



engage. encourage. empower... eighty.

#### November/December 2010

# WELCOME NEW PROVISIONALS

We are thrilled to welcome all the new members of our 2010-2011 Provisional Class! On September 23rd we kicked off the Provisional year with Bunco! Thanks to Carrie Groseth and Valerie Fedie for organizing the very successful event!

On Friday, November 19th we'll be hosting our annual Provisional Training Session at the Eau Claire Golf and Country Club. Training will begin at 6:30 pm and conclude at 8:30 pm. All new Provisional's are asked to attend. We'll be covering the history of our league as well as exploring different ways to become involved. Several different provisional projects will also be discussed. It promises to be a great time!

It's not too late to let us know if you know of others who are interested in joining League, please don't hesitate to pass on their information to us. Special thanks to this year's Provisional Counselors, Jill Fenn and Liz Kennedy-Weichert.

# Eighty Years with a Mission

When you discover your mission, you will feel its demand. It will fill you with enthusiasm and a burning desire to get to work on it.

The mission of Eau Claire Junior League has been to develop the potential of women, improve the community and promote volunteerism. These words served as a guiding force to past Presidents, Board Members, leaders and volunteers and continue to serve as an inspiration to all of those in Junior League who work together each year to fulfill this mission.

In 1959, the members of the Eau Claire Service League assisted at the mobile X-ray unit that was in the city under the sponsorship of the Eau Claire chapters of the Anti-Tuberculosis Society; American Cancer Society and the Heart Association in cooperation with the City-County Board of Health. Registering persons for chest X-rays were Mrs. Arnold Gehring, who was in charge of the Service League volunteers; Miss Hazel Stover, City-County Health nurse; Mrs. Kenneth Ross, and Mrs. J.H. Beecher. The bus was stationed at industrial plants and were open to the public starting February 12, 1959.

The first two and a half weeks of the unit's work was at the various industrial plants for employees only. After that the unit was set up at 16 different locations throughout the county where any adult could receive a chest X-ray free of charge.

The state mobile chest X-ray unit visited Eau Claire every three years. It was last in Eau Claire in 1956 from January through March. At its last visit there were 16,557 persons who received X-rays and of this number 3,653 were from rural areas. There were 2,313 persons who were X-rayed for the first time. Of the persons X-rayed there were 932 who were re-ferred for further examination. Out of this number, six persons were found to have active tuberculosis and 37 persons found to have other chest conditions needing medical care, it was reported.

# A Message from JILL FENN

#### Hello Ladies of the Junior League of Eau Claire!

What an exciting Fall we have had! It has been fantastic to see so many of you at the first two GMM's of this membership year! A big thank you to Luther Midelfort and The Chippewa Valley Museum for being our hosts! In addition to our business, events, we've also had opportunity to celebrate in style at both the Bunco Fling and Cuisine for a Cause! Attendance was great at both events, and the group was a buzz about wanting to hold both events next year! I'm thrilled to hear that, and I hope many of you will consider joining the planning committees for one or both of these fun get togethers! Thank you for coming out in style and supporting the efforts of the Junior League of Eau Claire!



As we move into November our membership year really starts to gain momentum. Our newest members will experience Provisional training this month, our third GMM is scheduled and a fun social gathering is planned at Stella Blues directly after the GMM. I hope you'll consider joining us for this opportunity to socialize and laugh with old friends and to make new lasting relationships with your JLEC sisters! We will round the year off with our annual Holiday party at the Eau Claire Golf and Country club. As always, spouses and significant others are welcome to attend! Remember, it's never too late to join JLEC...if you know of potential new members who are interested, please feel free to bring them to our Holiday celebration as well!

While we're busy having fun and enjoying social events together, let's not forget about all the good we're doing for the community! This newsletter edition includes some fantastic articles and information regarding volunteer opportunities organized by our amazing group of women! I don't want to spoil the fun of the articles, so make sure you turn the page to see what's what in JLEC!

Last, but certainly not least, this year marks our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an organization. We're looking forward to celebrating in style and reliving the amazing accomplishments that the women of our community have achieved both as Service League and as Junior League. During our November GMM we will begin the planning for our end of the year 80<sup>th</sup> Celebration Gala. We need your help!!! This event is a celebration of our membership – past, present and future! We hope you'll join us in November for committee and planning sign up! The gala organization and planning will remain a huge focus for the rest of the 2010-2011 membership year! Please think about your talents and how they might be best volunteered to showcase and pay honor to all that has been contributed over the years!

