

Junior League



The Junior League of Miami, Inc. Membership Newsletter

Journal

Vol. XIX No. 1 | Fall 2010

President's Message

We are entering a new decade in Junior League years, poised to continue the legacy and traditions of our past and ready to accept the challenges of the day.

We sometimes get so caught up in the nuts and bolts of our roles in making JLM run smoothly that we neglect our overall position in the organization. We are one



of 292 Junior Leagues in the United States, Mexico, Canada and Europe. Collectively, we constitute one of the largest, most effective volunteer organizations in the world.

In Florida, JLM is the second largest of the 24 Junior Leagues. Overall, our voice has been heard here in Miami for the past 83 years.

In keeping with that tradition, we've put into place a plan to Engage-Empower-Inspire members this year:

We will engage members by emphasizing the connection with their mentors and advisors. We will offer motivating and supportive training programs to encourage our members to become leaders, both in JLM and the community.

Our members will be empowered to use JLM's collective voice when we reen-

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Shop 'til you drop

More than 125 local retailers offering discounts for the JLM fundraiser card

by Jennifer Burchard Shopping Card Co-Chair

Calling all shoppers! It's time for the third-annual Shopping Card for a Cause fundraiser. With more than 125 stores signed up, every savvy shopper will be able to find something to meet her desires. And with a broad range of locations from Pinecrest to Aventura, no shopper will have to travel far to find a great deal.

The Shopping Card is simple: Purchase a Shopping Card for only \$50. The card can be purchased online at www.jlmiami.org, or from various League members (Jennifer Burchard at burchardj@yahoo.com) and card-selling retailers.

The Shopping Card for a Cause comes with an easy-to-use directory, listing all merchants by area and category. Many of the participants seldom offer discounts outside of this promotion. The card must be signed by the purchaser and is non-transferable.

The Shopping Card for a Cause enti-

ties the cardholder to a 20 percent discount at participating retailers from Oct. 23 to Nov. 7. (Some exclusions may apply.)

How can you help? The Shopping Card for a Cause committee is working hard to sell shopping cards outside of the League. They are utilizing creative advertising techniques and hitting the pavement. Yet, a three-person committee can only do so much on its own. The committee is asking that ALL MEMBERS help out. If you would like extra cards to sell, please contact Jennifer. ☎



See Shopping Card for a Cause merchants list on page 6

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Mission The Junior League of Miami, 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.

Vision Our vision is to empower Miami's women, children and families to conquer tomorrow's challenges and to build a united community.

Reaching Out We reach out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism.

Focus Areas We concentrate on families at risk with projects and activities involving homelessness, family violence, children's and women's health, early childhood development and foster care.

Wish For Our Members We hope every member derives fulfillment as we focus the energy and volunteer resources of our diverse membership to attain our vision.

To Contact Us

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A member of The Association
of Junior Leagues International Inc.

Super Saturday inspires Provisionals

More than 100 women join 2010-11 Provisional class

By **Laura Isensee** Provisional Class Member

When I arrived at Pinecrest Gardens for Super Saturday with other provisional members of the Junior League of Miami, I figured the seven-hour orientation would cover a lot of information. It did.

Learn more about the community projects? Check.

Mark a full slate of trainings and meetings on my calendar? Check.

Figure out how the Shopping Card for a Cause fundraiser works? Check.

Get inspired? Check plus.

Much of that inspiration came when Mary Young, past JLM president, gave us one of our first tasks: Write a thank-you note to someone who has inspired us.



New Provisionals at Super Saturday, Pinecrest Gardens

We penned our letters, and then went around the packed hall as many of us shared what we wrote.

The letters thanked mothers, daughters, sisters, grandmothers, mentors, a nephew and a husband. Women who had fought cancer. Women who raised families on their own. Women who believed in us.

"Thank you for showing me it's OK not to be perfect, it's OK to be me," one member said, reading her letter to her seventh-grade language arts teacher.

The task not only prompted us to reflect on who has inspired us, but it also revealed the determination of our own provisional class – more than 100 women strong. More inspiration came as we started to get to know each other better.

In my mentor group, for example, provisional members have worked in Washington, D.C., know how dance flamenco, know the intricacies of state and county government and run their own businesses.

We put our inspiration to work during Super Saturday, too. Each mentor group started its next task, to pick a group project.

Tracy Pottker-Fishel, JLM provisional



Betty Lopez-Castro and Rosemary Hartigan

chair, said the take-away from the orientation was simple: "Hopefully, to be excited and have energy to go forward and do these projects," she said.

The projects include: assisting Girl Scouts in earning their science badges; preparing care packages for women who move into new apartments through Project Lift; and collecting baby supplies for the Community Partnership for Homeless.

"I'm ready to get started," said JLM provisional member Sarah Hitchcock. 🍷

President's Message continued from page 1

gauge the Political Issues and Advocacy arm of JLM. We will reenergize our advocacy efforts at a local level and train our members to use their voices on issues that fall within our focus areas.

Lastly, we will inspire members by illustrating the broader impact that our membership has on Miami. We will highlight members whose League experiences have enhanced their professional, civic and social lives.

We are also evaluating our current policies and taking a close look at how we function daily as an organization. This theme is not a new one. In 1999, President Lyn Pannone challenged members to think creatively about how the League operates. "Are we doing [things] in the ways that are in the best long-term inter-

est of the Junior League of Miami? Do we do some things a certain way simply because 'that's the way we've always done it?' Think about your League job this year. Do you have any ideas about how it could be done better?" While technology is worlds apart from what it was 11 years ago, the message is identical.

