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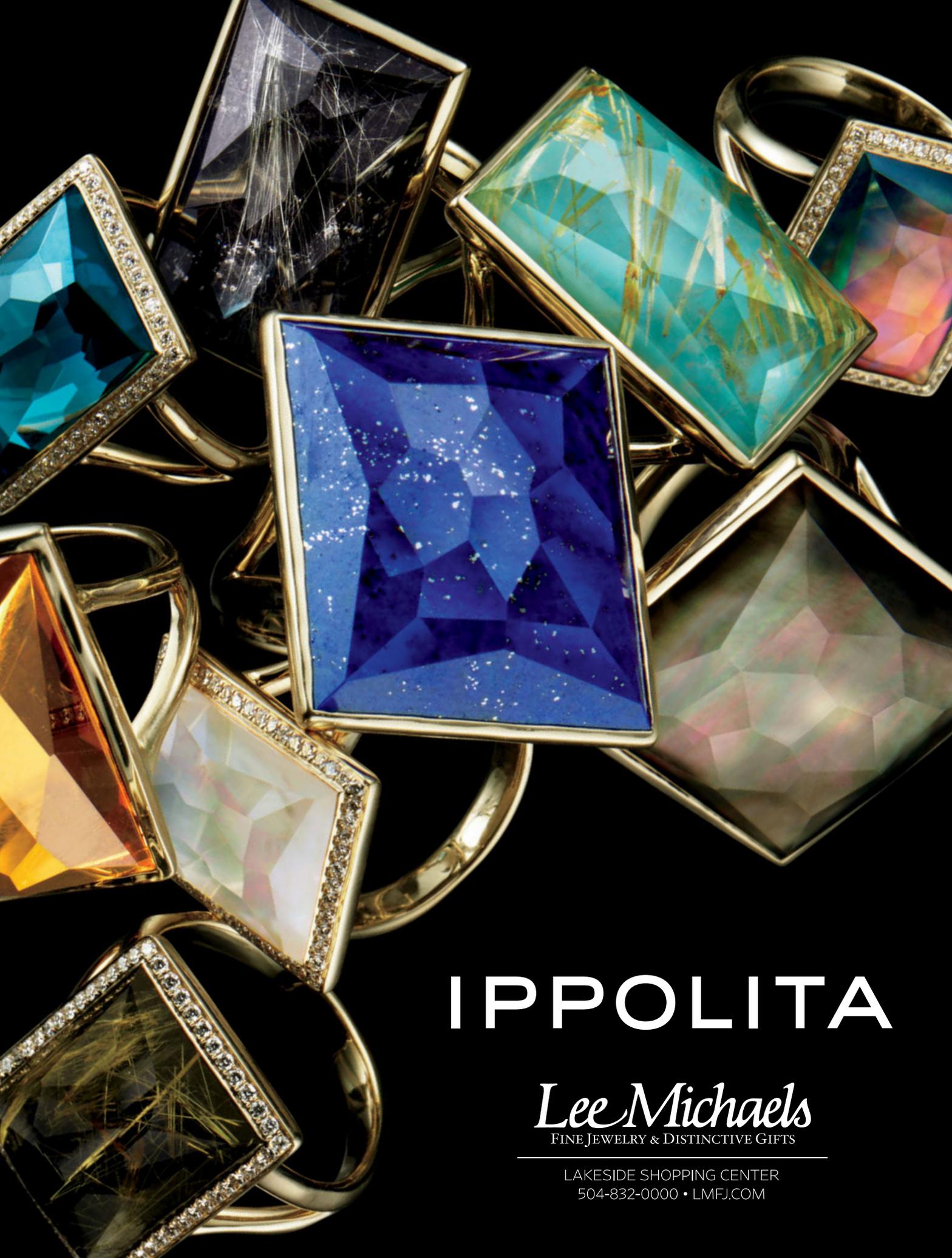
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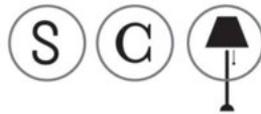
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## On the Cover

Youngest Provisional, Mallory Wallin; JLNO President, Katherine Raymond; 98-year-old Sustainer, Peggy McCloskey Hardie; and Archivist Chair, Lenora Costa, pose in front of the Junior League of New Orleans' new archive section at the Old U.S. Mint.

*Photo by: Jessica Bachmann*

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Publisher



New Orleans Publishing Group LLC  
3445 N. Causeway Blvd. Suite 901  
Metairie, LA 70002  
504-834-9292



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# Letter

from the President



Photo by: Jessica Bachmann

How do you wish to make a difference? This is a simple question that we must ask of ourselves and of our organizations.

As we, the Junior League of New Orleans, celebrate 90 years of making a difference in New Orleans, I am most proud that we have continued to ask this very question. While our mission has not changed, the method with which we mobilize volunteers, seek solutions, and contribute to lasting success has. I am proud that in 1974 we had the foresight to value preservation, and begin an effort which would lead to the Preservation Resource Center. And, many successes later, I am proud that in 2014, we are starting a Diaper Bank, to support working mothers with needed diapers to facilitate care for their children.

This foresight is possible because of our new strategic plan. After a year of some of our brightest volunteers researching what the city of New Orleans needs, and what we as a League can uniquely do to make a difference, we have set a vision of Advancing the Wellbeing of Women.

As we embark on our 2014-2015 year, I hope you too, through the pages of this *Lagniappe* magazine, our extensive website [www.jlno.org](http://www.jlno.org), and our engaging social media channels, will learn of what we are doing and connect with us. As we host events, collaborate with partners, and shape the future of our community, won't you join us?

Thank you for being a part of all that we do to make a difference.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Kleinpeter Raymond".

*Katherine Kleinpeter Raymond*  
Junior League of New Orleans President 2014-2015

*The Junior League is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.*

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# Letter

from the Editor



Photo by Jessica Bachmann

I have always loved fall. As a child, my love of fall was directly related to the beginning of a new school year. Everything always seemed so fresh — notebooks filled with blank pages, pens in all the colors of the rainbow, freshly pressed (and unstained) white blouses with monogrammed, Peter Pan collars; new teachers, new friends. The night before the first day of school was usually restless. Filled with anticipation and excitement, I could barely sleep.

I am not ashamed to admit that those feelings of anticipation and excitement lasted all the way through high school, college, and even into law school. Things of course changed when I finally graduated and got a “real” job. Don’t get me wrong, football and cool weather rank up there with new school supplies, but “adult” fall lacked the frenetic energy I experienced in my youth.

Throughout my years as a JLNO member, I have gotten that excitement back. Not only does the beginning of the JLNO year coincide with the beginning of the school year, but with each new year there are new placements, new faces, and new projects. Probably, most exciting is the new Board of Directors. As always, this issue of *Lagniappe* features profiles of the 2014-2015 JLNO board members. This group of unique women is truly amazing.

The 2014-2015 JLNO is also exciting because, as we celebrate our 90th birthday, we are also implementing our new Strategic Plan with the overarching focus on Advancing the Wellbeing of Women. You will be hearing a lot about the new focus area throughout the year at various JLNO events. *Lagniappe* will be there, along the way, highlighting this plan with content that emphasizes all the wonderful things JLNO does for the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly J. Walsh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*Kelly Walsh*  
Editor

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# JLNO Fall Bulletin Board

**Save the date!** The September General Membership Meeting is September 16th at 7 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Nims Center.

**Hey Provisionals!** Want to get to know your fellow Provisionals? Head to the Provisional Social at Superior Seafood on September 16th at 5:30 p.m.!

Time to break out new merchandise at **Bloomin' Deals!** Bloomin' Deals Bag Day and Stock Swap are October 4th and 5th!

**The Katrina recovery effort continues!** Get your Community Shift in with Rebuilding Together October 4th and 5th and October 10th and 11th.



Get your running shoes ready! The Freret 5K is October 18th!

The October General Membership Meetings will be held at JLNO Headquarters October 21st at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

**Know anyone with a fabulous kitchen?**

The deadline for Kitchen Tour submissions is October 28th!

**Happy Halloween!** Halloween is October 31st!



Join us for **Throw Me Somethin' Sista Street Party** Oct 9th at 6:30 pm at Bloomin' Deals. RSVP at [www.jlno/streetparty](http://www.jlno/streetparty).



**Have some good news? Want to say thanks?** Submit your "Good News" and "Applause" for inclusion in Tout de Suite by emailing it to [news@jlno.org](mailto:news@jlno.org).

# Have you...



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Signed up for Freret 5K?

Attended an Esprit event?

Told someone new about JLNO?



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# Living Well

By: Ann Conger

## Fall Into Good Sun Habits

Take Cover and Prevent Skin Cancer

Skin cancer is one of the most preventable and most common cancers in the United States. Every year, over 3.5 million skin cancers are diagnosed in 2 million people, and one in five Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime. Despite these frightening statistics, many skin cancers are preventable and treatable when caught early.

Just because summer is over does not mean that you are safe from skin cancer. Any sun exposure, regardless of the time of year, increases your chances of developing skin cancer, and it is important to practice safe sun habits all year.

Preventing skin cancer is a two-part endeavor. First, you must protect yourself from the sun. The second part is early detection of skin cancers and pre-cancerous spots. To help prevent skin cancer, it is important to limit your exposure to UV rays. It is equally important to know your skin, meaning that you know which spots are normal and harmless, and which spots need to be checked out by a dermatologist or other medical provider. A good safe sun strategy involves both protecting your skin and regular skin checks, including self-checks and skin checks by a medical provider.



