

# seadoots

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junior league of clearwater-dunedin, inc.

Fall 2014

## Roll Call

92<sup>ND</sup> AJLI ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
ST. LOUIS, MO 15-17, 2014





SeaOats Staff

Cover photo: JLCD members, Gwin Londrigan and Kathy Rabon, participating in the Association of Junior Leagues International Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri as members of the AJLI Board of Directors.

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# President's Message

## Terri Kontodiakos



### Truly Be a Junior Leaguer

First of all, I want to thank each of you for being a member or supporter of the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. We experienced so much growth and progress during the 2013-2014 League year!

As we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Art Harvest, the true leadership and camaraderie of a committee shined through during a very difficult and soggy Saturday. We had some amazing women become members from our provisional class, and our League hosted a wonderful lineup of speakers, general meetings, and opportunities for training. We now have an exciting group of leaders ready to take on our next League year.

Throughout 2013-2014, we embarked on a huge transition and it's one I take great pride in. Splitting our board of directors into an executive management team and a governance board of directors was a huge mountain to climb. There were many late night meetings and thoughtful conversations that took place to help determine the best interests of the League, and I couldn't be more excited for the League to take this huge step in ensuring further development of both our League and its leaders. Many Leagues can only maintain a one-year system that faces constant turnover.

The shift to two-year placements takes our League to a higher level of effectiveness and efficiency. By allowing each leader the opportunity to learn a position and perfect it over a two-year period prior to turning it over to a successor, it builds confidence and leadership in the women being mentored as successors.

While there's much that is different about the League today, the foundation it's built on hasn't changed. In fact, we're closer to our mission than ever and hold it as a standard by which we base all our future decisions upon.

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

At every Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) training, a workshop facilitator takes League leaders through our mission, line by line. What sets Junior League apart from other organizations is not just the fact that we're a women-only organization. Many women join to make friends and root themselves into their community--I'm one of those people. However, that's not what the Junior League is about. It's also not about the impact we have on our community or about the skills we learn as we're working with our community partners. Although we do have a significant impact, these are also fringe benefits of our membership.

What makes us different is that we're an organization that's 100% committed to our members. We're committed to developing our members by providing opportunities to learn new skills, change career paths, and develop as women. These are the values we live by and the values we hold each other to. This is why many women turn to Junior League for professional, personal, and leadership development.

Every member of the League is here because we were invited, and because we made a choice to accept that invitation. Every day since then, we've been faced with another choice: whether to just be a member or to truly be a Junior Leaguer. This is your League, and it's your leadership and service that will further align our League to its mission. Thank you for entrusting me to carry out our collective vision for the future in the 2014-2015 League year.

Yours In Service,  
Terri Kontodiakos

# BY THE NUMBERS

12

Events hosted by the ANGELS committee last year

80

Foster children attended the Best Day Ever hosted by the 2013-14 provisional class and traveled around the world to 7 continents

7

Pieces of legislation the Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committees have supported through the 2014 Legislative Session that have passed

433

Total number of JLCD Members

105

Active JLCD members

AND

328

Sustainers

24

Number of leagues the State of Florida boasts as SPAC members, with combined representative membership of more than 11,000 women

\$105,112

Total value of Scot Shop donations made by JLCD members during the 2013-2014 year

\$500,000

Raised through Art Harvest in the past decade

Number of attendees at 2014 community screening of Miss Representation at the Capitol Theatre

200

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# Miss Represent

By: Amy Foster



This past May, the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. hosted a community screening of “Miss Representation” at the newly renovated Capitol Theatre in downtown Clearwater.

“Miss Representation” exposes how mainstream media contributes to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence in America. The film challenges the media’s limited and often disparaging portrayals of women and girls, where the collective message is that a woman’s value and power lie in her youth, beauty, and sexuality, and not in her capacity as a leader. The movie includes stories from teenage girls and provocative interviews with politicians, journalists, entertainers, activists, and academics, like Condoleezza Rice, Nancy Pelosi, Katie Couric, Rachel Maddow, Margaret Cho, Rosario Dawson, and Gloria Steinem.

Audience members noted that many of the facts presented in the movie were startling, and that they will now view media with a more critical eye in the future. Other audience members said it served as a call to action and they might consider taking on more leadership roles, serving as a mentor for young women or getting involved in grassroots advocacy on important issues facing women locally.

## STATISTICS

In one week, American teenagers spend 31 hours watching TV, 17 hours listening to music, three hours watching movies, and

**53% of 13-year-old girls are unhappy with their bodies; that number increases to 78%**

**35 women have served as US governors as compared to 2,319 men. 71 countries in the world**

**US women continue to earn 77¢ to every dollar that men earn. w**

Studies prove that exposure to sexually explicit video games and music videos is linked to men’s acceptance of rap

# tation



The movie screening was followed by a riveting panel discussion moderated by League sustainer Kathy Rabon, executive director at the Suncoast Hospice Foundation. Panelists included: Joanne Persinger, VP of information technology at Tech Data; Kathleen Peters, State Representative, District 69; Kim Jowell, chief executive officer at Girl Scouts of West Central Florida; and Kim Berfield, director of government affairs at Wellcare Health Plans. The panelists shared information about underrepresentation in their various fields and why women in leadership matters, the challenges and barriers they have overcome, and the leadership characteristics they admire in others. Both Representative Peters and former Representative Berfield shared stories from the field about serving in elected roles as a woman and discussed needed policy changes. Kim Jowell also shared key takeaways and advice for parents and volunteers serving girls.