With our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary in mind, I am drawn to thoughts about all League is to me. Not only does JLEC give me the opportunity to volunteer and give back to the community I live in and love, but it has provided the foundation for several friendships that I know will be lifelong. The JLEC membership has become a family to me, and for that I am incredibly thankful. I hope, during this month of thanks, you have a few moments to think about what Junior League means to you, why you joined originally, and where you can make the biggest impact as a member! I wish you and your loved ones, near and far, a very blessed Holiday season! ~ Jill

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Dental Sealants volunteers needed for following dates:

Friday, November 12th at Augusta Friday, January 21st at Longfellow Friday, February 4th at Putnam Heights Friday, March 4th at Northwoods Friday, April 29th at Lakeshore Friday, November 19th at Flynn Friday, January 28th at Robbins Friday, February 18th at Sam Davey Friday, April 15th at Roosevelt Friday, May 6th at Manz

Please contact Linda Bohacek at 715.579.5009 or email lbrdh4pets@charter.net

# Catching up at the Annual Sustainer Luncheon

#### Written by Kirsten Holbrook

On Monday, October 11, 2010, Sustainers and past Presidents of Junior League and Service League enjoyed each other's company and a fabulous lunch at the home of Marianne Klinkhammer. At this year's Sustainer Luncheon many Sustainers and past Presidents came out to share wonderful stories about past projects sponsored by League and the many friendships that were formed through their involvement in League. This year marks the 80th year of Service League/Juníor League and we are looking forward to that CELEBRATON. Thank you to Lynn Stark, Schotz Armstrong and Brenda Weisenbeck for being this year's Sustainer Representatives, thank you to the Board Members who provided the lunch and a very special thank you to Marianne for hosting!

# REFRESHMENTS

Do you have a favorite wine or snack you would like to share? Please consider volunteering to bring a refreshment to one of the GMM's

Contact Kirsten

kirstenmholbrook@hotmail.com



We will be supporting the Toys for Tots Campaign again this year. Last year we had a wonderful response to this request.

derful response to this request. Please bring a new unwrapped gift to our holiday party and on Christmas Day your gift will be distributed to a child in need. **Junior League Holiday Party** Friday, December 3, 2010 at 6:30 pm Eau Claire Golf & Country Club

You should have already received your E-vite to the Junior League Holiday Party!! Let this be the start of your holiday parties!! FUN WILL BE HAD BY ALL... If you didn't make it to Cuisine for a Cause, reconnect with your League members at the Holiday Party! Hope to see you all there!

# Cuisine for a Cause



JLEC hosted its first **Cuisine for a Cause** event on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Eau Claire Golf and Country Club. The event was a huge success, and we thank all members (and friends of members!) who attended. **Cuisine for a Cause** was an evening of fine dining and socializing, with proceeds from the event benefiting JLEC and local breast cancer causes. The evening started off with time for cocktails in the Country Club's cozy bar. Many guests, wearing their most fabulous pink, started their silent auction bidding before dinner as well. There were many fantastic items up for bid, from dance lessons at Arthur Murray to a **pretty pink** watch donated by Lasker **Jewelers**.

As the dinner hour approached, guests were asked to be seated at the dining tables adorned with pink napkins and pink-themed centerpieces all donated by local florists. The Country Club's Executive Chef Casey came out from his busy kitchen to welcome all guests and describe to us the first course that he had prepared: a seasonal salad, featuring local goat cheese and a vinaigrette made using fresh cranberries.





Next to the salad was delectable fresh squash strudel. Many "oohs" and "aahs" ensued as the meal continued. Diners enjoyed a granny smith apple sorbet; then an "Autumn Duet" of organic sirloin, rack of lamb, gouda smashed potatoes, and fresh autumn vegetables found in a mini pumpkin. The last, and arguably most delicious, course was an apple frangipane wellington. The entire four-course meal, all made using local ingredients and Autumn-themed, was absolutely **divine**. A special thanks goes out to Chef Casey for his creativity and admirable cooking skills! The evening concluded with continued conversation amongst the diners, the closing of the silent auction, and the clink of many wine glasses. A toast goes out to JLEC for a wonderful fundraising event!





Where is your Junior League T-Shirt? Email your order to jlec@charter.net or talk to Sadie at the GMM Let's be proud and show off our EIGHTY

Years Serving the EAU CLAIRE AREA!!



# Friday's Fundraising Night!

Great Food, Great Friends, Great Cause

Help T.G.I. Friday's raise money for JLEC

Enjoy a great meal with great friends on Wednesday, November 17, 2010

4 pm to 11 pm

Present flyer to your server and 10% of your total net purchase will fund Junior League of Eau Claire!!

> 4800 Golf Road Oakwood Mall

# FIZAZCE



# 300 followers and counting

If you haven't already joined JL on Facebook you are missing out on an easier way to keep in touch with all of our members!

