President’s Perspective

By Emily Schwarz, President

Headquarters Overhaul in the Second Half

By the time this issue of the Hotline is published, the renovations of our Headquarters will be more than halfway complete. Soon our entire membership will have the opportunity to enjoy the results of the hard work of so many visionaries, fundraisers, donors, leaders, and renovation committee members. In the meantime, please allow me to take you on a “virtual tour” of what your Headquarters will offer after the renovations.

Imagine it’s a brisk fall day at the beginning of the 2015-2016 League year. Your Committee Chair or Council Vice President schedules a meeting at Headquarters. You arrive, parking in the rear lot or walking two blocks from the SEPTA regional rail station, and take the elevator from the first floor donation room to the second floor Members’ Lobby. Here you are welcomed into a warm space decorated with beautifully restored League antiques. You hang your jacket in the adjacent coat room, sign in for the meeting, and check the Lobby’s large-screen television to learn what is happening throughout the League.

If you are there for a small meeting or training, you will likely gather in one of two Committee Rooms located toward the rear of the second floor. Each Committee Room comfortably seats 12 members, with four tables that can be placed together or separated, as well as technology to make the meeting run smoothly and efficiently.

A larger meeting or training will likely meet in one of two second floor Community Rooms overlooking Lancaster Avenue. These rooms are divided by a sliding door that can accommodate two separate meetings simultaneously or can be combined into one large room for 125 members seated auditorium-style. Twenty-five tables will be stored in the nearby closet and ready for use during a training, luncheon, or celebration. A smart podium stands in the corner of the L-shaped Community Room for easy “plug and play” presentations, and both meeting rooms have large screens and speakers for easy and thorough audiovisual support. These Community Rooms reduce our need to rent or borrow space from other organizations, bringing both cost savings and convenience to the League.

As you leave the Community Room and walk towards the rear of the building, you will pass a fully-equipped kitchen, where you can heat up that entrée you brought to share at your committee meeting. The Kitchen is also appropriate for any type of catering. Many annual League events will now be possible in our home, and eventually we may offer space to other non-profits as a way of giving back to our community. As you continue down the hallway, you’ll pass two multi-stall restrooms.

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President’s Perspective (continued)

We will use them both as women’s rooms when it’s just us ladies in the Headquarters, but one can serve gentlemen when needed.

At the rear of the second floor, you will find yourself in the heart of our home, the Members’ Lounge. The Lounge is appointed with comfortable and timeless furniture, including some restored League antiques. The Lounge seats 20 people and also features a custom wet bar. We can’t wait to use this space to meet for a bite to eat, an afternoon bridge game, or a casual gathering. From the Lounge, a private staircase leads to the rear of the Thrift Shop and out to the parking lot.

The third floor is our new Administrative Suite of four offices. Here you can find Ruth Palmer, our Office Administrator, Debbie Quinn, our Director of Accounting and Administration, and the President’s Office. The fourth office is open for use by another League leader or member. The President’s Office is furnished with more treasured League antiques, some of which haven’t been used since we were headquartered at Philadelphia’s Free Quaker Meeting House. Last but not least, the third floor is home to the Board Room, able to accommodate 14 leaders. The Board Room may also be used to meet with community or professional partners of our organization.

Some members have asked whether the Headquarters renovations mean that all meetings, trainings, and events will take place there. The answer is: yes and no. We anticipate that regular League meetings of the Board of Directors, Management Council, Councils, and Committees will take place at our Headquarters, as it is in fact the location most central to our members, who live in several counties. However, not every meeting will take place there. We will continue to strive to hold some meetings in Philadelphia and others in the suburbs, and there are some meetings, e.g., the Voting Meeting, that will be too large for any space in our Headquarters. I hope that each one of us will imagine new possibilities for the Headquarters, from Provisional recruitment gatherings and Sustainer interest group meetings to leadership trainings and Done in a Day events. It will be every member’s home, and all members’ home—we should all rejoice in being able to use it!