Not only was the movie screening an educational experience, it served as an outlet for provisionals, actives, sustainers, and community members to mingle and socialize as we wrapped up another great League year!

...r hours reading magazines, and 10 hours online. Altogether, that's 10 hours and 45 minutes of media consumption per day.

**% by age 17.** Women make up 51% of the US population; however, women comprise only 20% of Congress.

**World have had female presidents or prime ministers. The US is not one of them.**

Women hold only 3% of clout positions in the mainstream media (telecommunications, entertainment, publishing, and advertising.

...e myths and sexual harassment. **One in six women are survivors of rape or attempted rape.**

# 2014 Annual Dinner

A great party and good time was had by all at the 2014 Annual Dinner where we celebrated the successes and accomplishments of the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. !

## MAGNIFICENT MEMBER AWARD

A league member who positively influenced our League this year.

Stacy Walker

## PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE AWARD

League members who have worked hard setting the course for our League in the years to come.

Jeannie Clary and Colleen Flynn

## FANTASTIC FUNDRAISER AWARD

An outstanding fundraiser for the League.

Kathi Beckman

## COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

A member who helped our League make a meaningful impact on the community.

Jenny Goad

## GOLDEN HANGER AWARD

A member who donates the most to the Scot Shop in each League year.

Colleen Flynn

## SPIRIT OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE AWARD

Someone who embodies the spirit of the JL and voluntarism.

Leslie Hanley

## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

A member who does outstanding League work and community volunteer work.

Kristine Hann

## PROVISIONAL OF THE YEAR

Someone who went above and beyond the expectations of the provisional experience.

Tiffany Hilton

## LEAGUE ANNIVERSARIES

10 Years: Stacy Walker

5 Years: Sarah Kirchberg, Teresa Martin, Julie Perrelli and Megan Tolliver

## SUSTAINER OF THE YEAR

Pam Ora



# CELEBRATE

Congratulations to the members who went sustaining 2013-2014. The League is indebted to your service. Thank you for your hard work, expertise, and friendship.

**Amelia Campbell, Marcy Hawk Doran, Ellen Kent and Meg Lokey**



# Florida Junior League's Advo



Coordinated by Senator Latvala, Governor Rick Scott met with our delegates to review our 2014 Priority Issues and the impact the Junior Leagues of Florida have on their various communities.



The Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) serves as the liaison between our members and our local legislators. The committee joins other Florida League members in advocating for issues important to the Junior Leagues of Florida, and their collective voice creates a powerful presence with our elected officials.

Over the years, The Junior Leagues of Florida have successfully influenced legislation on various topics, including bicycle helmets for children under 16, the Environmental Growth Management Act of 1995, the '911' Emergency Medical System, child abuse, domestic violence, juvenile justice, education and child safety.

In 2013-2014, the SPAC committee participated in several Florida SPAC conferences. The culminating conference was held in Tallahassee last February. As a key element of this conference, our delegates met with numerous Florida legislators to advocate for the 2014 Florida Priority Issues.

In 2014, the Priority Issues included Human Trafficking, Child Identity Theft, Unaccompanied Youth, Healthy Food Access and of course – a Junior League favorite – Booster Seats! Through the course of the Junior League year, the committee provided information and statistics to members at General Meetings, in Currents and on Social Media in an effort to create awareness around the issues supported. Advocacy efforts were largely successful, as a number of the bills supported passed and will now become Florida laws.

#### ABOUT SPAC:

The Junior Leagues of SPAC has been the advocacy arm of the Junior Leagues of Florida for nearly 40 years, monitoring the state legislative process and addressing issues of political importance to the members of the Junior League.

The state of Florida boasts 24 Junior Leagues as SPAC members, with combined representative membership of more than 11,000 women. Each Florida Junior League that chooses to participate in the advocacy process

**The state of Florida boasts 24 Junior Leagues as SPAC members, with combined representative membership of more than 11,000 women.**

The 2014-2015 SPAC committee work commenced at the Summer SPAC Conference, hosted by the Junior League of Jacksonville. Community focus issues from the Florida Junior Leagues were collectively shared during the conference. This begins the process of determining the 2015 Priority Issues which will be solidified at the Fall Conference.

sends delegates to state meetings and conferences throughout the year to research and debate the issues of the day.

# ating for Change

By: Leslie A. Hanley



Florida have on



Local elected officials Senator Jack Latvala, Representatives Carl "Z" Zimmerman and Larry Ahern met with delegates from the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. to review the overall Priority Issues, issues facing our local communities, and the impact we have made locally.

## **2014 PASSED LEGISLATION IN FLORIDA:**

SPAC is happy to report that several pieces of legislation the Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committees have supported through the 2014 Legislative Session have passed! Each of the following passed pieces of legislation relate to our 2014 SPAC Priority Issues, and show great progress by the State of Florida!

