The Board of Directors, Management Council, Committee Chairs, and Chairs-Elect were privileged to attend a retreat in late October led by Vicki Clark, founder of Building the Capacity of Organizations. Our focus for much of the day was on recognizing members as both the paramount asset and the most valuable resource of Junior Leagues. Vicki encouraged us to think about members as the Mission, rather than as vehicles to serve the Mission. She asked how we would improve our community without engaged, skilled, and happy members – we couldn’t. Making members the center of our Mission is not a new idea, but it is one that we must espouse, individually and collectively. On this point, Vicki, who has a terrific sense of humor, poked fun at the way that Junior Leagues “resign” members who have not met their requirements or paid their annual dues. In some Leagues, members who have not done so receive dunning letters, saying, “The League has resigned you.” Vicki’s commentary on this practice was pithy and pointed: “If a member hasn’t fulfilled her requirements or paid her dues, she has resigned from the League; the League hasn’t resigned her!”

The question at the forefront of my mind is, How can we ensure that Junior League of Philadelphia members view being – and staying – members as unique and invaluable? Although most of us understand implicitly that we are a “membership organization,” how often do we consider the rights and responsibilities that this status ascribes to each of us? The term “membership” can connote a variety of relationships between an individual and an organization/institution. When one makes a monetary contribution to a nonprofit, she may become a “member.” When one pays admission fees in advance, usually discounted, at a cultural institution she intends to visit in the coming year, she is assigned the status of “member.” When one joins a private club or a professional organization, she becomes a “member.” Even subscribing to a service such as roadside assistance can sometimes be called a “membership!” Whether a philanthropic relationship or one in which funds are exchanged for services, the term “membership” in many contexts implies giving to get something in return. But I think Junior League membership is categorically different – and better.

continued on page 2
In the Junior League, our membership is a symbiotic relationship between the organization and the women who choose to belong to it. Members do more than fund the League or defray costs for the training we receive – we advance the League’s Mission through our contribution of time and expertise; we advocate for the organization and attract new subscribers; and we uphold the League’s governing documents and preserve its traditions. In turn, the League provides us with skill development, enables busy working women – whether inside or outside the home – to give back to their community, and furnishes all members with social and professional networking opportunities.

We pay dues and become subscribers each year, and in doing so we also become stockholders. With monetary or physical contributions to our fundraising efforts as well as gifts of time and talent, each of us becomes a stakeholder in the League. We are investors, shareholders, and venture capitalists. The degree to which we value membership should appreciate with time, and we should receive more than the value of what we give. Likewise, each of us has a right and responsibility to take an owner’s interest in the League, because each of us is an owner. If you want to make the membership experience more valuable for yourself and others, please do so!

Although it is still several months away, I am thinking about the turn of the League year. In May, each of us concludes one membership year and is offered the opportunity to renew our membership for the coming year. To do so is a conscious choice – or, it should be. By reaffirming membership, we commit anew to supporting the League and being supported by it. I hope that your continued membership will prove fruitful for both you and our League, and I thank you for joining me in membership this year.

Wishing you all the best for a happy and healthy start to 2017,

Elizabeth K. Farr
President, 2016-2017
610-308-7849 | President@JLPhiladelphia.org

CLUTTER TO QUOTA:
ANNOUNCING NEW GOLDEN HANGER AWARDS

The Thrift Shop Committee has announced new categories for the Golden Hanger Awards. Quota donations to the Thrift Shop in excess of the following amounts qualifies members for these awards:

- Golden Hanger $1,000
- Platinum Hanger $2,000
- Diamond Hanger $3,000

For quota to be counted towards the award, it must be tagged by April 1. The new Golden Hanger Awards will be distributed at the May Celebration. Make a clean start to the new year and turn that clutter into quota. As always, gently used merchandise, including designer clothing, jewelry, furniture, household items, toys, and books, are ideal donations. The Thrift Shop is the JLP’s largest fundraiser, and proceeds benefit our Mission.
VICKI CLARK SPEAKS AT JLP LEADERSHIP SEMINAR
by Lauren Woehr, Hotline Editor

JLP Board and Management Council members were left feeling motivated and inspired after a training session with renowned speaker Vicki Clark. On Saturday, October 29, nearly 50 leaders in the JLP arrived at Headquarters to participate in a six-hour seminar centered on servant leadership. Ms. Clark encouraged everyone in attendance to consider a well-known quote: “If serving is beneath you, then leadership is beyond you.” Council members were asked to consider what they can do to encourage and support the women in their committees, and each council worked together and in small groups to analyze an important component of the JLP Mission Statement: develop the potential of women.

