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## On the Cover

Junior League of New Orleans's 2014 Sustainer of the Year, Claire Ferrier Stahel, at City Park's Carousel atop the horse she and her husband helped renovate after Hurricane Katrina.

*Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes*

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# Letter

from the President



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann

Do you remember when you were a child and played dress up? Did you wear the clothes and shoes of someone older and bigger than you? While in costume, did you pretend that you were already a grown-up?

Like me, perhaps you remember watching the older the kids play? Friends even a year older than I possessed more stature in my mind. The older kids' mature behavior sometimes seemed more attractive to me than the silly games that my friends and I were playing.

If this scenario sounds familiar, then you, like me, began identifying role models at a young age. Junior League founders long ago recognized that this very act of emulating positive role models was central component of the Junior League and captured it within our mission as "...developing the potential of women." I can confirm that this practice is alive and well today and is part of what makes our organization so unique.

My list of JLNO role models grows by the day. A committee chair creates a vital project from a simple idea. An advisor counsels us on an organizational challenge without a fee for her service. A child smiles because he received an unexpected holiday gift this year. A novice writer creates a story in this very publication. Two Provisional members meet at a Bloomin' Deals shift and become lifelong friends. These are all reasons that the Junior League of New Orleans continues to inspire a lifetime love of nonprofit work for our members.

As JLNO's President, I have been humbled by the responsibility and privilege of "playing dress up" this year. I am always inspired and enriched by the many members who model the admirable trait of working as hard in their volunteer roles as they do in their professional or familial roles.

Each Spring, JLNO recognizes the efforts of one of her own members by bestowing the title of "Sustainer of the Year" on a woman who has worked tirelessly to fulfill Junior League's mission of "...improving communities." The accomplishments of this deserving individual read like a "how to" manual for those with goals of improving the lives of those around them. We thank Claire Ferrier Stahel for being an outstanding JLNO role model.

If you have not yet found a JLNO role model, then know she is out there waiting for you. You can choose from a long list of honored women or from a quiet leader recognized only by you. In this role model, you will find a friend who also shares a commitment to the JLNO mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the communities through the effective action of trained volunteers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanne". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".



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# Letter

from the Editor

***“Remember, that of all the elements that comprise a human being, the most important, the most essential, the one that will sustain, transcend, overcome and vanquish obstacles is – Spirit!”***

— Buddy Ebsen



Photo By: Jessica Bechmann

Happy 90th Birthday, Junior League of New Orleans! Ninety years ago 40 visionary women set forth to create an organization dedicated to improving New Orleans and providing education and training to women. Since the inception of JLNO, thousands of women have been members and their ideas have led to effective change in this city. I am extremely proud to be a member of the Junior League of New Orleans. To be in the company of such amazing women is an honor. In preparing for this momentous issue, my staff and I, with the assistance of Archivist Chair Lenora Costa, delved into the archives of JLNO and scoured websites for the history of the Junior League (now known as the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. or AJLI) and The Junior League of New Orleans.

From the beginning, JLNO members developed inventive and impactful projects, dedicated hours of volunteer service and generous monetary support solely for the betterment of the city they loved. To learn more about the “HER-story” of AJLI and JLNO, I invite you to read our special 90th birthday editorial and join me in taking pride in your membership with the Junior League of New Orleans. Painting a picture of how life was for women at the turn of the century, this article illustrates the establishment of AJLI and JLNO, and its first-hand accounts from our members illuminate the evolution of our organization during their membership.

The dedication of those women who came before us is a testament to the sustainability of JLNO. Members of the Junior League who are past their Active years are called Sustainers, which is for a good reason. Our beloved Sustainers are the foundation of this organization. Because of their undeterred spirit, ingenious ideas and unbeatable dedication, The Junior League of New Orleans continues to thrive. Each year, we honor one of our Sustaining members and bestow our highest award upon her. This year, JLNO honors Claire Ferrier Stahel as the 56th Sustainer of the Year. You’ll be in awe Claire’s determination in the face of obstacles and inspired by her “make it happen” attitude. Congratulations, Claire. You truly are an example of how to “Be Remarkable.”

If reading about the amazing history of this great organization and the notable life of the newest Sustainer of the Year doesn’t get you even more excited about JLNO, perhaps learning more about one of the following will:

- JLNO’s newest fundraiser, The Freret 5K, and how it was a runaway success!
- Making the most of your placement and upcoming Placement Week (April 14-21, 2014).
- The four worthy organizations presented with Community Assistance Funds grants!
- The classroom JLNO donated to Educare at Bayou District Foundation!

Now is such an exciting time to be a JLNO member!

Speaking of being a member, did you know that the Junior League has a host of famous members? Page 26 includes a list of extraordinary women that you may not have known had Junior League roots! Who knows? Maybe the training and education you receive from JLNO will lead to you being featured on this list! New Orleans needs a representative on this list! Let it be you!

Warmly,

*Jessica*

Do you know JLNO?



Answer to win

Each issue of *Lagniappe* contains a Junior League specific question. Submit your answer to [editor@jlno.org](mailto:editor@jlno.org) by **April 21, 2014** for your chance to win some great JLNO swag! *Lagniappe* will randomly chose the winner and contact them via email and phone. The winner will be announced on Facebook and Twitter, too.

The question of the spring issue is:

**“The Junior League of New Orleans has a very large membership and is listed as the \_\_\_ largest Junior League in the world. What is our numerical ranking in regards to number of members?”**

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# JLNO Spring Bulletin Board



**Happy Birthday, JLNO!** - Join us for an Appreciation Celebration at JLNO Headquarters on Monday, March 31st at 12pm.

**Don't be fooled!** Be on the lookout because April Fool's Day is April 1st!

**Need new kitchen ideas?** The 9th Annual JLNO Kitchen Tour is Saturday, April 5th, 10am - 4pm!

**It's placement time!** JLI 03 (The Placement Fair) has three available times for all members to attend: Thursday, April 3rd at 7pm and Tuesday, April 8th at 9 am and 7 pm. All held at JLNO HQ.

**Get your Easter basket ready!** Bring the kids and join us at 12:30pm on Sunday, March 30th at the Poydras Home for the Esprit Easter Egg Hunt! The Easter Bunny will be there, too!



**Mark your calendars!** - The April General Membership Meeting is Tuesday, April 8th and has two convenient times - 9am and 7pm, both at JLNO HQ.

**Who you gonna call? MIGHTY MEN!** Mighty Men will be making their way around New Orleans to pick up large furniture donations on Saturday, April 12th from 9am-12pm!

**PLACEMENT WEEK IS APRIL 14TH - APRIL 21ST!!**

**Good Friday is Friday, April 18th.** In observance of Good Friday, JLNO HQ will be closed all day and Bloomin' Deals Thrift Shop will close at 3pm.

**Happy Easter!** Easter is Sunday, April 20th and Bloomin' Deals Thrift Shop will be closed.

**Lemonade Day University is Saturday, April 26th!**

**Where will you stand?** Lemonade Day is Saturday, May 3rd. Be sure to support the young entrepreneurs by buying a cup of lemonade!

**Celebrate mom! Mother's Day is Sunday, May 11th.**



**Passing the Presidential gavel!**

The May General Membership Meeting is Tuesday, May 13th. Join us as we say goodbye to 2013/14 President Jeanne Boughton and welcome 2014/15 President Katherine Kleinpeter Raymond!

**May 26th is Memorial Day!**

Let's eat and toast to a wonderful League year! Say goodbye to the 2013/14 League year with your friends over lunch at Tableau!

# Have you...



- Wished JLNO Happy 90th Birthday?
- Liked JLNO on Facebook?
- Liked Bloomin' Deal's Thrift Shop on Facebook?
- Followed Bloomin' Deals on Twitter? @JL\_BloominDeals
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- Visited our website? [www.jlno.org](http://www.jlno.org)
- Downloaded the Digital Cheetah app?
- Thought of your top 3 placement choices?
- Bought your Kitchen Tour tickets?
- Mapped out your Kitchen Tour route?



Junior League of

*New Orleans*  
Women Building a Greater New Orleans

Signed your children up for Lemonade Day?



- Settled on a lemonade recipe for Lemonade Day?



- Completed your Fundraising Shift?
- Attended FOUR General Membership Meetings this year?

- Made a donation to the Endowment Fund?
- Completed your Thrift Shop Shift?
- Met a new JLNO member?**
- Made your rummage donation?
- Completed your Community Shift?
- Told someone new about JLNO?**
- Attended an Esprit event?

# Giving membership dues the credit they deserve

By: Ann Conger

Each year of their membership, Junior League of New Orleans members make a financial commitment, not only to be a member of JLNO, but also to help finance the organization's mission and keep the doors open and the air conditioner running. When financial commitments such as this are made, it is important to know where your money is going, the purpose it will help serve, and how it fits into the overall budget of the organization that you are supporting. The dues for Active and Associate-Active members for the 2013-2014 Junior League year are \$220.00 and the dues for Sustainers are \$130.00. The dues for Provisional members are \$270.00, which includes an additional one-time fee of \$50.00.

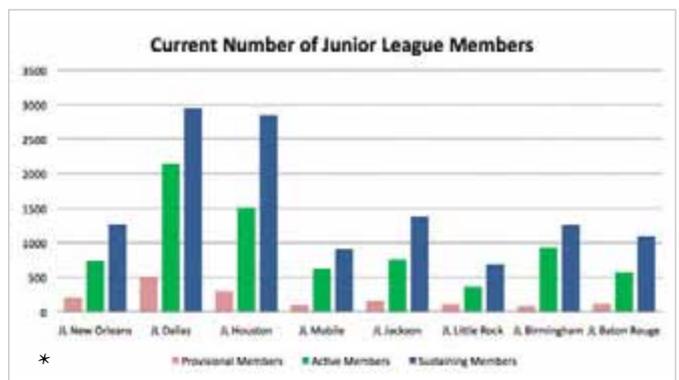
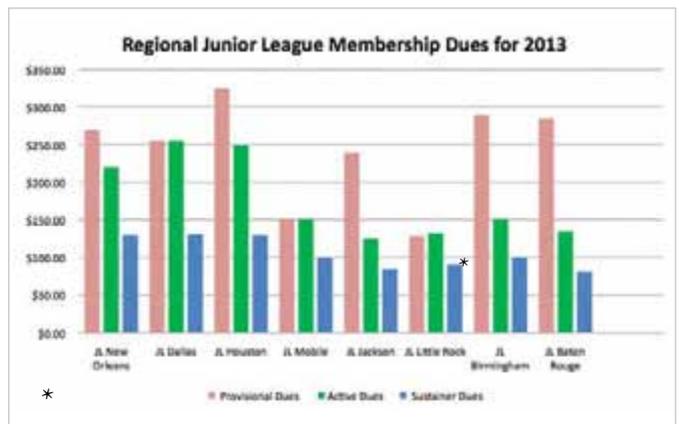
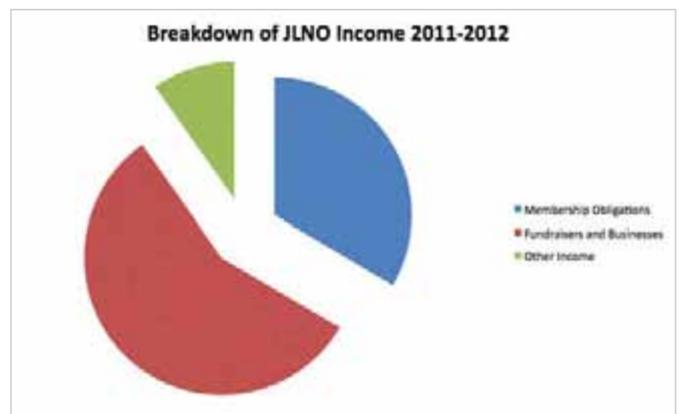
According to JLNO Treasurer Allison Plaisance, membership dues are to cover the operating expenses of the organization and "This year, we tried to reflect in the budget how dues and other revenue sources are being spent. We aligned the dues to operating expenses, which include compensation to our HQ staff and administrative costs such as the financial audit, tax filings, insurance and the website."