### **Booster Seats**

HB 225 – Child Safety Devices in Motor

Vehicles - Strengthens Florida's child passenger safety law by specifying that the device used for a child aged 4 through 5 must be a separate carrier, an integrated child seat, or a Booster seat

### **Human Trafficking**

SB 522 – Mandates sheriff's referring sexual predators to a civil commitment hearing

SB 524 – Mandates civil commitment hearings and requires universities to inform students when a sexual offender is on campus

SB 526 – Increases the minimum and maximum sentences for sexual offenses

SB 528 – Increases the information registered sex offenders must provide

### **Unaccompanied Youth**

HB 203 / SB 260 – Allow unaccompanied youth to consent to medical, dental, psychological, substance abuse, surgical diagnosis and treatment for themselves and their children

### **Healthy Food Access**

HB 23 – Limits liability of public schools in donating canned / perishable food to charities/non-profits

Join Us. Invest In Yourself. Volunteer.



Applications for our January membership class will be available soon.  
Check [www.jlcd.org](http://www.jlcd.org) for more information.



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~ WE BELIEVE ~

*Support is life's greatest strength.*



That's why we proudly support those who give so much of themselves to make a difference in the lives of others.

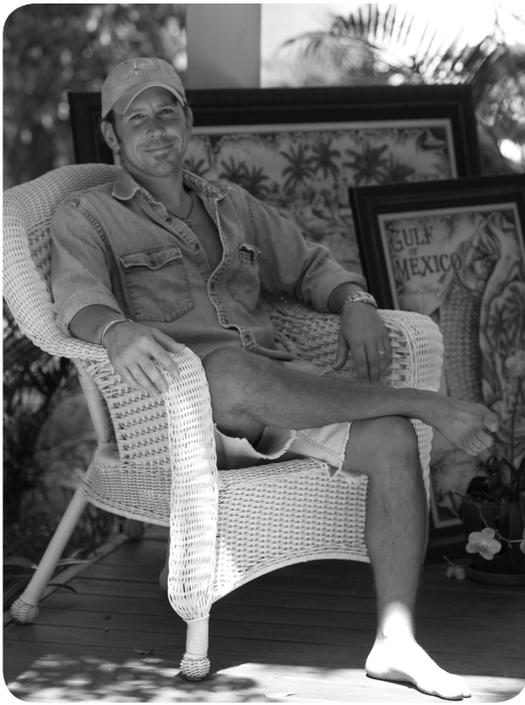


PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS  
CHARITIES



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This year, the Art Harvest committee, and the League, have put a greater emphasis on finding new sponsorships for Art Harvest. Membership was encouraged to ask the businesses and services that they frequent for support. From accountants to hairdressers - there are more business card advertisements in our program than ever before.



# 51st Art Harvest: Growing Our Sponsorship

By: Cristina Cruz LeFebvre

As we prepare for our 51st Annual Art Harvest on November 1 & 2, we've looked back to previous years to see what this event has taught us. From last year's event, we learned to prepare for the torrential rain that severely limited attendance. We are bulking up on insurance this year. We experienced that teamwork is essential to a successful event, despite challenges. We discovered new talents taking on challenges, whether learning how to use the new payment app or managing a conflict with booth assignments. These lessons are the essence of the training mission of our organization. As we learn and grow individually, we also enhance our community with our new found skills. It is this stretching of self that drew me to the League in the first place. I look forward to the new lessons we will learn this year.

To make it easier to ask for support, Sponsor Saturdays were introduced at the beginning of the summer. Sponsor Saturdays was an effort to spread the word about Art Harvest and also solicit sponsors in our local communities of: Dunedin, Safety Harbor, Palm Harbor and Clearwater Beach. All members were given the opportunity to participate in asking for advertisements and sponsorships in a team setting. We met in the downtown/main street of the selected city and walked to local businesses to talk about the League's work in the community as well as shared information about Art Harvest and asked for sponsorships. These were great and fun opportunities to learn how to make "the ask" and were always followed by a festive brunch with League members.

This year's Art Harvest will feature a piece done by local artist, Mike Williams. He is known for his 'old Florida style,' and his art represents a local perspective. Mike's studio is located in a renovated cottage in St. Petersburg, FL. He created a piece that will speak to our local community, although his work can be found in public and private collections around the world. More of Mike's work can be found on his website <http://www.blueislandgraphics.com>.

We have a unique waterside community here in Clearwater-Dunedin, and our committee wanted our lifestyle as well as the history of the League to be represented both by the artist and his work. The piece features an old boat titled 3 Rooker Run set in a Florida sunset with a pelican flying overhead. It will be available as posters and t-shirts at this year's Art Harvest Festival.

The funds raised through Art Harvest are invested directly back into our community through the projects we do as the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. We hope our focus on adding more sponsors and the lessons learned from past events bring bright sunny skies for our organization.

# ANGELS

By: Suzanne West & Jody Grutza

In March 2008, the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. selected a new League project to assist foster families in Pinellas and Pasco Counties. This focus was selected as a result of strategic planning and membership input.

By targeting the League's focus on foster teens, ANGELS committee members spent the bulk of the 2013-14 year hosting small group events in an effort to connect with local foster youth. Each planned event consisted of a group of same sex foster teens living in local group homes throughout the community. Events were designed with an emphasis on promoting social interaction skills, confidence-building, and--of course--fun! The ultimate goal was to obtain measurable outcomes directly related to the events and interactions between League members and the foster youth.

Throughout the League year, the ANGELS committee organized "Done in a Meeting" (DIAM) collection projects to provide necessary supplies directly benefiting local foster youth and foster organizations. Additionally, the ANGELS committee hosted "Done in a Day" (DIAD) projects where a small group of League volunteers ventured out on shopping trips to build "life start kits." These kits were distributed to foster teens that aged out of the foster care system; oftentimes, these teens are in their first apartments without any of the essentials they may need to start an independent life. The life start kits have helped to fill this void. In 2013-14, eight shopping trips were organized and many kits were supplied!

