

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF CLEARWATER-DUNEDIN

70

YEARS

SEA OATS



ODI - Charlotte, NC 2015

The Little Shop With The Big Heart
JUNIOR SERVICE LEAGUE

Junior Service League Provisionals





~ W E B E L I E V E ~

*When given what they need,
the possibilities are endless.*

That's why we're proud to support those
helping make our community a better place.



PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS
CHARITIES

SPRING EDITION 2019

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//////// sea oats roster

SEA OATS MAGAZINE [SPRING 2019]

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SEA OATS COMMITTEE

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At-Large Member: Danielle Mammen

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Communications Vice President: Genevieve White

Community Vice President: Terri Kontodiakos

Finance Vice President: Kelly Dulin

Membership Vice President: Elisabeth Tasis

Training Vice President: Erin Hamilton-Mullin

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2019 CREATIVE SPOTLIGHT



BETSEY DISANZA | BASECAMP CREATIVE GROUP

[LAYOUT DESIGN]

Betsey DiSanza is a graphic designer and co-owner of Basecamp Creative Group; a full service design studio started and owned by her and her husband, John. Check out their work at: Basecampcreativegroup.com.



MARY ELLEN SHAFFER

When I walked into my first Junior League meeting I was filled with so much nervous anticipation. Would I make new friends? Would I find a place where I could learn and grow? Would I be able to make a difference in the community? Now, seven years later, I can resoundingly say "Yes!". Our local League and International Association have given me so much, and it is with great excitement that I look forward to beginning my two-year term as President. I want all League members to find the same fulfillment in their League experience. There are many things that go into a meaningful League experience, but two things that I think make the most difference are risk taking and building relationships.

Being willing to take the risk:

Our League just finished celebrating a large milestone with our 70th anniversary. During that time we looked back at all we have accomplished. When we truly examine our accomplishments, we see the women that risked so much to make meaningful changes for people in our community. Members of the Board of Directors have been busy looking forward to forge a path into the future so that the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin can continue to carry its mission forward successfully. However, we have to be willing to think outside the box, partner with new people, and try things we've never done before. It may also mean letting go of things that have served their useful and wonderful purpose. Individually we have to take risk, and as a League we have to take risk if we are going to continue to make meaningful change.

During my presidency, I look forward to watching our League thrive. This goes beyond just our fantastic events like Art Harvest, Done in a Day with our community schools, and Little Black Dress Initiative. I am excited to watch women push their limits, learn new skills, work outside their comfort zones, and accept new leadership positions within the League and in the community.

After all, the League strives to train women to be effective change makers.

Building Relationships:

I also look forward to discovering new ways to meet and reach women. JLCD will be working on a new Diversity and Inclusion program to examine how we reach out to women in our community, and how we could be doing more to reach ALL women and offer all of the fantastic benefits to being a member of the Junior League.

It is exciting to continue to build relationships with our community partners - our relationships with our schools continue to solidify. But I also look forward to our League building new community partner relationships, like with the Juvenile Welfare Board who plans to support and enhance some of our community events.

I hope to continue to build the relationships with our sister Leagues in St. Petersburg and across the bay in Tampa. We know that there is power in voice when we work together. We can combine our voices to help bring more awareness to our common issue of poverty and wellness.

Finally, I hope that we can continue to build strong relationships with all of our members, because whether you wear the title of New, Active, or Sustainer, we all share the position of member. It is the powerful bond of friendship that brings us together. Finding connection with one another helps create meaningful experiences as we work in the community, learn more about our impact issue, or participate in one of our many JLCD events.

I am inspired and delighted to work with each of you. I look forward to what the next two years will bring for me, for you, and for the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin.

IT STARTS WITH A WOMAN

We are an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Our purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

ABOUT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF CLEARWATER-DUNEDIN

The History of the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin

Since 1948, many dynamic women have committed themselves to serving and improving the lives of women and children in North Pinellas and West Pasco Counties. Over 650 members have raised more than \$1 million and have contributed over 1 million volunteer hours since the inception of the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin. The membership of the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin believes that the collective power of diverse women, joined together to identify unmet needs and forge coalitions, can dramatically improve our community. We also believe that to most effectively cultivate positive community action, volunteers need educational opportunities for personal growth and volunteer leadership to develop their potential.

