Getting in Touch with Nature with the R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Nature Committee

By Lauren Homel

In preparation for our exciting Science Nights with the Norristown School District 4th graders, the R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Nature Club committee members attended a half-day training session given by our partner, Riverbend Environmental Education Center. The committee was educated on the many environmental science topics that Riverbend teaches to the 4th graders when they make their annual field trip to the Riverbend Center. We learned about ecosystems versus habitats and predator and prey relationships within an ecosystem. We compared a meadow to a forest ecosystem and the adaptations of animals within them. We examined bees up close and discussed life in a hive.

We then continued the training with the topics that we will be presenting to the 4th graders during our Science Nights. These include:

1. Worm Exploration. We checked out red wiggler worms – how they move, how they react to light, water, etc.
2. Bird feeders. We made bird feeders from empty 2 liter plastic bottles. The kids will be making these with us and taking them home as a way to observe local birdlife.
3. Fill the Bill (bird beak experimentation) – We see first hand how particular birds’ beaks are tailor-made for the life and surroundings that each bird lives in and what they consume.
4. Spider Sensation – Kids will have a chance to feel what it’s like to be a spider on a web and catch some prey.

All in all, the committee members found the training very educational and a great preparation for our Science Nights with the Norristown kids.

Dates to Know:

Social Event
Night at the Museum. On November 14, 2008 starts at 6:00 p.m. Meet at the Philadelphia Museum of Art West Entrance. RSVP on the website.

Mission Credit Opportunity
DIAD at HELP Philadelphia. On November 22, 2008 from 12pm-3pm. Ten volunteers are needed to help make Thanksgiving baskets. One mission credit.

Mission Credit Opportunity
Tacony Creek Park Corporate Cleanup Event. On November 22, 2008 at 10am. Two mission credits.

The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.
Ahhh November… the time of year when Americans reflect on all that we have, gather together, give thanks and feast. Like many of you I am thankful for my family and friends and being happy and healthy (except for the extra 15 lbs. I have to lose).

As President of the JLP, I am thankful to the actives for volunteering, the provisionals for joining, and the sustainers for participating in our programming, membership and fundraising efforts. I am thrilled there are so many of us who want to make an impact in our community.

We are already approaching the mid-point of our League year and I am grateful for all of the memorable events we have had. Some that stand out in my mind are: the provisional and membership kickoffs, the membership community bus tour, the Thrift Shop Dianne Beloff sale, the bowling social, cookbook tasting and photo shoot, and cool shopping fundraisers. We also have a lot to look forward to like Casino Night, RESPECT Nature science nights, informative trainings, and great DIAD’s.

Of course, November is also the time of year when we Americans cast our ballots to determine who ‘We the People’ want to govern our country. By now you are probably sick of the campaigning and either thrilled or depressed by how your favorite candidates have done. In truth, we all have a great deal to celebrate that we live in a time and place where every one of us has a vote and a voice. It wasn’t so long ago that we didn’t.

Looking towards the future, I wonder what 2009 will bring? Certainly, with new executive leadership in Washington, we will see a new era begin to take shape. What form will it take? What tone will it set? How long will it last?

I also wonder what the JLP will look like, say 20, 40, or even 100 years down the road. Last April, at AJLI Annual Conference, we were asked, “What will the Junior League look like in 2028?” We used a tool called “Scenario Planning” a “what if” look at the future to help us brainstorm. Our strategic plan has set our direction for the next 4 years for us, but what happens to the plan when external unknowns are thrown in?

Scenario Planning can help the JLP rehearse possible futures which will help us adapt more quickly to what is happening around us. Scenario planning is also a creative tool for generating new ideas that will allow our League to grow and succeed well past our 100th year. This month, when you attend an area meeting you too will participate in scenario planning for the JLP. We will attempt to envision what the JLP will look like in 20 years. What form do you think it should take? What tone should we set? What path should we follow? Will we be the leading women’s volunteer organization in Greater Philadelphia? Are we on the right path? Remember it is OUR choice!

Just as we can vote so that our government can set the right path on a national and global scale, each of us has an opportunity to shape our local community through the Junior League. At this time of reflection on family and community, with its celebration of Thanksgiving, I am grateful for the opportunity to make a difference and I am grateful to all of you who commit your time, your energy and your passion to our mission.