Throughout the year, there will be opportunities to use our collective voice to continue to be the change agents on behalf of women and children in South Florida. I hope to see you all at those venues, wearing your red shirts and ready to advocate for the women and children who don't have the strength of our voice.

I hope that at year-end, you will find satisfaction in your level of participation in our overall efforts to improve the lives

of women and children. I hope that you will have made new friends, fostered new professional relationships and experienced personal growth.

I extend my thanks to the 2010-11 Board of Directors and the entire leadership team for agreeing to serve this year. Together, we can capitalize on the teamwork that allows us to reach ends that no single person could reach alone. I'd also like to thank the past-presidents whose visions and dreams have inspired all of us.

We will continue the tradition and legacy that has driven JLM for the past 83 years – and we'll have a blast doing it! 🍷

Loretta Nido

Staying connected

By Kathleen McGrory Journal Editor

This issue of the *Journal* is about staying connected. As members of the Junior League of Miami, we lead extraordinarily busy lives. We juggle our families, relationships, careers and community service – a delicate balancing act that sometimes requires great effort. For us, staying connected isn't an option. It's crucial.

In that spirit, Interactive Communications Chair Alex Page writes about the


League's digital communications initiatives. The League has launched a variety of new platforms to keep you informed, ranging from a Facebook page to Active, Sustainer and Provisional e-newsletters.

Journal committee member Megan McNally writes about connecting outside of the League. She reminds us to take time out to nurture our friendships – and provides some suggestions for doing so.

Later, Dr. Rose Huber weighs in on

communication styles, offering ways to maintain healthy dialogues with our colleagues and loved ones.

Of course, you'll also find JLM news and information on this year's community projects. And just for fun, we've added a few book recommendations, too.

We welcome your feedback. Write to us at juniorleaguejournal@gmail.com. 

JLM grows its electronic outreach

Digital communications tools keep members connected

By Alexandra Page Interactive Communications Chair


The Interactive Communications Committee has been working hard all summer to make sure our members are kept up to date on the latest JLM happenings. We're underway with a multi-pronged approach to communicate in cyberspace with members wherever they are. Our efforts include the JLM website, all-member emails and a Facebook group page. It is our goal this year to make sure Actives, Provisionals and Sustainers are always in the loop when it comes to community events, donation drives and annual fundraisers.

The JLM website has been revamped so that our members can access the most important news on the homepage. That news will be updated on a regular basis. The "quick links" feature allows users to navigate through the site in less time. Members can also log in to the directory and update their profile or check to make sure their requirements are being fulfilled.

If you're trying to plan your schedule around the 2010-11 Junior League year, then the online calendar should be your next stop. Here, members can view activities that will take place months in advance. You'll never have to miss a GMM, leadership training, community volunteer opportunity or fundraiser again.

On the first Monday of the month, there will be one extensive email sent out to Actives and Provisionals. This "all-member email" will include full event details and announcements for the upcoming month. Following that, there will be one weekly snapshot email sent on each of the next three Mondays – a reminder of important meetings and volunteer opportunities taking place on that particular week. Our committee will also be creating a monthly e-newsletter for Provisionals and Sustainers catered to their specific needs.

Are you part of the Facebook community? Then join our Junior League of Miami group page. Throughout the year, we will be using the online wall to promote upcoming fundraisers. Group members will also be able to receive invites to special events, which they can then share on their status updates. This will allow people not affiliated with the Junior League to support our causes.

Our committee encourages all Junior League members to take advantage of the various digital initiatives we are currently using. 



Shopping Card continued from page 1

List of participating merchants at time of publication



AVENTURA

Adolfo Dominguez
Betsey Johnson
Charles David
Crabtree & Evelyn
Donald J Pliner
Edward Beiner Purveyor of Fine Eyewear
J. Crew – Aventura
lucy
Sports Authority
Stuart Weitzman
Teavana
Ted Baker of London

BAL HARBOUR SHOPS

Brooks Brothers
Eli Tahari
Georg Jensen

MIAMI – DOWNTOWN

Blush Boutique
Creative Male
Downtown Divas
Edward Beiner Purveyor of Fine Eyewear
Robert Conway Personal Training
Sports Authority
Studio LX
Trini in Private Salon
Z Mattress – Hialeah
Z Mattress – Midtown

COCONUT GROVE

Absolutely Needlepoint
Baby Sensory Center
Brenda's Boutique
Coconut Grove Gallery & Interiors
Edward Beiner Purveyor of Fine Eyewear
H&H Jewels
MFM Lifestyle Photography
My Yogurt Bliss
Palm Produce Resortwear
Tiano Salon Spa

KEY BISCAIYNE

Abaka Salon
Toy Town
MamaOm
Burns Ltd.
Baby Sensory Center
Palm Produce Resortwear

DOLPHIN MALL / INTERNATIONAL MALL

Brooks Brothers
Sports Authority – Dolphin Mall
Sports Authority – International Mall