President-Elect Erin Bushnell and I are assembling an ad hoc committee to establish the protocols and procedures for how we will use our Headquarters. Much more information will be communicated in the near future, including how to access the building, reserve rooms, and use the A/V equipment.

I know that each one of you will enjoy our newly renovated Headquarters. Its transformation, a true team effort, has been made possible through the dreams, generosity, and hard work of many members. I want you to enjoy this space and take pride in what the Junior League of Philadelphia has created, both in our community and in our backyard. As we enter our second century of service to Philadelphia, we are poised to make an even bigger difference, supported by a professional, gracious, and functional home that will serve all members well.

Finally, this will be my last President’s Message in the Hotline, before turning over the reins to Erin Bushnell. Please allow me to offer each of you my deepest thanks for your service this year and for allowing me to lead our incredible organization. It has been the most challenging job I’ve ever had, but it has been a sincere privilege to do it.

Looking forward to greeting you in our beautiful Headquarters,

Emily Schwarz
President
How is my support of the League being used?

By Elizabeth Farr, Annual Fund Chair

In the Junior League of Philadelphia, we engage in fundraisers that are important to sustaining and improving the work that we do. But what’s the difference between sponsoring or attending a fundraising event, dropping off gently used items at the Thrift Shop, making an Annual Fund contribution, or supporting the League through the capital campaign? You’re not the only member asking these questions! Below is a brief explanation:

Operating versus Capital Support

In the 2014-2015 League year, our annual operating budget is nearly $850,000. Our major expenses include our work in the community, salaries and benefits for our five full-time employees and payroll for several other part-time employees, and our member support through trainings, communications, and events. Primary sources of revenue are our member dues and Provisional Course fees, which combined amount to approximately $115,000 per year. However, the other $735,000 we need to ensure a balanced budget comes primarily from fundraising. Along with dues, the Thrift Shop, the American Girl Fashion Show, and the Annual Fund—in that order—are the top three sources of annual operating revenue for our League, which explains why we put so much emphasis on their success. These annual fundraisers help sustain our day-to-day activities, both internal and external, and they are critical to a balanced budget.

As you know, we are currently renovating our Headquarters and investing in our Apple a Day™ programming. The operating budget does not allow for these one-time and significantly larger expenditures, and thus we completed the Centennial Capital Campaign last May, raising more than $1.44 million to support our strategic initiatives. Unlike the Thrift Shop, the Fashion Show, or the Annual Fund, the capital campaign was an episodic fundraiser that spanned three years but is now complete. We will not have another capital campaign unless and until another major need arises for our League.

To borrow an example from another non-profit organization, the difference between operating and capital support for a museum would be the difference between educational programming, care, and maintenance of the art, and employment of the docents (operating) versus acquisition of new art or construction of a new wing in the museum (capital).

Your Gifts Matter

No matter how you choose to support the League, your philanthropic contributions are not only appreciated, they are needed! If we relied on Dues alone, we simply would not be able to support our members or, in turn, our community as we want to do. As members, each one of us has the opportunity to make a difference by doing more than just paying Dues. The philanthropic gifts that we make through our fundraisers are the difference between a good League and a great one.

A Final Note about Tax-Deductibility

Remember that when you make a gift to the League and receive no goods or services in exchange, your contribution is fully tax-deductible. This principle applies to fundraisers such as the Thrift Shop, the Annual Fund, and the Centennial Capital Campaign. However, when you receive something in return for your contribution—as when you attend the American Girl Fashion Show, Fall Fete, or another event—usually only a portion of your contribution is tax-deductible. Both types of fundraisers help the League, though, and your support is welcomed in all the ways you can offer it.
The Committees Hard at Work!

By Shauna Itri, Chief Operating Officer

All of our committees have been hard at work this year, and the work is really paying off! As you read through the Hotline, you’ll learn more about the exciting things going on around the League. Here are some quick highlights:

Communications Council – the Hotline Committee is continuing to obtain new content and send you your newsletter in a timely manner! The Website Committee has been keeping the site up to date, and your VP of Communications has been keeping you informed through eLines and eBlasts. Don’t forget to share both your personal and League-related news!

