

Junior League of New Orleans

Spring 2016

# Lagniappe

**Sustainer  
OF THE Year:**

**Ann  
Thorpe  
Thompson**



## **INSIDE:**

**Little Leaguers  
celebrate MLK  
with a day of  
service**

**PRC celebrates  
landmark  
anniversary**

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Crescent City Crusader. A born and raised New Orleansian, Ann Thorpe Thompson has served on countless local boards including: Anti-Defamation League; Breakthrough New Orleans; Bureau of Government Research; Isidore Newman School, Chair; Jewish Children's Regional Service; marketumbrella.org, Vice President; National Council of Jewish Women; Temple Sinai; and Trinity Episcopal School.

Photo by: Jessica Bachmann



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*crawfish pie.*



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# Letter from the President



Photo by: Jessica Bachmann

Dear Readers,

Each year, this is one of my favorite *Lagniappe* issues. We honor an amazing Junior League of New Orleans Sustainer who has made an outstanding community impact. This award, the only one of its kind, highlights our members' continued work and demonstrates the significance of volunteer training we receive as JLNO members.

Our members develop their potential and improve our community through their volunteer training, leadership and effective action.

**Service:** JLNO members work directly in the community by dedicating over 45,000 hours each year to programs that support education, safe environments, health and wellness, family assistance and entrepreneurship. As they volunteer, members develop an understanding of our fellow citizens' needs and consider long-term solutions that improve lives.

**Resources:** Last year, JLNO invested more than \$560,000 in its mission and community projects and gave nearly \$35,000 in grants to local nonprofits. This financial support promotes philanthropy and extends a positive reach throughout our community.

**Training:** The training JLNO members receive is a critical component to ensuring our organization's efforts are indelible. In addition to what they learn during their volunteer hours at community projects, our members participate in nearly 8,000 training hours. We extend this mission tenet to the community through specialized curriculum at events such as JLNO's Health and Wellness Series, Get on Board Nonprofit Board Training Program, Women Entrepreneur Fellowship, Safe Sitter, Kids in the Kitchen and Lemonade Day University.

As president, I have the honor of representing the nearly 2,300 devoted JLNO members. This is a true privilege – nearly every day I encounter a recipient of our hard work and tireless efforts. A child smiled as large as a rainbow because we shared a nutritious meal with him. A mother was not forced to make the choice between feeding or diapering her baby because she received diapers from us. A high school student attended prom because we provided an outfit through our Bloomin' Deals Thrift Shop. Big and small, day in and out, JLNO makes a real difference in people's lives because our members voluntarily give of their ideas, time, effort and professional advice.

Thank you for your support and interest in JLNO. Together, we will continue to make a positive impact in our community and advance the wellbeing of women.

I am proud to be a JLNO member.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon McCloskey Able". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Shannon McCloskey Able  
*Junior League of New Orleans President 2015-2016*

# Letter

from the Editor



Photo by: Jessica Bachmann

Dear Readers,

Many describe the Junior League of New Orleans as a seamlessly run organization. Our beloved 91-year-old organization has the benefit of its trailblazers who were committed to its cause and this community in creating the incredible organization that our members work hard to maintain today.

In this issue of *Lagniappe*, we take a look back at the Junior League projects that have become independently-operated organizations in New Orleans, such as the Preservation Resource Center, the Parenting Center at Children's Hospital, and the Louisiana Nature Center. JLNO continues to dream up new projects, get them off the ground, and then carefully turn them over to the community once those projects are ready to independently spread their wings.

It is this combined spirit of voluntarism and devotion to improving our community that is exemplified in our 60<sup>th</sup> Sustainer of the Year, Ann Thorpe Thompson. Ann's selfless spirit and passionate determination to improve her community are two of the many reasons she was chosen for this very special award.