CORAL GABLES

Abaka Salon
Adolfo Dominguez
Aleren—Kids and Teens
Aleren—Young Contemporary
Alhambra Antiques
Baby Sensory Center
Donald J Pliner—Merrick Park
Edward Beiner Purveyor of Fine Eyewear
emporium
Fair Trade Market Place at CGCC
Jady Images
La Cofradia Ceviche Bar
MFM Lifestyle Photography
My Yogurt Bliss
Natural Color & Cuts
Paper Emporium
Rex Art Framing
Royal Oriental Rugs
Shoes To You
Silvia's Corset Shoppe
Snow's Jewelers, Inc.
Soluna MD
Stitching Around
The Children's Exchange
tina b.
Trini in Private Salon
Wolfe's WINE Shoppe

KENDALL / DADELAND

Abaka Salon
Clarabelle's Cupcakes & Other Creations
J. Crew—Dadeland
Koko & Palenki Style
Luggage World and Travel
Peter of London Salon & Spa
Sports Authority
Swim Snaps Studio
The Container Store

MIAMI BEACH / SOUTH BEACH

Blush Boutique
Cool-de-Sac
Edward Beiner Purveyor of Fine Eyewear
Footworks
Isabel Fine Home Accessories
Jenna White
My Yogurt Bliss
Nikki's Beachhouse Boutique
Studio LX
The Closet Boutique
The Dog from Ipanema
The Dressing Room
Z Mattress

ONLINE / IN HOME

Alhambra Antiques
Arbonne International Independent
Consultant Jenni Brophy
Arbonne International Independent
Consultant Mandi Miranda
Back-in-Style.com
Creative Memories—Vivian Poulos
Joey Eric
Extinct Collectibles
LAVA by Leigh Benayoun
MamaOm
Silpada Design Jewelry, Donna Hennessy
Independent Rep.
South Beach Ties – Online Shop
Susan Pagan - Avon Products
Wendy Mahr, LLC

PINECREST / THE FALLS

Abaka Salon
Again & Again Consignment
Bag N Baggage
Blush Boutique
Brooks Brothers – The Falls
Dream Dinners
Kaliapy Italian Food
Kidding Around
Market Boutique
Math Monkey of Pinecrest
My Derma Clinic
Peter Of London Salon & Spa
Safer Kids and Homes
Teavana
Vera Bradley - The Falls

SOUTH FLORIDA

Sports Authority
Teavana

JLM embarks on four new community projects

The projects will support women, children and the homeless

By Cynthia Archbold Journal Writer

Each year, JLM selects new community projects to serve the needs of families, women, children, the poor and the elderly. We provide both seed funding and volunteer hours. This year, JLM is embarking on four new projects, which include the following:

Camillus House: JLM members will create and implement a wellness program to address the emotional, social and health needs of chronically homeless women.

Florida Breast Health Initiative: JLM volunteers will go door-to-door in a monthly breast health campaign, distributing breast health education kits and providing free mammograms to underserved women.

UM Linda Ray Intervention Center: League members will collaborate with the University of Miami's Department of Psychology to design an interactive music pro-

gram for babies and toddlers who are at risk of poor outcomes when they enter school.

UM School of Education Kulula Project: JLM volunteers will serve as after-school tutors, activity coordinators and mentors to children, their parents and caregivers in partnership with the University of Miami School of Education in its youth and family empowerment program, Kulula and Strong Roots. The program is designed to enhance the ethnic identity and socialization skills of ethnically diverse children and their parents.

JLM is also providing funding for the following projects:

- Casa Valentina
- Centro Campesino Farmworker Center, Inc.
- Community Smiles
- Every Child Deserves Neat Stuff
- Thomas Armour Youth Ballet



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General Membership Meeting kicks off the year

By Kathleen McGrory Journal Editor

If the first General Membership Meeting is any indication, the new Junior League year is off to a strong start.

September's GMM was the first to be held at the Cosford Cinema on the University of Miami campus. More than 200 members attended, many sporting their red JLM t-shirts. The women caught up over hors d'oeuvres on the patio before heading inside for an informative meeting.

Five members were named Summer Super Leaguers for their outstanding effort over the past three months: Johanne Nicoleau, Kim Dorais, Anaysa Gallardo, Alexandra Page and Stefanie Mederos.

Additionally, three members won Summer Leadership Awards: Shopping Card Chair Jennifer Burchard, Provisional Committee Chair Tracy Pottker-Fishel and Membership Directory Chair Daru Lane Ransford.

"I was surprised," Daru said. "I'm very



touched and very grateful."

The meeting was packed with introductions and updates. And it ended three minutes ahead of schedule.

"It was informative and efficient," said Vice President of Communications Emilie Goldman.

President Loretta Nido was pleased.

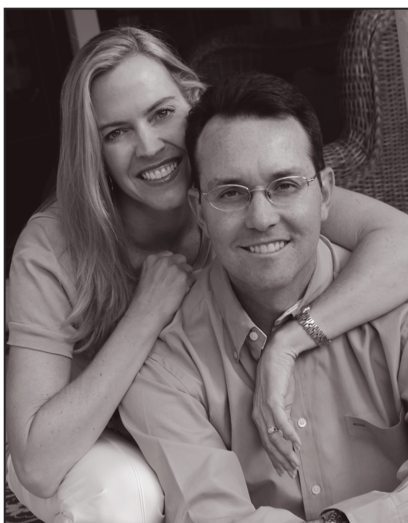
"I love the theater setting," she said. "And I'm very proud of everyone who worked so hard this summer. We're going to have a great year." 🍷

Calling All Voices

Do you want to be a part of JLM's advocacy efforts? Do you want to participate in local and statewide discussions with elected officials on issues affecting women and children? Do you want to learn or improve your skills as an advocate for the women and children JLM serves in our designated focus areas?