The Brand Marketing, Public Relations, and Social Media Committees have been getting the Junior League name out there and have completely invigorated how we leverage social media. Help the Social Media Committee achieve their annual goals by “Liking” the JLP’s Facebook page and encouraging others to “Like” or “Follow” the League. The Brand Marketing & Public Relations Committee is focusing on updating our print materials and creating press kits to send to community partners and press outlets.

Community Council – Mark your calendars for the Empowering You Health Fair, which will be held on April 11, 2015. The theme for the event is “Heart Health.” The Kids in the Kitchen Committee successfully launched their program in November at Christopher Columbus Charter School. The first program cycle will end in mid April. The Farm Explorer™ Mobile Garden has had several successful events, and I encourage you to come out and see the Farm Explorer™ in action! The SHARE Committee is hard at work assisting in the distribution of food to low income families in Philadelphia and rolling out an educational program for children to teach them how to cook healthy foods at home. The Done in a Day Committee has coordinated several popular opportunities for members to make a community impact in a short period of time!

Fundraising Council – We held a sold-out social event at Pennsylvania 6 in November and the Focus Fundraising Committee is continuing to offer plenty of fundraising opportunities with “Classes for a Cause.” In fact, the Committee has already hosted several well-attended fitness classes, such as Barre3 classes and a “boot camp” class. Keep your eye out for additional opportunities, such as art classes, and be sure to sign up! The always successful American Girl Fashion Show® occurred on March 7 and 8, 2015! Cheers to League members for donating raffle items, volunteering at the event, and attending to support the Committee and the League! Have you donated your quota and completed your volunteer shift at the Thrift Shop yet? If not, the Thrift Shop is open again, so be sure to sign up for a shift and donate Spring/Summer merchandise for quota. The Thrift Shop, our largest fundraising endeavor, has been working on developing a business plan to increase revenue; it already brings in over a half a million dollars a year!

Membership Council – Educational & Volunteer Training has done a terrific job of mapping out relevant and useful training programs throughout the year. The Placement Committee has been working hard, so make sure you are having a good experience on your committee and are able to complete your requirements. The Provisional course is in full swing educating our 106 new members about the Junior League of Philadelphia.

As always, please contact me with questions, suggestions, and concerns at any time throughout the year.
Honoring an Original – Women’s History Month Featurette

By: Jessica Itzkowitz, Hotline Chair

In commemoration of Women’s History Month, we highlight Junior League founder Mary Harriman. Mary was born on November 17, 1881, the oldest of six children. She attended Barnard College, where she specialized in Sociology. It was 1901, and Mary was a New York debutante who wanted to make an impact on the community. With immigration and industrialization both growing, the needs of the poor became more evident and pressing.

Inspired by a lecture on the settlement movement, Mary, along with several friends, began volunteering at a settlement house on New York City’s Lower East Side, a large immigrant enclave. Through her work at the house, Mary became convinced that there was more she could do to help others.

On March 15, 1901, Mary founded the Junior League. At the start, the League was a group of 10 women whose aim was to “enrich its members’ lives by improving the living conditions of its city’s poorest neighborhoods.”

The League had good intentions, but realized they had little experience with the issues facing the poor at the settlement house. To help, Mary brought together settlement movement experts to educate League members on how to best serve this community. Some of the Junior League’s initial projects included serving at settlement houses in poor neighborhoods, where League members worked to improve children’s literacy, nutrition, and health. Sounds sort of like the League’s own Apple a Day Initiative™!

As word of the work of New York’s Junior League women spread, women throughout the country and beyond formed Junior Leagues in their own communities. In time, the League expanded their efforts beyond settlement house work to respond to the social, health and educational issues of their respective communities. Membership increased, attracting notable members such as Eleanor Roosevelt.

