Year In Review 2009-2010

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

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What a year we have had together! We have built on the traditions that we have developed throughout our 80-year history, and have also launched new traditions and laid the groundwork for wonderful things to come.

We celebrated our 25th A Shopping SPREE! with a wonderful silver anniversary party and great vendors. We have “You’re Invited Back”—our new cookbook, which is already a huge seller locally and through our publisher. We have completed our fourth annual Showcase of Kitchens, where we and our partners witnessed a surge in interest in remodeling.

We trained our members both at General Membership Meetings and through the work of our Training Team. Our Provisional class—166 women strong—demonstrated their dedication to the League’s mission through the impact of their inspiring Provisional projects. We are training women and giving them new skills—building on our mission and our traditions.

We touched the lives of hundreds of children in the Raleigh and greater Wake County area through our dedicated volunteers who give of their time in so many ways; from Kids on the Block shows, to the Boys & Girls Club, to Heritage Park and to our talented chorus. We’re making a huge impact in the community through our trained volunteers.

There have been changes this year as well. Undoubtedly the biggest change has been the relocation from 4020 Barrett Drive, where the League had its first “owned” home, to 711 Hillsborough Street. We now have space at the Center for Community Leadership to accommodate meetings for many teams at the same time. This new space gives us the opportunity to move even further forward to make an impact in the community by helping other organizations build their capacity through training and volunteer assistance.

The Community Leadership Initiative, which has been long planned to provide leadership training to our members, held its introductory session in April, and the applications to join the first class this fall have been coming in steadily.

Our League has an influx of new talent and ideas from the women who have come to us either as Provisionals or Transfers. Our League continues to attract talented women from all walks of life who see the League as a source of pride, a way to make a difference and something they want to be a part of. These women are the future of our League, and along with our members who are seasoned and knowledgeable about the needs of our community, they will take us so far.

Through the efforts of our team leaders, the Board and our Staff, the League has worked hard to adapt to the challenges of the new economy that we and all other nonprofits face. We have taken practical steps to reduce costs and to scrutinize how and why we do things. This has not been an easy process, but we have worked diligently, and good things are happening.

As President of the League, I have been in the unique position to look ahead and to look back. After talking with Sustainers, it is easy to appreciate the steps they took to lead us to where we are today. Their vision, strength and determination are apparent in our League’s traditions and history.

Your Board this year has demonstrated creativity and the ability to support and inspire everyone with whom they have worked. I thank each and every one of these women for being a part of this League year with me. I thank my husband and family for their support this year, and I hope that you will extend my thanks to your families for their support of what you have done this year. Every meeting can seem daunting with work and home, but the support you have for your League service from your family is so important.

Thank you for all your hard work, creativity and dedication this year. It has truly been a privilege to serve with you.

May you have incredible League experiences as you continue in your career.
The Darlene Shelton Outstanding First-year Active Award
Nina Argiry, Kids on the Block

The Darlene J. Shelton Outstanding First-year Active Award recognizes a new member for dedicated service to our League, which includes Active members who completed their Provisional course in the Junior League of Raleigh (JLR), or Active members who transferred from another league and are currently serving their first year with the JLR.

Nina hit the ground running in her First-Year Active placement as Kids on the Block Team Captain. From organizing extra rehearsals, to attending each and every performance, to “refreshing” the look of the puppets—Nina did it all flawlessly. Thank you, thank you!
Foundation Award
Mary Blake and Kelly Di Domenico,
Team Leadership Support

The Foundation Award recognizes an Active member and her dedicated work within an in-League placement. The League takes its commitment to provide quality training to its membership very seriously, and through their hard work Mary and Kelly helped the League take this commitment to a whole new level. Mary led her team in researching and developing curriculum for the new Capital Leadership Initiative. League members will reap the benefits of Mary’s hard work during next year’s training program.

According to her Team Captain, Kelly was the brains and detail person behind many of Team Leadership Support’s major initiatives this year. Kelly’s contributions included overhauling the first draft of the curriculum; developing a budget after timeline; and pulling together pieces for the program’s workbook. Congratulations, Mary and Kelly!

Guardian Award
Morgan Cates, Helping Horse

The Guardian Award recognizes an Active member and her dedicated work within a community placement. When Morgan signed up to be the Captain of the Helping Horse Team this year, little did she know that she would be called beyond the normal duties to help save the entire Helping Horse program for Wake County. Morgan spearheaded the effort to raise $50,000 needed to keep the program running. Bravo, Morgan!
Awards continued...

Legacy Award
Kristen Walker, Team Cookbook

The Legacy Award recognizes Active members for their dedicated service to the League in a fundraising placement. A member of Team Cookbook, Kristen helped to lead her team to fundraising success by developing and implementing a plan to promote the new cookbook, “You’re Invited Back.” Her contributions include creating a sales plan to offer League members an incentive to buy books early, resulting in more than $15,000 in cookbook presales. Cheers, Kristen!

Lifelong Membership Award
Shayla Bradshaw

The Lifelong Membership Award recognizes members who have been Active for 10 years or more and continue to make significant contributions. Shayla is the quintessential example of a dedicated JLR member. With more than a decade of Active service to the League, she shows no signs of slowing down as evidenced by her commitment to serve on next year’s Board as Vice President of Membership. Our hats are off to you, Shayla!
Sustainer of the Year Award
Tammy Wingo

The Sustainer of the Year Award recognizes a Sustainer for her dedicated work with our League and other volunteer and community organizations. Without Tammy Wingo, the League’s new cookbook would not be the work of art that it is. Tammy was an invaluable resource during the creation and production of the book, offering her services at no charge and adding a creative eye to the process that made the new book so beautiful. You’re picture-perfect, Tammy!
The Team of the Year Award recognizes a JLR team, in-League or community, for exceptional results. The StepUP volunteers “stepped up” to the challenge this year by growing the program to include a children’s program mirroring the adult program by providing activities for the children about goals, budgeting and etiquette. Many members came in early and stayed late to fulfill their commitment to the children. In fact, some even continue to volunteer during the summer outside of their JLR responsibilities. You are all rock stars, Team StepUP!
Members of the Year Award

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 role with the JLR job, thereby serving as a role model and inspiration for others members.

Blair Winter, editor of the Link
Blair Winter’s hard work and determination to the Junior League of Raleigh manifested itself last year when she took on the role of the Link Co-editor during a mid-year personnel change. She continued in the role of Editor this year and stood steadfast through yet another year of staff changes.

Jenni Kinlaw, Treasurer
Jenni Kinlaw dove into her role as Treasurer during an incredibly rare year that required examination of League assets due to the added financial challenge of moving into a new building and construction loans coming due. Jenni spent countless hours doing cost analysis, revising budgets, moderating budget discussions, updating financial procedures, keeping an eye on the bottom line, and trying to be as fiscally responsible with all members’ money as possible.

Take a bow, Blair and Jenni!

Jenni Kinlaw, winner of the Member of the Year Award, and her family.
Provisionals in Action

By Maeve Goff, Membership Development Committee Co-captain

Last August the Junior League of Raleigh’s (JLR) 2009-2010 Provisional class—one of the largest in JLR history—kicked off the year with a Provisional social at the North Hills Club. In the months that followed, this group of women dedicated their Monday evenings to learning about the workings of the League, our commitment to the community and our focus on promising youth. They also completed fall, winter and spring projects to put those learnings into action.

