

HOTLINE

Philadelphia

The Junior League of Philadelphia • Celebrating 96 Years of Volunteer Service: Looking Back and Moving Forward • April 2009

A Big Deal for the Third Year in a Row

By Annie Ford and Amy Clark



Left:
Katherine Milgram,
Mike Carter and
Meredith Gaudio
take a break from the
party to show off
their excitement.



Right:
Clifton Sudler, Tametta
Gray, Heidi Tirjan and
Paul Tirjan take their
chances at winning a
blackjack game.
Kathy Andre listens in
the background.

The Big Deal Casino Night proved to be a huge success for the third year in a row! On Friday, February 20th League members and their guests came dressed to the nines and celebrated late into the night at Philadelphia's legendary Crystal Tea Room. This year's Green Tie Gala theme was a hit with many attendees, who in a nod to the JLP's new Outdoor Academics focus wore green dresses, ties and accessories.

The evening began with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres complimented by live music courtesy of Rhondo and the Goodes while guests perused the 100 plus silent auction and raffle items. Soon after, the gaming tables opened and the real party began – music from CTO 5th Avenue encouraged people to the dance floor and black jack

tables. VIP guests scrambled to the dedicated VIP room, with treats from Fairmount restaurants – Rembrandt's, Jack's Firehouse, Trio, Luigi's Pizza Fresca, Zorba's Taverna, Garden Fresh Deli, Brigid's and London Bar and Grill. Many enjoyed delicious martinis and cocktails made from Rain Organics Vodka, the official VIP room sponsor. Others sipped on Mac Murray Ranch Wines, Black Walnut Wines and brews from Yards – all generously donated.

During a break in the action, our emcees for the evening, NBC 10's Bill Henley and Aditi Roy, showed off their auctioneer talents. Their enthusiastic delivery got the crowd excited about the live auction items including a 9-night Maui vacation, a Judith Ripka canary quartz cocktail ring and a

Pinehurst region golf getaway package. Thanks to Bill and Aditi's superb negotiating, all live auction items were purchased by generous partygoers and League members! All guests were treated to swag bags filled with goodies from VIP sponsor Molton Brown. The icing on the cake was courtesy of Golden Nugget Jewelers who treated each guest to a \$100 gift card!

In total, The Big Deal Casino Night: Green Tie Gala raised over \$25,000 to support the JLP's community projects! Thank you to all who attended!! And a special thanks to the Casino Night Committee, the Board, all who donated items, time and resources to make this fundraiser event possible. **JL**

Dates to Know:

Placement Fair
Thursday, April 2, 2009
Greek Hall, Macy's Center City
6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Done-in-a-Day: Reading Rocks!
Saturday, April 18, 2009
Roxborough YMCA
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mandatory Annual Voting Meeting
Monday, April 20, 2009
Free Library of Philadelphia.
Sign-in at 6:30 p.m.,
meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.



President's Perspective

Spring has sprung!

As warmth and sunshine roll across the valley of the City of Brotherly Love, make time to get outside and remember to help

others to do the same. Spending time in the fresh air is the best and oldest remedy to the cabin fever of winter. Our community is filled with parks and gardens waiting to serve as your oasis, so you need not go far. Take time for yourself to relax in the sun and breathe deeply of fresh air.

For the JLP, April is full of events and training focused on Outdoor Academics, which is all about teaching children, their families and the community to be good stewards of their health and the environment by reconnecting them with nature. Now is the time to go out and plant a garden, exercise outdoors, or even just clean up the yard.

Think about planting a vegetable garden in the backyard, or potted herbs in the windowsill, to have something grown of your own hand to eat when summer arrives. Scope-out the markets near you that sell

local produce and make a conscious effort to shop there. Constantly evaluate your food choices by the simple test, "was everything on this ingredient list food for humans one hundred years ago?" If it wasn't food then, it probably shouldn't be food now.

There is no substitute for exercise in a healthy lifestyle. The ice has melted, the snow is gone, the sun rises before the workday begins and it sets long after the workday ends. Put the excuses away with the winter clothes and go for a walk. Get out the bike. Stretch...Run...