2

Experts recommend staying out of the sun during its strongest hours between 10 am and 4 pm. When staying out of the sun is not possible, use protective clothing and a broad-spectrum sunscreen that protects against UVA and UVB rays with an SPF of at least 15. For sun protective clothing, look for labels with a high UPF (Ultraviolet Protection Factor) number. UPF is the rating for sun protective clothing, similar to SPF for sunscreen. Additionally, don't forget a hat and sunglasses that block out

**1 All the makings of a fun and safe day in the sun.**

**2 Gabby Dennis, daughter of JLNO member Kathleen Dennis, is sun smart with her 50 SPF.**

Photo by: Amelia Council

100% of UV rays, as your eyes can be damaged by sun as well.

Sunscreen is an important weapon in your sun protection arsenal as well. Choose a sunscreen that is broad spectrum, meaning that it blocks both UVA rays, which cause tanning and aging of the skin, as well as UVB rays, which cause burning. The important thing to remember about sunscreen is to apply it liberally and to reapply it often. You should use at least one ounce of sunscreen to cover your entire body, so those bottles of sunscreen shouldn't last too long. Be sure to apply sunscreen at least 30 minutes before venturing out into the sun. Sunscreen should be reapplied every two hours or after heavy sweating or swimming. Also, even if you're not planning a big day out in the sun, remember to always wear sunscreen every day on your face to help prevent sun-related aging and sunburns from everyday incidental sun exposure.

Another great thing you can do for your skin in the fall is get your skin checked by a professional, such as a dermatologist. Having a skin check is an important part of your self-care, as it can help you establish a baseline for your skin by determining what moles and spots are normal, and what spots are not normal. Additionally, enlisting a professional can help you see places that you alone can't, such as under your hair and the backs of your legs. Some dermatologists will even take photos of your moles to use as a comparison for later exams, to ensure that they are not changing, which could be a sign of skin cancer or a pre-cancerous condition. Once you have had a skin check with a healthcare provider, you will be able to perform skin checks on yourself between your professional visits.

While summer is the time when we are most conscious of protecting our skin from the sun, we need to keep skin protection in mind all year long. By protecting your skin from the sun and knowing your skin, many skin cancers can be avoided or detected early enough so that they can be removed. If you have more questions about how to protect yourself or more questions about skin cancer, your dermatologist or other physician is a great source. If you'd like to do some research on your own, visit [www.skincancer.org](http://www.skincancer.org), the web page of the Skin Cancer Foundation.



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## JLNO 101 – A Look at this Year’s Provisional Class Along with Some Tips on Navigating your Provisional Year

By Jacquie Stump

Thrift shop shifts, rummage donations, Digital Cheetah, meetings, deadlines — if you are just starting your provisional year and feeling a little overwhelmed by all the information you are receiving, don't fret! Your provisional year is designed to help you get to know the Junior League of New Orleans and its work as well as meet other members and just generally get your feet wet. Below is a quick rundown on this year's class and some friendly advice from JLNO's active members.

Who makes up the 2014–2015 provisional class? This year's provisional class is made up of a diverse group of 150 women who vary in age, background, and ethnicity. When asked why they joined JLNO, members gave differing responses with some common themes – to meet new people and serve their community. As Provisional Rachel Jones puts it, “My hope is that each of us, while being involved in great community projects, will each figure out our place in JLNO to make a lasting impact on the New Orleans community.” This year's provisional class exemplifies the League's commitment to voluntarism and



one of the League's primary missions — giving back to the great city of New Orleans.

What's new for this year? This year, the League is shaking things up a bit. Some of the changes to this year's provisional curriculum were made with the goal of giving a comprehensive introduction to the League's activities in the most efficient way possible, says Alice Glenn, Provisional Committee Co-chair. Alice notes that some of the changes include requiring provisionals to work five Thrift Shop Shifts versus the eight required in previous years, with the trade-off being that there will be more hours required for Provisional Service Shifts, which are comprised of select community and fundraising projects. Also,

Alice advises that instead of members completing what were termed Provisional Projects, JLNO is more than doubling the amount of in-League shifts so provisionals “can really get to know the League and what aspects of the JLNO's work really interest them individually.”

*continued on page 14*

**1 Provisional members Amy Shows, Simone Burrell, and Zoely Vera enjoying JL 101 at headquarters on June 14, 2014.**

Photo by: Lacreacia Jones

**2 Active members Emily Booth and Tracy Joseph man their booth during JL 101 on June 14, 2014.**

Photo by: Lacreacia Jones

**3 Provisional Co-Chair, Alice Glenn, briefs 2014-2015 Provisionals on what to expect this year at headquarters on June 17, 2014.**

Photo by: Colleen Loerzel

## JLNO 101

*continued from page 13*

### Some advice from Actives:

Introduce yourself and get involved!

Aside from those first perfunctory meet and greets, don't hesitate to get to know the people with which you are working. Active Jennifer Jeandron notes, "the more you get involved in the JLNO, the more you get out of it and the more people you get to know."

In addition, Alice recommends getting to know your small group members and advisors. This year, the League is working harder than ever to emphasize personal relationships, and there are many opportunities to get to know your advisors and group members!

Don't be afraid to ask questions.

If you find yourself asking questions, chances are you are not the only one. Don't hesitate to ask the person next to you, your provisional advisor, or anyone in JLNO for help.

### Step outside your comfort zone!

Give something new a shot! Sign up for a shift to help with something you know nothing about. You never know when you might discover



a new talent or something that you enjoy. The League offers many no-fail ways to give back and try something new at the same time.

Finally, don't forget to have fun!

Do not spend too much time worrying about the requirements of your provisional year and forget to have fun while doing it! Provisional Treva Lincoln said it well when she described the reasons she and her sister joined the League: "The whole concept – giving back and having fun doing it – seemed like a win-win for everybody!"

So, in sum, Provisionals, the entire League is excited about your class and you have a wealth of resources at your disposal to help you navigate through your provisional year and beyond. As Ways and Means Council Director Chalon Dominick says, "You get out what you put in. Do as much as you can to learn about the ins and outs of JLNO. Do things in the Junior League that are not what you do in your day to day."

From all of us in the League, we wish you good luck in your Provisional year!

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## SUSTAINERS SHARE THEIR LOVE OF THE LEAGUE

By Heather Guidry

In the parlor of Lambeth House on a Saturday afternoon, several Sustainers with a rich history in the Junior League of New Orleans meet and reminisce about their time in the Junior League. As the evening wears on, it is clear that promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities are nothing new to JLNO.

Peggy Hardie, who is featured on the cover and is the grandmother of President-Elect Shannon Able, joined the Junior League of New Orleans in the 1930s because she wanted to get involved in volunteer work. Mrs. Hardie spent a great deal of time working with the New Orleans Museum of Art and remembers her years with the Junior League fondly.

Recalling the first time she saw her name in print in the JLNO magazine, Jean Chappell noted, "I was so proud." Mrs. Chappell came from New York and sought the JLNO as "an opportunity to get

involved in the community; it was hard to get involved in the big city."

Another Sustainer, Joan Parkerson, also fondly remembers her volunteer experience. Mrs. Parkerson, who worked on the *Plantation* Cookbook, stated, "I remember being at Junior League Headquarters, typing away, and enjoying every minute. I loved it."

JLNO has long stood as a leader in volunteerism but also in developing the potential of women through training and encouragement. Deborah Conery noted, "We had as much fun as we did good. You were prepared to lead and to follow. You were trained to know what to do and what not to do, and when you served on a board you were the most enthusiastic!"

Helen Pointer, originally from Mississippi, joined to become involved in the community and worked on the children's theater. She was also an "unofficial vice president" to the late Jackeen Churchill. "I would do anything that she asked, I was there to

2



3



4



support her," said Mrs. Pointer.

Pat Mason joined JLNO because she enjoyed volunteer work and was impressed with League work. Mrs. Mason was involved with the Louisiana Nature Center and received fundraising training through JLNO that led to a 25-year fundraising career. She is credited as a leader in the development of the Greater New Orleans Foundation and is a recipient of the JLNO Sustainer of the Year Award.

Virginia Walker, past President and Sustainer of the Year, explains her involvement with JLNO. "I joined because it was that time of year and that's what you did. You finished college, got married, then you joined the League. But I got hooked. The Junior League of New Orleans expanded my horizons more than I could have ever believed possible. JLNO gives you the training and confidence to go out into the community as a leader."

Mrs. Walker recalls the highlight of her membership, "We invited a leader in the NASA office in Alabama to come speak to us. All of our husbands thought we were crazy thinking that we could get this man to come speak to us, but we did, and we opened the meeting to the community."

Mrs. Walker summed up her time as a JLNO member perfectly. "I just love the League. I had such fun and learned so much, especially about group dynamics. To see people come together and produce things like that is amazing."

**1 A few of JLNO's more experienced Sustainers living in the Lambeth House gather for a Happy Hour to share stories about JLNO over the past 90 years. Front Row: Sara Louise Jumonville, Peggy Hardie, Joan Parkerson, Jean Chappell Back Row: Deborah Conery, Helen Pointer, Virginia Walker (Past President)**

Photo by: Ashley Aarons

**2 Sustainer Jean Chappell shares her favorite JLNO memories with *Lagniappe* writer Heather Guidry.**

Photo by: Ashley Aarons

**3 Sustainers Pat Mason and Helen Pointer discuss how much the Junior League has helped the City of New Orleans through the hard times.**

Photo by: Ashley Aarons

**4 Sustaining members Peggy Hardie, Deborah Conery and Jean Chappell attend the Lambeth House event.**

Photo by: Ashley Aarons

President

## Katherine Kleinpeter Raymond

By: Heather Guidry



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann

President Katherine Kleinpeter Raymond is a true representation of the modern Junior League member. I met Katherine for lunch on a busy weekday afternoon and soon learned the level of leadership that she brings to the Junior League of New Orleans. Born and raised in New Orleans, Katherine holds a Doctorate Degree in Civil Engineering from Tulane University and is a wife and mom. She and her husband Beau have been married for 14 years, and they have three daughters, Sydney, 11, Charlotte, 9 and Kate, 4. She serves on the Board of Advisors for the Chi Omega Sorority and still allows time for volunteering through community fundraisers and church.

