Lagniappe

Fall 2013

Meet our Board
to learn more!

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JUNE R. LEAGUER ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

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HEADS UP FOR ALL HANDS ON DECK

BLOOMIN' DEALS WANTS TO MAKE IT A MILLION! FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP!

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www.jlna.org 1
Celebrate the holidays at the Louisiana Children’s Museum!

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Join us for our holiday exhibition of whimsical, one-of-a-kind trees created by community partners!

Premiere Party
Wednesday, November 20th
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Family Kick-Off Brunch
Saturday, November 23rd
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

For ticket information visit www.lcm.org!

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2013-2014

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## On the Cover

JLNO President, Jeanne Boughton; Bloomin’ Deals Manager, Marc Berard; and Business and Communications Council Director, Enid Fahrenholt pose in front of the new Bloomin’ Deals sign. Each are wearing outfits they purchased from the thrift store.

*Photo by: Jessica Bachmann*

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- JLNO Member Education Series & JL University
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Thank you Junior League members past, present and future. You are a group of 
women with both a strong legacy and a vibrant vision for the future.

Thank you to the Active JLNO members of the past. Over the last 90 years, the 
decisions you made along with the community projects and fundraisers that you 
nurtured have resulted in an organization that remains a top choice among 2,300 
New Orleans women. Among the Association of Junior Leagues, you are counted 
in the 155,000 women across the world who have a commitment to promoting 
voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities 
through the effective action of trained volunteers.

Thank you to the Active JLNO members of today. Having volunteered in the 
underserved New Orleans community for the past 90 years, we must ensure the 
vitality of the Junior League of New Orleans as it exists today. We want to contin-
ue to attract members and supporters who desire to directly impact the communi-
ty or who wish to support these efforts through their financial investment.

Central to the collective goal of sustainability is a strategic plan that focuses on 
three areas of organizational fortitude:

• commitment to the mission
• fiscal health
• strong brand

This strategic plan is a framework which allows the Junior League to continue 
today’s good work for the next 90 years. It is also a “call to action” for Junior League 
members past, present and future to commit, recommit or recruit for our mission 
of developing the potential of women and improving communities.

In these pages of Lagniappe, we are reminded how each of us can stay connect-
ed to our community as volunteers. We invite each of you to join us as we read to 
a child, participate in a training class or planning session and donate your gently-
used merchandise to Bloomin’ Deals to support the fundraisers that provide the 
resources for our community projects.

Thank you to the Active JLNO members of the future. You are the focus of the 
strategic plan. You may be a Provisional, new Active or starting Kindergarten this 
fall, but you are the members that we are planning for today. You will add innova-
tion and technology to a tradition of voluntarism. You will continue to raise the 
standard of our organization by your membership over the next 90 years.

If you seek an organization which combines legacy and vision, then look no fur-
ther. The Junior League of New Orleans has been here for 90 years, and we are here 
to stay.

“Be Remarkable” in your JLNO endeavors,

Jeanne
Mount Carmel Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies.
The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines remarkable as “worthy of being or likely to be noticed, especially as being uncommon or extraordinary.” During the first Joint Council meeting of the year, JLNO President, Jeanne Boughton, charged the JLNO membership to “Be Remarkable”. This statement stuck with me and made me think about my tenure in the League. As a member of the Junior League of New Orleans, how could I be remarkable? Are there ways that I can go above and beyond to make the League better? What is important to me as a League member? What values do I cherish as a member? My answer: Lagniappe.

From this placement, I’ve learned so much about the League and myself; as a person and as a League member. This magazine has been in my life for the past four years. I’ve worked my way through the ranks: starting as Photographer, moving to Photography Editor, then Assistant Editor and now Editor. I have had the pleasure of working with and learning from three amazing Editors. This year, I am taking what I’ve learned and adding to an already superb magazine.

In preparing for this issue, I reviewed countless stories of how our members are remarkable, and have been for almost 90 years. Over the past 89 years, the Junior League of New Orleans has shown the world just how remarkable a group of like-minded women, who share the same level of commitment to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities can be. With every new year, our League blossoms and adds another branch to an amazingly strong and deep-rooted tree.

This issue of Lagniappe highlights the deep-rooted history and our newest branches. Be sure to read about our remarkably talented and devoted Board of Directors, the new class of Provisionals, one of our newest Placements, All Hands on Deck, as well as recaps and previews of some of our fundraisers: 5K Etouffee and the Buy, Save and Serve Shopping Card.

As you flip through the pages of this issue of Lagniappe, be sure to check out the new features:

• **JLNO Bulletin Board:** A list of all important upcoming dates and information.

• **Dear June R. Leaguer:** A self-described “JlkNOw-it-all” answers questions pertaining to our League.

• **The Question of the Issue:** Listed below, this new feature will allow one lucky reader to win some JLNO swag! Each issue will have a different question.

• **League Faces:** A Lagniappe favorite that has been revamped!

This issue wouldn’t have been possible without the hard work and dedication of many. I would personally like to thank Jessica Bachmann for taking the 2013-2014 Board of Director’s photos and to Sustainer, Susan Johnson, for allowing us use her gorgeous home as the background for the photos. I would also like to thank the talented Lagniappe writers and photographers. Last but certainly not least, thank you to Assistant Editor, Kelly Walsh, and Photography Editor, Jessica Fridge. I am so grateful to be working with and learning from such a remarkable group of women.

Have a great year!

Jessica

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**Lagniappe’s Question of the Issue!**

The winner will be announced in October via email, Facebook and Twitter!

This issue’s question is:

**What day and year was the Junior League of New Orleans founded?**

Please submit your answer to editor@jlno.org by October 20, 2013 for your chance to win a JLNO Tervis Tumbler!
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JLNO Bulletin Board:

Mark your calendars! The September General Membership Meeting is September 17th at 7pm at the Sacred Heart Nims Center.

Special Guest Announcement! We will have a Guest Presentation at our September GMM – “Rebuilding New Orleans, How are we doing?” with Michael Hecht of GNO, Inc.

Do you want your event featured in League Faces? Email the event information to editor@jlno.org.

Welcome Provisionals! The Provisional Welcome Party will be at Superior Seafood on September 17th from 5:30pm – 6:45pm.

Trick or Treat! Halloween is October 31st!

Grab a paintbrush or hammer! Rebuilding Together is October 4th – 5th and October 11th -12th!

The October General Membership Meeting is October 15 at 9am and 7pm at JLNO HQ.

Get ready, set, train! October is Training-Palooza Month! Keep an eye out for the wonderful training opportunities to be offered!

Have a rummage donation? Bloomin’ Deals accepts donations from JLNO members Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 4pm. Public donations are accepted the first Saturday of the month from 10am - 4pm.

Attention shoppers! The Buy, Save and Serve Card is available for online purchase. Contact Holley Payne at (504) 891-5845 or visit www.jlno.org/BuySaveServe to get yours for only a $5 donation.

Follow the Leader!
Get on Board training sessions will be Saturday, October 26th & November 2nd from 8:00am – 4:00pm.
Email GetOnBoard@jlno.org for more information.

To update your Member Profile, please visit the JLNO website - www.jlno.org
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- Followed Bloomin' Deals on Twitter? @JL_BloominDeals

- [ ] Followed JLNO on Twitter? @JuniorLeagueNO
- [ ] Visited our website? www.jlno.org
- [ ] Mapped out your shopping plan for the Buy, Save and Serve Card?

Downloaded the Buy, Save and Serve app?
Downloaded the Digital Cheetah app?

- [ ] Met a new JLNO member?

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Middle & Upper School
November 19
6:30 p.m.

K-5
January 16
8:30 a.m.

Middle & Upper School
January 23
8:15 a.m.

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The start of summer brings memories of school ending and the beginning of long lazy days of vacation... at least, when you are a child they are the lazy days of summer. When young, I always looked forward to that time of year when my mother and I would cut fresh lemons, juice them with the wooden spoon in a glass pitcher, and count down the time while the sweet sugar pulled that tart juice into what was our fresh lemonade to be savored during lunch.

Many children today don't realize that lemonade was once made with lemons rather than powder (pink or yellow!) But the important lessons of measurement, patience, and sweet results are still the same — and we continue those lessons through our Junior League of New Orleans Lemonade Day University.