In March and April, the Provisional class completed five spring projects, each requiring a planning, fundraising and execution element. Each project team worked directly with a community agency supported by the League and produced the following:

- The Boys and Girls Club of Raleigh Road Spring Carnival
- Brentwood Boys and Girls Club Career Fair
- Volunteer appreciation day for SAFEchild
- New bookcases for Heritage Park
- Kids’ zone at the Girls on the Run 5K

“All five projects were amazing!” said Millie Wooten, Membership Development Committee Co-captain. “The Provisional class not only impacted our community through these undertakings, they succeeded in demonstrating what they learned throughout their Provisional year. They will be a great asset to the League.”

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A Look Inside: The Junior League Annual Conference

By Lisa Marie Ferrell, President-elect-elect

In mid-April four Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) delegates joined roughly 1,000 other Junior League members from around the world in Orlando, Fla., for the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI)’s 88th Annual Conference. The conference is designed not only to provide attendees with the tools and inspiration they need based on their roles in each League, but also to celebrate the remarkable work of Leagues across the Association.

We asked Lisa Marie Ferrell, President-elect-elect, about the event and JLR’s involvement.

Who attended the conference? President Melissa Matton represented the JLR as voting delegate. Also present were President-elect, Wendy Webster; President-elect-elect, Lisa Marie Ferrell; and AJLI Board Member/At Large Director, Linda Brown Douglas.

What happens at the Annual Conference? We celebrated the efforts of Leagues across AJLI, attended workshops and plenary sessions, and networked. At the conference our personally tailored agendas often took us from 7 a.m. until late in the evening. The sessions we attended offered insightful information on membership, fund development and even personal skill developments like public speaking. The AJLI staff and the host League, the Junior League of Orlando, did a great job with evening entertainment events, including a private party for all attendees at Universal Studios and a gala awards dinner.

What were some “takeaways” from the conference? Be direct in what you need accomplished. This was a simple, but powerful message from a workshop that I attended on speaking with confidence. I found it valuable with regard to all relationships, whether with volunteers, significant others or children.

Not only were great ideas about communication part of the trainings, but other trainings also addressed fundraising issues. Information about how Leagues can adapt their fundraising tactics to the challenging environment for nonprofits generally and for Leagues’ specific needs were very effective. Other training sessions provided other skills that incoming presidents and presidents-elect need.

The Junior League is a training organization, and the Annual Conference was an incredible training opportunity. It was refreshing to hear our mission and share ideas with Leagues of all sizes. If you have questions about the Annual Conference, e-mail Lisa Marie at lmlferrell@yahoo.com.
Incoming President-elects from North Carolina Leagues.

Melissa Ross Matton, JLR President, stands with the Presidents of the Junior Leagues of Salt Lake City, Tuscon and Youngstown just before the AJLI Annual Conference’s Parade of Leagues begins.

North Carolina Leagues at the gala awards dinner.
Thirty of the Junior League of Raleigh’s Past Presidents gathered on April 20 for the annual Past Presidents’ luncheon. Five decades of the League’s history was represented in the women who gathered for the first time in the new Center for Community Leadership at 711 Hillsborough Street.

After a time for socializing and reconnecting, Melissa Matton spoke with our Past Presidents about the successes, celebrations and challenges facing the League during the past year. The wealth of knowledge and experience at the luncheon yielded great ideas and strong ambassadors for the League. And of course, after the luncheon there were tours of the new building, which laid the groundwork for great stories ranging from the experiences of being the first president in the Barrett Drive office to the Follies, “You’ve come a long way baby,” to the story of the blow-up man who served as a passenger on late nights on the way home from the office for one of our Past Presidents.

Special thanks to Team Arrangements for creating a beautiful atmosphere in the training room with jazz and pre-lunch appetizers, and a beautiful lunch of quiche and salad finished with a dessert of a trio of sorbets.
Luncheon continued...

Past Presidents Beth Jenkins and Sandy Page.

Sarah Williamson with her daughter (left) and Dianne Davidian (right).

President Melissa Matton and Past President Sara Jo Manning.

Past Presidents Megg Rader, Anne Ramsay and Sandy Page.
Junior League of Raleigh’s delegation to the AJLI Organization Development Institute (ODI) in Charlotte. From left to right: Ronda Bazley Moore, Julie Tew, Heather Beiza, Rebecca Ayers, Shayla Bradshaw, Julie Garrison, Lori Edwards and Kate Watson.
Scene and Heard continued...

League members, Suzanne Barnhart (blue hat) and Angie Stewart (far right) of Team Helping Horse, walk with rider Emily during the Spring Horse Show on May 2, an event sponsored by the Junior League of Raleigh to raise money for the Helping Horse Therapeutic Riding Program. Children in the program rode horses and received personalized ribbon awards, and all event participants enjoyed hamburgers and hotdogs, a silent auction, face painting and games of corn hole.

League member Natasha Ben-Kamara with Mayor Charles Meeker and Major Pro Tempore James West at the Raleigh Resource conference held at the Raleigh Convention Center on March 29. Ben-Kamara, Tania McLeod and Christian Swain attended the one-day conference and training seminar for leaders of nonprofit organizations. The event was also the first of its kind to come out of Project LIFT, an initiative designed by the City of Raleigh to help nonprofit and faith-based organizations create sustainable programs and strong community partnerships through a series of education and networking events.

Improving the community . . .
Shout Outs!

Thank you to Tania McLeod, Terri Ferraro, Melanie Rankin, Lori Woods and Joe Wallach for all of their support and patience as we moved into and settled into our new home.

Thank you to Team Arrangements Co-captains, Martha Gehring and Melissa Hayes, for all of your hard work and dedication to making all of our events a huge success.

A huge shout out to Team Arrangements for all of their hard work on the Past Presidents’ Luncheon.

Many thanks to Nikki Corderman for her help and enthusiastic ideas for the JLR 2010-2011 Board of Directors retreat!

A special thanks to Team Nominating for their thoughtful selection of the leadership team!

Huge thanks to Team GRAPA for all of their work on the pending JLR proclamation! Here's to a huge celebration very soon!

The Bargain Box staff and volunteers who worked so hard on the recent “turn stock” event. Thanks to you, the Bargain Box is stocked and ready for the warmer temperatures!

A huge shout out to the Link team for publishing our final issue online! It’s a huge step into the future and a great way to rethink the use of our financial resources.

Thanks, Rhonda Beatty and Lori Woods, for working on designing a logo for the new Center for Community Leadership!

Kelly Gold and Juliane Kuminski would like to thank Team Girls on the Run for a successful year. Thanks for the impact you’ve made on these young girls’ lives!

Round of applause to the Team Arrangements Assistants for their fabulous planning and implementation of the 2010-2011 leadership retreat! Fun times!

A shout out to Team Training for all of their terrific training to the Councils this year and especially for the fantastic speaker at the March General Membership Meeting.

Thank you, Mary Blake and Team Leadership Support, for all of your hard work in developing the curriculum for the Capital Leadership Institute that will offer wonderful leadership training in the upcoming months.