Her Junior League career began in 2007 as a *Lagniappe* Writer, and she has not stopped since. She served on various internal and community committees, most notably as Business and Communications Council Director and Bayou District Committee Member. As President-Elect, Katherine had the opportunity to participate in the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute, which networks and helps educate and solve issues affecting our region. Now as the leader of the organization, she looks forward to sharing her knowledge with the Junior League.

### Where do you envision JLNO in the next 10 years?

The Junior League of New Orleans has a great new strategic plan developed to create a significant impact on the wellbeing of women. I oversee the strategic plan to make sure we move forward in the vision of the people before us and advance that plan. JLNO has been able to remain relevant in New Orleans because we have the flexibility to adjust. We have the support of our membership and sustainers who understand that change is necessary to keep JLNO relevant; we all want to see important work being done by the Junior League. I am also excited about our 100-year anniversary, and our leaders are already planning for this exciting milestone for the Junior League of New Orleans.

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

“You can do anything!” You have a profession that you work in, but the Junior League teaches you that you can do so much more; Junior League enhances your life.

### What is the benefit of JLNO membership?

I believe women join the Junior League because of our commitment to making a difference, and they trust that JLNO is the premier training organization for women in New Orleans. My father always said to collaborate and work with people, and through the Junior League, our members are able to network with other members and the community.

### What advice would you give the new group of Provisionals?

Take your time. It is tempting to rush toward something where you can make a direct impact, but slow down and take in the process. Spend one year sharing the skills you have, and another doing something new.

### What is your favorite League event?

General Membership Meeting

### What is your proudest League accomplishment?

Strengthening myself in the League from an internal placement as Editor of *Lagniappe* to a Bayou District committee member where I had to step out of my comfort zone with an open mind to other people's lives.

### What are your goals for this year with the League?

My goal is to have our membership feel like we are listening to their needs and using their time wisely.

### Fast Facts

Creole Creamery or Brocatos? Creole Creamery

The Zoo or the Aquarium? Aquarium

Downtown or Uptown? Uptown

Register or sorting at Bloomin' Deals? Register

Snowballs or Frozen yogurt? Frozen yogurt

Facebook or Twitter? Both

President-Elect

## Shannon McCloskey Able



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann

By Lea Witkowski-Purl

Most people are familiar with the song “Happy” by Pharrell Williams. That’s Shannon McCloskey Able’s theme song. She can’t get it out of her head as she bounces from a performance at her children’s camp to an interview with me and straight to another meeting – all while recovering from a recent surgery. She is smiling all the way and letting nothing bring her down. Shannon grew up in New Orleans, got a degree in business and communications from the University of Georgia and lived in Atlanta after she graduated. She worked for a large public relations firm there, traveling the world and beginning her career. After she met her husband in Atlanta, the two frequently traveled back to New Orleans to visit family and enjoy festivals. Their love of New Orleans eventually brought them home, and they moved in eight months before Katrina. After recovering and helping her parents recover, she bought the Party Basket, an event planning company, had three children, sold the Party Basket and earned a place in JLNO history.

### What is your JLNO history?

Even though I was living in Atlanta, I joined the Junior League of New Orleans. Then, I transferred to Atlanta and transferred back to New Orleans. Since I’ve only been here since Katrina, a lot of [my experience] has been Thrift Shop and fundraising, which is one of those things that most people don’t like! But Bloomin’ Deals is our biggest fundraiser, so I’ve always thought that was so important. After doing shifts there and being Thrift Shop Chair, you really get to see the impact we really do make on people who are struggling, that don’t have another choice. I think it gives you a different perspective that those working one shift don’t really get to see. When I was there after Katrina, there was no store – it was flooded and we were trying to clean it. It wasn’t just the staff. It was also the people in the community who would come to see the people that they had seen work there. They just wanted a connection, and it was pretty amazing. Even if you don’t like it, you have to recognize it and support it because it helps us do all the good things we do.

### What are your goals for the year?

My personal goals for the Junior League are to learn as much as I can and support Katherine and the Board in any way, which means our membership. I feel like one of the things we’re always trying to improve on is our membership, making people feel more connected, making them understand how the Junior League works, and, quite frankly, changing some things. We know we can always do things better. Our membership itself has changed, and maybe some of the things we do don’t work. We need to be honest and look at that and be willing to change. This year for me is about learning as much as I can and seeing where we can make improvements.

### What are you excited about this year?

This year, I’m just excited to go to everything, be involved and know about everything. I think what’s exciting too is that Katherine and I have previously served together on the Board, so we already know the other works. It’s fun because we don’t have to get to know each other. The Board is so cohesive and so visionary. Because we just completed the Strategic Plan, we’re in such a great place that we can easily take it and go with it. We have so many tools that not everyone has to use. Having a roadmap is awesome.

### Fast Facts

- Cat or Dog? Dog
- Kayak on Bayou St. John or Sailing in Lake Ponchartrain? Sailing in Lake Ponchartrain
- Magnolia or Crepe myrtle? Magnolia
- Jazz quartet or brass band? Jazz Quartet
- Street car or Pedicab? Street Car

## Secretary Kathleen Murray Ramsey

By: Ann Conger



Although she could have become a Sustainer this year, New Orleans native Kathleen Ramsey chose to put her 10 years of Junior League experience to work when she accepted a position on the Board for the 2014-2015 year. Kathleen has served in a variety of placements, from Nominating Committee to *Lagniappe* writer to 5K Chair, and her broad base of Junior League experience will serve her well in her new role as Junior League of New Orleans Secretary. In spite of being a busy working mother of Grace (8) and Margo (6), Kathleen's voluntarism extends beyond her JLNO service. She also serves on the development committee of her children's school, Lycée Français de la Nouvelle-Orléans, and is a devoted Brownie troop leader. "My kids would be upset if I didn't mention that!" Kathleen exclaims. When not volunteering or working, Kathleen loves tennis, spending time on the water paddle boarding and hanging out with her family.

### What is your favorite placement?

It's a toss-up between Nominating Committee and Placement Advisor. It is so rewarding to help people along in their League career, either by identifying them as a leader or helping them understand their options and see the route they choose to take.

### You are the Secretary. What does that role entail?

The JLNO Secretary chairs the Standards Committee, organizes the calendar, and is the Parliamentarian for the League. It involves lots of new roles that I haven't yet played within the JLNO. I'm having a crash course in parliamentary procedure. Thank goodness for my Sustaining Advisor, Chris Zazulak, and fellow Board members, who are by-law, standing rule and parliamentary experts.

### What are the benefits of JLNO membership?

For me, the number one benefit is the training. I have been able to learn so much from the Junior League that I haven't had the opportunity to learn anywhere else. Witnessing the Junior

League's community impact is a very close second. The opportunity to meet like-minded individuals is a bonus. I've made a lot of great friends in JLNO.

### What is your favorite JLNO event?

Definitely Kitchen Tour. I love looking at all the kitchens. I could look at gorgeous kitchens all day long.

### What is your proudest JLNO accomplishment?

Watching the Board I helped place, as part of the Nominating Committee, come up with some amazing things.

### What are you most excited about for this year?

I'm excited about all the things that we as a Board get to implement. Those before us did the leg work, but we are the ones in the fortunate position to see it happen and plant the seeds for those that come behind us. I'm also looking forward to getting some new projects started, such as the Diaper Bank and working with Eden House against human trafficking.

### What advice would you give to the new group of Provisionals?

Try new things. Say yes! I'd tell them to examine their options. They have so many choices, and there is a lot of information available to them to learn about JLNO.

### Fast Facts

Jazz Fest or French Quarter Fest? Jazz Fest

Zoo or the Aquarium? Zoo

Register or sorting at Bloomin' Deals? Both have their moments, but I'd say Register

Snowballs or Frozen Yogurt? Both

Bananas Foster or Bread Pudding? Bread pudding

Treasurer

## Erin Clayton Mouldoux



By: Mary Audiffred

The 2014-2015 Treasurer, Erin Clayton Mouldoux, graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in Finance. As can be seen in her position as a Financial Analyst for Entergy in New Orleans, Erin has a clear passion and drive for maintaining successful budgets and streamlining financial processes. Erin and her husband, Taylor, met at the University of Georgia where they both attended college, but both have a love of Louisiana as they grew up here. Erin and Taylor have two children; three year-old, Taylor Jr., and seven week-old, Kate.

### **What is your history with the Junior League of New Orleans?**

I have been an active member of the Junior League of New Orleans for five years. Prior to my position as Treasurer, I served as Assistant Treasurer as well as Treasurer on other JLNO committees.

### **What are your goals for this year with the League?**

I am beginning my term with a positive outlook on where we are headed as an organization with a focus on streamlining financial processes and following the “Earn it, Plan it, Spend it” model created last year. This program has provided a strong visibility and focus on making cost-conscious decisions on planning events so we can spend the money we earn in the most effective way in the community. A new focus for this year is to streamline the reimbursement process for JLNO expenses. This will involve implementing a new online process, which will make approval and reimbursement quicker and more efficient.

### **What do you feel is the most important role that the League plays to the City of New Orleans?**

I value the devotion JLNO has for empowering women in the community.

### **What are you most excited about this year?**

I am really excited about the Diaper Bank Project that will be implemented this year. I feel this program will not only empower and help women and families in need, but will also educate JLNO members of the needs of struggling mothers in our community.