Additionally, a portion of all JLNO membership dues are paid to The Association of Junior Leagues International. While community projects are the focus of the Junior League, dues help defray the cost of operating expenses, which in turn enables JLNO to further its mission. For the 2011-2012 Junior League year, the total income for JLNO was \$1,081,686 and membership obligations brought in \$361,789; almost one third of total JLNO revenue. Over the last five years, JLNO committed over \$895,982 to community partners, projects, training and initiatives.

The Junior League of New Orleans membership dues vary in relation to those paid by area Junior Leagues. The Junior Leagues of Houston and Dallas have higher dues, while the Junior Leagues of Jackson, Birmingham, Baton Rouge, Little Rock and Mobile have lower dues. There are contributing factors for JLNO's dues to be greater, namely operating expenses are higher in New Orleans and the Junior League of New Orleans has a much larger membership than other regional Junior Leagues – the 12th largest Junior League in the world!

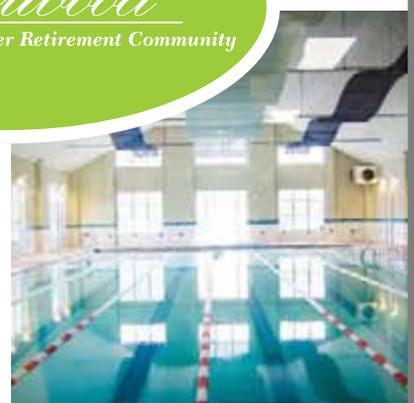
JLNO President Jeanne Boughton stated that "It is important to remember that our dues maintain three JLNO properties, which are sizeable, but costly assets. The properties all maintain a high value in today's real estate market." JLNO Headquarters, Bloomin' Deals Thrift Shop and the Thrift Shop Annex are not the only aspect of operating expenses that membership dues help maintain, "JLNO membership dues also support three full-time headquarters staff, as well as 7-8 part time employees at Bloomin' Deals, which generates a net profit of over \$250,000 per year," Jeanne concluded.

Remember that the annual membership dues paid to JLNO are tax deductible!



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# Senior League: Receiving as Much as You Give

By: Emily Remington

Senior League is a Junior League of New Orleans program borne out of the need for more hands-on programming for senior citizens (across socio-economic levels) in our community. Throughout the year, the Senior League committee collaborates in the planning and hosting of workshops, art projects, music/dance performances, and special celebratory events for the elderly at area nursing homes and adult day care centers. The Senior League also partners with senior citizen community organizations in the Greater New Orleans area,

such as Home Life in the Gardens (formerly Malta Park), PACE, Kingsley House and The Greater New Orleans Senior Olympics.

This year, the Senior League has developed a new partnership with The Greater New Orleans Senior Olympics. This past fall, JLNO members volunteered at the Senior Olympics and offered their services by keeping score, assisting with registration, and helping set up and break down competitions such as table tennis, throws, washer pitchers, and team dance. The Senior Olympics has quickly turned

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**1** JLNO member, Carrie Wright, helped Ms. Lois make a Mardi Gras mask at Home Life in the Garden.

Photo by: Erin Woods

**2** JLNO member, Joan LaMartina and Kaylee Smith, pose with Ms. Nooka and Ms. Evelyn after making Mardi Gras masks.

Photo By: Erin Woods

**3** Senior League Committee Members attend an event at Kingsley House. (L-R) Traci Lucas, De'Lisa Rowe-Tate, Caroline Robert, Kyle Kehoe, Lesley Kane and Rhonda Stephens

Photo By: Erin Woods

into a favorite event with committee members. "It was amazing to see so many fit seniors and those who weren't in the fittest shape, but ready to try," said Committee Member, Kyle Kehoe. The Senior League will volunteer again with the Senior Olympics in the spring.

This year, the Senior League also organized enjoyable activities, such as BINGO and crafts at Home Life in the Garden. In addition, the committee held a fun-filled Halloween craft project day at PACE and a joyous Christmas party at Kingsley House. Earlier this spring, the committee volunteered at two events at Kingsley House: a lovely Valentine's Day party and a festive Mardi Gras ball! Later this spring, a garden day at Home Life in the Garden is planned and the committee members will help

plant flowers. PACE will also welcome volunteers for an Easter craft day and a Mother's Day celebration.

Committee members agree that this placement is a rewarding experience. Like so many other community placements, one outcome of this volunteer work is empathy. "This placement is so meaningful because I am so happy to help and honor senior citizens. I was very close to my grandmother, who passed away several years ago. When I spend time volunteering to serve senior citizens, I feel that I am honoring my grandmother and giving thanks for all that she has given me," Kyle shared. Serving on the Senior League Committee can also provide valuable training to members who may care for an elderly friend or family member.

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# Making the most of your Placement

By: Heather Guidry

Whether it is a member's first Active year or their last, choosing a placement for the upcoming Junior League of New Orleans year can seem like an overwhelming task. If this is your first year you may be thinking: How do I decide? Where do I belong? And if it is your last Active year, you may be reflecting on your JLNO experiences, wondering if you overlooked an exciting opportunity. One component of the JLNO mission is developing the potential of women, and a JLNO member can accomplish this through a variety of placements. For the 2014/15 Junior League year, the Business and Communications Council will separate into two councils. Thus, seven councils will now represent the organizational structure of JLNO: Business, Communications,



Placement Co-Chairs Lauren Giovingo and Sibby Charbonnet are looking forward to an exciting Placement Week.

Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes



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The placement chosen is important because an Active member will spend 40 hours completing her assignment over the next JLNO year (June 1-May 31). When deciding how you can make the most of your placement, ask yourself: are you already an expert at something? Do you want to share your impeccable fundraising, networking or event planning skills? Or maybe you joined JLNO because you want to escape your daily routine and learn a new skill! Members should also make sure that they understand the requirements of each placement. If you have a full time day job, you would not want to pick a placement that meets Monday through Friday during business hours, and if you have limited transportation, a placement which requires travel throughout Greater New Orleans would not be ideal.

Some Active members may choose to do a double placement. Although that can seem like a daunting undertaking, members often

### TIPS FOR INCOMING ACTIVE MEMBERS:

1. Review the available placements beforehand. The placement brochure is a great place to start! It may take some research, but whatever your interest, a placement exists for you.
2. Talk to current Actives and ask them about their experiences. The best way to truly understand a placement is to talk to its past members. Tell them what you hope to accomplish in the next year, and listen to their suggestions.
3. Make sure that the requirements meet your availability. Do not be scared to walk away from a placement that you thought would be perfect, once you understand the requirements do not fit your schedule. It is best to make the decision before you place, rather than after.
4. You may not always get your first-choice placement. Have at least 3-5 placements in mind before Placement Week.

find it to be both rewarding and informative. Emmy Remington, in her 3rd year as an Active member, explains her choice: "I choose to do a double placement this year because I was interested in learning more about JLNO. My previous placements had been within the

community, but after conversations with several leaders, we agreed that in-League placements could be a better fit." She continues by saying, "I've been able to learn more about how the League [JLNO] works, from the inside, and met some really great women."

Expanding on how personal choices played a role in choosing her placements, Emmy follows up by saying, "The Transfers Committee was a natural fit. I moved to New Orleans for work in 2008 and knew nothing about how to acclimate to my new city, and I want to make that experience less difficult for others. My second placement with *Lagniappe* materialized because someone asked! I enjoy writing about the impact JLNO has on its community."

Whatever placement you choose, make sure that you will be able to devote the time needed to complete your requirements, and that you will end the JLNO year feeling accomplished having developed your potential, while improving your community. **Set your alarms; Placement Week is April 14-21!** All Active members must sign up for a placement, or they will be deemed "Not in Good Standing" and assigned a placement by the Standards Committee.

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# The Membership Council: JLNO's well-oiled machine

By: Kimberly Allen

For 90 years, local women have flocked to The Junior League of New Orleans for many reasons. Some for friendship. Others for service. All with a focus on improving the local community.

A challenge to an organization that has been so successful for such an extended period of time is to know how to adapt to stay relevant and keep members wanting more. That's where the Membership Council comes into play.

Under the direction of Membership Council Director Sarah Abbott, this committee works to ensure all members, including Provisionals, Actives, and Sustainers, have a successful JLNO experience.

"We realize this is a volunteer organization, and we want to make the best use of time, interests, and talents," said Sarah Abbott. The Membership Council also works to provide members with both social events and training opportunities throughout the year.

It takes a very large team to ensure the Membership Council runs at full capacity. Twelve committees make up the Membership Council, plus a Corresponding Secretary, a Council Secretary, a Council Treasurer, and a Sustaining Advisor for a total of 38 chair and vice-chair roles. Each of those 12 committees also has committee members.

Each year, a new group of women seek to join the Provisional class of JLNO in an effort to join the organization committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving com-

munities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. In total, the women of JLNO commit more than 35,000 volunteer hours each year to improve the community.

Members join The Junior League for many different reasons. For Active Jennifer Knapp, it was to find organizations where she could volunteer her time and feel like she was making a real difference. "I joined to learn more about volunteering and where to get involved in New Orleans," said Jennifer. Through JLNO, she volunteers with Rebuilding Together, Edible Schoolyard, Night Out Against Crime and Second Harvest Food Bank.

For some members, service through The Junior League is a family tradition. Sarah Bookter, a member since 2011, followed in her mother's path. "My mom was in The Junior League of Shreveport [-Bossier] and loved serving, and I have always wanted to join so that I could also serve my community," Sarah Bookter said. "It also was a great way for me to meet locals when I moved here."