The natural world starts at your own backdoor. Start there with spring clean up. Buy bulbs and plant flowers and seeds wherever you can. Be the first in your neighborhood this year, don't wait!

If you've gotten that far and have more to give, please attend a JLP Green Volunteer Corps (GVC) clean up and restoration event this month. The GVC has committed itself to the Cobbs Creek section of Fairmount Park, an area with tremendous natural beauty that certainly needs our attention.

Happy Spring! JL

An Update from DIAD

By Kim Berselli and Lauralyn Jones

Our DIAD events continue to provide far reaching support for many area philanthropies. We are pleased to report we scheduled 12 DIAD events in the 2008-09 JLP year that offered 150 mission credit opportunities for our members. We strived to work with diverse community partners so members could choose a cause that is meaningful for them. We also offered a wide variety of geographic locations.

This year the DIAD committee was comprised of 12 members with each serving as Sub-chairs for specific volunteer events. The committee collectively outlined the DIAD events last September for the member year and Sub-Chairs set the dates and coordinated with their community partner in preparation for their assigned event.

We continued to provide volunteer support for many of our perennial events and long term community partners, such as: purchasing food and assembling Thanksgiving baskets for HELP Philadelphia, stocking shelves at Philabundance, providing books and activities for children at a Health Education event at the Roxborough YMCA, serving meals at Ronald McDonald House and Manna, as well as volunteering in the Cooper Hospital NICU.

We also took on three new projects this year: assisting with the Gala grand opening of the Please Touch Museum, helping The Children's Village with their fundraising event, and providing support for Medals 4 Mettle - an organization acknowledging cancer patients and their treatment milestones.

These new projects were the result of suggestions from JLP members. We strive to support causes important to our membership. Thank you for the valuable input. Our committee members have worked hard to make these events fulfilling for both our community partners and JLP volunteers. We are very appreciative of their efforts!

Feedback from our community partners has been overwhelmingly positive as they are most grateful for our league volunteers and their time in supporting their cause. JL

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 Hours: Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
 Sunday 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Our Three New and Exciting Projects!

By Allison Lubert

The Project Research & Development Committee is thrilled to announce that we have three new, exciting proposed projects for next year that will be on the voting slate! The three proposed projects fall under our new focus area of Outdoor Academics - teaching children, their families and the community to be good stewards of their health and the environment by reconnecting them with Nature.

The Smith Memorial Playground & Playhouse

The first new Community Project will begin a wonderful and lasting partnership with a historic and cherished Philadelphia establishment. Located in Fairmount Park, the **Smith Memorial Playground & Playhouse** is a place where Philadelphia children have come to play, free of cost, since 1899. Our partnership with Smith will promote both outdoor and indoor play, creativity and imagination, exercise, a connection with nature, and education about the environment and healthy nutrition. This project is particularly timely, as children today spend most of their free time indoors, sitting in front of a television or computer, as rates of obesity and childhood illness continue to climb. Particularly in Center City, the lack of green space and safe outdoor areas available to children is a contributing factor and a concern.

Over a 3-5 year span, this committee will help children across all socio-economic backgrounds socialize with children from other neighborhoods and backgrounds. We will help plan and implement two festivals at the beginning and closing of the Smith Memorial Playground Season, as well as indoor educational activities inside the Playhouse during the winter months when the outdoor Playground is closed. Additionally, we will assist with development of a gateway project for the Smith entrance; including a nature walk, wildflower garden, picnic area and an outdoor classroom. Our long-term legacy project at Smith will be designing and creating a play space inside Smith Family Playhouse focused on teaching children about healthy eating and nutrition through imaginary play. With so many exciting initiatives within this new project that will leave such a lasting impact, it is sure to be a new favorite placement among JLP members!

The Wellness Community

The Wellness Community of Philadelphia, located in Fairmount Park, is a national, non-profit organization offering a wide menu of free support services to people with all types of cancer and their loved ones. Services include support groups, mind-body workshops, educational seminars, creative art studios, exercise classes, and nutrition programs. At The Wellness Community, people with cancer join with others to learn they are not alone, and in doing so, they gain valuable knowledge and coping skills that enable them to find hope and support.