In 1921, approximately 30 Leagues joined to form the Association of Junior Leagues of America, which was Mary who insisted that, although it was important for all Leagues to learn from one another and share best practices, each League was ultimately obligated to serve its respective community’s needs.

Mary Harriman’s idea and group of 10 women have grown exponentially. Today, the League, now known as the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI), encompasses 292 member Leagues, with over 150,000 members committed to continuing the legacy established by its founder. Cheers to Mary! Mary was just inducted into the National Women’s Hall of Fame for 2015.

What Winter? EVT Committee Battles the Cold With Hot Topics!

By: Katie Adams, EVT Chair

Fundraising and philanthropy are hot topics for most charitable nonprofits. JLP members and fundraising experts Liz Farr, JLP Annual Fund Chair, and Sarah Hodge, Finance Committee Member, led a March 2 training called “Make the Ask – Tips for Successful Fundraising.” Liz and Sarah, who are both recognized fundraising professionals within the Philadelphia region, collectively bring more than 20 years of fundraising expertise to share with the JLP.

In addition to their volunteer work with the JLP, Liz is the Associate Director of Development for Alumni Engagement at The Shipley School and Sarah is the Associate Director of Annual Giving at Haverford College. Liz and Sarah’s insights were valuable to other members as we work together to grow the League.

Do you have any hot topics for future trainings? Are you an expert who can share insights into your professional field? We welcome your training suggestions; send them to EVT Chair-Elect, Julie Ermentrout (julie.ermentrout@gmail.com).

JLP and SHARE: A Fruitful Partnership

By: Deanna Jenkins, SHARE Committee Chair

This year, JLP and SHARE have continued their collaboration in supporting SHARE’s work distributing food to low income families and educating children about growing and using fresh food. The value of this partnership and SHARE’s impact on the community is highlighted by SHARE’s core initiative, the SHARE Food Package Program.

The SHARE Food Package Program distributes food to over 125 host organizations each month, in exchange for a small fee and two hours of volunteer time per month for each package of food purchased. In addition, SHARE provides food to over 500 Philadelphia area food cupboards every month. SHARE offers 11 Food Packages and a host of Preference Items, including a variety of juices and dairy products. These Food Packages and Preference Items have expanded over time, based on direct feedback from SHARE Participants. The most requested package is the Value Package, which includes chicken, pork chops, steak, eggs, fruits and vegetables. SHARE also provides packages with non-pork items, breakfast items, and appetizers like egg rolls and pizza bites. In addition, some SHARE packages contain fresh produce that comes directly from their on-site farm! The variety of food items provided by SHARE comes from generous donations and vendors, including G & C and Rob Produce.

The SHARE Committee looks forward to enhancing this partnership and engaging more JLP members in SHARE’s profound impact on our community. Stay tuned!
Attack Chronic Ailments at The Empowering You Health Fair – Saturday, April 11, 2015

By: Cynthia Thornton-Landis, Empowering You Health Fair Committee Member

Preparations for the 3rd Annual Empowering You Health Fair, scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 11, are well underway, and the committee is dedicated to educating Fair participants about certain chronic diseases prevalent both locally and nationally. After all, a healthy lifestyle can assist in the treatment and prevention of many of these chronic diseases.

One such chronic disease, diabetes mellitus, can take several forms - Type I (insulin dependent), type II (adult onset or non-insulin dependent), and gestational. Although genetic and environmental factors play a significant role in the etiology of this disease, research has suggested regular aerobic exercise and a healthy diet are also important in its prevention and treatment. Exercise lowers blood sugar levels by transferring sugar into the blood cells, where it is used for energy, and also increases sensitivity to insulin, which means the body needs less insulin to transport sugar to cells. Thirty minutes or more of aerobic exercise, three times per week, will help to combat this disease. Try walking, swimming, rowing, dance, yoga, or biking.