Sarah Abbott also took advantage of The Junior League when she was new to town. "I was new to New Orleans when I transferred in my Provisional year, so I joined to meet people and learn more about the New Orleans community," she said.

With more than 2,300 JLNO members, the Provisional year can help a new member feel at home in a large organization.

Sarah Bookter elaborated on her



Caitlin Brewster, Sarah Abbott, and Amelia Arthur serve on the Membership Council to make sure your membership with JLNO is a positive experience.

Photo by: Liz Wood

Provisional experience, "I loved that it was a smaller group and you ran into a lot of the same girls over and over, especially working at the thrift shop. It just helped to make The Junior League [of New Orleans] smaller."

After a Provisional year is completed, members like picking their specific passion to focus on during Active years. "Getting to choose your placement and trying out new things has been really fun," Sarah Bookter added. In addition to her placements on Meeting Boutique and Bridal Boutique over the years, she finds fulfillment participating in the community projects.

"I have really enjoyed working at Second Harvest, because I feel that I have a direct connection with helping the community," Sarah Bookter explained. "I have also worked at Get on Board which was interesting to get to hear the speakers while working."

There are many benefits to joining JLNO whether it is volunteer opportunities, community involvement, social events, networking, or a number of other advantages. Sarah Abbott shared, "For me, the training that can be applied outside of JLNO in our personal lives, work, and other volunteer organizations is most beneficial."

Each spring, our annual recruitment drive takes place. If you or someone you know is interested in joining JLNO, please visit [www.jlno.org](http://www.jlno.org) for more information on the nomination process for membership. We look forward to highlighting the work of the new Provisional class soon in the Fall 2014 issue of *Lagniappe*! We welcome the new Provisional class!

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# Ready, Set, Run Freret!

By: Qi Wiggins



- 1 On your mark, get set, GO! The 1st Annual Freret 5K was a huge success!
- 2 Freret 5K Co-Chairs, Melissa Beagh and Beth Van Kirk, are ready to start off the day's events on a cold December morning.
- 3 The 2013 Freret Street Cup Trophy, designed by Jason Miner of the Freret Clay Center, was awarded to the Thibodeaux School of Music for winning the group competition.

**JLNO President Jeanne Boughton presents the Overall Category winners with their prizes:**

- 4 Female and Male Overall Open Winners, Caroline Smith and Ian Carr.
- 5 Female and Male Overall Legend Winners, Marie Merrick and Dickie Longo.
- 6 Female and Male Overall Grandmasters Winners, Kathey Persons and Kenny Mire.
- 7 Female and Male Overall Masters Winners, Terrey Perrault and Wade Wootan.

Photos by: Carrie Moulder

On your mark...get set...revitalize! The *Freret 5K* was launched Saturday, December 7, 2013 and although the change in weather dampened the numbers, it didn't freeze out the fun.

The *Freret 5K* promoted family fitness and wellness in our community. The committee achieved this goal with a fun, physical activity for adults and children of all ages, while raising funds to support The Junior League of New Orleans' nine community projects. Led by Co-Chairs Beth Van Kirk and Melissa Beagh, the first annual race made its debut on the newly paved Freret Street.

"This is a true economic development and health initiative for The Junior League of New Orleans. We promoted physical fitness with the walk, had the *Kids in the Kitchen* Committee teaching children how to make a healthy snack, Gumbo (the New Orleans Saints mascot) walking the half mile with the kids, and supported the businesses on Freret Street, especially Bloomin' Deals," Beth explained.

After the New Orleans Running Systems, Inc. (NORSI) Race Director Chuck George set the runners off, spectators were delighted with the sights and sounds of neighboring

Green Charter School Marching Band.

"We wanted them (the marching band) to start the race off, but they actually came at the right time. Residents and onlookers were upbeat even though the weather was cold," said Melissa.

Although the number of participants wasn't as high as expected, the co-chairs have laid a great foundation for next year's race. Melissa elaborated by saying, "The *Freret 5K* is a part of our fundraising goals. The Junior League New Orleans has four event-based fundraisers; two in the fall and two in the spring. Having the race on the same street in where our thrift store is located helps solidify our commitment to the surrounding community."

Beth added, "We are building community partners. It's a great low cost event to have since we can use our own thrift store parking lot to stage the race. We had our committee meetings and pre-registration events at nearby businesses. We got the word out using door hangers and having a booth at the Freret Street Market."

In addition to single runners, the committee had encouraged surrounding businesses to form teams and compete for the

coveted “Freret Street Cup”. The trophy was designed by neighboring Freret Street artist Jason Miner, of the Freret Clay Center. The 2013 Freret Street Cup winner was the Thibodeaux School of Music. Race winners were awarded gift cards from surrounding businesses instead of traditional medals.

“I would venture to say I’ve had the best committee. We had 14 women all excited and pumped about this race. I have never chaired a committee where I had 100% participation,” Melissa exclaimed.

Beth concluded by saying, “I think the *Freret 5K* can be an anchor event for The Junior League New Orleans. The foundation is laid, we just need to keep the momentum going.”

2014 race t-shirts are still available for purchase (1 for \$15 or 2 for \$20) on Fleur de League or by calling JLNO headquarters. Designed by *Freret 5K* Co-Chair, Melissa Beaugh, the shirts are a great way you can continue promoting Freret Street and the *Freret 5K*.

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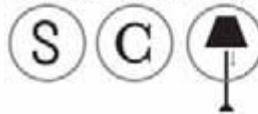
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*The Junior League of New Orleans*

# TURNS 90

**CULTIVATING THE POTENTIAL IN WOMEN:**

**A History of The Association of Junior League International, Inc.  
and The Junior League of New Orleans**

By: Rachel Stephens, Lea Witkowski-Purl, Autumn Town and Jessica Chin

Photos compiled by: Bobbie Klobas and Jessica Chin

# The Junior League of New Orleans TURNS 90

## A LOOK BACK TO THE BEGINNING

In 1901 when the Junior League was founded, American women could not vote or serve on juries, yet suffragettes were working on winning the vote for all women. A woman's economic situation depended mainly on marital status, with 85 percent of women over the age of 25 being either married or widowed. Some states still denied them the right to own property, however. Only 18.8 percent of women were in the workforce, many holding jobs in factories and mills, yet women also founded unions to dispute unfair working conditions and wages. Common professions included teacher (annual salary of \$325), nurse, dressmaker and midwife. Average life expectancy was 48.3 years. The year 1900 saw 23 women earn PhDs, but also saw Anne Rainsford French Bush receive what is believed to be the first driver's license for an American woman, granted for a "Steam Engineer's License, Locomobile Class". Fashion introduced "health" corsets, designed to force the bust forward and the hips back, producing an "S" curve, leaving women looking as if they were perpetually leaning into a wind. It was in this changing society that the Junior League was born.



## THE HER-STORY OF AJLI

Most *Lagniappe* readers recognize the value of the Junior League in local communities, but many may be surprised to learn of the organization's remarkable beginnings as well as the strength and benefits of its overarching leadership. The Junior League for the Promotion of Settlement Movements, as it was first known, was initiated in New York in 1901 in the mind of a nineteen-year-old debutante eager to help with the housing shortage in the city's immigrant neighborhoods. Since then, the Junior League has grown to include 293 individual Leagues in four countries with a membership of over 155,000 women.

As a young New York City debutante making her social debut in 1901 with eighty other young women, Mary Harriman realized that she had an opportunity to make a community impact and to "put to good use the opportunities afforded [me] by the advantages of time and means." With millions of immigrants arriving at Ellis Island and little proper housing for them, Harriman saw a need and used her life of privilege as a platform to enact positive change. She partnered with friend and classmate Nathalie Henderson to form the original Junior League that year with the purpose of enriching its members' lives by working to improve the living conditions of the city's poorest neighborhoods. While Harriman went on to lead a remarkable life of leadership, her initial philanthropic idea has grown into one of the largest and most effective women's volunteer organizations in the world. Programs utilized volunteers such as Eleanor Roosevelt, who taught calisthenics and dancing to girls at the Rivington Street Settlement House.

As the Junior League grew, so too did the need for centralized



leadership. With Junior Leagues forming across the country, the individual groups came together in 1921 to form the Association of Junior Leagues of America (which became the Association of Junior Leagues, International, Inc. in 1988) as a way of consolidating their power for social change. Today AJLI is a charitable nonprofit organization that provides continuity, support, guidance, and leadership development opportunities to all of the Junior League organizations and their members. Together the united Junior Leagues of AJLI share a common mission to promote voluntarism, develop the potential of women, and improve communities through the action and leadership of their trained volunteers. Junior League Presidents and Presidents-Elect are the spokespersons of their individual Junior Leagues and work closely with AJLI.

Not only does AJLI help consolidate the Junior League's leadership and train the Presidents and Presidents-Elect, it offers important training opportunities for all Junior League members. These are critical to helping the Junior League of New Orleans support its mission of "Women Building a Greater New Orleans" and on a larger scale will prepare women for greater leadership in their communities. JLNO President, Jeanne Boughton, strongly supports the idea of women receiving leadership training through their experiences in the Junior League, saying, "I really want the board of directors and the committee chairs and every individual to think of their Junior League membership as a training opportunity." Members are encouraged to take advantage of AJLI's comprehensive website ([www.ajli.org](http://www.ajli.org)), through which Junior League members have access to a variety of educational and supportive materials. For example, a new Learning Portal available in the Member Area of the site offers access to a number of learning and development opportunities. It features curricula on a range of topics critical to community and civic leadership such as community impact, organizational management, and fund devel-

opment. The website also offers weekly webinars featuring nationally prominent speakers available live on Wednesdays, and on demand anytime on topics such as “Collaboration: Going the Distance Together,” and “Early Childhood Education: From Research to Practice.” The AJLI site is accessible to members registered on the JLNO website. After logging in, there is a red “AJLI Login” tab at the top of the page, which automatically links to the AJLI website.

As Junior League women continue to use their training and experience to transform communities through remarkable leadership, the impact and reach of AJLI only expands. From the visionary idea of Mary Harriman over 110 years ago to the thousands of current Junior League members internationally, AJLI continues to demonstrate the power of developing the potential of women to improve communities.

## THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF NEW ORLEANS CONTINUES TO PROGRESS AFTER NINETY YEARS OF DEVELOPING WOMEN AND THE COMMUNITY THROUGH VOLUNTARISM

In 1923, several young women of New Orleans wanted to join the Junior League philanthropic movement. With white gloves on their hands and used debutante gowns in their closets, eight society ladies had a vision of improving New Orleans by contributing their time and talents. On March 31, 1924, with a membership of 40, New Orleans became the newest city admitted into the Association of Junior Leagues of America (now the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc.). Nine decades later, more than 2,300 Provisional and Active members continue to meet the evolving needs of our community.

