

the Link



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RALEIGH

Celebrating 85 Years of Service



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— *make a life* —

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The Junior League of Raleigh is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

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President's Assistant
President's Support Team

President's Message

The year has gone by so rapidly and I just don't know where the time went. It seems like yesterday that the Board, Leadership Council and I were coming together for the April Leadership Retreat to start making plans for the upcoming year. Many of us were meeting for the first time and didn't really know what to expect from each other, our placements or ourselves. But we forged new friendships and new teams the best we knew how and pulled it all off.

There have been a few bumps in the road and unexpected surprises thrown into the mix, but we have been able to handle it all with grace and make it to the last leg of our Junior League of Raleigh 2014 – 15 League journey. You all eagerly took on this year's agenda of Leadership, Service and Commitment, and in most cases exceeded all of the goals set forth at the beginning of the year. You have been team focused and mission driven. I think that if those 87 women from 1930 who were the founding members of the Junior League of Raleigh were here today, their faces would be beaming with pride for how our League has grown. I am in awe at the many accomplishments you have made this year. For me personally, it has been a pure blast. I can truly say that it has been a great experience and I will take all that I have learned (the good, the bad and the ugly) and put it in my toolbox to use on my next endeavor. I count it all as joy and my life will forever be changed.

I do hope this year has been good for you as well. Even if everything did not turn out as expected, you hung in there and you are a stronger person for doing so. You should never give up or throw in the towel because you didn't like the way something turned out or who happened to be leading at that moment in time. As women of the Junior League, we must ultimately stay the course and work to make it better in the future. Remember you can't fix it if you are not around. That's one thing about the League — we are a strong organization and we will be here for many years come. It is each and every member that brings her unique talents, skills and perspectives to the table that makes the Junior League of Raleigh the vibrant and forward-moving organization that it is today. Keep in mind that your turn will come one day and you can leave your stamp on the League.



This year, I have had the best time meeting new people and experiencing new opportunities that would have never come my way had I not been in the position of being president. Growing up in Lumberton, North Carolina, if anyone would had every told me I would be leading an organization of almost 1,600 trained volunteers who were *committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers*, I would have never believed them. If someone would have told me that I would be appearing on television to promote the 30th A Shopping SPREE! fundraiser I would have laughed at them and said you must be kidding. If you had told me I would be going to STRIDES at Heritage Park or attending a Kids in the Kitchen event put on by our Provisionals, I would have said you were mistaken. If you had told me I would be hanging out after the Belk Fashion Forward event with jean designers Chip and Pepper I would have told them they must be referring to someone else. If I even thought for one moment that I would be meeting the Mayor of Raleigh, state legislators, judges, city officials, community leaders, business owners or a group of women who were just as dedicated as me about giving back, I would have thought they were out of their mind. But it is all true. This has been the time of my life and I owe it all to each and every one of you. To the Board, the staff, and the membership of the Junior League of Raleigh I say *THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!*

Selené Brent

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RALEIGH'S Member Awards

By Alex Boddie

Each year, Junior League of Raleigh members are recognized at the May General Membership Meeting with various awards. These awards recognize members who have made a significant impact on the Junior League of Raleigh during the current league year. Nominated by fellow League members and selected by the Nominating Team, these women are described by others with whom they have served as being inspiring, persevering and fulfilling the mission of the League. *This year's award recipients are...*



SUSTAINER OF THE YEAR AWARD

🌿 **Anita Pinther**

Presented by Julia Daniels

The Sustainer of the Year award recognizes a Sustainer's dedication to the Junior League of Raleigh. Anita's nominators said, "Anita is fairly new to the Sustainer role but exemplifies what it means to be a Sustainer, remaining connected with the active membership of the Junior League while utilizing her training and leadership skills to lead other community agencies in making the Raleigh community a better place."



DARLENE SHELTON OUTSTANDING PROVISIONAL AWARD

🌿 **Bernette Stivers**

Presented by Catie Burnette

The Darlene Shelton Outstanding Provisional Award recognizes a Provisional member for dedicated service to our League. Bernette's nominator said, "Bernette's leadership, service orientation and commitment is the epitome of what a Junior League of Raleigh woman should be."



OUTSTANDING FIRST-YEAR MEMBER AWARD

🌿 **Whitney Underwood**

Presented by Juvon LeGare-Rivers

The Outstanding First-Year Member Award recognizes a new member for dedicated service to our League. Whitney's nominator said, "As a member of the Boys & Girls Club, Whitney has gone above and beyond the expectations of her placement. She has devoted countless hours as a Youth of the Year mentor for the Brentwood Youth of the Year, a regional competition. She has attended coaching sessions and debates, as well as helped her mentee with speeches and college applications. She has even taken her to dinner and shopping at the Bargain Box."

FOUNDATION AWARD

Jen Reel

Presented by Amy McCallister and Caitlin Dillon Purina

The Foundation Award recognizes an Active member and her dedicated work within an in-League placement. Jen's nominator said, "As this year's Website Coordinator, Jen has gone above and beyond her job description to modernize our website. Not only does Jen understand her placement, she is a remarkable leader who empowers her team. Jen is very aware of the needs of the entire Communications and Strategies council, and often works to facilitate PR on their behalf. Jen's impressive leadership skills, attention to detail and strategic thinking have made a significant impact on the League."

GUARDIAN AWARD

Emy Hanson

Presented by Abby Seats and Lisa Coston Hall

The Guardian Award recognizes an Active member for her dedicated work within a community placement. Emy's nominator said, "For the past several years, Emy has served as Captain of Kids on the Block. Her passion, dedication and perseverance within this placement make her a true leader and committed League volunteer. Emy has been described as the driving force behind the Kids on the Block placement. Her focus has resulted in better communication with our partners in schools and other groups. Emy has also researched and ensured that grant money has been accurately accounted for and used appropriately."

LEGACY AWARD

Katie Lennon and Karmia Lewis

Presented by Merritt Atkins

The Legacy Award recognizes an Active member for her dedicated service to the League in a fundraising placement. Katie and Karmia's nominator said, "Katie and Karmia went far above the call of duty, taking a proactive role in saving the League money and getting the word out about SPREE! Together, they solicited more than \$97,000 in in-kind donations from media outlets including radio, TV print media, and social media. They added seven new outlets to get the word out and negotiated contracts that provided for more media coverage at the same cost to the League. In addition, they increased coverage on social media and reduced costs on logo items and signs. The results were apparent, as our attendance increased, including a record number on the Saturday of SPREE!."



(continued next page)

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RALEIGH'S MEMBER AWARDS *(continued)*

LIFELONG MEMBERSHIP AWARD

🌿 **Whitney von Haam**

Presented by Julia McCullough

The Lifelong Membership Award recognizes members who have been Active members for 10 or more years and continue to make significant contributions. Whitney's nominator said, "For more than 10 years, Whitney has been an exceptional member of the Junior League of Raleigh. Throughout her League career, she has served in various community and in-League placements including Helping Horse, MDC Co-captain, TCOM Captain and Nominating. She is no stranger to the JLR Board of Directors, having served as the VP of Communications & Strategies, Nominating Captain, Training VP not to mention a recent President of the JLR! Whitney is one of the biggest cheerleaders for the League and its members. She and her family have dedicated countless hours to the programs, members and agencies that the JLR serves."

MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

🌿 **Kelly Brown**

Presented by Elizabeth Merritt

The Member of the Year Award recognizes an Active member for dedicated service to the League who has gone above and beyond the typical parameters of her JLR "job" thereby serving as a role model and inspiration for other members. Emily's nominators said, "For the past nine years Kelly has served on the Boys & Girls Club team. Her passion, dedication and positive presence within this placement makes her a true leader and role model for the children and volunteers served by this team. Kelly is a shining example of what a trained League volunteer can do for a community organization."



TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD

🌿 **BackPack Buddies**

Presented by Tricia Ellen and Brooke Schmidt, led by Samantha Hatem and Astra Ball

The Team of the Year Award recognizes a JLR team, in-League or community, for exceptional results. A BackPack Buddies nominator said, "The BackPack Buddies team has dedicated more than 325 hours toward its efforts in helping feed hungry children at Lacy Elementary and Hunter Elementary, filling 76 backpacks weekly. Under the leadership of Co-captains Samantha Hatem and Astra Ball, this team has produced four food drives and has brought in donations for the Back a Buddy program from community citizens. Raising over \$1,850 in donations, the team was the first in our region to begin including fresh produce in its backpacks through its Apple a Day initiative. This year, the team also introduced the Bring a Child to Pack program, which allows children ages 4 and up to attend packing sessions to learn the importance of nutrition and to see the impact that volunteering in the community can make."





Julia Jones Daniels Center for Community Leadership

The Junior League of Raleigh is proud to announce that League headquarters at 711 Hillsborough Street will see a new name before the fall season starts. The Julia Jones Daniels Center for Community Leadership will proudly serve as a lasting tribute to Julia's leadership, service and commitment. The Daniels' significant and continued support of the capital campaign and many other League initiatives allows the League to further fulfill our mission and increase our impact in the community. We celebrate Julia and her service to the League and are thrilled to announce the new name. Join us in extending a warm congratulations and hearty thank you to the entire Daniels family.

JULIA JONES DANIELS CENTER FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP



Welcome Transfers

Holly Croft
Leslie Wilkinson
Caitlin Folan
Erin Bergano-Tacy
Molly Rupert
Andrea Boyle
Lindsay Greenwood
Rebecca Pope
UnChu Crosby
Laurin Link
Olympia Friday

Helen Meyer
Jackie Stalls
Kelsey Kriz
Michelle Bracher-Cummings
Andrea Ford
Martha McGarity
Jennifer Carta
Ellison White
Jennifer Lynch
Lauren Furman
Lindsey Davis

Brenna McDaniel
Alison Walker
Michelle Jacobson
Meghan May
Lauren Turnburke
Latonya Hankins
Alicia Power
Sarah Lamm
Christina Del Gaizo
Brittany Brock
Anna Ball Hodge

Mandy McGuire
Jillian Popadak
Paige Swofford
Gray Tolley
Cara English
Callie Dezarn
Anna Shope
Katie Davis
Kimberly Burrows

2014 – 15

Provisionals

Casey Abbott
 Melissa Abrams
 Lindsay Aikman
 Amanda Allsbrook
 Emily Amoni
 Di An
 Meredith Anderson
 Margaux Austin
 Kristen Bennett
 Susan Beymer Brauner
 Maggie Bizzell
 Brandy Blackmon
 Rose Boyd
 Nancemarie Brandquist
 Meggie Brett
 Courtney Broemer
 Mary Brooks
 Sianna Brown
 Annie Bruen
 Blair Bunting
 Lindsay Burns
 Tarsha Burroughs
 Erin Champion
 Kody Carter
 Binta Cisse
 Casey Abbott
 Melissa Abrams
 Lindsay Aikman
 Amanda Allsbrook
 Emily Amoni
 Di An
 Meredith Anderson
 Margaux Austin
 Kristen Bennett
 Susan Beymer Brauner
 Maggie Bizzell
 Brandy Blackmon
 Rose Boyd
 Nancemarie Brandquist
 Meggie Brett
 Courtney Broemer
 Mary Brooks
 Sianna Brown
 Annie Bruen
 Blair Bunting
 Lindsay Burns
 Tarsha Burroughs
 Erin Champion
 Kody Carter

Binta Cisse
 Jessica Clark
 Mary English Comer
 Amanda Cowan
 Casey Craig
 Jessica Criswell
 Brandi Davis
 Alex Dearman
 Joy DeBolt
 Brittany DiCello
 Christina Dickson
 Elizabeth Dils
 Tami Dorry
 Elizabeth Drew
 Antoinyce Eaton
 Brittney Ellison
 Laura Esseesse
 Glynis Ewing
 Katie Factor O'Neill
 Lindsey Farwick
 Elizabeth Feindel
 Heather Flynt
 Kacie Fore
 Amanda Frystock
 Leslie Garry
 Erica Genthner
 Dominique Rivers
 Candance Goins
 Marci Goodnight
 Ashley Gorman
 Samantha Graham
 Anna Grantonic
 Sally Claire Griffith
 Jennifer Haigwood
 Kathryn Hastings
 Jennifer Haugh
 Laura Heath
 Katie Hendrickson
 Ashton Herbert
 Jennifer Kay Herring
 Ashley Herring
 Kayla Herring Beavers
 Tacey Hesmer
 Katrina Hilsman-Williams
 Nicole Holmes
 Tiffany Holmes
 Emily Horton
 Briana Hovermale
 Brittany Hutchinson

Monica Hyzon
 Iris Irving
 Meagan Jenette
 Laura Johnson
 Keshia Jones
 Themba Jones
 Crystal Jones
 Foss Knight
 Paige Krier
 Brooke Krohn
 Angela Kuo
 Anna Beth Loftin
 Caroline Long
 Katie Lynn
 Tiffany Maddox
 Paige Madtes
 Susie Mann
 Shanise Mark
 Crystal Mayo
 Elizabeth McGrath
 Catherine McKnight
 Carrie McMillan
 Jordan Merlo
 Sarah Miller
 Cody Mitchell
 Addie Moody
 Auston Moore
 Kelly Moriarty
 Ashlie Moseley
 Michelle Moser
 Kelly Murphy
 Sarah Murray
 Blair Myers
 Christine Nguyen
 Kelly Noonkester
 Laura O'Grady
 Brittany Odom
 Lauren Offord
 Dana Osborn
 Laura Parker
 Melba Payan
 Sara Pearson
 Nicole Petroff
 Chioma Phillips
 Lauren Pierce
 Jennifer Pinna
 Maggie Pishko
 Cullen Pitler
 Gracen Pittard

Stacy Poole
 Laurie Powers
 Meghan Pridemore
 Melissa Puryear
 Rachael Pusateri
 Kadyrose Quigley
 Caroline Rankin
 Heather Reed
 Morgan Resnik
 Brittany Reuter
 Lauren Rhoden
 Julia Rich
 Lindsay Riddle
 Nina Roque
 Katie Ross
 Sarah Shtakleff
 Kaitlyn Scipien
 Karen Scott
 Ashleigh Sholar
 Ruth Shrauner
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 Libby Spain
 Darcy Stanton
 Bernette Stivers
 Caroline Sutton
 Jessica Swanner
 Sarah Thomas
 Arden Thomas
 Tonya Thompson
 Savannah Thompson
 Heather Thorpe
 Sarah Timberlake
 Nichole Turner
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 Mary Whitfield
 Mandie Williford
 Catherine Winter
 Shannon Wolf
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Mitzi Downing

What Great Leadership Training Does Now That It Didn't 10 Years Ago

Do a Google search on leadership training, and you'll find more than 100 million results — academic programs, management training series, white papers, leadership "gurus," articles, resources and more. Those of us in the leadership space are inundated with new-fangled approaches to understanding leadership, and teaching and training leaders today.

To learn more about the best of the best in leadership training today, I was excited to read an interview of Ray Carvey, executive vice president of corporate learning at Harvard Business Publishing where he focused on lessons learned about employee training.

Here are **five vital lessons** learned — that we should all put to work in our daily lives (professional and personal).

- 1 Develop a leadership mindset:** Being a great leader means both managing tasks and functions well, but also understanding how to behave and "show up" as a leader.
- 2 If content is king, then context is queen:** Context is so important for effectively incorporating learning into an organization — especially a volunteer organization. For learning, getting it right in the context of your organization's needs is what makes it relevant, meaningful and "sticky."
- 3 Building interactive experiences that engage learners:** Professional women are intensely busy, so you have to draw them in to learn. You can motivate them by delivering content through engaging video, using competition or other hands-on elements, or allowing learners to make personal choices and indicate preferences as they progress.
- 4 Build and nurture your network:** Leaders need to get things done through influence more than authority. Therefore, relationships and trust with a network of key individuals across regions and functions will be critical to moving things ahead quickly and effectively.

- 5 Be strategically focused:** If you want to do big things, be more strategic in what you do and how you go about doing it. Today's women leaders need to be ahead of marketplace demands while maintaining other critical functions. This is not easy to do, but it is something leaders need to tackle head on. If you are exclusively focused on what is in front of you, the future may pass you by. Look forward!