While organizations like The Wellness Community and others have historically served as a support system for cancer patients of all ages in the Philadelphia area, there has been no known program or organization to cater specifically to the siblings of children with cancer. Thus, this population of children is often overlooked, especially given the unique and often overwhelming pressure the families of these children experience.

The purpose of this exciting new project will be to support the siblings of cancer patients through planning, organizing, and running

monthly team-building, self-confidence boosting and mentoring activities for them. Members placed on this committee will kick off the League year by participating in a private and valuable training at the Wellness Community to prepare for the year. This training will educate our members how best to work with this population. During the course of the League year, volunteers will plan and administer monthly events with these elementary-aged kids that will take place at the Wellness Community facility. Potential activities include ropes courses, obstacle courses, climbing walls, cooking classes, nature walks and other team-building activities. We are so excited about this new partnership with The Wellness Community, and look forward to helping these children feel as special as they are!

Farm Fresh Fest

To more closely align with our new Focus Area, we have decided it is time to give League members, and their families and friends, the chance to come outside and play! The Farm Fresh Fest will stand as a new JLP fundraiser, where area restaurants will each donate a signature dish that incorporates the freshest ingredients using locally grown foods. This annual event will make for a relaxed and casual evening event in the Fall to kick off the League year. Attendees will sample delicious food and wine from the area's best restaurants and vendors, enjoy music and other entertainment, participate in a silent auction, and celebrate the best of the fall season. The fundraiser will be in the developmental stages next year, and will debut in the Fall of 2010. This event is sure to be a lasting JLP tradition! 🍷

Thrift Shop

By Patty Franks

The Shop is fully stocked for Spring and we are looking forward to another season. We will once again be in another phase of our construction for an elevator during a portion of the Summer season. We will have to temporarily stop receiving donations of furniture except for small pieces. We will, however, remain open and very eager to keep receiving quality donations of clothing, bric-a-brac, jewelry, china, silver, crystal, household items, books, and toys in compliance with the new governmental guidelines of February 2009. Please call the Shop if you have any questions about what is an acceptable donation of toys within these guidelines.

Quota is now being accepted for the new League year if all your obligations are complete for the '08-'09 year. Please remember that the summer season is a great time to get a head start on the New Year by doing a shift as the Shop remains busy and needs your help throughout the summer. 🍷



Long-Term Benefits of JLP Leadership

By Mary Kate Lo Conte

The role of the Nominating Committee is to identify, encourage and empower women to take on leadership positions in the Junior League. To highlight the long-term benefits of leadership, we asked Membership Council Director, Dianne Smith, to discuss what leadership has meant to her and the opportunities it can provide for other members.

"I spent my first ten years in the Junior League working on community committees including Dynamite Dinners, Learning Lunches, Learning by Doing, Cultural Clinic and Books Aloud. I went on to chair Books Aloud for two years and then transitioned into Community Council Director. I would highly recommend that any new member participate in a community project for her first few years in the League. This is the best way to learn about who we are and our mission."

After her success as Community Council Director, it was time for Dianne to diversify her League experience. The Nominating Committee helped Dianne get out of her "community comfort zone" by placing her in the position of Membership Council Director.

"This is my first experience being intimately exposed to the internal workings of the League. What I've realized is that it's not about individual contributions, but about developing all members of the League. As you take on new challenges and different leadership positions you learn more about the Junior League and yourself."

Dianne attributes her continued professional success to skills she learned in the Junior League and her commitment to its mission statement, which impressively she can recite from memory.

"My experience has grounded me in a way that I am more aware of my time and other people's needs. To be true to our mission, collaboration, consensus and concession are all part of the process. It's about coming together and respecting other people's views and opinions while getting a job done."

When asked about the personal benefits of Junior League leadership she replied enthusiastically.

"I really enjoy it because the more you're willing to give, the more the League will give back to you. I am a better person because of it and I will continue to be a better person through my involvement with the Junior League."

