Vol. XIII No. 5 Summer 2005

> The Junior League of Miami, Inc. Membership Newsletter

Annual Celebration Members toast a fabulous year

111

ay 17th marked the closing of a great JLM year and the launching of a brand-new one with equal promise. Members gathered at Fairchild Tropical Garden to toast their achievements and recognize some outstanding volunteers through the JLM Annual Awards:



Provisional of the Year went to Brigid Cech whose leadership brought about a very successful provisional group project: creation of a library at Inn Transition North. She also

worked with GAP girls and participated in projects and JLM events all year.



Volunteer of the Year went to Cybelle Santo Domingo, who expertly ran the communications program for the League this past year that kept members and the community informed

and involved. She worked tirelessly, rolling her sleeves up and making sure everything got done no matter what was required. She launched new programs and improved existing ones, and never missed being there to help at all the JLM events.

Jeanine Lobell of Stila Cosmetics (right) presents newly made-over Jill Ecklund, chosen in a random drawing for a complimentary makeover from Stila at the JLM Annual Meeting.

See more Annual Meeting photos on page 23 and on the Web.



Junior League

Her vision created the Foster Care program for teen moms which she'll head up in this new League year. Committed to JLM as well as other important organizations in Miami, Kim was extremely deserving of this highest honor bestowed by the JLM.

went

The Rebecca Hern-

don Bush Award

to

Brigham for her out-

standing dedication,

leadership and hard

work on JLM's proj-

ects throughout her

10 years of service.

Kim

Congratulations to all!



JLM Project Wins Big

ongratulations to the Junior League of Miami for winning the AJLI Crest Whitestrips Community Smile Award for our Girls Advocacy Project (GAP). As the winner, we received international recognition among all Junior Leagues, as well as a \$10,000 prize for our League!

The award was announced at the AJLI Annual Conference May 14 in New Orleans. Thank you and congratulations to everyone who has worked on and supported this amazing project over the years!

President's Farewellpage 3
Getting to Know Andriapage 3
Sustainer Newspage 7
Community Impactpage 10
Provisional Newspage 12
Community Partnerspage 17
JLM Foundationpage 19



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Excerpts from the President's Farewell

quote that sums up my League experience this year is: "And it's still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out into the world, it's always better to hold hands and stick together."

What we accomplished by sticking together this year is nothing short of amazing. Nordstrom, completely underwritten and then some. Women Who Make a Difference Luncheon, completely underwritten by Royal Caribbean International. Race For The Cure, thanks to our involvement again this year in tandem with Junior Leagues



Which living person do you most admire?

Lance Armstrong, my hero without a doubt. He is the purest definition of strength and perseverance.

What is the funniest thing you have ever seen?

My husband imitating my parents! Although I have had some pretty hearty laughs with Amy this year. They are probably the two funniest people in my life.

Which talent would you most like to have?

I wish I had a JD, an MD and an MBA (and that they all came easily for me)!

What do you like most about living in South Florida?

I love that we are outdoors 12 months a year. Growing up in New York we had several months of padded clothing so you felt less guilty about those extra Oreos!

What are you reading?

InStyle Magazine and the JLM budget!

throughout the country, we pushed our attendees to 10,000 for the first time. InStyle Magazine called **us** to partner with them to the tune of \$20,000 in revenues we weren't counting on in our budget with national advertising for our Junior League for the first time ever.

And at the Annual Conference, the Association of Junior Leagues International awarded us \$10,000 for our GAP project...the first-ever grant for JLM from our parent organization...and certainly not the last.

I wouldn't be telling you how much I have loved being your President if it

wasn't for every one of you...Actives, Sustainers and Provisionals....I am so glad we held hands and stuck together this year....I am so proud of all of us!

Amy Sussman JLM President 2004-05



New President Andria Hanley and outgoing President Amy Sussman.

What is the best advice you were given?

Live like you don't know how much time you have left...because you don't. I actually gave that advice to myself about 5 years ago.

What do you most value in your friends?

Honesty, letting their guard down and just being who they are

What are you listening to in your car? Dave Matthews Band and whatever funky rap my husband downloads to CD's.

What 3 things are essential on your nightstand?

Radio, bible and a picture my daughter taped to the side of it.

What is your biggest indulgence? Sweets!

What is your greatest fear?

Leaving before my time is up and my work is done.

When and where were you happiest?

Duck, North Carolina, 1990, sitting on a rocking chair on the back porch of my friend's beach house, listening to John Denver.

Which word or phrase do you most overuse?

"Thank you", but it is sincere.

Getting to Know Our New Leader

What is your most treasured possession? My wedding ring.

Who are your heroes in real life?

My Mom, she has more patience than I could dream of having. She doesn't judge others, is not impressed by labels and sees the good in everyone. My Mom enjoys the simple things in life: walks, sunsets, fresh coffee, good soup, a sunny day, and something interesting to read.

What do you consider your greatest achievement?

Fighting cancer, and then sharing my story with people I care about.