### **What is your favorite League event?**

I love the Touch-a-Truck event. It is a fun-filled event that draws a broad range of attendees and the children really enjoy it.

### **Favorite JLNO memory?**

Reading to the children at Lafayette Academy. The kids are so excited to have JLNO members work with them and read to them. I left me feeling very fulfilled.

### **Fast Facts**

Jazzfest or French Quarter Fest? French Quarter Fest

Saints or Pelicans? Saints

Instagram or Facebook? Facebook

Uptown or Downtown? Uptown

iPad or Kindle? iPad

## Assistant-Treasurer Michelle Lucas Huck

By Rebecca Bartlett

Michelle Lucas Huck always seems to have one foot on the edge of her comfort zone while embracing new experiences for growth. Earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in both Economics and History from Loyola University New Orleans and a Masters in Accounting from the University of New Orleans laid the foundation for her professional experiences. After graduation she worked several jobs, including smaller accounting firms and People's Health in Metairie, until she found her present position as a Controller for Liskow & Lewis. With the support of her husband, Jordan Huck, and the affection of their two cats, Millie and Clarence, Michelle has the foundation to test her limits while still finding a necessary balance. Throw in her five-days-a-week, 5:30 AM stress-relief sessions at CrossFit Nola, and you have some insight into what keeps her going and makes her strong enough to take on her new position as Assistant Treasurer for the Junior League of New Orleans.

### **What originally attracted you to the Junior League?**

Years ago, close friend and outgoing Treasurer, Allison Plaisance, convinced me to join. I had been working a lot and did not have time to socialize or experience the city. A new job and the hope of meeting new people made it the opportune time for me to give JLNO a shot. I had no idea all of the wonderful opportunities for growth and development JLNO offered.

### **What do you wish more people knew about Finance Committee?**

People don't seem to really have an interest in the Finance Committee because they don't know what it is or what we do. In my first active year, the Finance Committee was strained to find members to fill vacant positions, so I took on a role traditionally held by someone with more Junior League experience. All you really need to fill most of the positions are basic math skills; no in-depth accounting experience required! Promoting awareness and involvement in this important placement will be one of my top priorities as Assistant Treasurer.



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann



People really miss a great opportunity to learn more about how JLNO operates and develop the skills associated with managing funds for a major organization — skills that can translate to almost any industry.

### **What is something that you are excited to see happen in JLNO?**

Developing the electronic reimbursement system to replace the “Green Sheet.” The current reimbursement method is not user-friendly or efficient. With the electronic system, the process will be stream-lined and most of it can be done through email. Originally, I thought this would be my major two-year project, but Headquarters Staff brought it to a more imminent reality. There is still a transition that I will be involved in facilitating, but the whole process is very exciting for anyone who will ever need to receive or distribute a reimbursement.

### **What are some of your favorite events and offerings JLNO provides?**

I love Touch a Truck! I have two small nephews who love trucks and experiencing a JLNO event with my family is a fun way to share with them what JLNO does. Also, the tangible effect you get at the end of a day working on Rebuilding Together is a neat experience to have. Oh, and the Training Paloozas! Getting to take one or two free classes on something I find interesting but wouldn't have otherwise gotten to learn about provides a personally enriching opportunity.

### **Fast Facts**

- Pelicans or Saints: Saints
- City Park or Audubon Park: City Park
- Snoball or Beignet: Beignet
- Carnival or Jazz Fest: Carnival
- Lucky Dog or Dat Dog: Dat Dog

Business Council Director

## Julie McWhirt Kenter

By: Amanda Wingfield Goldman



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann

Julie lives by the motto that her grandfather taught her: you want to help those who want to help themselves. “I have great inspiration through my family,” Julie says. This is a lesson that she is teaching her daughters, Caroline, age five, and Reese, age three. Julie and her husband, Ryan, are also expecting a third daughter in September.

Julie is originally from southern Ohio, attended high school in Tennessee, and obtained her bachelor’s degree in History at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Julie earned her master’s degree in Elementary Education at Loyola University. She taught first and second grade for twelve years at Newman. “I’m newly retired,” Julie says with a chuckle.

### **Tell me about your position on the Board and what you hope to accomplish this year.**

As Business Council Director, we are looking at revamping Thrift Shop and looking at the future of Thrift Shop and the Bridal Boutique. We envision increasing the quality of the Thrift Shop.

We want to make the Bridal Boutique bigger. We have received more donations and support from the community and we want to increase advertising and marketing. We have had a lot more wedding dresses come in, many of which are higher quality, and we have received many more bridesmaids’ dresses. The Bridal Boutique has been much more organized this year, and it has been open more as a result. People have heard about it now, and so there’s more awareness. We have been using a lot of social media and many local shops have referred brides to the Bridal Boutique.

### **How has the Junior League of New Orleans adjusted to remain relevant?**

Our city is changing faster than a lot of other cities. There is more industry coming into the city and we have many more women working in the city, which is a change I’ve definitely seen in the last nine years. When I first started in the Junior League, there were more stay-at-home moms who were volunteering, and I’ve watched

it evolve to more career-oriented women doing the balancing act. I see the JLNO reaching out to working women by creating more opportunities for them.

We are more aware of time commitments for everybody, and we are trying to narrow our focus down to fewer projects, and at the same time, concentrating our projects on women’s areas that would be more beneficial to New Orleans. I think that this will be a big change in the next five years.

### **Who is the most interesting person that you have met through JLNO?**

City Councilwoman Latoya Cantrell came and spoke with Get on Board, and she was simply amazing. She spoke about [Hurricane] Katrina, and where New Orleans was to where it is now. She talked about how women and men can become leaders, and how you have to start a grass roots effort in your neighborhood and start small and go large. The whole audience was quiet, and it was wonderful to hear someone like that speak who came from nothing and really built everything since Katrina.

### **What advice do you have for this year’s Provisional Class?**

Definitely stick with it because you meet so many wonderful people in the Junior League that you never would think that you would meet, and you will touch the lives of people that you don’t realize that you’re touching until you’ve been in [the League] for a while.

### **Fast Facts**

Commander’s or Galatoire’s? Galatoire’s – Shelly is a great waiter!

Jazz Fest or French Quarter Fest? Jazz Fest

Brocatos or Hanson’s? Hanson’s – when the line is short!

Kindle or iPad? iPad

DVR or Streaming? Both!

Communications Council Director

## Jessie Schott Haynes



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann

By: Heather Guidry

A native of New Orleans, Communications Council Director, Jessie Schott Haynes, joined the Junior League in 2006. However, her involvement in the New Orleans community began long before that. A member of Chi Omega sorority at Tulane University, Jessie now serves on the Board of Advisors for the organization. She also serves on the Board of Directors for Save Our Cemeteries and has chaired events for many nonprofits' fundraisers over the years. Her Junior League involvement includes chairing multiple Junior League committees including Social Media, Marketing and Project Development. While attending Loyola University College of Law, she met her husband David "Beau" Haynes, a healthcare attorney. The couple has been married for ten years, and they have one son, 3 year old David "Miller" and a 12 year old Labrador Retriever, Indie.

After clerking for a district court judge and practicing law for six years with a New Orleans law firm, Jessie journeyed to Louisiana Appleseed, a pro bono nonprofit policy organization, where she served as Program Director for three years. She recently joined Helis Oil and Gas handling Civic and Philanthropic affairs of its foundation. In her free time, Jessie enjoys traveling with her family and friends, trying new restaurants, and Pilates.

### Where do you envision JLNO in 10 years?

I see us, at 100 years, proud of the work we have done for a century, but not resting on our accomplishments. I see JLNO as an organization that has not been afraid to evolve to suit the ever-changing needs of our community and membership. This ability to change is why, at 100, we will be basking in our accomplishments over the past ten years, particularly — with our new focus area — but continuing to ask ourselves "is our work the right match with our community's needs?"

### What do you feel is the most important role that the JLNO plays in the City?

I see us as the go-to organization in the city for finely-tuned, well-organized, competent volunteers and civic leaders. As our President Katherine Raymond reminds us, other community organizations come to us to look at a problem, refine it and fix it. They want us to "Junior League It."

### What has been your favorite placement throughout the years?

Social Media — before I was involved in the social media committee, I didn't really understand the training component of JLNO. Serving as the Social Media Chair allowed me to understand building something from the beginning to the end. I had no idea that I could learn so many things within JLNO that would be applicable outside of it — in business and other volunteer pursuits!

### You are the Communications Council Director.

#### What does this role entail?

Ensuring that our members and community are equally aware of our work and mission. Communications deals with every aspect of JLNO, both internally and externally. It is important that we continue to develop in this area as the organization evolves and the Junior League changes. We must also protect our brand and ensure that the community knows our brand and what it entails.

### What is your proudest League accomplishment?

Being a part of the Project Development process, especially the development of this year's new project; Diaper Bank, was a fulfilling experience.

### What are you most excited about this year?

The enthusiasm of the Communications Council! They are a dynamic, engaged, and talented group of women. Communications Council has hit the ground running and not stopped!

### Fast Facts

Jazz Fest or French Quarter Fest? Jazz Fest

Instagram or Facebook? Instagram

PJ's Coffee or CC's? PJ's

Uptown or Downtown? Uptown

Ipad over Kindle? Ipad

Saints or Pelicans? Saints

Community Council Director

## Marilyn "Mimi" Boothe Wilson



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann

By: Kathleen Dennis

Marilyn "Mimi" Boothe Wilson, is this year's Community Council Director. Throughout her eight-year history with the Junior League of New Orleans, Mimi has worked with Safe Sitter, the Nominating Committee, Senior League and Espirit.

