

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.

# J Connections

Women building better communities



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF EAU CLAIRE

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

## Chocolate Fountain Sweetens the Conference

The Junior League Midwest Regional Conference was a big success. Thank you to everyone who attended the conference and to all of the committee members who put so much effort into making the conference memorable.



Saturday night was capped off with a party in the hospitality room at the Ramada Inn. A special thank you goes out to Barb Westrate for donating the Chocolate Fountain and fixings for the event. Participants at the conference raved about how special the weekend was on their evaluation sheets, giving two thumbs up to the Chocolate Fountain.

Evaluation of the Conference and the minutes from the GMMs are on our website under "Members Only". Click on the links.

## Tickets on Sale for the Packer Tailgate Party!

Cheer on the Packers and support JLEC! Don't miss the football event of the season: Packers vs. Philadelphia Eagles on December 5 at 2:20 PM (kickoff at 3:15 PM) at the Holiday Inn Campus, Northwoods room. We will have Green Mill pizza and appetizers, a cash bar, a silent auction and a raffle. Tickets are \$15 each and are available at Lasker Jewelers or by calling Liz at 835-8909. **This is the largest JLEC fundraiser of the year thanks to member support and attendance.** We hope to see you there!

If you have items or ideas for the silent auction, contact Liz Falkner at 835-8909. We are looking for connections to get Packer tickets to use as a large raffle or auction item at the party. Posters are available, so blanket the town and surrounding areas. Contact Liz for more information or questions. Sell those tickets!



**"Too many people spend money they haven't earned, to buy things they don't want to impress people they don't like." - Will Rogers**



© WHIRLY GIRLS

GMM

Next GMM a Fundraiser

Our next GMM will be Nov. 23, 2004 at Jen Ropes' home. Shop early, help raise funds to strengthen JLEC!



It's hard to believe that a year's worth of planning and organizing has come to an end. The Midwest Leadership Conference, from all accounts, was a wonderful success. Junior League members from Duluth, Fargo/Moorhead, St. Paul, and Cedar Falls/Waterloo joined the women of Eau Claire for a delightful weekend of shopping, laughing, and learning. There is something unique to a group of women enjoying each other's company and reveling in the power of being female.

The most exciting part of hosting the conference in Eau Claire was the opportunity for all of our League members to meet the women that represent the Association of Junior Leagues International and participate in the training that is so vital to the organization.

Sandy Donaldson, AJLI board member, and Pam Mosely, AJLI liaison, offered us valuable information and tools that will help guide us as we continue to grow and reach out to the community.

Judge Lisa Stark and Dr. Kimberly Barrett spoke to us about the juggling act that has become our daily life and the empowerment of women to work in the service of the common good. Dr. Barrett spoke of leadership and facilitating the work of others by empowering them. One of her favorite quotes reads:

## NOVEMBER

- 8 Board Meeting
- 23 GMM - see pg. 1

## DECEMBER

- 5 Packer Party see pg. 1
- 17 Deadline for Jan. news

## JANUARY

- 10 Board Meeting
- 25 GMM - River Plaza
- TBD Holiday Party

## FEBRUARY

- 7 Board Meeting
- 18 Deadline for Mar news
- 22 GMM

## MARCH

- 7 Board Meeting
- 22 GMM B & G Club

## APRIL

- 11 Board Meeting
- 22 Deadline for May news
- 26 GMM - Placement Day

## MAY

- 9 Board Meeting
- 10 Spring Banquet @ ECGCC
- 24 GMM



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***“It is not our purpose to become each other; it is to recognize each other, to learn to see the other and honor her for what she is.”***

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I think I need a moment of silence. Those are powerful words, but I believe that is the awareness that our organization gives to its members-allowing each one of us to be unique and grow in a safe environment.

It is my sincere hope that the members who attended the conference came away with new friends and a better understanding of the Junior League. I would like to thank the committee that made this conference such a success. Without your dedication and hard work, it would have been an uneventful weekend. Thank you! Committee members were:

Sheri Baemmert, Linda Bohacek, Caldwell Camero, Michelle Facer, Bobbi Giles, Kate Hinnant, Carol Johnson, Sallie Kernan, Marianne Klinkhammer, Donnie Magadance, Jennifer Ropes, Becky Seelen, Robin Shih, and Barb Westrate.