Current Community Focus: Fighting Poverty in Northern Pinellas

The Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin is fighting poverty through a multi-pronged approach that includes combating food insecurity and a commitment to literacy at our partner Title I schools. JLCD's Community Impact Committee works to provide 60 food insecure children with food through our Pack-A-Snack program so that those children have meals over the weekend and over school breaks throughout the school year. Our Holiday Relief Program consists of bringing a sense of normalcy to these children and their families by providing meals and gifts for children. In the 2017-2018 school year, JLCD donated over 800 books and hosted literacy events with students at Tarpon Springs and Sandy Lane Elementary Schools. These donated books help grow the home libraries of multiple students as added encouragement to read more frequently with their families.

If you are interested in more information about JLCD, please contact our headquarters at (727) 738-5523, info@jlcd.org or visit our website at www.jlcd.org

Incoming Leadership Team from 2019-2020

Board of Directors

President

Mary Ellen Shaffer

Secretary

*Kathi Beckman **

Treasurer

*Laura Diener **

Treasurer-Elect

Megan Hueske

Nominating Chair

*Lora Iosa **

Members-At-Large

*Jenny Goad **

Elsa Incaudo

*Danielle Mammen**

Candyce Miller

*Stacy Walker**

Sustainer Representative

Sarah Morgan Thompson

Nominating

*Lora Iosa- Chair **

Stephanie Johnson- Chair-Elect

Elizabeth Constantine

Lorrie Cline

Christiana Hooper

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*Sarah Kessler **

Communications VP

*Genevieve White **

Community VP

Anne-Todd Eisner

Finance VP

Bethany Sullivan

Membership VP

*Beth Tasis **

Training VP

Janie Meadows



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
CLEARWATER-DUNEDIN

2019-2020
LEADERSHIP TEAM

* Returning for their 2nd year of a two year placement

** Also serves on the Board of Directors

ANTJE ANDERSON

SPRING 2019 NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Why Did You Join Junior League?

I got invited to a recruitment social by a friend and liked the spirit of everybody there. This is such a positive group of women and I wanted to be a part of it.

What Is Your Favorite JL Memory?

I loved working the beer garden at the Art Harvest. I also loved the smaller socials like trivia night where we could get to know each other better.

What Do You Do Outside The League?

I am a Realtor for RE/MAX selling residential properties and I am a member of the Auxiliary for the Knights of Columbus and the VFW in Dunedin.

Hometown: Dunedin, FL

Provisional Year: 2018/2019

THIS IS SUCH A
POSITIVE GROUP
OF WOMEN
AND I WANTED TO BE A
PART OF IT.



ELSA INCAUDO

SPRING 2019 ACTIVE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Why Did You Join Junior League?

To help the community I live in.

What Is Your Favorite JL Memory?

A really great memory from this year is the Rockin Rosé where new members got to paint fun facts on rocks about the LBDI and Art Harvest.

What Do You Do Outside The League?

Run, travel, yoga, sports, anything outdoors, work.

Hometown: Land O' Lakes, FL

Provisional Year: 2013/2014

WATCHING
THESE LADIES
AS THEY WALKED DOWN
THE RUNWAY
IN THEIR DRESSES
RENEWED
MY
REASONING
FOR WANTING TO JOIN.



LEORI
BOLIVAR

SPRING 2019 TRANSFER MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

What League Did You Transfer From?

Tallahassee

Why Did You Join Junior League?

I joined the League because I wanted to become a part of my community. I was new to the area and I felt that the League aligned with my beliefs in giving back to the community.

What Is Your Favorite JL Memory?

My favorite Junior League memory was last year while I was on the Operation Prom Dress committee. We were able to distribute dresses to over 100 young ladies within the Tallahassee community. The best part of that was that we were also able to help about 15 young ladies for the Night of 1,000 Stars and allowed them to come in and get a full experience of being styled by the Leaguers to find the perfect dress. Watching these ladies as they walked down the runway in their dresses renewed my reasoning for wanting to join. I am very proud to be a part of the League and even more proud to be a part of the Clearwater-Dunedin League.

What Do You Do Outside The League?:

Work. I am a District Leader in the Tampa Bay Area, so when I'm not volunteering, I'm working. Outside of that I spend time with my amazing husband and 2 dogs.

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Provisional Year: 2017



MELODY WORDSWORTH FIGURSKI

SPRING 2019 SUSTAINER SPOTLIGHT

Why Did You Join Junior League?

At the time I joined, it was by secret invitation so I really didn't have a reason, but I was very flattered to have been invited to join such a special organization. I found very early on that the League would allow me to become involved in my new community, to receive excellent training, and to meet wonderful friends.

What Is Your Favorite JL Memory?

I will never forget the call from Donna Harper asking me if I would accept the nomination to be Junior League President. I also loved being part of the child abuse prevention project and the Follies.

What Do You Do Outside The League?