From glass ceilings and work-life balance to "leaning in" and office politics, the issues for women as effective leaders continue to stir conversation and controversy. While women are making it to the corner office, the event still generates headlines. As they ascend the corporate ladder and take on greater management responsibilities, some women may want to seize greater challenges, but need to do so with a full understanding of the dynamics involved. One thing is for sure, the world needs more women leaders.





85th Anniversary

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RALEIGH HIGHLIGHTS

Decades of Leadership,
Service and Commitment



1930s



Members rehearsed for a "Sawdust and Spangles" circus show held at Memorial Auditorium to raise money for the milk fund, ca. 1939. Publicity for the revue featured a borrowed elephant. Image courtesy of the News and Observer Collection, State Archives of North Carolina.

REPORT OF MILK FUND

Milk was sent to needy Clinic babies during the year 1934-1935 as follows:

June	455 qts.	Dec.	345 qts.
July	340 qts.	Jan.	375 qts.
Aug.	386 qts.	Feb.	363 qts.
Sept.	370 qts.	Mch.	391 qts.
Oct.	267 qts.	Apr.	565 qts.
Nov.	332 qts.	May	576 qts.

This was a total of 4,765 quarts of milk at an expenditure of \$597.57.

Respectfully submitted,
MARY MCGEE SMITH,
 Chairman.

A report of the JLR's milk fund, 1934 - 35.

The baby clinic operated by the League, 1935. The house still stands at 808 Glenwood Ave.



In the 1930s, the JLR produced several theater performances like "Beauty and the Beast."

- In March 1930, Raleigh's Junior Guild is accepted into what is now the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI). The Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) is officially chartered.
- Many early efforts focus on health care, especially for infants and expectant mothers.
- Other projects included a circulating library and art classes "in the mill district." Members volunteered with local welfare agencies and the State Museum of Natural History. In 1931 they produced their first play, "Beauty and the Beast."
- By mid-decade, the League began producing radio programs such as "Pinocchio" and "Dr. Dolittle" to provide Depression-era families with free entertainment.
- JLR hosted the state's Inaugural Ball for the first time in 1933, honoring Governor J.C.B. Ehringhaus. The League worked for years with other civic groups before becoming the ball's sole host.
- A float promoting a 1936 production of "The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe" was among JLR's many State Fair parade entries.
- The League helped manage a community and church activity calendar at the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce; a traveler's aid desk at the bus station; and plans for a Central Volunteer Bureau — approved by the Council of Social Agencies — were put in place as part of World War II home defense.
- Fundraising featured dances at then-State College and cruise balls that raffled tickets to Bermuda. Members sold snacks at the General Assembly and local baseball games and briefly ran a small Salvage Store.

1940s



Members posed for a fashion show fundraiser hosted with Ellisburg's, 1948. Image from *The News and Observer* Collection, courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina.



Member Alice Broughton and her mother, First Lady Alice W. Broughton, are seen here at the US Army Filter Center (airplane warning system) on Nov. 15, 1941. Pearl Harbor was attacked just 22 days later.



The League rallied around Board member Kay Browne, whose husband, Micah, served in the 1944 Normandy invasion. He survived the war.



The JLR worked with other local civic groups for several years, including 1949, to sponsor a Christmas toy shop for children in need. Members also dressed dolls to be given away.

- ✿ The JLR sponsored a well-baby clinic at the Wake County Health Department and collected war relief funds through Dimes for Ambulances.
- ✿ Upon request, extra programs from the 1941 Inaugural Ball of Raleigh's own Governor J. Melville Broughton were distributed to schools.
- ✿ The national Junior League network started to recognize the Junior League of Raleigh's work as outstanding.
- ✿ During World War II, members assisted with Selective Service registration and USO drives. They knitted sweaters for the American Red Cross, planned dances at Fort Bragg, sold U.S. Defense stamps, and took first aid and nursing classes. After the war, the JLR turned efforts toward supporting veterans at Camp Butner Hospital and securing housing for veterans attending State College.
- ✿ Books Bring Adventure, a series created to provide an alternative to other children's radio programming, won a 1947 Peabody citation.
- ✿ Half of the proceeds from the 1949 Inaugural Ball honoring Governor W. Kerr Scott went toward building a premature baby ward at Rex Hospital. By decade's end, the League handed over all clinic operations to Rex and the health department. This started a tradition of nurturing projects and, once they become self-supporting, moving on to other needs.
- ✿ Handmade children's theater puppets won several awards including a blue ribbon at the State Fair.
- ✿ Members also volunteered in public school libraries and at The Governor Morehead School for the blind.

- ✦ The JLR's Bargain Box thrift shop opened Sept. 5, 1951 in Cameron Village, built approximately two years prior. Willie York provided the building with rent based on store profits. The first year's profit: \$3,900. The store moved to a second Smallwood Drive location four years later.
- ✦ The League contributed financially to help found a cerebral palsy center at Christ Church, a YWCA recreation area for teenagers and water fluoridation.
- ✦ With WPTF, the JLR produced a weekly radio panel program for teenagers, "Under 21," and later a quiz show, "Time Out."
- ✦ Members enjoyed a popular placement working at Olivia Raney Local History Library.
- ✦ The League supported a mental hygiene clinic and worked with UNC-TV to develop a science series, "Meet Mr. Wizard," that included an in-school component.
- ✦ Puppet shows entertained and inspired thousands of schoolchildren. The troupe was invited to the National Puppeteer Festival in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where Nestor the talking horse, the glowing fireflies and dancing grasshopper were big hits.
- ✦ The League hosted a semiformal Bright Leaf Ball, in conjunction with the world premiere of the motion picture "Bright Leaf," which brought to Raleigh famed actress Patricia Neal. The ball, held at Brooks Recreation Center, raised thousands of dollars for the YWCA youth room as members modeled costumes from the film.
- ✦ By decade's end, membership stood near 350. For the first time, in 1959, the JLR hosted a regional meeting of the umbrella organization.

1950s



The committee met to plan the *Follies of 1950* fundraiser, which took place April 13, 1950 at Memorial Auditorium. Musical numbers will include "Buckskin Bebop," "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend," "Chanteuse," "A Beach in the Nineties," "Alphabetically Speaking" and "In the Locker Room," which featured League members' husbands.



The JLR presented \$12,000 to YWCA officials to construct a teen recreation room. *Image from The News and Observer Collection, courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina.*



The League hosted a ball during the world premiere of the film "Bright Leaf," starring Gary Cooper, Lauren Bacall and Patricia Neal.



Teens in the YWCA recreation room, post construction.



Bundle teas became popular ways of collecting merchandise for JLR's Bargain Box thrift store in 1953. Each member brought a bundle, or bag, filled with donations.

1960s



Members held a meeting at the Peden guest house, located behind a member's home, which served as the JLR's base of operations, ca. late 1960s.



Many JLR members served as docents at the North Carolina Museum of Art in the 1960s.

A program from the 1967 Follies. More than 20 co-ed musical numbers included "The Flighty Fifties," "Miss Bargain Box," "Radio City Revisited," "The Drummer Boy," "Ladies in Red," "The Danger of Matrimony" and "South of the Border."



A member volunteered at her placement in the records department at the Wake County Domestic Relations Court, 1964.



- With the JLR as a driving force, ground was broken for Hilltop Home, which provided care and services for medically fragile children with severe developmental disabilities. The home pioneered loving physical, speech, occupational and educational therapy for a population dismissed by some as "untrainable."
- The League participated in the Responsibility for Aesthetic Quality Conference at the North Carolina Museum of Art. The purpose was to bring art awareness to all North Carolinians and encourage enduring appreciation for cultural inheritance. Attendees and speakers included artists, educators, architects and highway builders.
- In 1963 the League mailed letters to local officials asking their opinions on the area's greatest needs.
- The JLR opened a kindergarten program in the Halifax Court public housing community for children who had not traditionally been able to attend preschool.
- The League worked with WRAL-TV to produce a documentary on drug addiction, "The Walking Death."
- The Feb. 3 – 4, 1967 Follies boasted the theme of "Paint the Town Pink" and raised more than \$22,000 at Memorial Auditorium.
- The League published the first edition of "North Carolina's Capital, Raleigh" (by Elizabeth Waugh, reprinted in 1992) and co-sponsored restoring Mordecai House.
- The JLR funded the first Boys Club of Wake County and provided volunteers for tutoring, crafts and library service, as well as five board members. Provisional members, in their first year with the JLR, began organizing Christmas parties for the boys.
- Advocacy for better mental health services for children became a new focus. A 1969 forum on the needs of "emotionally disturbed children," sponsored by all North Carolina Junior Leagues, expanded to producing brochures, television spots and other educational efforts.
- The League began employing paid staff members. Its presidents started selecting annual themes and stopped wearing hats to annual meetings.