Mimi earned her undergraduate degree from Louisiana State University and earned her Master's Degree from the Louisiana State University Health Science Center. Mimi currently works as a Speech Language Pathologist. She is married to Kris Wilson and they have a daughter, Conley, and a son, Charles. Mimi also volunteers with the Parent League at her children's schools, McGehee and Newman, as well as Zoo-to-Do and the Children's Hospital Sugarplum Ball. In her spare time, Mimi enjoys reading, cooking and spending time with her friends and family. Despite her busy schedule, Mimi credits JLNO with teaching her to balance work, family and voluntarism.

### **Where do you envision the League in the next ten years?**

I envision JLNO continuing to become increasingly flexible to accommodate the busy schedules of working members.

### **What do you feel is the most important role that the Junior League plays in the City of New Orleans?**

The most important role is the impact the Junior League has in the community with ten projects focused on children and the well-being of women.

### **What has been your favorite Placement throughout the years?**

I was involved with Safe Sitter for four years and the direct impact of the program definitely stands out. Also, the Nominating Committee taught me a tremendous amount about JLNO.

### **How do you feel about the League's work in the community?**

I am proud of the Junior League's work in the community. It is important and meaningful.

### **You are the Community Council Director.**

#### **What does this role entail?**

The role of Community Council Director is to oversee the ten Community Projects including the new projects, Diaper Bank and Eden House.

#### **How do you think JLNO has adjusted to remain relevant in New Orleans in 2014?**

JLNO remains relevant through strategic planning. We have evolved from a focus on rebuilding the city, post-Katrina, to focusing on JLNO's core values of advancing the well-being of women in the community.

#### **What is the benefit of JLNO membership?**

Meeting new and interesting people, learning new skills and an avenue to give back to the community.

#### **In your opinion, what draws women into joining JLNO?**

Both the benefits mentioned above as well as the variety of volunteer options JLNO offers to appeal to individual member interests.

#### **What skills have you learned from JLNO?**

I have learned how to run a meeting, create an agenda, work with budgets and participate in board membership. I am still learning!

#### **What are you most excited about this year?**

I am excited to continue to develop one of our newest project, Diaper Bank, and to continue to learn more about JLNO in my new role.

### **Fast Facts**

Creole Creamery or Brocatos? Creole Creamery

Dat Dog or Lucky Dog? Dat Dog

The Zoo or The Aquarium? The Zoo

Reality TV or Sitcoms? Reality TV

Membership Council Director

## Catherine “Caty” Trammell Flower



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann

By: Heather Hilliard

Originally from Dalton, Georgia, Caty lived briefly in Washington, D.C before relocating to New Orleans in 2001. Upon arrival in New Orleans, Caty worked at St. George's before moving to Louise S. McGehee School to work as a learning specialist where her eight year old, MaryCatherine, attends school. Professionally, Caty is passionate about teaching, developing, and helping the young women of McGehee realize their full potential. She draws great pride in the success of her students. She uses this same passion and philosophy in her leadership role with the JLNO. This year on a personal note, she hopes to continue to strengthen the great friendships she has built through Junior League activities and continue improving membership satisfaction. Though she's been active for a long time, there will be a time when she transitions to sustainer and hopes to enjoy that aspect of JLNO, too. However, we are very fortunate to have her on the Board this year, bringing her talents and excitement of teaching in order to help us learn new things in the year ahead as Membership Director.

### **What brought you to the Junior League of New Orleans?**

I joined to meet new people and get involved in the community. I became involved in Junior League leadership when my former boss, Lynne Gibbons, called and asked me to Vice-Chair Placement in 2007. Since then, I have chaired numerous placements, most being on Membership Council.

### **What other activities drew you into the community and have strengthened your ties to New Orleans?**

In order to get in touch with the area and continue helping people, in addition to joining JLNO, I also dove into church life. I am finishing my three year term on the session at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church and currently serve as the Congregational Care Team Chair, which focuses on the spiritual and physical health of the church membership, so it's a natural fit that most of my time has been working on projects in the Membership division of JLNO. There's a six month overlap of my session term at church and the Membership Director role, but I'm up for the challenge!

### **With your 10 years of active experience in JLNO, what was one of your favorite placements?**

I loved Safe Sitter, which I chose as my placement my first two active years. It allowed me to use my skills as a teacher, but I also learned a lot! The extensive training was extremely relevant to me, and it wasn't long after that I had my daughter and was thankful to have the CPR and First Aid certification. The summer schedule worked really well for me as a teacher, too.

### **What drew you to being a teacher? Was there something while growing up that pointed you that way?**

When I was in the 8th grade, I decided that I wanted to be a special education teacher after working with special education students who were mainstreamed in my PE class, and I loved it. After moving to New Orleans, I began working as a regular classroom teacher and used my special education background to meet the unique needs of each child.

### **What's something that you really like about our Junior League opportunities?**

The training opportunities are abundant. I personally try to take advantage of any opportunity to better myself either as a volunteer, a leader, a mother, or a teacher. I'm very excited about learning more about advocacy, which we are adding to our community impact this year. I encourage members to partake and let us know what training opportunities they would like to see JLNO offer.

### **Fast Facts**

Creole Creamery or Brocatos? Creole Creamery

Dat Dog or Lucky Dog? Dat Dog

Facebook or Twitter? Facebook

Snowballs or Frozen Yogurt? Frozen Yogurt

The Zoo or Aquarium? Zoo

Planning and Development Council Director

## Mollye Monceaux Demosthenidy



By Kelly Walsh

Early on a warm Wednesday evening, Planning and Development Council Director Mollye Monceaux Demosthenidy breezes into the Delachaise on St. Charles Avenue for her second Junior League of New Orleans meeting of the day. Grabbing a beverage, she sits down with Lagniappe to discuss her role in Junior League for the 2014-2015 year.

Mollye and her husband, Laurent, live near Audubon Park with their 16 month old daughter, Ellie. Mollye has a Bachelor's degree from LSU, along with a Master's degree in Health Administration and a Juris Doctor from Tulane.

Despite her hectic schedule — which includes teaching health care policy and law to graduate students at Tulane University — she is both relaxed and charming. Her friendly, easy-going manner is a refreshing compliment to her evident organizational skills and intellect. After only a brief conversation with Mollye, it is no surprise that she was slated to lead the Planning and Development Council.

### **What does your role as Planning and Development Council Director entail?**

There are two primary roles of Planning and Development. First, we plan and evaluate who we are and what we do. That includes looking at our community projects, our fundraisers, our businesses and our membership issues and making plans for our future. We gather data and talk to members who have worked on projects or fundraisers, because ultimately, we want to make sure that JLNO is maximizing our impact, efficiently using our resources, and offering meaningful volunteer experiences to our members. Then we make recommendations as we plan for the League's future. Planning and Development also includes long-term development of funds for JLNO. We are constantly working to cultivate new donors for both our operations and our endowment. Both arms of Planning and Development contribute in different, but equally important, ways to JLNO.

### **What has been your favorite Placement throughout the years?**

I co-chaired JLNO's Strategic Planning committee last year, and it was an incredibly rewarding experience. Throughout the process, I was

exposed to so much of what JLNO does and the unbelievably fantastic women who work with the League — former and current Board members and numerous volunteers across all the councils. Seeing how much our organization does was enlightening. We should be incredibly proud! During the year, we took a step back and examined the issues that are most important to JLNO — our community impact, member satisfaction, and financial stability. And ultimately, we made a number of recommendations for JLNO's future, probably most notably the adoption of “advancing the wellbeing of women” as our new focus. We heard resoundingly from the membership that this was the direction they wanted to move towards, and it's a very exciting shift for us. We were so fortunate that David Huete, a seasoned strategic planning consultant, volunteered his time to help us. He taught me so much about what a thorough and successful process looks like. And I am so grateful to JLNO for offering me the opportunity to learn those skills.

### **What has been your proudest JLNO accomplishment?**

Seeing JLNO shift to a single focus of advancing the wellbeing of women makes me both incredibly proud and excited. It's a fantastic new direction for us. There is a clear need for this work in our community, and I think we, as League members, are well-positioned to address that need.

### **What do you like to do for fun?**

I enjoy cooking, entertaining, and getting out and about in New Orleans. We are incredibly lucky to live in such a fun and interesting city, so we try to take advantage of that as much as we can.

### **Fast Facts**

- Jazzfest or French Quarter Fest? Jazz Fest
- Creole Creamery or Brocatos? Creole Creamery
- Dat Dog or Lucky Dog? Dat Dog
- The Zoo or the Aquarium? The Zoo
- Sitcoms or Reality TV? Sitcoms
- Snowballs or Frozen Yogurt? Snowballs

Ways and Means Council Director

## Chalon Dominick

By Jacqui Stump

“Do what you love,” was the response Ways and Means Council Director Chalon Dominick gave when I asked her to cite the best piece of advice she has received. A member of the Junior League since 2009, Chalon’s dedication to JLNO and her community is readily apparent. After leaving to attend college at the University of Mississippi, Chalon returned home to her native New Orleans where she now balances a career as Senior Catering Sales Executive at the New Orleans Marriott with active roles in multiple community organizations.

Chalon credits JLNO with teaching her to step outside of her comfort zone and trust her own decisions, and notes, “the benefit of a JLNO membership is invaluable. You will learn so much during your active years about yourself, what you are willing to fight for and the community we live and work in. You will work with amazing women who all have a common goal to make the City of New Orleans the best place to live.”

Chalon currently resides in Metairie and plans to put down roots in Lakeview in the future. In her free time, she enjoys everything Ole Miss, traveling, fitness, and spending time with her family and friends.