The JLNO excitedly looks to the future of the League, and it begins with our own children. In our follow-up piece from our Winter Issue's "Nurturing a Grateful Spirit in Today's Modern Child," JLNO is excited to introduce our Little Leaguers program as a way to involve our younger family members with volunteer work. The Little Leaguers began with a day of service for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, where JLNO's younger family members joined members at JLNO Headquarters to sort and package 100,000 diapers for the Diaper Bank. Our first Little Leaguers event was a big success and we look forward to more opportunities to volunteer alongside our children and to teach them the importance of the work that we do.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda Wingfield Goldman".

Amanda Wingfield Goldman  
*Editor*



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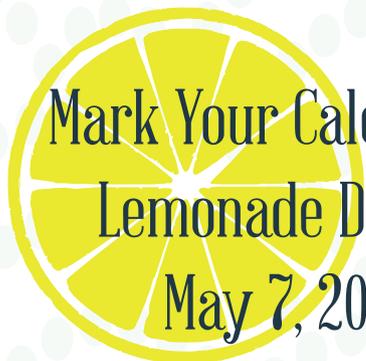
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Compiled by: Tiffanie Brown



Mark Your Calendars!  
Lemonade Day is  
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## National Volunteer Week

**April 10-16, 2016**

This is a perfect time to complete your Community Shift credits by signing up to volunteer at Bloomin' Deals or getting involved with any community project!



# LEMONADE DAY UNIVERSITY

Lemonade Day University will be held on April 23, 2016, and registration is free for children ages 8 to 12. Lemonade Day University is a half-day course that helps children prepare for Lemonade Day, which is a community-wide educational program that teaches kids the entrepreneurial skills to operate their own lemonade stand. For more information, contact us at (504) 891-5845 or [info@JLNO.org](mailto:info@JLNO.org)

**Happy Mother's Day!**

**May 8**

JLNO wishes all of our wonderful mothers a restful and joyful holiday!



## GiveNOLA Day!

On May 3, 2016, the Junior League of New Orleans will be participating in GiveNOLA Day. This gives League members a 24-hour period to provide monetary donations to JLNO to allow us to make a bigger impact on our community!

**1-2-3 Give!**

Trying to make room in your closet and house this spring? Don't forget to drop off unwanted items to Bloomin' Deals!



Single day Safe Sitter classes are available on select Saturdays and Sundays in June and July. The fee is \$50 per child and lunch is provided. Classes are held at JLNO Headquarters at 4319 Carondelet Street in Uptown New Orleans.



We are still accepting donations for our Diaper Bank at several designated locations. Please visit [www.JLNODiaperBank.org](http://www.JLNODiaperBank.org) for more information!

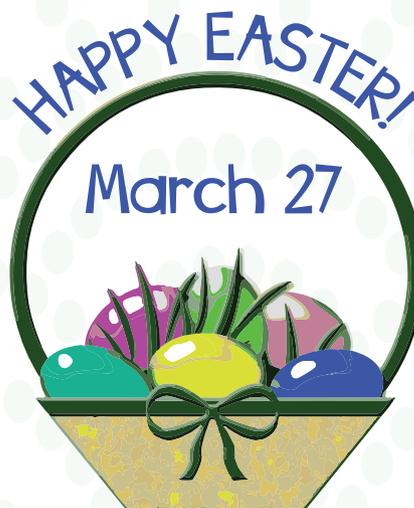
## Mark Your Calendars!

Placement Week is coming!

It's time to think about your placement for the 2016-2017 League year.

Join us for Placement Fest on April 21 at 6 p.m. and April 26 at 6 p.m. The General Membership Meeting will follow Placement Fest at 7 p.m. on April 26.

**Placement Week is April 27 - 30.**



Headquarters will be closed on Friday, March 25.

Bloomin' Deals will close at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 25.



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Photo by: Dreda Smith



Jockeys and their horses race by during the *Gambit's Ponies & Plaid* event at the New Orleans Fairgrounds Race Course on December 12, 2015.