- ✦ Projects sponsored and supported include Haven House for girls, Theatre in the Park, Mordecai Square Garden, the Tammy Lynn Center and Drug Action of Wake County (which later became SouthLight).
- ✦ Another focus was Learning Together. The League provided crucial financial, volunteer and board support for this new nonprofit preschool, which educated children with special needs alongside those developing more typically. The program served as a model for inclusiveness.
- ✦ The JLR worked with the Wake County Council on Aging and grew more involved in projects addressing mental health concerns.
- ✦ The Follies held in 1975 sported the theme "We've Come a Long Way, Baby."
- ✦ The League sponsored Wake-Up for Children: A Public Forum on Child Advocacy, to build awareness and support for children's needs, and to establish a Wake County Child Advocacy Council. Follow-up programs addressed successful family relationships, marriage skills, common-sense parenting and more. The forum led to forming the Child

Abuse Prevention Society, which merged with another organization to become Interact.

- ✦ Members voted to adopt the first of many position statements. The JLR continually made public stands on subjects such as child advocacy, education, the arts, aging, the environment, homelessness, substance abuse and voluntarism. These initial statements addressed day care, child abuse and juvenile justice.
- ✦ A new career development study group series helped members balance family, job and voluntarism. The JLR teamed with Meredith College to produce a community-wide forum series funded by the North Carolina Humanities Foundation. It brought nationally known speakers who tackled the day's top issues, with college credit available. The JLR and Meredith collaborated to train women wishing to serve on community agency boards.
- ✦ More night-time placements and meetings were added, and the JLR established a diversity committee. Some 1970s publications discussed the Equal Rights Amendment, and no longer referred to members as "girls" or by using only their husbands' names.

1970s



■ A group of Provisional members.



■ JLR members at an inaugural ball, hosted by the JLR.



■ In 1974, after an extensive study of children with learning disabilities, the League established the Developmental Evaluation Clinic to identify issues and direct children to support services.



■ A September 1972 issue of JLR's "MissPrints" magazine focused on recycling, pollution and other environmental topics. These women demonstrated sorting paper and bottles.

1980s



■ Gearing up for the Follies of 1980, "Gold Rush." Among the acts: "Sergeant Pepper's Rockettes," "Star Wars," "Boogie Woogie," "Second Hand Rose," "Macho Man," "I Need A Man" and "Saturday Night Movies."



■ Charter members of the League enjoyed golden anniversary activities, 1980.



■ The JLR's transfer program, instituted in the 1980s, provided opportunities for women moving to the area to learn about the community and meet other women. Members enjoyed a transfer social, 1983.



■ Members of the JLR Board of Directors, 1980 - 81.



■ Members posing in front of the League's new headquarters at 4020 Barrett Drive, 1984.

- ✿ The roughly 700 members hosted a 50th anniversary celebration, including the Gold Rush-themed Follies (March 15, 1980, Memorial Auditorium). The event benefitted Project Enlightenment's new Parent/Teacher Resource Center and Child Abuse Protection Services education and support programs, as the League focuses on "bright futures."
- ✿ The JLR received a Certificate of Commendation from The American Association for State and Local History for contributions to historic preservation made since 1966.
- ✿ The League awarded its largest grant to a single agency, at that point; \$47,640 to Wake Teen Medical Center. That record was broken five years later when the JLR established a Girls Club by the Boys Club of Wake County.
- ✿ The JLR joined forces with Wake Up for Children and the NC Coalition for Foster Children to ask the General Assembly to increase funding to reduce the average amount of time children spend in foster care. Members testified on legislation related to child abuse, day care and juvenile justice.
- ✿ A new headquarters opened on Barrett Drive near North Hills Mall.
- ✿ The first A Shopping SPREE! was held in 1984 at Mission Valley Inn. This annual fundraiser has grown steadily ever since.
- ✿ A mini-grants program benefitted public school teachers.
- ✿ The League-sponsored Children's Festival began. For more than a decade, at sites including Crabtree Valley Mall and Cary Towne Center, it brought together youth-related agencies to promote their services to the public.
- ✿ After years of renting, the JLR purchased the Bargain Box building at 2104 Smallwood for \$175,000 in 1987; the JLR sold the building in 1994 for \$412,500.
- ✿ More than 550 League members volunteered in 37 community agencies in 1989-90, with 289 members serving on 205 community boards.

- ✦ The final Follies held celebrated the JLR's 60th birthday and 1,200 members (average age, 33, with more than 70 percent working outside the home) with the theme "Hooray for Raleighwood." Held March 24, 1990 at Memorial Auditorium, it raised funds for health and low-income support projects.
- ✦ The League established SAFEchild as its signature project in 1992. Reflecting a public position statement that "every child has the right to mature in an environment free from physical abuse and emotional neglect," members voted to create a child abuse prevention agency to fill a gap in Wake County human service offerings. Long an independent nonprofit, SAFEchild worked to eliminate child abuse by helping adults and children create healthy, nurturing environments free from abuse and neglect.
- ✦ Governor James B. Martin recognized the JLR with a Governor's Volunteer Award.
- ✦ The Bargain Box moved to a new location, downstairs on Woodburn Road at the intersection with Clark Avenue.
- ✦ The JLR hosted the Halifax Court Day of Dreams Festival and participated in other efforts to improve that public housing community.
- ✦ A 1997 forum held at St. Mary's High School helped usher in a new era of more extensive leadership training opportunities.
- ✦ Major grants renovated the Shepherd's Table Soup Kitchen, and benefitted AIDS Service Agency of Wake County, Courthouse KidsCenter, Inter-Faith Food Shuttle, Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies and more.
- ✦ The JLR started an internal fundraiser, Perfect Presents, and published its first cookbook, "You're Invited."
- ✦ League members chose from dozens of placements: Triangle Radio Reading Service, the Capitol Area Visitors Center, Loaves and Fishes, Playspace, North Carolina Museum of Art, Joel Lane House, Project Enlightenment, Loaves and Fishes, Alliance of AIDS Services, Food Bank of North Carolina, Interact, Motherhead, Make-A-Wish, local senior citizens homes and many more.

1990s



Every year, the League held several General Membership Meetings, which sometimes featured powerful educational components. At this 1996-97 meeting, members presented a "silent witness" program that included silhouettes to represent North Carolina women killed recently as a result of domestic violence. Fighting child abuse and domestic violence garnered attention in the 1990s.



JLR Follies celebrated the League's birthday.



JLR members promote the League's first cookbook, "You're Invited."



The League used several logos throughout the years, including this one used during the 1990s and into the early 2000s.



JLR's Bargain Box in Cameron Village, ca. late 1990s.

2000s



The Center for Community Leadership became the League's new headquarters, 2009.



A holiday program at Heritage Park Community Learning Center, 2007.



Inaugural ball event Rock the Ball, 2009.



The JLR began a partnership with Wake County Communities in Schools at its Heritage Park Community Learning Center in the early 2000s.