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Bornie of Britzerons
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2005-06 General Membership Meetings

A summer begins and you have time to unwind, know that you are in good hands for our meetings next year. The General Membership Meetings will be held at the completely renovated and very lovely Country Club of Coral Gables, 997 North Greenway Drive, Coral Gables. The meeting dates are listed below. Evening meetings will begin with a social at 6:30PM and a meeting at 7:00PM. We will continue to have morning meetings at headquarters, 9:00AM social, 9:30AM meeting. General Membership Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month, except February of the coming year because of Valentine's Day (it will be held Wednesday, February 15th).

As a courtesy to others, please only sign in if you are able to stay for the duration of the meeting. Those who stay for the entire meeting receive one meeting credit.

- Tuesday, September 13, 2005
- Tuesday, October 11, 2005 Area Meetings
- Tuesday, November 8, 2005
- Friday, December 9, 2005 Holiday Party (location TBA)
- Tuesday, January 10, 2006
- Wednesday, February 15, 2006
- Tuesday, March 14, 2006 (voting meeting, PM only)
- Tuesday, April 11, 2006
- Tuesday, May 17, 2006 Annual Meeting, Fairchild Tropical Garden

The Junior League of Miami 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.

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



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Journal Staff

Cybelle Santo Domingo

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Congrats, Good-byes and Thanks

To: 2004-2005 Board of Directors, We laughed while making all of our decisions. Thanks for helping me create my team amd implement my plan. I had more fun this year than I ever imagined. I am indebted to all of you. *Love*, Amy

To: 1926 Foundation Board of Directors Thank you to all of the wonderful Foundation Board of Directors for their commitment and hard work.

From: Cheryl Goldstein

To: Mary Lynch,

You were right...there is no problem a bunch of women with a glass of champagne can't solve quickly. You are an inspiration to me...thank you for your expertise this year.

Love, Amy

To: Cybelle Santo Domingo

Cybelle, Next stop...Heading an international conglomerate's communications department (and a spa day with us.)

Love, Jennifer and Maria

To: Bonita Whytehead

Congratulations to Bonita on her many achievements. She is a tireless and giving worker for our League and many other charitable organizations. Thanks so much.

From: Linda Blackburn Brown

To: Community Project Chairwomen and their committees

Thank you to the fabulous Community Project Chairwomen and their committees who donated over 6000 hours of time to our community projects. You're incredible!

From: Stephanie Demos

To: Amy Sussman and the entire Board: I salute you and all your accomplishments this year! Great job and a fun year!

From: Mary Lynch

To: Vicki Lukis

Congratulations on your appointment to Govenor Bush's Ex-Offenders Task Force. I have no doubt that your contribution will make a significant positive impact on the lives of many. You continue to amaze and inspire me and many others with your relentless efforts and postive attitude.

From: Michelle Beauchamp

To: Amy Sussman

Amy, Congratulations on a year of hard work, which has made a difference in the lives of countless women and children.

Love, Erin

To: Candace Vasssillion

Candace, congratulations on all your work in keeping the League's finances in order. It is crucial in the success of the League.

Love, Erin

To: Cheryl Goldstein

Cheryl, congratulations on taking the Foundation to a new level. It has been exciting to watch your success. Thank you.

My Best, Erin

To: Cybelle Santo Domingo Cybelle, Congratulations on how many areas of the League your work in communications has touched. Your silent hard work have made this year incredibly successful.

Love, Erin

To: Amy Sussman You Rock!!! Best, Gail

To: Margaret Nee Thank you for being such a great liaison these past two years and for your great

these past two years and for your great emails keeping everyone in the loop! *Love*, Your Sustainer Friends

To: Sondra Space

Without your help...I would have never found my wings. Thank you for your constant positive reinforcement.

Love, Amy

To: Ken Sussman

To my husband, Ken: Thank you for all of your help and moral support this year. I appreciate all the times you took Jay to Merrick Park to play in the grass on Sundays while I read and responded to everyones emails. I'm Baaaaaaack! *Love*, Amy

To: Amy's Parents

Mom and Dad: I could not have been President without you two. Thank you for flying into town to take care of Jay for my past 8 Junior League meetings...can you believe I'm finally done? *Love*, Amy

To: Karen Cabrera and Andria Hanley A President never had it so good...an immediate Past President and Presidentelect who knew when to be quiet and knew when to speak up! I was so blessed to be sandwiched in between you ladies.

Love, Amy

To: Erin, Alise, Michelle, Bonita, Christine, Tate, Lisa, Aniella, Susan and Katie: Thank you for making it happen this year! You're the best.

From: Gail Scott

To: 2004-05 Board of Directors Congratulations on a job well done! You created an exciting year and met your goals at the same time. It's been a privilege to work with you.

Salute! Natalie

The Junior League of Miami extends its sincere appreciation to Michael Baer, with Remy Amerique, for donating the Pink Champagne for our Annual Meeting N 150 H EN 1 , ₈ EI H AM P A F Reims France

New Sustainers

Thank you to the following League members who have given 336 years and countless hours of volunteer service to our organization.