Thanks for volunteering!

President’s Perspective

By Heidi Tirjan

Conversations about Women’s Health

By Tammy Gray

The Junior League of Philadelphia will co-sponsor a Conversation about Women’s Health, focusing on Solutions for Stress, Sleep and Sex. A panel of specialists will lead an open discussion, question & answer session moderated by a past JLP president, Lynn H. Yeakel, M.S.M - Director, Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership.

Registration begins at 5:00 p.m., program 5:30 - 6:45 p.m., with a light dinner and reception to follow. Join us for this lively discussion to discuss life balance, work/family Issues, exercise, nutrition, relationships and a healthy future. Please attend on Monday, November 10, 2008 at the Crowne Plaza Main Line Hotel, 4100 Presidential Blvd at City Line Ave. Members who attend will receive one mission credit. Please RSVP through our website.

Thrift Shop

By Patty Franks

All the spooks and princesses have been dressed and we are headed into the holiday season. We have had a wonderful fall with our couture collection and a very successful Couture on the Avenue event. We still have many items left at a reduced price. Come visit us and take home a new outfit for the holidays.

While shopping during the holidays, keep your Shop in mind. Inquire if a particular establishment which you frequent has any seasonal leftover merchandise they would like to donate for tax credit. We would appreciate your help.

Just in time for your holiday shopping…beginning in November, the Thrift Shop will be open on Sunday afternoons from 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. Sign-up for thrift shop shifts on the JLP website.
Nominating: A Commitment to Serve

By Marcelle Parrish

“Each time someone stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope.”

- Robert F. Kennedy

Someone asked me the other day in casual conversation, “What type of member is nominating looking for?” I can’t recall my exact answer, but suffice to say the words “dedicated,” “enthusiastic” and “active” were certainly used. Later that week, I ran across this quote in an old Hotline, and it struck me as epitomizing exactly what Nominating looks for in our members for leadership positions.

So I think my answer was remiss, and when I think of how I’d answer that question again – this is what comes to mind:

We’re looking for the woman who chooses to give up some precious time with her loved ones, and spends it focusing on enriching other people’s lives for a few hours of the day. The woman who has respect for her colleagues’ opinions & perspectives even if they differ from her own. The woman who wants to improve our community through one plant, one book, one event at a time. The woman whose smile is contagious, and despite obstacles she may face, she is sure that somehow they’ll be overcome by our teamwork. The woman who understands it’s the small things that add up to make a big impact on others’ lives.

Nominating is looking for people just like you…reading this article because you’re already dedicated to improving the lives of others in our community, because you are a member that serves. Share your passion with others, find out more about leadership positions and send us an email (nominating@jlphiladelphia.org) because we’re looking for you!

Done In A Day Event

By DIAD Project Leader: Betsy Padgett

The DIAD (Done in a Day) Committee paired up with Children’s Village Child Care Center for their annual fundraising event on June 5th, to help with various tasks such as registration, raffle ticket sales, food/beverage stocking, and silent auction assistance. Lisa Johnson Nutter, President of Philadelphia Academies, Inc., was honored with the 2008 “It Takes a Village Award” by the Children’s Village Child Care Center.

Headquartered in Philadelphia’s Chinatown district, Children’s Village is a nationally accredited early childhood center located in Center City Philadelphia and serving over 300 children, and has been serving low income, culturally diverse families for over 30 years. Its mission is to provide high quality early childhood education to young children and educational enrichment to school-age children in a safe, nurturing setting while their parents work. Children’s Village also seeks to partner with families of diverse backgrounds in order to prepare children for productive futures while supporting and strengthening families, and to make high quality child care accessible to families at all economic levels. Children’s Village Development Director, Deborah J. Wojno, stated, “The Junior League was invaluable and very much appreciated. Those involved with the event commented that the volunteers were extremely professional and quick to manage their jobs.” The annual fundraising event raised over $40,000 which will support early childhood and school age programs.

Congratulations

Active Kristen Corcoran and her husband, Richard, welcomed their baby girl, Madeline Sloane Corcoran into the world on Tuesday, September 2nd.

Financials:

Jennifer Fleck (right) and Paige Helledy (left) sell raffle tickets at the Annual Fundraising Event for the Children’s Village Child Care Center.
Kick-Off Scores! 118 New Provisional Members!