Thanks to Chris, Ross and Scott Matton for “lending” Melissa to the League for the last year. They sacrificed a lot so that she could be our leader. Thanks, guys!

A shout out to Brigid Davidson for attending the February small group meeting as the SOK representative just eleven days after having a baby. You go girl!

A shout out to every Team who was smart with their money this year and for keeping our financial picture in times of economic difficulty.

Kudos to League members who completed an optional shift in the Volunteer Challenge. Your love of the community continues to amaze many!

Thanks to Betsy Pittman and Team Cookbook for all their hard work on producing and promoting such a fabulous cookbook for our League!

Thank you, Jenni Kinlaw, for keeping us updated on our finances and working around the clock for realistic budget numbers!

Applause for Whitney von Hamm and Team Nominating for all their behind-the-scenes work in helping our members reach their full potential and shine!

Thanks to Team Showcase of Kitchens for a wonderful selection of area kitchens to tour!

Donna Hovis, thank you for always having a smile on your face and a terrific laugh!

A special thank you to all of the Team Captains for your hard work and support this year. No other group of JLR women can say they have met everywhere that the League has a building (including the Bargain Box), survived a flood and a move, and still led their teams with grace, strength and a sense of humor. Thank you for all you have done during the amazing and interesting year.

Thank you to the 2009-2010 Board. Your leadership, support and friendship have meant so much this year to the Team Captains and your President.
"The Junior League of Raleigh is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and to improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable."

Last September, my first message in the Link underscored the power of our mission statement; it explains very clearly who we are and what we do. The League’s mission is broad and unique, and a key component of our mission is to train all of our members to improve our community, regardless of how we each choose to define community.

Your Training Council was hard at work throughout the year, each team doing amazing things with in service to League members and our community. I can’t thank them enough for all that they’ve done this year. Keep your eye on these women; they are committed leaders in the League and our community.

Team Training: Jennifer Wells and Lisa (Burnett) Qualls
This year, you couldn’t turn around without noticing the contributions of these ladies and their fantastic team. Whether it was providing monthly leadership training at Council meetings, offering helpful information and tips in each issue of the eLink, working closely with Team Leadership Support to enhance the training offered in their new leadership program, helping with the section of General Membership Meeting (GMM) speakers, or offering support to Team Nominating and Community Council, these ladies really stepped up to the plate. For many years, Team Training struggled with the type of training it should offer to League members, but this year, Jennifer and Lisa were committed to—and were very successful at—focusing their efforts on leadership-related training. Much of the information they have provided throughout the year is now available in the leadership toolbox on the League’s website, and through their efforts, they have set into motion an excellent model of League training.

Membership Development Committee (MDC): Millie Wooten and Maeve Goff
One hundred sixty-six Provisional members; can you believe it? Millie and Maeve decided early on to push the envelope and start the year off with one of the largest Provisional classes that the League has ever seen. They knew that for the year to be successful, informative and gratifying for the Provisional members, they had to execute the program with military precision and meet all expectations. In August, they kicked off the year with a Provisional social then followed up with meetings that started in September, a community bus tour in October and winter projects and Angel Tree gifts later in the year. At the start of 2010, the Provisionals began working on their spring projects, which included events at several Boys and Girls Clubs and Heritage Park. Maeve and Millie graduated 166 women to the ranks of Active League membership, and it is because of their ability to motivate their team and
foster excitement in the Provisional members that they have had such a successful year.

Leadership Support: Mary Blake
Remember this name: Capital Leadership Initiative (CLI). This is the title of one of the most amazing gifts that has ever been given to the League. For several years, this team has tried to find its identity and forge a path for encouraging and supporting League members who wish to take on leadership roles, but under Mary’s leadership, the team realized that the best way to train League members for leadership positions was to develop a formal training program focused on nonprofit leadership. Last year, Mary and her team began researching information on similar leadership programs offered in other communities, and this fall, Mary and her Co-captain, Cameron Graham, began developing the curriculum for the CLI. As the program began to take shape, other team members worked on related issues such as marketing and logo development, presenting the program to League members and developing a sample training class. The team plans to roll out its first CLI this fall with the expectation that it will train community leaders for years to come.

Center for Community Leadership (CCL): Christian Swain
Christian just can’t get enough of a good thing, and for that we should all be grateful. As team captain, she has been waiting patiently for two years for the League to move into our new headquarters so that she could start putting into action her ideas and plans for getting the CCL up and running. Christian has worked diligently with many other League leaders to implement these plans, including the Team Arrangements Co-captains regarding logistical support, the Communications and Strategies Vice President regarding marketing and League staff. Her team worked on all facets of implementation, including tiered timelines to open the CCL for public use, appropriate rental rates, training and marketing, even down to the nuts and bolts of drafting CCL-related documents, rules and usage agreements. Christian’s efforts have been invaluable in making certain that we make the highest and best use of our beautiful new facility.

Arrangements: Shannon McDonald and Katherine Anne Hamlin
Do you enjoy the camaraderie of February Small Group Meetings? Do you enjoy having a glass of wine (or a beer) before a GMM? Are you a team who often needs a table at a GMM? If so, you should thank Shannon, Katherine Anne and their team. Unfortunately for them, we don’t tend to notice their hard work when they’ve created efficient and enjoyable meetings. However, without their outreach to members willing to host February Small Group Meetings (and others willing to lead and record those meetings), and without their team checking to make sure everything at a GMM is where it’s supposed to be, League meetings would be absolute chaos. Throughout the year, they stay busy behind the scenes, making League leaders and the League itself look good. Not only do they coordinate League membership meetings, but they also support the efforts of other teams throughout the year. In the fall, they worked with the Community Vice President to secure locations throughout the community for the October Small Group Meetings. In December, they planned and implemented the Sustainer holiday social and also worked with the Cookbook Co-captains to select recipes to serve at this annual event. Throughout the year, they also coordinate the League’s community advisor breakfasts and lunches, and one of their final events of the year is the Past Presidents’ luncheon. The new Headquarters and CCL may bring on additional responsibilities for this team, but they are efficient and energetic, and we should thank Katherine Anne and Shannon for their strong leadership.

Each one of the Training Council teams plays an important role in helping you become a trained volunteer. In turn, you are able and empowered to improve the community in all of your efforts. These women have worked diligently on behalf of the League, and I am humbled by their service and dedication.

“Happiness cannot come from without. It must come from within. It is not what we see and touch or that which others do for us which makes us happy; it is that which we think and feel and do, first for the other fellow and then for ourselves.” –Helen Keller
Women in Leadership, Part III

Community Influencers Share Their Perspectives on Successful Leadership

By Niki Gray, Lindsay Hopkins and Amanda Davies, Team Training

Meet the Leaders

The Honorable Barbara Jackson, Judge, North Carolina Court of Appeals; Member, Junior League of Raleigh.

Sally Edwards, President, Marbles Kids Museum.

Wendy Webster, President-elect, Junior League of Raleigh; Administrative Director/Health Care Administrator for Duke University Hospital Psychiatry Clinical Services, Duke Private Diagnostic Clinic and Duke University Medical Center Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Melissa Matton, President, Junior League of Raleigh.

