

Connections is printed 6 times annually.

No portion of this newsletter may be reprinted, except by another Junior League, without permission from the editor.

© 2004 JLEC
JLEC Newsletter Editor
316 Eau Claire St.
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Design & Layout:
Eileen Immerman
Immerman Desktop Design

2003-2004

JLEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PresidentRobin Shih
President-ElectChris Sniegowski
Recording SecretaryMary Ann Dickoff
Vice-President, Membership.....Jenny Fesenmaier
Vice President, CommunityJennifer Ropes
Vice President, CommunicationsNicole Lasker
Vice President, FinanceCarol Johnson
Immediate Past-President.....Donella Magadance

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bylaws Linda Bohacek
Membership Becky Reffett
Nominating Open
Sustainer Reps Nancy Kersten, Marla Mernitz,
and Barbara Ihlenfeldt
Corspnd. Secty. Linda Bohacek
Historian Phyllis Mattson
Newsletter Nicole Lasker
Public Relations Becky Reffett
SPAC Linda Bohacek,Donnie Magadance
BTS Project Open
ECRAC Liaison Jean Hood
Education Deanna Schleusner, Marianne Klinkhammer
Treasurer Kari Byrne

History:

The Eau Claire Service League was founded in 1935. Over a thousand local women have served the Chippewa Valley community since its inception. In 1993, it affiliated with the Association of Junior Leagues International, renaming itself the Junior League of Eau Claire.

Mission Statement:

The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. 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 & educational.



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF EAU CLAIRE

VOL. 11 NO. 5

Back to School Backpack Project Kickoff

Come join our committee to plan this summer's 2004 project.



~
**BTS Kick-off
Planning Mtg.
ALL WELCOME!
Mar. 25 7pm
Sweetwaters**

The Back to School Project (BTS) is a great way to experience Junior League's impact on our community. Whether you work filling the backpacks, handing them out, or help with behind the scenes planning, this is a project you should work on. It may seem early but it's time to begin our signature project to provide backpacks and basic school supplies for low-income students. In 2003 we distributed over 1200 filled backpacks, and plan to expand this year. Any member interested in working on this project, please join us for a dinner meeting:

DATE: Thursday, March 25th
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: Sweetwaters Restaurant

RSVP by March 24th to Carol Johnson at 831-4064 or cajohnson@discover-net.net

If you can't make this meeting please let Carol know if you would like to be part of the committee.

Dental Sealant Project awarded \$1,000 Grant!

Eau Claire Area Foundation awards our program essential funds.

Thanks to Linda Bohacek for submitting the proposal to the foundation. We met the goals of the grant, so JLEC was awarded \$1,000. These monies will be used to purchase a portable dental chair, a soft-sided carrying case for screening, and placing dental sealants on the children. We visited all 19 schools in Eau Claire County. We will continue to provide needed preventive services for children as long as grants continue to be awarded. JLEC volunteers are needed for future sealant days.

On Feb. 6, a day designated nationally as "Give Kids a Smile Day", three Midwest Dental Clinics opened their doors for a few hours and treated 68 children, many of them from the sealant program. These 68 children generated \$12,500 of dental treatment. There were about 100 children on the waiting list that were not seen. A big thank you to the Midwest Dental groups! This was a great partnership that we hope to continue through the coming years.

2004 Dental Sealant Shifts:
ALL SHIFTS 8:30-11:30 **Sherman - Wed. April 14**
2 WORKERS NEEDED
Contact Linda Bohacek
for Sealant Sign Up **Longfellow - Thu. April 29**
2 WORKERS NEEDED
Linda Bohacek, RDH,
MA, Healthy Smiles
Coordinator **Longfellow - Fri. April 30**
2 WORKERS NEEDED
Home: 833-9636 **Locust Lane - Fri. May 14**
Work: 835-0112 **2 WORKERS**
EMAIL **REALLY NEEDED**
Lbrdh4pets@charter.net *(all locations are EC Elementary Schools)*