By Meredith Nissen & Ashley Hiser

On September 6th, a record number of new Provisionals gathered at the Union League in Philadelphia to kick-off the start of the 2008-2009 Provisional year. After enjoying breakfast the Provisionals heard presentations by President Heidi Tirjan and President-Elect Samantha Standish Soldan on League history, structure and the JLP’s New Signature Focus - Outdoor Academics.

The highlight of the morning was the Keynote Presentation by past JLP President and Sustainer, Anne Hopkins. She spoke about the “Junior League Experience,” sharing stories about her involvement with the League and how it has evolved into other areas of her life. Anne shared with the provisionals that they should embrace this experience to develop their potential as women. One of her most touching points was that she considers her “Junior League friends” to be her true friends and that she truly hopes the same for all of the new provisionals!

Following the morning presentation, Provisionals were whisked away on the JLP’s First Historic Bus Tour of places in Philadelphia where the JLP has been involved and has made a significant impact. The JLP Bus Tour was organized by sustainers Marilyn Sprague, Pam Maimone, Betsy Mallon and Cindy Landreth along with the coordination of the Special thanks to the following sustainers for serving as the JLP Tour Guides – Jean Alsentzer, Bobbie Cameron, Rosemarie Frankino, Cindy Landreth, Pam Maimone, Sharon McNamara, Sue Rice, Marilyn Sprague and Mary Tattersfield. All of the tour guides received rave reviews from both Provisionals and Active members who participated in the Tour.

The Kick-Off concluded with a delicious lunch at Rembrandt's Restaurant in the Art Museum area of Philadelphia. Provisionals had another opportunity to grab a bite to eat and get to know each other. A big thank you to everyone who helped make this day a huge success!

Event Announcement from The Junior League of Lancaster, PA

David Oliver Relin will share his experiences co-authoring the New York Times bestseller Three Cups of Tea on Friday, November 14, 2008. The event will hosted at the Eden Resorts and Inn and all proceeds benefit the Junior League of Lancaster. Seating for the event is limited and registration for tickets will be available on the Junior League of Lancaster website. The event is sponsored by The Hershey Company. The Author’s Luncheon is an annual event and all proceeds from the event benefit the projects of the Junior League of Lancaster. A current project includes “Hands Are Not For Hitting.” Launched in June 2007, the three-year program is a conflict resolution curriculum for second graders. This program will run through June 2010 and provides second graders in partner schools with the tools and ability to resolve conflicts without hurting others on the inside (feelings) or outside (bodies). More information about this program and the Junior League of Lancaster can be found at www.jllancaster.org.

Upcoming Membership Meetings

November Area Meetings – Space is limited in each location, please reserve your space through the meeting sign-up on the website. Unless stated otherwise, sign-in begins at 6:30 p.m. with a 7:00 p.m. meeting start time.

• Monday
  November 17, 2008
  Hostess: Alexia Hudson
  Penn State Abington Library, Sutherland Building, 1600 Woodward Rd, Abington, PA
  Hostess: Kate Farnham
  988 St Matthews Road, Chester Springs, PA
  Hostess: Meg Morgan
  1 Academy Circle, Suite 309, Naval Square at 24th and Grays Ferry, Philadelphia, PA

• Tuesday
  November 18, 2008
  Hostess: Candace Balch
  140 Fawn Lane, Havertown, PA
  Morning meeting: 9:30 a.m.
  Sign-in, 10:00 a.m. Start.
  Hostess: Libby Morgan Beri
  807 N Ringgold Street, Philadelphia, PA
  Hostess: Kate Forester
  274 Anthony Wayne Drive, Wayne, PA

• Wednesday
  November 19, 2008
  Hostess: Odile Gelinard
  8035 Seminole Street, Philadelphia, PA
  Morning meeting: 9:30 a.m.
  Sign-in, 10:00 a.m. Start.
  Hostess: Emily Estes
  707 Mountainview Drive, Wayne, PA