Joelle Allen, 1997 Nancy Allen, 1998 Monique Armbrister, 1992 Susan Bonner, 1993 Sheila Brewer, 1998 Linda Brown, 1990 Karelia Carbonell, 1996 Karen Clement, 1992 Tracy Courtney, 1994 Ashley Cusack, 1992 Thomasina Turner Diggs, 1998 Erin Dupree, 1997 Melissa Edbrook, 1991 Kendall Elias, 1998 Catherine Eskra, 1997 Allison Freeland, 1994 Cheryl Goldstein, 1999 Karen Guy, 1999 Angela Harrison, 1995 Elizabeth Hogan, 2002 Leslie Hoy, 1996 Liz Latta, 1991 Kelly Lederman, 1991 Neca Logan, 2001 Vicki Lukis, 1998 Megan Lykes, 1999 Susan McCallion, 1999 Angel Michaels, 1999 Holly Miller, 1997 Allison O'Keefe, 1993 Dinah Drier O'Toole 1995 Jennifer Robinson, 1997 Maggi Rossi, 1998 Sheri Shoup, 1997 Alice Smith, 2000 Cathy Strafaci, 1997 Shella Sylla, 1998 Shawnn Wieder, 1997

See New Sustainers Photo from Annual Meeting on page 23

Sustainers Farewell from Sustainer Liaison

From Margaret Nee, Sustainer Liaison 2003-05

Dear Sustainers,

I would like to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for your support, encouragement and cooperation over the last two years. I have enjoyed keeping you up-to-date on JLM news and events.

I am sending all of you a very heartfelt THANK YOU from

many of the active members and committee chairs you have helped by donating baked goods, volunteer hours, financial support, toys, sneakers...donations of all kinds! Your donations, involvement and support helped them to be successful in our community.

I would also like to take a moment to thank all who have worked on the Sustainer Committee this year: Lynn Hart, Maggie Blake, Teresa Zohn, Mari Kimsey, Jeannett Slesnick, Anna Ehlert, Betsy Tilghman, Betty Brody, Susan McGrath, Carol Pawley, Carole Cookson, Becky Matkov, Ellen Oppenheimer, Elise Wood, Kitty Clayman, Tamara Hartnett, Betsy Hoover and Becky Guilford.

It is due to your hard work and great organizational skills that we were able to host many wonderful and fun-filled events. A special note of thanks to Susan McGrath for designing and underwriting all the beautiful invitations we enticed you with this year.

I have really enjoyed this placement and hope you will continue to be "active" and involved with the JLM through next year's Sustainer Liaison, Meg Stamey.

Thank you all again, for your kindness, friendship and support,



lower Arranging

Margaret





Babcock Ranch Tour







7

community connections <u>Closing the GAP</u>

Helping to make a difference in other communities By Vicki Lopez Lukis

Junior League of Miami is once again bringing its expertise to other Leagues with the sole objective of expanding our collective volunteer services to other communities. It is no secret to our membership that we have taken a leadership role with regards to girls in detention through our long-standing community partnership with the Girls Advocacy Project (GAP).

At the beginning of this League year, I met with Amy Sussman, our "fierceless" leader, to determine a plan of action that would strengthen our position as emerging "experts" on girls in the juvenile justice system. She challenged me to "roll out" our GAP project throughout the state to our sister Leagues utilizing my SPAC delegate position. I thought her vision was ambitious, at best, and wondered if I would be able to complete the plan in one short year. Who could have imagined that she would be on to something so realistic?

Shortly thereafter, I introduced this concept to the Leagues statewide when JLM hosted the SPAC Fall Conference. The visit to the Miami-Dade Regional Juvenile Detention Center and the focus group I facilitated with the GAP girls left each SPAC delegate in awe. They unanimously voted to take this project back to their Leagues in hopes of encouraging their members to develop a Junior League GAP-like project much like the one they had witnessed firsthand here in Miami. I have since been traveling around the state addressing memberships who have expressed a desire to learn more about our work with these extraordinary girls.

On April 19, I traveled to Lee County at the invitation of the Junior League of Fort Myers. They had invited me to speak on our GAP program and the many successes that we had experienced in the four years in which we have partnered with GAP. I knew it was a huge opportunity to humanize the plight of these young girls whose at-risk factors have contributed to their path to delinquency.

I spoke to their President, Melanie Saxon, prior to the meeting and she gave me some background about the issue and their League's consideration. I gave my presentation and, as you might suspect, there were many tears as I read the reflections from our GAP girls about the impact we have had on their lives. The Superintendent of the SW Regional Juvenile Detention Center, Vincent Vurro, was informative as he shared his expertise of working with girls in his center and articulated the many unmet needs that could be met by Junior League volunteers. He welcomed them with open arms and answered questions about logistics that lent credibility to the overall presentation.

At the end of my presentation and just as they were about to vote on whether to accept this as a community project, a key member of their leadership was then moved to give her own personal testimony. She said that something I had said had hit home with her. [I always like to remind my audience that but for the grace of God go any of us or our children.] It seems that she and her 4 siblings were illegitimate as her mother never married her father. He was an alcoholic and she observed him beating her mother on nearly a daily basis. She moved into drugs but miraculously never got into trouble. She was sure that

she was one of those that but for the grace of God escaped what surely would have been a life in and out of the juvenile justice system. Today, she is a successful and productive member of her community. She is a tribute to surviving much adversity and her courage to share that with her membership moved me to tears.