We sat down with four community influencers to explore their perspective on leadership. Five probing questions, plus four amazing women, yield some pretty thought-provoking responses.

1: As a leader, what was the toughest obstacle you have had to overcome, and what did you learn from it?

Webster: One of the most challenging transitions one faces in leadership is to move from the role of a peer to a supervisor of your peer group. This is challenging in that as a peer you were in the same circumstance and then as you move to the leadership role it is important to use that understanding to help guide your decisions. One experiences the loss of the essence of the existing relationships as the relationships will be of a different nature going forward.

The learning is that as once being a peer, you are best equipped to be an advocate for your peers in your new leadership role. It is important to be your own cheerleader as you navigate the leadership course. In other words, one needs to have a strong sense of self. Many challenging circumstances arise and decisions that are made will not be pleasing to everyone.

Edwards: Early in my career, I worked hard to attain a leadership role in a growing company and felt very positive about my future—and boom, the company was sold without any notice. So, I learned that even when you work hard and perform well, circumstances beyond your control...
can derail you if you let them. It’s important instead to let go of circum-
stances and stock of the leadership skills that got you where you are and
seek opportunities to apply them.

Jackson: I think it is important to embrace the bumps you hit in the
road, learn from them and move on. When I graduated from college,
I started graduate school in a field I soon decided was not for me, at
a university I soon decided was not for me. It was tough to let that go half-
way through my first semester, but it was the right call. My first career
choice—banking—also was a misstep, but I learned a lot during my 14
months in the profession. Finally, after graduating from law school, I
started a clerkship at the Supreme Court and expected my job search to
be fairly smooth, but the job market was tough that year, too. This turned
out to be a great thing because my job search led to a job in the governor’s
office that might not have been available earlier in the year. While I was
experiencing all of these temporary setbacks, they seemed difficult, if not
insurmountable. Now, though, looking back at the fabric of my life, I see
how everything is carefully woven together. Without every experience
that I have had, both positive and negative, I don’t know if I would have
been comfortable undertaking a run for statewide office. When I did
make that decision, I really had no doubt it was the right time and the
right thing to do, no matter what the outcome would be.

Matton: Aside from the Barrett Drive office flood? The toughest obstacle
that I have had to overcome is my natural tendency to want to do it all
myself. Learning to delegate and to not micro-manage can be challeng-
ing. You have to remind yourself that you don’t have all the answers, that
you cannot control everything and that there are lots of different ways
of doing things. Other women’s skills and ideas are amazing and when
you learn to let go, magnificent things happen. As Vicki Clark, a great
AJLI trainer says, does it matter what color the balloons at the party are
more than the fact that they are there and the party is a hit? When you
let go and foster the creativity and ideas of others, you become a much
better leader.

2: What motivates you as a leader?
Webster: Developing team members, relationships and systems to
meet our current and future needs as a nonprofit. Watching your team
members build confidence as they encounter and conquer tasks and
challenges helps me to understand how to continue to assist those on the
team moving forward.

Edwards: I am motivated by the opportunity to create positive experi-
ences for others—from team members and customers to family and
friends. Helping others succeed, solve problems, recognize their value
and gain confidence in their abilities is very rewarding. Celebrating the feedback and joy of positive experi-
ences together with my team keeps me going.

Jackson: During my career, I have worked in both the
private and the public sector. I have to say, my heart
really has been in my public service work. To paraphrase
Edmund Burke, I genuinely believe that all it takes for evil to
prosper is for good men and women to do nothing. I became
active politically more than 25 years ago, and no matter what
a person’s political affiliation, I think it is so important for us to become
involved in the causes we believe in. That is one thing I try to impress
upon the young people I work with and meet with in my position. And
that is one of the particularly fun parts of the job—getting to meet
with students who already are studying to become attorneys or who are
considering becoming attorneys, or who may have an interest in public
service.

Matton: Being a part of a group that is making a difference is important
to me. As a leader, knowing that I can help move the group toward their
group by either modeling ways to accomplish goals or to empower others to
initiate the steps toward the mission is inspiring to me.

3: What is one piece of advice you would give to those who
are interested in taking on a leadership role for the first time?
Webster: Leadership requires the following pre-conditions: intelligence,
tolerance for change, desire to lead and communication skills. Given the
presence of these characteristics, the new leader can thrive by focusing
on positive emotions. The role of positive emotions can assist leadership
development in every phase. Consistently looking for the positive intent
in people’s actions allows for the possibility of developing relationships as
you move through different tasks, challenges and celebrations.

Edwards: Good leaders are hard workers. Leadership demands service,
sacrifice, risk taking and constant effort. Be willing and eager to roll up
your sleeves if you want to have fun and be successful. If you take on a
leadership role expecting to do less work for more reward, it will ulti-
mately be unfulfilling.

Jackson: I think it is essential to prepare for the task you wish to under-
take. For example, when I decided I was interested in running for
public office, I went through a program called the Institute for Political
Leadership, a program that prepares North Carolinians for holding office
at all levels of government. The first weekend of the program is spent at
the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, where the participants
explore their individual leadership styles and how to maximize their
effectiveness. Although I had been through supervisory and leadership
programs previously, this was a really eye-opening experience for me.
What I learned through this program has continued to influence the
choices I make today in terms of recognizing my own strengths and
weaknesses, and surrounding myself with individuals who complement
those strengths and weaknesses.

Matton: Do your best in your current role. Showing that you have the
ability to take on responsibility, meeting or exceeding the expectations
of those with whom you are working and maintaining your energy level
are important. You may not think that other women in your placement
notice what you are doing, but they do. When you show that you have
what it takes, you will be identified as a leader. Take advantage of training that is available to you—it may
be through the League or work or some other non-
profit. Make sure that you let the Nominating Team
and your team leader or Council Vice President know
that you are interested. Your interest—plus your demon-
strated ability to make things happen will be noticed.
4: What activities did you participate in or what skills did you develop over the years in order to become the leader you are today?

Webster: Volunteering for leadership roles since high school has allowed me to learn the importance of relationships and communication. These associated communication skills are the crux of leadership, as they allow you to understand individual’s vision, inspire others and communicate effectively during conflict. Learning occurs informally via circumstances or formally during time with mentors, business school classes and work duties. The key is to look for the leadership lessons around you and decide which skills you would like to further develop.

Edwards: Organizing and motivating others to work together toward a common goal was a challenge I embraced at an early age. From taking on leadership roles in extra-curricular activities as a student to working hard as a community volunteer, I embraced any opportunity to rally others. Along the way, I focused on developing the skills and talents necessary to support my leadership ambitions by building communications and presentation skills, gaining well-rounded business knowledge, and learning how to tap into the strengths and talents in every individual. In graduate school, rather than focusing only on business skills, I enhanced my studies with organizational behavior, negotiations and psychology to understand how to lead people and organizations through change. I am comfortable navigating through uncertainty and ambiguity, which at times is the central ingredient in good leadership.

Jackson: As I alluded to in the answer to the third question, I think the most important skill any of us can have as a leader is self-awareness. Each of us brings a different skill set to the job and it is important to recognize what we bring and what we need others to bring that we lack. For example, I like to delegate responsibility to the folks that work with me, and expect them to take responsibility and attempt to solve a problem that confronts them before coming to me.