• Thursday
  November 20, 2008
  Hostess: Elena Anastasiou
  487 Glenwyth Road, Wayne, PA
  Morning meeting: 9:30 a.m.
  Sign-in, 10:00 a.m. Start.
  Hostess: Susan Asplundh
  1922 Paper Mill Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA
  Hostess: Amelia Warner
  1013 Cherry Lane, Cinnaminson, NJ
November is one of my favorite months because of Thanksgiving. It is a very special time when we get together with family in Avalon and enjoy their company, story telling, delicious food, drink and walks in the crisp fall air. I have so much to be thankful for and although I count my blessings on a daily basis, Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on how truly blessed I am to have my health, a loving husband, 90 year old father (aka Sporty), brothers, brothers and sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces. I am also blessed with friends and had the opportunity to extend our Thanksgiving table to three of my dearest friends last year...they will be joining us again this year. Those friends are all a result of my membership in the Junior League of Philadelphia! It is a very special part of being in the Junior League and in the past year or so I've expanded my friendships to many JLP Active members as well as Actives and Sustainers from all over the country and the UK! (FYI...a great benefit of being in a JLP leadership position)

It was great to see so many JLP members (and friends) at the 3rd Annual Water Works Celebration in September, including Susan Meyers! More than $215,000 was raised as over 650 guests enjoyed the lovely, although quite muggy, evening.

The new Provisional Course started off in a big way on Saturday, September 6th with 112 participants. Active Membership Council Director, Dianne Smith and Course Chair Meredith Nissen reached out to the Sustainers and you responded! Kudos to Marilyn Sprague... for expertise on JLP history including the Water Works, Fairmount Park and your efforts on writing the script for the fellow Sustainer guides. Thanks to guides Marilyn, Pam Maimone, Cindy Landreth, Sharon McNamara, Rosemarie Frankino, Mary Tattersfield, Jean Alsentzer, Sue Rice and Bobbie Cameron as well as Anne Hopkins, who spoke to the group about managing "life and league". As a result of this successful event, the Actives conducted their own "JLP Community Impact" bus tour in October along with lunch at Rembrandt's. Thanks again to the Sustainers who helped out on this event. I have heard such positive feedback from Sustainers who are partnering with Active and Provisional members this year. New friendships are forming!

Glad to see so many of you at the Fall Membership meeting at Wyndham at Bryn Mawr. Thanks to Sally Hillyer and Beth McCarthy for planning a great evening. Please be on the look out for Sustainer Project events including another trip to Rice’s Market in November for clothes and supplies for the Paul Fly School along with book collecting and knitting sessions. What better way to see friends, meet others and help with our community project. Reach out to Marge Devlin or Judy Ruse if you want to help.

Susan Mease, Nancy Greytock and the BBB&B Committee is hard at work finalizing the details for their March 4-6 event and they are still looking for hosts and bedrooms as the reservations are pouring in! Nothing fancy is needed just a room and bath and a chance to meet interesting JL women.

November 14th, the Evening Sustainers will be cooking at Ronald McDonald House for 80-90 folks as part of their “Guest Chef Program”. Cooking starts at 4 p.m. with serving at 6 p.m. What a wonderful event to do just before Thanksgiving! Watch Hotline or our website for details or contact co-chairs Cynthia Adams and Tracy Gkonos.

I hope you and your family and friends have a very happy Thanksgiving!

Sustainer News

By Betsy Mallon

Sustainer Chair’s Perspective

Night at the Museum

Invite your family and friends to a Night at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Discover some of the Museum’s most noteworthy treasures from a variety of ages and genre. From Picasso to Pop, Asian Odyssey, Women in Art, Monet, and Arms & Armor there is something for everyone. Also, experience Art After 5 showcasing Jack Ryan, an international jazz musician. Join your friends on November 14, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Your $25 includes admission and guided tour. All sales are final. Meet at the Philadelphia Museum of Art West Entrance. RSVP on the website or contact Bertina Whytehead at b_whytehead@hotmail.com.

E-line Updates

The e-Line is the electronic supplement to the Hotline. It is published bi-monthly and is sent electronically to the entire membership. The closing dates for submissions are the 10th and 25th of each month. The e-Line is e-mailed on the 15th and 1st of every month. Due to space limitations, the e-Line will only run League related articles. All submissions should be less than 50 words and submitted via the e-Line request form on the JLP website. Articles are subject to editorial review and modification. Due to the volume of news submitted, late submissions are not accepted. Because this is a time sensitive publication, articles will run no more than two times in the e-Line.
The Junior League of Philadelphia Garden Club

Is having a party! At the home of Jean and Bob Murdock, 301 Laurel Lane, Haverford, PA 19041. On Sunday, November 16th 5:30 – 8:00 PM. We will have a short meeting to collect and organize materials that will be used to make Christmas decorations for patients in nursing homes. We will have a joint workshop with the Larks in December and they will distribute our crafts during their holiday concerts!