### **What do you feel is the most important role that JLNO plays in New Orleans?**

The most important role the League plays in the City of New Orleans is our willingness to adapt to our ever-changing community. We are consistently evaluating the things we are doing in the community and if they are not making the impact we are striving for then we go back to the drawing board. We do what we do to serve our membership and the community.

### **How do you feel about JLNO’s work in the community?**

I love the work we do in the community. I enjoy our diverse community projects. It allows our membership and community partners to leave a lasting impression on New Orleans.



### **In your opinion, what draws women into joining JLNO?**

I was drawn to the Junior League because I wanted to get more involved and meet new people. I wanted to make an impact on a city I hold dear to my heart and feel the Junior League is a place I can accomplish those things.

### **What are your goals for this year with the League?**

As Ways and Means Council Director, I oversee JLNO’s four major fundraisers: Freret 5k, Buy, Save and Serve, Touch a Truck and Kitchen Tour. My goal is to exceed the fundraising benchmarks so that we can put those funds back into our community. I also would like to see more exposure for these fundraisers.

### **What are you most excited about this year?**

I am excited about being a Board member! I did not expect to be on the Board so soon in my Junior League career, but I am looking forward to the challenge.

### **Favorite JLNO memory?**

The 2014-2015 Board of Directors reveal. I was so excited to be asked and could not wait to see who I would be working with to continue to make the Junior League a success.

### **Fast Facts**

- Jazzfest or French Quarter Fest? French Quarter Fest
- Creole Creamery or Brocatos? Creole Creamery
- Dat Dog or Lucky Dog? Lucky Dog
- Snowballs or frozen yogurt? Snoballs
- CC’s or PJ’s? Neither, I don’t drink coffee
- Saints or Pelicans? Saints

## Nominating Chair Adele Michaelis Ralston

By: Ashley Aarons



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann

When mulling over her 11 years of service to the Junior League of New Orleans, Adele Ralston remarks, “I’ve done things I never thought I’d do in a million years.” This year’s Nominating Chair has an obvious passion for JLNO, and her enthusiasm is infectious.

Adele received her undergraduate degree from the University of Mississippi and her MBA from the University of New Orleans.

Adele, a Sacred Heart alum and her husband Graham, a Jesuit alum, have three children – Riley, six, Mears four, and Emma, two. If the Ralston Family isn’t on the go for a soccer or baseball game, you can find them enjoying the pool or biking through Audubon. When her busy schedule allows her some leisure time, Adele enjoys working out or curling up with a good book.

### **What is your history with the Junior League?**

Over the past 11 years, I feel like I’ve done a little bit of everything. My first year I was on the Kitchen Tour Committee, and from there I chaired Cookbook, Power Ties, Project Development, and I was even a Provisional Advisor for two years.

### **If you had the opportunity to go back and repeat a placement, what would it be?**

I almost had this opportunity a couple of years ago, but I found out that I was pregnant with Emma and realized I didn’t have the time to chair a committee that year. As much as I love serving on the Board, it would definitely be something in the community, maybe Lafayette Academy or the new Diaper Bank. For every community shift, I always go back to Lafayette Academy to read. There’s something about the kids — I just love seeing them, they are so cute and always happy.

### **Since this might be your last active year with Junior League, what do you hope to leave?**

I hope to leave the Junior League with a great group of leaders,

who will continue improving our community and continue what we are doing now. We have so many women with so many different qualities and so many amazing things to offer. Something that makes me so happy and that I’ve enjoyed watching over the years is the increasing number of Provisionals that have jumped into leadership roles early on and started making an impact. When I started, that was not the case. I want to leave the Junior League where everyone is encouraged to take part and lead. I’m proud that we utilize all of our members and their strengths.

### **What advice would you give to a Provisional starting out this year?**

First, I would say, get to know as many people as you can. I know it’s hard, but everyone starts in the same position. Also, try new things. I feel it’s important to try something different early on, especially within the first two years. You never know what you might enjoy. It is easy to get stuck in a path, which is nice, but for me, I tried to do things that I would have never thought in a million years I would do, or could do. The Junior League has helped me grow in so many ways. We are here to train women. The Junior League trained me. And if you don’t know what you are doing, we figure it out together.

### **Fast Facts**

Lucky Dog or Dat Dog? Lucky Dog  
Audubon or City Park? Audubon  
Downtown or Uptown? Uptown  
PJs or CCs? Neither, Dr. Pepper  
Mardi Gras or Jazz Fest? Mardi Gras  
Audubon Zoo or Aquarium? Zoo

Sustaining Advisor

## Julie Livaudais George



Photo By: Jessica Bachmann

By Melissa Guidry

Sustaining Advisor, Julie Livaudais George, is a shining example of having it all. And she does it with a contagious smile. The lawyer and mother of two is a former Junior League President, Sustainer of the Year, and a pillar of the nonprofit world. The New Orleans native, whose family can be found on the original real estate rolls for the city, returned from Stanford undergrad to attend law school at Tulane University and since then has been paving the way for women in JLNO and in business, showing that what you achieve is completely up to you.

### Where do you envision JLNO in the next 10 Years?

I see it as a huge resource for helping women battle the glass ceiling issues, handle work and motherhood and committee volunteer issues; how you have a really fulfilling life and try to do it all well and keep all the balls in the air.

### What advice would you give the new group of Provisionals?

Enjoy it and don't freak out. I went through stages where I thought, "This is overwhelming. I cannot possibly do all of this." Just keep telling yourself it is not rocket science. We are going to get through this. Hang in through Provisional year, it's worth it. You just have to have a sense of humor about it. That's the best advice I can give anybody, keep your sense of humor.

### You are the Sustaining Advisor. What does that role entail?

Basically, that means sitting at the table and telling the Board, "don't worry, this has happened before and it's all going to be fine." I'm just there to support them in any way that they need. And also, I think I am going to help them with Sustainers and get Sustainers more involved.

### How do you think JLNO has adjusted to remain relevant in New Orleans in 2014?

Adjusting our focus areas as well as adjusting opportunities for members to work and volunteer. I think that we have done a lot

to enable working moms to still be volunteers in the community and train to be leaders.

### What is your proudest Junior League accomplishment?

I think Teen Court and working on the image of League members as not being "white gloved ladies who lunch," and I think getting us on the cover of *Gambit* in a jail cell goes hand in hand with that. (Please visit the Spring 2011 issue of *Lagniappe* to see more about the March 1997 *Gambit* Cover featuring the headline "No More White Gloves")

### What is your history with the Junior League of New Orleans?

My mother and grandmother were Junior League members too, so I am a third generation member.

### What skills have you learned from JLNO?

Leadership; mentoring; helping people to work together; and team building. Learning how to help teams interact and get the most out of them.

### What is your favorite JLNO memory?

At the end of your term as President, they roast you at Headquarters and invite your family. My daughter was three or four and my husband brought her and my son. She walked right up to the table, and she sat in the center in front of all of the guests. I was like, "Oh my gosh! Ellie is ready to rock!"

### Fast Facts

- Jazz Fest or French Quarter Fest? Jazz Fest
- Creole Creamery or Brocatos? Creole Creamery
- The Zoo or The Aquarium? Aquarium
- Register or sorting at Bloomin' Deals? Sorting
- Snowballs or Frozen Yogurt? Snowballs
- iPad or Kindle? iPad

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# JLNO's Community Assistance Fund

By: Mary Audiffred

This is an exciting year to be a part of the Community Assistance Fund ("CAF"). Aligning with JLNO's refreshed vision statement of advancing the wellbeing of women, the CAF committee members will now have the ability to gain the insight of the local nonprofits whose core mission is to aid in economic opportunities for women, prioritize women's health, or provide family support.

In the past, CAF committee members vetted local nonprofits whose goals centered on healthy families, education, and rebuilding New Orleans. These efforts were very successful, but the hope of this year's committee is that this new focus will allow the Junior League to branch out to organizations previously unaware of the support the JLNO can offer their start-up or nonprofit, as well as continue to support existing CAF partners who have projects that align with the new vision. The fall funding cycle will specifically focus on economic opportunities for women.



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**1 CAF Co-Chair Elizabeth Ogden Janke; Chair of the Board of the South Broad Community Health Beth Winkler-Schmit; and CAF Co-Chair Lizzie Martin pose at the newly renovated South Broad Community Health building.**

Photo by: Jennifer Capitelli

**2 CAF grant recipient, South Broad Community Health.**

Photo by: Jennifer Capitelli

This year's committee is excited about opportunities to fund both existing and new partners related to our focus on Advancing the Wellbeing of Women. Over 70 individuals from a wide variety of local nonprofits attended JLNO's Nonprofit Partner Fair on August 19, 2014. There, they heard about not only our upcoming CAF funding opportunities, but also other ways to work with JLNO, including community shift, community projects, Get on Board, and strategic partnerships.

CAF, together with JLNO, has developed a flyer promoting the new focus areas of the Community Assistance Fund grants. This flyer was placed in community centers and public forums in neighborhoods throughout the city: coffee shops, The Healing Center, think tanks, and libraries. The CAF is eagerly waiting to assist deserving non-profits and our community surrounding the Junior League of New Orleans.

Word of mouth is also a great way to advertise the new campaign and the CAF team is asking all JLNO members who may know of a nonprofit, start-up or organization, whose missions involve economic opportunities for women, women's health, or family support, to please direct them to the JLNO website to complete a grant application. The deadline for applications is September 26, 2014. Members can also email the CAF team at [caf@jlno.org](mailto:caf@jlno.org) for more information.

Once applications are received, the CAF committee will review all applicants, visit each organization and then make recommendations to the Planning and Development Council who will in turn give the recommendations to the board for final decisions. Awards will be distributed in January 2015 to the selected recipients.