## September

In September, the ANGELS committee held its first-ever foster care training and bus tour with 25 League members in attendance. Informative presentations from representatives of Eckerd Community Alternatives, Camelot Community Care, and Ready For Life left League members with a better understanding of the foster care system. A panel of teens (some currently in the system and some who recently aged out) shared their compelling stories about life in foster care. After the training, the League members enjoyed lunch at the Lighthouse Youth Services group home with the male teens that live there. Mr. Wright, the inspirational group home leader, spoke about his career of working with teens in foster care. The boys gave small group tours of the home and their rooms, explaining the chores they do and the levels they are able to reach through hard work. Lastly, a trip to foster parent Karen Reyes' home provided the League members with a truly memorable experience. Karen, a single mother who has turned her home into a haven for foster children, has fostered 29 children over the span of three and a half years while raising her own son.

## October

October held the ANGELS' official kick-off event for the season, the Fall Festival at the Teen Training Center. The festival was held for two hours, and had a great turnout of 39 foster youth who got to experience some good ol' fashioned fall fun. There was never a dull moment, and there was great feedback from the teens. Some of the activities included: bobbing for apples, make your own "Dirt Cup Cake," sugar cookie decorating, arts and crafts, a photo station, and face painting.

## November

League members volunteered for a great cause in November during a foster parent appreciation luncheon. During the luncheon, League's services were greatly appreciated by the foster parents as they had the chance to enjoy the event while their little ones were cared for. There was also a Thanksgiving meal preparation event held at Riviera United Methodist Church. League members assisted Ready for Life on this event to help prepare and serve a proper Thanksgiving meal to our foster youth. Bright and early on November 23, 17 League volunteers piled in cars armed with 28 Thanksgiving meals donated by League members. The meals were delivered to teens that had aged out of the foster care system and who may have been celebrating their very first Thanksgiving independently.

## December

In December, 32 holiday stockings were donated by League members and then collected and assembled as part of a DIAM project aimed at providing youth in foster care with a Christmas surprise. The stockings were delivered to foster youth at Camelot Community Care--and big smiles were received in return. Items in the stockings included: Wal-Mart gift cards, earbuds, lanyards for keys or wallets, perfume or cologne, Christmas candy, and various assorted snacks.



### **January**

In January, ANGELS hosted a fun-filled evening beginning with dinner at BJ's and followed by ice skating with 10 girls from Sallie House. This event was the perfect low-key atmosphere to encourage personal development and self-confidence through the learning of a new activity. Some of the girls ice skated for the very first time--and could not wait to do it again! Another great project this month involved an exclusive tour of Clearwater Firehouse Station 48 with a small group of teen boys. As a group, we learned about several classrooms that are named for various large fires or events that have happened over the years. Later, there was a tour of the four-story training tower as well as the fire station, and we were able to get up close with the firetrucks and the equipment carried on the trucks. The boys were able to see several calls come in, and they even got to see some firemen in action! After the event, several of the boys expressed interest in pursuing a career as a firefighter. This is a great example of the type of experience the ANGELS committee is hoping to provide for foster teens.

### **February**

In February, League volunteers had a fun and successful night when they met with ten girls from Sallie House for bowling and dinner. Some discovered bowling skills they didn't know they had, while others bonded with other girls in small groups. The evening ended with plans for a spa event, balloons, and hugs.

### **March**

March was a busy month for the ANGELS. The committee kicked off the month with an awesome night of basketball with the Harlem Globetrotters at the USF Sundome. A group of foster teen boys were given the opportunity to be entertained by the famous basketball team and had an absolute blast!

On March 22, two events were hosted. First, the boys from Children's Village toured the Clearwater Public Safety facility. After the tour, lunch was hosted by League. Two police officers dined with the boys and discussed what inspired them to become policemen and how being an officer made a positive impact on their lives and the lives of others. Meanwhile, more League members met with nine girls from Sallie House at the Sunstate Academy for some spa fun. The girls were pampered with chair massages and manicures, and were taught how to do hairstyles and makeup with demonstrations. After a packed two and half hours of spa time, the girls came together for some "high tea"-style finger food. The girls left with beautiful hair, makeup, and nails, holding manicure gift sets donated by League members as part of a DIAM project.

### **April**

On an evening in early April, several girls from Sallie House were indulged in a "night at the theatre." Along with several League members, the girls watched a live performance by the traveling dance troupe "Pilobolus" at Ruth Eckerd Hall. The experience began with a meet and greet in the "members only" area of the theatre, and dinner was provided. At the show, the girls learned the etiquette involved in being a theatre patron and experienced just how amazing performing arts can be. A great time was had by all!

Overall, the ANGELS committee had a successful year and is looking forward to another year of exciting events that will have a positive impact on our communities' foster teens.

# Game On at AJLI's Annual Conference

By: Sarah Morgan Thompson

On a very chilly weekend in May, I had the honor of joining our President Terri Kontodiakos, President-Elect Angie Ewbank and ANGELS Chair Salimah Kemp at the 92nd Annual Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. It was also a distinct pleasure to celebrate the service of two Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. members who served on the AJLI Board: Gwin Londrigan (At-Large Director 2011-2014) and Kathy Rabon (Secretary 2013-2014).