Here in Louisiana, Lemonade Day began with John Georges four years ago, when he brought it from Houston to New Orleans. By his design, a consulting team created and marketed an 'incubator' — a mini-entrepreneurial lesson plan targeting children aged five to fifteen and explaining the skills of business using lemonade stands as the way to make a profit and share their earnings with those in need. In 2012, the children participating in Lemonade Day University were self-identified through schools, community partners, Junior League members, and Ochsner employees. It was designed to have a "packet pick-up day" at the Saints locker room, orchestrated by Mr. George's consultants. JLNO, at that time, was primarily a volunteer source.

In 2013, for JLNO Lemonade Day evolved into Lemonade Day University. What used to be "packet hand-outs and drink stands" is now a statewide teaching interactive showcase for entrepreneurial skills (part of the lessons of measurement, patience and results) — and shares money with charitable causes. These mini-courses focus on advertising techniques, location selection, target marketing and insights into philanthropy. The mini-courses are going to be completed by nearly 100 children about a month ahead of the actual day, with parents or guardians dropping them off at JLNO and picking them up later that day.

The League volunteers teach children different aspects of Lemonade Day University (LDU): production, money management and marketing. The challenge for committee members is taking the message of LDU and applying it to a range of ages and abilities — delivering the keys for success from kindergarteners to teenagers, and making it relevant for every participant, every family.

Committee Chair, Anna Combs didn’t make lemonade with her mom as a child, but had similar roots in hard work and integration into the now trendy ‘farm to fork’ process. Her mother was raised on Anna’s grandfather’s farm, and when young, Anna had a fruit stand that ran on the honor system. Her mom, like my mom, taught her the value of money and giving back to the community. Thus, she believes Lemonade Day University “picked her” in the focus of the program. She likes it for challenges to her routine skills set and comfort zones. Whereas she’s routinely a fundraiser for Ochsner, she is honing her skills on the curriculum development, thus fitting into the League strategic plan of training more of our own membership to grow talents while using our talents to strengthen the community.

Our members should be proud of the rapid growth and attention of the now statewide program — AJLI is looking at JLNO’s Lemonade Day University as a national pilot program. JLNO has six members to make this go global, so make sure to talk it up with your friends that have children that could participate. If you have talents in advertising, real estate (location), or marketing — or want to learn — this may be an opportunity for you to grow, too. You don't have to be on the committee to share your skills with the children of the Greater New Orleans region.

Stay cool throughout this hot fall, and make homemade lemonade with your child or young friends, sharing important values as well as a cool treat that makes us remember what matters most.*
If you want to be reminded of the Junior League’s impact on metropolitan New Orleans, just ask a Provisional why she joined. As President Jeanne Boughton, said in her greeting at May’s Welcome Social, “There are as many reasons to join the League as there are women in this room.”

Some include the social aspects of the League, like meeting new people and networking, while others point to leadership development opportunities. Most Provisionals know either an Active or a Sustainer who speak highly of the organization and it is the League’s positive reputation throughout the area that attracts women to the organization.

Sarah Kane, a Provisional originally from Western Massachusetts, sums her decision up in three words: “networking, sisterhood, and philanthropy.”

The League’s opportunities to serve are as diverse as the 199 women in the 2013-2014 Provisional class. They hail from places such as St. Albans, Vermont; Miami, Florida; Seattle, Washington; and Prescott, Arizona. Ranging in age from 25 to 43, and nearly a quarter are mothers. We can expect six babies, including twins, during the Provisional year. They work in the home, run businesses, and represent a variety of industries, including healthcare, education, tourism, retail, technology, construction, non-profit, social work, and civil service.

DIVERSE WOMEN, VARIED OPPORTUNITIES, COMMON GOALS

Provisionals Learn What the League Does and How it Works

By: Carrie Moulder
FACTS ABOUT THIS YEAR’S PROVISIONAL CLASS

Average age is 27
9% are engaged
42% are married
22% have children
17% are employed in Healthcare
52% are Louisiana natives

Top reason for joining the League – To meet new people
2nd reason for joining JLNO – to volunteer

“We are excited about the diversity of the ladies. They are from all walks of life, all neighborhoods, all ages, and all areas of the city,” says Provisional Co-Chair Leigh Thorpe. “Junior League is the thing that people want to be involved in. We’ve gotten away from that stereotype of what it used to be. It really is women who are trying to make an impact in the community.”

Diverse women pursuing assorted opportunities and the League catering to a variety of interests can still move toward the League’s common mission. This multiplicity does not preclude collaboration. In fact, the influx of new members keeps fresh ideas flowing, and cooperation within the League structure which is key to putting them into practice.

Having heard about the League’s productive organization, Provisional Sheryl Kennedy-Haydel, is a service-minded woman looking to know New Orleans better. She says JLNO has “A great infrastructure to get immersed in service to the city.”

Informing the Provisionals about League functions is one of the primary goals of the Provisional committee, as greater understanding will ensure participation in League activities. “We want the Provisionals to end up getting really involved in the League, to make them knowledgeable and educated, not just about what the League does but also about how the League works,” says Co-Chair Caty Flower. The idea is that the Provisional year provides each woman with the opportunity to find a place in the Junior League that fulfills her interest.

This year’s Provisional program began during the summer with JL101 sessions and site visits. JL101 focused on the structure of the League, opportunities for community involvement, and requirements for completing the Provisional year. Site visits to a community partner replaced last year’s bus tour. On 12 separate days, the Provisional Advisors hosted hour-long tours of the Bayou District Foundation, Bloomin’ Deals Thrift Shop, Second Harvest Food Bank and Lafayette Academy. Each Provisional attended the one that interested her.

To finish their induction program, Provisionals will have to attend JL102, which will be a mid-year check-in during October, and JL103, which is the Placement session.

The supplementary educational session and community partner site visits are the only changes to the requirements for the Provisional year. In addition to financial and gently used merchandise requirements, Provisionals will have to complete eight regular shifts at Bloomin’ Deals, plus one special event like Bag Day, two community shifts, one fundraiser shift, and one shift at the League’s headquarters. As in the past, Provisionals must attend at least four general membership meetings.

Provisional Advisor, Whitney C. Jordan, notes “the best time to complete their requirements is now. The Provisional year is the busiest and the way to handle all the commitments is to do them as soon as possible so that the whole year is smooth.”

The last component of the first year is the Provisional project, which is their opportunity to learn League culture, committee structure, and develop their leadership skills. While it has been part of the program in past, the focus of it is changing. Instead of going outside of the League as in the past, they will now work within it.

What the Provisional committee is most excited about focusing Provisional projects on JLNO headquarters. “This is a living building, and we spend a lot of time here. We want a Provisional group to pick an area with potential and make an investment there,” says Vice Co-Chair Kathleen Gross. As part of their contribution, their work would even be memorialized with a plaque. Vice Co-Chair Alice Glenn adds “We want them to take pride and ownership of their facility and make their mark.”

Sustainer, Peggy L. Laborde’s, advice to them is “The only way to make a difference is to get involved, so jump with both feet and enjoy it. The bonus is making lasting friends along the way.”
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ALL HANDS ON DECK!
New Placement Offers Flexibility and Variety

By: Amanda Wingfield Goldman

The League is offering a new placement this year. All Hands on Deck is a Community Council committee which allows members to fulfill their placement through ten community shifts. “All Hands on Deck provides amazing flexibility and a great way to get a taste for all the things that the League is involved in,” says co-chair Blair duQuesnay.

Other Leagues have similar placements and JLNO has recognized that its membership needs are changing. As of the last Placement survey in April 2013, 88% of our membership is employed outside of the home either full or part time, thereby making daytime placements more difficult to fill. “Most of us are looking for weekend and night shifts. It was a way for us to serve the needs of our membership and to be involved with our community partners,” says Blair.

continued on page 17

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ALL HANDS ON DECK!
continued from page 15

The League also found that certain committees needed extra volunteers which did not fit within the community shift parameters, and as a result, those shifts were only open to members on those placements who had specialized training. “Some of our community projects like Kids in the Kitchen and Judgment Call are restricted to committee members because background checks are required. Our committee members are allowed to fill in for those shifts as well. Normally, you have to do the placement to be involved in those projects,” says Blair. All Hands on Deck members attended one two-hour session in June, which prepared them for Judgment Call, Kids in the Kitchen, Senior League and Lafayette Academy.

“We’ll be working with the other community project chairs and vice chairs who will give us a heads up if they have extra shifts that aren’t full and we’ll be working with community shifts to make sure that we have the right amount of people,” says co-chair Mariel Ponseti. Blair also points out that this placement can help fill vacant shifts with a quicker turn around. “Rather than having to solicit the entire League, we have a group of volunteers ready to go. We have flexibility in that we can email our members to fill shifts in a shorter time period,” says Blair.