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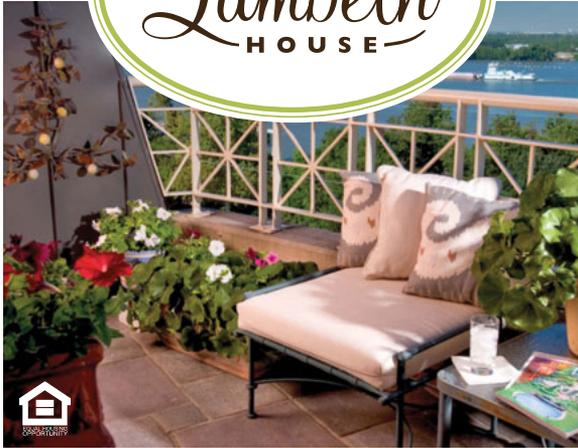
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Compiled by Heather Hilliard and Carrie Moulder

**Q: My family and I are taking an extended vacation abroad. I would like to take a leave of absence for one or more of my obligations. How do I do that?**

— Miss Sandy Beaches

**A:** Well, you are so lucky! JLNO understands that at any point in your Active membership, you may need to alleviate your Membership Obligations which is why we have Leaves of Absence (or LOAs) and Sabbaticals. These can help you remain a JLNO member while you address career, health or family needs.

All Active members are eligible for up to six LOAs during the course of their JLNO Active career. You may even take up to three LOAs at a time. The LOAs can be taken at any time during the League year. If you wish to take one LOA, you'll need to attend two General Membership Meetings, complete your placement, and two of the required fundraiser/community/thrift shop shifts during that JLNO year. This will count as an Active year. If you wish to take two leaves of absence, you are required to attend one General Membership Meeting, complete your placement, and complete one Fundraiser/Community/Thrift Shift during that year. This will also count as an Active year. If you wish to take three leaves of absence you don't have to attend any General Membership Meetings or complete your placement or complete any fundraiser/community/thrift shop shift requirements. However, this will not count as an Active year. A Sabbatical, on the other hand, can only be requested during Placement Week and is only available to Actives who have completed five Active years. On Sabbatical, you are relieved of all your Member Obligations except the financial ones, but it won't count as an Active year.

To request a Sabbatical or Leave(s) of Absence, log onto your member home page, click the Documents tab and choose Forms. Click on the Leaves of Absence or Sabbatical Request Form.

**Q: I am always behind on my shifts and want to take time this year to get 'em done. How can I handle my requirements more quickly?**

— Ms. Slate Allthetime

**A:** The beginning of the JLNO year is a great time to complete your Member Obligations, and there are some really interesting ways to do it. Active members can work at Bloomin' Deals for their Thrift Shop, Community and Fundraiser Shifts. Three shifts at Bloomin' Deals, and you can be done! Bridal Boutique is a fun Fundraiser Shift offered nearly every weekend. Also, donating blood is an easy Community Shift that can be done at any time. Both are available for Active and Provisional members. Rebuilding Together is a great weekend Community Shift in the Fall, and we have two fundraisers in the Fall – Buy, Save and Serve and Freret 5K. You can be done with most of your obligations by December!

**Q: Despite my best laid plans, I sometimes find my schedule doesn't allow me to make it to the General Membership meetings in the evenings. How else can I meet my meeting obligations?**

— Miss Merry Belle

**A:** Around the holidays and at the end of the year, we plan meetings with social themes or the holiday meeting marketplace. You get a meeting credit, and you can shop! You can plan on the May annual meeting, where you will see the "passing of the gavel" while enjoying a nice lunch with other JLNO members for a reasonable price. Those two meetings are more social than your typical general meeting. There are also kid-friendly morning meetings. You can also attend a Training Palooza session and receive a meeting credit while you learn about something interesting. In addition, there is a "double credit" General Membership Meeting in February this League year, so mark your calendar to get two meeting credits for one information packed meeting! Always check JL in the kNOW, our weekly email to the membership, for other opportunities to get your meeting credit.

Archivist, Lenora Costa; JLNO President, Katherine Raymond; 98-year-old Sustainer, Peggy McCloskey Hardie; and Youngest Provisional, Mallory Wallin; pose in front of the Junior League of New Orleans' new archive section at the Old U.S. Mint. Photo by: Jessica Bachmann



# ARCHIVE MOVED TO THE MINT

By Lea Witkowski-Purl

In connection with the 90th birthday of the Junior League of New Orleans, the Archives Committee, led by Chair Lenora Costa, began the process of transferring the archives from the closet in the Anne Carroll Suite at JLNO Headquarters to the Old U.S. Mint on Esplanade. The archives include 90 years of scrapbooks, inactive financial records, yearbooks, commendations, photos and anything else that formed a part of our history.

The transfer did not take place overnight. In 2012, the Archives Committee pitched the idea of moving the archives to preserve and digitize them. The Board agreed that it was a good idea, but the project did not start right away.

“By the time it got to me, it was, ‘We’ve decided to move the archives. No one knows what that means. You work in a museum....GO!’” Lenora said of her initial involvement in the project.

The original plan included three extensively researched options for the donation. All three expressed interest in archiving the donation for JLNO.

“The decision to finally go with the State Museum was due to the fact that the Junior League had a long-standing relationship with the State Museum because we used to do programming with it,” Lenora said. “So it was a way to tie back to that and restart a relationship with them.”

Moving the archives consists of a three-step process that started with making sure the items were properly housed in boxes. Then, Archives

Committee members, with the help of Provisionals, went through the boxes and wrote down the basic concepts and dates to help with the Finding Aid. A Finding Aid is a reference system like the Dewey Decimal system in the library that allows the archives to be easily referenced for research purposes.

Finally, the boxes were shipped to the State Museum. The State Museum is finishing a Finding Aid on the JLNO donation so that researchers looking for a particular topic know exactly where to find it in the collection.

“So far so good!” Lenora said. “They haven’t

*continued on page 38*



1

**1** Archivist, Lenora Costa poses with Curator of Maps & Manuscripts at the Louisiana State Museum and JLNO member Sarah-Elizabeth Gundlach.

Photo by: Jessica Bachmann

**2** Three Generations of JLNO members, Genie Everett McCloskey; Peggy Hardie; President-Elect, Shannon McCloskey Able reminisce about their years of service.

Photo by: Jessica Bachmann



## ARCHIVE MOVED TO THE MINT

*continued from page 37*

written me with any complaints yet.”

So far, all of the scrapbooks have moved, and they are almost ready to move the archives of the cookbooks. “We wanted to give them our items, but we didn’t want to burden them all of a sudden,” Lenora said.

The State Museum will complete the Finding Aid for each stage of the donation, making JLNO’s archives publicly searchable by researchers on their archives website. The search will lead researchers to the appropriate box for the items they seek. There are not currently plans to digitize the entire collection.

“When we were going through it with the Provisionals, we did scan about 10 percent of each scrapbook so we have a little bit of information for ourselves,” Lenora said.

The future of the archives at Headquarters has not been decided. While it is clear that the need for an Archives Committee remains so that we continue to collect items and preserve our history, it is unclear how that looks after the donation.

“They’ll probably be a shelf or one file cabinet, but I don’t foresee this entire closet being as it is anymore,” Lenora said. “The hope is that after every year or two, we’ll have a concise amount of information to pass on to the Mint in a regular cycle so that we’re not trying to do 90 years at once.”

Throughout her experience as JLNO Archivist, Lenora has observed patterns in the history of our organization.

“It’s amazing how many things stayed the same and how many things changed,” Lenora said.

She noted how some of the first projects were nutrition and education oriented, which are still two main focuses of JLNO projects.

“Now we don’t do song and dance to raise the money,” Lenora joked. “But sometimes behind the scenes can feel like a song and dance for fundraisers.”

Lenora also noted how much diversity JLNO has gained since its inception.

“A lot of people who were in the Junior League initially were born and bred and lived here their whole lives,” she said. “By the time the 60s or 70s roll around it seems like the percentage of out-of-towners had risen.”

Lenora explained that women who were not originally from New Orleans used JLNO not only to provide service to the community, but also to meet friends in their new community. She said the diversity encouraged more progress in the organization.

“Even though the topics remained the same, the way we talk about them has changed,” Lenora said. “It’s nice to see how we can stick to our central goals but have more of an understanding as we’re moving forward.”

As for the closet in the Ann Carroll Suite, the Cookbook Committee claimed it for storage space for cookbooks waiting to be sold.

For those interested in doing some research of JLNO’s archive at the Mint, a reading room and staff are available. Contact Erin Kinchen, Reading Room Attendant at the Louisiana State Museum at 504-568-3659 or [ekinchen@crt.la.gov](mailto:ekinchen@crt.la.gov) to make an appointment.



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1

# FAMILY FITNESS ON FRERET

By Rebecca Bartlett



2

In the frosty morning air on December 7, 2013, runners and spectators joined together on Freret Street for Freret 5K, celebrating the Freret Street community. The event was hosted by the Junior League of New Orleans to promote family fitness and wellness. More than merely a running event, Freret 5K is a family friendly experience that fosters a sense of unity and allows the neighborhood's residents and business owners to engage with one another while supporting the unique restaurants and shops that are vital to the rejuvenation of Freret Street. In true New Orleans fashion, the community and its supporters were treated to the musical talents of the Samuel J. Green Charter School Band which filled the crisp morning air with the sounds of progress.

Designed to engage family members of all ages and activity levels, the event kicked off with the half-mile fun run fol-



3

lowed by the premier 5K race for the more seasoned runners and enthusiasts. The post-race refreshments, entertainment, awards presentation, and children's activities, in partnership with JLNO's Kids in the Kitchen program, brought the event to a conclusion. The races and other activities were only the start of the day's events as everyone involved was then encouraged to linger and enjoy all that Freret Street

has to offer. The event allowed residents a chance to learn exactly what it is that makes their community unique.

