



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
EAU CLAIRE**

*Women building better communities*



**JAN/FEB 2007**  
Volume 14, Issue 3

# Connections

The Junior League of Eau Claire (JLEC) is an organization of women committed to promoting **voluntarism**, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and **leadership** of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively **charitable** and educational.



## Bunco:

### Mark Your Calendars!

Bunco, Blue Jeans, and Bling is Back for a repeat performance. **Thursday, March 1** is the date to put on your calendars. Our committee has been working hard to bring you a great event this year. Last year's event raised over \$3000 dollars and we are hoping to exceed that this year. Get your bling all shined up and get ready to roll! Hope to see you there.

### Done In A Day: Community Table

We will be preparing and serving dinner at the Community Table of Eau Claire on **Tuesday January 30 from 3pm-7pm**. We are looking for volunteers to fill two shifts;

**3pm-5pm will be set up and cooking**

**5pm-7pm will be serving and clean up**

Please sign up at the next GMM or by contacting Liz at 835-8909 or [lfalkner@charter.net](mailto:lfalkner@charter.net). Your help is needed in the community. Come and join the fun of working side by side with other JLEC members while making a difference.



### Did You Know?

There are still placement spots open that need members! Contact a Board member to sign up!

*A Message from*  
**Bobbi**



My daughters are amazed that I am a member of Junior League. They are even more amazed that I am President. You see, I'm not really a "joiner." I've never aspired to be a community leader or volunteer extraordinaire. I'm just a harried woman with a family and a job, trying to juggle the many demands on my time. Church work was the closest I ever came to community service.

Then I was invited to attend a meeting of the Junior League of Eau Claire. At first I struggled with the "time thing." As my daughters would remind me, "you don't have time for that, Mom!" And truly, I didn't, but I continued attending League functions anyway. I did it for me.

Women today shoulder incredible responsibilities. Most of us work outside the home, many of us raise children, some of us care for elderly parents and I believe all of us feel the pressures of our frenetic society. Perhaps, that is why I "chose" to serve the Junior League of Eau Claire. I longed for respite, friendship and meaning. It was a conscious, deliberate act that drew me away from the mundane, to the chatter, energy, and commitment that is uniquely feminine.

My time at meetings and events allowed me the luxury of communing with like-minded women who shared varying perspectives, thoughtful insights, and a cumulative wisdom that comes directly out of our consciousness as women. Where else could I go to experience such communion?

So, I joined Junior League. After two years I accepted a Board position and in my fifth year I became President-Elect. I am now in my sixth year, and President, my daughters are still wondering why I devote so much time to this organization. The answer is still the same: I do it for me. Perhaps one day they will understand – when their lives are consumed with responsibilities and they too need frivolity, meaning, and friendship!

When I look back over the years I realize that I have received far more from my League experience than I have given. As the New Year begins, I encourage each of you to re-commit yourself to the Junior League of Eau Claire. Make a resolution to attend a GMM. Come to our Bunco, Blue Jeans, and Bling event. Celebrate with us at our Celebration of Women. Join a new committee, seek a different placement, AND, most importantly, say "yes" when asked to serve in a leadership role. You won't regret it.

At the end of the day, when I leave behind paperwork at the office and dirty dishes in the sink, I escape to a group of women who inspire me, sustain me, and challenge me. It is a challenge that keeps me focused on service and leadership, encouraging me to be more tomorrow than I am today.

*Bobbi Giles*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- President ..... Bobbi Giles
- President-Elect ..... Lindsay Jaeger
- Past-President ..... Marianne Klinkhammer
- VP Community ..... Liz Falkner
- VP Communications ..... Sheri Baemmert
- VP Finance ..... Liz Kennedy-Wiechert
- VP Membership ..... Jessica Witte
- Recording Secretary ..... Pamela Macal
- Treasurer ..... Susan Jewett

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Corresponding Secretary ..... Tammy Eckert
- Historian ..... Susan Jewett
- Newsletter Editor ..... Kate Hinnant
- PR ..... Jessica Witte
- Website ..... Sheri Baemmert

**COMMUNITY**

- BTS ..... Marianne Klinkhammer & Brenda Weisenbeck
- Celebration of Women ..... Jessica Witte & Liz Kennedy-Wiechert
- Community R&D ..... Donnie Magadance & Marianne Klinkhammer
- Education/Speakers ..... Lynn Stark
- Literacy Volunteer ..... Pamela Macal
- Regional Arts Liaison ..... Jean Hood
- Projects ..... Donnie Magadance

**FINANCE**

- Fund Development .....
- Bunco ..... Jessica Schreiner-Donnelly & Jenny Schwartz
- Cookbook ..... Brenda Weisenbeck
- Grant Writing ..... Jessica Witte
- Packer Party ... Jen Fesenmaier & Denise Kristo

**MEMBERSHIP**

- Bylaws/Advisory ..... Chris Sniogowski
- Membership Dev. & Handbook .. Nicole Lasker
- Nominating .....
- Party Planner .....
- Placement .....
- Provisional Counselor... Marianne Klinkhammer
- Sustainer Rep .....
- Volunteer Service Coord. .... Pamela Macal

**Junior League of Eau Claire**

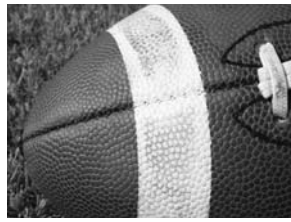
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## Packer Party a success!