# Ponies & Plaid: Partying in Plaid for a Purpose

By: Amber Barlow

Exciting races, music, games, plaid, food trucks and drinks, oh my! The *Gambit* partnered with Junior League of New Orleans and hosted Ponies & Plaid on Saturday, December 12 at the New Orleans Fair Grounds. Attendees dressed in plaid gained free admission to the races and were encouraged to bring donations to the Bloomin' Deals drop-off bins at the race track.

The idea behind Ponies & Plaid was to create an event to pay tribute to the holiday trend of plaid clothing while partnering with Bloomin' Deals Thrift Shop to encourage giving during the holidays. "Partnering with the Junior League's Bloomin' Deals Shop was a natural fit for this fashion-focused event," said Jeanne Foster, Associate Publisher at the *Gambit*. "Buy something new. Donate something worn. New Orleanians are also very receptive to partying for a purpose."

New Orleans is a city that welcomes new events and loves an excuse to dress up! December was the perfect time for the event. Attendees could don plaid as part of a traditional holiday look, and December 13 was Louisiana

Champions Day at the New Orleans Fair Grounds, which featured eleven stakes worth \$1.1 million for Louisiana born and bred Thoroughbred racehorses.

Ponies & Plaid provided attendees with the opportunity to shop for fashionable plaid at Bloomin' Deals and donate their gently used clothing items to the shop. Through this charitable component, the JLNO raised awareness for Bloomin' Deals Thrift Shop, expanded its customer base and received donations from the attendees. "The *Gambit* has been a great partner for JLNO and we are thrilled that they offered to use the event to help support Bloomin' Deals," said JLNO Business Council Director Kristin Moore.

The day was filled with high energy from all of the racing excitement, Hemline Metairie's on-site giveaway, and the JLNO's Rolex raffle. Attendees enjoyed entertainment from the horse races, pictures in the Mister Big Shots Photo Booth, and the *Gambit's* 40 under 40 honoree DJ Bella. Everyone enjoyed food from Theo's Pizza and La Concinita. Ponies & Plaid generated a fun time for people to socialize and relax during the hectic holiday season.



JLNO members Ashley Brennan and Stephanie Schneller show off their plaid during the *Gambit's Ponies & Plaid* event at the New Orleans Fairgrounds Race Course on December 12, 2015.

Photo by: Warren Brennan

# { Did You Know? }

## Junior League Projects that became Independently-Operated Organizations in New Orleans



**Left: Parents and children enjoying the newly-opened Parenting Center in 1980.** Photo by: Marianna Barry.

**Right: The Parenting Center is now run by Children's Hospital and still serves children and parents in New Orleans.** Photo by: Marianna Barry.

By: Michelle Craig

Through voluntarism, education and advocacy, the Junior League of New Orleans has been relentless in its focus on improving our community. During its 91-year history, the League has launched many programs that have become significant, independently-operating organizations in our community.

As a Junior Leaguer, it is sometimes difficult to truly comprehend the impact that our combined efforts of voluntarism and philanthropy have had on our community. However, our members should be proud that JLNO has been the impetus of numerous programs that have not only survived from administration to administration, but have become sustaining forces in the community. Those programs touch on preservation, the environment, the arts, health, child care, education and more.

In the summer of 1945, the League sponsored a Recreational Therapy Project at Charity Hospital. The project began in April 1947 and in March of 1948, Charity Hospital assumed the project as a permanent part of its programs. The hospital closed after Hurricane Katrina.

In 1951 and 1958, JLNO founded Creative Dramatics and the Choral Group. Those programs laid the foundation for what would become the city's Children's Arts Council. The Council became an official city agency as part of New Orleans Recreation Department in May 1973.

In furtherance of its preservation efforts, in 1973, JLNO created the Building Watchers Tours. The program trained guides to lead monthly tours into historic inner-city neighborhoods. The tours inspired the League to organize individuals involved in preservation and urban planning into a new community group called the Preservation Alliance of New Orleans. Today that group operates as the Preservation Resource Center.