Although the 5K route began and ended at JLNO's Bloomin' Deals Thrift Shop, a neighborhood mainstay since 1960, the real start of the event began months in advance with the incredible efforts of the Freret 5K Planning Committee. To promote the event, committee members took to the social media avenues and the city streets, engaging in a neighborhood blitz to provide the surrounding community with information about the event. The committee did the leg work necessary, pun-intended, to arrange and prepare for the logistics of the race. Even with the efforts and records of previous committees providing a solid foundation for the event, this year's Freret 5K Committee is making every stride to ensure that the event moved forward and can continue to grow with each subsequent run.



4

**1 Participants hit the ground running at the 2013 Freret 5K.**

Photo by: Carrie Moulder

**2 You never know what star you might run into. Gumbo made an appearance last year.**

Photo by: Carrie Moulder

**3 Freret 5K Run Co-Chairs Elizabeth Grimes and Allie Shapiro are looking forward to race day on October 18, 2014.**

Photo by: Jen Capitelli

**4 William runs the kids half-mile with his mother, Anne Long.**

Photo by: Carrie Moulder

The first step toward improvement for the next Freret 5K has been to move the event to October, when average temperatures are traditionally in a more comfortable 60-80 degree range. This year's Freret 5K is scheduled for Saturday, October 18, 2014, in hopes of a beautiful fall day to enhance the fun and participation level of this event. For promotion of the race, expect to see booths at the Freret Market and emails in your inboxes. Most importantly, be sure to follow #RunFreret on your social media channels. This year's event seeks to include JLNO members, Freret community members, and everyone else with a passion for wellness and their city.

The most fun addition to this year's event is the t-shirt design competition hosted by the JLNO in local, Freret-based schools. Winning designs will be incorporated into the race t-shirts that will be distributed to participants of the Freret 5K.

While community growth and family fitness and wellness are more of a marathon than a sprint, the JLNO and the Freret community hope to give the neighborhood an annual boost and set the pace for future advancement, 5 kilometers at a time.

**Freret 5K**

**October 18, 2014**

**[www.jlno.org/freret5k](http://www.jlno.org/freret5k)**

**1/2 Mile Fun Run 8 AM**

**5K Run/Walk 8:20 AM**

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# BUY, SAVE AND SERVE

Lea Witkowski-Puri

Buy, Save and Serve fulfills a variety of pleasures by celebrating the joy of shopping, the added thrill of a 20% discount, and the reward of knowing that JLNO community projects are receiving support. Buy, Save and Serve will kick off with a party on November 1, 2014 and will run until November 11, 2014 at local businesses including restaurants across the metropolitan area.

The Committee sent 700 letters to local businesses. The Gap at the Riverwalk, Crazy Lobster, Feet First and Orient Expressed are just a few of the local merchants who have already signed up. Co-Chairs Vicky Laborde and Susan Russel have been working to have more than 200 merchants participating in the savings card program this year.

“We did a blitz at the new Riverwalk

Outlet mall and hope to add a good number of those stores to the list this year,” Vicky said.

Four set of chairs and vice chairs serve the BSS Committee this year. Each chair and vice chair has specific goals and responsibilities including card sales, recruiting merchants, marketing, and planning the kick-off party and Holiday Marketplace which will help streamline the committee and hopefully provide some efficiencies. With a designated marketing specialist as well as an increase of two days in the time the cards can be used, the committee is hoping for the most successful year yet.

“We have all been working since April to make this year a success, and we met with our entire committee a couple of weeks ago,” Susan Kliebert, Card Sales Chair. “We

are working to increase the number of kick-off party locations, to streamline the locations where we will be selling the cards, and to have several patron parties and other party ideas in motion.”

For those interested in buying a card, they are available online now. “They are \$35, and they can be mailed directly [to your home] or can be picked up at Headquarters,” Susan said.

Buy, Save and Serve is one of JLNO’s fund development projects. Since 2007, our community of businesses, customers and League members has united through this fall fundraiser. Last year, more than 160 businesses offered savings to 900 card purchasers who generously gave \$35,000 supporting JLNO’s community projects across the Metropolitan New Orleans.



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1 Get great discounts on all of the season's must haves at Feet First with our Buy, Save and Serve card!  
 2 The Buy, Save and Serve card offers great discounts at the city's chicest stores, like FeBe on Metairie Road.  
 3 Use your Buy, Save and Serve Card at Mignon for great savings on the cutest clothes for your little ones.  
 Photos by: Margaret Henican

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# League Faces

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

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**1** Looking Forward: Welcome 2014-2015 Board of Directors. Photo by: Bobbie Klobas

**2** JLNO friendly faces Jordan Killeen and Emily Liuzza welcoming and registering Safe Sitter students. Photo by: Denyse Boudreaux

**3** Georgia Gambrell putting her safe sitter CPR skills to practice with Instructor Brittany Stumpf. Fellow classmates Alexis Hurd, Maggie Schmidt, and Ethan Jones observe. Photo by: Denyse Boudreaux

**4** The Safe Sitter Program provides students opportunities for hands on instructions. Ethan Jones demonstrating his CPR skills with Instructor Brittany Stumpf. Photo by: Denyse Boudreaux

**5** Educare Development Director for Kingsley House, Jermaine Smith, gives a special gift in appreciation to Former President Jeanne Boughton and Touch-A-Truck Co-Chair Mary Martin Roth. Photo by: Bobbie Klobas

**6** Over Memorial Day Weekend, Cherie Moore and 9 year old daughter, Emmeline Moore, had a blast at the 2014 Greek Festival. Photo by: Cherie Moore

**7** Joan LaMartina and her sons Max, 7, and Sam, 5, took some time away from the music to snap a quick picture with a Mardi Gras Indian at Jazz Fest. Photo provided by: Joan LaMartina

**8** Looking Back: Thank you for your service, 2013-14 Board of Directors. Photo by: Bobbie Klobas



**9** Caroline and Reese Kenter have the best view of The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival as they sit on top of mom, Julie, and dad, Ryan's shoulders.  
Photo provided by: Julie Kenter

**10** Provisional Nicole Deshotels with Active Sarah Peltier, Lacreia Jones and Summer Duperon at the Irish Parade on March 15, 2014.  
Photo provided by: Lacreia Jones

**11** Jennifer Jeandron and Jacqui Stump enjoy relaxing in the grass at French Quarter Fest.  
Photo provided by: Jennifer Jeandron

**12** Provisional, Lauren Bettner along with daughter, Sophie cheered at the 2014 Rubber Duck Derby on May 18, 2014 at the Mid-City Bayou Boogaloo.  
Photo provided by: Lauren Bettner

**13** Active member Carrie DeVries captures an amazing sunset at Jazz Fest.  
Photo provided by: Carrie DeVries

**14** Sustainer, Isabella dela Houssaye, peruses a copy of *Lagniappe* at Bloomin' Deals.  
Photo by: Melissa Guidry



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**15** Actives Lindsay Troha and Kate Kelley, take a break from sorting with Bloomin' Deals employee, Carolyn Peters. Photo by: Melissa Guidry

**16** Bloomin' Deals employee, Audry Robinson, gives Active Jennifer Comarda a refresher on the register. Photo by: Melissa Guidry

**17** After touring the Longue Vue House and Gardens on June 28, 2014; Secretary Kathleen Ramsey, Membership Director Caty Flower and President Katherine Raymond, visit with members. Photo by: Ashley Aarons

**18** Provisional Becky Martinez's two-year-old son Patrick learns about caterpillars with Benjamin the son of Esprit chair, Cecile Kerber. Photo by: Ashley Aarons

**19** Rachel Roubion, Esprit Vice-Chair, and daughter, Adelle explore the one of the 14 garden rooms on Saturday, June 28th at Family Fun in the Garden. Photo by: Ashley Aarons

**20** Active, Tesa Bossetta, and husband Kenny enjoyed watching their daughter Blythe explore all of the kid friendly activities inside of the Lucy C. Roussel Discovery Garden. Photo by: Ashley Aarons

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**21** Esprit Committee Member Kelley Mackenroth enjoys time with her daughters Amy and Maggie. Photo by: Ashley Aarons

**24** JLNO members Amelia Arthur and Asheigh Pizaloto model a few of samples from the Bridal Boutique. Photo by: Denyse Boudreaux

**22** The Bridal Boutique at Bloomin' Deals offers a wide selection of stunning new and gently used wedding dresses. Photo by: Colleen Loerzel

**25** Cold feet have met their match with customizable shoes for your whole wedding party at The Bridal Boutique. Photo by: Colleen Loerzel

**23** Bridal Boutique Committee Chair Angela Faust and Bridal Boutique Chair Alexis Ruffino model bridesmaids dresses at the Bridal Boutique. Photo by: Colleen Loerzel

**26** The Bridal Boutique at Bloomin' Deals isn't just for Brides. You can find special occasion dresses as well. Photo by: Colleen Loerzel

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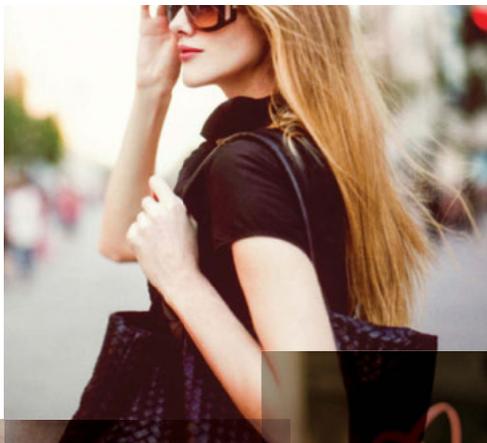
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