Dianne was also asked to share her thoughts on the best time for a member to consider leadership in the Junior League.

"I would hate to put a time frame on it, but I would say that when a member is ready, willing and able to help others learn what she has learned, then she is ready for leadership."

If you are interested in learning about how you can grow personally and professionally with a leadership position in the Junior League, please contact any member of the Nominating Committee. 

JLP Picnic Social

By Bertina Whytehead

The Placement Committee invites you to the JLP Picnic Social. Bring your families and friends out for a fun-filled day at the park! There will be plenty for everyone to do, as we celebrate the end of a successful league year with your family and friends. Please join us at Wilson Farm Park in Tredyffrin Township on **Saturday, May 2nd, 2009** from 10:00am -1:00pm. Bring your families favorite picnic dishes, we will provide light refreshments. Please RSVP on the website for yourself and the number of guests you will be bringing to the picnic social. 

Congratulations...

Sarah Turner and her husband, Greg, along with Big Brother Robert, welcomed Kennedy Elizabeth Turner into the world on December 26, 2008. She weighed 5 pounds, 8 ounces and was 18 inches long.

Active **Lauren Homel** welcomed her son, Elliot Homel into the world on January 23, 2009.

Active **Stephanie Hajatian** on the RESPECT committee is recently engaged.

Active **Amy Shively** and her husband, Jay, welcomed their baby boy, Rutherford Jay Shively into the world on Sunday, February 1st. 

Placement Fair

The Placement Committee invites you to the Placement Fair and social on **April 2, 2009** from 6:00-7:30pm at 1300 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA in the Greek Hall located on the third floor of the Macy's Building in Center City. The fair is a great way for members to learn more about each committee, and committee chairs will be there to answer any questions. Each member who attends will receive one GMM meeting credit. Macy's has generously offered each attendee a 15% savings pass good for a limited time. We look forward to seeing you for a night full of fun and festivities. 

Barbeque Cooking Class

On **Sunday, May 17th**, the Cookbook Committee will sponsor a cooking class on Summer Barbeques. A professional chef will be spending the afternoon with our members and guests to show us how to get the most out of our grill and seasonal foods. At the home of **Lindsey Schuster**, 446 Hawthorne Place, Berwyn, PA 19312. Contact Lindsey at lschuster3@gmail.com Cost of event is \$45.00. 



Sustainer News

By Betsy Mallon

Sustainer Chair's Perspective

It's springtime! We made it through the winter months... Summer is just around the corner! Some of us survived the cold by escaping to warmer climates, while others stayed local and joined in number of fun JLP events. On a brisk Friday evening in late February we enjoyed **Casino Night**, the Active's largest fundraiser. We had a great time and thanks to the Sustainers who supported the event by attending, contributing (or both) - especially during these troubling economic times.

In early March our Sustainer event - Bed, Breakfast, Blossoms and Barnes returned with a sold out crowd! Kudos to **Nancy Greytok**, **Susan Mease** and the **BBB&B** committee and volunteers for a very successful return of our fabulous Sustainer event. Later in March, the Evening Sustainers enjoyed a trip to the Art Museum including dinner and "The Cezanne and Beyond" Exhibit. Thanks to **Mary Tattersfield** for arranging a delightful evening.

Our Sustainer project continues full speed ahead with boa and scarf making, sweater knitting (**Mary Hinds** is working on number eight!), book collecting and hands on opportunities at the Paul Fly School including guest readers and tutoring. To volunteer, contact **Judy Ruse**, **Marge Devlin** (or **Deedie O'Donnell** for school visits).

Now on to Spring!! April has loads of events not to be missed! **Anne Sly** and **Marianne McClatchy** have organized our annual theater trip to NYC on **April 15th** to see the Tony Award winning revival of *South Pacific*. The Spring Social is scheduled for **Saturday, April 25th** from 6-9 pm at **Vicki** and **Jon Warner's** home. Thanks to **Vicki** and **Meg Habenicht** for planning this special evening. It is always a great opportunity to reconnect with our fellow members and their spouses/significant others.

