



J Connections

Women building better communities

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF EAU CLAIRE

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 4

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.

Making a commitment to Junior League

April GMM determines placements.

On April 26th, all active members will be required to attend the general membership meeting at the River Plaza Apartment Homes to renew their commitment to Junior League by choosing an active placement for 2005/2006. Before Commitment Day, you should evaluate your expectations of the placement opportunities available. Contact the Chair of the committee(s) you are interested in serving on if you have any questions or need more information. You can find descriptions of the committees in your handbook under "Placement Guide."

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact the Placement Chair, Tracey Newhouse, at least three days prior to Commitment Day to arrange for your placement. Each active member of JLEC must serve on at least one standing committee. Serving on the Board of Directors fulfills the standing committee requirement.



Dine in the Chippewa Valley

Prize winner gets 52 dinners - that's 52 nights you don't cook!

Win the prize of eating out once a week for an entire year! That is the concept for JLEC's new fundraising project. Local restaurants donate to Junior League a total of 52 gift certificates. Junior League then sells 500 raffle tickets at \$10.00 a piece for a chance to win the gift certificates. This is a great fundraiser. The costs involved are minimal and JLEC earns \$5000.00 if all of the tickets are sold. Only 500 tickets are available so watch for upcoming e-mails with selling information.

If you would like to help with this project, we have members working on marketing, creating the baskets, and collecting the gift certificates. Call Jen Ropes at 834-1840 if you are interested.



"In the depths of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer."

-Albert Camus



As I sit here waiting for inspirational words of wisdom to miraculously appear on my computer screen, I keep thinking about the meaning of time. How much time have I wasted fretting about what to write for the newsletter, while at the same time thinking about the tasks on my to-do list? Instead of focusing, I have diverted my attention to the background noise in my mind. I suddenly realize I have not allowed myself to be mindful of this one moment. This, of course, stresses me out because not only have I wasted that one precious moment that I will never relive, I still don't know what I'm going to write.

I am reminded of what Thich Nhat Hanh has to say about mindfulness: "Mindfulness is a discipline practiced by some who seek quality time. As we go about our daily activities, our minds are often focused on our current problems, a past incident, or some future challenge. However, only this actual moment is life." Acting with mindfulness means focusing totally on our current activity and being aware of the present moment.

We all have the same twenty-four hours in a day. What we choose to do with each moment of those twenty-four hours is our responsibility. We can fill the day trying to do ten things at once or trying to do just one thing at a time-giving it our full attention. We might be amazed at how much we can achieve. As we

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examine our busy lives and all the tasks on the “to-do list,” the question becomes not “How busy are you?” but “What are you busy at?” Author Mark Burch urges us to consider “quality versus quantity of activities.”

The Junior League has plenty of quality activities to keep us busy. As spring approaches, it is time to consider what your commitment will be for the 2005-2006 active year. When considering what placement will best serve your needs, I encourage you to explore new challenges and seek the opportunity to learn about committees that interest you. Consider chairing a project or joining the board. What would you do if you knew there was no possibility of failure? The outcome might surprise you.

Commitment Day is the same day as our general membership meeting on April 26th at River Plaza Apartments. Also, March 22nd is the nomination of the slate of officers. If you are interested in serving on the board or would like to nominate others, please send your nomination to me by March 18th.

I leave you with one final quote, "And what if you were told, 'One more hour'?"

Chris



Our Celebration of Women Event has Returned!

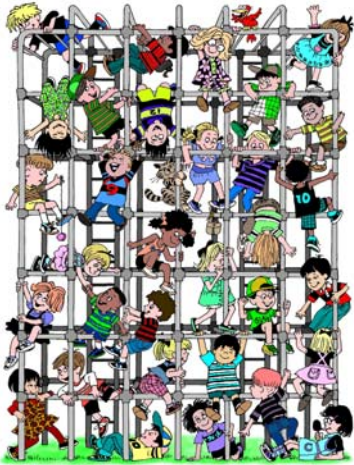
Come join us on Monday, April 18 (time TBA) at Fanny Hill for this special event, which promotes Junior League in the community by celebrating the bonds women share.

Committee members are in the planning stages of what promises to be a fun, heartwarming night out featuring dynamic speakers, exhibit booths, and fine dining. Tickets will be available at the March GMM and Sacred Heart Women's Health Center.



"Back to School" Begins its Tenth Year!

As our longest running project, Back to School provides backpacks filled with necessary school supplies to low-income children in Eau Claire County. Paula Persing and Jen Ropes are co-chairing this project. Please contact either Paula or Jen if you have questions or would like to volunteer. This is a great project for members because it has a wide variety of different volunteer opportunities. The dates for filling and distributing the backpacks will be August 24th and 25th at the Board of Education building in Eau Claire.



