetary donations will NOT count toward yearly member financial requirement.

### Finance Council

Butterfly Kisses – Motion wording unclear. Malora will clarify committee's request and bring back to board at Oct meeting if necessary.

LTTC – JLCR has \$7,000 in checking account currently. Nicole proposed moving \$3,000 of that into the Community Outreach budget for use elsewhere until needed for LTTC start-up activities. The Hotel/Motel grant has been secured. Malora and Nicole will follow-up to ensure transfer of funds. This year, Nicole will include all in-kind donations as line items in the LTTC budget to assist with more accurate estimations for future years. Nicole will provide our budget structure to the LPGA tour for comparison with other similar tournaments. We will review appropriateness of having a non-disclosure agreement with them prior to doing so.

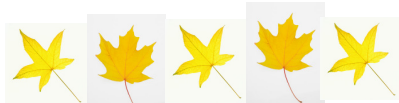
### Administration Council

Requested that board members to contact Joanna with any outstanding items for office manager to complete. Discussion of PayPal \$3 processing fee; office manager and website administrator are working to have this charge be assessed to members, not JLCR, at point of purchase.

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM  
Respectfully submitted by Joanna Nohr, VP Administration





**FALL BIRTHDAYS**



**September**

Janelle Clymer	1
Patricia Cargin	2
Elizabeth Barry	4
Myra Carrier	4
Melissa Lyon Randall	5
Lynda Schimberg	5
Barb Mumford	8
Susan Ovel	10
Janis Kazimour	11
Jennifer Neumann	11
Charity Tyler	12
Gale Beer	12
Katherine Brokaw	13
Ann Swaney	15
Katie Juehring	17
Jodi Cobb	18
Lisha Coffey	18
Amy Weber	22
Laura LeBuhn Koontz	22
Beth McDougall	23
Shannon Ford	23
Joanna Nohr	24
Lindsay Prince	25
Melanie O'Donnell	25
Megan Murray	26
Ellen Howrey	28
Eleanor Cass	29

**October, cont.**

Kathy Layden	4
Tascha Keettel	5
Nikki Kettelkamp	7
Heather Wagner	7
Laura Mattison	7
Jan Schobert	9
Susan Turner	9
Hollie Trenary	10
Kristy Marxen	11
Jan White	11
Sally Courter	12
Cally Murray	13
Patricia Bryant	13
Laurie Silber	17
Tamara Lyman	19
Sharon Fair	19
Patty Powers	19
Monica Vernon	19
Anna Kucera-Pint	22
Andrea McVay	23
Lizabeth Wardzinski	23
Corinne Yaw	24
Mary Taylor	25
Ruth Affeldt	25
Chelsey McDill	27
Liz Parsons	27
Kathleen Toborg	27
Sarah Maureen Colony	28
Beth Livengood	29
Shannon Hanson	30

**November**

Shelli Adams	2
Susan Sokolsky	2
Denise Bandel	6
Stacy Lon	7
Jane Witt	8
Ann Barber Doyle	9
Elizabeth Barron	9
Stephanie Rex	12
Skippy Bell Atherton	12
Dalene Sinnott	13
Tonya Arnold	14
Kris Sterner	14
Deana Berg	15
Jillian Knutson	15
Susan McCray	15
Crystal Hardinger	16
Gingie Hunstad	18
Diane Stefani	18
Malora Cosgrove	20
Mary Westphalen	22
Karen Wilson	23
Jennifer Smith	26
Kay Jackson	28
Rachel Mills	28
Lois Donovan	29
Sharla McCarron	29

**October**

Janis Caldwell	2
Kay Baty	3
	4



**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

The JLCR Social Committee is off to a wonderful start for the 2011-2012 League year! We are excited to include more social activities throughout the year, because we want Leaguers to not only work hard, but to play hard! We plan to have one social event each month. Each event will vary and the committee will consider events that also include significant others and family members. We understand that your time is valuable, so we want to integrate events that include families as well.

Each year, we welcome new members and we want to ensure that all special occasions such as births, engagements and weddings are recognized. Please make sure that you email Cristiane AbouAssaly ([aboucrew@msn.com](mailto:aboucrew@msn.com)) with updates on these

wonderful moments. We also want to make sure that we pay our respects to those who have passed away, so if you know of any past or current League members and/or their immediate family members who have a major illness or passed away, please email Cristiane with that information as well.

If you are interested in chairing a JLCR "club" such as dinner, movie, happy hour, moms, etc., please let Cristiane ([aboucrew@msn.com](mailto:aboucrew@msn.com)) know. We are thrilled to get together more often this year, and in turn, create more friendships between our League members. Make sure to plan on attending the post-GMM socials as well. Here's to a fabulous 2011-2012 League year!

Human Services Campus  
 317 7th Ave. SE,  
 Cedar Rapids

**Address Service Requested**

Phone: 319.364.7892  
 info@juniorleaguecr.org  
[www.juniorleaguecr.org](http://www.juniorleaguecr.org)



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**IMPACT COMMITTEE:**

Janelle Clymer  
 Abbie Covenah  
 Becky Floyd  
 Katie Goldberg, Chair

Junior League of Cedar Rapids (JLCR) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. JLCR reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to voluntarism.

**MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS**

Active: 71  
 Emeritus: 17  
 Sustainers: 199

**JLCR 2011 CALENDAR**

**OCTOBER 2011**

- 4 JLCR Board Meeting 6:00 pm
- 6 New Member Retreat 5:30 pm
- 18 General Membership Mtg. 6:30 pm

**NOVEMBER 2011**

- 1 JLCR Board Meeting 6:00 pm
- 4 Fall ODI, Orlando, FA
- 15 General Membership Mtg. 6:30 pm

**DECEMBER 2011**

- 6 JLCR Board Meeting 6:00 pm

