



## JUNIOR LEAGUE OF EAU CLAIRE

*Women building better communities*



**MARCH/APRIL 2006**

Volume 13, Issue 4

# 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.

## Welcome New Provisionals

Our provisional class has grown by four, which brings the total to fourteen. These incredible ladies are the new additions to our provisional class:

- Sarah Pedersen
- Christa Williams
- Jenny Schwartz
- Elizabeth Richmond

They have completed their training classes and are now working on their projects. Some are working on the Dine in the Chippewa Valley fundraiser and the rest are working on the Celebration of Women. These ladies are doing a fabulous job and adding a new flare to our League. Welcome to each of you! Your energy is wonderful.

## Bunco, Blue Jeans, and Bling



Join us Thursday, March 30th from 7-10pm at Stella Blues for a night of great food, fabulous prizes, and Bunco mania! Bunco, Blue Jeans, and Bling is our theme, so wear your favorite jeans and jewels and join the fun. Absolutely no experience is necessary to play. If you can hold a cocktail in one hand and roll dice with the other, you're ready to play Bunco.

Reserve your tickets now, as this event is expected to sell out. Tickets are \$25/person and can be charged to a credit card for your convenience. To reserve your tickets, or for questions, suggestions, and sponsor/raffle contributions, please contact Robin Shih at [rshih@csstars.com](mailto:rshih@csstars.com). Bunco!

## Dine in the Chippewa Valley

The Dine in the Chippewa Valley project is up and running. We would like to have a few more people to help with this project. We are a small committee of only 5. The more people involved the easier it becomes for everyone. If anyone has any questions you can call Jacqui Muir on 839-6589 or Angela Prissel on 835-1266 or 832-2223 for more information.

## SPRING BANQUET

Meet your League friends for an evening of conversation, fun, and laughter at our Spring Banquet. This is a marvelous opportunity for sustaining emeritus, sustainers, active sustainers, actives and provisionals to all gather to get acquainted and/or reacquainted. The banquet will be held on May 16th at the Eau Claire Golf & Country Club. We will celebrate the provisionals reaching active status and introduce the Board for 2006-2007. Mark your calendar and watch for your invitation to arrive in April. This will be a fun event and an opportunity for us all to get dressed up and enjoy the company of all the wonderful women we have in JLEC.

## Did You Know?

The JLEC Cookbook is available for only \$15. Stop by Lasker Jewelers to pick up a copy. Makes a great gift for family or friends.

# A Message from Marianne

2005-2006 theme—*Discovering the Treasures Within*



“A leap of faith is sometimes the only thing that gets us where we need to go.” —Unknown author

You have probably heard this saying many times and thought “So true, but where do I need to go?” If you have not taken a leap of faith, maybe it is time that you did. Just think about it for a moment!

Where is it that you would like to go? What is it that you would like to try? As you look at where you are today in your family life, your career, your community, your faith, your personal growth, your JLEC life—your aspirations are your possibilities.

Each of you may wish to grow in a new direction. Well—why not do it? Why not do it now? You may ask yourself what is holding me back, what am I waiting for? The answers may be based on one thing—fear!

“A leap of faith is sometimes the only thing that gets us where we need to go.”  
—Unknown author

Spreading your wings, breaking paradigms, and moving out of your comfort zone takes courage and self-confidence. It may take a “leap of faith”. Of course, we know nothing is for certain. However, if you believe in

yourself and visualize yourself where you want to be and then work hard to get there—you will attain your aspirations.

Confidence is the key ingredient in success. It is the assurance that comes from a positive, optimistic view of your own abilities. Be thankful for each new challenge, because each one will build your strength and character leading you to grow in many ways!

At our April GMM, election of officers and placement will take place. It may take courage for you to step up and take a place on the Board or find a committee you would like to Chair, Co-chair, or serve on as a member. There are many opportunities in JLEC for you to spread your wings, expand your horizons, and to become a leader. Every one of you is invited to try something new and take a “leap of faith”.