The Political Affairs and Issues committee will be meeting soon to chart a plan for 2010-11. Please contact Cristal Cole via email at CristalCole@yahoo.com or Kadie Black at KadieBlack@gmail.com if you would like to learn more about JLM's plan for addressing current political issues.

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Community focus: Camillus House

JLM members will hold five clothing and supply drives for homeless women

By Carrie Klimczak Camillus House Co-Chair

This year, the Junior League of Miami is excited to be partnering with Camillus House, a non-profit agency that provides humanitarian services to poor and homeless men, women and children. Founded in 1960, Camillus House is one of the oldest and largest continuously operated charities in South Florida.

The Junior League will be assisting the Camillus House by mentoring 12 women. JLM will also develop and implement a wellness program to address the basic needs of chronically homeless women.

How can you get involved with helping the Camillus House? Please help us by supporting the following drives:

September: All About Me (purses, totes, shower caddies, toiletries, etc.)

November: Holiday and Winter (jackets, pants, socks, etc.)

January: Step into the New Year (shoes, undergarments, etc.)

“ The Junior League will be assisting the Camillus House by mentoring 12 women. JLM will also develop and implement a wellness program to address the basic needs of chronically homeless women. ”

February: Makeup Madness

March: Smooth and Jazzy: (music, reading material, etc.)

April: April Showers (umbrellas, rain boots, rain coats, etc.)

Members are encouraged to bring new and gently used items to our GMMs. (Our rule of thumb: If you wouldn't use it, don't bring it!) The Camillus House Committee will have a table set up at each GMM where you may drop off items. Larger items like furniture can be scheduled for pick up.

So, when you are cleaning this year, consider Camillus House before you

donate elsewhere. We look forward to seeing you at the GMMs!

If you have any questions, contact Kendall Brown at kendallkay@att.net or Carrie Klimczak at cklimczak@adt.com. ☎



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Community focus: Therapy Dogs

With the help of some furry friends, JLM is helping kids become better readers

By Rose Huber Therapy Dogs Committee Member

Through the Therapy Dogs program, Junior League members and their dogs are helping children learn to love reading. Our dogs go through a rigorous assessment from Therapy Dogs, Inc. They are then required to attend three supervised visits to determine if they can become a therapy dog. Once the dogs complete these items – and demonstrate good health and proper vaccinations – they can become a certified Therapy Dog.

Miami Junior Leaguers and their dogs are placed at four libraries in the community: Liberty City, Edison, Pinecrest and Homestead.

Our program encourages children to read by providing a non-judgmental listener: their furry friend. Instead of getting nervous and flustered while reading, the children associate reading with being with the dog, and begin to view reading in a positive, less stressful light. Over time, the

child's reading ability and confidence improve because they are practicing their skills, which will in turn help them enjoy reading even more. Not only do they view reading as fun, but they gain a tremendous amount of self esteem.

The children become familiar with the dogs and the Junior Leaguers. We often see the same children coming back to see their furry friends and they are quick to recognize their favorite dogs.

In the library, the reading sessions usually take place in a quiet, comfortable area. The child picks out a book that he or she would like to read, and sits down next to the dog and Junior Leaguer. We often find that the book is one the child thinks the dog would enjoy! The visits last about 90 minutes. The children attempt to stay as long as they can so they can maximize their time with their furry friends.

Not only do we see a qualitative difference in the children's reading abilities, but it has also been quantitatively demonstrated. Research indicates that therapy dogs can reduce stress. When children were asked to read aloud under three conditions (to a peer, to an adult and to a therapy dog), the pres-

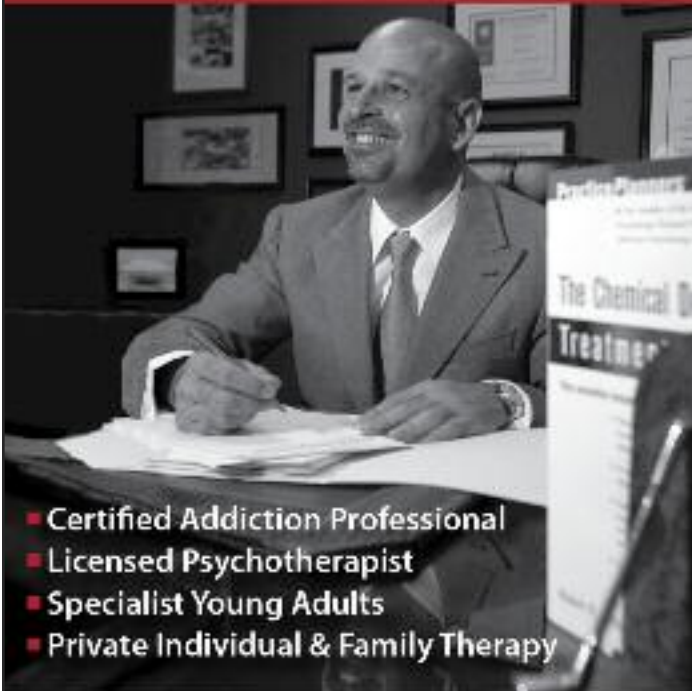


“ Our program encourages children to read by providing a non-judgmental listener: their furry friend. ”

ence of a therapy dog reduced the children's blood pressure and heart rate to normal levels and diminished signs of anxiety.