Attention Provisionals!

Mark your calendars for the remaining Provisional training dates. Attendance at each training and GMM is part of the commitment we make in becoming a member of the Junior League of Eau Claire. See you there!

March 22, 2005, 5:45 p.m., at the Boys and Girls Club

April 26, 2005, 5:45 p.m., at River Plaza Apartments

May 17, 2005, 6:30 p.m., at Eau Claire Country Club for the Spring Banquet. At the Spring Banquet, all provisionals who have completed their project hours and finished their training will be inducted as the League's newest Actives. Congratulations!

Please call or email Bobbi or Marianne if you will be unable to attend any of the above events or if you have any questions.

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marianne@gatorgarb.net

Bobbi Giles
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gilesb@cvcrcross.org

Service Awards Recognize Volunteerism

Beginning in June, Junior League Members can earn the opportunity to receive recognition for volunteer hours they have served. AJLI will be honoring members who have accumulated a specific number of volunteer hours with Presidential Volunteer Awards-Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Presenting these awards will be a wonderful way to recognize our members who give so many hours to reach Junior League's goals.

To track volunteer hours, each member will be able to log onto the AJLI website and input the hours she has spent on Junior League projects. One person from our League will monitor the progress of each member and notify AJLI when an individual has reached an award level. (Let Marianne Klinkhammer know if you would like to be the Service Award Coordinator.) More information will be coming in the next newsletter, so get ready to log those hours.

Upcoming Events

Event: **March GMM/Slate of Officers**
Date: March 22, 2005
Time: 5:45 p.m. Provisional Training
6:30 p.m. Social 7:00 p.m. Meeting
Location: Boys and Girls Club
201 East Lake Street Eau Claire
Description: The Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley offers young people an opportunity to see their own strengths and use those strengths as a foundation for successful, productive lives. It will be a wonderful opportunity to see and hear what the Boys and Girls Club has accomplished in the last year. Please join us.

Event: **April GMM - Placement**
Date: April 26, 2005
Time: 5:45 p.m. Provisional Training
6:30 p.m. Social 7:00 p.m. Meeting
Location: River Plaza Apartment Homes
550 Graham Avenue Eau Claire

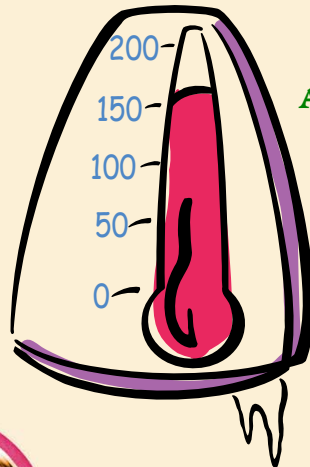
Please come prepared to choose your placement for the 2005/2006 active year. Parking is available in the lot of the Federal building across the street.

*Save
this
page!*

We have done a splendid job of serving our hourly commitments to ECRAC this year. Jean Hood would like to extend a special thanks to the members and their families who worked over the holiday season. Because of your commitment, we are over halfway to our year-end goal. Let's keep it up! Please sign up today by calling Jean at ECRAC at 832-2787.

ECRAC Volunteer Opportunities: Feb/Mar 2005

DATE	EVENT	Report in time
Sat, April 9, 2005	ECCT - "Les Miserables"-School Edition	6:30pm
Sun. April 10, 2005.	ECCT - "Les Miserables"	12:30 pm
Sat. Apr. 23, 2005	CVTG "West Side Story"	6:30pm
Sun., Apr. 24, 2005	CVTG "West Side Story"	12:30 pm



**As of press date, we
have 58 hours of
volunteer time to
fill before
summer!**

Please sign up!

MARCH

- 7 Board Meeting
- 22 GMM Boys & Girls Club (201 E. Lake)

APRIL

- 11 Board Meeting
- 22 Deadline for May newsletter submissions
- 26 GMM - Placement Day - River Plaza

MAY

- 9 Board Meeting
- 11-14 AJLI Annual Conference in New Orleans
- 17 Spring Banquet @ ECGCC (note change of date!)
- 24 GMM - Year-end Wrap-up at WAYY/Maverick Media 944 Harlem Altoona

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2004-2005

JLEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President-ElectMarianne Klinkhammer
Recording SecretaryLiz Falkner
Vice-President, Membership.....Bobbi Giles
Vice President, Community.....Caldwell Camero
Vice President, CommunicationsSheri Baemmert
Vice President, FinanceCarol Johnson
Immediate Past-PresidentRobin 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
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Education	Becky Seelen
Treasurer	Susan Jewett
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

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