Dear JLP Members,

Recently, an article appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer, “The Rise of Charities” by Patrick Glennon, Communications Officer at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, citing the positive impact of The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. through community projects. I am very proud to be part of this organization that has done, and continues to do, so many things to improve our community. Yet, our community projects and positive impact are a result of the leadership of our volunteers.

Our Mission Statement reads “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 effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.” So, how do our members become leaders in the community?

Our members become community leaders through the training and leadership opportunities available in the League.

The League provides a variety of training opportunities, some of which are provided by outside parties. As a member of The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI), we send our members four times a year to two-and-a-half day conferences organized by AJLI. At these Organizational Development Institute (ODI) conferences, members learn about fundraising, membership development, community programming, marketing, and communications. Not just a learning opportunity, ODI is also a chance for members to connect with members of other Leagues. Members return and share their newly acquired knowledge in a presentation at a General Membership Meeting. The League also participates in the Pennsylvania Conference for Women by sponsoring a table and information booth at the event. This is a wonderful opportunity for ten of our members to hear, learn, and be inspired by women leaders. In 2017, the keynote speaker was Michelle Obama. Wow!

Other training opportunities are sponsored by our own internal committee – Education & Volunteer Training Committee (EVT). The committee provides League members with training, development opportunities, and courses. These courses provide relevant information on the nonprofit world, guide members on their JLP career path, and provide training on topics including the fundamentals of leadership, improving communication, finance, fundraising techniques, strategic planning, and development. Some of the trainings this year have focused on estate planning, nutritional eating, and nonprofit board participation.

Finally, the League has many informal trainings. With over 800 members, advice from another member is only a text, an email, or a phone call away.

To complement the training, it is only fitting that the League has leadership opportunities. Our organization is unique in that we are run by our members (volunteers). Yes, we do have a small

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staff, but members define our strategy and carry out its implementation. This means we must have members ready to take on leadership roles. We provide training so our members can be successful not only in their League positions, but in their non-League roles as well. When they succeed, our League is meeting its mission.

While the Philadelphia Inquirer article listed the many community projects of the League, these projects were the product of Junior League training and leadership skills. We have been providing trained volunteers to the community for over 100 years. Let’s continue to use our League experience to make a positive impact on the community.

Mary E. Peller
President, 2017-2018
president@jlphiladelphia.org

GIFTING TO THE ANNUAL FUND:
A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT THE JLP

By: Martha Shershin Cook

Donations to the JLP Annual Fund have already exceeded half of this year’s goal. To date, $15,500 has been raised, and the target for 2017-2018 is $21,000. The Annual Fund is the JLP’s second largest fundraiser, behind the Thrift Shop. More than 105 annual donors, including 18 that are new, have made contributions to date.

Funds are unrestricted and help bridge the gap between the Thrift Shop revenues and member dues and the League’s total operating costs. These funds also help support training opportunities for our members and projects for our community partners.

A $35 contribution earns one Ways & Means credit. There will be a competition among New Member classes this year for the highest participation rate and contributions given. The class (or classes) who win will be recognized at May Celebration. Every gift, large or small, is helpful. Contributions can be made online or by mail, and the deadline for this League year is May 30.

Hotline Editor: Brittany Bonetti
jlhotline@jlphiladelphia.org
Office: 610-645-9696
Office Fax: 610-645-0996
www.jlphiladelphia.org
JLP Thrift Shop: 610-896-8828
Hours: Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
By: Jesy Brackett

The Thrift Shop Committee has been hard at work during the 2017-2018 League year, and there’s more to come this spring with construction poised to begin on the much-anticipated Thrift Shop renovations in late March. Some smaller renovation projects have already been completed this year, including the installation of new doors and the construction of a new ramp, which make our building fully ADA accessible and donation drop-offs easier.

This fall, the committee’s work has focused on raising the profile of the Shop around the community through multiple events. We held a sidewalk sale during the First Annual Ardmore Bike Race, partnered with Merion Art & Repro Center to host a children’s craft activity at Ardmore Oktoberfest, and set up a pop-up shop for the second year at the Cricket Cringle. We doubled our profits with nearly $500 in sales and reminded the local community that the JLP Thrift Shop can be full of hidden gems. The Shop also received a very special anonymous donation this year: a small Picasso plaque that was sold at auction in December for $14,000, with net proceeds of $12,415. Don’t forget that the Thrift Shop has a Facebook page and eBay store where select items can be purchased.

In addition to community projects, we worked with our amazing Thrift Shop Manager, Jennifer Travaglini, to create the Thrift Shop Shift and Quota Guide for both our New Members and Actives. The guide outlines do’s and don’ts while working shifts, including new guidelines like wearing a JLP volunteer shirt during your shift and storing your personal items safely away. It also includes great tips on quota because quality donations from our members keep the Shop running. The new guide officially debuted at our New Member training on Monday, February 12, and is available online now for all to view.