Matton: My training as a teacher and as a lawyer in a litigation practice gave me great skills in being able to stand in front of a group and speak. The same training that helped me learn how to plan a lesson plan, a deposition and oral arguments also helped me learn how to plan a meeting and lay out a path to complete projects. Skills I developed outside of formal training included learning to be an active listener and learning to work with people who do not do things the same way I do. One of the most important skills I have developed is a willingness to say yes to new challenges—A Shopping SPREE! special event Co-chair comes to mind.

5: What criteria do you personally use to determine if you are being a good leader?

Webster: In business school, we consistently said 2+2=5. Valuing the team can produce outcomes much greater than what any of us could achieve on our own. In leadership roles at work and in Junior League, I look to see how the team is developing as a group, as well as the members individually. This focus helps us maximize the outcomes that the team may achieve.

Edwards: Being able to step back and watch my team move in sync, with individual ownership of a shared vision, makes me feel like a good leader. When I’m away, I want my team to miss my support and encouragement, but not to feel lost without my authority. When others have a sense of independence, empowerment and confidence in their decision-making abilities, then there’s no need to manage, only an opportunity to lead, which means supporting the growth and ambitions of others. When each member of the team feels like the whole is bigger than the sum of its parts, I feel like my leadership style is working.

Jackson: Generally, I look to the individuals I am working with in a leadership position. Are they happy with what they are doing? Do they seem to be getting from me what they need to be getting? Are they comfortable approaching me with their feedback—both positive and negative? Are we achieving what we need to achieve?

Matton: When I consider whether I am being a good leader, looking at the women with whom I am working is the most important gauge for me. When evaluating my leadership success, I ask: Are the women with whom I work empowered to move forward? Are the women with whom I am working enjoying what they are doing? Do the women with whom I work know that they are appreciated? Finding the answers to these questions helps me see if I am doing a good job. I also consider how I feel in my position. Am I challenged? Am I satisfied with the things that I have accomplished? Have I let go and learned from those with whom I am working? The combinations of these outward and inward questions really help me see whether I am doing a good job.
Get Trained!
The Capital Leadership Initiative

Are you looking to evolve from a manager to a leader?

This fall the Junior League of Raleigh launches its Capital Leadership Initiative (CLI). This innovative training program is designed for women who are interested in developing their leadership style to make a difference in the community, at home or at work. Through multiple sessions with women’s leadership experts, participants will develop tangible leadership skills for today.

In the pilot year, the program will be open to all members of the Junior League of Raleigh, the Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties, as well as the Junior League of Fayetteville. Starting in 2011-2012, the program will expand to employees of community agencies and organizations who work with the Junior League of Raleigh.

The CLI is a series of monthly workshops held September 2010 through May 2011. Each session will be two hours, except for a mandatory first session which will be on a Saturday. All other sessions are held on a Monday. CLI participants who attend at least six full sessions, including the mandatory first session, will receive the CLI certificate.

The CLI application and additional information is available on the JLR website. If you have any questions about the program, please e-mail cli.jlraleigh@gmail.com.

SUMMARY OF CLI SESSIONS

Session I Effective Leadership (September 11, 2010) Understanding Your Leadership Style and Becoming a Confident Leader (Participants will complete the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator assessment prior to this session, and it will be utilized as a reference throughout the program.)

Session II: Communications (October 4, 2010) A Strategy for Two-Way Conversation

Session III: Consensus Building (November 1, 2010) Leading Others to Common Ground

Session IV: Motivation (December 6, 2010) Developing and Inspiring Future Leaders

Session V: Best Practices (February 7, 2011) Fundamentals for Running Your Organization

Session VI: Operations (March 7, 2011) Maximizing Resources in Nonprofit Settings

Session VII: The Future (April 4, 2011) Navigating Through the Challenges Ahead

Session VIII: Putting It All Together (May 2, 2011) Inspiring Leaders for Today and Tomorrow

Developing the potential of women . . .
What an incredible year we have had! Thank you for all of your help and support in all of our fundraisers. We are in a very exciting time for our League. This year marked some very big events and milestones.

We celebrated the 25th anniversary of A Shopping SPREE! in October. As always, this premier shopping event didn’t disappoint.

Hopefully, you received your Annual Fund mailing and have mailed it back. This ongoing campaign is a great way for you to honor other members or teams. We would love to have 100 percent membership participation with your donation.

Our new cookbook, “You’re Invited Back,” was delivered in February and is something we can all celebrate. If you haven’t seen it yet, be sure to take a peek. You won’t leave the store or Junior League Headquarters without it! We are very excited about the sales and the wholesale accounts now being secured.

We finished the renovations on our new Headquarters, taking it back to the original design, and in March were able to move into this wonderful “new” building. It looks fabulous, and I know it is a place that will be very special for many years to come! The Capital Campaign is still going strong looking for new grant opportunities and making asks in the community. Please consider making a pledge of $1,050 so that we may include your name on our Legacy Wall. It can be split up into payments of $350 a year for three years, which is less than a dollar a day! You can even set up an automatic payment plan with your bank so you don’t have to worry about it. If you have already made a pledge, thank you! Your support is important and very much appreciated. This is your League, and your support will ensure its success.

The Bargain Box come up with new ideas for collaboration with Cameron Village, like the recent Drop & Shop, which rewarded the donation of five items of clothing with a discount coupon for participating merchants. Thank you for your support of their past events by donating your Halloween costumes and holiday sweaters. Your quota donations for their special events, as well as the day-to-day operations make a difference to the community and our ongoing fundraising efforts.

Last but certainly not least, thank you for coming out to support the fourth annual Showcase of Kitchens. The Toast of the Tour was a big success with great food, music, a silent auction and cooking demonstrations. Eight wonderful kitchens were the highlight of the tour and showcased the newest and most innovative ways to update your own.

What a difference a year makes! It has been my honor and privilege to serve you this year. We have accomplished so much and raised the bar, and it is all because of you. Your ideas, hard work, determination and donations have made the difference in all of our funding placements. Here’s to you! Thank you!
Celebrating 10 Years of the JLR Annual Fund

By Julie Garrison, Team Annual Fund

In 1998, Funding & Development Vice President, Deb Smith presented to the Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) the opportunity to establish an Annual Fund. Smith’s report to the board said, “This baby will grow! I will watch the progress of the Annual Fund with the greatest of interest and affection.”

We now celebrate an Annual Fund that not only raises more than $20,000 annually, but also has become a marketing vehicle to promote the League’s community activities. We interviewed Sustainers Deb Smith and Anne Ramsay, who was President the first full year of the Annual Fund, as well as current Actives about their reasons to support the Annual Fund.

Q: Why did you think it was important for the League to have an Annual Fund?

Deb Smith: The League required a vehicle through which the membership could offer personal funding that, regardless of amount, bolsters basic, critical operations. It also provided a fundamental philanthropic tool, illustrating a simple but profound notion: Your dollars absolutely count and are valued.

Q: Why do you give to the Annual Fund?

Julie Tew: The Annual Fund provides the operating costs of Team AventWest Children’s Mentoring, as well as all the community teams. The teams are able to use those proceeds to give a little extra back to their community placements. Whether it’s used for a Santa suit for the Heritage Park holiday event, water bottles for Girls on the Run or recyclables from the Scrap Exchange for a project with Team AWCM, every bit helps, and more importantly, the kids love it, which encourages me to give.