In addition, a diet rich in vegetables, lean protein, whole grains, and specific fruits plays a role in maintaining good health and preventing insulin resistance. Combined with regular exercise, a healthy lifestyle and diet can become a habit that is both enjoyable and sustainable. You can also decrease the risk of diabetes by keeping your blood glucose (also called blood sugar), blood pressure, and blood cholesterol close to the target numbers recommended by health professionals.

Do you know your targets? Please make plans to join us, along with your family and friends, at the Empowering You Health Fair at Lankenau Hospital on Saturday, April 11, 2015 to take advantage of free screenings, fitness activities, and health and wellness information to help you define your targets, stay on track with those New Year's resolutions, and empower you to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

The Fair, which is free and open to the public, will feature dynamic presenters focused on healthy living and preventative care, including Lankenau, Greener Partners, SHARE Food Program, Bryn Mawr Running Company, Walgreens Pharmacy, Whole Foods, and the Montgomery County Health Department. Bryn Mawr Running Company will be hosting a running shoe drive collection at the Fair, so please bring old/usable running shoes for donation. Enjoy free fitness classes like Barre3 and Zumba®, refreshments, and raffle prizes. Don’t miss out on this fun, interactive, and exciting JLP-sponsored event! Contact Healthfair@JLPhiladelphia.org for more information.

Productive Provisionals – Sweating, Skating, Socializing

By: Renee Howell, Provisional Course Committee Co-Chair

The Provisional Course Committee began 2015 strong and healthy, with social events that promote a healthy and active lifestyle. In January, we took a class at Pure Barre in Center City, And during this 55 minute class, 22 women got a full body workout. Pure Barre is known to be a fast and effective way to tighten and tone muscles, which the group found to be more than true in the private class. Despite some sore muscles the next day, a great time was had by all. Many thanks to Provisional Advisor, Jessica Baumgardner, for planning the event.

In February, Provisional Advisor and Committee Chair-Elect, Caitlyn Sell, planned an afternoon of ice skating in the new Dilworth Plaza. The Provisionals bundled up and braved the cold weather to enjoy the exciting new outdoor space next to City Hall, which features a beautifully appointed park with lush greenery, tree grove seating areas, and a café by Iron Chef José Garces. Lucky for the Provisionals, the fountain, open in the warmer months, transforms into an ice skating rink each winter. The event was a great way to catch up and laugh, and thankfully there was hot cocoa to battle the chill.

The Story of Kids in the Kitchen’s Inaugural Program

Part I – It All Started With A Toast

By: Aronté Bennett, Kids in the Kitchen Committee Chair

They raised their glasses, many filled with green juice, and toasted to the beginning of the 16-week Kids in the Kitchen (KITK) program at Christopher Columbus Charter School (CCCS). There was a pregnant pause after the toast. Most were tasting green juice for the first time; they were skeptical and understandably so. A few courageous souls began the process with uncertain sips. Smiles soon crossed their faces, followed by approving chatter. The excitement in the room was palpable.

Who were they? They were 26 students, 15 parents, and four school staff members. What were they doing? Joined by our President Emily Schwartz, COO Shauna Itri, KITK Chair Aronté Bennett, Chair-Elect Sara Grossman, and Event Planning sub-committee members Kate Davis, Ellie Good, and Abby Plesser, the group was celebrating the beginning of what proved to be an amazing journey. They were kicking off the Junior League of Philadelphia’s first cycle of Kids in the Kitchen programming.
Recap of the Runway – 2015 American Girl Fashion Show®
Another Smash Success

By: Jennifer Asinugo, American Girl Fashion Show® Marketing/Public Relations Sub-Committee Member

Through the combination of hard work, dedication, and love for philanthropy, the Junior League of Philadelphia recently hosted our fourth annual American Girl Fashion Show® (AGFS), celebrating girls, timeless fashion, and the legacy of the Junior League. The AGFS is an innovative way to raise funds for children’s causes, and our committee members worked tirelessly to put on a spectacular event. The three fun-filled shows were held at The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Malvern, Pennsylvania, on March 7 and March 8, 2015.