At the conference, we were able to meet fantastic Junior League leaders from throughout the world, see the great progress AJLI is making and learn skills that benefit our League. As communications chair, I personally gathered ideas to help improve how we communicate within our organization. In fact, I've already utilized information learned in my breakout session on "The Art of Digital Storytelling" by helping to produce videos to train and inform our members about leadership opportunities within League. I also learned how to coin "Key Messages that Stick" alongside our President-Elect Angie Ewbank. In addition, I met with representatives from VolunteerMatters, our website managers, and as a result of this meeting the League website is undergoing a redesign.

I am so fortunate to be a member of an organization that invested in me as a leader. I hope that my service to the League is a good return on this investment, and I look forward to future dividends.



# THE ODI EXPERIENCE

By: Anne-Todd Eisner and Genevieve White

This past March, eight League members--Terri Kontodiakos, Gwin Londrigan, Angie Ewbank, Genevieve White, Melissa Moré, Mary Ellen Shaffer, Salimah Kemp, and Anne-Todd Eisner--attended the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) Organizational Development Institutes (ODI) meeting in Ft. Lauderdale for an information-packed weekend! ODI is a series of mission-based leadership development meetings and is a critical component of AJLI's training program.

One of the general plenary sessions that was extremely eye opening to Anne-Todd was a session focused on learning styles. The four learning styles identified were: enthusiastic, imaginative, logical, and practical. Delegates were asked to participate in an interactive exercise and learning styles were determined based on reactions to four dimensions of learning. Anne Todd's personal learning style was strongly positioned in an enthusiastic quadrant: "feel it and do it style." The main thing that resonated with her was described in her learning approach, "...operates sometimes on gut reaction and likes risk...excitement and change." This exercise was also eye opening because it helped shed light on how each member's style influences their approach to their work in our League.

Meanwhile, Genevieve participated in the membership track and used the True Colors Assessment to determine personality and leadership styles. Through a variety of word associations, the True Colors Assessment identifies a taker's personality into one of four basic groups. Based on the personality color, the assessment provides an analysis identifying what each color values and desires. This provides valuable insight into how Leagues can use the values and desires to keep members engaged and give them work within the League that they will find meaningful. Knowing the personality colors of those within your committee placement can also be a valuable tool when communicating with different members of the committee as you can adjust the communication and expectation level to match different personalities. Within the League, we performed this assessment at the chair training over the summer, and it was amazing to see the alignment of colors among our chairs.

We look forward to using more of the processes and tools learned at this year's ODI. It was a valuable experience for all that attended.



# GROWING MEMBERSHIP

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By: Mary Ellen Shaffer

The board of directors, in conjunction with the membership council, is always looking at ways we can improve our recruitment and new member processes. Last year, as we looked at our interest levels, we began to identify a particular trend. We saw an increase of women that wanted to join the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. during our Art Harvest season. This is not unusual because Art Harvest is one of the times that League is very visible within the community. However, the time between Art Harvest and the beginning of our new recruitment class is approximately nine months. In those nine months very few of the woman that showed initial interest in November, joined the following recruitment class.

Genevieve White, Membership Development Chair, began researching this phenomenon and after being in touch with many of the women, the overwhelming answer began to surface. These women were ready to join in November, not nine months later. They wanted to find something to do where they could give back to their community, be empowered and to make a difference in their lives. Over the course of those nine months, they began to find other ways they could serve the community. When our new member recruitment began, their allotment of time had already been filled by other opportunities.

Many of the women interested in joining the League are in the Millennial generation. This generation, in particular, is very fast paced. They look for ways to connect, receive great training, work in a team atmosphere and most, when their mind is made up, want it now. As the Board and Membership Development Committee reviewed these findings, they realized that the traditional recruiting structure was not working to reach these potential members.

The membership council desires to capture people's excitement for joining the League and give them an avenue to join when their excitement is at a peak. They understand that in today's world of technology, opportunities are easily found and interests move fast. The League wants to make sure that we are able to capture these bright, inquisitive, women when they are most interested.

Therefore, the League is excited to announce that the 2014-2015 League year will have two points of entry into the New Member Class of 2015. A New Member class began at the beginning of September 2014 and is working its way through the traditional Provisional Course. In addition to this class, we will begin a second class in January 2015.

The League will have a recruitment table available at Art Harvest this year. At this table, women visiting Art Harvest will have to opportunity to inquire about membership and the responsibilities that entails. In addition, the League will have one New Member recruitment event on Thursday, November 13 for women to find out more about the League. More information about the November 13 event will be available on our website, social media, and in our bi-monthly communications.

Applications for the Spring entry point can be found on our website, <http://www.jlcd.org/become-a-member>, or by contacting our Membership Development committee at [recruitment@jlcd.org](mailto:recruitment@jlcd.org).

Applications will be accepted until, Wednesday, December 17.

The Spring class will have a one day orientation on Saturday, January 10 where it will cover the material presented at the September, October, and November new member classes. Then, on January 20, the Spring class commences and will be a blend of the two groups. Together, they will meet monthly to finish the new member course, and develop their New Member Project that will happen in the late spring.

The membership council and the board of directors are eager to see how this new opportunity works out. Our best outcome will be welcoming even more ladies to help transform themselves and the community at large!



## A Shift to Governance & Management Board

By: Terri Kontodiakos

This year marks a defining change for the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin, Inc. As a result of thoughtful discussions and research, our leadership and members made the decision to split our board of directors into a management team and a governance board effective as of the 2014-2015 League year. This decision officially took place at our February council meeting.