Over the past 90 years, JLNO has made a lasting impact on New Orleans by nurturing community projects that became a permanent marker of our organization in the city. Simultaneously, the evolution of JLNO is a testament to the willingness of our members to accommodate the changing needs of the community and the ever-evolving role of women while upholding a commitment to the original mission of the organization. The common thread of the three focus areas of support for the community – healthy families, children’s wellbeing and education, and rebuilding New Orleans – have driven the women of our organization to mold the projects to the needs of the time for the entirety of our history.

### *Ninety Years of Nutrition and Health Services*

In 1927, one of the first programs was establishing a Nutrition Center to provide milk to underprivileged children. JLNO members volunteered and assisted a full-time nutritionist who supervised the center. In 1931, a nursery school, arts and crafts classes, and mothers groups were added. In 1938, it became the Orleans Neighborhood Center. Finally, in 1967 this program merged with the Family Service Society, which still exists in the New Orleans community today, to provide help to troubled children, young mothers, former prisoners and other needy members of the community.

This tradition of ensuring nutritional food for children in New Orleans continues with the *Kids in the Kitchen* program. An international program devoted to teaching families about healthy meals to



combat the epidemic of childhood obesity, *Kids in the Kitchen* provides varying educational programming including collaborations with local organizations. In 2009-10, JLNO partnered with the Southern Food and Beverage Museum to provide culinary camps to school children on the weekends. Most recently, *Kids in the Kitchen* worked with Second Harvest Food Bank in 2012-13. The after-school program provided by Second Harvest, called Kid’s Café, provides hot meals to children, and JLNO provided an additional weekly nutrition and fitness class for the students.

### *A History of Creatively Inspiring Children*

The changing needs of the community have coincided with the shifting role of women in the world. For much of the history of the JLNO, the community projects focused on providing arts education and entertainment to children in the community. One of the most successful projects, Puppets, started in 1927 and provided educational puppet shows in libraries, hospitals and other public centers.



The Children’s Theater program (1937-1995), the Choral Group (1958-1994), and Creative Dramatics (1951-1955), were all similar projects focused on providing education through arts and entertainment. The success of these projects eventually led to the creation of city organizations like the Children’s Arts Council.

However, as women became a permanent fixture in boardrooms, the focus of community projects, has become more business oriented. One example is the establishment of Lemonade Day University. Lemonade

# The Junior League of New Orleans TURNS 90

Day is a national organization dedicated to inspiring entrepreneurship in young people by providing hands on business experience by helping children build lemonade stands. In 2013, JLNO took this exciting event a step further by becoming the first chapter to provide Lemonade Day University, an educational event to provide guidance on business concepts like marketing so that children can make the most of their Lemonade Day experiences. The objective of providing educational and recreational activities to children that utilizes the talents of members remains a cornerstone of JLNO projects.

## Building, Renovating and Preserving a Greater New Orleans

The commitment of JLNO to improving the New Orleans community led to several projects to improve individual neighborhoods over the years. In 1973-74, Building Watchers Tours was a mini-project that toured historic inner-city neighborhoods. The tours generated a public interest in preservation in New Orleans, and, with trained guides and monthly tours, became an official project of The Junior League of New Orleans. In the same year, JLNO organized the Preservation Alliance of New Orleans. The purpose was to provide information and community education in the fields of urban planning and preservation. By May 1974, JLNO chose to fund a Preservation Resource Center, and in 1976, Building Watchers Tours became a project of the PRC. In 1977, JLNO voted to fund two additional years of administrative salaries for the PRC.

The PRC is one of the most visible and permanent reminders of the commitment of JLNO to improving the community. Today, The Junior League of New Orleans continues to collaborate with the PRC through Rebuilding Together, one of many revitalization projects of the Center. Since 1989, our members have volunteered to renovate the homes of our low-income, elderly, and handicapped neighbors in areas across New Orleans through this community project.

## From Docents to Donors

Between 1947 and 1973, JLNO was crucial in establishing museum projects around the city. Starting with the Delgado Museum (now the New Orleans Museum of Art), JLNO members not only served as museum docents, but also organized and executed two exhibits each year for school children. In 1956, JLNO expanded its museum services to the Louisiana State Museum at the Cabildo. In 1966, a guide program was established at the Cabildo and the Presbytere, which had been recently renovated. In 1966-67, a guided tour was added called the Junior League Presbytere Guides. By 1971, this program was turned over to the Friends of the Cabildo after completion of the Cabildo renovation.

Through the power of JLNO's membership and the lasting community impact, our Archives will soon be donated to the Louisiana State Museum. Permanently memorializing the contribution of 90 years of dedicated and philanthropic young women seeking to make a difference in the community, the history of the organization will be available for the greater community to understand the influence of JLNO as a prominent group of community leaders creating positive change through voluntarism. The donation brings JLNO's impor-



tant commitment to museums and preserving history full circle. As we celebrate the 90th birthday of JLNO, the donation to the Louisiana State Museum publicly and permanently displays the perpetual commitment of us, the women of New Orleans, to making our world a better place.

## A PERSONAL LOOK BACK AT HOW THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF NEW ORLEANS HAS EVOLVED

In March of 1924, The Junior League of New Orleans was officially admitted to AJLA with a membership of 40 women. Fast forward 90 years—Today, JLNO is the 12th largest Junior League in the world (out of 293!) with a membership of over 2,200. Over time, JLNO has evolved significantly and many of our Sustainers have witnessed the evolution first-hand.

Sustainer Susan Johnson's Provisional year was 1976, and when she joined JLNO many of the members did not work outside the home. At that time, the Junior League was especially attractive to "stay at home moms looking for a way to get involved in the community, and the League provided that vehicle." Susan commented that JLNO has "changed dramatically", noting first that more members are working women. She also discussed JLNO's move toward a more open membership process, believing this to be a positive change as the current process allows for "a membership who really want to be active. They know it's something they want to be involved with."

Susan believes JLNO has “evolved beautifully” into “excellent service organization where the women do make a difference.”

Sustainer Peggy Laborde has been a JLNO member since 1984, and she notes, “Women have always felt empowered; we just now have more vehicles in which to embrace it. The League has certainly contributed to that.”

Regarding the influx of working women who have joined JLNO in recent years, Sustaining Advisor Katie Crosby agrees with Susan Johnson. “I think that the largest change in the Junior League, since I was active, is the significant increase in the percentage of working members.” Katie feels that the opportunity for members to share other’s strengths or “experience and varied expertise” is “invaluable.” She elaborates on this topic by adding that the “growth of the Provisional class” has allowed for JLNO membership to be “more open to those women in the community committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities.” This, Katie believes, “is beneficial to both the League and our City.”

Concluding this look back is Sustainer Liz Creel, who joined JLNO over 20 years ago. She is “energized” that JLNO “continues to grow in both its size and scope of community impact. To see women in positions of professional power, who still understand the need to become trained volunteers, is inspiring and gratifying.” Reminiscing about the past, she states, “I think the most positive change is the flexibility that League leadership has developed in order to meet the needs of our working members while still living up to our community commitments.”

**The Junior League of New Orleans has consistently risen to the challenge of change throughout the decades while preserving the mission of developing the potential of women and improving the community through a commitment to voluntarism. The everlasting effect of 90 years of community development is evident by the community programs that began their life within the organization. Happy Birthday, JLNO!**



# Famous JL Members

Over the years, the Association of Junior Leagues International has had many famous members — from First Ladies to politicians, authors, actresses and more. Numerous Junior League members have become household names through their professional and personal pursuits. Below is just a sampling of famous Junior League women, many of whom you might not have known had JL roots!

## Shirley Temple Black

Child actress featured in more than 40 films; U.S. Representative to the United Nations (1969-70); U.S. Ambassador to Ghana (1974-76); first woman to serve as White House Chief of Protocol (1976-77)  
The Junior League of Palo Alto • Mid-Peninsula, CA

## Barbara Bush

Community service volunteer, literacy activist, author; former First Lady of the United States (1989-1993); founder of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy (1989)  
The Junior League of Houston, TX

## Laura Bush

Literacy activist, volunteer, author; former First Lady of the U.S. (2001-2009); launched Ready to Read, Ready to Learn educational initiative (2001)  
The Junior League of Austin, TX

## Julia Child

Chef; author of Mastering the Art of French Cooking  
The Junior League of Pasadena

## Sarah Palfrey Cooke Danzig

Two-time U.S. Tennis Champion (1934, 35) and twice doubles champion at Wimbledon (1930, 36), author, activist; lobbied the U.S. Tennis Association to remove the color bar (1950); voted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame (1963)  
The Junior League of the City of New York

## Betty Ford

Humanitarian, woman's rights and substance abuse prevention advocate, former First Lady of the U.S. (1974-77); founder, Betty Ford Clinic (1982)  
The Junior League of Grand Rapids, MI

## Margaret Hamilton

Actress, best known for her role as the Wicked Witch of the West in *The Wizard of Oz*  
The Junior League of Cleveland, OH

## Katharine Hepburn

4-time U.S. Academy Award-winning actress (1934, 68, 69, 82); 2-time British Academy Award recipient (1969, 83); writer; daughter of suffragette Katharine Houghton  
The Junior League of Hartford, CT

## Oveta Culp Hobby

First Commander of Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (1941-45); first U.S. Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare (1953-55) in President Dwight D. Eisenhower's Administration  
The Junior League of Houston, TX

## Mary Pillsbury Lord

U.S. Delegate to the United Nations, succeeding Eleanor Roosevelt  
The Junior League of Minneapolis, MN & The City of New York

## Ruth Rowlands Nichols

Female aviation pioneer who held simultaneous world records for speed, altitude and distance. Was an early advocate for including women in the NASA space program.  
The Junior League of the City of New York

## Sandra Day O'Connor

First female U.S. Supreme Court Justice (1981-2006); Assistant Attorney General for Arizona (1965-69); Arizona State Senator (1969-1974); first woman to serve as the majority leader of a state Senate (1973-74) in Arizona  
The Junior League of Phoenix, AZ

## Nancy Reagan

Actress, author; substance abuse prevention activist; former First Lady of the U.S. (1981-1989)  
The Junior League of Los Angeles, CA

## Eleanor Roosevelt

Former Lady of the United States (1933-1945); social reformer; humanitarian; author; U.S. Delegate to the United Nations, (1946-52, 1961-62); Chair of the Human Rights Commission overseeing the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)  
The Junior League of the City of New York

## Mary Harriman Rumsey

Founder of The Junior League (1901); first defender of consumer rights in President Franklin Roosevelt's Administration (1933); organizer, Farm Foundation Board (1933-34)  
The Junior League of the City of New York

## Eudora Welty

Pulitzer prize-winning author of The Optimist's Daughter (1969); photographer; lecturer  
The Junior League of Jackson, MS