My most important role outside the League has been my involvement with The Arc Tampa Bay, formerly UPARC. I have served on the agency and foundation boards continuously since 1985 and have served as president of both boards. My daughter Tracy is a consumer at The Arc, so it holds a very special place in my heart. I have also been involved with other charities, e.g., Morton Plant Mease Foundation, Cancer Society, the City of Clearwater, the Delta Gamma Alumnae Association, etc. I have been honored as both Mrs. Countryside and Mrs. Clearwater.

Hometown: Clearwater, FL

Provisional Year: 1977

“THE LEAGUE WOULD
ALLOW ME
TO BECOME INVOLVED
IN MY
COMMUNITY,
TO RECEIVE
EXCELLENT TRAINING,
AND TO MEET
WONDERFUL FRIENDS.”

WOMEN BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES

Since 1901

 **THE JUNIOR LEAGUE**

WWW.JLCD.ORG



ART 2018 HARVEST

/////////JLCD's Art Harvest

In between helping her grandson meticulously craft a hammerhead shark costume for Halloween,

and preparing for the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin's 2018 Art Harvest Festival, featured artist Maria Reyes-Jones had a few moments to spend with JLCD on the craft that she shared with our community this past November.

"I feel like I'm in a groove," she said. "I'm enjoying making my work, it's selling, and it's making people happy."

Entering her collegiate years to not only study art but to also learn how to teach it, Orlando-based Reyes-Jones documented the change in her personal style through the years. "It's gone through many different phases," she said. "I had a dark side with night scenes that were moody, and did a lot of portraits — I think of it as the 'student phase.'" But for those who attended Art Harvest, they saw a different side to Reyes-Jones' skillset. "My work has become more playful," she said. "The word I've heard the most is happy — I never heard that before."

Reyes-Jones has painted anywhere between 125 and 150 works every year since 1995. And from that perspective, the relationships she has inherently built with the owners of her pieces are far-reaching. "Sometimes I think about how many houses have my paintings," she said. "I get emails from people all the time: they'll show me a painting of mine that is really, really old — it's like seeing an old friend. Sometimes when you don't think you are having any impact at all, you are still having an impact."

The JLCD's Annual Art Harvest Festival is one venue in which Reyes-Jones has been able to broaden the reach of her art. She also says art festivals are good experimentation grounds for testing some of her new concepts. "I almost always try to bring some new work to festivals, and see what kind of response it gets."

Reyes-Jones developed a name for herself with her colorful palm tree paintings, a familiar Florida icon. With her largest audience residing in South Florida, Maria's art is infused with vibrant hues and playful concepts.

Maria Reyes-Jones

By Stephine Johnson



"Having a sense of place — where you live — definitely affects your art," Reyes-Jones said. "I really respond to the tropical colors, and there are lots of layers of color that have to dry in between one another." But beyond the borders of the Sunshine State, she says her work does cross state lines, being owned by a renowned English golfer to an Illinois congressman.

With adaptations of "art" taking on brighter palettes and whimsical attitudes in the commercial market, Reyes-Jones is thankful that the appreciation of her craft is alive and well in Dunedin. "I am very grateful to the people who enjoy art and are happy to buy art from artists," she said. "I don't think I would be able to have the persistence for a small business if I didn't absolutely have a passion for what I am doing."

Selling her pieces at an outdoor art festival has a different appeal than always working from the four walls of a gallery, Reyes-Jones remarked. "I bought a tent and went to my first art festival, and absolutely fell in love with that kind of venue," she said. "You meet the people buying your work and see their reactions — it's more personal."

With women across our League participating in this past fall's showcase, the opportunity to survey what one likes about art and would consider for a home collection comes into focus for many. And on this subject, Reyes-Jones gave thoughtful consideration and advice: "People approach collecting art from different starting points," she said. "Some people want artwork that just matches the couch, while other people want to own art that makes a personal connection." The mark of starting a real collection is the latter, she believes. "You buy things that you love, that you have a personal connection to," Reyes-Jones emphasized.

Similar to the Junior League's legacy community projects in North Pinellas County, Reyes-Jones' art can be found incorporated into the Orlando Health system as well as Ronald McDonald House installations. Her concern for women, children, animals and the homeless align with our League's duty of care. What tugs at the heart of Reyes-Jones the most in recent days is the extensiveness of homelessness in downtown Orlando.

"Homelessness is a big one for me," she said. "I love that the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin focuses on food deserts — the thought of a child out there going hungry in this country..." After pausing and taking a breath, exhaling on that unpleasant thought, Reyes-Jones went on to say: "Sometimes people are homeless through no fault of their own, but rather through issues like mental health."