This year, we are collecting new and gently used children's books to pass out at the end of our sessions to the children who have attended. Now, they will be able to continue practicing so they can read an even more difficult book to their favorite furry friend during the next visit. ☺

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Leaguers take on new leadership roles

By Elvira Larrain Journal Writer

This year, we are lucky to be served by an amazing team of women who embody what the Junior League of Miami is all about. These wonderful ladies are our vice presidents.

Communications, Emilie Goldman:

Born and raised in Miami, Emilie Goldman is a second generation Junior League of Miami member. She graduated from Palmetto High School and received a Bachelor of Journalism from the University of Missouri – Go Tigers! She currently owns and runs Center Street Communications, a public relations and marketing firm. Emilie joined JLM in 2006. Previously, Emilie served as chair of External Public Relations and as a member of the All Aboard Family Literacy committee. She resides in Coconut Grove.



Community, Bibi Cruz Ledón-Sears:

Bibi joined the League in 2003. She was recently honored as the 2009-10 Volunteer of the Year. Prior to serving as Vice President of Community, Bibi held the roles of Vice President of Membership and Vice President of Communications. She has also chaired the following committees: Encore Shop, the Junior League Journal, webmaster, public affairs, Provisionals, WWMD, and Community Partners. Bibi is an administrator for the Miami-Dade County Public Schools and lives in the South Broward area with her husband and daughter.

Development, Lauren Hunt:

Lauren joined the Junior League of Miami as a provisional in 2004. During her first three active years, she worked on the following

community projects: Building a Family of Readers, Project Reach: Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Inn Transition South. Since 2008, Lauren has served the League as part of Development Council and as the co-chair of the golf tournament fundraiser. She was part of a team that helped move the tournament to the world famous Blue Monster Golf Course at Doral Golf Resort & Spa. Lauren also has an active commercial real estate legal practice at White & Case LLP.

Membership, Beatriz Lopez-Castro:

Betty joined the Junior League of Miami in 2004. She has served as a committee member of both Opening Galas of the Nordstrom stores, and co-chaired both Women Who Make a Difference and Auction for Action. Betty has also served as chair-elect and chair of the Nominating Committee and worked as a provisional mentor. Outside the League, Betty is a Lifetime Member of the American Red Cross Tiffany Circle, Committee Member of the 2010 Red Cross Ball and Committee Member of the 2010 Kristi House Touch a Heart Dinner. She works in the law firm of Martinez-Estevé & Lopez-Castro and resides in Coral Gables.

Finance, Maria Byrd:

Maria has been a member of Junior League since 2001. She served as a committee member of the golf tournament and was treasurer of ITN. She has also held the position of recording secretary. Maria is a CPA and is the president of Figueroa Byrd CPA, a consulting firm providing temporary staffing of controllers, accounting directors and finance managers. Her background is in public accounting at Grant Thornton LLP, where she worked for 12 years. In addition to her work with Junior League, Maria is actively involved with FIU's Accounting Affinity Council and with her church, St. Cather-



ine of Siena. Maria is married to Scott Byrd and has 7-year-old twin girls, Lillian and Carolyn.

Planning, Lorrie Martin:

Lorrie came to the Junior League of Miami as part of the fall 2002 Provisional Class. She began her League placements in the familiar area of finance, first with the Encore Shop, then as assistant treasurer, and served on the Board as treasurer and Vice President of Finance. Since then, Lorrie has worked with fund development, chaired the Junior League Journal and has served as a provisional mentor. She also served for a number of years on the JLM Foundation Board and helped set up the donor database. Lorrie is a Florida native who lives in Coral Gables with her husband, Richard. She holds a Bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Miami and a Master's in Public Administration from FIU, and works in the Marine Operations Department of Royal Caribbean International. 🍷



JLM takes over the Blue Monster

Effort raises vital funds to support community initiatives

By Kathleen McGrory Journal Editor

The 7th Annual JLM Golf Tournament was a huge success, raising funds to support community projects.

The tournament and festivities took place on Oct. 1 at the Doral Golf Resort & Spa. Golfers enjoyed a fun day of golf and complimentary refreshments courtesy of Bacardi. More than 120 golfers took part. The JLM golf committee was especially excited to welcome back World-

wide Flight Services, which brought more than 20 golfers and sponsored the official tournament golf shirt.

The event was a success by all accounts, co-chair Amy Lu Robles said. The players raved about the event from start to finish. One golfer narrowly missed getting a hole in one - a feat that would have won a 2011 Jaguar FX provided by The Collection.

Later, the participants enjoyed a

cocktail reception with live music courtesy of Aidan Rivera and Fabien. There were rum beverages compliments of Bacardi, beer and wine donated by Republic and sliders provided by Latin Burger & Taco.

In addition, Ikon, CVS, Doral's Alex Gomez and JLM Photojournalism Co-Chair Shanna Nye all helped to ensure the presentation and photos were fantastic. 📸





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Women Who Make a Difference

By Michelle McClaskey, Amber Seidle-Lazo and Luly Sixto-Yero WWMD Co-Chairs

The JLM's 10th Annual Women Who Make a Difference luncheon will be held on Sunday, February 27 at the new JW Marriott Marquis in Downtown Miami.

Since 2002, the Junior League of Miami has recognized 38 women who have done outstanding community service on behalf of women, children and families. We are excited to announce our 2011 WWMD honorees in November and look forward to celebrating these fabulous women in the spring.