## Pamela Willeford

Former U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland and Luxembourg  
The Junior League of Austin, TX

## ELECTED TO GOVERNMENT CANADIAN PARLIAMENT

### Florence Bird

Canadian Parliament 1978-1983  
The Junior League of Winnipeg, MB

### Margaret McTavish Konantz

Canadian Parliament 1964-1968  
The Junior League of Winnipeg, MB

### Bobbie Sparrow

Canadian Parliament 1984-1988  
The Junior League of Calgary, AB

## U.S. CONGRESS

### Judy Biggert

U.S. House of Representatives 1998-2013  
The Junior League of Chicago, IL

### Frances P. Bolton

U.S. House of Representatives 1940-1969  
The Junior League of Cleveland, OH

### Jennifer Dunn

U.S. House of Representatives 1992-2004  
The Junior League of Seattle, WA

### Anna G. Eshoo

U.S. House of Representatives 1992-present  
The Junior League of Palo Alto • Mid-Peninsula, CA

### Mary E. Pruett Farrington

U.S. House of Representatives 1954-1956  
The Junior League of Honolulu, HI

### Tillie K. Fowler

U.S. House of Representatives 1992-2000  
The Junior League of Jacksonville, FL

### Isabella Selmes Greenway

U.S. House of Representatives 1933-1936  
The Junior League of the City of New York

### Kay R. Hagan

to U.S. Senate, 2008-present  
The Junior League of Greensboro, NC

### Carolyn Maloney

U.S. House of Representatives 1992-present  
The Junior League of the City of New York

### Lynn Martin

U.S. House of Representatives 1981-1985; U.S. Secretary of Labor 1991-93  
The Junior League of Rockford, IL

### Doris Matsui

U.S. House of Representatives 2005-present  
The Junior League of Sacramento, CA

### Ruth Sears Baker Pratt

U.S. House of Representatives 1929-1933  
The Junior League of the City of New York

### Margaret Chase Smith

U.S. Senate 1940-1949; U.S. House of Representatives 1949-1973; first woman to serve in both houses of Congress  
The Junior League of Bangor, ME

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## STATE GOVERNMENT (U.S.)

### Martha Bedell Alexander

North Carolina House of Representatives 1992-2000  
The Junior League of Charlotte, NC

### Betsey Bayless

Arizona Secretary of State 1997-2002  
The Junior League of Phoenix, AZ

### Roseann Knauer Bentley

Missouri State Senator 1995-2002  
The Junior League of Springfield, MO

### Mary O. Donohue

New York State Lt. Governor 1999-2006  
The Junior League of Troy, NY

### Kerry Healey

Massachusetts State Lt. Governor 2003-2007  
The Junior League of Boston, MA

### Alyson I. Huber

California State Assembly member 2008-2012  
The Junior League of Sacramento, CA

### Diane Patrick

Texas House of Representatives 2007-Present  
The Junior League of Arlington, TX

### Stephanie Malone

Arkansas State Senator 2009-2013  
The Junior League of Fort Smith, AR

### Betty Sims

Missouri State Senator 1995-2002  
The Junior League of St. Louis, MO

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT (U.S.)

### Pat Evans

Mayor of Plano, TX 2002-2009  
The Junior League of Plano, TX

### Margaret Hance

First woman mayor of Phoenix, AZ 1976-1983  
The Junior League of Phoenix, AZ

### Glenda Hood

First woman mayor of Orlando, FL 1992-2003  
The Junior League of Greater Orlando, FL

### Willie Mount

First woman mayor of Lake Charles, LA 1993-1999;  
Louisiana State Senator 2008-2012  
The Junior League of Lake Charles, LA

### Florence Shapiro

Mayor of Plano, TX 1990-1992  
The Junior League of Plano, TX

### Carole Keeton Strayhorn

First woman mayor of Austin, TX 1977-1983  
The Junior League of Austin, TX

# The Gift of giving

By: Heather Hilliard

The Junior League of New Orleans is dedicated to not only giving our time and hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours to our neighbors and neighborhoods, but through generous giving as well as the revenues from our fundraisers, we are able to provide funding to a variety of programs throughout the community. Each grant cycle, the Community Assistance Fund Grant committee is able to align applicants with our mission and provide much-needed help to worthwhile programs in the Greater New Orleans area. This fall, we were able to support four different agencies with over \$12,000 in cash support.



*The first recipient aligns with our Senior League program in several ways, as it looks to enhance the quality of life of older residents of our community. The Mercy Endeavors Senior Center was given a grant of \$4,000 to fund*

*computer monitors, as well as memory and software updates for the computer lab used by those who attend the Center.*

As the heading of their web page says, it's all about "Seniors Living the Life!" – celebrations and achievements for those in the community. At the senior center, the programs are designed to engage seniors living at home to interact with the community – the Irish Channel and Lower Garden District – and learn new skills. Their programs support independence as well as vitality – and by having improved technology, this allows seniors to reach family and friends that have moved away, or learn about new topics through online classes.

Other programs that are part of their mission include case management to help navigate the many support services available to seniors, such as Prescription Drug Assistance Programs, Property Tax Assistance Programs, Medicare, Medicaid, Utility Assistance, Housing Assistance and much more. Seniors in the community can pay a modest "membership" fee, which includes transportation to nearby medical appointments, as well as access to the senior center, discounted event tickets, newsletters and more.

This fall, their programs celebrated 16 years, so it is appropriate that our gift provides support for ongoing sustainability of one of the busier aspects of the center, but also the independence that all older adults deserve.



*The second recipient was selected for the quality of services provided for wounded veterans and their families.*

*While still technology focused, the Bastion Community of Resilience was awarded \$4,000*

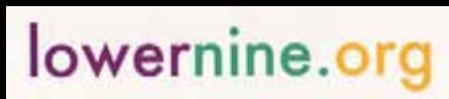
*for web enhancements, functionality for web presentations and*

*web meeting software – all critical when supporting families adjusting to a new life after our heroes come home.*

Bastion helps create a virtual and literal community for those who have given so much, and support their families as life changes require new and unique problem solving methods. Service and support is provided internationally to our veterans that have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, with a goal to "reduce trauma by realizing the full potential of previously untapped human capital."

Through various initiatives and a wide variety of corporate supporters, new mechanisms for intervention and investment outcomes are building Bastion. For example, Coterie of 7 started as a local initiative in New Orleans to raise the starting capital for Bastion's launch. This local company has branches internationally and intergenerationally that started here in New Orleans in order to sustain a thriving recovery from the wounds and casualties of war.

The Junior League of New Orleans contributes funds for technology so that the start-up goals can be realized faster and help promote and prolong the important work identified by the founders of Bastion, thus reinforcing our goal to be part of the solution for families.



*The third CAF recipient is lowernine.org. A historically engaging project, JLNO members turn out in droves to support rebuilding projects – literal rebuilding – because we know what it means to miss our homes and families. Their motto "rebuilding homes – restoring services – reviving hope – reaching out" is a perfect fit for the Junior League of New Orleans' energy and resources.*

In spite of the name lowernine.org, this nonprofit is committed to rebuilding every neighborhood, not just the namesake of its web address. In 2014, they are adopting the 365 campaign, where they ask people to give \$1 a day to reach 365 dollars from 365 people in one year. JLNO granted \$3,143 to fund the paint, painting supplies, and cover volunteer fees for 50 volunteers during a quarterly neighborhood volunteer effort. That's about one dollar for every Junior League of New Orleans member – Active, Sustainer, Provisional and staff – in addition to covering the supplies for the quarterly project.

Though not directly part of this funding initiative, lowernine.org does have an urban farming project. Just as JLNO has been active in some Uptown and Carrollton urban farming projects – at Samuel L. Green and Lafayette Charter Academy, the lowernine.org urban farm began in the Lower 9th Ward in 2008 in order to provide fresh produce to the community. They were so successful that they turned over management to a local resident (who runs his own agency), so

they can focus on rebuilding homes and reviving hope. JLNO will help lowernine.org to reach the greatest number of residents and to maximize the potential of what has been a giant step forward in re-establishing community.



*The fourth and final CAF recipient is New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity. As most residents in the Greater New Orleans area have experienced – either through volunteering or hearing the hammers of progress – New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity is no stranger to the support of the Junior League of New Orleans. This fall JLNO provided a grant in the amount of*

*\$1,500 to fund "Fun Fridays: Attack the Block".*

While traditional rebuild projects look to have the community work with a homeowner to rebuild or rehabilitate a home, New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity is bringing in resources from outside the immediate community, capitalizing on some youthful energy, and teaching not only the skills of home build-

ing, but also the lessons of community, commitment and constant devotion to the place we call home.

In this 30th year, New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity (NOAHH), and the 'alternative spring break' registration continues to attract college students from across the United States and Canada. Over the past eight years, NOAHH has hosted over 15,000 student volunteers during alternative spring break trips for over 600,000 volunteer hours from college and high school students, making it one of the top five alternative spring break destinations. During this year's alternative spring break, the Friday Attacks (each Friday in March) clean up in four areas of the city needing the same love and attention that is given to the homes in the area – and Junior League of New Orleans is part of this success again!

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. When selecting community grants or our larger community projects, our committee leaders thoughtfully select projects supporting this mission, challenge our talents and expand the potential of our neighborhoods so that we keep the spirit of New Orleans thriving.

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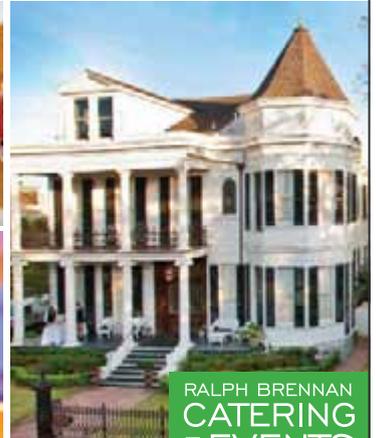
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# 2014 Sustainer of the Year: Claire Ferrier Stahel

By: Sherri Zeller O'Bell

*“Cherish your visions. Cherish your ideals. Cherish the music that stirs in your heart, the beauty that forms in your mind, the loveliness that drapes your purest thoughts. For out of them will grow all delightful conditions, all heavenly environment, of these, if you but remain true to them, your world will at last be built.”*

— James Allen, *As a Man Thinketh*

When Claire Ferrier Stahel graduated from the Academy of the Sacred Heart, she was one of only ten in her graduating class who continued on to receive an undergraduate degree. Claire had a love for learning and exploring that could not be deterred by the standard for women at that time. Four years later, she was one of only four women in her graduating class to earn a business degree from Loyola University New Orleans.