“We hope to provide a new and flexible community placement that fits a variety of needs, whether it’s first year Actives, or last year Actives who are looking for something new,” says Blair. All Hands on Deck also hopes to strengthen their relationships with the League’s existing community partners, to potentially identify new community partners, and to maintain ties with the League’s former community partners. •
Over the last eighteen months, the Carondelet Street Junior League Headquarters building has become a regular stop in Jeanne Boughton’s already busy day. Over the next twelve months, it is sure to become her home away from home. I met Jeanne there on a humid June morning. She breezed in between client meetings. It was immediately clear that she is already comfortable in the building and in her role as Junior League President. Jeanne is a full-time real estate agent and parent, with husband Sherman Boughton to Mann, 10 and Elle, 8. The LSU alumnus got here by way of Donaldsonville and Boston, and has worked her way through the Junior League ranks to distinguish herself as a true leader.

You are employed full time. You are a mother, and now Junior League President.

I am inspired by amazing Junior League women who I admire for the time and talent that they give back to the community, in addition to their home and work commitments. A previous JL President encouraged me to consider Junior League leadership because 88% of our membership works outside of the home and our leadership should be reflective of our membership.

Can you tell me a little bit about your history with the League and how you got to this point?

Most of my history in the League has been on the Membership Council. I’ve been on the Training and Education Committee and loved being a Provisional Co-Chair. Serving as Provisional Co-Chair in a lot of ways was like the placement of President, you have to focus on the League as a whole, rather than separate councils. The important thing about each placement is that we are all training. I am learning something new everyday - this is another year of training for me too!

What are your goals for this year?

Many of my goals have to do with keeping the League on a strong financial trajectory. I would really like to see the Thrift Shop make a million dollars in revenue. The more money we put back into our mission: training and improving communities. We are also working on an updated strategic plan. I like to call it strategic thinking rather than strategic planning. I also really want the Board of Directors and the committee chairs and every individual to think of their Junior League membership as a training opportunity.

How have you prepared for this year?

There is a lot of preparation as President-Elect. We begin our Board training and placing our leaders in January. You do a ton of preparing by talking to members and trying to figure out what improvements, such a new committees, are needed for the coming year.

What is the most important thing that the League has taught you personally?

I changed my JLNO.org password this year to FUN. I don’t have a problem working hard, I tend to have more of problem having fun. I hope this small gesture will be a reminder to me that people will not remember what I did for the Junior League, but they will remember how they felt when we did it together. Incorporating fun into Junior League this year is a personal attempt to combine voluntarism, work and fun as we try to make a positive impact on our community.

Fast Facts
Favorite New Orleans restaurant? Pho Tao Bay
Favorite hobby? Walking
Favorite League event? Working in the Thrift Store.
Favorite vacation spot? A staycation
Typical Saturday morning? Coffee, lots of coffee!

By: Rachel Stephens
Meet the Board

President-Elect

KATHERINE KLEINPETER RAYMOND

By: Amanda Wingfield Goldman

“It’s all possible.” Although Katherine Raymond acknowledges that this may sound grand or even a little crazy. The most important thing that the Junior League has taught Katherine is that when a group of like-minded women band together to affect change in the city of New Orleans, they can do anything.

This mother of three is the serving as President-Elect of the League this year. Katherine and her husband Beau, an internist and medical director at East Jefferson, have three daughters – Kate, age three, Charlotte, age eight, and Sydney, age ten. Katherine and Beau met while Katherine was working on her Bachelor’s degree in civil engineering at Tulane. Katherine was also a member of Chi Omega and now serves as an advisor. Katherine went on to complete her PhD in civil engineering at Tulane. She worked at Burk-Kleinpeter and now stays at home with her daughters. “I’m with Junior League now,” Katherine says with a chuckle. Katherine enjoys reading, travel, tennis, and jogging, and her family shares her interests. The Raymond family ran in the Crescent City Classic this year costumed as bunnies.

Why did you decide to join the Junior League?
I really respected the opinion of people I admired that thought it was such a worthwhile organization. My colleague spoke very highly of it, and she always said that your volunteer work should be fun and enjoyable. If you love your job, you don’t have to go to a day of work in your life. I feel that way about volunteering. It’s not volunteer “work” if you love it, it’s doing good things in the community and having fun with the wonderful people that you’re doing it with, and I feel like the Junior League does just that. I had an inkling that it was like that when I joined and now I’m blown away by how successful we are with that.

What draws women into joining the Junior League?
I think that the Junior League is known as the premier organization for women in the City of New Orleans who want to be involved in the community and want to learn about civic leadership. I think we listen to the community and we fill voids in the community, and I’m so grateful that keep getting a larger Provisional class every year. We’ve been here for 90 years, but I think we continue to remain relevant because we respond as the community changes and as our young and very professional membership changes. That’s what makes us so successful.

What is the most important thing that the League has taught you?
The most important thing that the League has taught me is that a group of women who really care to affect positive change in their community can absolutely do that. It’s taught me that you can learn a skill set for anything – you can learn to write a grant, develop a website, publish a magazine, and set up a whole community program. I feel the Junior League taught me many of those lessons and the over-arching theme: that it’s all possible. There’s no barrier to anything we want to do in the city. I know that sounds really grand and a little crazy but I think you come out of Junior League with a confidence in your ability to fix a problem and come up with an elegant solution.

What do you think that the New Orleans League has done to be so successful?
I think our success relates to listening to the community, listening to our members and listening to our partners. I think our League is very in touch with our community and our members, and with what is needed in our city.

Fast Facts
- Facebook or Twitter? Both
- Company Burger or Smashburger? Company Burger
- iPad or Kindle? Kindle
- Commander’s Palace or Galatoire’s? Commander’s Palace
- Jazzfest or French Quarter Fest? Jazzfest

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Meet the Board

Secretary

SARAH LODWICK CHANCELLOR

By: Ann Canger

New Orleans native, Sarah Lodwick Chancellor exemplifies the modern, busy woman. When I had the chance to speak with her for this profile, she was in the midst of packing up her family of two boys Christian and Miles, ages 5 and 6, and husband, Drew, for a weekend road trip. After seven years in California, including her time at California State University, Long Beach, Sarah moved back home in 1998 to be closer to her family and friends. Upon her return to New Orleans, she earned her law degree from Loyola University and subsequently took a position with a local mid-size law firm doing pharmaceutical and medical device defense work.

Two and a half years ago, Sarah took on a new role, working as a staff attorney at the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board, a new job that brought her freedom from the ever-present specter of billable hours and allowed her to focus on her love of research and writing. In her free time, Sarah enjoys volunteering at St. Martin’s Episcopal school, which her boys attend, and she has also been involved with the Preservation Resource Center.

What is your history with the Junior League of New Orleans?
I joined the League in 2004 because I had friends who were members and thought it would be a good way to meet new people and serve the community. My first placement in 2005 was on the Kitchen Tour Committee and I was involved with it for several years, eventually becoming the Chair in 2009; it was a great experience. After that, I caught the leadership bug and moved onto other roles, including Staffing Chair for two years and serving as Membership Council Secretary last year.

What advice would you give to the new group of Provisionals?
My advice to the new Provisional members is to try a variety of placements (both in and out of the League) and fill out the placement surveys! Don’t be afraid to indicate your likes and dislikes or self-nominate if you are interested in a leadership role. Also, attend one of the Joint Council meetings. They are a great way to learn more about the inner-workings of the League or things you might not be exposed to at General Membership meetings or other events. They are also a great way to meet and interact with League members on a smaller, more intimate scale.

What is your favorite JLNO memory?
Certainly, the funniest memory was having the Nominating Committee show up on my doorstep around 10:00 pm one night to ask me to be a Board member, rush style. My husband and I had no idea what was going on and were completely caught off guard (in pajamas). We stayed up for a long time that night talking and laughing about it. One of my proudest moments was chairing the Kitchen Tour the year it was reintroduced following Katrina. The tour featured the rebuilding efforts in Lakeview, one of the hardest-hit areas, and raised a lot of money for valuable community projects.

How do you feel about the League’s work in the community?
I love the fact that many projects which started out in the League have taken on lives of their own, like the Preservation Resource Center, the Parenting Center, and the Louisiana Nature Center. We do a great job of identifying areas of need, cultivating projects, and maximizing our impact in the community. But we also know when it is the right time to step back, let go, and enable those projects to continue to grow on their own and enjoy long-term success.