Outside of managing her flagship Orlando studio, Reyes-Jones' entrepreneurial spirit led her to open a working studio in St. Augustine. Please stop by and say hello if you are ever in town, and if you are lucky — take note of the tools Maria employs for her most recent flower series. "I am an art supply junkie," she admitted. "Right now I'm using iridescent colors to add to the paintings; I am so happy to just open my paint. The flowers are very loose, primitive and abstract — very textural."

We thank Maria Reyes-Jones for sharing her beautiful trade with us at the 2018 Art Harvest. Promoting that she "never gets bored," be sure to look for a possible Reyes-Jones' stall in future festivals to come. "There is always a new avenue to explore," she said. "When I work for myself, every painting is an adventure — and I love it."



NEW + EXCITING CHANGES

This year's 55th Art Harvest was a great success and we are happy to announce that we raised over \$63,000 for JLCD! We changed a couple of things this year and learned a lot of lessons about what worked and what didn't. It is important to always try new things to keep our event growing and bringing in new people, as well as keeping our loyal patrons coming to Art Harvest every year. Our merchandise was amazing this year and we were sold out of some of the shirts by noon on Saturday. The new location of the merchandise tent and the Featured Artist's tent was a hit.



ARTIST'S DINNER

Our Artist's Dinner was fantastic! Thank you to Sonny's BBQ, Hog Island Fish Camp, Alessi Bakery, and Eddie's Bar and Grill for their donations of food, drink and dessert for the dinner. We had a lot of amazing Opportunity to Win prizes and we really want to thank all of our sponsors and everyone that bought a Patron Package. You are the reason we are able to continue hosting this great event. We wish much luck and success to the 2019 Art Harvest committee!



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Emilie Bowman
Sarah Kessler
Genevieve White
Laura Blitch
Kandis Pinkstaff
Jessica Moreno
Kat Tracy
Jennifer McGrail
Michele Eaton
Jennifer McCormick

AWARD WINNERS

FEATURED ARTIST

Maria Reyes-Jones

BEST OF SHOW

Sponsored by Publix Charities
James Carter, Oil/Acrylic

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Beth Garcia, Ceramics

BEST BOOTH

Kelly Williamson, Ceramics

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Zhiyong Ye, Fibers
Marilyn Vaillancourt, Jewelry
Leslie Peebles, Mixed Media
Dominice Gilbert, Meta
Clovis Rusk, Oil/Acrylic
Richard Currier, Oil/Acrylic
Jeff Eckert, Graphics
Michael Weber, Watercolors
Tricia Young, Jewelry
Isaac McCaslin, Oil/Acrylic

AWARD OF MERIT

Sondra Elder, Ceramics
Ed Meyers, Digital
Leeann Kroetsch, Fibers
Chuck Boux, Glass
Flo Kemp, Graphics
Andrea Olson, Jewelry
Chris Seeman, Metal
Marc Zoschke, Mixed Media
Jack Coneby, Oil/Acrylic
Marius Moore, Photography
Jack Hill, Sculpture
Russell Yerkes, Watercolor
Larry Hasiak, Wood

2018 ART HARVEST JUDGES

Michele Tuegel
Erin Wilson

70th Anniversary Gala



Photography by Light of the Moon Photography, Anna Caradonna
<http://www.lightofthemoonphotography.com/>





The JLCD held its 70th Anniversary Gala at Nielsen in Oldsmar on March 2nd. The splendid affair was well attended by over 100 actives, sustainers, new members and their guests. The League provided a magnificent buffet spread and an open bar provided by Amici's. There were several interesting and exciting prizes raffled off.

Achievement awards were presented to several esteemed, exceptional legacies:

Frances Tack Skinner, Syd Entel and Becky Cole. These women defined what it means to dedicate time to service in the community. Their wonderful stories and words of wisdom wowed the gala attendees and we were honored to have them speak.

After the awards ceremony, entertainment was provided by the Bay Kings Band and guests were able to dance the night away in celebration of 70 years of women leadership.

The League is grateful to its sponsors and donors.