- ✿ The League adopted the target area of promising youth and instituted a new team-based approach to members' annual placements. Both are designed to leverage greater community impact and to increase member interaction and teamwork. The JLR won the \$10,000 Association of Junior Leagues International/Anheuser-Busch Foundation Fund for the Future award in 2003 for creating and implementing this plan.
- ✿ Following record-breaking net profits of \$694,000 from the 2001 Inaugural Ball honoring Governor Mike Easley, the JLR adopted Heritage Park Community Learning Center and began programs with its young residents. It worked with First Lady Mary Easley to promote Communities in Schools statewide.
- ✿ A collaboration with the Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties raised more than \$110,000 through ticket sales to Nordstrom's opening event. The JLR also partnered with Saks Fifth Avenue for its opening as another fundraiser.
- ✿ The JLR celebrated 75 years with a gala at the Woman's Club of Raleigh.
- ✿ The League was inducted into the Raleigh Hall of Fame and the Boys & Girls Club of Wake County Hall of Fame, and was recognized by SAFEchild with the first Commitment Award.
- ✿ Funding helped open the Brentwood Boys & Girls Club to serve a growing Hispanic population living in northeast Raleigh.
- ✿ The first of several Showcase of Kitchens fundraisers took place.
- ✿ The League purchased a historic building in downtown Raleigh for its new Center for Community Leadership (CCL). The center opened during 2009-10, providing four times more space than the previous headquarters. It featured a 196-person training room, boardroom, numerous meeting rooms, volunteer workrooms, a living room, catering kitchen, children's playroom and JLR administrative offices. The CCL served as an investment in the community and a visible symbol of ongoing impact. It received the 2011 Triangle Commercial Real Estate Women (TCREW) award for best redevelopment project.

- ✦ A second cookbook, "You're Invited Back," debuted in 2010.
- ✦ North Carolina's 11 Junior Leagues were the collective recipient of the fifth annual North Carolina Children's Lifetime Legacy Award from Action for Children North Carolina.
- ✦ JLR began its Capital Leadership Initiative (CLI), an innovative program for members and other women. The CLI trained participants to be effective and skilled leaders in their communities, private lives and careers. Its 100-plus graduates hailed from Fortune 500 companies, law firms, accounting and financial service firms, nonprofits and more. The Association of Junior Leagues International honors this program with its 2013 Leadership Development Award.

- ✦ Community Connect offered free educational and networking programs open to local nonprofits. Topics ranged from how to start a planned giving program to how to train an agency's trainers to be more effective.
- ✦ The JLR teamed with Belk at Crabtree Valley Mall to host Fashion Forward. These glamorous spring events celebrated the season's must-have trends while raising funds to help the community.

2010s



BackPack Buddies food drive, 2013.



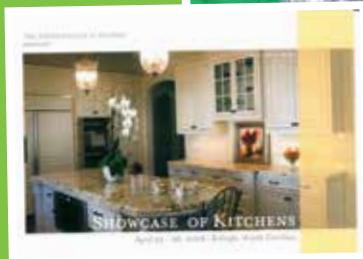
Designer Trina Turk with Team Fashion Forward at a fundraiser presented in collaboration with Belk, 2014.



A member worked with a child at AventWest Children's Mentoring, 2014.



Sir Walter Raleigh was ready for the 2011 A Shopping SPREE! at the Raleigh Convention Center.



The JLR hosted the Showcase of Kitchens as a fundraiser to support the Center for Community Leadership, 2010.

Membership Development Committee members enjoyed A Shopping SPREE!, 2014.

Membership Vice President

Heather Beiza



As we celebrate our 85th year of the Junior League of Raleigh we also reflect on our past and where we are today. Our members have made the League what it is today — an organization 1,600 strong.

The teams that make up the Membership Council are here to make the Junior League of Raleigh experience worthwhile to all members. We start with our Provisionals, the new, incoming faces of the Junior League. Our 190 Provisionals entered into a new training format this year. They were divided into a Monday night and Wednesday night class. After a summer kickoff, they began their 10 training sessions that wrapped up in January. Then they were busy with their new flagship Provisional spring project, Kids in the Kitchen, modeled from AJLI's Kids in the Kitchen initiative. The project took place at two of our community agencies: White Memorial Presbyterian Church and Boys & Girls Club.

Team TCOM supported our membership throughout the year responding to member's requests as well as hosting many member events. The team provided a wide variety of events ranging from book clubs, lunch bunches and a beer tasting to a Pinterest-inspired evening. These events were a great way to meet new League members and make new friendships.

Team Transfer was busy welcoming new members to the League that have relocated to the area. Some states that the

members have transferred from include Pennsylvania, Georgia, Colorado and California. These women bring great ideas and passions from their previous Leagues that make our League even better.

Team Placement wrapped up the 2015 – 2016 placement signup. They spent the last few months updating the Placement Guide, seeking input from current team captains and board members to maximize the impact that our teams have.

Our final team is our Sustainers. If it were not for this group of women, the League would not be where we are today. Their continued support and knowledge help our foundation remain solid while we work together to ensure a bright future for the League. The team's goal was to keep Sustainers included in League happenings. The Sustainers took on the challenge this year to plan and organize the SAFEchild volunteer appreciation event at the CCL, and the event was a great success!

The Membership Council is a reflection of our membership, tasked with serving every member. We hope we have served you well this year.

Pink Pages

Sustainers

Letter from Sustainer Co-captains

Lucy Cornelius and Monique Fisscher-Goldwater

We have been honored to serve as the Sustainer Co-captains during this special year that commemorated the Junior League of Raleigh's 85th anniversary. We had fun mingling with Sustainers at the annual Sustainer Holiday Social, the Throwback Thursday 85th anniversary celebration, and luncheons at the Executive Mansion and the North Carolina Museum of Art.

This year, Sustainers supported the community by hosting the SAFEchild volunteer appreciation event and donating a portion of the gift cards collected at the Sustainer Holiday Social to SAFEchild. Another portion of the cards was used to purchase items for the Spring Fling at the Communities In Schools of Wake County's Heritage Park Community Learning Center. The remaining portion was put to good use at the Boys & Girls Club for its high-risk tutoring group and the end-of-year celebration. Sustainers continue to significantly impact our community, both individually and collectively, in ways too numerous to name here.

We are truly amazed at the vision of the 87 women who transitioned the Junior Guild to the Junior League in 1930. We are equally in awe of the breadth and depth of fantastic Sustainers who have served throughout the years, and continue to serve as innovative pioneers in the League, the community and in business. Special recognition goes to Anita Pinther, who recently received the honor of Sustainer of the Year.

Now let's look to the future! We will continue to serve as the Sustainer Co-captains for the 2015 – 16 year along with Sustainer Transfer Captain Lynette McEvoy. An exciting calendar is planned for social and community service opportunities for the 2015 – 16 year. Also, "Sustainers Connect" is being piloted in North Raleigh to provide a means for Sustainers within geographical areas of the Triangle to informally connect. For more information, please contact us at Sustainers@jraleigh.org.

Mark your calendars for our 2015 – 16 kickoff event, the meet and greet socials on Aug. 27 and Sept. 1. We look forward to seeing you there.

85 years and still sustaining!

*Lucy Cornelius and
Monique Fisscher-Goldwater*



Martha Leak

Junior League of Raleigh
President 1973 – 1974

By Amanda Basham

Bringing professionals into the League, and that's not all Martha can do!

Martha Leak's years with the League not only include her many contributions to the Junior League of Raleigh, but she also greatly impacted leagues all over the country. Leak was a member of the leagues in Charlotte, Columbia (South Carolina) and Raleigh where she served as president from 1973 to 1974. Beyond these cities, Leak served on the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) board. She traveled often to New York City for meetings and to many other cities for conferences. Her responsibilities for AJLI also included traveling to cities to evaluate service leagues applying to become Junior Leagues and assisting with the admissions process.

When Martha Leak first joined the Junior League of Raleigh in 1962, her Provisional class included only 12 women and I-40 had not been built. Her admissions process included intentional meet-and-greets around Raleigh, which she thought were *coincidental* run-ins, in order to meet her. Leak's invitation to membership came by registered mail and, as a girl from Boone, North Carolina who attended Duke University, she was honored to have been chosen in her new town.

Leak will tell you about how much she gained from the League and attributes much of what she has accomplished in her life to the skills she learned at the JLR. Going from a school teacher, to a stay-at-home-mom, then, back into the workforce for two large companies, Leak says she learned how to get a job from her Junior League experience. The training that the League gives its members is an area she has always known to be a strong and consistent quality of leagues nationally. After 18 years at home raising her children, she learned how to package her volunteer skills on a resume to reflect the responsibilities she carried in the league. "To be able to serve on a committee and on community boards allows you to practice these skills," Leak said.