We capped off the winter with a shoestring-budget refresh of the quota room tagging area in the basement. The space has been cleaned from top to bottom, a table has been brought in to create some additional work space for doing quota, and copies of the new guide are available for review. We hope all our members will be more comfortable doing quota in this clean and organized space. Be on the lookout for more ways to get involved with the Thrift Shop including Thrift Shop Bingo, our first ever upcycle craft event, Center City quota party, and additional volunteer opportunities during the renovations!
The *Kids in the Kitchen* (KITK) fall program with the Village took place at two schools, Bryant Elementary and Catharine Elementary, from October 11 through November 15. At the first lesson, nearly 80 percent of the students were excited to learn about making healthy eating choices, and 74 percent were excited to try new recipes! Students were interested in trying a wide variety of new foods including fruits and vegetables like spinach, carrots, mango, grapefruit, green peppers, and zucchini.

Lesson One focused on measuring basics and MyPlate, the current nutrition guide published by the USDA, then the students learned all about nutrition labels and serving sizes during Lesson Two. In Lesson Three, the students finally were able to try some fruits and vegetables that they were interested in tasting at the beginning of the program. They also created fun fruit and vegetable snacks.

Both the KITK and KITK Jr. groups made fruit kabobs using barbeque skewers and slices of banana, strawberries, kiwi, pineapple, and cantaloupe. The students could alternate different fruits to add color to their kabobs! To make cucumber/bell pepper rolls, the students used long strips of cucumber, diced red and orange peppers, and hummus.

One of our instructors shared, “The students enjoyed the fruit kabobs universally, but were torn on the cucumber rolls. However, even the students that did not enjoy the taste of the cucumber roll enjoyed making it. They thought the roll-up option was fun and interesting.” Another instructor said, “They really enjoyed the food. The children made their snack to their choice.” Sounds like it was a hit!

In addition to trying new fruits and vegetables, the students learned about where different fruits and vegetables grow and some fun facts. Did you know that a strawberry is not actually a berry, but a banana is? Or that apples float in water because they are 25 percent air?

KITK is excited to be working with the Village again this spring as well as welcome some new community partners. We’ll see what new fruits and vegetables the students want to try next time!
PUT A SPRING IN YOUR STEP
AT THE 2018 EMPOWERING YOU HEALTH FAIR

By: Stefanie Robinson and Stephanie Lippincott

The Empowering You Health Fair Committee has just entered into the busiest part of our year planning our 2018 event! The committee members are finalizing vendors, activities, free screenings, and giveaways to make this the best Health Fair yet! This year’s theme is “Put a Spring in Your Step” and we couldn’t be more excited about the lineup! On April 7, wear comfy clothes and sneakers and take a “Walk with a Doc” along Lankenau Medical Center’s footpath on their scenic campus. Then join us at 11 a.m. to hear Maureen Krause, one of Lankenau’s health education specialists, speak about nutrition, label reading, and how small, easy changes can have big and long-lasting healthy effects on your day-to-day life! There are many great vendors confirmed and eager to be a part of a fun and informative day, including Share Food Program, Planned Parenthood, Greener Partners, and many more! We can’t wait to see you at the 2018 Empowering You Health Fair!

SAVE THE DATE: SPRING SERVICE DAY AND SUBURBAN DIADS!

The Done in a Day Committee (DIAD) is looking forward to Spring Service Day and new suburban community partner events!

Spring will be here before we know it! Our Spring Service Day projects, occurring March 24 and 25, will support the JLP’s Apple a Day Healthy Living Initiative™ to create a positive impact on the health and wellness of adults and children in the greater Philadelphia area.

In response to member feedback, the DIAD Committee has planned volunteer events in the suburbs this April:

- Riverbend Environmental Education Center in Gladwyne on Monday, April 16 from 5 to 8 p.m. Volunteers will assist with the maintenance of Riverbend’s property, including planting and weeding throughout the garden and trails.

- The Great Valley Food Cupboard in Devon on Wednesday, April 18 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Volunteers will help organize the food pantry that feeds 40-50 families a week.

Monthly volunteer events with our community partners, MANNA, Philabundance, and Jewish Relief Agency will take place in early May as well.

Keep an eye out on the JLP calendar for all of these great opportunities to earn a Mission Credit and decrease food insecurity in the greater Philadelphia area!

Pictured (left to right): Katherine Tonneman, Carly Williams, Andrea Procton, Nicole LaBletta, Kathryn Young Galla, Jamie Caudill, Marci Leveillee
Celebrating a fabulous member milestone?

New Job • Birth of a Baby • Wedding Celebration • Awards
We want to celebrate with you! Publish an announcement in the next Hotline.
Please email hotline@jlphiladelphia.org

MEMBER MILESTONES

Kathryn and Michael Barth welcomed their son Matthew Edward Barth into their family on December 1, 2017, measuring 20 inches and weighing 8 pounds 13 ounces. Matthew loves listening to his parents’ poorly tuned lullabies.