Women building better communities
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
EAU CLAIRE
316 Eau Claire Street
Eau Claire, WI 54701



Mar. - Apr. 2004



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
EAU CLAIRE**

As the air warms and the snow melts, I am filled with delight knowing spring is near. In Junior League, spring is the time to renew your commitment by choosing your active placement for the 2004-2005 active year. Consider which placement interests you most and best serves your needs. Encourage someone to take on a new challenge or explore a new position. Ask questions about positions and committees that interest you. Opportunities abound for you to learn, to share your ideas, and to contribute your gifts. Regardless of your choice, you will have the opportunity to be creative, to collaborate with or perhaps lead a team, to lift someone up, and to set and reach important goals.



Mark your calendar for our upcoming March 23rd Slate of Nominated Officers and April 27th Placement Day general membership meetings. If you are interested in serving on the board of directors or would like to nominate others, please send your nominations to me by March 19th. Also note that in addition to placement sign-up at the April 27th Placement Day GMM, we will have a silent auction fundraiser. Please bring an item to contribute to the auction. Once you sign up for your placement, step over to the auction table and bid on your favorite items!

As you consider your placement, consider how fortunate you are that you have so much to give. I encourage you to share what you know, to seek to know more, and to ensure women are informed and enabled to lead their best lives. As I ask myself what it means to live my own best life, I'm reminded of a favorite passage: "Life is too short to lead an unfulfilling life." The goal to not lead an unfulfilling life makes me consider what it means to lead a fulfilled life. Among the many elements of a life one might need to feel fulfilled, service is important -- especially service that continuously renews the spirit. I believe very strongly in the work we do through Junior League to serve our community and each other, and I appreciate the power of the friendships and connections we foster.

Appreciate what you have and what you have to give. May you lead a fulfilling life, and may your service through Junior League continuously renew and lift up your spirit. As always, thank you for all you do and for all you are to so many and to me.

With great hope, Robin

*Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much. - Helen Keller*

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world.
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. - Margaret Mead*

We're in the home stretch! We have accumulated 147 of the 200 hours we commit to volunteering each year in exchange for our office space in the ECRAC building. Below are the spring dates. **Please sign up today by calling Jean Hood at ECRAC at 832-2787.**

ECRAC Volunteer Opportunities: Spring 2004

DATE	EVENT	TIME (TO BE AT ECRAC)
<i>Eau Claire Children's Theatre Presents "Once Upon a Mattress"</i>		
Thu. Apr. 1	Once Upon a Mattress	6:30 pm
Fri. Apr. 2	Once Upon a Mattress	6:30 pm
Sat. Apr. 3	Once Upon a Mattress	6:30 pm
Sun. Apr. 4	Once Upon a Mattress	12:30 pm
<i>Chippewa Valley Theatre Guild Presents "Guys & Dolls"</i>		
Fri. Apr. 23	Guys & Dolls	6:30 pm
Sat. Apr. 24	Guys & Dolls	6:30 pm
Sun. Apr. 25	Guys & Dolls	12:30 pm
<i>Eau Claire Children's Theatre "Battle of the Bands"</i>		
Fri. Apr. 30	3rd Annual Battle of Bands	6:00 pm
	See May-Aug. Dates Below	

Many thanks to all of you who have helped put a BIG dent in our hour commitments to ECRAC. We still have 25% to go!

As of press date, we have 53 hours of volunteer time to fill before next summer!

Please sign up!

Dates coming up for ECRAC: (call Jean to sign up for any of these):

- Sarah Groves - Contemporary Christian Vocalist Thu 5/6 report at 6:30
- Chippewa Valley Theatre Guild presents Bye, Bye, Birdie Fri 6/25 & Sat 6/26 @ 6:30 Sun 6/27 12:30
- Eau Claire Children's Theatre presents Footloose Fri 7/30 6:30 Sat. 7/31 12:30 7/31 6:30 and Sun. 8/1 12:30

Thanks to all who have helped with recent events. Jean

Provisionals

a
g
e

Provisional Bios

Get to know our newest members!