To say that Leak was in the Junior League of Raleigh during a transformational time in its history is an understatement. During



her time, she helped make the JLR more flexible for working women. The history of Raleigh and of the Junior League became closely entwined. The development of Research Triangle Park attracted more highly-skilled women to Raleigh and it was these women who Leak wanted to attract to the League. She saw a huge increase of Transfers from other cities. During that time, all meetings were scheduled during the day and Leak helped change this to include nights and weekends. She also worked on expanding the placement offerings with more flexible schedule options for working women.

Without a beautiful building like the Center for Community Leadership, she shared that meetings often were held in members' homes. She remembers an early JLR headquarters in the Peden guest house, in which the file cabinets were kept in the bathtub! As we all are trying to figure out how to maintain a work-life balance, this challenge was also familiar to Leak. Raising two boys and married to a husband who traveled often for work, she was very conscious of making sure that she or her husband was always home for the boys. Volunteering is a big part of her life and she continues to devote much of her time to Christ Episcopal Church in downtown Raleigh.

Leak dedicated many years of service to the Junior League and has impacted leagues all over the country. Leak helped create a flexible structure for any woman's lifestyle, which has allowed the League to grow a robust volunteer base over the years. We appreciate her forward thinking and thank her for helping to bring the Junior League of Raleigh into modern times.

Pink Pages

Sustainer
Events

Sustainer Luncheon & SAFEchild Volunteer Appreciation Event



EMPOWERING

Kids

TO MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES

By Kendra Allen

How do we get kids to eat their vegetables? In April, the JLR Monday night and Wednesday night Provisional classes did not advocate approaches to hide or mask fruits and vegetables. Instead, they brought fun and excitement to proudly making healthy choices. Celebrate the banana! Cheer for broccoli! Dress up yogurt with berries! Say good morning to whole grains!

With snack creation stations, make believe trips to the grocery store, artistic renditions of portion sizes and lively relay races, kids skipped, hopped, danced and walked their way around an engaging set of stations designed to promote wellness and healthy choices. The Kids in the Kitchen program came alive with sights and sounds of laughter and learning.

Taking a new direction from the previous Provisional project model of small group opportunities with a variety of community agencies, the Membership Development Committee (MDC) opted for one unifying project — Kids in the Kitchen. The Kids in the Kitchen curriculum was incorporated into events with Junior League of Raleigh partner agencies AventWest Children's Mentoring, Boys & Girls Club and StepUp Ministry.



“ This inaugural year of the program was fantastic and I’m hoping that we can keep it going as a League. Improving the lives of children by empowering them to make healthy choices will provide long-lasting results the participants can take with them throughout their lives.”

— Selené Brent, 2014 – 15 JLR President



According to MDC Co-captain Elizabeth O’Quinn, Provisionals in the past ran into agency-specific challenges that became obstacles to their learning and project planning experience. In addition, the format was not always beneficial for the agencies to the greatest extent since “the learning curve was steep and there were not relationships already in place to maximize the events’ outcomes.”

By centralizing the project into a common goal and effort, MDC leaders could provide more support and guidance while also balancing the experience Provisionals had with planning and implementation. The ultimate goal of the Provisional project is for the new League members to “walk away with a new skill, excitement for the opportunity to work with members of the League (both in their Provisional Class and Active members) and a deeper commitment to the community work that our League does,” said O’Quinn.

Taking the single Provisional project model further as a training tool, MDC captains also tasked Kids in the Kitchen project leaders, Brooke Tonkin and Laura Smith, to create opportunities for the women to “try out” systems much like those employed by the League at large. For example, Tonkin and Smith created a project placement guide that mimicked the League’s Placement Guide. Project placement information included dates and times

for meetings; sign ups went live at a certain time and were first-come, first-served, etc. Provisionals in both Monday and Wednesday classes had the opportunity to sign up for various portions of the project and thus interact with one another.

With all new initiatives, MDC captains plan to assess and reflect on the first Kids in the Kitchen Provisional project and hope to continue it. President Selene Brent shared that sentiment. “This inaugural year of the program was fantastic and I’m hoping that we can keep it going as a League. Improving the lives of children by empowering them to make healthy choices will provide long-lasting results the participants can take with them throughout their lives. It is wonderful that our League is finding a creative fun way to make such a positive direct impact on our community.”

Was the project successful? Look at the kids’ smiles. Hooray for apples! Three cheers for milk! Let’s run that relay race ONE MORE TIME!



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Funding Vice President

Lanier McRee

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.”

— Elizabeth Andrews

Despite innumerable commitments — to our careers, our families, other organizations — JLR members step up and get things done. I know that this year has not always been easy, and I appreciate the sacrifices members made along the way to make this year a success! I also appreciate your ingenuity.

Every single Funding team did something new/ different/ innovative to move our League forward. Team Community Funding team not only revamped the Legacy Fund process but identified a perfect recipient for our 85th anniversary gift, the Sassafras All-Children's Playground. We celebrated the 30th annual A Shopping SPREE! with the largest single-day attendance ever — nearly 4,500 people! — and experimented with mobile bidding for the silent auction. Team Bargain Box stepped up and hosted a GMM quota drop off; members have been asking for this for years. Team CCL hosted our first-ever open house, inviting members of the business and nonprofit community to learn about opportunities with our wonderful Center for Community Leadership. Team Cookbook identified new sales opportunities outside of the JLR, such as the Sycamore Creek Elementary School spring carnival. Team Fashion Forward dreamed up Youth Forward, showcasing



our community partners (and their creativity!) at our spring fundraiser. And, Team Annual Fund restarted and revamped our annual fund efforts after the capital campaign, and is on track to break past donation records. What a year!

A sincere thank you to the members of the Funding & Development Council and to the JLR members who served on a funding team. You have done an outstanding job and your commitment, service, ingenuity and heart have inspired me throughout this year. I'll end with this thought...

“You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go.”

— Dr. Seuss, *Oh, The Places You'll Go!*

JLR DONATES TO

Sassafras All Children's Playground



By Jennifer Blue-Smith

In celebration of the Junior League of Raleigh's 85th anniversary, the League wanted to do what it does best: give back to the youth in our community.

To mark the occasion, the League donated \$8,500 to the Sassafras All Children's Playground, a restoration of the city's one-of-a-kind play facilities located at Laurel Hills Park in Raleigh. The playground, which was designed with *all* children in mind, will provide children — including those with physical limitations — a place to swing, slide and play. The Junior League's gift will provide for four molded bucket swing seats and swing frames to the City's vibrant all-access parks system.

Earlier this year, Team Community Funding identified a number of potential organizations in Wake County that serve the needs and interests of promising youth. The team researched where the greatest needs were and how an \$8,500 gift would best serve those needs. The Community Funding Team then presented the top contenders to the League's Board of Directors, which voted to select Sassafras as the fund recipient.

The gift to Sassafras honors the League's 85 years of service to the community by showcasing not only our history, but also our commitment to promising youth. This donation will benefit and serve all children in the Raleigh area and was viewed as the perfect way to honor the League's past and future. Sassafras plans to recognize the JLR with a sidewalk imprint which will serve as a permanent reminder to all the families who enjoy the park that the League is committed to supporting its community.

The Junior League of Raleigh joins other Triangle-area businesses, community partners, the City of Raleigh and the Frankie Lemmon Foundation in making Sassafras possible. Construction on Sassafras begins this fall and is expected to open in the spring of 2016. Learn more about Sassafras Playground at sassafrasplay.org/.



The gift to Sassafras honors the League's 85 years of service to the community by showcasing not only our history, but also our commitment to promising youth.

JLR Chorus makes a

Joyful Noise

By Marisa Bryant

There's a statistic that pops up now and then that says that those who volunteer are about **40 percent happier** than those who don't volunteer.

That number might skew quite a bit higher if the Junior League of Raleigh Chorus members were part of the study. The joyful songbirds of Chorus have been representing the best of what the League has to offer for almost 40 years: giving back to the community while also forming great friendships and having fun!