If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact co-chairs Michelle McClaskey at ajsuf@aol.com, or Luly Sixto-Yero at robnluly@yahoo.com. ☎

★ SAVE THE DATE ★

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

December 10 ★ ★

Miami Magic

Four Seasons Hotel

Celebrate Miami and honor those who make the city magical at a festive holiday fundraiser at the Four Seasons Hotel. Enjoy an enchanting evening with refreshing cocktails, delectable cuisine and much more.

If you have any questions, contact co-chairs:

Bibi Cruz-Ledón Sears at cruzie@aol.com,
Marlene Fernandez-Keravetsos at marlenefernandez@yahoo.com,
or April Pizzo at april.pizzo@yahoo.com.

When we're not volunteering...

JLM members make time for families and fun

By Megan McNally Journal committee

Junior Leaguers are busy women. We have jobs, children and our own lives to juggle. In between all of that, we make the time to have a little well-deserved fun.

Luckily, we live in a beautiful city. Many Junior Leaguers tend to orientate their free time around their families, and have managed to foster friendships by doing things close to home and on a routine basis. Member Vicky Hucks has been part of a dinner club for the last six years. If not having dinner at a friend's house close by, she and her friends flock to their favorite South Miami restaurants, includ-

“ One of my favorite places to go is Lincoln Road. You never know what you may find at one of the vintage shops...”

ing Town, Red Fish Grill and Flemings.

Junior Leaguer Jennifer Lutton enjoys outdoor Miami by visiting the Venetian Pool, attending Marlins games (she says they offer great rates for children on Sun-

days) and the Coral Gables Farmer's Market from January through March. She even ventures out to North Palm Beach to visit the Macarthur State Park.

First-year active Ozelia Fowler is hard at work during the week, and on weekends, spends her time hanging out with her girlfriends at the beach or in the Brickell area at night.

One of my favorite places to go to on the weekends is Lincoln Road. You never know what you may find at one of the vintage shops and the J. Crew is spectacular.

Enjoy your weekends, ladies! You deserve it! ☎

What we're reading

The Junior League Journalistas

Rough Magic: A Biography of Sylvia Plath by Paul Alexander

The legendary writer Sylvia Plath would have made a fine Junior League member, as depicted in *Rough Magic*. The Smith College legend and literary It Girl of the 1950s, who is best known for her disturbing novel, *The Bell Jar*, comes across as a dynamic, unstoppable literary force in this 2003 biography.



With all of Plath's fierce talent, her story becomes all the more tragic, as Alexander details her relationship with husband Ted Hughes, the poet laureate of England who she helped make famous. The story of his abuse and Plath's suicide in 1963 does not eclipse the inspiring portrait of the artist as a young girl, a single-minded writer who had her first poem published in *The Boston Herald* at the age of eight. It took 50 rejection letters from an assortment of magazines before *Seventeen* published her short story "And Summer will not Come Again."

But the adversity seems to have made Plath ever more prolific. Eventually, she won a contest to be a guest editor at *Mademoiselle*, and later, a Fulbright Scholarship to attend Cambridge.

Plath's conquests were more than literary; she left behind a legion of Ivy League suitors as she crossed the Atlantic. She certainly had many options when she met and married Hughes, known as the "biggest seducer in Cambridge." But marriage and the birth of two children did not stop him from living up to his reputation.

Rough Magic shows us the angst behind the glamour of Plath's achievements and details of her marriage never told before. Hughes not only left her, but emptied their joint bank account for trips with his mistress to Europe – funds that Plath had carefully earned and saved. Alexander shows us that Plath was at the height of her creative powers when she took her life at the age of 30.

In the end, one sees Plath not so much as a troubled artist, but as a strong, forceful



woman provoked to a state of overwhelming despair.

– Cynthia Archbold

Something Borrowed and Something Blue by Emily Giffin

I am proud to admit that my favorite genre is chick-lit. I have read many books in this category and it has always been been hit or miss. *Something Borrowed* by Emily Giffin, however, is the beginning of a great set of books that was impossible to put down. This book explores the romance and friendship of two characters that, despite their flaws, are relatable. They get themselves into a tough situation in the very beginning, which will leave you dying to find out what happens next. It is so good that as soon as you finish, you will be off to get part two, *Something Blue*.

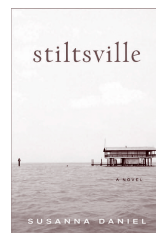


Honorable mention goes to *Adored* by Tilly Bagshawe. It is really heavy, and really long, but as delicious as a piece of warm chocolate cake with vanilla ice cream.

– Megan McNally

Stiltsville, by Susanna Daniel

Susanna Daniel's debut novel is both beautifully and simply written. She tells the story of Frances, a young woman who moves to Miami from Atlanta in the early 1960s after falling in love with a law student. The two marry, raise a child and endure the trials and tribulations of marriage. They often escape together to Stiltsville, their stunning retreat on Biscayne Bay.



As the main characters mature, so do their relationships. The bond between Frances and her husband takes time to ripen, but it's worth the wait. Daniel builds the tension methodically – and with a keen eye to everyday detail. Adding to the realism, the novel revolves around turning points in South Florida's history: the race riots of the 1980s, Hurricane Andrew. Still, the old Florida setting gives *Stiltsville* a magical feel. The novel evokes a place that has rightly earned its place in national lore.

While *Stiltsville* slows down considerably in some places, stick with it. You'll be glad you did.

