



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF EAU CLAIRE

Women building better communities



MAY/JUNE 2006

Volume 13, Issue 5

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.

A Celebration of Women

What a fitting title to a truly fabulous evening! The committee worked hard to plan a glamorous party at Fanny Hill. All ladies were welcomed at the door with a warm greeting and a fluffy feathered boa. More sparkle and smiles awaited attendees as they checked in to an evening of "Glitz and Glamour".

Although a few of us may have had a "wait" for a cocktail, vendors in the main dining room had much to offer. Tables overflowed with purses, jewelry and other accessories. There were several services and products to improve our lifestyles and organize ourselves, as well as vendors offering those extra items that make life just a little better.

After a little shopping and socializing, guests headed to the dining room. There, it truly sparkled. Black and pink was everywhere, and the ladies fit right in with their feathers. Candles glowed throughout the room, illuminating the jewels and glitter spread about each table. The food was fantastic and the room buzzed with laughter and conversation.

As dessert was served, our first speaker took the stage. Kay Kennedy was funny and fabulous. She related moments on her life growing up, and spoke warmly of her years in Eau Claire. Kay spoke of those she celebrates, reminisced with those who have known her for years and inspired many who may have heard her for the first time that night. (Thanks Mom!)

Kay was followed by "Sister Katrina". This lady was truly an inspiration. She lit up the stage with her own sparkle, and her mood was contagious. Sister Katrina has faced the blows and beauties of life head on with her own unique charm. *(continued on page 3...)*



Did You Know?

Our Back-to-School Backpack program will provide around 1500 backpacks/supplies to children August 2006. Your help is needed!

A Message from Marianne

2005-2006 theme—*Discovering the Treasures Within*



The theme for my year as president has been “Treasures Within”—exploring the treasures within yourself, within your family, within the community, within League, and within our world. I asked you early this year to look for those treasures. It is my hope you have found JLEC to be a significant “treasure” in your life. **You** are indeed a “treasure” to Junior League of Eau Claire. Whether you volunteer a little, a lot, or you support League as a sustainer, we appreciate what you do!

You all have given in your way to make this past activity-filled year successful from beginning to end. Your membership is vital—thank you for continuing to stay connected. Those of you who feel that you have not done enough this year—believe me that is not true, continuing your membership and helping out as you have been able has kept us moving forward. Each year there will be a new opportunity for you to shine and be

active—a little or a lot. We grow one member and one day at a time. Hooray!

“You are indeed a “treasure” to JLEC.”

Maybe all good things come to those who wait, but the best things come to

those who seize the moment and make it their own. As we look ahead to the 2006-2007 year, which begins June 1st, find a moment to make your own. Opportunities to volunteer will be made known through our newsletter and through emails. Keep a watchful eye out for your favorites.

As this League year draws to a close, I would like to express my deepest thanks to our incredible Board—Bobbi Giles, Brenda Weisenbeck, Sheri Baemmert, Jacqui Muir, Sallie Kernan, Kate Hinnant and Chris Sniegowski. They continue to tirelessly give and give to keep JLEC vibrant and growing. Each of them has been a “treasure” throughout this year. Thank you Board for your support and for being there for me.

To all of you JLEC ladies, I am indeed grateful to have had this opportunity to be your President. The year has gone by, as always, way too fast. This has been a fabulous leadership experience, which I will “treasure” always. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

With deepest appreciation and love,

Marianne

The work will wait while you show your child the rainbow, but the rainbow won't wait while you do the work.

—Patricia Clafford

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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COMMUNITY

BTS..... Sarah Donnellan & Jen Ropes
 Celebration of Women..... Jessica Witte & Tracey Newhouse
 Community R&D..... Hannah Vick & Tracey Newhouse
 Education/SpeakersLynn 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
 NominatingNicole Lasker (chair)
 Party Planner..... Jacqui Muir
 Placement ..Carol Johnson & Chris Sniegowski
 Provisional Counselor.....Deb Svihovec
 Sustainer Rep ... Nancy Kersten & Marla Memritz
 Volunteer Service Coor.....Pamela Macal

Junior League of Eau Claire

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Literacy Volunteers of Chippewa Valley (LVCV) Annual Scrabble Bee Fundraiser

LVCV held their annual Scrabble Bee fundraiser on Thursday, April 6th at the Green Mill. It was a fun night of competitive Scrabble playing and raffles for a very worthy cause. LVCV raised about \$28,000 to help fund their literacy projects here in the Chippewa Valley.