- Nielsen - Site Coordinator Candace Barber
- Molly and John Hancock
- Tara E. Servos Jewelry
- The Dance Shoppe
- The Cat Hospital
- Gold and Diamond Source
- Clearwater Threshers
- San Marco Resort
- Tampa Bay Lightning
- Tampa Bay Rays
- Dallas Cowboys
- New York Yankees
- Smart Cart Dunedin
- Dr. Adam Scheiner, M.D.
- Clearwater Marine Aquarium
- Radiance Med Spa
- Meredith Glass Massage
- StarLite Dinner Cruise
- Café Alfresco
- Yoga Love
- Re-Load
- Clear Sky Café
- Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- Bloomin Brands
- Cason Photography
- Dr. Eric J. Nye Chiropractic
- Razzle Dazzle Donuts
- The Beauty Bar
- Sylvia's Playhouse
- Little Explorers
- Simply Refreshing Organizing Solutions
- Seal Swim School
- Jewels of Tampa Bay
- Lucile Casey
- Amy and Gary Connors

The logo for Tech Data, featuring a stylized blue 'TD' icon followed by the text 'Tech Data' in a bold, italicized blue font with a registered trademark symbol.

KWALL BARACK NADEAU PLLC

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The Junior League of
**CLEAR-
WATER/
DUNEDIN**

Shoot an email to
Recruitment@jlcd.org

If you'd like to get a step ahead,
feel free to fill out an application
on our JLCD.org website under
the MEMBERSHIP tab. We will
contact you to attend our
next recruitment event!

Each year, the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin trains a group of first-year members to be effective volunteers and leaders in our community. Our new members complete a comprehensive training series that allows them to learn about our League structure and programs, as well as experience some of our community programs first-hand. The new member series includes educational courses, a bus tour of community partners, Scot Shop shifts, a community project, and attending League functions such as general membership meetings.

A great way to learn more about membership in The Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin is to attend one of our Recruitment Events! Representatives of the Membership Development Committee will be on hand to answer all your questions and guide you through the process to join.

membership criteria

- 1. Must be at least 21 years old as of September 1 of the year in which provisional membership would begin (there is no maximum age to join).**
- 2. Applicants should reside in Upper Pinellas (north of Ulmerton Rd.) and Pasco Counties.**
- 3. Demonstrate an interest in voluntarism and a commitment to community service, with most community service activities occurring within Pinellas and Pasco Counties.**
- 4. A prospective member will participate in an orientation program detailing the privileges and responsibilities of Junior League membership.**
- 5. Show an interest in developing her potential for voluntary community participation. i.e. sign a contract stating that she understands the Responsibilities of Provisional Membership**

NEW MEMBER CLASS



Diverse Group of Women

By: Nikki Mott

Each year the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin welcomes many new members to our organization. These women come from all over the area, breathing in new light, talent and perspective. This year's new member class was no different as we added 30+ women from all walks of life, education and origins. This diverse group of women is sure to rise up and impress as they take on the mission of becoming volunteers and leaders in our community.

This year the League changed things up as our new members embarked on a brand new provisional year using a condensed version of requirements. Our new members were able to jump in quicker with not only volunteer opportunities but with their placement committees.

So who are some of these fabulous ladies? Why did they join the League and what is their perspective thus far?

2018-2019

Originally from Northern New Jersey, Gabby landed in the Tampa Bay area five years ago. She has worked as an insurance underwriter for the past twelve years. In her spare time, Gabby enjoys going to the beach, reading, traveling, spa days, and of course spending time with her husband and puppy. Gabby joined the League because of her interest in fundraising and desire to do more to help the community. So far with the Junior League she has helped with Pack-a-Snack and participated in the Little Black Dress Initiative. Gabby's favorite part of the League is meeting so many fun and motivational ladies. She is so excited for future opportunities to both give back to the community and better herself.



Gabby Harris



Tonja Knobel

Originally from Texas, Tonja moved to Florida in 1997. She is a retired high school English teacher with a side hustle for Young Living to keep her busy. Her favorite things are reading good books and hanging out with good friends. Tonja joined the League after moving back to the Pinellas areas from London. Her hopes in joining the League were to meet new people while getting involved and making a difference in her community. So far Tonja has met some good people and has loved her time in the League. She is very excited to see what the future holds.

Born and raised in Clearwater, Debbie graduated from Clearwater High School and the University of Florida and now works in the Client Relations department for the law firm of Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig, LLP. Debbie's hobbies include cooking, antiques, art, gardening, shopping and sports - especially Florida Gators football and basketball. Debbie has wanted to join the Junior League for as long as she can remember. Her mom grew up as an Army brat all over the South, where being a Junior League member was mandatory, and always considered a great honor and privilege. Debbie's older sister was also a member of the Junior League so Debbie is very excited to finally join! So far Debbie has participated in Pack-a-Snack, rock painting for Art Harvest, Little Black Dress and volunteering at the Scot Shop. Debbie has met so many amazing women so far and is looking forward to meeting more members and devoting more time to volunteer for years to come.



