



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
EAU CLAIRE**

Women building better communities



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2006

Volume 13, 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.



Junior League of Eau Claire

Holiday Party

Friday, January 20th

at the

Eau Claire Golf & Country Club

6:30pm Light hors d'oeuvres

\$11 per person/\$22 per couple

RSVP by January 16th to Jacqui Muir

phone: 839-6589

email: jacqui1974@charter.net



Announcing Our Provisionals

JLEC has once again been blessed with an outstanding group of provisionals. Many of them jumped right into our volunteer opportunities. Thank you!

Here is list of the wonderful women who have joined League as provisionals.

- Beth Blackburn
- Kristin Mayo
- Jill Hecker-Fernandes
- Kathy Kovell-Pelman
- Kimberly Hauck
- Leah McCabe
- Terri Kaufman
- Jessica Schreiner-Donnelly
- Kate Ludwigson
- Liz Kennedy-Weichert

These ladies have completed one training session and will be going through a second on Tuesday, February 7th at 6pm at Marianne Klinkhammer's — 3903 House Road. Other women have expressed interest in joining, so our class may grow by a few. If you know someone who would be interested in joining League, please inform Brenda Weisenbeck.

Please introduce yourself to our provisionals—they are eager to meet other members.

Did You Know?

JLEC is part of the Mega Pick 'n Save **We Care Program**. Set up your Advantage Plus Card to reward ID # **399050** when you shop.

A Message from Marianne

2005-2006 theme—*Discovering the Treasures Within*



Happy New Year! Happy 2006!

As you look to the year ahead with excitement, what will it hold for you? Will it be a time of new beginnings, a time to start a new project, a time to learn something new, a time to move or a time of new opportunities? No matter what you have planned — embrace the unexpected, open the new doors and take on any challenge with gusto and enthusiasm. Most of all keep a positive attitude and be happy!

Remember, happiness is not a destination. It is a method of life. Sometimes you may hear someone say, “I’ll be so happy when I get married ... when I have a baby ... when I buy a new house” etc. The truth is we all know happiness does not arrive as a result of an event or the purchase of a material thing. We each deserve to laugh more, take

We each deserve to laugh more, take ourselves less seriously, and focus on enjoying our journey instead of reaching a destination.

ourselves less seriously, and focus on enjoying our journey instead of reaching a destination.

If you would like to add happiness to your day and to the day of those around you, try breaking up your routine. Try one of these suggestions:

1. Write a silly note to include in your child or spouse’s lunch. (Or leave it on his/her pillow!)
2. Cook dinner in a whimsical hat or whatever may bring a smile to your face—you will share loads of laughs and feel uplifted.
3. Take a pen and write down “fun date” on your calendar—one a month is not too many. Then, make plans for those dates and don’t change your plans. You will find yourself looking forward to those “fun times”.
4. Make reservations for a getaway—even if is for an overnight at a place nearby.
5. Volunteer for an activity or event that is new to you. When you open your heart to other people to listen and care about them, it will change the way you look at the world and you will be happier.

Art Linkletter once said, “Things turn out best for the people who make the best out of the way things turn out.”

So, as you look to the year ahead, let go of the past, plan for the future—set those goals and “be happy throughout the New Year”.

With a smile of happiness,

Marianne



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BTS..... Sarah Donnellan & Jen Ropes
 Celebration of Women..... Jessica Witte & Tracey Newhouse
 Community R&D..... Hannah Vick & Tracey Newhouse
 Education/Speakers Lynn Stark
 Literacy Volunteer..... Pamela Macal
 Regional Arts Liaison Jean Hood
 SPACLinda Bohacek

FINANCE

Treasurer Susan Jewett
 Fund Development Tracey Newhouse
 Bunco Robin Shih
 Cookbook Robin Shih
 Dine in CV Jacqui Muir & Angela Prissel
 Packer Party .. Jen Fesenmaier & Denise Kristo
 Sinterklaas..... Donnie Magadance