Claire describes how she sat in the front row of the classroom throughout college, so as to focus on the task-at-hand and not be distracted by the fact that she was among mostly male peers. Nothing deters Claire from achieving what she sets out to accomplish. Determination, integrity and grace were born to Claire. She has been a leader in the New Orleans community for decades and this year The Junior League of New Orleans bestows our highest honor on her as our 56<sup>th</sup> Sustainer of the Year.

Claire's service to JLNO spans decades. She has served on the Board of Directors, she was the editor of *Lagniappe* magazine (when it was a *monthly* publication), she was a member of the JLNO Choral Group, and she served on the legendary Building Watcher Tours that not only sought to preserve and acknowledge our city's remarkable building stock, but also emerged as the inaugural fund raiser for the then newly formed Preservation Resource Center (PRC).

Claire was also part of the original team of JLNO women who ini-



2

tiated the efforts to research, document, and photograph our city's historical building stock. Their findings were first published in the renowned New Orleans Architecture Book Volume I. Leaders like Claire who were on the ground floor for Volumes I and II, provided momentum for the great work in preservation that resulted in the remaining six volumes and laid the groundwork for the successful preservation efforts of the PRC. In 1971, *Landscape Architecture Magazine* called the New Orleans Architecture Volume I, “Quite possibly the most comprehensive architectural examination of any American city” and further articulated that the volume set a benchmark for preservation in our country.

After years of making major contributions to JLNO, Claire's involvement with the JLNO has not diminished in her Sustainer years. She has continued to stay involved by having served as Sustaining Advisor to Bloomin' Deals Thrift Shop, she served as president of the JLNO Interior Decorating Club (of which she remains a member), she is a member of the JLNO Book Club, and she hosts the well attended and deeply appreciated annual Book Club Christmas party at her Uptown home.

In addition to her work for JLNO, Claire has dedicated many years of hard work to organizations in the community that she holds dear. She was a founding member of Communities In Schools (CIS) and served as its board president for ten years. In a letter of support

of Claire's nomination, JLNO past-president and 1989 Sustainer of the Year recipient, Kay Rapier, writes that by the end of Claire's term as CIS board president, she led the pioneer organization from its humble roots of serving one school and a few dozen children, to its modern operation of serving 2500 students in eleven public schools with an annual operating budget of \$1,200,000. Claire's leadership and vision helped to make CIS what it is today. Rapier remarks that Claire fulfills the purpose of JLNO by "epitomizing the effectiveness of a trained volunteer who has quietly improved our community."

Claire's fingerprints continue to impact every organization she touches, and our city is better because of it. She chaired the capital campaigns to restore our City Park's beloved Carousel and Peristyle. A historian at heart, Claire still possesses meticulous photos of the carousel's restoration project, with before and after photos of each wood-carved animal in its full glory. In looking at the photos, one can appreciate the parallel of Claire's quiet behind-the-scenes labor to the stoic beauty of these magnificent animals that also quietly do their job of carrying and supporting the children of our city. Claire's efforts for City Park did not end there, as she also served on the Board of Commissioners of City Park, as President of the Friends of City Park, and on the Botanical Gardens Foundation Board, where she served for twenty years.

In addition to her many achievements, Claire has also served in leadership and fundraising positions for New Orleans Opera, Women's Guild of the New Orleans Opera, STRIVE (formerly Sophie L. Gumbel Guild), New Orleans Museum of Art, Friends of the Cabildo, New Orleans Symphony, WLAE, and the Academy of the Sacred Heart. Like any great leader, CLAIRE also recognizes the talents in others and she will ask others for help in their areas of expertise. She understands the power in building a great army to accomplish the task at hand.

A well-respected fund-raiser today, Claire remembers that when she was asked to chair the City Park Carousel renovation she did not know how to raise funds initially. She was determined to learn, so she sought out a class offered at the United Way that taught her the basics. Without skipping a beat, Claire recited the five basic principles she had learned years ago, "Ask the right person, for the right reason, for the right purpose, for the right amount and at the right time." The training she acquired in that fund raising class and Claire's no-nonsense approach to getting the job done has made her a sought after fund raiser for many organizations throughout our city.

Additionally, Claire's tenacity to see a project through no-matter the obstacles makes her entirely dependable. JLNO Sustaining member, Jane Redmon, recalls how Claire's calm and determined nature saved the day when they co-chaired the New Orleans Museum of Art's Home and Art Tour years ago. The day before the event was to launch, a problem surfaced that left them without catering for the event. Redmon remembers clearly how Claire stayed the course and immediately started calling area hotels and restaurants. Before long, Claire had secured catering, and the tour was executed beautifully, without a glitch.



**1 Sustainer of the Year, Claire Stahel, enjoying the Peristyle in City Park.** Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes

**2 Portrait of the 2014 Sustainer of the Year, Claire Stahel.** Photo submitted by: Claire Stahel

**3 Claire Stahel at the Communities In Schools office in New Orleans, where she donates much of her time.** Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes

JLNO Sustaining member and 2012 Sustainer of the Year, Margaret Wall, wrote that with Claire's help they were able to establish a program called The Enrichment Friends within CIS. Wall wrote, "The Enrichment Friends raises money for field trips for New Orleans Public Schools and are presently serving six disadvantaged schools in this capacity. Claire, as usual, took the leadership position in this undertaking." With the budgetary cuts in public school art programming, the Enrichment Friends provides a unique experience for the children.

While recognition is not something that motivates Claire, she gains satisfaction from knowing that she got to see things through to fruition. Nonetheless, great achievements do come with recognition at times. The Friends of City Park honored Claire with their Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award in 1988; Family Service of Greater New Orleans recognized her with its 10 Most Outstanding Persons Award in 1997; and she received the well revered St. Elizabeth's Guild Award for volunteer activism.

As JLNO members, we aim to make a difference in our beloved city through sustained voluntarism and by becoming trained leaders who help lead the charge in our community. The goal of a Junior League membership should be to apply the skills and experience acquired in one's Active years, throughout our entire Sustaining membership. In honoring Claire, JLNO acknowledges the lives she has changed through her immeasurable civic leadership, the organizations she has helped shape and the legacy that Claire imparts to her four children and seven grandchildren. She is self-effacing by nature; however, her firm footsteps at the thresholds of several area nonprofits characterize her enormous success and generosity.

To understand what motivates Claire, one only needs to look into her eyes as she simply explains that she remains open to whatever needs to get done. She remarks that friends bring opportunities to her and she simply responds. Claire remarks, "Never say no to an opportunity to help, because you never know where that next road will lead you." Through a smile of wisdom she adds, "It will be better than where you've been and your life will be enriched." She generously explains that her life has reaped the rewards of her volunteer efforts, as she has experienced the joy of helping the community and meeting new people along the way.

Another motivating factor in Claire's life is the fact that she consciously chooses to keep a positive attitude on life. She surrounds herself with positive people and she does not let the baggage of negativity have a place in her life. A book that changed her life is How a Man Thinketh by James Allen.

This 1902 literary essay offered Claire a roadmap to live her life in a joyful mindset, to hold her character accountable, and to embrace the challenges and joys that life brings.

Claire's activism teaches us all to embrace the road ahead. She views her life as a custodian of opportunities that others have graciously bestowed upon her. For the next generation of young people, Claire suggests, "Remain open to where the road will lead you. Be open to anything and you will be richly rewarded."

### Facts:

Claire is married to Harry Stahel and together they have four children: Helen, Harry Jr., Marie-Claire, and Elizabeth. Claire has seven grandchildren: Olivia Stahel (Helen), Matthew, Andrew and Charlotte Stahel (Harry, Jr.)



and Madeleine, Warren and Grace Mears (Marie-Claire). This summer, Claire will take her eldest granddaughter, Madeleine, to Paris and London. When she's not saving our city, Claire plays a mean game of tennis and loves good movies, lunch with friends and playing bridge — except when her grandchildren are visiting, in which case, she likes playing cards with them and enjoys watching them play in her garden.



## Communities In Schools

Greater New Orleans

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 John Murray  
 Sheila Sanderford  
 Claire Stahel  
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# Congratulations Claire Stahel!

*Communities In Schools would like to thank and recognize Claire Stahel for her tireless support in fulfilling our goal of keeping students in school and on the path to success in life. As a founding board member, former board chair and a current board member, Claire has supported our mission and the children of New Orleans for 19 years. It is with great pleasure that we recognize Claire for her selection as Junior League of New Orleans 2014 Sustainer of the Year.*

Communities In Schools of Greater New Orleans, Inc.

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# Thank You!



Partnered with the efforts of our tireless volunteers, generosity outside of our organization contributes to JLNO's mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the Metropolitan New Orleans community. We appreciate the commitment of all involved with our organization and believe it ensures the future success of our community projects, training, and volunteer work.

As JLNO approaches its 90th birthday, we want to thank those businesses, organizations, and individuals who have contributed to our longevity. The following have supported JLNO through donations of funds, time, goods, and services from June 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013. This listing supplements our Annual Report for 2012-2013 that JLNO will distribute on our birthday, March 31, 2014.

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## Appreciation Celebration

Monday, March 31, 2014 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm  
JLNO Headquarters, 4319 Carondelet St.  
Call 504-891-5845 or email [info@jlno.org](mailto:info@jlno.org) to RSVP.

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# DEAR JUNE R. LEAGUER

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE, BUT AREN'T SURE WHO TO ASK? OUR **JLkNO**w-it-all, JUNE R. LEAGUER, IS HERE TO ANSWER ALL OF YOUR JUNIOR LEAGUE OF NEW ORLEANS' QUESTIONS! IF THERE IS SOMETHING YOU NEED AN ANSWER TO, PLEASE WRITE TO **JUNE R. LEAGUER AT EDITOR@JLNO.ORG**, AND SHE'LL ANSWER YOUR QUESTION IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

**Q: I've heard through the grapevine that there are additional membership perks for being a Junior League (AJLI) member. How do we know what they are so that we can take advantage of the offers?**

*Thank you,  
I. Like Perks*

Dear I. Like Perks,

You heard correctly! The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI) leverages the collective purchasing power of Junior League members to provide individual and group discounts for a number of products and services. For a full listing, go to [http://www.ajli.org/?nd=benefits\\_for\\_you](http://www.ajli.org/?nd=benefits_for_you). Here are a few of my favorites: preferred rates at various hotels, magazine subscription offers, car rental discounts and florist discounts, as well as discounts from numerous jewelry and fashion designers!

**Q: With tax season upon us, can you tell me which of my JLNO contributions are tax deductible?**

*Sincerely,  
Give N. Wisely*

Dear Give N. Wisely,

Generally speaking, membership dues, memorials and honorariums,

and rummage donations to Bloomin' Deals Thrift Shop are all considered tax deductible if you itemize your deductions. You should seek advice from your tax advisor regarding other deductions and for specific details.