It was truly miraculous to share our GAP work with the nearly 70 women



present who were contemplating whether to adopt a similar community project for their League. A vote was taken and only 4 of the members voted against it. So we now have the first League to expand volunteer services to young girls in detention outside of the Miami-Dade community and I am overwhelmed with pride for the Junior League of Miami and its leadership role in making this a reality!

All in all, it was a marvelous experience for me and for them. I am thrilled that the first League to take me up on my offer to help them begin this project is in my hometown. My younger sister, who lives in Naples and accompanied me to the meeting, said she was so happy to have witnessed what she knows will be the beginning of something big for their community and for their organization. She could feel the sea change on the horizon and it was obvious from the response I got after the vote was taken that their membership is ready to go on the "inside" and step up to the challenge. I am proud to count them in our circle and look forward to seeing other Leagues join us in our powerful work.

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community impact

2005-2006 Community Projects

Big Brothers Big Sisters CHARLEE Mentoring Moms CHARLEE Creative Expressions Children's Bereavement Center Family Learning Partnership – Building a Family of Readers Family Resource Center – Hurwit Nursery Girls Advocacy Project Inn Transition North Inn Transition South

Community Grants

Angel Flight Southeast Continental Societies, Inc. Dade County Bar Association Legal Aid Society Kristi House, Inc. Notre-Dame d'Haiti Summer Camp





A recent Foundation event I enjoyed a conversation and want to share it with you. A very wise sustainer (Karen Throckmorton) was talking with a group of actives about volunteer commitments and posed an interesting question. She asked us to think about what makes us most angry. Then she said, "Whatever comes to mind is where you should focus your volunteer time." For some, it was animal rights, others children's issues.

For me it was cancer, naturally, but something else too. I thought about Jessica Lunsford. Now THAT is something that makes me angry. And I thought about us, as an organization and what we do. I realized two things. One, that thanks to sustainers who have done it before us, we have become very good, in fact excellent, at helping women and children who have been abused. We should, and do, care very much about them. But the second thing I realized is what made me angry. We need to do something to eliminate the problem. We must be proactive AND reactive. Just like MADD women, we need to let our voices be heard. We have to let our legislators know that we want a national registry of sex offenders as well as tracking devices for life. From what I know about the issue, the behavior does not go away or correct itself. That being said, we need to know if they are in our neighborhoods or near our children's schools. PAC Chair Carol Bryant talked about this at our April General Membership Meeting. She encouraged us to go to www.miamidade.gov to see if there are offenders near your home.

The good news is our statewide SPAC has already done something about it. They have released a statement telling legislators how the majority of our 24,000 members feel about this issue.

I wonder what comes to mind when you ask yourself what makes you angry. I hope it is something the League is doing something about. If not, and if it fits into our mission, propose that we take it on as a project next year, through our program development process.

I left the lunch thinking about anger. Anger, I realized over a relaxing cup of coffee, is a good thing. Thank you Karen, and all the sustainers who make us think and drive us to do what is right!



Project REACH



TILLIE FOWLER Junior League Remembers Trailblazer

Tillie Fowler, one of the Junior League of Jacksonville's most recognizable members, passed away March 2, 2005. An avid supporter of the community, former Congresswoman Fowler joined the Junior League in 1975.

A natural leader, Tillie served on the Public Affairs Committee in 1980 which worked on the Child Welfare Task Force and Public Education. Advocating for teacher salaries and standards, a lifetime commitment to education and advocacy began. Other leadership positions included chairing the Education Committee and the Community Research Committee.

As President of the Junior League in 1982-83, Tillie exemplified integrity, openness and a clear vision. Her gift for

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organizational development and innovative planning was evident.

Mrs. Fowler often credited the Junior League for fueling her passion for community involvement and getting her interested in politics. Even after becoming a Sustainer (alumnus), Tillie continued to support the Junior League as a mentor, advisor and friend.

Each year, the Junior League honors the achievements of Mrs. Fowler through the awarding of the Tillie K. Fowler Community Service Award. The award recognizes a commitment to outstanding volunteer leadership.

Mrs. Fowler was elected to the Jacksonville City Council in 1985 and became the body's first female president. A Republican, Tillie was elected to Congress in 1992, winning a seat that

had been held by a Democrat for 42 years. During her eight-year tenure in the House of Representatives, she served on the House Armed Services committee, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and chaired the subcommittee on Oversight Investigations and Emergency Management. She was the Deputy Majority Whip for six years.

She received the U.S. Navy's Distinguished Public Service Award and the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service – the highest civilian awards given by both – for her efforts to ensure a strong military.

After leaving Congress, Mrs. Fowler was appointed to the Commission on the Future of the Aerospace Industry by the Speaker of the House and the Center for Strategic & International Studies named her to its Distinguished Congressional Fellows panel. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld appointed her to the Defense Policy Board Advisory Committee in 2001. In May 2003, she was named the first women chair of the Defense Policy Board.

Tillie quietly changed the world through an unwavering commitment to public service. Her grace, strength and vision will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Fowler family.

"The work of the JUNIOR LEAGUE has changed the lives of thousands of women and children over the years. I have seen it and watched it...I was so honored to be recognized by such a group. Thank you for your kind words."