MEMBERSHIP

Bylaws/Advisory Chris Sniegowski, Carol Johnson, Pamela Macal
 Nominating Nicole Lasker (chair)
 Party Planner..... Jacqui Muir
 Placement .. Carol Johnson & Chris Sniegowski
 Provisional Counselor..... Deb Svihovec
 Sustainer Rep ... Nancy Kersten & Marla Memitz
 Volunteer Service Coor..... Pamela Macal

Junior League of Eau Claire

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Colors Training in March



All provisionals and any member who has not taken the Colors training is invited to attend on Thursday, March 16th at 7pm. Colors training helps each woman better understand her personality in a light, non-threatening, fun way. Lynn Stark will be facilitating this event in her home at 4414 Memory Lane. This is the Southwest corner of Golf and Oakwood Hills Parkway—the street is the first right south of the intersection. RSVP to Marianne (833-8954) if attending.

Dine Out in Chippewa Valley Fundraiser

As 2006 begins, we have to start thinking of the projects for the New Year. We want to get things off to a great start. So please keep in mind the Dine Out in Chippewa Valley project and if you can help out in any way, we would be very grateful. We are in need of people with contacts in restaurants who could solicit gift certificates for us. We would ask you contact either Jacqui Muir (jacqui1974@charter.net) or Angela Prissel (aprisseldc@sbcglobal.net) if you have any ideas and also before you approach anyone as we don't want more than one person approaching the same places. This is a great fundraiser. Your support is needed through the first few months of the year to get this off the ground.

All members will be notified via letter and/or email when tickets will be available. Dine in the Chippewa Valley is a raffle for 52 eating opportunities throughout the valley. That works out to one time a week you will be pampered by someone else cooking for you. Only 500 tickets will be sold at \$10 each. Start planning how many tickets you would like to purchase to ensure your winner status.

11th Year for Back to School Project

The Back to School project is proudly going into its 11th year with JLEC. We offer free backpacks filled with school supplies to all free lunch eligible children in Eau Claire County. This is a wonderful project to be involved in. Please join us at our first meeting on March 6th at Shanghai Bistro at 7pm. Learn about the project and hear how it impacts our community. Many volunteer opportunities are available within the committee to be involved at all levels. If you have any questions please contact Jennifer Ropes at 834-1840. Hope to see you there!

Legislative Breakfast on Mental Health

On December 5th, JLEC and the Children's Mental Health Alliance Chippewa Valley sponsored a Legislative Breakfast at the Family Resource Center. Linda Bohacek welcomed everyone and introduced the speakers. The topic all speakers addressed was the "Barriers to Mental Health Needs" such as funding, access to services, and the professional capacity in the Chippewa Valley. Legislators, parents, and local government departments gave their perspectives and implications for public policy. Each guest in attendance received information to assist in further understanding the needs in our community. If you would like information, you may go to the website: www.childrensmentalhealthalliance.org or email: cmhacv@yahoo.com.



Above photo: Jenny Fesenmaier, JLEC member and Eau Claire Area Foundation Board member, is seated with Kim Gagnon, JLEC member and a second grader from an Eau Claire school as she waits for her dental sealants.

Dental Sealant Volunteer Dates

January 27th — Locust Lane

February 10th — Longfellow

March 10th — Northwoods

March 31st — Robbins

April 7th — Flynn

April 20th — Sherman

May 12th — Manz

Fluoride Varnish Placement Days

with Head Start children
(3-year-olds)

Held at: Locust Lane, North,
Longfellow and Manz

February 2nd & 23rd

March 9th & 30th

April 13th

May 4th & 25th

Please contact Linda Bohacek if you are able to volunteer for a morning or afternoon shifts.

Phone: 833-9636

Email: lbrdh4pets@charter.net

It's Bunco Time!

Do you enjoy great food and drink, fabulous prizes, healthy competition, and the company of smart women? Bunco is for you! Our third annual Bunco fundraiser is scheduled for March 2006 (specific date TBD at the first committee meeting). Absolutely no experience is necessary to participate. If you can hold a beverage in one hand and a pair of dice in the other, you can play this game. The first Bunco committee meeting is Thursday, January 19th at 7:30pm at Stella Blues. All members and ideas are welcome. If you would like to serve on the committee, contribute a raffle item, or simply offer excellent suggestions, please contact Robin Shih at rshih@csstars.com. Join the fun!