As we approach the holidays, give thanks for the things you absolutely wouldn't change about your life. Then take your gratitude a step further and offer the gift of graciousness to another.

*Happy Holidays! Chris*

## **Throw a January Party?**

Consider hosting the JLEC Holiday Party (in January!). It is fun, and all you'd have to do is provide your house! E-mail or call Chris if you're interested!



# Miami Fall Leadership Conference Report

## ***“Leading from Strength”***

Just under 500 motivated Junior League women gathered in Miami to share visions, create change, celebrate history, dialog across cultures, network, reflect, listen, share, and LEARN. From the opening reception, the premier of “Diana, A Celebration” held in the Museum of Art- Fort Lauderdale, to the closing reception featuring Judge Glenda Hachett, the focus was on the STRENGTH of women leaders. Thus, the conference was entitled “Leading from Strength.” The Fall Leadership Conference is part of a leadership series that includes a Winter Networking/Governance Meeting and the Annual conference held in May. This continuum of learning provides Presidents and Presidents Elect with unique opportunities to sharpen leadership competencies. Through numerous workshops, general session speakers, formal and informal networking, issues and concerns affecting leagues were addressed. All presentations focused on strengthening our Leagues!



Marianne watches “Race for the Cure” with other delegates in Miami.

Keeping the conference theme in the forefront, each of us designed our own learning agenda by selecting from a myriad of workshops. My choices included: “League Business Management”, “Advanced Team Building Using Birkman”, “League Governance”, and “Skills for Having Difficult Conversations”.



The sessions were energizing, and informative -- presenting policies and procedures for an effective League, teaching communication skills, expanding our diversity, maximizing joint potential, and creating synergy in our working relationships.



The strength in our League is evident in our membership growth and our commitment to the fulfillment of the mission. Every member-each of you is our strength-sustainer, active sustainer, actives and provisionals. So, be sure to come and join us as we continue to make our League stronger. A huge thank you to all of you past women who have “lead with strength” in laying our foundation.

*“My sincere appreciation to the Junior League of Eau Claire for allowing me to attend this fabulous training experience. It indeed has opened my eyes to our present strengths and has given me cause to ‘dream’ and envision the future. Thank you to each one of you.”*

*Marianne Klinkhammer, President- Elect*

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***“I did not come to my fundamental understanding of the universe through my rational mind.” - Albert Einstein***

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## 2004-2005

### JLEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President.....Chris Sniegowski  
President-Elect .....Marianne Klinkhammer  
Recording Secretary .....Liz Falkner  
Vice-President, Membership.....Bobbi Giles  
Vice President, Community.....Caldwell Camero  
Vice President, Communications ....Sheri Baemmert  
Vice President, Finance .....Carol Johnson  
Immediate Past-President.....Robin Shih

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bylaws	Linda Bohacek
Membership	Jen Fesenmaier
Nominating	Donnie Magadance
Placement	Tracey Newhouse
Sustainer Reps	Marla Mernitz & Nancy Kersten
Corresponding Secretary	Linda Bohacek
Historian	Phyllis Mattson
Newsletter	Amy Ann Mursu
Public Relations	Tracey Newhouse
SPAC	Linda Bohacek
BTS Project	Jen Ropes, Paula Persing
ECRAC Liaison	Jean Hood
Education	Becky Seelen
Treasurer	Open
Provisional Counselor	Marianne Klinkhammer
Community R&D, Fund Development	Jen Ropes
Grant Writing	Kris Becker

### FUNDRAISER CHAIRS

Country Jam	Tracey Newhouse
Bunco	Jen Ropes
Cookbook	Robin Shih
Packer Party	Liz Falkner
Celebration of Women	Donnie Magadance & Tracey Newhouse

[www.idd-ec.com/jlec](http://www.idd-ec.com/jlec)

## Please help staff the dental sealant shifts!

The Dental Sealant program is in desperate need of volunteers for this school year. Volunteers are ESSENTIAL because the program must meet its volunteer objectives to secure grant funding.