– Kathleen McGrory

Ask Dr. Rose: Communication styles

By Dr. Rose Huber Licensed Clinical Psychologist

www.mindandbodypsychology.com

Communication is key to any relationship. So how can we communicate better? First, you must understand the difference between being passive, aggressive and assertive.

An aggressive communication style would convey, "I count, you don't count." You are basically stating your own opinions at the expense of someone else. Aggression takes on a variety of forms. It can be physical and/or verbal.

Some examples of aggressive traits are:

- You make decisions for others.
- You are direct and powerful.
- You'll participate in a game only if you win.

Others feel humiliated, defensive, resentful and hurt around you.

A passive communication style would convey, "You count, I don't count." This would be withholding your own opinions and feelings and not expressing them indirectly or partially. Passive communication

is based on compliance. In this mode, we don't talk much, question even less, and actually do very little. We just don't want to rock the boat.

Passive communication is a form of expression that is unsuccessful. It can lead to feelings of anxiety, anger, depression and vulnerability.

Examples of passive traits include:

- You allow others to make decisions for you.
- You are inhibited.
- You are viewed as a "pushover."
- Others achieve their goals at your expense.

An assertive communication style is typically best. It is the one in which you are able to be transparent and present, and honor your values without stepping on other peoples' toes. Assertiveness is being able to say "I count and you count." It is expressing your own rights and feelings and standing up for yourself, but not violat-

ing someone else's rights and feelings. You are able to accept compliments comfortably; you are able to disagree with someone in an open manner instead of defensively. You can ask for clarification of things and you are able to stand up for yourself. This allows you to be more relaxed with situations with other people.

Tools for becoming more assertive:

- Be able to define the problem.
- Be able to describe your feelings so that the other person can understand how important the issue is to you.
- Maintain good eye contact.
- Speak clearly and calmly.
- Be able to compromise, to bend a little bit.

The key to great communication is to figure out what the difference is in being passive, aggressive, and assertive and choosing to be more assertive. ☺

Are you ready to serve?

By Vicky Hucks Nominating Chair

I hope that everyone has a wonderful year. If you have any questions or concerns, your placement advisor is only a call – or email – away!

Are you ready to step up to the plate and be a leader in the League? Do you know of someone who would be a great asset to the JLM Board of Directors? If so, please go on-line and complete a Straw Ballot!

The Straw Ballot allows members to inform the Nominating Committee that they are interested in becoming a leader in the League. Most of the positions are Board of Director positions, but the Nominating Committee also decides on two

Members-at-Large and the group of candidates for the 2011-12 Nominating Committee. Self submittals are strongly encouraged and looked highly upon.

All aspects of the Straw Ballot are completely confidential. Only members of the Nominating Committee are privy to these ballots and they are destroyed after the selection process. The current Board of Directors, president and president-elect do not participate in these decisions.

If you are thinking about chairing a committee next year, be on the look-out for the "Willingness to Serve" form at the January General Membership Meeting. The Willingness to Serve form lets the

incoming president (Dana Martorella) and the vice presidents of the various councils know that you are interested in being a leader for the 2011-12 League year.

So step up and self submit – or let us know of someone you think would be a great leader. All applications are due no later than 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Nov. 12. You can use the secure online form, e-mail VickyHucks@aol.com or send your suggestions in the mail to Vicky Hucks at 616 San Esteban Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33146.

We're looking forward to hearing from you! ☺

Calling all Sustainers: What advice would you give to your younger self?

By Katie Lane-Arriola Sustainer Liaison

The Junior League of Miami is continually seeking ways to measure the impact that we have on the community. It is not difficult to see the direct impact that JLM has on the community projects we serve from year to year – when we mentor the third grader in an after-school program at the Barnyard, when we keep an elderly resident company, or when we sing and dance with toddlers at Inn Transition South. We also have ways of enumerating the hours that active members and provisional members put in volunteering at Miami Magic or working on financial reports. But, what we find much harder to measure is the impact that the Junior League of Miami has on our community once our members have finished their active years, and gone “Sustainer.”

“Everywhere we look in South Florida, we see Sustaining Members who are making a vital difference...”

Everywhere we look in South Florida, we see sustaining members who are making a vital difference, whether through serving on local non-profit boards, through their professions, through philanthropy or through civic activities. And, sometimes, they are doing all of the above! The active membership of JLM looks up to all of you, and hopes to make a similar impact one day.

We want to learn from you. What advice would you give your younger self? How can we use our JLM experience for many years to come? How can JLM show this community the success of the “training organization” that it is? Please help us do this!

In five sentences or fewer, tell us how your experience as an active member of JLM has impacted your current professional/personal/civic life. We would love to hear from as many Sustainers as possible. Answers may be submitted to KatieLaneArriola@hotmail.com, for submission in the next edition of the *Junior League Journal*.

And, to the Sustainers from all of the current members – thank you, for your incredible examples of leadership in our community. ☪

Upcoming Sustainer Events



Sustainer Coffee

Thursday, October 21, 2010

10:30 a.m.

Home of Cathy Zuckerman Dee

1443 Blue Road, Coral Gables

For more information, contact Holly Troup at troupholly@yahoo.com or 305-793-4609.

Sustainer Holiday Party

Saturday, December 11, 2010

7:30 p.m.