The JLR Chorus is a mix of both Actives and Sustainers who meet every Wednesday morning from September through May. Between practices and performances, many Chorus members put in well over 80 hours per year! The Chorus performs during the holiday season and each spring at assisted living centers and nursing homes, as well as at events for the League and our community partners. Over the past four decades, the JLR Chorus has used music — transcending generations and backgrounds — to delight audiences across Wake County. Here are a few special memories from current Chorus members.



B: I joined the night Chorus as my first JLR placement. We had both day and night choruses back then, as the need had arisen to accommodate more Actives who worked full time outside the home. We needed a place to practice at night since HQ back then was busy on our practice night. Past Presidents Barbara Freedman and Greer Lysaght (along with their husbands) both generously opened their homes to the night chorus each week to practice while they conducted meetings at JLR. Chorus is by far my favorite placement ever and Wednesdays are and will always remain my favorite day of the week because that is the usual time we gather to practice and most often perform." — *Cynthia Parker*





I was in the JLR Chorus the first year it started around 1976. Several League members had been to a conference and the DC league had a chorus that sang in nursing homes. We met at night and there were probably 10 of us. We met at different people's houses where there were pianos. Margaret Webb, who passed away recently, was one of our first leaders. She sang off-Broadway, so she was great. We didn't have that many places to sing so we ended up singing in hospitals and for Boy Scout groups at first. I remember singing at Rex Hospital on closed circuit TV and it was played during Christmas. I think one of the most moving things is singing at Total Life adult day care. There is a woman there named Dorothy who had a stroke and doesn't speak, but she sings. It's amazing to watch. She'll laugh with you but can't form words, but can sing. She is so welcoming after all these years of seeing her." — *Sandy Page*



JLR Chorus members enjoyed performing at various events throughout the community.





Often the clients at nursing homes, who would not remember if they had heard us the day before, know all the words to most of the songs. A couple of years ago, I was in the middle of directing one of the early songs in the program when I was suddenly overwhelmed with the response in the room and the knowledge that we were bringing something to them that truly brightened their lives. I almost couldn't continue, and then I looked at the chorus members and saw tears in lots of eyes! Something about the energy in the room that day touched all of us. We feel like that all the time at the nursing homes, rehab centers and retirement communities where we do most of our performing, but that day, something special happened, and I was proud to be part of it!" — *Chancy Kapp*



JLR Chorus members were all smiles when they performed, bringing smiles to the faces of those who enjoyed hearing them sing.





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Communications & Strategies Vice President

Anne Strickland



Change [cheynj] : *verb, noun* : to transform or convert; to modify; a transformation or modification; alteration; the passing from one place, state, form, or phase to another — a change of seasons.

Change is one of those things that you either love, or you hate. We all deal with it differently. Some accept it and move forward, some analyze it and determine the good (and the bad) that comes with each instance. Some are motivated to be the catalyst that propels us forward. I like to think of the Communications & Strategies Council as a catalyst — we have certainly made a few changes this year.

From Emerging Ideas expertly balancing everything — from diversity and inclusion and the AJLI reaching out statement to member retention and community impact — to GRAPA helping to remind us all of the change that we can lead and the importance of women in public service, Communications & Strategies is about much more than sending out press releases.

Communications & Strategies (C&S) is meant to tell our story. To visually and publicly represent the Junior League of Raleigh in such a way that every member of our community has the opportunity to identify with us. To feel the passion that we

have for the service that we do. To recognize our work, as we humbly spread the word about our commitment to the city of Raleigh and the communities that surround it.

We do this in the most conventional of ways with *the Link*, gracefully providing an inside look at the League as a whole. With *elink*, pushing forth all the information we can gather about what's happening this week and next and where you can meet your fellow members as we work to leave our mark. With social media, as we work to leverage technology as a tool that puts a face to our work.

We also do this with the future in mind. Alicia Frazee has been hard at work examining how to best utilize technology and engage our members with virtual meetings and online social media training. She will be continuing with C&S next year, and I am thrilled to see her planning come to fruition. A large part of our future is virtual. Planning for those next steps, this year has seen a website overhaul under the leadership of Jen Reel. You may have noticed that jlraleigh.org has been restructured — and that on any given day you'll see a new slideshow with our current events and community placements highlighted. Our goal is to see our website become a resource



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for you; a place that you can go to get the information that you need. Before this magazine is printed, you'll also see a new member site. If you haven't logged in lately, swing by and take a look at the work this team has put in. These women have a lot to be proud of, and I expect that Jen will leave big shoes to fill after her year as 2015 – 2016 C&S VP.

I was in my first year of leadership within our League when I heard then President Lisa Marie Ferrell's message, loud and clear. Leave your legacy. I took her seriously, and have been determined ever since to find small ways to make our League better. To be stronger. To work together more effectively.

The opportunity for change is great as we work toward our new governance structure. As we examined how our League would look I was empowered to take a closer look at the structure of the Communications & Strategies Council, and echoing the leaders who came before me, determined that the C&S VP could be afforded more time to operate strategically with some well-placed support. The result of our discussions is the addition of two somewhat experimental roles: JLR Editor and JLR Graphic Designer (ad hoc).

The addition of these two roles, combined with some process change at the front end of our transition into a new governance strategy will allow C&S to operate more efficiently and more effectively, providing the opportunity for C&S to be proactive rather than reactive. I am incredibly excited to see our public awareness increase, to see how new campaigns will help to tell our story, and to see our PR strategy grow as a result of this support.

The turn of the League year brings the fresh sense of new possibilities, renewed energy, bright new ideas ... change. I hope that you'll embrace the changes Communications & Strategies is making and are vocal about what you like and what you don't. It's our membership that challenges us to change, and your feedback is crucial to the success of the council who works hard behind the scenes.

I look forward to taking on new challenges next year with the 10,000 foot view that serving this council has afforded me — and to seeing some little changes that will have a big impact on our communication strategy come your way — but more than anything, I hope that you, too, look forward to embracing change.

QUICK IMPACT

By Nina Argiry and Chasta Hamilton Calhoun

A Modern Placement for the Modern Member

As the Junior League of Raleigh continues to explore modernizing its structure, many of its teams are doing the same. Quick Impact is a perfect example of how our League is striving to better meet the needs of our members and community partners through modernization.

WHAT IS QUICK IMPACT?

Quick Impact is a great resource to our community — providing volunteer power for quick, one-time events for numerous agencies in Wake County. Team members staff a myriad of projects each year, ranging from setting up for a fundraising event or manning a booth at a children's carnival to checking in participants at a 5k, and much more. Quick Impact typically assists more than 30 community agencies and contributes more than 550 direct volunteer hours annually.

AUTOMATION IS THE NAME OF THE GAME!

This year, Quick Impact automated several team functions to better track data, ease the yearly transition and create efficiencies for the team. Co-captain Chasta Hamilton Calhoun said "online sign-ups for community requests were implemented at the beginning of the year to help streamline processes for both team members and community partners. Through this tool, team members can (1) easily determine which volunteer opportunities work with their personal schedules, (2) learn more about the nonprofit, (3) see who from their team is volunteering for a particular shift (which is great for that member who prefers to volunteer with friends) and (4) then easily click to reserve a spot. The volunteer coordinator at each agency also has access to the online sign-up and can check the link at any time to see the status of the request and how many Quick Impact 'spots' have been filled." Naturally, all of this automation greatly minimizes the emails back and forth between the captains, team members and community agencies — while providing valuable real-time information to all parties.



Quick Impact has also instituted tracking volunteer hours online for its team members through a shared Google doc that also tracks event information on a monthly basis. Co-captain Nina Argiry said "this set up allows the captains to better manage the team and to start tracking much needed data in a single source." Team members are responsible for inputting their volunteer hours after each event, which makes it very easy for members to see where they stand with regard to placement obligations at any time. This treasure hold of data is also useful in helping the team understand seasonality and the needs of Quick Impact's partnership base, as well as meeting volunteer hour reporting requirements to the League.

MODERN MEMBERS NEED FLEXIBILITY!