A special thank you to Sarah Hanson, Barb Westrate, Tammy Eckert, Marianne Klinkhammer, and Betsy Richmond for volunteering to work at the event.

While Kate Hinnant's team, sponsored by JLEC, didn't win this year, they picked up a lot of good strategies from the winning team, Chippewa Valley Technical College. Thanks to everyone who made individual donations.

ECRAC Update

We've contributed 122 volunteer hours at ECRAC, which helps "pay" for our JLEC office space. The more hours we put in, the less we have to pay, so if you're interested in volunteering for a show, contact Jean Hood at 832-2787 or jahood716@aol.com.

Save the dates for Back-to-School!

Back-to-School is coming up in August. Volunteers are needed. Backpacks will be prepared on Tuesday, August 15th & Wednesday, August 16th. Distribution day will be Thursday, August 17th. Mark your calendars and look for future announcements.

Celebration of Women (con't from page 1)

With wit, song and character, Sister Katrina rounded out an evening that drew 120+ women together in celebration.

This was a true evening of Glitz & Glam. The jewels on each table almost paled in comparison to the bright smiles worn by all as the evening came to a close. Ladies brought home not only their purchases, boas, jewels and bookmarks (thanks Jill Fernandez), but also a Celebration of Women lingering in their hearts.

Thanks to the committee and Sacred Heart for a wonderful evening.

*While we try to teach our children all about life, our children
teach us what life is all about. —Angela Schwindt*

Special Notes...

- Thank you Jacqui Muir for all of your planning to make the Spring Banquet a delightful event. The music and spring flowers made the night extra special.
- Congratulations to Marianne Klinkhammer for a successful 2005-06 year. Your dedication to League and superb organizational skills have been true "treasures" to League.
- Thank you to everyone who attending the Spring Banquet. Over 35 women were present to celebrate another great year.



The Provisionals' Corner: Year in Review

Wow! What an exciting year it was. This year's provisional class jumped in with both feet. We were very active in Celebration of Women, Bunco, and Dine in the Chippewa Valley. We have made lasting friendships that will carry us through our JLEC tenure and our lives. We look forward to many years of service.

We started with a warm welcome at Fischers on the Green. Every lady left with a rose and an eager desire to participate in JLEC events. Our last provisional meeting was held at Marianne Klinkhammer's home where we all realized we had our own treasures within.

There are 14 of us this year and at the April GMM we signed up for many of next year's positions. We're looking forward to working on fundraisers, chairing committees, and even serving on the board!

—Jenny Schwartz, Liz Kennedy-Weichert and
Jessica Schreiner-Donnelly

Calendar

May 23 — GMM

Laurel Robertson—Personal Chef
"Healthy Delicious Meals and You
Won't Need to Cook" - River Plaza

May 31

All receipts due to Susan Jewett
All membership dues are due

August 15 — Back-to-school

August 16 — Back-to-school

August 17 — Back-to-school

May 22 - River Plaza

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

Our last GMM of this year will be on Tuesday, May 23rd at the River Plaza Apartments located on the corner of Graham and Lake Streets. Additional parking is available right across the street from the Federal Building. Socializing at 6:30 and meeting at 7:00 with the program to follow. Please join us for an important vote on funding opportunities.

Laurel Robertson will be our guest speaker/ presenter. She started her personal chef service under the business name Dinner's On. Laurel will be treating us to some delectable goodies, while helping us to eat healthfully.

A Quorum was Reached

At our March GMM a quorum was reached, which means that the updated By-laws and policies were passed. A huge **THANK YOU** to each of you who were in attendance. YIPPEE!



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Bunco Blue Jeans and Bling Success!

100 beautifully blinged women gathered on March 30th at Stella Blues to enjoy a fabulous night of Bunco fun. The \$100 prize for highest points went to our very own Susan Jewett. Barbara Westrate was awarded a Best Bling prize for her sparkling Diva outfit, complete with illuminated shoes.



The generous support from our sponsors, the silent auction, the huge raffle, the fantastic committee, and the sold-out registration enabled us to raise a profit of just over \$3000 to help women and children at risk in our community. A great and very loud time was had by all.



A very special thank you to the amazing committee who organized and facilitated this fabulous event: Robin Shih (chairwoman), Jennifer Ropes, Jill Fernandes, Carol Johnson, Kate Hinnant, Jenny Fesenmaier, Chris Sniegowski, Mary Ann Dickoff, Liz Weichert, Jessica Schreiner, Kim Schulte-Shoberg, and Jenny Schwartz.