Debbie Jaye



Debbie Rubenstein

Debbie was born and raised in St. Petersburg and moved to Clearwater in 1995. She earned a bachelor's degree and master's degree from the University of South Florida. Debbie has been a special education teacher since 1995 in both public and private schools. She currently teaches K-5, varying exceptionalities, in a technology-based elementary school, as well as facilitating the STEM programs for grades 2-5. Debbie has two daughters, ages 15 and 17, who keep her plenty busy. She enjoys the beach, anything outdoors, going to movies and spending time with her kids and friends. Debbie joined the League because she wanted to make a difference in the lives of women and children working through hard times. So far Debbie has enjoyed working with the ladies at Art Harvest, the Superhero 5K, Little Black Dress, and book studies. She looks forward to continuing to build amazing friendships with these ladies as we work together to help our community.

CELEBRATE

Elyse Miller accepted a new position as Pinnacle Home Care Human Resources Coordinator

Karen Carli ventured into an exciting new career as Senior Business Development Consultant for National Video Monitoring Corporation

Doneene Loar was investitured as Circuit Court Judge

life, happiness, love, success, support.

Beth Tasis was promoted to Associate Executive Director at The Arc Tampa Bay

Sarah Kirchberg was promoted to Director, Sports & Events at Visit St. Pete/Clearwater

Genevive and Matt White along with big brother Noah, welcome Ethan Thomas White April 5th, 2019

Danielle and Jason Mammen welcomed a son, Nicholas, born January 31, 2019

Morgan Thacker and Tyler Baumgardner got married aboard the Star Lite Majesty on Sunday, March 17

Candyce Miller received her Organizational Change Management Practitioner Certification from APMG International

Danielle Mammen received a new professional certification (SHRM-SCP)

Anne-Todd and Mark Eisner are celebrating the birth of their eleventh grandchild, Eden Avery Swendsen, born February 4, 2019 (their 9th granddaughter)

Beth Chernes and Chris Lagasse welcomed Emmeline Belle, born July 19th, 2018

Jeannie Clary joined the University of Florida Public Relations Advisory as a Council Member

Amber Estlund won the 2018 Florida Region Paragon Advisor award for Phi Theta Kappa on behalf of St. Petersburg College



The Scot Shop

By Traci Siebel

By nature we are drawn to sales and to supporting a good cause. Who doesn't want to save money and feel fulfilled? At the Scot Shop, one of the biggest draws is that you will ALWAYS run into a sale (well...except for Sunday and Monday when they are closed). Sales are on a recurring schedule so each day will provide you with a different way to save on already reduced prices. This is just one reason there are so many returning customers. They also return because, as humans, we want to think that our shopping habits (or needs) are supporting something. Shopping at the Scot Shop helps raise funds for the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin (JLCD).

Now let's get to the heart of the story... or store. Founded in 1949, the Scot Shop is a resale store located across from the beautiful Gulf of Mexico. The shop has a truly noble purpose: all of the profits from the Scot Shop's sales go directly to JLCD, which the League uses to research community needs, identify ways to fulfill these needs, and to execute innovative programs that meet these needs through volunteerism. The JLCD did not get the nickname "Volunteer Powerhouse" for nothing!

What sets this resale shop apart from others? Every good thing starts with a solid foundation. For the Scot Shop, that foundation is a team of four dedicated employees who know the store from front to back. The store is their pride and joy and daily customer feedback says that it shows!

The Scot Shop carries clothing and accessories for men, women and children as well as other types of merchandise including home decor and household items. Items are donated to the shop predominantly from the community and JLCD members. Upon reception, all items are inspected to provide the highest quality items for customers. Items are competitively priced and comparable to other thrift shops, ranging anywhere from \$1 to \$80. As a fundraising mechanism to support the mission of the JLCD, cash donations are also welcomed. If you would like to make a donation, an employee can provide you with a tax form for your donation.

If you like to save money on brand named, gently used merchandise and find great additions to your closet or home, the Scot Shop is definitely worth checking out! Not only will you be greeted kindly and find a wide variety of items, but you'll leave with a sense of accomplishment, knowing your shopping supported JLCD's efforts to positively impact our local community.



TUESDAY - 20% off

WEDNESDAY
Senior Day (55 plus) for 30% off

THURSDAY - 20% off

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
MYSTERY DISCOUNT
(chance to get 20-40% off)

LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
1/2 price sale

from Crouper to Orits

/////// Clearwater's Favorites

By: Traci Siebel

Dessert first? When it is an authentic recipe from one of our amazing local restaurants, Columbia Restaurant... then yes!

And the main course... this one will make you feel like you just watched The Food Network with fancy Béchamel Sauce.