What are the benefits of JLNO membership?
The benefits of League membership are meeting and working with other similar-minded women—those interested in community service and voluntarism—and having the opportunity to get involved and give back to the community. Today, JLNO represents a great cross section of women in the New Orleans area, with varied backgrounds and lifestyles, who all have the same goal: giving back to and improving the city we love!
Meet the Board

Treasurer

ALLISON LANE PLAISANCE

By: Lea Witkowski-Purl

With the charm of a debutante and the casual manner of an old college friend, she perched on her chair, fresh-faced, describing her mother’s weekend visit and the pleasant disruption it caused to her schedule. Allison Plaisance lives by her calendar. The breezy and bubbly treasurer balances a professional career in the tax department of Ernst & Young, the only company she has worked for, and a young family of four (husband, Michael, and daughters Hannah, seven, and Genevieve, five) with her desire and commitment to give back. She came to New Orleans to attend Loyola from Sugarland, Texas. She met Michael while in college, and they settled in the city nine years ago. Allison has been a Junior League member since 2006, holding several treasurer positions within the organization. With 13 years at various positions at Ernst & Young, Allison’s professional life, like her work with the Junior League, is an example of her loyalty and diligence to her commitments and her talent for numbers.

What are your goals for the year?
We are trying to revamp the finance policies to bring them up-to-date. That’s been in the works for the last couple of years, and we’re hoping to bring it across the finish line. Procedurally, certain things need to change to make the League operate more smoothly, making it a lot less cumbersome to get things approved but still maintain the controls that are vital to an organization this size. One of our hopes is to bring those policies up to date.

We’re also hoping to spread the education of finances down through the committees and really get people more involved in understanding where our dollars are going and how we benefit the community and greater ways with more fine-tuned financial management.

What part of being on the Board excites you the most?
I love the way that social media has taken off in the last year in particular. It’s so exciting, every time you check your Twitter feed or your Facebook, you see people talking about what we do. Its being publicized what we do in the community. I think it’s something that’s been there for a few years but it’s really taken off recently.

How has Junior League been an asset to your in your career and your family?
I think it’s been an asset to my family in that it’s shown my daughters that you can be a professional woman but you do still have the requirement to give back to others and to give back to your community. It’s been a way that I can show them that you should and can make time to give back to the community.

From a professional standpoint, it’s given me an opportunity to see what I do from a different lens and I think that has been pretty powerful. Because, in a lot of ways, I am my client. We have professional services firms supporting the League so I’m able to see what I do through my clients’ eyes a little better.

What’s your most memorable League moment?
The most dramatic, feel-good moment that I’ve had is seeing the Kaboom! project a few years ago come to light. Everybody got together to build this playground for the community, and it was one big powerful thing we did in a day. I knew it took a lot of planning and execution to get to that day, but it was such a meaningful, tangible thing that you could point to and say, "The Junior League did that."

Fast Facts

WWOZ or WWNO?
WWNO
Hansen’s or Plum Street?
Plum Street
Jazz club or dance club?
Dance Club
NOLA Brewing or Abita Beer?
Abita Beer
Mahalia Jackson or Saenger?
Saenger

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You could call Erin Mouledoux a human calculator. Well, not really, but the 2013-14 Assistant Treasurer is constantly crunching numbers and is quite good at it, too. When she’s not hard at work as a Financial Analyst for Entergy, the Baton Rouge native and University of Georgia graduate is assisting the Board in making financially sound decisions that will help the League make the most of its financial impact on the community. In addition to her League service, she also serves on event committees for the Preservation Resource Center’s Julia Jump, The Whitney Zoo-To-Do, and A “SAV-VY” Affair to benefit St. Andrew’s Village. Erin can also be found out-and-about Uptown where she resides with her husband Taylor, a local attorney, and their two-year-old son, Taylor, Jr.

What do you feel is the most important way the League contributes to the City of New Orleans?
I feel that the League’s commitment to work to better the communities of New Orleans is the most important way we contribute. Through all of our wonderful community projects and our assistance funds, we touch the lives of so many in New Orleans and we continuously contribute to the revitalization of the city.

What do you feel is the most important thing that the League has taught you?
I feel that the League’s commitment to work to better the communities of New Orleans is the most important way we contribute. Through all of our wonderful community projects and our assistance funds, we touch the lives of so many in New Orleans and we continuously contribute to the revitalization of the city.

What do you feel is the most important thing the League has taught you?
I think the most important thing the League has taught me is to take chances and get involved. You never know what you can learn from someone or from some experience.

What is one thing you’d tell a woman interested in joining the League?
The League is a wonderful place to surround yourself with some very smart and talented women who are dedicated to making the community around them a better place for all. It is also a great place to learn something new or improve on your own talents while helping others. You can have such a fulfilling experience in the League and make some lifelong friends along the way.

What are you looking forward to the most about being Assistant Treasurer?
I am excited about the board and our organization to be able to make the League a stronger organization. I am excited to work with our Board and make some changes that will help the League grow.

Of all the League’s fundraising events you’ve been a part of, which one is your favorite and why?
I worked at and attended this past year’s first ever Touch-A-Truck fundraiser and loved it! I thought it was a great way to incorporate our families into a fundraising event and it also reached out to so many people in the community beyond League members. Having a 2 year-old little boy who only seems to want to talk about trucks, cars, and planes, this was a great event for me to share with my family.

Fast Facts
- Sand or Snow? Sand
- Krispy Kreme or Beignet? Beignets
- Mardi Gras or Jazz Fest? Mardi Gras. It’s one of my favorite times of the year!
- Magazine Street or Bourbon Street? Magazine Street
- Audubon Park or City Park? Lately it’s been City Park. We love to ride the carousel and train!
Meet the Board

Business & Communications Council Director

ENID PATTERSON FAHRENHOLT

By: Carrie Moulder

Enid spent most of her upbringing in Lake Charles and says she inherited a sense of generosity from her mother. Five years after Enid moved to New Orleans in 2001, she would fully realize that commitment to service by joining the Junior League as a Provisional.

Now, the Fahrenholt family of Enid, her husband Greg, their four-year-old daughter Daphne and little dogs Louis and Bitsy, make their home in the Riverbend. Enid graduated from the University of New Orleans with a Masters in Arts Administration and works as an Office Manager for Trumpet, an advertising and creative services firm.

What is on your agenda as Business & Communications Council Director?

One of President Jeanne Boughton’s goals is to have the Thrift Shop be a $1 million business in gross revenue. Right now, it’s over $500,000, and it’d be great if we could grow the Thrift Shop in such a way that it makes that $1 million mark within the next few years. Being the League’s largest money-maker means that it’s a pretty well-oiled machine right now, but I want to give it the support and attention it needs in order to continue growing toward that $1 million goal.

I’m also excited because the Bridal Boutique is getting extra attention. It is affiliated with the Thrift Shop and is going to have that extra oomph because it now has its own committee and people that are dedicated to it specifically.

We are coming up with one overarching marketing plan that’s going to encompass traditional media marketing, public relations, social media, our website and our internal marketing. We want to plan everything so that there is one comprehensive goal for each of the projects that needs the attention.

This year Fleur de League and Get on Board committees have moved into the B&C Council. We did that in order to treat our five businesses similarly. They have marketing and administrative needs, and we want them to get as much attention as possible. The five businesses are year-round and need to be fostered and nurtured that way.

How do you feel the League has remained relevant in New Orleans?

Every year we consider the projects that we’re working on and the fundraisers that we’re raising money with. We evaluate them, and we see if they are meeting the needs of New Orleans.

Where do you envision the League in the next 10 years?

The Junior League of New Orleans will be 100 in 10 years! It’s hard to believe we’re going to be starting our 90th year. I hope it just keeps growing and everyone keeps the same enthusiasm that they show today. I think it will because we are getting bigger Provisional classes. That’s all different types of people, from the stay-at-home mom to the CEO. With different types of people come different types of ideas. They can combine to all work together. I can’t envision what the problems of the city will be then, but I think we will still be evaluating our actions and tackling the next thing that comes along that needs our help.

What do you feel draws women to JLNO?

Everyone in the League has a desire to help. We want to help our community, connect with everyone in the community. It’s the best part of human nature. This is a way to do it where you know that every effort that goes into it is going to reap wonderful benefits. People trust the Junior League. The people that we work with do. All of our members do.