Later in the same week on **April 28th**, **Bobbie Cameron** and **Suzanne Miller** have planned our Spring Membership meeting and luncheon at St. Davids Golf Club. Don't miss this lovely event where we will honor our "Special Sustainers" for their years of service and announce our "Sustainer of the Year" recipient as well as the election of our new officers for 2009/10.

In between all these activities remember Spring is a time to watch our environment coming back to life after months of hibernation. The forsythia, daffodils and trees bloom and we finally get a chance to shed our coats and sweaters and enjoy time outside. Remember The Precious Present by Spenser Johnson. "Experience what each special time and place has to offer...let the present nourish you!"

This is also a great time to consider our environment and how we as Sustainers can, in one small way, help protect it... with the added benefit of saving money! As I mentioned at the February Board meeting and also in our Sustainer survey mailed to you in March, it takes LOTS of paper, time and money to print and mail the Hotline each month. Why not consider receiving your Hotline via email. Not many Sustainer's have taken advantage of this opportunity (including myself - I just did it in February!) It's easy to sign up on our website www.jlphiladelphia.org. You can also access Hotline (including back issues) directly on our website.

Communication is a key to the success of any organization and finding more efficient ways to get the word out to our membership just makes sense...but not to worry, if you still prefer to receive your Hotline in the mail...that's OK too!!

Afternoon Brush-up Bridge

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

APRIL

6th Afternoon Bridge (1-4PM) **Deedie O'Donnell** (610) 353-6672

16th Afternoon Bridge (1-4PM) **Judy Whalen** (610) 525-2536

MAY

4th Afternoon Bridge (1-4PM) **Nancy Henry** (610) 408-8525

21st Afternoon Bridge (1-4PM) **Lorrie Pennell** (610) 647-2881

JUNE

1st Afternoon Bridge (1-4PM) **Mimi Johnson** (610) 525-1443

18th Afternoon Bridge (1-4PM) **Joan Yannessa** (610) 520-1911

The JLP Sustainers Regular Bridge Group: Seated - **Eileen Ware**, **Sara Ann Boenning** (Chairwoman), **Nancy Vujovich**, and **Jean Erdman**. Standing - **Barbara Gaines**, **Kay Chandler**, **Diana Higham**, and **Suzanne Seeley**. The group has been meeting for over 45 years. They meet every other Tuesday from 10:30-3:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.



Sustainer Project

By Marge Devlin



Students at the Paul V. Fly School model their rewards for writing efforts.

Could you use a little extra inspiration? Use a little more creative boost? Well, now I know where to get it...

What you need is a "lucky boa." Just put it around your neck and the Paul Fly School students say it is a wonderful help with their writing assignments. Discovered by **Sally Forester** and fringed by the **Evening Sustainers**, it is a wonder of wonders. Who would of thought?

When we delivered the 50+ boas to the school, we told the principal to use them any way she wanted. We knew the little girls all thought of themselves as secret princesses anyway. However, with the limited amount and over 550 students, we were unsure of what to suggest. Victoria Velazquez, school principal, used some of her creative talent and started to reward both individual and team writing efforts with a boa. There is nothing like a pink or blue soft, fuzzy boa as positive feedback to encourage renewed enthusiasm for writing assignments.

We are now making boys "lucky scarves" and the fabric stores are doing a brisk business in fleece sales.

I've realized the JLP is doing its part in this uncertain financial time by supporting fabric stores and encouraging traditional female crafts. Who would of thought? **JL**

Evening Sustainers

"Ship of Dreams"

Saturday, April 4, 2009 from 3-9 p.m.

Laurel Hill Cemetery commemorates the solemn anniversary of the sinking of the "Ship of Dreams." Take a walking tour of Laurel Hill Cemetery, where we visit the burial places of the Titanic passengers. The tour and presentation is capped off by a sumptuous feast that replicates the one served aboard Titanic on that final, fateful day – wine included. Early registration suggested. Call Laurel Hill at 215-228-8200 - \$75.00 per person.