SIGN UP FOR AFFINITY GROUPS THROUGH THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee is very pleased to announce that links to join the Social Committee Affinity Groups are now posted on our website for members to easily access. Please visit https://www.JLPhiladelphia.org/jlp-social-committee-affinity-groups and join any groups that interest you. Once you join an affinity group, remember to adjust your settings for each group to something other than “no email” so that you can receive updates and participate in the group. We hope you enjoy the affinity group experience and that it helps to create and strengthen friendships among JLP members!
FOOD TO FAMILIES AND SHARE
HELP TO MAKE A HAPPY
THANKSGIVING

On Saturday, November 12, the Food to Families and Kids in the Kitchen Committees worked together with our community partner, Share Food Program, to package 1,500 turkey dinners. The dinners included a 10 to 15 pound turkey, broccoli, garlic bread, and lemon pound cake. These dinners were distributed to food pantries in the Greater Philadelphia area in advance of Thanksgiving Day.

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN
SEEING GREAT SUCCESS

by Elizabeth Brogan,
Kids in the Kitchen Committee Co-Chair

With the successful execution of four simultaneous programs that reached 80 children this year, Kids in the Kitchen (KITK) is proud to have completed our most productive half-year yet. Through our continuing relationship with our wonderful community partner, the Village, we successfully completed two Kids in the Kitchen classic programs and two newly created Kids in the Kitchen junior programs, each lasting six weeks. KITK classic reaches 3rd through 5th graders; KITK junior was designed and launched this year for 1st and 2nd graders.

continued on page 5
NEW MEMBER EVENTS WORTH NOTING

This year’s New Member class is 132 women strong, and they are keeping busy as we head into the winter season! Here’s a quick look at what’s happening for our newest JLP members:

- December 7 and 8: New Member Advisors hosted three viewings of A Place at the Table (2013).
- December 15: Along with the Sustainers, the New Member Program Committee co-hosted the annual cookie exchange. All members were welcome to come and share a recipe!
- Beginning in January and continuing through April, the New Member Committee will host a series of meetings featuring the leadership from each council and a “how-to” placement session. New Members are encouraged to attend all meetings that interest them.
- Beginning in February, the New Member Committee will host Bylaws and Policies & Procedures trainings for New Members. There will be various locations, dates, and times and each New Member must attend one training.

As always, please see the calendar for further details!

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN continued from page 4

While we are also looking for new community partners, we are very excited to continue our relationship with the Village in our spring programming. Our committee is currently working on Level Two Curriculum for children who will be returning participants with Kids in the Kitchen. It is exciting to be able to build upon previous participants’ Level One Curriculum from this fall.

Finally, with the anticipation of a Kids in the Kitchen table at the JLP Empowering You Health Fair, Kids in the Kitchen is looking forward to a productive and engaging remainder of the League year!

HOTLINE DEADLINES

Spring Issue: February 17
Please contact Hotline Editor Lauren Woehr with questions or comments.

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 Hotline also accepts advertising: $25 for classified ads, $200 for 1/2 page ads (4” x 5”), $300 for 1/2 page (7.5” x 5”) and $525 for full page pads (7.5” x 10”). Discounts are available for recurring ads.

The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization.
As always, the Sustainers have been busy this fall. As I read the descriptions of, and scheduled topics for, our Interest Groups, I continue to be amazed at the breadth of opportunities for us to be involved and connected. Contact information for each of the groups was provided, so if you're interested, reach out and participate. Many thanks to the chairs of all of these groups for providing us with so many options to be part of a vibrant Sustainer community.

The Theater Trip had a beautiful fall day for the trip to New York City to see the Tony-nominated musical, Waitress. Wendy Bailey and Lorraine Jones planned a wonderful day with some traveling by bus from the suburbs and a group traveling by train from Philadelphia. Shopping and lunch rounded out a perfect day trip to the Big Apple.

Co-chairs of the Fall Membership Meeting, Kathy Douglas and Amy Piergiovanni, planned a great meeting. The new format and location were based on feedback from the survey and other feedback received from our members. The meeting was at our beautiful Headquarters and included time to visit the Thrift Shop before the social hour. President Elizabeth Farr provided an overview of the League’s activities and initiatives. Our speaker was Joe Syrnick, President and CEO of the Schuylkill River Development Corporation. The organization has beautified the river banks, creating running and walking trails. In years past, the Evening Sustainers have taken the Riverboat Tour, which was wonderful. Joe was delighted to be asked to speak at the meeting, because he knows how involved we have been in the Waterworks, a signature landmark on the Schuylkill.