CARAMEL FLAN SERVES 6

Caramelized Sugar Topping

1 cup sugar 1 tablespoon water

Custard

1 cup sweetened condensed milk 3 eggs
 1 cup evaporated milk 1 1/4 teaspoons vanilla extract
 3/4 cup whole milk

For the topping, combine the sugar and the water in a saucepan, cook over medium heat until the sugar is golden brown in color, stirring constantly. Pour evenly into 6 ovenproof custard cups.

For the custard, combine the condensed milk, evaporated milk, whole milk, eggs and vanilla in a bowl and whisk until blended. Pour evenly into the prepared custard cups. Arrange the custard cups in a large baking pan and pour enough hot water into the baking pan to reach halfway up the sides of the cups. Bake at 400 degrees for 40 minutes; do not allow the water to boil. Remove the custard cups from the baking pan and chill in the refrigerator.

To serve, unmold by pressing the edges of the custards with a spoon to break away from the cup. Invert onto dessert plates. Spoon the remaining caramelized sugar from each cup over the tops of the custards.



ROASTED RED PEPPER LASAGNA SERVES 8

Red Pepper Sauce

4 medium red bell peppers (*about 1 1/2 pounds*) 1/2 cup chopped parsley
 1 tablespoon olive oil 4 garlic cloves, *crushed or minced*
 1 (28-ounce) can crushed tomatoes 3/4 teaspoon pepper

Bechamel Sauce

1/3 cup butter or margarine 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1/3 cup flour 3 cups milk
 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

Lasagna

12 no-boil lasagna noodles
 1 1/4 cups (5 ounces) finely shredded Parmesan cheese

For the red pepper sauce, cut the bell pepper into halves, discarding the stems, seeds and membranes. Place cut side down on a foil-lined baking sheet. Roast at 425 degrees for 20-25 minutes or until the skins are bubbly and brown. Wrap the peppers in the foil and let stand for 20-30 minutes or until cool enough to handle. Peel off the skins and cut the pepper into strips.

Cook the peppers in the heated olive oil in a large saucepan over medium heat for 1 minute. Stir in the undrained tomatoes, parsley, garlic and pepper. Bring to a boil and reduce the heat. Simmer for 20 minutes, stirring frequently.

For the béchamel sauce, melt the butter in a medium saucepan. Stir in the flour, nutmeg and salt until smooth. Add the milk and cook over medium heat until thickened and bubbly, stirring constantly. Cook for 1 minute longer.

For the lasagna, arrange 3 noodles in a greased rectangular 3-quart baking dish, trimming as necessary to fit. Reserve 1/3 of the Parmesan cheese. Layer the red pepper sauce, béchamel sauce, remaining Parmesan cheese and noodles 1/2 at a time in the prepared baking dish. Top with the reserved Parmesan cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 30-35 minutes or until bubbly and light brown. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving.

HINT: You can assemble the dish in advance, cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for up to 24 hours. To bake, replace the plastic wrap with foil and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.



The League in the Community

League members volunteered a few hours of their time to read to 2nd and 3rd grade students at Sandy Lane Elementary. JLCD also helped students create their own sharks with a fun craft!



FILL THAT BUS! League members partner with the Clearwater Chamber of Commerce to collect a busload of school supplies for our local schools: Sandy Lane and Tarpon Springs Elementary Schools.



Special guest, FL Representative Charlie Crist, joined JLCD's literacy event to read "Clark the Shark" to students at Sandy Lane Elementary.





League members get festive to help spread holiday cheer by distributing hams, turkeys and trimmings at the FEAST Food Pantry holiday event.



League members joined the Festival of Trees event, hosted by The Arc Tampa Bay, and decorated a JLCD tree!



Suncoast Center Fill the Backpack Event wouldn't have been a success without the help of JLCD and their Done in a Meeting (DIAM) donations!

League members sporting their bags at the Fill the Backpack Event.



JLCD partnered with the RCS Food Bank to help sort through all the food donations the center receives.



Members rally around one of our major League initiatives, packing hundreds of Pack-a-Snacks for students to take food home over the weekend.

EMPOWERING
WOMEN
TO LEAD SINCE 1901



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE



JLCD AIMS TO BE UNSTOPPABLE

AFTER ODI CONFERENCE IN ST. PETE

By Beth Chernes and Candyce Miller

The Hilton Bayfront in sunny St. Petersburg was the backdrop for an inspiring weekend earlier this year with impactful Leaguers. The Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) hosted its annual Organizational Development Institute (ODI) conference in The Sunshine City from February 22nd to 24th. Over 300 hundred League members representing 21 different Leagues and two countries embarked on a weekend of learning, training and engagement, accompanied by nine of our own Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin (JLCD) members.