Once again we have an exciting provisional class that is made up of 14 extraordinary women. Each one brings a unique personality and ideas to our League. Please introduce yourself to them welcome them to JLEC when you see them at the next GMM.

Kim Schulte-Shoberg is a native of Eau Claire and she and her husband, Lee, have just recently built a new house and plan on doing all the interior finish work themselves. If you enjoy sanding and painting be sure to offer to lend a hand to Kim and Lee.

Michelle Facer and her husband Eric Etzel moved to Eau Claire with their daughter Madison, 3, about a year and a half ago. Michelle works in the medical field and has started learning how to play the harp. She claims she has just begun and not very good yet, but keep her in mind if you are planning any weddings!

Kate Hinnant also moved to Eau Claire about a year and a half ago with her husband Stacy to work at UWEC. She recently had one of her poems published.

Robin Ward is a native of Wisconsin and now resides in Eleva with her husband Chris and 6 year-old daughter Makenzie. She is an editor with The School News.

Paula Persing loves to garden and makes fantastic homemade jams. She gets some help from her two children, 6 & 8, and her husband J.Scott, but mostly they just get to reap the rewards of her hard work.

Shelly Voegli grew up in Eau Claire and lives with her husband Darin and their 6 year old son. Shelly works at UWEC and besides work she enjoys decorating.

Sallie Kernan works with Shelly at UWEC. Sallie and her husband Alex live in Eau Claire with their 13 year

old dog. Sallie has taken up knitting and so far has mastered the scarf. She is looking to move onto another piece, maybe some hats to go with all the scarves she has made.

Sarah Donnellan joins her husband Jeff Hart as a registered attorney, having just past the WI State Bar Exam this past year. Besides practicing law, Sarah has to keep up with her two children who are 7 and 8 years old.

Susan Jewett and her husband David live in Eau Claire. Susan is a Creative Memories consultant and when she is not helping others create scrapbooks, she is busy making her own of her three children ages 4,6, and 8.

Sheri Baemmert is the fitness guru of our provisional class. Sheri teaches yoga and Pilates at Mission Accomplished. She lives in Eau Claire with her husband Daniel.

PROVISIONAL MEMBERS:
Please arrive at 6pm for the General Membership Meetings for your JLEC orientation. Thank you.

SUSTAINER CORNER

BUNKO BABES will meet on April 5th at the home of Lynn Stark -- 7:00 pm. Please call her if you are planning to play bunko that evening. That will be the last Bunko evening until fall.

SUSTAINERS BOOK CLUB--will meet Mar. 25 & May 27 at Borders at 10 am The book being read for March is "Population 485" by national best-selling local author Michael Perry. If you have questions please call Donna Gilbertson at 835-6421.

GARDEN CLUB 77TH ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION -- Apr. 29th at Paradise Shores. We have been invited to attend the luncheon and program. Jean Moran, a nationally accredited master floral show judge will create floral designs. Should be a great outing. Mark your calendar - more details to follow. Call Marla Mernitz with questions at 835-4642.

Also, we are looking for someone to host the Spring Tea in May. Please call Marla at 835-4642 or Barb Ihlenfeldt at 835-4760. Spring is coming! Enjoy!

MARCH

8 Board Meeting
23 GMM - Eau Claire Public Library Arts West 25 - and Slate of Officers

APRIL

19 Board Meeting
27 GMM - PLACEMENT and SILENT AUCTION at River Plaza

MAY

3 Editorial Deadline for May News
11 End of the Year Banquet @ Eau Claire Golf & Country Club
10 Board Meeting
25 GMM - Eau Claire Children's Museum

JLEC

2003-2004
Calendar of
Events

Help or shop at the 2ND Annual Children's Museum Benefit Sale!