"On behalf of Paul V. Fly Elementary School I would like to thank you for your generous gift of classroom libraries and additional funding. Your commitment to helping increase student access to books, reading materials, etc. in our school community is sincerely appreciated. . There is nothing greater than the look on a child's face when choosing a book

Afternoon Brush-up Bridge

1st Monday and 3rd Thursday, 1 - 4 PM. Call hostess if interested in playing.

NOVEMBER
3rd Afternoon Bridge (1 -4 PM) Annabel Wilson (610) 688-7816
20th Afternoon Bridge (1 -4PM) Hazel Hurley (610) 695-8243

DECEMBER
1st Afternoon Bridge (1 - 4PM) Bonnie Hamm (610) 356-4277
18th Afternoon Bridge -- No Session

JANUARY
5th Afternoon Bridge (1-4PM) Barbara Gord (610) 975-0492
15th Afternoon Bridge (1-4PM) Jean Murdock (610) 642-7283

BOOKMARKS

The Bookmarks group will meet on November 20th at 7:30 p.m., at the home of Mary Tattersfield to discuss In The Lake of The Woods by Tim O’Brien. If you are interested in joining this group, please call Susan Rice @610-525-6825 or email susanrice2@gmail.com

The Guest Chef Program

Evening sustainers – Friday, November 14th – parking available. At the Ronald McDonald House 3921-3925 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, Phone: 215-387-8406.

Our November activity is cooking dinner at the Ronald McDonald house. Meals should serve 80-90 individuals and be prepared by 6pm for dinner. Their kitchen is fully equipped; all they ask is that we provide the food, they will provide the rest. Prepare whatever we wish including a salad, main entree (please include a vegetarian option), side dishes, and a dessert. We can be creative or keep it simple, prepare the meal before we arrive or cook entirely in their kitchen. It is up to us!

We are looking for 10 people, and if we get more, we will choose an additional date. We will meet at the house to prepare starting at 4 p.m.

Sign up: Please call CYNTHIA ADAMS (215) 627-6363 or Tracy Gkonos (610) 647-8590.
Generations of holiday celebrations have created beautiful Yuletide traditions. Join us to tour H. F. du Pont’s home decked in holiday style!

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The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc
27 West Lancaster Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003
Return Service Requested

Hotline Deadlines

January issue: November 25th
February issue: December 25th

The Hotline is eager to accept your articles and story suggestions. Please feel free to contact us with your articles and proposals to make this newsletter better. To publish the Hotline in a timely manner, articles are to be submitted via email at Hotline@JLPhiladelphia.org. Each article must have a byline and a headline. Remember, the Hotline also accepts advertising: $15 for classified ads, $40 for business card-sized ads, $60 for ½ page ads, $125 for ¾ page ads, and $225 for full-page ads. The dimensions for the ad sizes are: 8”x10.5” full page • 5.25”x8” half-page • 4”x5.25” quarter-page.

Upcoming Dates

NOVEMBER
3 Information and Tips on Healthy Eating During the Holidays
10 Women’s Health Training: Stress, Sleep, Sex and Solutions
12 Information and Tips on Healthy Eating During the Holidays
14 Night at the Museum
17-21 General Membership Area Meetings
22 DIAD at Help Philadelphia
22 Tacony Creek Park Corporate Clean-up

FEBRUARY
20 Casino Night

More details about all of these events and more can be found on the JLP website calendar: www.JLPhiladelphia.org.

PARIS FOR RENT
Stunning 1BR Left Bank apartment near Louvre and Musee d’Orsay available for weekly rentals. Elegant, luminous, cheerful, sleeps 4. For information contact Wendy Crowley (Pasadena League) 626 395 7877 or email davenportdad@earthlink.net

COMPUTER INSTRUCTION
In your own home (save on gas!). On your own computer. Topics of your choosing. Go at your own pace. What could be more ideal?! Give me a call. League member. Jean MacFadyen 610-363-0245.