Catch a Free Show at ECRAC

The League office located in the Eau Claire Regional Arts Center (ECRAC) building has discounted rent provided League members (and family and friends) volunteer 100 hours per year. Please dress in black or black and white. Arrive 1 hour prior to the performance start time. Volunteers are needed to usher, sell concessions and various other small tasks. Volunteering is easy and you get to watch the performance for free. To volunteer, contact Jean Hood at: jahood716@aol.com or (715) 832-2787

Thursday, February 2 & 3	ECCT "Go, Dog, Go" (School Show) 7:30pm
Thursday, February 4	ECCT "Go, Dog, Go" (School Show) 1:30pm
Friday, April 7	Peter Pan (School Show) 7:30pm
Saturday, April 8	Peter Pan (School Show) 1:30pm & 7:30pm
Sunday, April 9	Peter Pan (School Show) 1:30pm
Tuesday, April 11	Luma Light Show 7:30pm

JLEC Donates to New Teen Court

The November General Membership Meeting (GMM) was held at the Court House with Judge Lisa Stark presenting information on the upcoming Teen Court program. League surprised her by presenting an \$825 check to help get the Teen Court program started.



Marianne Klinkhammer presenting the \$825 check to Judge Lisa Stark for Teen Court program at November GMM.

Part of the Restorative Justice program, Teen Court addresses criminal and non-criminal offenses in a school setting among the offender's peers. Teen Court allows offenders the opportunity to explain their actions and thinking to a group of their peers and helps them to understand the consequences of their actions.

Stay tuned to more information about this program and the opportunity for League's participation.

Sustainers Bunco Party!



JLEC sustainers enjoyed a Bunco night get-together. Top (l to r): Sue Brown, Sandie Berg, Marion Hoesley, Donna Gilbertson, Marla Mernitz, Deb Kappus, Kay Houser. Bottom (l to r): Cheryl Cramer, Sonya Rathun, Dorothy Rossow.



Pictured above: Sustainers get together regularly for social events like Bunco night. The coveted "bunco-winner" apparel is proudly being sported by Dorothy Rossow (top center). Also pictured are Cheryl Cramer, Kay Houser and Deb Kappus.

**See you at the
Bunco
Fundraising Party
in March!**

Celebration of Women coming April 18th



Mark your calendars for a fun night of “Glitz and Glam” at our Celebration of Women Tuesday, April 18th. It will be held at Fanny Hill with limited seating. There will be special exhibits focused on women, a dynamic motivating speaker, a delicious meal and a fabulous night of fun “celebrating each and every woman”. Invite your friends, neighbors and relatives—treat the gals at your office or whomever you would like to treat. Reserve your tickets early. Watch your email and mail for further ticket information. The co-chairs Tracey Newhouse and Jesica Witte along with their committee of provisionals are planning this event with great enthusiasm.



The Packer Party raised \$5100 in November. Thank you everyone for all your efforts to make this fundraiser a success. Pictured above: Chris Sniegowski, Barb Westrate and Tracey Newhouse.

Foster Kids Celebrated at the Holiday Party



Smiling faces were seen everywhere at the JLEC sponsored Foster Care Holiday party on December 16th. Many children decorated ornaments, had their face painted, and/or hair braided, decorated cookies, decorated light switch plates etc. There was glue, paint, glitter, nail polish, snow, and numerous other materials everywhere for the children to use with guidance from our League volunteers. Each child also received a gift when their name was drawn. It was a night of sheer joy and excitement for everyone. Pizza with the trimmings and dessert topped off the evening. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with this event.

Pictured above: Sheri Baemmert worked the “hair styling booth” at the Foster Care holiday party. Children could receive braids, twists and the popular glitter spray.



Even the little fans get excited to have fun at the Packer Party fundraiser. Pictured above: Denise Kristo, Chris Sniegowski, and Andrew Fesenmaier.

“Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery.
Today is a gift, that is why we call it the present.”

Special Notes...

- Congratulations to Liz Faulkner who gave birth to Robert Charles on December 12th. He was born 5 lb. 9 oz. and 19”.
- Thank you Kerry Toutant for renewing your membership as a sustainer. Welcome back!
- Lindsay Jaeger is the new Eau Claire Regional Arts Center Marketing Coordinator. Good luck!
- Hannah Vick joined the FEMA team and will be traveling around the country where the federal government needs her assistance. Stay Safe!
- Congratulations to Sallie Kernan and Kate Hinnant. Both ladies are moving into new homes, but lucky for League, they are still in Eau Claire.
- Thank you co-chairs Jen Ropes and Michelle Facer for a fabulous Foster Care Party.
- Kudos to Linda Bohacek for a successful Legislative Breakfast.
- Our prayers continue go out to Helen Nordstrom for better health in the upcoming year.

Calendar

- January 20** — Holiday Party
Eau Claire Golf and Country Club
- January 24** — GMM - M&I Bank
- February 7** — Provisional Training
- February 13** — Board Meeting
- February 17** — Newsletter deadline
Mar/Apr
- February 28** — GMM - River Plaza
- March 13** — Board Meeting
- March 16** — Colors Training
- March 28** — GMM - Pine Cone Manor

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

January 24th - M&I Bank

6:30pm social; 7pm meeting; program following

M & I Bank, 4106 Hwy 93 (On the corner of Damon and 93)

URGENT: Your attendance is needed at the GMM to pass the revised Bylaws and Policies. We need 26 voting members to make our quorum. Count yourself in for the vote, please!

Identity theft is on the rise worldwide. Your life and credit can be ruined—making it impossible to do most things we take for granted. What can you do to protect yourself and be wise to con games? Le Ann Pfremer, MI Bank Manager at the Hwy. 93 location, will be speaking to us about “Identity Theft—How can yours be stolen?”

February 28th-River Plaza

6:30pm social; 7pm meeting; program following

River Plaza, Corner of Graham and Lake (NW corner)

Our very own Sue Brown with the Eau Claire County Department on Aging will speak to us about “Caregiving and Advanced Directives—Are you ready for the future?” There are two kinds of Advanced Directives, a living will and a medical power of attorney. These are legally valid throughout the United States. They identify who you wish to speak for you and make decisions for you if you become unable to speak for yourself.



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Eau Claire, WI 54701

New Website Registration Requirement on AJLI Site

By February 2006, AJLI will be moving away from the current universal member password for access to the member section of the website. AJLI.ORG will upgrade its password-protection and username system to increase online member services and networking tools. This includes the launch of a searchable document library, an interactive message board, and specialized membership-valuable content (such as Affinity Group and President/President Elect sections).

So why is this important? The new registration system will validate you as a Member of the Junior League of Eau Claire and allow you to create a username and password. To register, your AJLI member ID is required. Your AJLI member ID was created when you joined the Junior League. This assigned number is the only unique piece of information available to AJLI in order to validate you as a League member. If you don't know your member ID, here is a list of ways you can find it:

- **Member ID cards:** AJLI will create member ID cards for all dues-paying members of the Junior League of Eau Claire and send them out the second week of January. These cards will be mailed to League Headquarters.

- **Junior League of Eau Claire Roster:** Multiple times throughout the year, AJLI sends a roster to our League office that includes your member ID number.
- **AJLI Help Desk:** Once the program has been launched, AJLI will have a help desk to address registration-related questions and problems during office hours from 9am-5pm EST.
- League Presidents, President Elects and other League Officers will receive an email with their member ID. This includes our League officers who provide AJLI with a current email address.

AJLI is requiring League Members to register using their AJLI member ID to increase privacy and allow added service to its members. This is especially important because the Member area includes personal contact information for League members.

Once registration begins February 2006, the message board and document library in the member section of the website will be accessible only to Junior League of Eau Claire members who have registered. As the deadline approaches, AJLI will post detailed information on www.ajli.org.