“Only as high as I reach can I grow,  
Only as far as I seek can I go,  
Only as deep as I look can I see,  
Only as much as I dream can I be.” —Karen Ravin

Excitedly awaiting your leap,

*Marianne*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President .....Marianne Klinkhammer  
 President-Elect ..... Bobbi Giles  
 Past-President ..... Chris Sniegowski  
 VP Community..... Jacqui Muir  
 VP Communications .....Sheri Baemmert  
 VP Finance ..... Sallie Kernan  
 VP Membership .....Brenda Weisenbeck  
 Recording Secretary.....Kate Hinnant

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### COMMUNICATIONS

Corresponding Secretary.....Linda Bohacek  
 Historian ..... Phyllis Mattson  
 Newsletter Editor.....Kate Hinnant  
 Newsletter Design .....Sheri Baemmert  
 PR ..... Hannah Vick & Becky Seelen  
 Website .....Sheri Baemmert

### COMMUNITY

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  
 SPAC .....Linda 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 Mernitz  
 Volunteer Service Coor.....Pamela Macal

### Junior League of Eau Claire

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 Design: Sheri Baemmert, Peak Designs

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## Dental Sealant Successes

This fall, we visited four schools and placed dental sealants. Area dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, and receptionists from various dental offices volunteered their time and expertise. We were also fortunate to have dental hygiene students from the Chippewa Valley Technical College volunteer. The students are required to participate in 100 hours of community service as part of their requirements for graduating, so they are very appreciative of the opportunity to volunteer with this program. We screened 85 children and 62 of those children received dental sealants. We placed 305 dental sealants! This was a savings of \$8,435 to those 62 children and their families.

Sadly to say, 22 of the children needed early dental care and 15 needed urgent care. We are hopeful that those children received care on Friday, Feb. 3rd, which was "Give Kids a Smile Day". Chippewa Valley Technical College Dental Clinic and three sites from Midwest Dental opened their doors that day to provide free care to children. This is a great partnership. The dental sealant days really help to identify those children in need of services and link them to treatment sites. Thanks to the following League members who volunteered during the fall: Carol Johnson, Barb Weststrate, Jesica Witte, Sarah Pedersen, Jaquir Muir, and Marianne Klinkhammer.

—Linda Bohacek, Project Coordinator

## Dental Sealant Dates

March 31st — Robbins  
April 20th — Sam Davey  
April 27th — Sherman  
April 28th — Flynn  
May 12th — Manz

## Fluoride Varnish Days

with Head Start children (3 year olds)  
Held at: Locust Lane, North,  
Longfellow and Manz  
March 30th  
April 13th  
May 4th & 25th

Please contact Linda Bohacek if  
you are able to volunteer.  
Phone: 833-9636  
Email: lbrdh4pets@charter.net

## Placement Day

On April 25th, 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 2006/2007. Before Placement Day, you should evaluate your expectations of the placement opportunities available. 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 Chairs, Carol Johnson or Chris Sniegowski, at least three days prior to Placement Day to arrange for you placement. Each active member of JLEC must serve on a least one standing committee. Serving on the Board of Directors fulfills the standing committee requirement.

## Volunteer Service Awards (VSA) Program



If you haven't enrolled in Junior League's VSA program, now is the time. The program allows League members who put in at least 100 hours of service on League projects each year to receive national recognition for their efforts from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. This program is a great opportunity to highlight the huge contribution we collectively make the community through our participation in Junior League!

To enroll in the program, go to <http://vsa.ajli.org> and register, and then enter your volunteer service hours going back as far as April 1, 2005. A detailed description of the program can be found by clicking the "About the Awards" tab on the website. If you have other questions about the program, contact Pamela Macal at [pmacal@wrpr.com](mailto:pmacal@wrpr.com).

Hurry! This year's program ends on March 31, 2006.

## SUSTAINER CORNER

By Marla Mernitz, Nancy Kersten, and  
Donna Gilbertson

All actives, provisionals, and sustainers are welcome to a special **Book Club Meeting**, Wednesday, March 29th at 10am at Borders. We'll have author Jay Gilbertson (an Eau Claire native and Donna Gilbertson's son) who recently had his book "Moon over Madeline Island" published by Kensington Press. Jay will lead an open chat about his novel as well as discuss the complex processes of the publishing industry. If you plan to attend please RSVP Donna Gilbertson: 835-6421 or email: [donna\\_eric@msn.com](mailto:donna_eric@msn.com).

The **Bunco Babes** will meet one more time in April before summer. Details coming! Plus, see you at the Bunco, Blue Jeans, and Bling fundraiser.

# A Gift for the Family Resource Center

JLEC and Hooked on Phonics will be donating a Hooked on Phonics, *Learn to Read Classroom Edition* to our local Family Resource Center. Hooked on Phonics is providing this edition at no cost to all Leagues throughout the country to help promote literacy. Chip Paucek, President of Educate Products said, "We are excited to partner with the Junior League to help promote education and family literacy in Eau Claire. Our mission is to help build critical skills and develop a lifelong love of learning." This classroom edition normally sells for \$699.99.