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Green Bay Packer Party on December 10th. A good time was had by all! This year we raised \$3,300.00, a little short of our goal but still a great success! We had over 65 local businesses donate items or sponsor the event and 70 people attended on game day. A special thank you to all the League members who helped in making this event a success.



## Project Research Committee Investigates...

The Project Research Committee has met three times and we are in the process of investigating potential projects. Our approach is to invite league members to bring forth their suggestions for consideration of any needs that fit our mission statement. Our committee will take responsibility for exploring ideas and considering options and feasibility. Committee representatives Chris Sniegowski, Bobbi Giles, and Barb Westrate attended a meeting addressing poverty and homelessness in Eau Claire County and where JLEC might be able to assist. The committee will give an update at the January GMM. Any and all ideas by League members are welcomed. Contact [dmagadance@pnbnet.com](mailto:dmagadance@pnbnet.com) and thanks for your input!

## Holiday Party Earns League Some Jingle

The Holiday Party was filled with tasty snacks, good conversation, and wine tasting. Thanks to everyone who attended—you all made the event a success. Plus, the Coffee Grounds donated 10 percent of its sales that night to Junior League. This resulted in a check for \$160 to put towards our League mission.

## Special Notes...

- Congratulations to Jenny Fesenmaier for giving birth to twins boys Benjamin (6lb 8oz) and Henry (4 lb 10 oz) in November.
- Thanks to the following members for donating to the Endowment over the holidays: Linda Bohacek, Patricia Cigan, Jill Fernandes—including a matching gift from Luther-Midelfort.
- A special thank you to Whiz Kids for donating toys at the November GMM to present to Literacy Volunteers at our January GMM.
- Thank you to everyone who participated in the Packer Party fundraiser. Your support to League is appreciated.

Recipe from...  
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF EAU CLAIRE'S

# Treasures from The Valley COOKBOOK

## *Wild Rice Soup*

6 T. butter  
1 T. minced onion  
1/2 c. flour  
3 c. chicken broth  
2 c. cooked wild rice  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 c. half & half  
2 T. dry sherry (opt.)  
Snipped parsley

Melt butter in saucepan; saute onion until tender. Blend in flour; gradually stir in broth. Cook, stirring constantly; until mixture comes to a boil; boil and stir one minute. Stir in rice and salt; simmer about 5 minutes. Blend in half & half and sherry; heat to serving temperature. Garnish with parsley.

*Variation:* Add 1/3 cup minced ham, 1/3 cup finely shredded carrots and 3 tablespoons chopped almonds with rice and salt. Makes about 5 1/2 cups.

—Marla Mernitz

## Calendar

**Jan. 24**

GMM - Literacy Volunteers

**Jan. 30**

Done in a Day:  
Community Table

**Feb. 27**

GMM - ECRAC

**Mar. 1**

Bunco Fundraiser

# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

## JOIN US!

**January 23rd — GMM**

**Literacy Volunteers**

Masonic Center (near YMCA)  
616 Graham St, Eau Claire  
[www.lvcv.org](http://www.lvcv.org)

**February 27th — GMM**

**Eau Claire Regional Arts Center**

316 Eau Claire St., Eau Claire  
[www.eauclairearts.com](http://www.eauclairearts.com)

6:30pm - Committee Communications

6:45 - GMM

7:45 - Refreshments

8-8:30 – Program



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## UPDATED CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### JANUARY

**January 23**

GMM  
Literacy Volunteers

### FEBRUARY

**February 12**

Board Meeting 7:30pm

**February 16**

Newsletter article deadline for  
March/April issue

**February 27**

GMM  
Eau Claire Regional Arts Center

### MARCH

**March 1**

Bunco, Blue Jeans and Bling  
Fundraiser  
6-10pm Stella Blues (Upstairs)

**March 12**

Board Meeting

**March 27**

GMM  
Big Brothers, Big Sisters

### APRIL

**April 9**

Board Meeting

**April 12**

Literacy Volunteers Scrabble Bee

**April 19**

Celebration of Women - Fanny Hill

**April 20**

Newsletter article deadline for  
May/June issue

**April 24**

GMM-Placement Day  
River Plaza

### MAY

**May 14**

Board Meeting

**May 22**

Spring Banquet/Annual Meeting  
EC Golf and Country Club

**May 31**

All receipts due to Susan Jewett  
All membership dues are due