–Sharon Langer, Legal Aid

membership matters

Provisionals

Commencement Celebration Caps Year

n April 19, 2005 at the Miami City Club, the Provisionals, along with the Provisional Committee and several Board Members, celebrated the Provisional Class's acceptance into active membership to the Junior League of Miami.

After welcoming the Provisionals to the festivities, Jackie Crabill and Alison Simon, recounted the successes of the year and their appreciation for the hard work of the Provisional Class. League President Amy Sussman congratulated the women on their new active status and praised them on their many accomplishments during the year. Berta Blecke, Sustainer and Key Note speaker for the evening, spoke to the women about making the most of their membership in the League as well the League's power to make a difference throughout our community. Berta's words and account of her commitment to community service were an excellent inspiration for our new Actives. Lastly, President-Elect Andria Hanley spoke to the women about active requirements and challenged them to fulfill their commitment to the League with enthusiasm and passion. The new actives also received the Junior League video, Our Miami: The Magic City, as a token for their hard work as Provisionals.

The evening concluded with each Mentor Group's account of their Mentor Group project. The Mentor Group projects were extremely successful this year and included:

- 1. ITS Sneaker Drive: Providing sneakers to the women and children of ITS and giving a party to hand out the sneakers.
- 2. ITN Library and Celebration Ice Cream Party: Outfitting ITN with a library and DVD player, collecting books and DVDs for the Library and hosting an ice cream party for the women and children of ITN.





3. Beautifying Hurwitt

Crisis Nursery and Library: Painting the Nursery, creating mobiles for the cribs and collecting DVDs for the children.

- 4. Project Reach Halloween Party: Taking the children from Big Brothers Big Sisters to Seaquarium for a Halloween Party.
- 5. Project Reach Field Trip: Taking the children from Big Brothers Big Sisters to Gameworks for fun, games and prizes.
- 6. Gladstone Field Trip to the Miami City Ballet's Nutcracker: The girls at the center enjoyed the ballet, received goody bags the day of the event and received holiday cards and nutcrackers after the event to remind them of the trip.
- 7. Gladstone Holiday Party: The girls at the center enjoyed a festive party with goody bags and good cheer.
- 8. Field Trip for Hurwitt Crisis Nursery Children to the Humane Society's Adoption Center in North Miami Beach: The kids got a tour, played with kittens and puppies and enjoyed a nice lunch followed by arts and crafts.

The Provisional Committee is proud and pleased to welcome the following women into active membership:

Kimberly Albanes Claudia Alegrett **Elisha Anagnostis** Chandra Iglesias-Balsera Aimee Barusch **Justine Berlet** Lisa Bernardo Lauren Billingslea Caroline Blake Melissa Moore **Bonafonte** Kameelah Brown Nicole Brown Susana Callau **Brigid Finerty Cech Etain Connor Heather Curtis Christa Davis**

Jill Falke Yolanda Farias Cori Franco Staci Fraser Roxana Garciga Vanessa Gilyard Silvana Giuffrida Lauren Hunt Jacqueline Kassebaum Mary Killeen-Griffith **Allison Kulach Julianne Lake Betty Llorente Christina Lunsford** Maria Maloof **Nicole McAree** Jennifer Miller Josie Mira-Deneroff

Tara Muir **Besty Nolan** Jacqueline Ortega **Kendall Pryles Melissa Schumacher Mieke Renkens Scripps Dana Seiber Kristi Shepherd Julie Shiell** Melissa Silva Kara Skelley **Blair Sonville Amy Stone Tara Sullivan** Jean Voglino **Emily Weinstein Kellie Wilcox Catherine Woods**



JLM Directory Now at Your Fingertips By Valerie Harvey



reat news! You can now make your own personal information changes on our new, secure, online membership directory. Check out this new feature of the JLM Website on your Members/Actives page.

Your individual password to enter this new site was given to you with your new placement at the Annual Meeting or, it was mailed to you shortly afterwards. Please log in and review/edit your individual profile (address, telephone, numbers and personal info) before July 15 so that we can print an up to date Directory in August for the September General Membership Meeting. In the coming League year, you will be able to make continuous updates, check monthly

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Thank you to Kristin Pearce for SuperLeaguer Awards for the past two years!



meeting attendance, and search for other members by placement, last name, business or membership status.

We encourage you to check out this great feature and update your member information online. We will also continue to accept mail-in changes as well. Send all changes to Betsy Harper at betsycharper@aol.com or call (305) 461-2779.



The Carbonell family supports the efforts and dedication of the Junior League of Miami

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New Faces & New Volunteers!

By Jennifer Pfleger, Membership Chair



Spring has been busy for the Membership Outreach committee. We have been recruiting new volunteers and spreading the word

about JLM's impact in the community.

Our committee held Open Houses at JLM Headquarters in January, March and April. We were excited by the number of Prospective Members who attended each event. These dynamic women can't wait to get involved with JLM and are looking forward to starting their Provisional Year this fall.

In addition, we did outreach at the In Style event in April. It was a wonderful opportunity for women attending the event to learn about JLM community projects and how to join the Junior League. Many of these women attended the April Open House and will start their training year in September.

As June approaches, Heather Almaguer is getting ready to take over as Membership Chair for 2005-06. Heather will be fantastic in this position! Her dynamic personality and boundless energy are contagious. I am confident she'll continue to inspire more women to get involved in JLM.