Fast Facts

- Jazz Fest or Mardi Gras? Mardi Gras
- Zoo or Aquarium? Zoo
- Reality TV or Sitcoms? Crime Dramas
- Bloomin’ Deals Job: Register or Sorting? Register
- City Park or Audubon Park? City Park
Celeste Flower Eustis, the 2013 Community Council Director, aims to take nine projects and give a robust evaluation at the end of the year. She has been with JLNO since 2002, and hasn’t stop volunteering yet. After serving the Junior League of New Orleans as a writer for Lagniappe, Children’s Museum Committee, chairing the Freret Neighborhood, Bayou District, and Project Development, Celeste was equipped to assume the role of Community Council Director. This former commercial lender and current exercise enthusiast is working part-time as a Personal Trainer at Uptown Fitness, and enjoys shopping and spending time with her husband Curtis and their three children: C.C. (girl-seven), Collins (boy-five), and Clayton (girl-two).

**What is your proudest League accomplishment?**
The 2002 Kaboom Playground build. I felt it was a measurable end product the League could show to the community. When we revealed the playground to the kids they were singing and smiling. It was the most fun I had hanging out with my Junior League peers, and the time flew by. I am also proud of the adjustments the Junior League of New Orleans made to remain relevant in today’s world by adjusting to the working woman.

**What advice would you give to the new group of Provisionals?**
Taste the League. Learn the League inside and out so you can fully understand our purpose and goals for the area. I served on the Project Development Committee and this was one of my favorite placements. It was a great way to learn about the League. Remember to stay true to your gut. If it feels right or wrong, follow your instincts.

**Community Council Director**

**CELESTE FLOWER EUSTIS**

*By: Qiana Wiggins*

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**Fast Facts**

- CC’s or PJS? PJ’s
- Register or sorting at Bloomin’ Deals? Register
- Creole Creamery or Brocato’s? Creole Creamery
- Saint or Pelicans? Saints
- Dat Dog or Lucky Dog? Neither… no hot dogs
Meet the Board

**Membership Council Director**

**SARAH SPAULDING ABBOTT**

By: Kelly Walsh

“Y ou’ll probably hear my kids in the background,” says Sarah Spaulding Abbott from her Lakeview home. It’s 6:25 pm on a Monday evening and Sarah squeezes in a chat about her new role as Membership Council Director between bathing her two children; 4 year-old, Katie Rose, and 20 month-old, Matthew; and feeding the family dinner. Sarah, who is originally from Jackson, Mississippi, moved to New Orleans on New Year’s Eve 2004. She joined the League a couple of years later, transferring as a Provisional from Jackson. “I joined in Jackson even though I lived in New Orleans because that is where my mom and some of my friends were members.”

In addition to her two kids, she shares her Lakeview home with her husband, Charles. The Abbotts have been living in Lakeview for the past six years. “It just happens to be next door to the JLNO Kaboom playground in Lakeview,” Sarah adds excitedly. The location of her home isn’t the only JLNO connection she has. Until recently, Sarah worked for member, Ann Herren, at Nola Baby, as an Account Executive. “I learned about the job through a League posting.”

Can you describe the job duties of the Membership Council Director?

Membership Council handles everything member-related. It has the various committees that are specific to members like the Provisional Committee, the Transfer Committee, and the Placement Committee. We also have committees that focus on the well-being of the members. For instance, the “Egg Salad”/Membership Outreach Committee helps a member if they have a loss in the family or need some other type of support. The Esprit Committee, which organizes social functions for the members, is also part of the Membership Council. We really want to make sure each member has the best League experience. The Membership Council also houses and coordinates the training aspect of membership. We want to train our members so they can be prepared and successful in JLNO in their work and personal lives, and throughout the community.

Where do you envision yourself in the League in the next 10 years?

At that point, I would be a Sustainer. I hope to be a very active Sustainer. It’s not like I’m looking for these 10 years to be up quickly. I really enjoy being active in the League and hope to continue that when I am a Sustainer.

What is your favorite League memory?

It was the 2012-2013 Training and Education Advocacy seminar. The speakers were fantastic JLNO Sustainers that gave us our own “how to’s” on becoming an advocate. While listening to these ladies, I realized the training and experience that each of them had gained from JLNO and how they had used it during and beyond their JLNO experience. It was a moment when I realized how “far reaching” JLNO can be through each of us individually and as an entire group.

How do you think JLNO has adjusted to remain relevant in New Orleans in 2013?

I have so much to learn but, from what can I tell, the outreach with community projects and fundraisers are definitely on the right track and very current. I also think the way the League handles the budgeting, marketing, and advertising of the community projects and fundraisers is very current. The League programs are so well marketed to the public. People can see that it is not just a group of ladies that meet; they really do something for the community. The League is on Facebook and Twitter. It helps JLNO stay relevant.

Fast Facts

- Jazzfest or Mardi Gras? Mardi Gras
- Creole Creamery or Brocatos? Brocatos
- Dat Dog or Lucky Dog? Lucky Dog
- The Zoo or the Aquarium? Insectarium
- Reality TV or Sitcoms? Reality TV
- Work the Register or Sort at Bloomin Deals? Register
- Facebook or Twitter? Facebook
- Snowballs or Frozen Yogurt? Snowballs
- CC’s or PJ’s? Starbucks, “I’m totally addicted!”
- City Park or Audubon Park? City Park
- Uptown or Downtown? Downtown
- Bananas Foster or Bread Pudding? Bananas Foster
- Ipad or Kindle? Ipad
- Saints or Hornets? Saints

www.jlno.org
Meet the Board

Planning and Development Council Director

MARY BETH WALLACE GREEN

By: Jessica Chin

“I don’t regret any of the things I’ve ever said yes to,” says Mary Beth Green confidently. I met this Shreveport native for coffee on a rainy afternoon and quickly learned that her eight years in the Junior League has been anything but quiet. The Planning and Development Council Director is a full-time working mother of 2 (Ellie is four and Carolina is six) and currently serving her second year as the President of the Board for the New Orleans Speech and Hearing Center. Paying attention to detail is second nature to this self described “numbers girl”. All of Mary Beth’s previous Placements have focused on the inner workings of the League and her leadership has been instrumental in sustaining the League’s impact. A Reservoir Engineer at Shell, Mary Beth received her degree from Tulane University, which is also where she met her husband of 13 years, Jonathan.

Can you offer any advice for our new Provisionals?

Ask a lot of questions. One of the most important things I missed out on in the first few years was the understanding of the scope of everything going on in the Junior League. It will never be a moment wasted to ask someone about their placement. Even if it’s somebody you don’t know, but you happen to be sitting next to at a meeting. You’d be so surprised to learn just how many placements there are. You’re going to have to talk to a lot of different people and find out what is it says on paper, but what is it really to be involved with a fundraiser or project evaluation? Some people will know what’s more for them and what’s not, but I don’t think it is ever a wasted moment to talk to someone about what they’re doing. There are 57 placements this year and each one is different.

What is a goal for the Planning and Development Council for this year?

The job of the Planning and Development Council Director is really two-fold – the development arm is the grant writing cultivation and preservation of our preferred partner relationships through donor relations and development. The planning arm, which grows larger each year, consists of project evaluation and project development. This year, we’ve added fundraiser evaluation and business evaluation. The purpose is to provide a source of information for strategic thinking. One of my primary goals for this year is to be a source of support for the strategic planning objective that is going on right now. The strategic plan that was adopted three years ago has expired and we are now developing a new strategic plan that is much more comprehensive.

How do you think the League will need to change in order to accommodate our changing membership?

Having been a co-chair of Placement last year, I’m keenly aware of what works and doesn’t work for our members. We’re going to have to be very flexible and accommodating for well over a majority of the membership, who have ten balls in the air already: working full time, have children and other volunteer obligations. The League has to find really meaningful projects that work for a variety of different people.

What do you feel is the most important role the Junior League plays in New Orleans?

It’s a great place to find the collaborative strength of women. There are certainly many other worthy volunteer organizations, but I truly believe that a group of women will come up with the idea, has the ability to organize and execute something that other organizations are not going to do. I’ve stuck with the Junior League because I’ve seen that collaboration happen, I think that we all come to the table with acceptance and with a variety of strengths and the knowledge that we are going to figure this out together. There’s a lot of conflict resolution skills that can be learned from being active in a women’s organization. We are all going to have differing opinions and ways of working, but learning to persevere through in a lady-like manner is a valuable skill. I truly believe that women’s organizations have amazing power.