A Benefit Sale featuring American Girl merchandise

Please join us for the 2nd Annual Children's Museum of Eau Claire Benefit Sale, March 27 & 28, 2004. This promises to be another exciting event in support of CMEC and American Girl's Eau Claire Area Fund for Children.

~
Volunteer for the CMEC Benefit Sale and get to shop early! See enclosed Flyer!

The sale will feature select American Girl merchandise at great discounts, including girls' apparel (sizes 3-20) & bedding, dolls & accessories, and books.

For details on the sale or information on becoming a sale volunteer, visit our website at www.cmec.cc

Hope to see you at the sale! Suzie Slota, Children's Museum of EC

2004 Midwest Leadership Conference -

Inviting all members to help!

~
Midwest Leadership Conference Planning Mtg. ALL WELCOME!
Mar. 11 7pm @ Draganettis
RSVP to Chris by Mar. 10

The Midwest leadership conference will be our chance to show off our Little Big League. Help us with planning at our next meeting- **Thursday March 11th 7:00** at Draganetti's. The conference will begin Friday October 1st and end Sunday morning the 3rd. We are looking for speakers, dining and entertainment options, and moral support! We are still in the early stages and welcome ideas and input Contact Chris Sneigowski by Wednesday to RSVP.

Thanks to the generosity of American Girl, the Children's Museum of Eau Claire is proud to host their second

American Girl

Annual Benefit Sale!
Saturday, March 27
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
and
Sunday, March 28
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
AT THE Children's Museum

15,000 Items for sale! Including
500 American Girl & Bitty Baby Dolls*
American Girl clothing,
American Girl & Bitty Baby doll accessories

*dolls limited to 1/customer while supply lasts

Admission: \$2 at door
No advance sales!

Please, no children under 3 at sale

Children's Museum of Eau Claire
220 S. Barstow St. • Downtown Eau Claire

For more info: 715-832-KIDS
info@cmec.cc
www.cmec.cc

All proceeds benefit the Children's Museum and the American Girl Fund for Children.

Recipes



Raspberry Champagne Cocktail

- ½ (6 oz) can frozen lemonade concentrate, thawed
- 2 T. Grand Marnier
- 2 T. honey, warmed
- ½ (750 ml) bottle chilled champagne
- Fresh raspberries

Combine the lemonade and Grand Marnier in a pitcher. Add the honey, stirring until dissolved. Stir in the champagne. Pour into glasses; garnish with raspberries.

Chocolate Cake dressed in Berries

- ½ c. toasted almonds, finely chopped
- 3 T. unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/3 c. butter
- ½ c. sugar
- 2 T. brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- ½ t. vanilla
- ¼ c. chopped fresh strawberries
- ¼ c. strawberry preserves
- 2 T. heavy cream
- 3 oz semi-sweet chocolate chips
- strawberries for garnish



Combine the almonds and cocoa powder in a small bowl. Cream the butter and sugars in a bowl until fluffy. Beat in the eggs and the vanilla. Fold in the almond mixture, then the fresh strawberries. Spoon mixture into a greased 8-inch spring form pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 35-45 minutes or until cake tests done. Cool completely. Remove from the pan. Spread with the strawberry preserves. Bring cream to a boil in a small saucepan. Remove from heat and add chocolate chips. Stir until smooth; cool for 5 minutes. Pour over top of cake (let drizzle down the sides). Garnish with fresh strawberries.

Chocolate Toffee Bars

Makes 32

- 2 c. light brown sugar
- 2 c. butter at room temp
- 2 egg yolks
- 1 ½ t. vanilla extract
- 4 c. all-purpose flour
- ½ t. salt
- 6 oz. unsweetened chocolate, broken into squares
- 1 c. walnuts or pecans, chopped



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat the sugar and butter until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg yolks and vanilla, then stir in the flour and salt to make a soft dough.

Spread the dough in a greased 13x9x2 inch baking pan. Level the surface and bake for 25-30 minutes, until lightly browned.