We would like to thank Mr. Paucek and Hooked on Phonics for this generous gift and the opportunity to help the Family Resource Center, which touches the lives of so many families throughout the Chippewa Valley.

## AJLI.ORG - New Member ID & Password

AJLI.ORG website has new registration requirement. AJLI.ORG upgraded its password-protection and username system to allow members to increase the confidentiality of the information that is shared on the members-only site. As part of AJLI's continued development efforts for 2005-2006 by moving away from the current universal member password we will be able to provide more online member services and networking opportunities. These new services include an interactive message board and specialized membership-valuable content.



So why is this important? Because registration on AJLI.ORG will require members to know their Member ID number. By May 31, 2006, registration will be required, as the universal password will no longer be valid. Below are a series of Q&A's created to answer questions you may have about this critical transition.

### **Q: How will online registration work?**

**A:** The registration system will validate you as a League member and then allow you to create a username and password. In order to register, your AJLI member ID is required.

### **Q: What is my AJLI member ID?**

**A:** When a member joins a League, her information is shared with AJLI. AJLI then assigns each member a unique member ID.

### **Q: Why is AJLI requiring me to register using my AJLI member ID?**

**A:** Currently, our universal password offers partially secure password-protection to the member portion of our website. To provide a greater degree of privacy and allow added service to League members, AJLI is requiring members to create unique usernames and passwords to view member-specific content and Web based networking tools like the message boards. This is especially important because the Member Area includes contact information for Leagues and their members.

### **Q: Where can I find my AJLI member ID?**

**A:** Member ID cards were mailed to all League Presidents. You can pick up your card at the GMM, Spring Banquet in May, or it will be mailed to you with your membership dues invoice.

## Eau Claire Regional Arts Center (ECRAC)

# Volunteer Opportunities

So far we are sitting at around 60 hours of work at ECRAC and we would like to get in as many as possible before the end of June. The aim is to get 200, but 100 would be great. So if you would like a night at the Theatre, free of charge, we would appreciate your commitment to this project. You can bring along a friend or partner. The more hours we put in the less our office space will cost us at the end of the year.

If you would like to work any of these shows, please contact Jacqui Muir at 839-6589 or jacqui1974@charter.net. Or contact Jean Hood at ECRAC: 832-2787 or jahood716@aol.com

**Fri., April 7** - Peter Pan, 7:30pm

**Sat., April 8** - Peter Pan, 1:30pm & 7:30pm

**Sun., April 9** - Peter Pan, 1:30pm

**Tues., April 11** - Luma Light Show  
7:30pm

**Fri., April 21** - Battle of the Bands  
7pm

**Fri., April 28** - Jesus Christ  
Superstar 7:30pm

**Sat., April 29** - Jesus Christ  
Superstar 7:30pm

**Sun., April 30** - Jesus Christ  
Superstar 1:30pm

**Sun., May 21** - CV School of  
Dance 2pm

**Sat., June 10** - En Avant Dance  
Recital 1pm & 6pm

**Sun., June 11** - En Avant Dance  
Recital 1pm & 6pm

## 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. Invitations were sent out - check your mail!

## It's Back to School Time Again



This is Junior League's 11th year providing backpacks filled with school supplies to free lunch eligible children from Eau Claire County. Our first committee meeting was held on March 6th. Next meeting to be announced. Please join us to learn more about Junior League's signature project and see how you can help out on this committee. There are a wide range of opportunities, some smaller time commitments, some that can be done entirely from home! If you are unable to make this meeting but would like to be on the committee contact Jen Ropes, 834-1840 for more information.

*Jen Ropes and Sarah Donnellan, Co-chairs for BTS*

## Holiday Party a Great Success

A huge thank you to all members who attended the Holiday Party. Around 50 people turned up and from what I hear everyone had a good time. It is a good time for our partners to get to know who it is we're talking about. There was certainly a lot of fun had by all who attended. The Country Club provided us with an excellent buffet, so a big thanks to them and once again to all of you who turned up—Thanks!

## Colors Training held March 23rd

Lynn Stark hosted the "Colors Training" for provisionals and actives who have not gone through the program. Colors Training is a light and fun training giving insight about your leadership style and personality. After you answer a series of questions, you total your "score". Then, Lynn shares characteristics about each color personality. You determine your color by the number of points you accrued. Thank you Lynn for hosting!