Anne Ramsay: I give to the Annual Fund out of gratitude for the Junior League of Raleigh. Gratitude for the opportunities it gave me to grow, to make lifelong friends, and to be a contributor to an organization that makes such a difference in our community. It is important to me that other women have these same opportunities, so I give to the Annual Fund.
Gay Bray: I give to the Annual Fund because it takes more than time and talent to keep the doors open at JLR. Without monetary support, this amazing group of women who accomplish so much in our community would not have the resources they need to continue to do what they do best—volunteer! Money from the Annual Fund goes to support each and every program the JLR is affiliated with. Particularly close to my heart is Helping Horse. JLR provides Helping Horse with volunteers on a weekly basis and also has given them much needed funding. I’m happy to tell anyone who asks about the emergency vet bills JLR helped pay for this year!

Christian Swain: The Annual Fund is a great way to recognize team members, and it goes directly to supporting the League’s activities planned for each year.

Parker Wright: I give to the Annual Fund because every little bit helps. If everyone could participate in some way—large or small—it would be much easier to meet our goals.

Q: If you could name one reason for continuing your membership and support of the Junior League of Raleigh, what would it be?

Smith: I have two reasons. First, the remarkable training that serves the membership so well in both their professional and volunteer lives. And second, building relationships!

Tew: Community outreach and knowing we make a difference; whether it is with one child or a community of children.

Barnes: I love being a JLR member because it gives me the opportunity to develop relationships that I would not otherwise have.

Bray: I love the social aspect of being a JLR member. I have met some amazing, talented, dedicated women through JLR. Sometimes I don’t see these women for months and months, and when we run into each other, the first thing we talk about is what we’ve been doing with the League. I’m always impressed with the stories I hear from League members about their volunteer experiences and how memorable and special they are to them.

Q: This year we are celebrating the League’s 80th anniversary and the 10th anniversary of the Annual Fund. What would you like to see as a part of the League’s future history?

Smith: We have a glorious history upon which to build finer success. My hope is even greater Sustainer involvement and counsel. I also wish for continued awareness of the pressing needs of the community and a heightened understanding of racial justice issues, which directly impact the constituencies we serve.

Tew: I would like to see more community placements added to the JLR’s placement opportunities. I would like to see more kids, parents and communities grow in a positive direction and in turn reciprocate by giving back to their community through donations and volunteerism. It’s a cyclical effect of giving in which JLR contributes.

Bray: I love that our League has adopted a target area of promising youth. I hope we can continue to grow our relationships with organizations that allow us to make an impact on kids in our community. It would be great to see some of these little girls become involved with the League as adults. I think it would be great “history” for these girls to be able to say that the League had an impact on their lives when they were young, and that is what drew them to become active as adults and continue the cycle of giving back to their community.

Wright: I would love to see the League’s future history with a stronger Annual Fund. More participation means more programs, which means more support of our community.
Thank you for supporting the 2009-2010 Annual Fund!

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Anonymous
Commercial Printing Co.
Mary Brent Wright

Community Partner
Audrey F. Echt, M.D., P.A
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Cardinal Club/Capital City Club
November GMM sponsor
Flo Winston in memory of Kit Boney
Montessori of Raleigh
September GMM Sponsor
Renaissance Therapeutics and
Schwartz Plastic Surgery
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Community Advocate
First Citizens Bank
Sally C. Nunnally in honor of Danita Morgan

Community Supporter
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Blanche R. Bacon
Natasha H. Ben-Kamara in honor of the CCL
Audrey W. Black in honor of her daughter-in-laws, Ashleigh Black and Shanah Black
Linda Brown Douglas
Fran A. Buckley
Perrin M. Burton in honor of
Jeffrey Harper Burton’s birthday
Gretchen N. Clifton
Martha U. Crampton
Elizabeth Dove in honor of Deb Smith
Jean English
Mrs. David Patrick Ferrell in honor of
Wendy Webster, Melissa Matton
and Virginia Yopp
Jan M. Floyd
Elizabeth Hamilton
Angela C. Hatton in honor of JLR staff
Donna T. Heffring
Mary June Jones in honor of Jennie Hayman
Chancy M. Kapp in honor of
Walker Mabe and Linda Douglas
Mark Lallman
Beth Lowery in honor of Team Bright Ideas
Lyn Maness in honor of JLR headquarters staff: Lori Woods, Terri Feraro, Tania McLeod, Melanie Rankin and Joe Wallach
Neill McLeod
DeLane Mitchell
Tracy M. Mitchell in honor of Jean English
Juliet B. Moore
Mary Moss
Juliette F. Newcomb in memory of Elizabeth Thomas Fulghum, JLR Past President
Tammy B. Peatross
Margie A. Pipkin
Anne E. Ramsay in honor of Melissa Matton
Catherine D. Rideout in honor of the 2009-2010 Community Funding Team
Liz C. Skvarla in honor of Amelia Harrison
Becky S. Thompson
Marte T. Thompson
Marla P. Turlington in memory of Lisa Ham
Dr. Hope Williams
Virginia L. Yopp
Bank of America, Corporate Office,
in honor of employee Wendie Hill
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund in honor of
volunteers hours by employee Julie Ploscyca
Moe’s Southwest Grill
Quintiles Inc. in honor of employee Marcia Pennfather
Community Friend

Anna Absher in honor of Christian Swain's birthday, Molly Shepherd’s birthday and Beth Lowery’s birthday
Mary Ann Akin
Amy A. Allen
Nancy H. Andrews
Kristen R. Ange
Stacy A. Arch in honor of this year’s amazing Community Captains
Tricia R. Arnett
Barbara S. Ayers
Blanche R. Bacon
Amy L. Baker in honor of Kris Jackson, Team Transfer Captain
Jodie Bandholz
Libby Barber
Brittany Bass
Marlene Fuller Batchelor
Rhonda H. Beatty in honor of Melissa Matton
Carrie F. Bigler
Dorothea L. Bitler in honor of Josey Kasper
Ashleigh E. Black
Lee W. Black
Eleanor E. Blackwell
Linda G. Blount
Tracey F. Boddie
Heather L. Boring in memory of Arnold W. L. Boring
Sory G. Bowers
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Gay S. Bray
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Anna B. Choi in honor of Melissa Matton and in memory of Susan Bowers’ father, Thomas Aaron Murray
Renee L. Chou
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Mary Snow E. Crawley
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Dr. Margaret R. Douglas, M.D., in honor of Virginia Fleisher
Jennifer A. Dunn
Keri P. Eddins
Lori W. Edwards in honor of the 2009 A Shopping SPREE! Team
James Fair
Elizabeth P. Farrell
Mrs. David Patrick Ferrell
Mrs. Leslie A. Fincher
Brittney E. Forrister
Andrea O. Fox
Ann H. Fox
Mary Susan K. Fulghum
Leslie A. Garofolo
Julia A. Garrison in honor of her great aunt, Lillian P. Taylor
Martha Gehring in honor of Team Arrangements
Emily S. Goatcher in honor of Wendy Webster
Anna E. Gould
Allison R. Hajj
Jane S. Hamlin
Diana D. Hatch
Peyton W. Hatfield in memory of Lisa Ham
Anna W. Hattaway
Jessica B. Hayes in honor of GRAPA Team members
Jennie J. Hayman
Alice C. Haywood
Pam A. Hemmelgarn
Peggy T. Hibbert, Ed.D., in honor of Pat Wilkins and Kate Boes for their hard work and dedication to the Project Enlightenment Board of Directors
Larry Y. Hines in honor of Team Chorus
Alyssa O. Hockaday
Anne N. Hogewood, Esq.
Erin W. Hollingshead
Donna K. Hovis in honor of the Provisional SAFEchild Project Team and in honor of the Provisional Blue Group — Congratulations
Eleanor W. Hunter
Christine B. Hutchens
Kris Jackson
Pamela J. Jamison
Mary A. Jenkins
Ginger M. Jernigan
Melissa M. Jessen
Jennifer W. Jones
Josey Harris Kasper
Becky M. King in honor of Gracie King
Tricia F. Kolb
Sheffield K. Kropp in memory of Lisa Permar Ham
Holly B. Laird
Llewellyn Leggett
Melissa J. Linn
Margie P. Lucas
Greer D. Lysaght
Stagg Madry