Remove from the oven and immediately place the chocolate squares on the hot base. Set aside until the chocolate softens, then spread evenly with a spatula. Sprinkle with the chopped nuts. While still warm, cut into 2x1 ½ inch bars, remove from pan and cool on a wire rack.

HEALTH TIP... Chocolate Lover?

Chocolate can be a healthy addition to your diet. Why? The cocoa bean contains several kinds of antioxidant flavonoids, which are good for you. Dark chocolate contains the most cocoa of any type of chocolate (along with the least sugar and the healthiest kind of fat). One brand, Dove Dark, is said to contain far higher antioxidant levels than most other dark chocolates because of the special way it is processed. So go ahead, enjoy some chocolate.

(In moderation, of course!)

Source: Hope Heart Institute, Seattle

Help the Childrens Museum of Eau Claire become a reality!

Become a Helping Hands Club Member, Fund an Exhibit, Help them Open in 2004!!

Construction to ready the downtown space for the actual Children's Museum exhibits is ready to begin in April. Although less "glamorous" than the funding of actual exhibits, construction will ready the building to house the initial phase of the museum: the first floor gift shop, birthday party room and exhibits. (Stop at the museum and see what is planned! They would love to show you!)

What can JLEC do? Consider the following:

Become a Helping Hands Club member:

A tax deductible donation of \$100 for a three year commitment or \$300 now --paid upfront-- will assure Chippewa Valley children of an awesome learning opportunity. each donor will be recognized for their donation.

The smiles on the faces of the children when they enter the museum later this year will be your BIG THANKS!! Help the Museum instill the love of learning!! Give children a place to grow, learn and explore. Make sure that you mention where you heard about the Helping Hands Club.

There is currently a challenge grant that will match any funds donated to the Museum until April 15. The donor will match up to \$200,000. That means your \$100 instantly becomes \$200, or \$300 becomes \$600!!

Thanks to the many League members who have already joined the club! Contact Marianne Klinkhammer or Nicole Lasker to hear more about the Helping Hands Club.

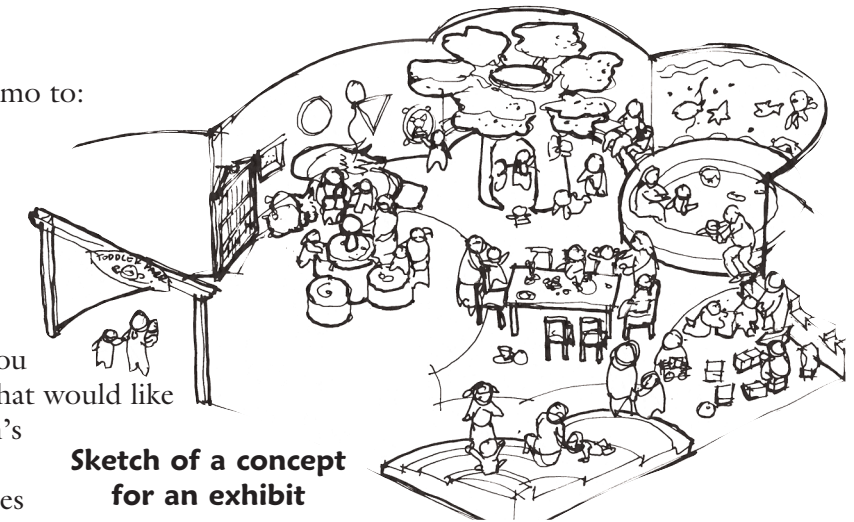
Marianne- marianne@gatorgarb.net

Nicole at nicole@laskers.com 835-5914

Or send your check with Helping Hands on the memo to: CMEC - P.O. Box 1074 - Eau Claire, WI 54702

Know a person or a business who might like to help more?

A few exhibits still need to be funded. Do you or your spouse or friends have a business that would like to be a founding supporter of the museum's first steps? Exhibits are still available and the staff at the museum would love to discuss possibilities with you or your business. Call Patrick Rebman, Executive Director at 832-KIDS.



Sketch of a concept for an exhibit