Fast Facts

Saints or Pelicans? Saints
Dat Dogs or Lucky Dogs? Neither
Uptown or French Quarter? Uptown
Mardi Gras or Jazz Fest? Mardi Gras
Plum Street or Hansen’s? Hansen’s
Crawfish or Crabs? Crawfish
Barq’s or Abita? Abita
Sarah is a dynamic achiever that brings a great energy and leadership experience to our League! She graduated from Louise S. McGhee School, and then earned a degree in art from Colorado College. This interest in art is applied in her certification as a realtor as a “Historic Home Specialist”, where the gingerbread and energy of a home are so prevalent in our beloved New Orleans – it’s also earned her Platinum sales award for many years running. Sarah is engaged to David Jackson.

**Eloping or a planned ceremony?**

We have planned our wedding in Rosemary Beach for October 19, 2013 – it’s on the beach in an area that’s very similar to New Orleans for the community-feel and beauty of the town. We are able to take our dogs, which will participate in the ceremony, and have invited relatives and only a few guests to share in our day.

I knew it was “dog” if we did “Dog versus Cat” fast fact – what can you tell us about the dogs you and David love?

“Bear” and “Hobbes” (Sarah’s and David’s, respectively) are Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, or affectionately known as “Swissies” – but there is nothing small or ‘cute’ as the name implies. Bear is about 100 pounds, and he was the runt of the litter. They are not a common breed, but David and I both had them before we had ever met.

**The dogs helped bring you and David together – what brought you to the Junior League of New Orleans?**

I was in “the Katrina class”. I was licensed as a real estate agent in 2004, and one of my coworkers asked if she could nominate me for membership. I was so flattered, and I always knew wherever I ended up in my career that I’d want to join. The League is a great networking opportunity – but not just to meet other people. Its members are interested in really helping the community, and that focus brings us together without limiting most of us as the only place where we volunteer.

**What focus are you bringing to the League this year?**

Last year’s Board did a great job in setting us up for success, so it will be easier to help us move forward. We are focused on the mission, and focused on education – without it, the personal ties you feel with the community don’t exist. As a child, without education, you don’t gain a purpose, don’t have security to control your own destiny, and don’t have the tools with which to work against obstacles in your path. This year, I want to help us enhance our skills sets and energize our members.

**Do you see education, of children and women as we focus in the mission, as the part that speaks to you the most, personally?**

Yes. Growing up, my mother worked to support our family as my dad left when I was young. She worked hard to support us and to make sure she got me the best education possible. In fact, that’s how I went to McGhee. It wasn’t that we could pay the tuition – she had to speak to the Headmistress about work and at the end of the conversation, it was the Headmistress who convinced my mother to apply. I had a healthy scholarship – my mother inspired the Headmistress because we believed education was a key for young people. That’s what I like about the League – that we are indeed focused on the education of the community’s young people as well as our members.

I would ask you about your favorite JL committee, but since we served on Thrift Shop together for one or two years when I was chair, I’m going to say it was Thrift Shop!

Yes, I love working Thrift Shop – and I did all my Provisional shifts the summer before Katrina since I joined in 2005. I think I was the only Provisional who got to complete all her shifts because I did them right away!

**Fast Facts**

- Jazz Fest or Mardi Gras? Mardi Gras
- PJ’s or CC’s? PJ’s
- Creole Creamery or Angelo Brocato? Angelo Brocato
- Zoo or Aquarium? Zoo
- Register or Sorting at Thrift Shop? Register
Meet the Board

Nominating Chair

HALLIE LANIER BOH

By: Jessica Fridge

Hallie Boh is one busy woman. Rushing into the coffee shop in full work-out gear, she apologizes for not being put together. She has just picked her youngest son up from swim team practice with just enough time for this interview before rushing out again to take him to baseball practice. She keeps a careful eye on him as she situates him on a couch with an iPhone for our interview. Sitting down with Hallie over ice tea at a local coffee shop, one thing is very clear, she loves the League and is a JLNO cheerleader at heart. She does not stop smiling and raving about the League for the entire interview.

The daughter of a JLNO Sustainer, Hallie is now in her 10th year as an Active member and this is the second time she has held a seat on the JLNO Board. In 2008-09, she was the Business and Communications Director. She is thrilled to be back on the Board and feels refreshed and ready for what this year has to bring. Hallie’s voluntarism extends far beyond her Junior League experience to Board positions with her church and the Orléans Club. She previously served on the Board of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Hallie is married to Stephen, mom to Nicholas and step-mom to Stephen Jr. and David.

As the Nominating Director, what direction do you see the Nominating Committee moving?

We are carefully considering a new format in which certain positions on the current Board of Directors would eventually become a Management Team, and the remaining leaders would combine with others to form a newly purposed Board of Directors. This new Board would be responsible for much of the strategic planning, governance, and fiscal responsibilities. This format is modeled after other Leagues that have already incorporated this model with much success. In the meantime, our committee will assist next year’s slated Board with the committee leader draft process this spring.

This year we are also making a concerted effort to be more transparent about the nominating committee and its processes. While the committee deliberations are confidential, the goal is to make the process more open to the League members so that people understand how members are nominated to the Board and how selection occurs.

What do you currently love about the League?

There is a great giving spirit in the League. The continually growing Provisional classes since Katrina have been filled with people who have a great interest in community voluntarism. I love that our members want to be leaders. You don’t have many people that want to sit in the background. Members are joining the League because they want to lead committees and bring them into fruitful directions, and they know the League will train them to be a leader.

Where do you see the League 10 years from now?

This is such a critical time for the League and there are some evolutions that are already in place. Our new funding structure, “Earn It. Plan it. Spend it,” is already under way. This new strategy, combined with the streamlining of our fundraisers and community projects, will make the League more efficient and more powerful. We have increased our leadership positions across the board and will be creating more leaders for our community. The great impact that the leaders and our community projects have will improve the perception that the community has of the League. Finally, I hope that more of our community projects will have spun off and become self-sufficient.

What is the most important thing that the League has taught you personally?

Delegation is a huge one! There is so much work to be done that it can’t possibly be done without delegation. Also finding ways to uplift your volunteers and respect their time and their input. I also think it’s important to keep a sense of heart in everything that you do and to keep your mission and your angle in front of you at all times because you can lose sight in the midst of everything. I would never have had the confidence to seek out some of the volunteer and job positions that I have had, had it not been for the training, skills, connections and exposure I received in the League. Any success I have had in other positions is 100% because of my involvement in the League.
Meet the Board

Sustaining Advisor

KATHERINE ANDRY CROSBY

By: Qiana Wiggins

Katherine “Katie” Crosby, a native New Orleanian, joined the Junior League of New Orleans at age 25. She became a Sustaining member of the League after serving as President in 2000-2001. As an Active League member, her placements varied from treasurer responsibilities to Placement Advisor to Nominating Chair. During her Sustainer years, she has served as Sustaining Advisor to both the Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors. Katie is currently Board Chair of Fidelity Homestead Savings Bank. A Vandy grad, Katie earned her MBA from Tulane in 2007. She is married to Howell Crosby and they have three adult children: Tac (27), Tippins (26) and Billy, (23). Tippins and her husband, Wilson Gandy, are expecting their second child this fall. Katie’s 21-month-old granddaughter, Elle, calls her “Sweets”.

Where do you see the League in the next 10 years?
The League must remember to stay flexible in order to manage the changing needs of our growing membership and the community at large. The Provisional class has doubled in size since I was active in the League and it is important to accommodate the busy schedules of our volunteers. We need to make sure that our members see the meaningful impact they are making in the community.

What skills have you learned from JLNO?
Some important skills that I learned as an Active member include the importance of creating and managing budgets and how to interact with various personalities in order to reach a consensus. I found that I learned the most when I chose placements that were out of my comfort zone. Throughout the years, I also learned meeting management skills and Parliamentary procedure. I have been blessed with a number of opportunities to be involved in the Greater New Orleans community and my Junior League training has served me well in both volunteer and professional experiences.

You are the Sustaining Advisor. What does this role entail?
My role is to assist the President with historical information and connect Jeanne with Sustainer subject matter experts on Junior League opportunities and issues. Unlike the rest of the slated Board, I am asked by the President to serve and I am delighted to be working with Jeanne. I don’t have all of the answers, but I am happy to help out in any way possible. This position allows me to become more familiar with the day-to-day activities of the Junior League and I have noticed lots of positive changes, including all of the online access for members.

What is your proudest League accomplishment?
I am most proud of being part of the team who started the Junior League of New Orleans Endowment Fund. The financial sustainability of the League is important in order to ensure its future success.