The management team includes vice presidents who oversee our League's various committees. The team will meet before each council meeting to review any management issues in preparation for the council meeting (the council meeting will still consist of both chairs and chair-elects of our various committees). In this capacity, vice presidents will function as a senior departmental director of their respective area.

The governance board, on the other hand, will focus on the strategic future of the League and will be empowered to have thought-provoking conversations about the future of the League as well as work collectively toward a strategic plan. The addition of at-large board placements will allow League members to be a part of the strategic conversation of the governance board, but will not be considered a committee placement. These at-large members will be staggered in two-year terms.

In the 2014-15 League year, our executive vice president (EVP), Kristine Hann, will oversee the management team. The development of the EVP role will free the president to chair the governance board of directors. The EVP will report directly to the governance board and serve a function similar to that of an executive director of the League. Additionally, the EVP will have overall strategic and operational responsibility for League's staff, programs, expansion, and execution of its mission.

The governance board of directors and management team will have various tools to ensure they are working with each other. First, the next League strategic plan will be a multi-year outcomes-based plan stemming from the conversations and needs of the membership. We will then be implementing an annual plan that will work closely with the Management Team to devise manageable expectations from the outcomes listed in the strategic plan. This shift alone will open up the dialogue to truly move the needle on issues like membership recruitment, membership retention, community impact, fundraising goals, etc.

We will continue the use of our current monitoring systems or "dashboards" developed for each council. These reports will allow the Management team to accurately assess success and empower them to make decisions and changes as needed.

As expected, position descriptions will need to change during this process of dividing the work of the governance board and management team. The Nominating committee will look at slating less people each year by selecting qualified women to serve staggered two-year terms, and its chair will serve on the governance board of directors as a voting member. The placement committee will be focused on membership development and moving women into opportunities of leadership. The placement chair will sit on the management team as a voting member.

We truly look forward to what these changes in leadership will bring to the League!

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Terri Kontodiakos | President | Member Since 2005

What is your top priority in your position this year?

I am looking forward to leading an amazing and distinguished board of directors this year! Our conversations have truly been so exciting and future-focused. I am hoping to better align our organization with our mission and allow for wonderful strategic and annual planning to move the organization into the future.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

Art Harvest is a wonderful event that the entire League rallies around as one of our two largest fundraisers. This is our largest opportunity to showcase the League, the service we have given the community and our wonderful members!

What is your favorite quote?

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead



Angie Ewbank | President-Elect | Member Since 2005

What is your top priority in your position this year?

One of the best ways that I learned leadership was through mentorship. My first year as a chair in the League, one of the gals on the board spent a lot of time with me answering questions, taking me to lunch and working hand in hand with me on projects I didn't know how to do. One of my greatest desires this year is to mentor our emerging leaders in the same way that I was mentored.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

I love how the ladies of the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin come together to run this event. This is one of the only things each year that is all hands on deck and I love how it creates camaraderie amongst all the ladies in our League: the Provisionals, Actives and Sustainers.

What is your favorite quote?

"You become like the five people you spend the most time with. Choose carefully."



Melissa Moré | Secretary | Member Since 2012

What is your top priority in your position this year?

To better understand and be a part of the operational 'behind-the-scenes' activities and strategizing that will help shape the future of the League. I also look forward to being as hands on as possible, representing the board and League at as many League activities as I am able to.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

The camaraderie that is shared by visioning what the event will look like and then seeing it come to fruition. It takes a highly committed group of women to make the event of such magnitude a success; being a part of that process makes me that much prouder to be a part of the League.

What is your favorite quote?

"Nothing can dim the light which shines from within."

Maya Angelo



Meagan Decker Treasurer | Member Since 2009

What is your top priority in your position this year?

I hope to help move the League forward in finding a new focus area and create a sustainable strategic plan that will ensure that the league is thriving and relevant for many years to come.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

It is a great opportunity to see all different amazing works of art.

What is your favorite quote?

"It is not the size of the woman in the fight, but the size of the fight in the woman."



Robin Lavitch Treasurer-Elect | Member Since 2013

What is your top priority in your position this year?

I hope to continue to support the League and learn about opportunities to support women leaders and the community. I want to focus on doing well in my role and truly understanding how each role contributes to the larger picture.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

The diverse array of artists. They feature art in paintings, sculptures, jewelry and more. It's an incredible community gathering that brings people together and supports a great cause!

What is your favorite quote?

"What lies before us and what lies behind us is nothing compared to what lies within us."  
Ralph Waldo Emerson



Jeannie Clary Nominating Chair | Member Since 2010

What is your top priority in your position this year?

I hope we can excite members about taking on leadership positions from chairs to VPs and board members. We've made big changes in splitting the board and looking at governance/management model. From a nominating standpoint, I hope those changes - which should allow leaders to better play to their strengths - will make leadership roles seem less daunting and more doable. We have so many members that would make outstanding leaders, and I hope we can connect with them, and inspire them to step up to the plate this year or in the near future.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

The atmosphere of Art Harvest is fantastic. There's a true sense of teamwork, from the months of work the AHrt Harvest committee puts in, to the individual shifts. When you see tens of thousands of people filling Highlander Park because of our League's efforts, it's hard not to be impressed and energized.



Nola Johnson Sustainer Rep. to Board | Member Since 2001

What is your top priority in your position this year?