Thank you for supporting continued...
Thank you for supporting...
Area residents recently discovered what was cooking in the homes of eight Raleigh residences as part of the fourth annual Showcase of Kitchens, presented by the Junior League of Raleigh (JLR).

This year’s tour featured eight kitchens all conveniently located inside the beltline. From kitchens for the budget conscious to those with no limits on extravagance, guests were able to talk one-on-one with designers or builders while touring each kitchen.

Some of the highlights and trends from the 2010 tour include recycled materials and energy-efficient appliances, space maximizing custom cabinetry and the flow of open floor plans. Each home also featured in-home presentations by Chef and the Farmer, 18 Seaboard, Viking, The Angus Barn, Larry’s Beans, Watered Garden Florist and many others.

JLR kicked off the tour by hosting Toast to the Tour on April 19 at Ferguson Enterprises. Over the years this party has developed into a not-to-be-missed event, and this year was no different! Toast to the Tour featured food from the League’s own cookbook, “You’re Invited Back,” specialty cocktails from Rain Vodka and a live cooking demonstration from Ed Mitchell, pitmaster from The Pit.

“Every element of this year’s tour was wonderful—the homes, in-home presentations and Toast to the Tour,” remarked Meredith Keyes, Showcase of Kitchens Co-captain. “We are especially grateful for the help and support of our team, sponsors and volunteers.”
Showcase of Kitchens continued...

Sustainer Anne Hogewood, Kathryn West and Katherine Meyer, both placed with Team Showcase of Kitchens, ready to greet guests at the kitchen on Oxford Road.

Showcase of Kitchens team members Anatasia Judge, Kimberly Wessell and Meredith Taylor at the home on Rand Street.
League members Jenny Adams and Gena Poulos at Lake Boone Trail.

Builder, Jay Mattox of Mattox Unlimited Inc., was on hand to answer questions about the kitchen on Chesterfield Road during the tour.
Showcase of Kitchens continued

Ronda Bazley Moore and her husband, Warte, dance to the music of Fantasy, a band that provided entertainment during Toast to the Tour.

Cindy Densmore and Katherine Meyer at the Toast to the Tour on April 19.
Showcase of Kitchens continued...

Homeowner, Ashlee Huntley, makes last-minute touches to her kitchen on Churchill Road.

League member, Alicia Morris, tests the faucets in the kitchen on Oxford Road during the Showcase of Kitchens.
Karyn Mulligan of Rock Interiors, based in the town of Fuqua-Varina, shows off a table display inside the kitchen on Lake Boone Trail during the Tour.

Designer, Mary Nell Thompson, of the Gilded Acorn takes a break during this year’s tour. She designed the table setting in the kitchen on Chesterfield Road.
Showcase of Kitchens continued...
Showcase of Kitchens continued…

Katie Lennon with Team Showcase of Kitchens explains one of the many displays at the kitchen on Chesterfield Road on this year’s tour.

Showcase of Kitchens Sponsors

Thanks for your support!

Grand Benefactor
Canyon Stone
Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery

Benefactor
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Lauren Mann Photography

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Custom Kitchen Design
JAGG Classic Wholesale
Meredith Keyes and Kurt Bland
Sultry Summer Shoe Peg Salad

After this cold dreary winter, isn’t it fun to think of the colorful—and so flavorful—tastes of early summer? This month’s featured recipe, Sultry Summer Shoe Peg Salad, is a sure family crowd pleaser. With fresh orange pepper, crispy celery and the eternal backbone of the southern salad—the green pea—this salad is so pretty and tasty it will make you forget just how healthy it is!

½ cup vegetable oil
¾ cup red wine vinegar
¾ cup sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon pepper
1 (16-ounce) can Shoe Peg corn, drained
1 (16-ounce) package frozen cut green beans, thawed
1 (16-ounce) package frozen green peas, thawed
1 bunch green onions, chopped
1 red, yellow or orange bell pepper, chopped
1 cup chopped celery
1 (4-ounce) jar chopped pimentos, drained, or to taste
1 (8-ounce) can water chestnuts, drained and chopped

Combine the oil, vinegar, sugar, salt and pepper in a medium saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring to blend well. Cool to room temperature. Mix the corn, beans, peas, green onions, bell pepper, celery, pimentos and water chestnuts in a bowl. Add the cooled dressing and toss to coat evenly. Chill until serving time.
Carolyn Younger joined the Junior League (JLR) shortly after moving to Raleigh in the early 80s. When she started looking for volunteer opportunities in her new community, neighbors suggested the Junior League of Raleigh.

“The League gives back so much to the community,” Younger said. “I take great pride in being a part of a group that makes such a great impact on the lives of so many people in this area.”

Younger’s most memorable and rewarding League placement was providing emergency foster care. She and her husband, Charles, were licensed as foster parents and provided on-call care for children in crisis through Volunteer Families for Children.

“We had an extraordinary experience providing temporary foster care for several children,” she said. “It’s amazing and humbling to see what types of environments these children come from, and being able to help them in some way.”

Younger has continued to spread her love of community service. She is a founding member of the Red Sword Guild, benefiting the American Cancer Society.

These days, Younger’s most enjoyable pastime is hanging out with her 6-year-old grandson, Logan. She retired from her business, Frameworks on Dixie Trail, to have the opportunity to spend time with him most days after school.

“He’s my buddy,” she says with a smile. “I enjoy every minute when we’re together.”

Carolyn’s daughter, Emily Wells, performed with the Carolina Ballet until Logan came along. Now, she manages the operations at Frameworks. Younger’s youngest, Mary Ward Boerner, is the events editor at Metro Magazine.

“I’ve been blessed with an extraordinary family,” she said. “I’m so proud of their accomplishments and the adults they have become.”