Organizing such engaging shows required many hours of hard work and preparation by the JLP’s American Girl Fashion Show® Committee members and the young models. Led by Olivia Baumert and Anne McAndrew, the committee began organizing the event during the summer of 2014. With so much to get ready for the show, the committee members divided into four sub-committees to tackle all aspects of the show. The Sponsorship sub-committee liaised with local businesses to sponsor the show or donate raffle prizes, while the Models sub-committee worked with the local girls who play the essential role of modeling in each of the shows. The Marketing and Public Relations sub-committee prepared promotional materials, tickets, and programs for the shows, and organized the always-popular doll hair salon. Finally, the Production sub-committee created seating charts, organized volunteers for each show, and ensured each show ran smoothly.

To promote the show, the committee hosted various pre-show events, including a January 10 Model Call, where local girls were invited to be show models. Then, on February 14, the committee hosted a Model Fitting and Photography event, during which the show models were fitted for and photographed in their final Fashion Show costume. Photography was provided by Joanne Posse Photography, and parents of the models were able to purchase photo packages and have their child’s photograph included in the event program. On February 21, the committee held a Model Social for the young models and their parents to meet one another and JLP committee members. Finally, days before the show, the committee held on-site rehearsals at Dunwoody Village and The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center to make sure the young ladies were ready to put on a great show.

The show’s models were a diverse group of girls between the ages of five and 12. Most hailed from the Greater Philadelphia area, and many are relatives or friends of JLP members. Since the inception of our support for this event, the young models’ energy and excitement during the pre-show events have always been infectious, and our committee members cite this event as a very rewarding part of their volunteer experience.

Most importantly, the funds raised through the American Girl Fashion Show® benefit the League’s Apple a Day Healthy Living Initiative™. Apple a Day is a multi-tiered community initiative with the goal of creating a positive impact on the health and wellness of adults and children in the Greater Philadelphia area. Look for more details and photos from the event will be featured in the June Hotline.
Love Your Park Day

By: Jenn Eppensteiner, Done in a Day Committee Member

On Saturday, November 15, 2014, a dozen dedicated Junior League volunteers braved the cold to get their hands dirty partnering with the Friends of Rittenhouse Square for LOVE Your Park Day. Volunteers assisted with planting Dutch master daffodils and red tulip bulbs along the perimeter of the Square. Despite the chilly November weather, volunteers enjoyed the morning together and were able to make a tangible contribution to a park we all love and enjoy! The event organizers from the Friends of Rittenhouse Square were thrilled with our efforts and invited us back to help plant impatients and other flowers in the spring.

The Done in a Day Committee looks forward to a continuing partnership with this great organization. Founded in 1976, The Friends’ mission is to “preserve, protect, and beautify” the Square, and in the past 39 years, they have been successful in doing just that! The Square is owned by the city, and the Friends work in a public-private partnership with Fairmount Park. The Friends depend on organization members and committed volunteers like the Junior League to join together to do the hard work of preservation that keeps the Square looking beautiful. Be sure to visit the Square in the spring to appreciate the efforts of your fellow League members!

Mobile Garden Sets Sights on Spring!

By: Kelly Kneeland Steyn, Farm Explorer™ Mobile Garden Committee Chair

After a bit of hibernation due to the winter weather, the Farm Explorer™ Mobile Garden Committee is already gearing up for a busy spring. Committee members kicked off the season by volunteering at February’s American Girl Fashion Show® Model Social. At this event, the committee taught the young fashion show models more about how to grow and create their own healthy food at home. The committee also planned various informational and craft activities for the young ladies, focused on what seeds can be planted indoors now, to ready them for planting outdoors in April. As the girls learned, sweet peas, leeks, cucumbers, tomatoes, sweet peppers, and early potatoes are a few of the vegetables and fruit that you can plant early to prepare your spring garden!