I look forward to once again working with this incredible group of women to help determine the direction of the League with the use of our Strategic Plan. It is an honor to share ideas, be creative and to learn from each person, as every woman brings something new and valuable to the table!

What do you love about Art Harvest?

I love everything about Art Harvest! I think it is incredible that it is a tradition in our community and that many patrons have been coming annually for years and years, that the Clearwater-Dunedin area makes their fall plans around our outstanding event. I am proud to be a part of Art Harvest every year and am always humbled by people's reactions when I tell them it has been a League project for over 50 years!

What is your favorite quote?

"A man is but a product of his thoughts. What he thinks he becomes."  
Mahatma Gandhi



Meg Lokey Member at Large | Member Since 2004

What is your top priority in your position this year?

To work with a great group of girls to lay out the future of the League. I hope to come up with innovative ways to keep members involved while securing the legacy of the League.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

Everything! It was by far my favorite placement in the League. It is such an amazing event to be a part of and it has such amazing community support. The best part is really the bonding with the committee members over the weekend. There are always so many funny stories and so many things you will never forget from your Art Harvest weekend.

What is your favorite quote?

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."  
-Mahatma Gandhi



Patricia Irwin Member at Large | Member since 2003

What is your top priority in your position this year?

My goal is to help create a vision for the League that strengthens, empowers and motivates League members to become compassionate, collaborative leaders personally, locally and globally.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

I am a very creative person and have always loved artistic endeavors. Art Harvest is a major fundraiser for our League AND exposes our community to different artists and artistic expression. Art is another way of bringing beauty to our community, which I feel is very important!

What is your favorite quote?

"The only way around is through." -Robert Frost



Stacy Walker Member at Large | Member since 2003

What is your top priority in your position this year?

I hope to assist in laying the foundation to take the League into the future; beginning with exploring new opportunities to impact our community effectively.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

I love the history behind the event and what it has grown into today. I love how the committee bonds while putting it together. I love how it brings provisionals, actives and sustainers together for a common cause. I love how this great event is put on by an amazing organization that I am proud to be a member of.

What is your favorite quote?

"Believe that you will succeed, and you will." -Dale Carnegie



Ashley Davis Member at Large | Member since 2013

What is your top priority in your position this year?

I am so excited to be a Member at Large while the League is carrying out the vision of the new governance structure. I hope to help positively deliver change, for both League and our community, while also further developing my strategic thinking and leadership skills.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

Last year was my first experience with Art Harvest and I loved watching everyone work together despite the challenges of the rainy weather.

What is your favorite quote?

"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."  
Abraham Lincoln

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## MANAGEMENT TEAM



Kristine Hann Executive Vice President | Member Since 2007

What is your top priority in your position this year?

My goal for this new position is to be a valuable resource to my Council Vice Presidents. I welcome an open communication environment and encourage everyone to voice their ideas, concerns and questions. At the end of the year...a job well done by all!

What do you love about Art Harvest?

I love that fact that so many people make Art Harvest an annual tradition. Before joining the League, my family always looked forward to the 1st weekend in November. The past two years I worked behind the scenes as Treasurer and Treasurer-Elect, but I always would try to sneak out for an hour . . . can't resist the opportunity to support the artists!

What is your favorite quote?

"Promise me you'll always remember that you're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

Christopher Robin to Winnie the Pooh



Gwin Londrigan Finance Vice President | Member Since 2004

What is your top priority in your position this year?

More net revenue and for members to see the bigger picture where finances and outcomes are concerned.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

The history and that it fulfills all parts of our mission.

What is your favorite quote?

"You are only limited by what you can dream."

Anonymous



Tiffany Hilton Communications Vice President | Member Since 2013

What is your top priority in your position this year?

To increase communication to ensure that the communities that we serve know what the League is doing to make our communities better.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

All of the vendors and artists! There is truly something for everyone. Last year was my first year attending and there was so much to see and do. It was overwhelming, but in a good way because I wanted to make sure I saw everything I possibly could. I am definitely looking forward to this year.

What is your favorite quote?

"There is no passion to be found in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living."

Nelson Mandela



Mary Ellen Shaffer Membership Vice President | Member Since 2012

What is your top priority in your position this year?

Membership will be busy this year through planning new training opportunities, developing a new transfer program and beginning a second new member class. My goal for the year is to provide the support to my committees in these endeavors and help them be successful.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

Besides the art, obviously, the best thing about Art Harvest is watching our League come together behind one event and really work together. You get a wonderful view of our League, from Sustainers that have worked Art Harvest for years to Provisionals that have only been with us for a month!

What is your favorite quote?

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."  
Mahatma Gandhi



Sarah Manthey Community Vice President | Member Since 2011

What is your top priority in your position this year?

To facilitate great community programming this League year.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

I love the exposure it provides to our League. It's also a ton of fun!

What is your favorite quote?

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."  
Maya Angelou



Sarah Josuns Placement Chair | Member Since 2010

What is your top priority in your position this year?

My goal is to have the placement advisors be able to provide some League "career" planning. Placement advisors should interact with members to determine what they want to get out of their League experience and make sure the members are on track to achieve that goal.

What do you love about Art Harvest?

I enjoy getting to know ladies a little bit better, since I have the opportunity to volunteer with ladies that I don't interact with during the rest of the league year. And of course the shopping!!

What is your favorite quote?