On November 18, a number of Sustainers met with Anne Townsend, At-Large Director of the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI). Anne shared with the group what’s happening at AJLI, especially around Sustainer involvement. She was interested in hearing our thoughts about these initiatives and also why we continue to be active in the JLP. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

AJLI recently launched a Facebook page just for Sustainers called Junior League The Next Chapter. This is a great opportunity to keep up-to-date on AJLI information and connect with friends in other Leagues. So, if you’re on Facebook, join the group. And if you’re not on Facebook, maybe now is the perfect time to jump in.

The planning for the spring is well underway, so watch for more opportunities in the winter mailing. Also look for eLines and eBlasts, which are sent electronically to either remind us of upcoming events or announce new events.

If you have ideas for new activities, suggestions or comments, or just want to chat, please let me know; I’d love to hear from you.

Warmly,

Mary S. Hinds
Sustainer Chair, 2016-2017

SUSTAINER FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SPARKS INTEREST

The Sustainers held their Fall Membership Meeting at the Junior League Headquarters in the Community and Myers Council Rooms on Wednesday, November 2. The opportunity to use this beautiful, fully-equipped space was a first for this event. The food provided by our neighbor, JPM Catering of Ardmore, was delicious, and as JPM utilizes locally-sourced community-supported agriculture in its dishes, its mission dovetails nicely with the JLP’s Mission.

The Committee is grateful for the assistance it received in making this event a success from Actives/New Members: Laura Lazewski, Sejal Patel, Patrina Ross, Amanda Salemno, Kate Steller, Michele Thackrah, and Tara Tomasko. The Thrift Shop remained open from 5 to 6 p.m., so that Sustainers could shop before cocktail hour. The Committee appreciates the effort this required from the Thrift Shop employees. Moreover, Ruth Palmer was invaluable in orchestrating the event.

Our President, Elizabeth Farr, delivered a well-prepared and concise semi-annual presentation, highlighting the current happenings in the JLP (some of which included a Thrift Shop Manager staffing change, Thrift Shop improvement plans, and overall project alignment with AJLI strategies). A lively question and answer session ensued, followed by a mini fashion show continued on page 7

From left to right: Amy Piergiovanni, Mary Hinds, Joseph Syrnick, Jeannette Schlegel, and Kathy Douglas.
THE LARKS BEGIN
THEIR FALL AND WINTER TROUPING SEASONS
by Jill Franks, President of the Larks

Wednesday mornings in September found the Larks fine-tuning previous songs, learning new music, and preparing for the new trouping schedule. Their first venue of the year was the Golden Living Center in Rosemont on October 12, followed by Blue Bell Place in Blue Bell on October 26. Larks soprano Joyce Cafiero’s mother is a resident of Blue Bell Place where, to the delight of the audience, the Larks performed in Halloween costumes!

November’s schedule included the Devon Senior Living Facility on November 9 and the first Christmas performance at Dunwoody Village on November 30. The Larks were especially eager to sing at Dunwoody because two members, Sue Dewis and Jill TenBroeck, are residents there!

December is always a busy month for the Larks. Their first trouping was Broomall Presbyterian Village on December 7. The week of December 12 was especially festive. On Monday, the Larks collaborated with the Garden Club members, making holiday arrangements for assisted living and nursing home residents. Having accepted a new invitation this year, the Larks were delighted to sing at the Daughters of the American Revolution Christmas Tea at Appleford on Tuesday, December 13. On December 14, the Larks performed and distributed the holiday arrangements to residents of the Simpson House in Philadelphia, after which they gathered at the Merion Cricket Club for their annual Christmas Luncheon.

Interested in coming to a rehearsal to learn about the Larks? Please contact Jill Franks, President of the Larks: jg29franks@yahoo.com or Musical Director Janet Miller: jtmillermusic@aol.com.

The Larks spent a wonderful August Saturday at Margy and Frank Sansone’s new home in Ocean City, NJ. Standing from top to bottom: Jane Williams, Janet Miller, Jill Franks, Laura Gellrich, Margy Sansone, Cheri McCaslin, Shirley Messina, Anne Markle, Suzanne VanderVeer, Carolyn Hoyler.

The committee encourages members to discover more about the SRDC by visiting www.schuylkillbanks.org, where they can learn about access points, parking, and points of interest in order to plan a visit and admire the beautiful views.
The Garden Club just went to “Grounds for Sculpture” in New Jersey. We had a wonderful tour of the Gardens and Sculptures with lunch afterwards at the Van Gogh Cafe. Can you see the real person in this sculpture? It’s Mary Cloud Hollingshead. Surprise!

Mary Cloud Hollingshead, Lorrie Harper, Judy Moneta, Lorrie Pennell, Barbara Juda, Robin Thomas, Deedie O’Donnell.