## Special Notes...

- Thank you Patty Cigan and Lorraine Willson for their gifts to the Endowment Fund. Your continued dedication to League is outstanding! As our Endowment Fund continues to grow, it maintains the firm foundation upon which our organization was established.
- Thank you Jacqui Muir for securing over twenty restaurant certificates for the Dine in Chippewa Valley fundraiser. Your efforts are appreciated!
- Our congratulations to Jean Hood for her successful inner ear canal surgery. Hooray!
- Continued well wishes to Brenda Weisenbeck as her broken left arm heals. Take it easy, Lady! No more climbing on chairs for you!

## Nominations to the Board

The Nominating Committee has been working hard on filling vacant board positions for 2006-2007. If you haven't served on the board, it is a great way to get involved in JLEC and you couldn't ask for a better group of women to work with than what we have slated so far. We do have a couple of vacancies that we would love to have filled. This slate of officers will be presented to the General Membership on February 28th. Please email Nicole Lasker [nicole@laskers.com](mailto:nicole@laskers.com) or call 835-5914 if you have any interest in any of the positions. Do not be daunted by the word "Board" — it is only one additional meeting a month and we always have food and drinks.

Here is the proposed board with listed vacancies:

President- Bobbi Giles

President- Elect- Lindsay Jaeger

Past President-Marianne Klinkhammer

VP Finance- Liz Weichert

VP Membership-open

VP Communication-Sheri Baemmert

VP Community-Jacqui Muir

Recording secretary-open

## Calendar

**March 28** — GMM - Pine Cone Manor

**March 30** — Bunco, Blue Jeans, and Bling, Stella Blues, 7pm

**April 10** — Board Meeting

**April 18**—Celebration of Women  
Fanny Hill, 5:30pm

**April 21** — Newsletter deadline  
May/June

**April 25** — GMM - River Plaza

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

### March 28 - Pine Cone Manor

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

6002 Highway 93 South • Phone 831-6447

With Spring about to grace us with the beauty of tulips, daffodils, warm sunshine, and warmer temperatures, it is time to think about sprucing up the house. Join us to learn clever ways to bring Spring into your home. The place to be is Pine Cone Manor on March 28th at 6:30 for "A Breathe of Spring" presentation by Marsha Brown and Jeanne Rykal. You will also see many wreaths, door decorations, garden treasures, fountains, bird houses, and accent furniture, etc, all available for purchase. However, this is a time to learn—no need to shop—unless you just can't help yourself!

**Directions:** Follow Hwy. 93 south past I-94. Turn right past Scott's Auto Body—onto Greenway. Go to the end of the street and turn left onto Arndt. It will be the first driveway on the left—look for the Pine Cone Manor sign. Turn in and find parking in front of the building.

### April 25-River Plaza

**6:30pm social; 7pm meeting**

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

Placement Day and election of officers—don't miss this one!



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316 Eau Claire Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

## Volunteers Needed on April 6 to Assist Literacy Volunteers Chippewa Valley (LV-CV) with their Annual Scrabble Bee Fundraiser

Last year Junior League of Eau Claire was invited to join the Board of Directors for Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley (LV-CV). LV-CV is a non-profit organization, providing literacy services to Chippewa, Eau Claire and Dunn Counties. I have had the privilege of serving on the Board of this amazing organization for the last year as our League's representative.

Over one million adults in Wisconsin qualify for adult literacy and English language services – that's about 1 in 5 adults that need help reading, writing, or speaking English. In the Chippewa Valley, over 11% of the adult population functions at a Level 1 literacy level. This means they have difficulties in reading maps, completing job applications, or reading street signs.

Scrabble Bee is LV-CV's largest yearly fundraiser. During the Scrabble Bee, teams "compete" by creating boards that utilize all of their letter tiles. Scores for each team are determined by adding up the point totals for all of the words created on a board. After three rounds of play, which have progressively short time periods and fewer letter tiles, the team with most points wins.

This year, due to budget cuts at the federal level, this fundraiser has become even more important. LV-CV is in need of approximately 25 volunteers to serve as "Word Waiters" to score the teams competing in the event. My hope is that many of you can demonstrate our League's support for this terrific organization by volunteering to spend a few hours of your time working as a "Word Waiter".

Scrabble Bee takes place at the Holiday Inn Campus on April 6 at 5:15pm. Training for Word Waiter volunteers is on March 23rd. Volunteers can attend either the noon or 5:30pm. training session. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact Pamela Macal at [pmacal@wrpr.com](mailto:pmacal@wrpr.com). To learn more about Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley, visit [www.lvcv.org](http://www.lvcv.org).

***JLEC will be supporting a Scrabble Bee team  
led by Kate Hinnant by contributing \$100  
towards the \$350 team entry fee.***