In her spare time, Younger enjoys walking on the greenway near her home and with her friend and JLR Sustainer, Sue Ramsay. You may even spot her at the Pour House or Tir na nOg. “I love supporting live music in downtown Raleigh, and I love all the new restaurants. We have so much to be proud of in this town, and I’m so proud to be a part of this wonderful community.”
More than 100 Sustainers enjoyed seeing old friends and making new ones over a delicious buffet lunch at the annual spring Sustainer luncheon, held April 27 at the Governor’s Mansion in downtown Raleigh. With the Governor and First Gentleman out of the country, the governor’s daughter-in-law, Sarah Perdue, a First-year Active League member, hosted the guests. President Melissa Matton thanked the Sustainers for their many years of service and dedication to the League. She also presented a copy of “You’re Invited Back” to the Mansion’s collection. Past President Danita Morgan provided a blessing.
Since 2000, the Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) has provided more than 125 community grants totaling over $455,000 to address the needs of Wake County’s promising youth – JLR’s target area.

Each year the Community Funding Team receives and reviews an average of 30 grant applications. The applications are reviewed for fit within the League’s target area, community need or opportunity, feasibility and impact, expected outcomes, and evidence of future support beyond JLR financing and volunteers.

The Community Funding Team is pleased to announce that the League awarded eight community grants for the 2010-2011 grant cycle totaling $25,015 for agencies and programming described in the accompanying list. These agencies were honored at a breakfast on May 6 hosted by the Community Funding Team at the Center for Community Leadership.

In addition, the League also awarded five community needs grants this year totaling $10,000 to address critical needs and/or emerging issues within the community. The agencies that received funding include Haven House, Helping Horse, The Salvation Army and Triangle Family Services.

Many thanks to Community Funding Team members Gay Bray, Courtney Bolen, Beth Farrell, Samantha Hatem, Blakely Kiefer, Brooke McDaniel and Monica Pigues for their hard work, thorough evaluation and thoughtful consideration of this year’s grant applications.

**2010-2011 Community Grants**

**Martin Street Community Development Corporation, $4,000**
K-PREP Project is designed to provide kindergarten preparedness and remedial instruction to low income and at-risk children ages 4-6 years old who are attending or will attend Hunter GT Elementary School in Southeast Raleigh.

**Loaves and Fishes Ministry, Inc., $6,000**
Swimming with Confidence will provide swimming lessons for 48 African-American students currently attending after-school and summer enrichment programs at Loaves and Fishes who are at high risk of failure. Children range in age from 6-18 years and all are from inner-city Raleigh neighborhoods.

**Tammy Lynn Center for Developmental Disabilities, $2,500**
Math Literacy Intellitools Program is a math literacy program for students with a wide range of development disabilities. Intellitools has developed computer hardware and software that interacts to allow children with impairments to learn the basic fundamentals of math through direct interaction on a modified keyboard.
Community Grants continued...

Hospice of Wake County, $3,000
The Grieving Children Outreach Program will provide compassionate mental health support to low income children in the community. Through a partnership with the Wake County Public School System, Hospice will send trained grief counselors into the schools to provide free, on-site counseling and bereavement support to at-risk children who have lost a parent or loved one.

Girls on the Run of the Triangle, $1,515
Girls on the Run International has updated and enhanced its curriculum at select locations across the country and funding will allow GOTR of the Triangle to implement these programmatic changes, thus better addressing the ever-changing emotional, social, physical and mental needs of the girls participating in the program.

SouthLight, Inc., $2,000
SouthLight’s Kinton Court division is a 16-apartment, intensive residential program that provides substance abuse treatment for perinatal women and support services for children up to 12 years of age. Project will create an on-site picnic, play and rest area to create an environment of support and community among these children and families while providing an opportunity to learn socialization skills and overcome developmental and social delays.

FIGS of Wake County, $4,500
FIGS (Filling in Gaps) serves at-risk youth by providing funds to assist low income, uninsured and underinsured children and parents in Wake County to pay for their prescription medicines and medical supplies. FIGS’ prescription payment program is administered in conjunction with the Wake County Department of Human Services and Urban Ministries of Wake County.

Boys and Girls Club of Wake County, $1,500
The STEMsational Club is a program of the Raleigh Girls Club to enrich and encourage science, technology, engineering and math understanding and interest in members while also challenging them to problem solve, work in teams and individually and have fun.
Each year, members of Team Kids on the Block help spread the important message of tolerance and understanding through educational performances and endearing puppets. Performances are held in the community roughly twice each month, targeting elementary schools and local youth organizations. These efforts aren’t limited to just the team—all League members can help spread the Kids on the Block message to their friends and family.
The children in the audience are eager to ask Renaldo questions about what it’s like to be blind.

Allison Nunnery with puppet Mark and Jen Baldinelli with puppet Melody perform a skit on cerebral palsy. Although Mark is in a wheelchair, he shows the kids in the audience that he’s just a regular kid with similar likes and dislikes. He loves to swim, play basketball and has a great sense of humor.
So many wonderful things happened with the Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) this past year! Most memorable was the long-awaited move into our new home at 711 Hillsborough Street. This new space brings so many wonderful opportunities that you will hear much about in the coming months. In the meantime, we will also be making a few changes in how the League communicates with its members.

As budget concerns are in the forefront of our minds, the League has made, and will continue to make changes that will help us to remain fiscally responsible. To that end, the JLR will move to publishing the Link two times per year. Much of the content we have come to love in the Link will remain the same. Some exciting new features will also be added. So be sure to keep your eyes open this fall for the Link in its new and improved format.

The eLink is also undergoing transformation and is being published each week. Each edition will be chocked full of League happenings. We hope you will enjoy getting this electronic member publication on a more frequent basis—all in an effort to keep you informed about what you are doing to impact promising youth.

Finally, the JLR website (along with the eLink) will begin to reflect the most up-to-date details about what is going on in the League, presented with real time information.

If you have any questions, thoughts or concerns about these changes, please do not hesitate to contact us. These changes were brought forth with you, our members, in mind. What do you want to know about your League, and how can we best share that information with you in a timely and cost-effective manner. We hope you will see and agree that change is a good thing!
**WHAT and WHO:** All adults in the Life Skills Program who have dependent children are required to participate in the StepUP as a family unit. All children 16 years old and younger participate in the Children’s Program. Working with parents and educators, the program offers friendship, academic support, and social boundaries for children living through a time of crisis. Like their parents, the children participate in a phased, incentive-driven program that includes measurable goals for each child.

**WHERE:** White Memorial Presbyterian Church  
1704 Oberlin Road, Raleigh

**WHEN:** 6:30-8:15pm every other Tuesday evening

**WHY:** Because today’s children are tomorrow’s future
Teaching Tomorrow's Leaders

St. Timothy's School is the leading kindergarten through eighth grade institution in the greater Raleigh area. With an Episcopal tradition of encouraging critical thinking and reasoning skills, St. Timothy's prepares students for extraordinary success in secondary school, college and life. Acclaimed for academic excellence and an outstanding liberal arts curriculum, St. Timothy's fosters the development of the whole child by educating the mind, nurturing the spirit and developing the talents of children so they may reach their full potential. By receiving personal, caring instruction, children experience the joy of learning and grow to become responsible citizens.

Introducing Junior Kindergarten in Fall 2010!
For more information, please call (919) 781-0531
Mrs. Cathy Clement, Director of Admissions, email: cclement@sttimothys.org