Thank you to all the JLM actives and sustainers who encouraged family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to attend an Open House and find out more about the Junior League. We appreciate your help in increasing our volunteers and expanding our efforts in making a difference in the community.

A big thank you to Jeannett Slesnick who helped spread the word about JLM and how to get involved. We appreciate you informing women in the community know about upcoming Open Houses in your bulletin, "Jeannett's Journal."

A round of applause goes to Erin Knight for getting the Membership Committee involved in National Women's Heart Day Health Fair We appreciate your efforts to let us hold an outreach at the event. It was a big success and wonderful opportunity to recruit new members!



A special thank you goes out to the entire Membership Committee: Wendy Allen, Heather Almaguer, Jessica Bennett-Porto, Allison Holly, Denie Freyer, Gretchen Kirtley, Kristen Martino, Katie Newcomm and Meg Stamey. I am thrilled to have worked with such a great committee. I truly appreciate your efforts to make the Prospective members feel welcome. You all are amazing and true ambassadors for JLM!

Thank you to Jackie Crabill, Andria Hanley, Vicky Hucks, Susan Lerner, Cybelle Santo Domingo, Alison Simon, Amy Sussman, and Candace Vassillion for speaking at the Open Houses. You made JLM come alive for the women attending. And another round of applause to new actives Kara Skelley and Melissa Schumacher who spoke to the Prospective Members at the Open Houses. You both really gave great insight to the Provisional Course and how joining JLM has made a difference in your lives!

Finally, a huge thank you to Cybelle Santo Domingo for helping to design the Membership Outreach packets and signs we used this year. You really helped us get the JLM message and brand out. Thank you for printing our nametags, invitations, helping with our e-vites, agendas and much more. We couldn't have done it without your expertise. You're truly the best!

JLM Wish List

The Communications Council is looking for the following:

- contacts for invites
- office supply donations
- letter folding machine
- PC program donations for kids
- commercial laser color printer donation
- digital cameras
- gifts for awards (year end and Community Service)
- projection screen

If you can help, please contact Valery Harvey: valharvey@bellsouth.net

Reception Welcomes New Leaders

n Thursday May 5th another rite of passage occurred for leaders in the Junior League of Miami, the Incoming-Outgoing Board Reception. As our volunteer year drew to a close, the existing Board of Directors, 17 strong, invited Andria Hanley and her new Board to a champagne reception at the home of Amy Sussman. The purpose of the reception is to welcome new Leadership into our esteemed organization and is always hosted by the existing Board.

Board Members feasted on caviar pie, crab dip and sushi as they indulged with individual champagnes....complete with a straw. The new hot-pink theme for JLM once again turned up on the buffet. Bright pink flowers, starfish, ribbon and accessories adorned the table. The spirited pink color first turned up at our much heralded outreach booth at the InStyle event on South Beach.

The color was approved of by so many members and non-members alike, that it was adopted as JLM's unofficial new look. InStyle Magazine dubbed us as the best looking booth on the beach. Andria Hanley, incoming President, has even used bright pink on the cover of the usually bland Placement Bulletin. "I think we are an upbeat, fun-loving group of women that is consistently coming together to change our community for the better...pink really reflects that sentiment," she said. The event was held in Amy's home the prior year as well and many Board members remarked how quickly the year had passed. Four of the existing Board members have had babies in this term including; Lauren Harrison (twins), Jen Green, Stephanie Demos and Leanne Tellam. Those happy moments seemed to put the year into a balanced perspective for the Board.

Board

The evening marked one of quiet repose for the old Board and an excited kick-off for the new group. They really appreciated the lovely reception in their honor and will be doing the same for Susan Lerners' Board in a few short months. A great evening was had by all in attendance.

Outgoing Leaders Celebrate the Year

The final Board of Directors meeting of the Junior League of Miami was held on Tuesday May 3rd in a private room at "Carmen The Restaurant" across the street from our historic headquarters.

Hosted by Amy Sussman, the event was a hearty thank you to the Board for their year-long unwavering dedication to JLM. The menu was a delicious pairing of wines with some of Chef Carmen's specialties including; Florida Lobster and Avocado Terrine with Key Lime Mayonnaise and Crispy Plantain Fritters, Grilled Churrasco Steak with Yuca and Roasted Garlic Mofongo Vidalia Onion Escabeche, among others. The dinner ended on a bittersweet note with the arrival of Upside down Pineapple Cake with Roasted Macadamia Nut and Captain Morgan Spiced Rum Sauce, Yum!

Among the usual year-end business of approving the budget for next year and making all of the necessary membership status changes, the Board had a chance to preview the year-end video for the Annual Meeting. And what a video presentation indeed. Created by Vice President of Communications Cybelle Santo Domingo, the video was both a funny and poignant reflection of the year. President Amy Sussman had tears in her eyes and a quiver in her voice for her final thank you and farewell speech to her Board. She was especially grateful to Andria Hanley for her support as well.

The meeting was adjourned to laughter and applause for so many jobs that were well done. •

Congratulations!