**Q: JLNO offers countless opportunities for its members to serve the community, and I would love for my husband and children to be able to join in so that they too can experience the pleasure of voluntarism. Does the JLNO ever offer any activities for husbands and children or host any family-friendly events?**

*Fondly,  
Mrs. Do Good*

Dear Mrs. Do Good,

We sure do! Family and children are encouraged to participate in "Open Garden Days" at the Edible School Yard and, from time to time, we have blood drives and toy drives that are open to family members. Attending Spring fundraisers like the Kitchen Tour and Touch-A-Truck are also good ways to engage them in Junior League activities. Bloomin' Deals monthly furniture pick-up service, Mighty Men, is a great way to allow your husband or older son/grandson to volunteer. Check online often and read the weekly *JL in the kNOw* emails for other opportunities.

# Kitchen tour

JUNIOR LEAGUE of  
NEW ORLEANS

**9th Annual Kitchen Tour**  
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**Saturday, April 5, 2014**  
**10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
Uptown New Orleans & Old Metairie

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Proceeds benefit the community projects of the Junior League of New Orleans.

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Individual Tour Ticket	\$35 in advance or \$40 day of the event
VIP Lounge and Tour Ticket	\$75
Tour in Style with a chauffeured limousine for 8 with VIP Lounge and Tour Tickets	\$1,000

VIP Lounges at the Park View Guest House and Longue Vue House and Gardens provide a comfortable respite, hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and viewing of the sparkling raffle item provided by Lee Michaels Fine Jewelry.

To purchase, visit [www.jlno.org/KitchenTour](http://www.jlno.org/KitchenTour)  
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# LEADING THE CHANGE: ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTES

By: Jessica Chin

Organizational Development Institute  
A Service of The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc.

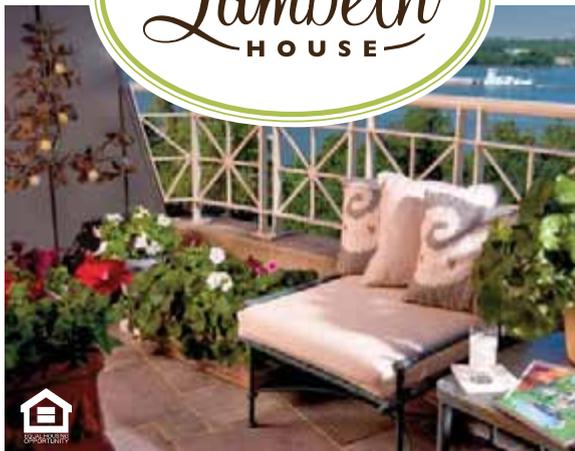


The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The purpose of AJLI is to add value to its member Leagues in their fulfillment of The Junior League Mission. With that, AJLI has been committed to providing exceptional and informative training to members of Junior Leagues around the world for over 90 years. Among the many different training opportunities hosted by AJLI, Organizational Development Institutes (ODIs) are

considered to be one of the most rewarding and most fun!

“Organizational Development Institutes, are a series of mission-based leadership development meetings, and a critical component of AJLI’s training program. These training sessions are geared toward building the knowledge of [Junior] League members who manage the League’s key functions,” AJLI Executive Director Susan Danish explains. These bi-annual training programs are held in cities across the U.S. Over the years, ODIs have

*continued on page 41*



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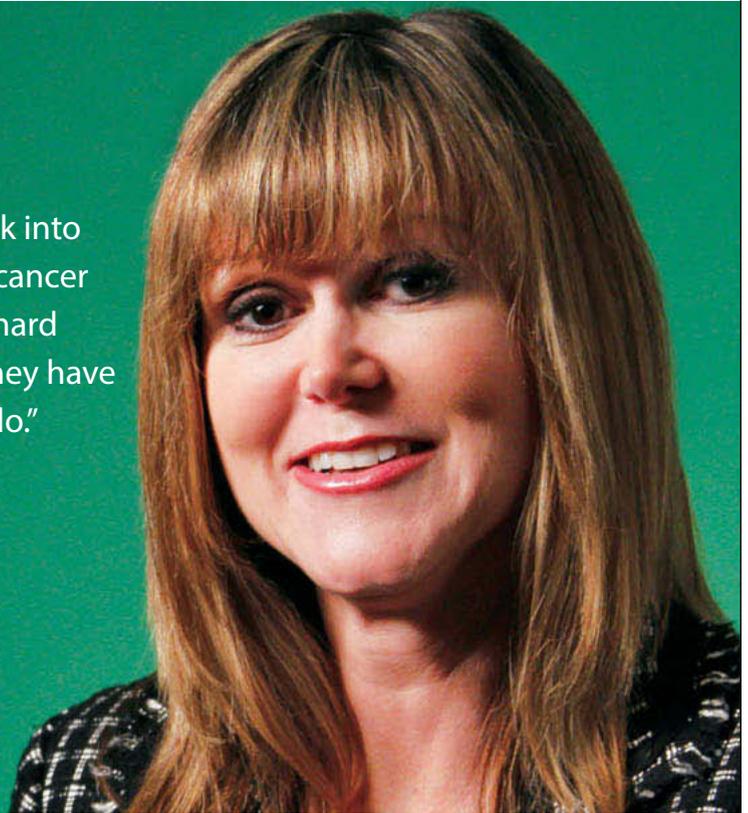
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Lesley Meng, MD  
*Hematologist Oncologist*



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East Jefferson General Hospital

## LEADING THE CHANGE

*continued from page 39*

proven their value as being informative, inspiring and innovative. Delegates attend three sessions and choose from concentration tracks in Membership Development, Fund Development, Community Impact, Building Internal Capacity and Governing for Excellence.

This past October, The Junior League of New Orleans sent five delegates to the ODI in Indianapolis, IN: Shon Baker, Brady Cunningham, Mollye Demosthenidy, Erin Mouldoux, and Adele Ralston. "It was so inspiring to be around so many different women who were so passionate about the same cause: Junior League," Shon shared.

Held over the course of a three-day weekend, ODIs are an exciting and invigorating way for Junior League members to learn. Delegates gain greater knowledge,

fresh ideas and an action plan to execute what they have learned with their Junior League. Delegates will also walk away with a better understanding of the following:

- Innovative approaches to developing Junior League members as effective volunteer leaders in their communities.
- Powerful ways to design community programs and partnerships that have significant impact.
- Strategies for sustainable and diversified fund development.
- Keys to building strong internal operational controls.
- New approaches that enable the Junior League to be governed strategically and effectively.

While Junior League members who do not currently hold leadership positions will find an ODIs training useful, ODIs are not designed to provide introductory information

to those just beginning their Junior League career. ODIs are essentially designed for the "senior management" of a Junior League. The objective of an ODI is to provide Junior League managerial teams with the knowledge and skills necessary to enhance their specific Junior League's internal and external impact. Together, delegates will establish a strong core of mutual understanding of strategic organizational development policies, procedures, practices and issues.

"It was extremely helpful to hear how other Junior Leagues, who are a similar size to JLNO, handle various issues. It was also a great benefit to bond with the other four ladies from JLNO — we had a great time and I'd encourage anyone who can go to do it," Shon said.

For more information on the ODI training events, please visit [www.ajli.org](http://www.ajli.org). You can access the website via the Junior League of New Orleans website: [www.jlno.org](http://www.jlno.org).

# Junior League of New Orleans Lagniappe

*Lagniappe* is a quarterly magazine and has been published by the Junior League of New Orleans since 1930 to promote the League's missions and goals. Its purpose is to educate League members and the community at large about the organization's projects, activities, fundraisers and membership.

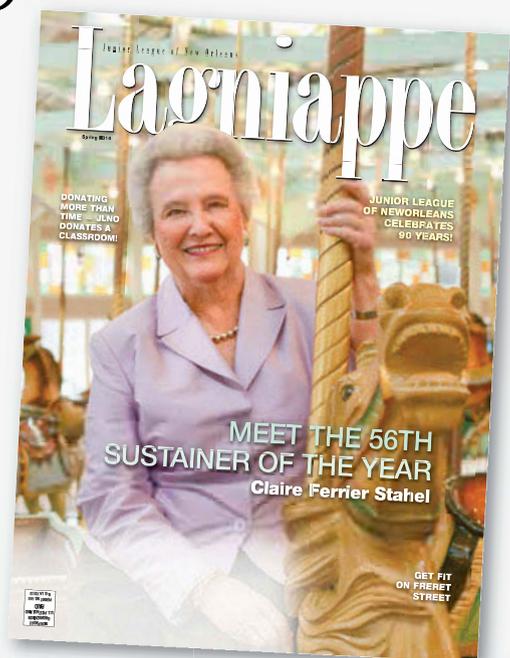
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Women Building a Greater New Orleans





JLNO Community Council Director Celeste Eustis and JLNO President Jeanne Boughton present a \$20,000 check for an Educare classroom. Photo by: Skye Fantaci

# A Winning Future: JLNO DONATES \$20,000 TO EDUCARE

By: Amanda Wingfield Goldman

The Bayou District Foundation (BDF) was created by New Orleans business and community leaders who were committed to revitalizing New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. BDF's mission is to implement a community redevelopment model and build a thriving community. BDF focuses on education to help children and families to escape the cycle of poverty and to enable them to live productive, healthy and fulfilling lives. With funds from FEMA and from national partners, like the Buffet Foundation and the Bill Gates Foundation, BDF has created Columbia Parc in Gentilly.

Columbia Parc is dedicated to providing affordable housing and "cradle to college" educational services. BDF has partnered with

Educare of New Orleans and Kingsley House to build an educational center at Columbia Parc. Educare is a national program which focuses on early childhood education for children from six weeks to age five to ensure school readiness for children who are most at-risk for academic failure.

Currently, Columbia Parc is home to a mixed income housing development and a nursery school run by Educare. "The whole Bayou District Foundation mission was to create a community," says Junior League of New Orleans Community Council Director Celeste Eustis. "Bayou District Foundation basically wanted to give families the tools to create a good life and get off the streets, as

opposed to just building another housing project,” says Celeste. BDF determined that the community needed resources such as playgrounds, early childhood education, quality primary and secondary education, a health clinic, commercial and retail facilities, and a community center.

Columbia Parc’s Educare facility opened in October 2013. JLNO also partnered with BDF and Educare and donated \$20,000, which paid for the bricks and mortar for one of three Educare classrooms.

A large part of Educare’s mission, which sets them apart from other programs, is required parental involvement. “The nursery school is extremely volunteer-driven and that’s what makes the program so fantastic,” Celeste says. “They’re more about the family than just the child. There is always a parent volunteering in the classroom.”

Educare is currently providing early childhood education to 150 children, and there is a long waiting list for admission. BDF and Educare plan to expand Columbia Parc. BDF has received additional FEMA

funds to pay for street development, and Educare plans on adding an additional classroom so it can accommodate more children. Private developers are filling in the areas around Columbia Parc with additional low-income housing.