### The schedule:

Friday, November 5, 2004	Augusta
Friday, November 12, 2004	Sam Davey
Thursday, December 9, 2004	Lakeshore
Friday, December 10, 2004	Locust Lane
Friday, January 28, 2005	Longfellow
Friday, February 18, 2005	Northwoods
Friday, March 11, 2005	Robbins
Friday, April 22, 2005	Flynn
Friday, May 13, 2005	Sherman

Please contact Linda Bohacek at 833-9636, or LBrdh4pets@charter.net to sign up.

## Secret Sustainers

Attention all sustainers! **How would you like to sponsor, in secret, a provisional member this year?** The idea came to us at the Midwest Conference from another League. The idea is to involve our sustaining members with the process of welcoming new members. The sustaining member will write personal notes, send postcards, deliver greetings, or anything that encourages or supports the provisional member in her first year. You can be as creative as you like, as long as you remain anonymous. At the end of the year, at our annual banquet, the secret sustainer and the provisional member will be introduced—face-to-face!

# CORNER

# SUSTAINER

The sustainers will be having bunko at Phyllis Mattson's home on Monday, Nov 22, 2004. The JLEC board is invited to join the group that evening for fun and fellowship. Linda Bohacek has offered to have the January bunko at her home. There has been talk about a gathering for Christmas. We will let everyone know details later.

Hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful fall.

Marla



If you are interested in volunteering for this special assignment or have any questions, please call Bobbi Giles, 831-8884.

## Mentors Needed



If you would like to serve as a mentor to a provisional member, please call Bobbi Giles at 831-8884. Mentors help new members feel welcome and provide insight into all that is wonderful and special about our League. Please consider this wonderfully fulfilling opportunity!



## JLEC business cards available

Junior League of Eau Claire business cards are available for members. If you would like cards to hand out, please send the following information to Sheri Baemmert by Dec. 1st (via email: baemmert@charter.net or mail to: 4913 River Glen Ct. Eau Claire, WI 54703):

### Include the following information:

First Name

Middle Initial (optional)

Last Name

Home phone (optional)

Work phone (optional)

Cell phone (optional)

Email address (optional)



Business cards will include the Junior League office address and website unless otherwise specified.

Quantity:

20 = \$17.00      40 = \$19.00

60 = \$21.00      80 = \$23.00

160 = \$31.00 All prices include set-up and printing.

## Children's Legacy Luncheon Needs Volunteers

The Children's Legacy Luncheon is an annual event sponsored under the auspices of the Friends of Luther. The purpose is to:

- Recognize community members who have made significant contributions to the health and well-being of children in the Greater Eau Claire Area
- Raise awareness of issues critical to the health and welfare of children
- Raise money to support initiatives on behalf of our community's children

The Co-Chairs of the 2005 luncheon are Jill Fernandes, Nikki Hanna, Vicki Norrell, and Rose Wiechmann. They are looking for people to serve on a Planning Committee, as well as work the day of the event. The 2005 Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, April 27 at the Ramada Inn and Convention Center. Contact Helen Nordstrom crn4@charter.net or 835-1884 for further information.

## ECRAC Hours--

**191 hours to go!**

Every year, Junior League of Eau Claire volunteers 200 hours at the Eau Claire Regional Arts Center in exchange for office space. As rent has increased, our volunteer hours have remained constant. We have only served 9 hours to date and have 191 hours to go until June 2005. Volunteering is a fun and easy way to earn office space for JLEC and you get to see a show for free! Partners, friends and family are welcome to volunteer with you (or on their own, just mention they're working on behalf of JLEC) and their hours count towards our 200 hour goal. So, bring a friend, hand out some programs, and enjoy a great show. To inquire about opportunities and to sign up, call Jean Hood at 832-2787.



## Safe Place for Newborns...

***because one abandoned baby is one too many.***

Safe Place for Newborns of Wisconsin, a statewide non-profit, exists to prevent the abandonment of newborn children, thus helping to preserve the health and future of their mothers.

The Junior League of Eau Claire is assisting by distributing Safe Place for Newborn posters in the Eau Claire area. The posters have a 24-hour phone numbers and have informa-

tion letting pregnant women know that their life matters and their baby's life matters. State law allows women to hand their unharmed newborns, up to 3 days old, to a hospital employee at any hospital. The babies are given any needed medical attention and are then placed in foster care until adoption.