Home of Debbie Korge

6121 Granada Boulevard, Coral Gables

Sustainer Spotlight: Jamie Adams Bonham

By Jennifer Kneifel Lutton Journal Writer

I first met Jamie Adams Bonham when my friend, a JLM Sustainer, recommended Jamie to design the orchids for my wedding. She was introduced to me as the most talented orchid specialist in town and beyond that, an exceptional person who I needed to know. After nine years of marriage, I can still see the beautiful orchids dripping from every part of the Deering Estate. And my relationship with Jamie and our involvement with the League has blossomed into an amazing friendship.

Jamie joined the JLM in 2000 as a Provisional to "serve my hometown community, meet like-minded, charitable women with similar interests, make lasting friendships, develop leadership skills and network for my small floral business." Her Active JLM assignments since 2001 have included meetings and hospitality, Chili Splash, Chili in the Village, Inn Transition South, membership outreach, provisional mentor, nominating, Headquarters management, Sustainer liaison and fund development. She has also given orchid talks and trainings to JLM members.

Needless to say, her involvement has been above and beyond the call of duty, and she has been honored with Super Leaguer, Leadership and Volunteer of the Year awards.

Three years ago, Jamie married David Bonham and is now the proud mommy of two-year-old Austin. Jamie is currently pregnant with Travis, who is due to arrive in October.

I interviewed Jamie and asked her a few questions:

JL: Why did you decide to become a Sustainer this year? Was it a hard decision to make?

JB: I decided to become a Sustainer earlier this year when I learned that I was expecting a second baby. It was a difficult decision for me to go sustaining at the Annual Meeting in May. I knew I could not contribute 100 percent and taking a sabbatical was not an option. I will miss volunteering monthly with my dear friends to serve our community. I will enjoy attending fundraisers and meetings as a Sustainer!

and reconnecting with the fabulous Sustainers that I met as an Active. The last 10 years have been amazing. I am fortunate to be part of an incredible organization of outstanding women whom I have learned so much from. My closest friends are all JLM members and we will be friends for life.

JL: What are your plans for the upcoming year?

JB: My plans for the upcoming year are to be a good mother to my newborn baby boy, Travis, and my 2-year-old son Austin. My floral business is growing and I am assisting my husband, David, with his family law practice.

JL: Any suggestions for women in your same position who want to become a Sustainer but are struggling with the decision?

JB: I would advise them to remember that family is first, work second followed by volunteer work and hobbies. When I joined JLM, I was 28 and single, so I had more free time to commit to volunteering. While in JLM, I served on several non-profit boards in Miami which was a very fulfilling experience. I feel that I have received more than I have given while an Active in the League. I am sure that I will feel the same way as a Sustainer! ☺



Photos from top: Jamie at Holiday Market with her beautiful orchids; Jamie accepting 2006-07 Volunteer of the Year award; and Jamie with her first son at a JLM meeting.

Tara Ana Finley

President

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A Primer on Placement

By Vicky Hucks Placement Chair

The Placement Committee is gearing up for an exciting League year full of wonderful opportunities to help our community while making new friends. As always, your placement advisor is here to help you navigate through your requirements and answer any questions that come along the way.

All active members are assigned a placement advisor by their last name. For example, if your last name is Hucks, Jennifer Herskowitz would be your placement advisor. Following is a list of the 2010-2011 placement advisors and their corresponding advisee groups:

Morgan Brown: A and B
Nickelle Crowley: C
Robin Preston Dunlap: D
Jodi Hernandez: E, F and G
Jennifer Herskowitz: H, I and J
Sarah Knight: K and L
Tracy Regan: M
Melissa Ross: N, O, P and Q
Carrie Shelfer: R and S
Zaria Walter: T, U, V, W, X, Y and Z

Heather Harris: Placement chair-elect
Most of you are aware of your League requirements, but below is a cheat sheet of your responsibilities for the year.

Meetings: Active members must attend a minimum of five General Membership Meetings each year. Placement interviews done at Headquarters will count as one meeting credit. JLM training sessions, Done in a Day projects (as long as you are not on the committee) and Sundari moves (as long as you are not on the committee) are considered make-ups and will count as one meeting credit each.

Placement:

Active members must complete the volunteer work and committee meetings assigned by the committee chair. The number of meetings and time commit-

ments will be at the discretion of the committee chair or the council vice president.

Ticket/Shift Obligation: Purchase one ticket for any one of the JLM fundraisers or two Shopping Cards for a Cause. Work one shift (more than two hours) for a fundraiser or community project. (Any Board approved community or fundraiser shift you do in excess of two hours will count as shift credit, while anything below that amount will count as meeting credit.) ☺



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NOVEMBER 15, MONDAY
DECEMBER 2, THURSDAY
DECEMBER 10, FRIDAY

TOURS BEGIN AT 9 A.M. IN THE CHAPEL

Sustainers Wine & Cheese Party

At the home of Arva Parks McCabe, September 29



△ Sustainer Co-Chairs Holly Troup and Gail Scott



△ Christie Wolfe,
Arva Parks McCabe,
Priscilla Greenfield,
VP of Finance Maria
Figueroa Byrd



▷ Becky Matkov,
Anna Ehlert,
Lamar Noriega



△ Sustainer Liaison Katie Lane-Arriola,
Christie Wolfe, Cindi Fedde,
Sustainer Co-Chair Holly Troup



△ Leslie Rivera, Maggie Blake, Christy Starr



△ Betsy Hoover-Thomas, Kip Campbell



▷ Rosemary Floyd, Kathy Moore

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