Fast Facts
Jazz Fest or Mardi Gras? Mardi Gras
Snowballs or Frozen Yogurt? Snowballs
iPad or Kindle Fire? iPad
Audubon Zoo or Aquarium of the Americas? Depends on the weather
THRIFT SHOP: Making it a Million

By: Rachel Stephens

The Thrift Shop Strategic Plan Committee is working to make Bloomin’ Deals Thrift Shop, JLNO’s largest revenue source, a million dollar business. This new campaign to “Make it a Million” is accompanied by renewed energy in the Junior League’s biggest initiative. Located in the heart of the burgeoning Freret Street business corridor, the Thrift Shop is poised for growth and expansion. With a current annual gross revenue of about half a million dollars, the campaign hopes to double this number in the next ten years. According to Jeanne Boughton, JLNO President, “We’re really close. We’re almost at $500,000. If in the next ten years, by our 100th Anniversary, it was a million dollar fundraiser, it would be really amazing.”

The Junior League cannot be successful in this venture without the help of its membership. There are small things that every Provisional, Active, and Sustaining Junior League member can do to help achieve this goal. Jeanne encourages members to think about the Thrift Shop first when cleaning out your home. Dresses and furniture are particularly high-dollar items. She says “if you give it to the Thrift Store, you’re sending revenue in that direction. If we all start thinking strategically and we all make an effort to contribute bigger ticket items to the Thrift Store, and

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One reason Bloomin’ Deals has so many repeat customers is thanks in part to the always friendly staff, who are familiar faces in the Freret neighborhood. Photo by: Jessica Chin
Thrift Shop
continued from page 31

continue to drive traffic to that fundraiser. It’s going to take some effort, but in the recognition of that, if everyone adopts that same idea, then we can all do it together. It’s a personal decision.”

Thrift Shop co-chair, Kate Padbury, also reiterates the importance of donating high-quality items, and the critical contribution members can make when they continue donating even after reaching the $100 benchmark. Customer service is also an important aspect of improving revenue. According to Kate, “We’d like our members to continue giving great customer service when working in the front and back of the Thrift Shop. We are representing the Junior League when we work there, so we’d like members to please remember to be friendly and thank people for dropping off donations.”

Increasing the Thrift Shop’s visibility on social media is also something anyone can do. By “liking” the Facebook pages for the Bloomin’ Deals Thrift Shop and Junior League of New Orleans and “liking” and “sharing” posts on these pages, visibility can increase beyond the immediate neighborhood.

The Bloomin’ Deals Bridal Boutique which occupies the storefront of the Thrift Shop annex immediately beside the main building is an exciting new development which will only help

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Fall 2013 Session:
Saturdays 10/26 and 11/2
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.,
Application deadline: October 11th, 2013
increase revenue. Christine Vinson, along with Kristen Ponthier, are the co-chairs of the newly formed Bridal Boutique committee and they have big goals in mind. According to Christine, “We’re hoping to get the name out there more, do some more marketing and potentially even foster partnerships within the community. We’re also going to research consignment options.” The sunny space is chock-full of everything from summer dresses to designer gowns and Christine says, “there’s something in here for everybody even if you aren’t looking for a bridal dress. Everything in here is under $100 and there are dresses for Mardi Gras balls, different events, mother of the bride dresses, cocktail dresses, summer dresses, something even a little nicer than what’s on the formal rack in the Thrift Shop.”

Boutique committee member, Alexis Ruffino, is clearly enthusiastic about the shop, noting, “I think that the Thrift Shop is a great location and I think that the Bridal Boutique is going to be just as successful. I think it’s a great new venture that’s needed for this neighborhood and I really do believe that there is something for everyone here.”

In summary, the Thrift Shop is continuing to thrive, but it needs your help to grow. Spread the word by talking to friends about Bloomin’ Deals and sharing on social media. Donate items throughout the year, especially high ticket items, and visit the Bridal Boutique. Collectively, we can really “Make it a Million!”

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New dining venues with a New Orleans flavor are drawing raves. The renovated Historic House, long the centerpiece of this community, has an elegant and relaxing new space called 1857 Hall. A new Wellness & Therapy Center offers state-of-the-art equipment and a broadened scope of resident services.

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Dear June R. Leaguer,

I am a busy working mother and can't commit to a full year of League duties right now. I don't want to leave JLNO, but I need to take some time away. What are my options?

Sincerely,

Taking Time

Dear Taking Time,

Did you know that Active members have six Leaves of Absence to use during their career as an Active member? Yes, these Leaves are put in place to help members lighten the load during the League year. When taking Leaves, it is important that you remember that Leaves do not take away financial obligations, so you still pay your dues and donate rummage to the Thrift Shop. Here is the breakdown for your consideration:

Taking 1 Leave of Absence—You would complete 2 general meetings, 2 of your shifts and your placement.

Taking 2 Leaves of Absence—You would complete 1 general meeting, 1 of your shifts and your placement.

Taking 3 Leaves of Absence—You complete no meetings, no shifts and no placement.

Keep in mind that you can take a maximum of three Leaves per League year. If you elect to take one or two Leaves, it would still count as an Active year towards going Sustainer. If you take three Leaves, it will not count as an Active year towards going Sustainer.

Dear June R. Leaguer,

I had scheduled a Community Shift for next weekend, but can't make the shift because I have to go out of town for business. Is there a way I can receive credit for my shift without having to pay the missed shift fine?

Sincerely,

Active In a Bind

Dear Active In a Bind,

Here is some helpful information to get you out of a bind:

You can have someone do a "paid shift" for you. Ask a friend or look for members on the "Paid Shift List" located on the JLNO website (Requirements – Active Requirements – Paid Shift List).

When a member agrees to cover your shift, you pay the member $35, they cover your shift and you send an email to staffing@jlno.org to be sure you receive your credit! It is your responsibility to have someone cover the shift. Staffing cannot help you find someone to cover your shift. Provisionals can't cover Active shifts, and vice versa. Also, please note that Provisionals may not use the Paid Shift List.

Also, keep in mind that when signing up online, you cannot remove yourself from a shift in the two-week period before the shift. If you fail to show up for your shift or have someone cover your shift, you will be fined $50 and must make-up the shift.

Please contact Holley Payne, Membership Manager, at 891-5845 or holley@jlno.org to schedule a meeting. You can use the Auditorium, Board Room, Anne Carroll Suite, Pratt Suite or Copy Room for your meetings. Headquarters is open M-F from 8 am to 5 pm, and open until 9 pm on Tuesdays all year long. From September through May, Headquarters is also open one Thursday a month until 9 pm. If you wish to have a meeting on any other evening, please note that your committee would be responsible for paying for police detail, which is a minimum of 4 hours at $30 per hour.
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JLNO goes back to school with Member Education Series and JL University!

By Ann Conger

The Junior League of New Orleans is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

— Junior League of New Orleans Mission Statement

For JLNO, fall brings the Member Education series; however, this year, member training has some new and exciting changes! Training its members in necessary skills is an integral part of JLNO’s mission and this fall two programs, one established and one brand new, will work towards that mission. Joining the Member Education Series, a classic JLNO program of the Training and Education Committee, this year is JL University, a new project with the goal of teaching important League fundamentals to Provisional members. These projects aim to instill within JLNO members essential knowledge to help them serve both the League and community.

While members may already be familiar with the Member Education Series; this year, under the leadership of its Co-Chairs, Kathleen Vogt Robert and Natalie Kaharick, it is undergoing a make-over. This year’s slate of courses will serve to further JLNO’s mission of creating trained volunteers; with subject matter revolving around topics of well-being, rebuilding New Orleans, and children’s education. Previously offered “fun” classes will now fall under the domain of Esprit while Member Education goes “back to the mission” to offer informative classes designed to foster personal growth, exploration and stewardship of the city. Each of the classes will feature a speaker and topic in line with JLNO’s mission and will help JLNO to produce the best quality volunteers and leaders. October’s Member Education Series (also known as “Trainingpalooza”) will offer a variety of classes designed for Actives, Provisionals, and Sustainers to offer training to help members gain targeted knowledge to help them volunteer with specific groups, from senior citizens to children.

Although most of the activity for the Training and Education committee happens in the fall, they have other things in store for the rest of the year that go along with the new direction of the courses. This summer, a pilot program for Emergentetics training took place, which is an exciting program to help JLNO leaders, current and future. While the Emergentetics program is small for now, the hope is that it will be open to many more members in the future, allowing members to learn to better set and achieve goals and metrics. Additionally, committee Co-Chair Kathleen Robert is already planning for this year’s spring speaker series to focus on education and the committee is seeking to partner with local leaders in education. Kathleen stated that this topic was chosen because education is a particularly relevant and important topic now, given that Common Core Education Standards and Charter Schools are on the minds of so many New Orleanians. The goal for the series is to help members make choices and to be good stewards of the community.