Looking forward, the month of March is always an exciting time as we are able to bring the Farm Explorer™ to Smith Memorial Playground & Playhouse for their annual Play-A-Palooza party. Play-A-Palooza is Smith’s season opening celebration, where children are able to participate in games, crafts and explore the playground. Our Farm Explorer™ Mobile Garden Committee will be there to share the fresh spring harvest and prepare delicious recipes on the popular blender bike.

We are particularly excited this year because the second Farm Explorer™ is officially up and running in Philadelphia. This means that we will have even more opportunities to reach even more local residents!

Farm Explorer™ Spring Smoothie

We’d like to share a fresh, healthy and quick smoothie for you to try this spring. Mix one up – extra points if you use ingredients from your own garden!

INGREDIENTS:

- Three kiwi
- One banana
- Eight ice cubes
- One and one-half cups of plain yogurt
- One-half inch of fresh grated ginger
- Two to three tablespoons of honey to taste

DIRECTIONS: Blend and enjoy!
Sustainer Chair’s Perspective

By: Margie Patches, Sustainer Chair

March is Women’s History Month, and I am so very proud to be part of an organization that has been at the forefront of so many events supporting women since 1912! This past fall I had the pleasure of working with Marilyn Sprague, with behind-the-scenes help from Betsy Mallon and others, to provide a history of the League to our new Provisionals. We’ve had a great run, and the future continues to look very bright! These photos (below) spotlight a few of the JLP Past Presidents who have continued their JLP work here with the Sustainers. Many thanks to everyone working on events this spring. Don’t miss the Teas, the Social, DIAD, and the Spring Membership Meeting, along with all of the other events that have been planned for you this spring. Check the online calendar: www.JLPhiladelphia.org.

Save The Date!
Sustainer Spring Membership Meeting & Luncheon
Sunday, April 26
Details and invitation to follow
Chairs: Bobbie Cameron and Nancy Scarlato

Go Green – JLP Garden Club Seeks New Members

By: Robin Thomas, Garden Club Membership Chair

Calling all gardeners, flower arrangers, and lovers of all things green: The JLP Garden Club is looking for new members! The Garden Club has been a vibrant part of the Sustainer program since 1954. We meet on the fourth Monday of every month (with the exception of snowy February) at local libraries and other institutions on the Main Line.

We would love for you to join us to learn about plants, flowers, and how to arrange and enjoy them. If interested, contact membership chair Robin Thomas (610.527.2828 | darbythom@aol.com).

Garden Club Spreads Cheer At Area Nursing Homes

By: Ellen Lloyd, Sustainer

Garden Club members packed 80 small decorated “tree” favors to be delivered by the Larks to area nursing homes and placed on residents’ holiday trays. Larks and Garden Club members met in December at Joan Prewitt’s house to assemble and decorate the tree favors. What a fabulous time!

#tbt Throwback Thursday – Sustainers through the years!
Focus on Health & Happiness: News from the Young Sustainer Group

By: Barb Hafner and Amy Piergiovanni, Young Sustainer Co-Chairs

After surveying the Young Sustainer Group's preferences and ideas, Young Sustainer Co-Chairs Barb Hafner and Amy Piergiovanni have organized a variety of events focused on wellness and strengthening friendships. There are many events planned to meet diverse scheduling needs, and Young Sustainers are encouraged to attend one or more events this spring. Getting together will be a great way to reconnect with JLP colleagues and meet other members! Planned events include something for everyone: morning coffees, evening happy hours, a home organization and décor seminar (open to the general membership and listed on the JLP online calendar), yoga class, and a tour of an organic market. The event schedule was sent to those on the current Young Sustainers e-mail list, so please print out the schedule and plan to join the fun! If you are a Young Sustainer and did not receive the events email, please contact Barb Hafner at barbhaf@yahoo.com.

Tea-ing Off Spring!