Today, more than 85 percent of Active League members work outside of the home and many of these women devote their time to numerous charitable interests in addition to League service. Quick Impact can be a great team for the League member who cannot commit to a single day of the



week for her placement duties but wants to continue to serve her community directly. Quick Impact can be tailored around a modern member's active schedule, with daytime, evening, weekday and many weekend volunteer opportunities. Team member Dalia Hussein said "I travel for work three out of four weeks a month and can't make it to many League functions, however I have found a home in Quick Impact. I can set my own schedule to volunteer and even sign up for events when I'm on the road. Best of all, as a Transfer to the JLR, Quick Impact has opened a lot of opportunities for networking with others, both within the League and outside, while getting to know Raleigh."

Due to the increasing demand for flexible placement opportunities within the League, Quick Impact will increase from 28 members to 38 members for the 2015 – 2016 League year. For more information about Quick Impact or to request volunteers, visit Quick Impact under the Partnerships tab at jraleigh.org.

Team Quick Impact members are happy to help to community organizations when they need it most.

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Heather Wingfield



More than 320 Active members responded to the membership survey last fall and their thoughts about the current state of the League paint a very interesting picture.

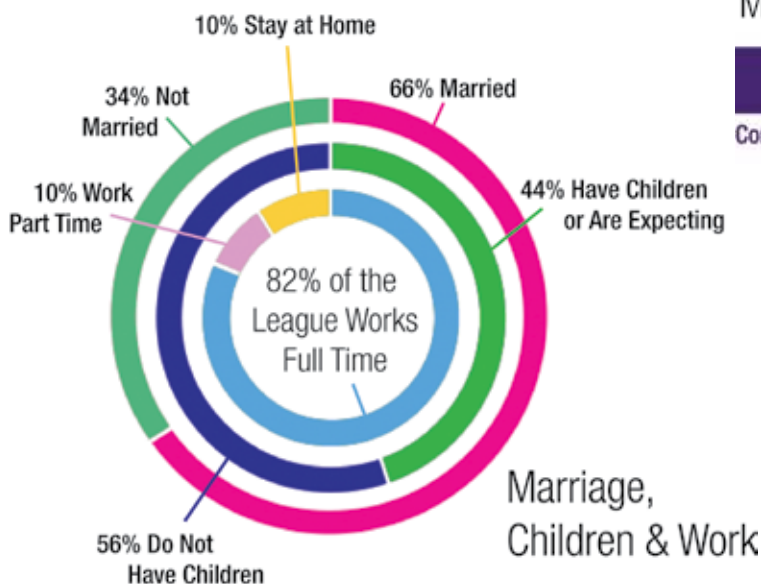
The survey showed that member engagement and feeling connected is still the biggest area of concern. Members not only want to feel more connected to the League, but they also want to be able to connect more with each other.

Compared to the last survey in 2011 – 12, we also have more members who are working full time and looking to the League for flexibility in placements and meetings. The need for flexibility is also supported by about half of our members having children and more than half being married.

Eighty percent of members feel that they are making a difference in our community by being part of the JLR, an increase over the previous survey. While this is a high number, every member should feel they are making a difference, so there is room for examination and improvement here.

Thank you so much to everyone who shared their thoughts in the survey. Next year's board and leadership team will use the information to help shape their goals for 2015 – 16 and beyond.

If you have additional thoughts or comments, email mal@jlraleigh.org.



Member Connection to the League



Southern Summer Staples

Whether your summer plans include trips to far, far away or a “stay-cation” here at home, you can find an opportunity to enjoy these Southern classics, found in the Junior League of Raleigh’s “You’re Invited Back.”

Special Southern Sweet Tea

INGREDIENTS

¾ cup iced tea
3 tablespoons vodka
2 tablespoons simple syrup
1 or 2 sprigs of fresh mint

INSTRUCTIONS

Combine the iced tea, vodka, simple syrup and mint in a tall glass and mix gently. Add ice and serve.

Classic Southern Cheese Straws

INGREDIENTS

3 cups all-purpose flour
½ teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon cayenne pepper, or to taste
1 ½ pound Cheddar cheese, finely shredded and at room temperature
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened*

INSTRUCTIONS

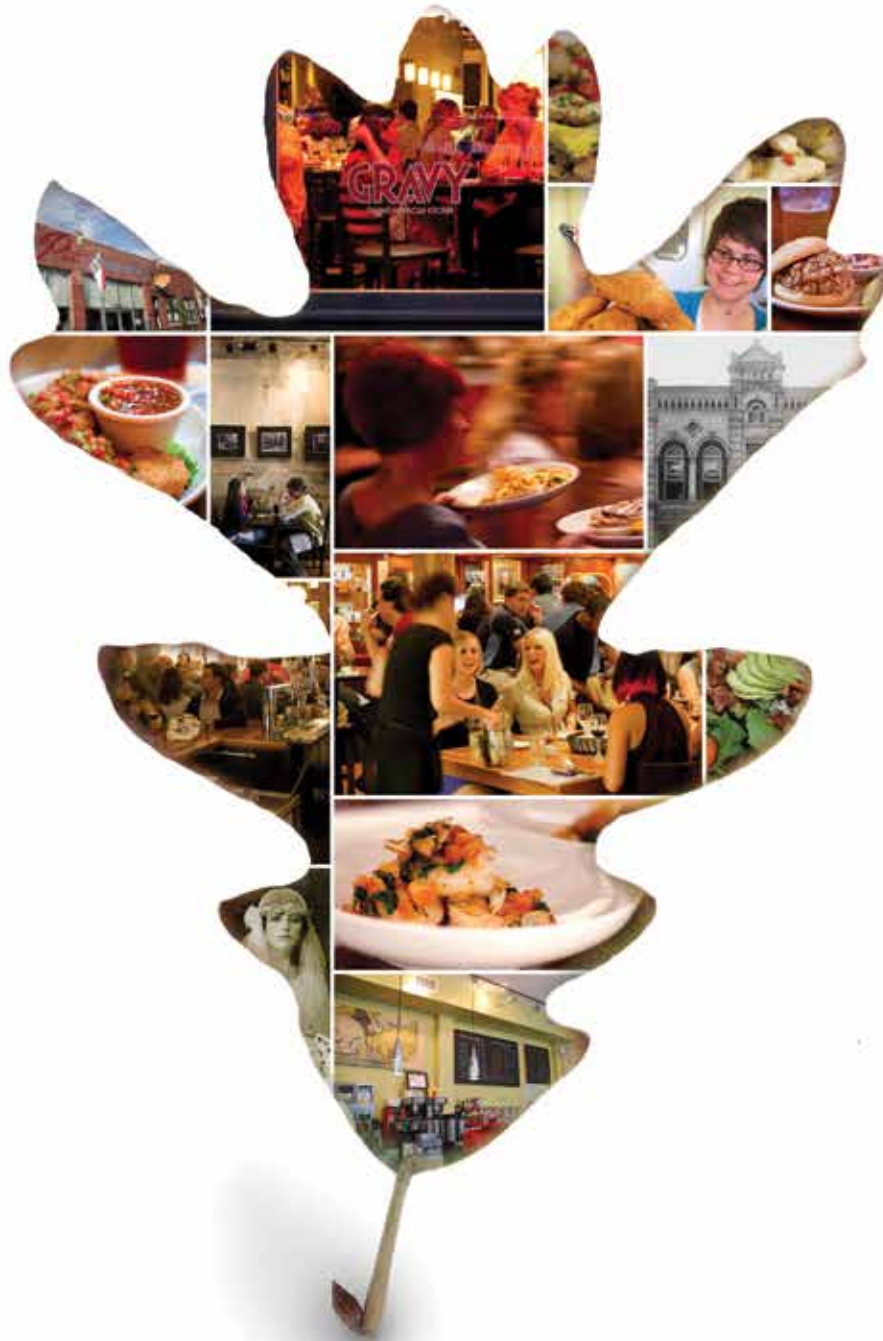
Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Mix the flour, baking powder, salt and cayenne pepper together. Combine the cheese and butter in a mixing bowl and beat until smooth. Add the flour mixture gradually, beating until well mixed after each addition. Spoon into a cookie press fitted with a small star tip.

Press the cheese mixture into long strips on a greased baking sheet. Bake for 13 minutes or until light golden brown; do not overbake. Cut into the desired lengths while hot. Remove to wire racks to cool. Store in an airtight container.

Makes 12 dozen

**Important Note:* Do not substitute margarine for butter in this recipe.

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