JLNO’s involvement continues beyond its \$20,000 donation for an Educare classroom. JLNO members can get involved by selecting BDF as their placement, where they take an active role in Educare classrooms by assisting staff members with classroom activities, interacting with children during classroom instruction and outside play, and helping serve meals.

“Of all my placements, it’s been the most rewarding because you work with the same kids the entire year, so you actually develop a relationship with the kids,” says Celeste. “This is the only placement I’ve done where you can build relationships with the kids.” Celeste also notes BDF is a very flexible placement which can accommodate JLNO members who work. BDF can accommodate JLNO members’ work schedules because

members can volunteer during their lunch hour or before work. “You’re always utilized, they’re flexible, and you really get to develop a relationship with the kids. Those are the three best things about it,” says Celeste.

BDF plans to expand on Educare’s educational model by adding a K-8 charter school at Columbia Parc in partnership with New Orleans’ local school system as a feeder for Educare students. The third leg of BDF’s “cradle to college” mission will be the introduction of McDonogh #35 College Preparatory High School to the BDF neighborhood.

There are currently 564 families residing in Columbia Parc with a waiting list for all income levels. Since Columbia Parc opened, crime has plummeted, with only two reported attempted felonies since February 2010. As Columbia Parc expands beyond Educare’s early childhood education, BDF will track the students’ progress through eighth grade and beyond to serve as a model for improving the lives of low-income students and their families in New Orleans.



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# SAVE THE DATE for the 9TH ANNUAL KITCHEN TOUR!

By: Ann Conger

Living in the New Orleans area, the kitchen is often seen as the heart of the home. Whether the kitchen is your favorite room in the house, the one you never step into, or the one that you desperately want to renovate, the Ninth Annual Junior League of New Orleans Kitchen Tour presented by PosiGen Solar Solutions will serve up excitement and imagination on Saturday, April 5. Offering a peek into private homes that one rarely has the opportunity to experience, the Kitchen Tour is one of JLNO's signature events and is always a favorite of both JLNO members and the community at large. This year's Kitchen Tour Co-Chairs Christy Dirks, Brandy Gilly, and Katie Hardin are excited to present stylish and innovative kitchens, located in both Uptown New Orleans and Old Metairie. This year, the homes will be located in clusters near each other so tour guests don't have to take an inadvertent tour of New Orleans as well. The co-chairs expect this year's tour to be the best yet and this year the tour will feature a special VIP option for tickets for the tour, something that has never been done before!

Tickets for the tour are \$40 per ticket for the standard option and the VIP option are \$75 per ticket. Each ticket allows you to take a self-guided tour of fabulous kitchens, located in Uptown New Orleans and also in Old Metairie. The VIP option offers you the same self-guided tour of the kitchens but with a special treat at Longue Vue House and Gardens and Parkview Guest House.

The spectacular kitchens are chosen from nominations sent in by contractors, designers, JLNO members, and home owners. The tour usually spotlights homes that were recently renovated and the tour serves as a great source of inspiration for those who may be looking to update their kitchens. In addition to being a source of funding for JLNO's mission and projects, the tour benefits the various vendors involved in these kitchen renovations, offering potential customers the opportunity to see work that they otherwise would not have been able to view, without a personal invitation from the homeowner. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit [www.jlno.org/kitchentour](http://www.jlno.org/kitchentour)



The Kitchen Tour Chairs and Vice-Chairs, along with their committee, work hard all year to bring together one of the most anticipated home tours in New Orleans. (L-R) Brandy Gilly, Katie Hardin, Christy Dirks, Vanessa West, Lauren Hebert)

Photo by: Jessica Fridge



## Two Teams, One Sisterhood



- Horse Back Riding
- Basketball
- Swimming
- Canoeing
- Sailing
- Water Trampoline
- Camp Outs
- Tennis
- Archery
- Woodstove
- Arts & Crafts
- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Field Trips

Come join in the traditions and fun:  
Camp Riva-Lake for Girls in Winchester, TN  
is still accepting applications for summer 2014.  
Find us online at [camprivalake.com](http://camprivalake.com)  
or contact

**Coco Evans Judd at 504-861-8161.**

We are committed to fostering character development and building leadership and physical skills through age-appropriate camping activities.



**League  
Faces**

JLNO members  
being active in the  
community and enjoying  
Junior League events!



**1** JLNO members are excited to sell the selection of new wedding shoes donated to the Bridal Boutique. (L-R) La Koshia R. Roberts, Lizzie Webb, Rachel Roubion, and Elizabeth Joint Photo by: Erin Woods

**2** Jamie Toso Miner and Arie Kaller visit Bloomin' Deals after the Freret 5K. Photo by: Ashley Aarons

**3** The Buy, Save & Serve co-chairs pose for a quick picture at the kick-off event in front of Dillard's at Lakeside Mall on November 2, 2013. (L-R) Lila Fox, Chalton Dominick, Meredith Beers, Tessa Bossetta and Jessie Englehardt Photo by: Jessica Chin

**4** Provisional Advisors, Candice Wright, Leigh Thorpe, and

Annie Thibodeaux, enjoy a cocktail at the Provisional Holiday Party. Photo by: Liz Wood

**5** Provisionals, Maryann Pittman, Christina Hendrick, Sara Prentiss, Heather Trahan, and Brooke Osborn, get to know each other at the Provisional Holiday Party. Photo by: Liz Wood

**6** Sustainers, Suzette Neuenhaus, Jan Hayden and Barbara Murphy, mingle with one another at the Dinner Club's November dinner social. Photo by: Ashley Aarons

**7** Sustainers, Lulu Freiberg, Melanee Usdin and Bridget Bories, have fun at the Dinner Club event held at the Southern Yacht Club on November 14, 2013. Photo by: Ashley Aarons



**8** Sustainers gather around the tree for a quick picture at the joint Christmas Coffee for the Garden Club and Interior Decorating Club on December 10, 2013. (L-R) Danielle Newlin, Ann Farmer, Hostess Cynthia Weinmann, and Sheldon Lykes. Photo by: Denyse Boudreaux

**9** Sustaining members from the Garden Club and Interior Decorating Club brave the chilly weather for a quick photo prior to the clubs' joint Christmas Coffee. Photo by: Denyse Boudreaux

**10** Sustainer Garden Club members, Irene Lutkewitte, Carli Tessier, Brenda Bethea, Nell Mabry are excited for the November meeting to begin. Photo by: Denyse Boudreaux

**11** JLNO members, Amanda Miller and Charlotte Lemoine, catch up at the Holiday Marketplace in December. Photo by: Jessica Fridge

**12** Cookbook Vice-Chair Emily Booth and Committee Member, Mary Scott McKinnon, sell cookbooks and give out wonderful samples at the Holiday Marketplace. Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes

**13** Touch a Truck Co-Chairs and committee members spread the word of Touch a Truck's new location at Zephyr Field! (L-R) Cindy Sterbcow, Joan LaMartina, Meg Baldwin and Mary Martin Roth. Photo by: Jessica Fridge

**14** Gretchen Eppling, Lori Wynne, and Courtney Lane man the Fleur de League table at the Holiday Marketplace. Photo by: Elizabeth Hayes

**15** Transfers and committee members celebrate the holidays together at the Holiday Transfers Committee Party. (L-R) Back Row: Colleen Loerzel, Lacy Strohschein, Kristen Nelson, Emmy Remington, Beth Walker, Sarah Elizabeth Gundlach, Emily Trainque, Erin Perez, Mary Kathryn Borland Front Row: Megan Curran, Meghan Keating, Kimberly Fontenot, Courtney Spencer, Michelle Soliman, Amelia Arthur Photo by: Sarah Abbott



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**16** Sustainers, Sharon Talley and Angele Thompson, enjoy their night at the 2013 Sustainer Holiday Party. Photo by: Erin Woods

**17** JLNO President Jeanne Boughton and Sustainer Connections Co-Chairs, Betsy Laborde and Jamie Toso, pose for a picture during the Sustainer Holiday Party with Sustainers Susan Johnson and Peggy Laborde. (L-R ) Back Row: Jamie Toso and Jeanne Boughton. Front Row: Peggy Laborde, Susan Johnson and Betsy Laborde. Photo by: Erin Woods

**18** Holiday cheer is all around at the Sustainer Holiday Party. (L-R) Irene Lutkewitte, Sara Gaines, and Patricia Thompson) Photo by: Erin Woods

**19** CAF grant recipient, Bastion Community of Resilience, accepting a grant check for \$4,000. Photo by: Bobbie Klobas

**20** CAF grant recipient, New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity, accepting a grant for \$1,500. Photo by: Bobbie Klobas

**21** CAF grant recipient, lowermine.org, accepting a grant check in the amount of \$3,143. Photo by: Bobbie Klobas

**22** CAF grant recipient, Mercy Endeavors, accepting a \$4,000 grant check awarded to them at the January General Membership Meeting on January 21, 2014. Photo by: Bobbie Klobas

**23** JLNO member, Skye Fantaci, hands out presents at the 2013 Bayou District Toy Drive. Photo by: Celeste Eustice

**24** JLNO volunteers watch and help kids open their gifts at the 2013 Bayou District Toy Drive. Photo by: Celeste Eustice

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## COMING EVENTS

ST. PADDY'S DAY CELEBRATION  
*Downtown, Uptown, All Around*  
 March 15  
 10 a.m. - until

ST. PADDY'S DAY  
 GREEN DESSERT CRAWL  
 March 15  
 5:30-7:30 p.m.

21ST ANNUAL HERB,  
 GARDEN & ART FESTIVAL  
 March 22 & 23  
 9-5 p.m. | 9-4 p.m.

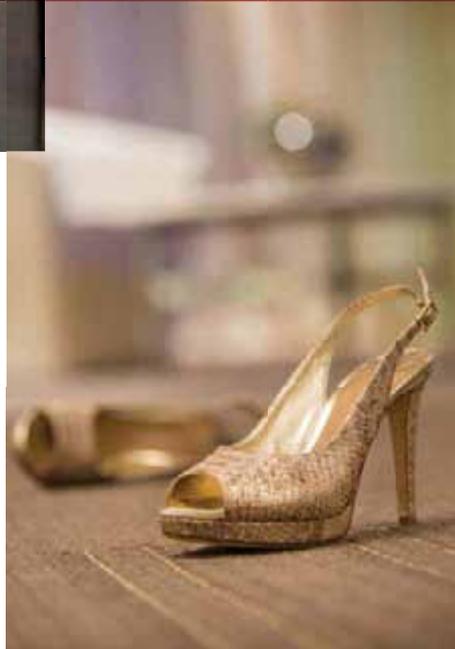
TASTE OF OCEAN SPRINGS  
 FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL  
 May 15  
 6:30-8:30 p.m.

RED, WHITE &  
 BLUEBERRY  
 FESTIVAL  
 June 7

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