Emma Clare Davis was born to Alyssa and Drew Davis at 3:09 a.m. on November 28, 2017 weighing 6 pounds 4 ounces. She was 20 inches in length. Everyone is settling in great, including furbaby big sister, Grace!”

Christopher and Brittany Bonetti were married at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul on December 9, 2017 and held their reception at the Union League of Philadelphia.

Elinor Quinones recently opened Little Nest Portraits in Chestnut Hill. https://chestnuthill.littlenestphoto.com/

Martha Shershin Cook gave birth to her second child, Charles Frederick Cook VI, on November 27, 2017. He joins big sister, Georgette (4).
As I write this, it is a glorious, sunny, winter day. I love winter days, when sun reflects off of the snow on the ground; I get to watch birds flit at the feeder in addition to watching my Purdue Boilermakers. Ordinarily, I’d be on the slopes today, but a little winter bug keeps me inside looking out. For today, that’s okay, but “inside looking out” is not a place I prefer to be! I think that captures the spirit of many of the women of the Junior League of Philadelphia. We are a vibrant and active force working to improve our communities – and having fun in the process.

There are many great opportunities for these dual purposes coming up this spring; I’m happy to present several opportunities for fun times with your fellow Sustainers. Make sure to save the date for the Spring Membership Meeting to be held Sunday, May 6, at Teca Restaurant in Newtown Square. Sustainer Co-Chairs, Anne Hopkins and Rachel Reavy, are busy planning a wonderful time for us as we celebrate our Special Sustainers. The restaurant offers plenty of parking and walk-in access.

Spring socials and teas (and a little wine) are always a great opportunity to enjoy a little more intimate gathering with fellow Sustainers. An evening event at The Great Estate Consignment Shop on April 12, and a daytime gathering at Dunwoody on April 13, are both on the calendar. More events are in the works for the week of April 8, thanks to the Co-Chairs, Mary Alice Michaels and Kristen Corcoran.

Those with a sense of wanderlust will be eager to tour Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown, Virginia from April 2 to 6. Joan Prewitt has arranged a tour package that includes lodging at The Williamsburg Lodge, with a welcome dinner and guided tours at the three historical settlements. I’m hoping to go – but if I can’t make it, I can’t wait to see the pictures and hear the stories!

The JLP May Celebration is Tuesday, May 15. I always enjoy going to this event. A sense of pride and belonging settles on me as I watch the year in review; the awards to the committees and newer members confirm my decision to join this amazing group of women, which was one of the best decisions I’ve made in my life. I would love to have more of you join me this year.

The Special Interest Groups always have something going on – check the contacts listed in the fall mailing, if you haven’t gotten involved yet. And if you have an idea for a group, please let me know!

I am so grateful to all of you for your time and energy. I’m glad that you, like I, want to be involved and not on the “inside looking out.”

Jeannette Schlegel
Sustainer Leadership Council Chair, 2017-2018

Every December, the Larks, working with the JLP Garden Club, prepare holiday arrangements for residents of nursing homes. On December 13, after our performances, we distributed the arrangements to the residents of Rosemont Care and Rehabilitation Center in Bryn Mawr and Rosemont Senior Living in Rosemont. Following the final performances in December, we gathered for our traditional Christmas luncheon. This year was our third year at Merion Cricket Club. Many thanks to Jane Williams, one of the Larks who is a member there.

Every November, before the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, the Evening Sustainers took some “me time” and indulged in some shopping and a personal fashion show. They enjoyed champagne and hors d’oeuvres at the St. John Boutique in King of Prussia while catching up with friends, and the latest fashions at St. John. The model for the fashion show was a former Junior League member from the Washington, D.C. League! A great time was had by all - especially Amy Webersinn, who won a $250 gift certificate to the St. John Boutique. She’s sure to come back for some more shopping.
Please join the Focusing Fundraising Committee for a wine tasting on April 11 at 6:30 p.m. at Kendra Scott located at 8 Coulter Avenue #105, Ardmore, PA 19003.

JOIN AN AFFINITY GROUP

The Social Committee’s nine affinity groups create events and an opportunity for JLP members to develop friendships and connections within the JLP. Group events are posted to the JLP calendar as they are planned throughout the year. The Social Committee has created Google groups for each of the affinity groups. Links to request to join can be found by searching “Affinity Groups” on the JLP homepage, or by contacting the group’s Social Committee liaison, who will add you directly or send you a personal invitation to join. All members - Actives and Sustainers - are welcome and encouraged to join any or all of the groups.

- Book Club
- Coffee Club
- Dinner Party Club
- Documentary Club
- Fitness/Wellness Club
- Moms Club
- Night Out Club
- Philly Explorers Club