JL University is a brand new project for this year. According to Beth LeBlanc, committee Co-Chair, the project was grown out of a need for JLNO members to have a basic understanding of how the League operates. In its inaugural year, JLU will focus on ensuring that Provisionals have knowledge in two areas: sales and finance. Co-Chair Beth LeBlanc, who has years of experience on the finance committee, will focus on the financial side of the training, while Co-Chair Mandi Frischertz will focus on the fundraiser side. They want to make sure that members are aware of the operating and financial structure of JLNO, in order to help them make more informed decisions. Furthermore, the things learned in JLU (as well as in the Member Education Series) are skills that translate well into members’ professional and personal lives. JLU will bring broad, high-level training, designed to give a basic understanding of JLNO operations and fundraising strategies to its members. Beth says the aim is not to “micromanage” training but to give members the tools they need.

The idea for JLU was partly born out of lessons learned from the cookbook project, notes Beth; not all League members are natural salespeople and did not feel comfortable actively selling the cookbooks during their fundraising shifts. Given that fundraising is such a crucial part of JLNO’s programs, she believes that training in sales and League finance would greatly benefit both the members and the League itself. With this training, she hopes that League members will better understand the relationships between the League’s five councils and the budgeting process. Although JLU plans to focus on training Provisional members for its first year, the hope is that the presentations will be made available to a wider, entire League audience.
RACERS BRAVE BAD WEATHER FOR 5K ETOUFFEE!

By: Lea Witkowski-Purl

About 200 runners, crawlers and spectators enjoyed the lingering spring weather and shimmering puddles from a morning rain during the 2013 5K Etouffee on Saturday, May 11 in Audubon Park. The first of the third annual event to serve etouffee, the namesake dish after the race, family fitness competition featured a 5K race, a half mile race and a baby crawl. In spite of the rolling thunder and heavy rain just before the race started, Kenny Mire took home the overall prize in the 5K with a time of 20:00. Meredith Hurst was the first female finisher at 23:18. The half mile race earned Joshua Quintana (3:18) and Hannah Plaisance (3:46) first place titles.

“The most memorable moment was the children’s half mile,” said Elizabeth Bush, 2012-13 co-chair for the event. “The kids were so excited when they crossed the finish line.”

Two competitors raced in the 96-inch baby crawl with numerous fans enjoying the rivalry of the athletes.

“The baby crawl held under the protection of the park shelter proved to be a highlight with people gathering all around and cheering on the youngest participants,” said Michelle Cox, the other 2012-13 co-chair.

In addition to the crawfish etouffee provided by Zatarain’s, crawfish corn pepper soup from Mr. Mudbug’s, Abita Beer and Root beer and Brown’s Dairy chocolate milk were served to the competitors.

“Our food and beverage offerings were outstanding this year – perfect for the strangely cool morning!” Michelle said.

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Healthy food and enjoyable exercise are two reasons that the annual race event fits into the mission of the Junior League. “The 5K, and the associated Half Mile Fun Run, like our Kids in the Kitchen project, support the Junior League’s focus area of healthy families as we band together to fight childhood obesity,” Michelle said.

Community involvement is another central component to the 5K that is aligned with the mission of the Junior League. Junior League members are not the only participants, and the 5K promotes healthy and fun lifestyles for all community members. In the spirit of the family event, a face painting station and a coloring area were also available for children to enjoy, making the 2013 race an enjoyable and memorable event, even with threatening weather.

The next race will be held in the fall, leaving merely weeks to prepare your family and friends for fun, fitness and food with the community.

Melissa Beaug and Elizabeth Van Kirk, chairs for 2013-14, are excited to continue the tradition of supporting healthy lifestyles and promoting community involvement. “For this League year, the decision was made to move the 5K race to the fall, largely to cross-promote Buy, Save and Serve and the 5K. This will allow us to more efficiently use League resources and target a larger audience for both events. While we currently are in the planning stage, the 5K committee is hoping to roll out some exciting changes for the race, including a route that has not yet been used by the New Orleans running community,” Melissa and Elizabeth said in an emailed statement.

Check out our Facebook page, www.jlno.org and the Lagniappe calendar for updates about the next 5K and plan to bring your friends and families to support healthy living through fun!
JLNO members being active in the community and enjoying League events!

1 Outgoing JLNO Board pose together for one last picture at the May General Membership Meeting at Commander's Palace.

2 Trisha Verlander, Amanda Foret, Mariel Ponseti and Claudia Pruna socialize at the Speed Friending Esprit event. Photo by Michelle Fridman

3 Provisionals gather for a photo at JL 101 on June 11, 2013. Photo by: Leigh Thorpe

4 Outgoing President, Brandy Whisnant, pins the JLNO Presidents pin on incoming President, Jeannie Boughton at the May General Membership Meeting.

5 Provisionals get their first taste of JLNO at JL 101 on June 08, 2013. Photo by: Leigh Thorpe

6 Provisionals pose for a group photo at JL 101 on June 11, 2013. Photo by: Erin Woods

7 Melissa Beese and Sophie Ryan get to know other League members at JLNO's Speed Friending and Sangrias event at Salu. Photo by Michelle Fridman

8 Melissa Stelly, Kim Abramson and Blair duQueenay enjoy a fabulous event at Galatoire's Esprit Lunch. Photo by: Liz Wood

9 Guests at the JLNO Provisional Welcome Party at Bayou District stop for a quick photo. Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes
10 2012/2013 Board Members relax and mingle at the Galatoire’s Esprit Lunch on May 31, 2013. Photo by: Liz Wood

11 JLNO Provisionals get together for a photo at the Provisional Welcome Party at Bayou District. Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes

12 Provisionals enjoy their first JLNO social event, the Provisional Welcome Party at Bayou District. Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes

13 Provisional Co-chairs Leigh Thorpe and Caty Flower flank President Joanna Boughton at the Provisional Welcome Party on May 20, 2013. Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes

14 Kristen Robinson and Christine Giustra enjoy sangrias at Salu on June 26, 2013 during the Speed Friending Event. Photo by Michelle Fridman

15 Sally Clark and Emily Vanlandingham have a good time with Renee Labord at Salu during the Speed Friending event hosted by the Esprit committee on June 26, 2013. Photo by Michelle Fridman

16 Chalon Dominick, Lauren Giovingo and Amanda Bruno catch up over Sangrias at Salu during an Esprit event. Photo by Michelle Fridman

17 JLNO Provisional Welcome party at Bayou District on May 20, 2013. Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes
Are you ready to BUY, SAVE & SERVE?

By Margaret Zainey Roux

Despite the fact that the temperature continues to rise, fall is finally here. And while your calendar is likely filling up fast with back-to-school events and football games, be sure to SAVE THE DATE for this year’s Buy, Save & Serve (BSS). The card is available to purchase in September and can be redeemed from November 1-10, 2013.

The BSS shopping card is a win-win-win for everyone—shoppers, retailers and the entire New Orleans community. For a donation of $35, supporters will receive a savings card offering up to 20% off at participating retailers and restaurants in the greater New Orleans area as well as the North Shore and Baton Rouge. The card can also be used at a number of eCommerce retailers. All of the proceeds from the sales of the savings cards will directly benefit the League’s nine community programs that serve the city’s most underserved population including charter school outreach, nutritional programming, children’s health services and youth development.

“We’re anticipating that this year’s Buy, Save & Serve is going to be our best yet,” says Tesa Bossetta, who is co-chair of BSS 2013 with Chalon Dominick, Jessie Englehardt, Lila Fox and Meredith Beers. “We expect more than 200 retailers and restaurants to join us and offer big savings on everything from designer clothing for men, women and children; to home décor; salon and spa services; and fine dining. The card offers a great incentive to get your holiday shopping done early!”

New to this year’s program is the “Mobile Merchant” app available for iPhones and iPads. The app is free to download and provides users with access to handy information on select retailers and restaurants including address, phone number, and website, as well as map to its location. It also allows users to sort the list of merchants by type or location and to mark their “favorites.”

The week-long shopping experience will commence at a Kick-Off Party at Lakeside Mall on Saturday, November 2, 2013, from 10 am to 1 pm. BSS shopping cards will be sold, and guests will enjoy free food and refreshments as well as the chance to win fabulous door prizes.

For more information or to participate as a BSS 2013 merchant, please call Holley Payne at 504-891-5845.

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