JLCD sent nine members to ODI who were recognized for future leadership roles in the League. Each of these women received specific training in various key areas offered at the conference such as: Membership, Marketing and Communications, Governance, Diversity and Inclusion, and Fund Development.

Throughout the ODI conference excitement flourished as attendees demonstrated an eagerness to learn, grow and improve their respective Leagues. JLCD members quickly made new friends, and instant bonds were built, a byproduct of being around like-minded women who strive to improve their communities.

JuWon Choi, Chief Learning Officer at AJLI, opened the conference with a challenge to all: "Be agents of change in your own League." She encouraged members to stay true to the mission of "promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers." She closed the day with another challenge, asking participants to always consider their actions and ask themselves, "Does this add value?"

In 2015 AJLI approved the Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Commitment statement, and the importance of D&I in all Leagues was a pivotal point of discussion on the second day of the conference. Dr. Johnny Lakes, Assistant Professor of Education at Northwest Christian University, a scholar and presenter who specializes in teaching and learning around issues of leadership and cultural competency, delivered an engaging presentation. He posed the question, "How can you make people in your League feel at home?" His challenge was for all League leaders to step out of their comfort zones and to reach out to people around them who are different from the status quo. His presentation reminded Leagues of their commitment to be diverse and inclusive organizations.

The motivational speakers and training at the conference inspired JLCD leaders with new ideas and fresh perspectives, but also solidified that we as a League are not alone in our endeavors. There are 291 Leagues worldwide, 140,000 women who are change agents, and together we are UNSTOPPABLE.



What is ODI?

Organizational Development Institute (ODI) - is a leadership development meeting that provides Junior League Members with mission-based training in key areas critical to the healthy functioning of a League.

The six key learning tracks available are:

- 1 Achieving Community Impact
- 2 Diversified Fund Development
- 3 Governing for Excellence
- 4 Marketing and Communications
- 5 Diversity and Inclusion
- 6 Membership Development

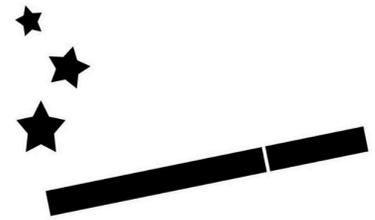




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LITTLE BLACK DRESS

January is Poverty Awareness Month. It is also the month we choose to run one of our largest fundraising campaigns, as it coincides perfectly. The Little Black Dress Initiative (LBDI) is an awareness and fundraising movement that underscores JLCD's commitment to building public awareness around hunger and poverty in our community.



The Little Black Dress Initiative consists of our League members wearing the same black dress for five consecutive days to illustrate the effects poverty can have on a woman's access to resources, confidence, and opportunities. During the near weeklong campaign, we share local statistics about poverty on social media and in person, as we ask for donations to the campaign primarily using an online fundraising platform called Flipcause.

January 27th through February 1st was our third consecutive and successful year of this campaign. In an effort to increase awareness of both our organization and the campaign's purpose, as well as build community, we introduced a Restaurant Week concept this year.

JLCD partnered with a handful of local restaurants that agreed to donate a percentage of sales back to our cause on their given day. We felt honored that these locally owned companies and business owners said YES to helping the cause, and we hope that you will give them an extra "thanks" next time you visit on our behalf. The Restaurant Week concept added an extra \$2,000 towards our LBDI goal. The restaurant partners are listed BELOW, in gratitude.

Between 2017 and 2018, our first two LBDI efforts raised over \$55,000. This money is used as the sole funding source for the community projects our League has initiated to help break the cycle of poverty in North Pinellas County. Our 2019 campaign goal was \$27,000 and we're proud to say that we raised just over \$28,000 that week!

Crooked Thumb, Russo's NY Pizzeria, ClearSky on Cleveland, Greek City Cafe, Chick-Fil-A, Good Vibes Juice Co. and Razzle Dazzle Donuts

IMPACT

The impact of these projects in our community is truly remarkable! To date, JLCD has provided over 2,400 Pack-a-Snacks to feed hungry students over the weekends. Our League members have logged nearly 700 hours packing and delivering these meals. We also delivered 58 holiday dinners for families in need, provided 108 holiday presents for Pack-a-Snack recipients, and purchased 1,540 books to give local students at our January book events.

We are able to fund these projects because of the money donated through this initiative. That being said, we are beyond grateful to our League members, families and community for allowing us the opportunity to truly make a difference in the lives of North Pinellas County residents.

Sarah M Liakos
Fund Development Chair 2018-2019

SPECIAL THANKS TO

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