By: Bertina Whytehead, Sustainer Tea Chair

Come join your fellow Sustainers for a spring tea gathering! This year's Sustainer Neighborhood Teas will take place the week of March 24, 2015 at members' homes in Philadelphia and the suburbs. Spaces for the various teas are limited. Members may R.S.V.P. on the JLP website (go to Meetings & Events, and click on the Sustainer category), or call the hostess to register for your preferred tea. If you have any questions, please contact Bertina Whytehead, Sustainer Tea Chair (484.453.8004 | b_whytehead@hotmail.com).

| Tuesday, March 24      | Hostess: Mary Kate LoConte |
|                       | Guests: 15                  |
|                       | Time: 6-8 p.m.              |
|                       | 6 Dylan Court               |
|                       | Glen Mills, PA 19342        |
|                       | 484.315.8483                |

Hostess: Marilyn Sprague
Guests: 30
Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.
647 Clovelly Lane
Devon, PA 19333
610.293.0595

| Wednesday, March 25   | Hostess: Mary Peller |
|                       | Guests: 30            |
|                       | Time: 6-8 p.m.        |
|                       | 1600 Arch Street, Apt 1212 |
|                       | Philadelphia, PA 19103 |
|                       | 215.232.1532          |

Cocktails for a Cause

By: Ellen Lloyd, Sustainer

Garden Club members, spouses, and friends met this past October for cocktails and a buffet supper for what has become an annual fundraiser. The event was held at the Springton Lake Village clubhouse in Media. Members contributed hors d’oeuvres, salads, desserts and wine, while the Garden Club provided the main dish.

Mixing and mingling! (pictured, l-r)
Mickey and Tom Cooper, Harriet Disston

Thursday, March 26
Hostess: Anne Simpson
Guests: 25
Time: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
491 Margo Lane
Berwyn, PA 19312
610.687.4400

Hostess: Bobbie Cameron
Guests: 25
Time: 5-7 p.m.
Great Estate Consignment
701 County Line Road
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
484.433.1183
Jane Austen Lecture

By: Ellen Lloyd, Sustainer

The JLP Garden Club got off to a lively start on September 22, 2014 with a talk by Elizabeth Steele of the Jane Austen Society, “Jane Austen and English Verdure.” Was Austen herself a gardener? Not really. But in her novels, she provided many descriptions of a garden or a landscape plan framing a house. Was the landscaping simple and lovely, or overdone and pretentious? For Jane Austen, a house’s surroundings were clues to the character of the man or woman living inside.

Ladies Who Lunch

By: Ellen Lloyd, Sustainer

Going forward, the Garden Club plans to serve lunch at the conclusion of morning meetings to give members additional time to relax and socialize. Members will take turns providing the lunch. September Garden Club hostesses were Bonnie Hamm, Sue Rice, and Mary Tattersfield.

Sustainer Spring Social

By: Anne Simpson, Sustainer

The Junior League of Philadelphia’s Sustainer Spring Social will be held Friday, April 17, 2015 at Appleford in Villanova from 6 to 8 p.m. Come enjoy cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, music and much camaraderie with your fellow Sustainers! Price TBD. Contact: Anne Simpson, 610.613.8620 (cell), 610.644.5600 (home), or annefsimpson@aol.com.
The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc.
27 West Lancaster Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003

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 JHotline@JLPhiladelphia.org. Each article must have a byline and a headline. Remember, the Hotline also accepts advertising: $25 for classified ads, $115 for business card-sized ads, $200 for 1/4 page ads (4” x 10.5”), $300 for 1/2 page ads (5.25” x 8”), and $525 for full-page ads (8” x 10.5”). Discounts are available for recurring ads.

The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Upcoming Events

APRIL
11: 3rd Annual Empowering You Health Fair
12: Done in a Day with the Jewish Relief Agency
13: Going Green Training with Juju Organics
15: Evening Sustainers Healthy Eating Event
17: Sustainer Annual Social
18: Rodin Museum Tour
19: Classes For A Cause @ FlyWheel Bryn Mawr
25: Sustainer Done in a Day with the Philadelphia Orchard Project
27: Conversational Spanish Training

MAY
14: Annual Dinner
16: Done in a Day with UC Green

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