Leadership Awards

September: Cybelle Santo Domingo October: Cheryl Goldstein November: Vicki Lukis and Katie Lane-Arriola December: Kristin Pearce January: Juliet Bianca February: Erin Knight March: Katie Lane Arriola

Super Leaguers

September: Betsy Harper, Transfer Liaison October: Tonya Bredemeider, Chili November: Jennifer Pfleger and Jana Hertz December: Melissa Edbrooke, Inn Transition South January: Kara Nordstrom Wells & Sheri Shoup, WWMD February: Melissa Farrell March: Jennifer Buttrick and Christina Urena

fundraiser focus

<u>It's Par-Tee Time!</u> Second Annual Golf Tournament Slated

Te are proud to present the Second Annual Golf Tournament at The Links at Key Biscavne on Friday, October 14, 2005. Please save the date! Tournament and sponsorship details as well as online registration will be available during the summer on the JLM website, or contact Co-Chairs Mallorie Marshall and Tina Towery to lend your support.

Just like last year, the day will start with a fantastic lunch, followed by 18 holes

Junior League of Miami



of competitive golf for fun and prizes. Stick around for the evening award ceremony with special recognition for all tournament winners and sponsors.



ABOVE: Sheri Shoup tees up at The Links.

Can't come out and play golf? Not to worry! You can still support the tournment by purchasing raffle tickets, a hole sponsorship, a "Mulligan" for your favorite player, or a free shot from the tournament golf pro!

We're looking 4-wood to seeing you on The Links!

Looking Ahead...2005-06 Fundraisers

JLM Golf Tournament - Friday, October 14, 2005 Women Who Make a Difference Luncheon - Sunday, November 20, 2005 80th Anniversary Kickoff Event - Date TBD Community Partners



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1 Over \$75,000 in in-kind donations

2 \$30,000 (multi-year donations/pledges)

5 \$3,000 (single or multi-year donations/pledges)

3 \$10,000-\$15,000 (single or multi-year donations/pledges) 7 2004-2005 donations up to \$999.00 4 \$5,000 (single or multi-year donations/pledges)

^{6 \$1,000-\$1,500 (}single or multi-year donations/pledges)

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD Welcome New Liaison Erin Knight!

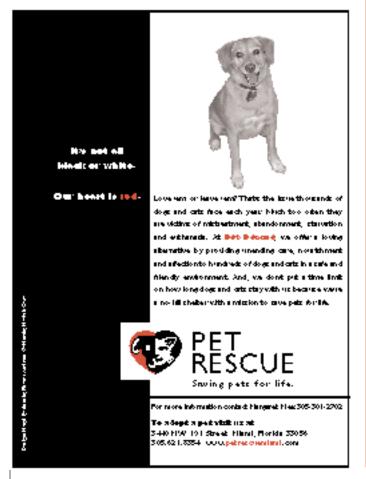
By Keith Landon, Community Advisory Board Liaison 2004-05

ven as we begin to "wade" into the ✓ waters of what promises to be a bright and exciting future for JLM next year, Nordstrom Diva Erin Knight is preparing to work seamlessly with our best and brightest group of Community Advisory Board members ever! We are planning our transition, but your job as JLM Active, Provisional and Sustaining members this summer is to begin to think about "recruiting" some of the best and brightest in our community to join our already-fabulous team.

Working in this position has allowed me an opportunity to see up-close the level of commitment each one of our members makes to the greater Miami-Dade county community, to say nothing of their commitment to our organization and its role in our ever-changing society!

It is likely that a new nomination process for new CAB members will begin in earnest in Fall 2005, and Erin and Andria will be eager to have some wonderful new faces join our organization as our own best advocates. Think about contacts you might have through your churches and synagogues; your offices and other civic and volunteer organizations of which you are a part. In particular, we are looking to continue

to diversify our wonderful cadre of CAB members. Is there someone in the arts or performing arts community who might make a great member? It's up to YOU to decide. Keep in



Tiramisu



By Juliet Bianca

- PECIAL RE 2 tablespoons instant espresso 1 cup hot water
- 8 tablespoons brandy, divided in half
- 2 cups (1 pint) heavy whipping cream
- 1 cup sugar
- 16 oz. mascarpone cheese
- 2 yolks of large eggs
- 2 packages (7 oz. each) of crisp Lady Fingers
- 2 tablespoons cocoa powder

Set medium size bowl (or the bowl of electric mixer) in the freezer to chill. Dissolve espresso powder in hot water in a pie pan. Stir in 4 tablespoons of brandy, and set aside. In the chilled bowl, whip heavy whipping cream with an electric mixer on high until thick. Add sugar, mascarpone cheese, egg yolks and remaining brandy. Beat at medium speed until combined. Beat on high speed until thick and fluffy with the consistency of whipped cream.

Divide mascarpone mixture, lady fingers and cocoa powder into thirds. Dip each lady finger into the dissolved espresso, coating both sides quickly without letting them get soggy. Place lady fingers side by side in the bottom of a large glass bowl. Spread a third of the mascarpone mixture on top. Then sift a third of the cocoa powder on top. Repeat this process two more times. Chill until ready to serve.



Keith Landon

Erin Knight

touch with our all-member emails over the summer and through the Journal, and look out for our nomination form. As always, please feel free to contact Andria, Erin or me with any and all ideas.