The more our current members participate online, the more exposure our group will get. So we encourage you to become a Facebook fan *and* follow us on Twitter, starting today! Search for "Junior League of Eau Claire" on Facebook and hit the "Like" button. Find us on Twitter under the username "JLEauClaire" and sign up to follow us. See you on Facebook & Twitter ...





# Stacy Secker Connections Active Member Spotlight

# How did you learn about Eau Claire Junior League?

I learned a bit about Junior League of Minneapolis from a colleague prior to moving to Eau Claire. When I met Susan Jewett, she told me about JLEC and convinced me to join.

# How would you like to see Junior League help our communities?

I think League has really created some great projects, such as Backpacks and Community Table, as well as providing some other great done-in-a-day volunteer opportunities to help us make an impact on this community. I would love to see League find another great project for Eau Claire.

How would you like to contribute to Junior League or how have you already contributed to Junior League?

This is my third year as Corresponding Secretary and on the Nominating Committee and I have served on the Research and Development Committee. I have also had the opportunity to give back to the community by volunteering for great programs such as dental sealants, Scrabble Bee, backpacks, ECRAC, Community Table and Kids in the Kitchen. I don't know where the next path will take me.

# What is your best experience volunteering with Junior League?

One of my favorite volunteering experiences has been volunteering for the Scrabble Bee, which is a fundraiser for Literacy Volunteers of the Chippewa Valley. This evening is so much fun – great cause, fun people and great food!

# What is your favorite pastime?

I have three children (8, 6 and 3) and I really love being with my husband and my kids. I have been working more hours lately and it has made me realize how blessed I have been to be home with them as much as I have. Otherwise, my favorite activity is reading. I almost always have a stack of books somewhere waiting for me to find time for them.

# What is your favorite movie or book?

I love to read so choosing my favorite book is really hard. One of my favorite authors is Jodi Piccoult and I recently read her latest book, "House Rules", about a teenager with Asperger's Syndrome. As the autism rate in this country is escalating, this disorder touches so many lives. This book is a fast read. It really made me think and helped me understand more about what someone with Aspberger's may be feeling and issues the family may be facing in a nonclinical format.

Thank you Stacy for sharing your experiences with League and some of your favorite things!!



# Thank you to all of those who attended the "Shake Your Thang"

new member Bunco event. It was a GREAT success!! Over 40 active league members, sustainers, and guests attended the event at the Eau Claire Country Club on September 23rd. It was a FUN, social evening and a great way to introduce prospective members to

Junior League .

### Research & Development Committee

The Research & Development committee is one of the standing committees for League. The Community Research & Development Committee is responsible for keeping the League appraised of community changes, needs, and resources to make available its findings to the League. The committee's goal is to research and develop programmatic responses to selected community needs based on resources.

Essentially, the R&D committee is tasked with finding new opportunities for League to continue to support our community. The best sources for new opportunities and programs truly come from our membership. Any active member can chose the R&D committee as a placement or anyone can provide ideas to the committee to research throughout the year. The R&D committee will present the ideas to the board for further discussion and approval. The board then votes on whether to bring the new program to membership to be voted by the League. This is how a new program is formed in League. The R&D committee encourages all membership to be thinking of new ways League can get involved and further enhance our community through our voluntarism efforts.

The latest program erected from the R&D committee that League voted on in February 2010, is the Giving Tree program. The premise of the Giving Tree project is for a community organization to provide JLEC with a "needs/wish list" of small items. The goals of this project being (1) to provide organizations with support of a few items that would potentially make a big impact on their bottom line (2) to continue promoting awareness of League's impact on the community, and (3) continue to provide the membership with a feeling that individually and as a League we are making a difference each month within our community.

On, October 28th at the October GMM, a vote was taken to determine the Giving Tree recipients for the 2010-2011 year. A list of nonprofit organizations was presented and the top six organizations who received the majority of the votes were selected. The Bolton Refuge House will be the recipient for our Giving Tree Project for the month of November.

I also wanted to include that our first Giving Tree recipient, Beacon House, was overwhelmed with JLEC's generous donations for the month of September. As I delivered the items, Beacon House wanted to make sure we know how even a small item can make a big difference in someone life. I'm so excited that our Giving Tree project had such a great month, and I am looking forward to the upcoming months when JLEC will continue to make an impact in our community! Written by Valerie Fedie, RD Committee Co-Chair

# Attention Members:

Do you have a job change or promotion you want to share? How about a new community project you are involved in or a new baby or anything you want to share. Submit your information to lavicka@charter.net to be included in the next newsletter!

# JLEC 2010-2011 Board of Directors

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