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."  
H. Jackson Brown



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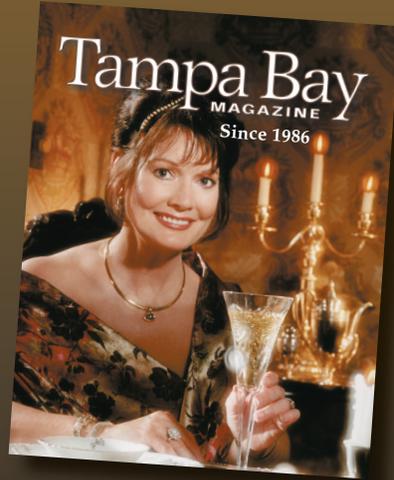
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# Transfer Spotlight

## Sarah Kirchberg

Tell me a bit about yourself. Where are you from?

I grew up in Midlothian, VA outside of Richmond. I moved to Florida in 2002 to attend FSU, and ended up staying in Tallahassee until Jan. 2014 when I moved to Pinellas County.

What brought you to the area?

The company I work for opened a satellite office with our event staff. There are three of us here in Pinellas County; the remainder of the staff is still in Tallahassee.

What do you do for work?

I'm one of two event managers for the Florida Sports Foundation. As part of our mission, we own and operate two multi-sport festivals. One is the Sunshine State Games, the longest running State Games in the country, and the Florida International Senior Games and State Championships, which is for our athletes 50 and older.

I also recently started my own business as an Independent Distributor for It Works! Global. I love the products and the people I get to meet and help daily.

What league did you transfer from?

The Junior League of Tallahassee, Inc.

How long have you been involved with Junior League?

Since 2008.

Tell me a little bit about your history with Junior League. What committees have you been a part of? Have you served any leadership roles?

Run for Reading Planning Committee, 2008-2009, Operation Prom Dress Committee Member, 2009-2010  
Done In A Day Committee Chair, 2010-2011, Active of the Year Award Recipient, 2010-2011  
New Member Class Chair, 2011-2012, Second Harvest Backpacks Committee Co-Chair, 2012-2013  
Membership Director, 2013-2014

What has been your favorite Junior League experience?

Besides the amazing women that I have gotten to know and now call my some of my best friends? Probably being a direct part of making a positive impact in our communities.

What JLCD committee do you serve on?

This year, I'm serving on the Communications committee and membership connections.

Any words of advice you can offer to active members who are just starting to get involved with JLCD?

While I don't feel as though I can speak directly to the League since I transferred just last year, I can say...you get out of your League experience what you put into it. If you want to lead, you can and will find the opportunity to. If you want hands on experiences with others in the community, you will have that. If you want to make new friends with common interests, you will have that opportunity, as well. You just need to be active! Enjoy every experience--grow and learn from the less than desirable and remember how rewarding the positive moments feel.

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# President-Elect Spotlight

## Angie Ewbank



Tell me a bit about yourself. Where are you from?

I'm a native Floridian; I was actually born at Morton Plant Mease Hospital in Dunedin and I'm a graduate of Clearwater High School.

Where did you go to school?

I received my Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Food Science from Auburn University in Auburn, AL. I also received a Master of Arts in Theology from Southwestern Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, TX.

What do you do for work?

I'm a teacher at Calvary Christian High School. I spend most of my day teaching 12th grade Bible, but I also teach a very popular elective--culinary arts. I have to constantly remind the students it's a cooking class and not an eating class!

What are your activities outside of the Junior League?

I love to travel, read, watch college football, go to Bible study, listen to country music, bake sweet stuff, and dream about my perfect home (or outfit, dinner party, etc.) by pinning pins on Pinterest. I also have ambitions of being a runner. In fact, when I turned 40, one of my birthday celebrations was running my first Disney race (10 miles!) with Kristine Hann (EVP).

Why did you join the Junior League?

My sister and father convinced me to join the League. When I moved back to Clearwater nine years ago, my sister (who is a sustaining member) invited me to a salad supper. And my dad, who mentored me in volunteer work by serving faithfully in various community and religious organizations throughout my youth, bribed me by paying my dues. At that time, I was disconnected from the town I grew up in and needed a way to reconnect; that was my motivation for joining the League. However, I was a wallflower in my provisional class. I faithfully went to meetings but unfortunately, I didn't contribute a lot my provisional year and to this day I still regret that.

Tell me a little bit about your history with the Junior League. What committees have you been a part of? Have you served in any leadership roles?

Seven years ago, I was asked to chair the communications committee--and I didn't know anything about communications! As I journeyed through my first leadership position with the League, a member of the board took me under her wing and really taught me how to be a leader. She took me to lunch, answered my questions, and worked hand-in-hand with me on the projects I didn't know how to do. I learned so much more that year about leadership than communications.

In the ensuing years, my placements have included nominating & placement (three years, co-chair for two years), ANGELS (one year, co-chair), membership development (one year, co-chair) and membership vp (one year). These placements have taught me about the League leadership structure, our community, and our membership.

What are you looking forward to accomplishing as the future president of JLCD?

I'm excited about the split governance board and management teams. We've started operating our leadership teams in this manner, but it's a process and we still need to make it a perfect fit for our League. We're one of 42 leagues participating in an AJLI training module on having a split governance board and management team and throughout the next year, a task force will learn what it means to operate with a split governance board and management team. I believe this information will strengthen this governance model for our League.

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