Questions on the above - Contact **Cynthia Adams** at 215-627-6363 **JL**

Sustainer New York Theater Trip

Tony Award Winning Revival-South Pacific

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

2:00 PM Matinee, Shopping and Lunch

Transportation from Radnor, lunch at Josephina, theater tickets, and refreshments included. Limited to 42 Sustainers with a wait list. For further information please contact: **Marianne McClatchy** 610-355-1976 or **Anne Sly** 610-687-8973 **JL**

Sustainer Spring Membership Meeting

St. Davids Golf Club,
845 Radnor Street Road
Wayne, PA 19087

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

12:00 reception/cash bar
12:30 luncheon/meeting

"Special Sustainers" and "Sustainer of the Year" will be honored. Election of new officers. Larks will perform. **JL**



Betsy Daly, Pam Crutchfield, Ann Sly and Pamela Stevenson at the Sustainer Tea.

Save the Date

JLP Annual Dinner

Thursday, May 14, 2009

6:00 p.m. Refreshments, followed by dinner and meeting

Philadelphia Country Club, Gladwyne, PA

Including Presentation of the
**Susan Myers Leadership &
 Community Activism Award**

In honor and memory of JLP member **Susan Myers**, for her Ability to Instill Passion for a Cause, Leadership with a Clear Vision and Lasting Power and Determination

Presented to: JLP Past President, **Lynn Hardy Yeakel, MSM**

BBB&B 9th Edition

By Nancy Greytok and Susan Mease

Because of the long lag time between submission and publication in the Hotline, we can't tell you how Bed, Breakfast, Blossoms and Barnes (BBB&B) turned out until next issue. We hope that as you read this, we are in a warm, sunny location holding drinks with little umbrellas in them.

We can tell you, however, that it wouldn't be possible to pull off BBB&B without the dozens of volunteers who helped in a myriad of ways. We'll "name names" next time but know that we had hostesses for 64 guests, dinner hostesses who provided their homes, cooks, kitchen crews, drivers, a treasurer, the people who chaired each of the individual events, flower arrangers, housing coordinators and the reservations chair who was the "Philadelphia face" for all these out-of-towners. It takes a crowd to pull off something like this but you know you're doing it right when people come back for a second year or you keep getting guests from the same organization because they've heard so much about the event.

Many, many, many thanks (and that's not enough) to all of you who helped in whatever way. Tune in next issue for the details. ♪

Sustainer Nominating News

JLP Sustainer 2009-2010 Executive Board Slate

Chair	Pam Maimone
Chair-Elect	Bobbie Cameron
Recording Secretary	Jane Sagendorph
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Tattersfield
Treasurer	Stephanie Carr

Thank you to all the women who give their time and energy to make the JLP Sustainers a fantastic, fun and friendly group. Thank you to the 2008-09 Sustainer Nominating Committee for their committed work ethic in bringing leaders to the board. ♪

You are invited!

The Junior League Garden Club
 Annual Flower Show

Spring-New Beginnings

Friday, May 8, 2009 at 10am

Waverly Heights
 1400 Waverly Road
 Gladwyne, PA 19035

Please contact Ellen Lloyd at (610) 642-0103 with your RSVP and/or questions. ♪

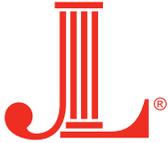
Step into Spring at the Sustainer Spring Social

Saturday, April 25

6 – 9 p.m.

At Glencoe Bairn (circa 1901)
 Home of Vicki and Jon Warner, Devon, Pennsylvania

Look for your invitation in the Spring dues mailing!
 Questions, or to volunteer, please contact Co-Chairs
Vicki Warner (vgw@comcast.net) or
Meg Habenicht (varoots1@aol.com) ♪



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

Hotline Deadlines

June issue: April 25th

July/August issue: May 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 ¼ page ads, \$125 for ½ 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

APRIL

- 2 Placement Fair
- 20 Mandatory Voting Meeting

MAY

- 2 Family Picnic Social Event
- 14 Annual Dinner

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