Thanks to each of my wonderful CAB members this year for all their support of our many, many unique and fabulously successful events!



future|focus

The Junior League Foundation

The sun was shining and there were hats galore for the Junior League of Miami Foundation, Inc.'s "Hats Off to You" Spring Brunch at the home of Amy Sussman. Many attendees wore beautiful Spring Bonnets much like the feathered creation that adorned the invitation to this special event. The invitation really set the tone, and some ladies hats were adorned with fresh flowers, bows, ribbons and more. Two of the bonnets were custom designed especially for this event. It was all very festive.

The brunch was held to honor the 1926 Society members of the Foundation and to thank them for their contributions to the Ronni W. Bermont Endowment Fund for Community Projects. Cheryl Goldstein. Foundation President. announced new contributions of almost \$50,000 for a current total of more than \$630,000 in the Endowment Fund. Cheryl said that we are well on our way to achieving our goal of \$1 million. Leslie Rivera was then introduced as the incoming President of the Foundation and Sara Herald gave a brief history of the Ronni W. Bermont Endowment Fund for Community Projects.

Adding to the festivities was the surprise drawing for all 1926 Society







Members of a one-week cruise for two aboard any Royal Caribbean International ship to a choice of destinations. The lucky winner was Lauren Harrison! You too could be a lucky winner by joining the 1926 SOCIETY. For information on how to join contact Elaine Tatum at 305-793-0540.

The JLM Foundation Board would like to extend our thanks to Amy Sussman and Royal Caribbean International for their contributions in making our first annual "Hats Off to You" Spring Brunch



which resulted in more than \$30,000 in donations to the Ronni Bermont Endowment Fund for Community Projects. After she completed this task, she began to organize the 1926 Society Recognition Luncheon at Immediate Past President Amy Sussman's home. The event was such a hit that it will be continued for years to come by the Foundation.

Elaine is married to G. Robert and they have a three-year-old daughter, Rose. Elaine has recently acquired her real estate license and will be relocating her family t o Miami Beach a f t e r selling her r e c e n t l y renovated home in historic

a success!

in historic Coral Gables. Elaine will continue to sit on the Foundation Board because they will not let her leave. Thanks for such a great year for the Foundation, Elaine!

news of note

An Evening with Susan Jordan of Jordan Winery in Napa Valley By Amy E. Sussman

n Wednesday April 27th more that 100 sustainers, actives and friends of The Junior League of Miami joined together in a wine tasting to benefit our Foundation.

Hosted by South Miami retailer House & Paper and featuring the wines of the exclusive Napa Valley purveyor Jordan Winery, the event showcased the new sterling silver wine accessory collection created by owner Susan Jordan.

Small in scope, but rich in tradition the accessories ranged from sterling silver candle snuffers, to large champagne buckets and beyond. A highlight were the olive branch inspired handmade furnishings.

Susan Jordan, a sustainer in The Junior League of San Francisco, was so pleased to be back in South Florida. She graduated from Fort Lauderdale High School and went to college in Winter Park, Florida, the site of Rollins College. She holds a fond place in her heart for The Junior League, and will be offering the Foundation an exclusive opportunity for six people to stay at the winery for a weekend. Stay tuned for more details on this exciting auction opportunity.

Brenda Ibanez-Lopez, the owner of House & Paper, greeted guests and treated them to a tasting of the noteworthy Jordan Chardonnay as well as their Cabernet Sauvignon. Hors d'oeuvres were chosen by Sandra Jordan as just the right pairing for her wines and were catered by Sara Sharpe. The event took place at the home of Junior League of Miami President, Amy Sussman.

House & Paper will continue to carry the entire line of wine accessories in their South Miami store and donated a portion of the proceeds from that



evening's sales, as well as the ticket price for the event, to The Junior League of Miami's Foundation.

Owner Ibanez-Lopez also offered a percentage of sales for the week following the event on all of the wine accessories to the Foundation as well. She said, "I had been meaning to do something for Amy and the League this year and this seemed like a great fit." A great fit indeed.



Endowment Fund Assuring Solid Future

The Jr. League of Miami Foundation surpasses over \$50,000 in individual contributions for 2004-2005! It makes perfect sense to ensure that our signature projects will be funded for their life! As the Ronni W. Bermont Endowment Fund for Community Project increases, so does the investment income that is generated by our assets! Thank you to the following new contributors since the last *Journal*:

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Cheryl Goldstein

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An Evening with Jordan Winery



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Annual Meeting Celebration See more photos on the Web: www.juniorleagueofmiami.com/gallery















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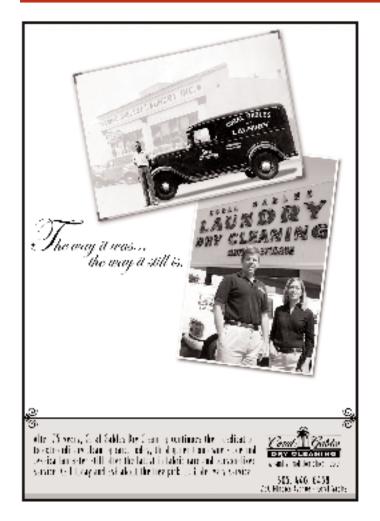
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