Turning its focus to the preservation of family, in March 1978, JLNO dedicated funds to develop a parent resource and training center. Shortly thereafter, JLNO and Children's Hospital partnered to create The Parenting Center at Children's Hospital. The Parenting Center continues to be an important resource for families. JLNO eventually turned The Parenting



JLNO created the Building Watchers Tours in 1973, which lead to the formation of the Preservation Alliance of New Orleans, and now operates as the Preservation Resource Center. Photo by: Simone Burrell

Center over to Children’s Hospital where it continues to run independently. JLNO also remains a partner to The Parenting Center to provide Safe Sitter training to adolescents.

Always in the forefront of important global and local issues, in May 1973, the JLNO organized a community group interested in studying the feasibility of establishing an Environmental Study Center in or near New Orleans. The project was successful and by the next year, a Community Steering Committee was formed to continue the project. In December 1974, the Environmental Study Center Steering Committee became the Louisiana Nature Center, Inc. On March 23, 1980, the Louisiana Nature Center was officially opened to the public. It is now run by the Audubon Institute.

Over the years, the Junior League breathed life into many local organizations that continue to positively contribute to

our vibrant community today. According to JLNO Sustainer Carolyn Hennesy, “It’s sometimes difficult to see the impact of our programs. It’s gratifying to know that we have contributed to programs that have made such a lasting impression on the community.”

In an effort to better preserve the history of these programs and the history of our organization, the JLNO partnered with the Louisiana State Museum to donate its archives including articles, artifacts and items of historical significance to JLNO to the State Museum. JLNO is very proud to have its important history preserved at the State Museum. The process is a labor of love that will continue throughout the year. These programs prove that the ladies of the league are not only volunteers in the New Orleans community, but are also creators and innovators who leave an indelible legacy on our great city.



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# The Preservation Resource Center celebrates an Important Anniversary: A tribute to the JLNO members who created the PRC

By: Lacy Strohschein



**Patricia Gay becomes PRC Executive Director in 1980.**

Photo provided by: Preservation Resource Commission.

From the iron work of the French Quarter to the gingerbread embellishments of Uptown, one of America's oldest cities is inundated with historical charm and distinct character. These details are so intertwined with the fabric of the city that

it is difficult to separate the atmosphere of New Orleans from the historic features that elegantly define the city. These unique cultural assets did not happen by chance, however, and the result of concerted policy, outreach and investment activities by the Junior League of New Orleans and Preservation Resource Center (PRC).

Catalyzed by the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which is approaching its 50th anniversary, JLNO emerged as a booster of historic preservation across New Orleans. Created to ensure the protection of historical and archeological sites across the country, this Act established a historic impact review process, a National Register of Historic Places, historic tax credits and the List of Historic Landmarks. According to Beverly Lamb, Director of Development for the PRC and a JLNO Sustainer, "In the 1960s there was no historic protection and any developer could buy anything and tear it down." Thus, the Act's framework created a much-needed sys-



**Beverly Lamb, PRC Director of Development, standing at the beginning of PRC timeline which started in 1974.**

Photo by: Simone Burrell



**Then and Now: In 1976, the PRC purchased 604 Julia street, one of the 13 buildings on Julia Row.**

Photo provided by: The Preservation Resource Commission.

tem of protection for historic properties. Though the Act itself was a vital tool to preserve New Orleans, advocacy efforts on the ground were necessary for its implementation. "At that time, everything was going against cities—luckily there were people in cities who recognized their value and were urban pioneers," said current PRC Executive Director Patty Gay. In New Orleans, such pioneers included JLNO members Roulhac Toledano and Mary Louise Christovich. Together, they created the New Orleans Architecture book series with photographer Betsy Swanson, which led to the JLNO-sponsored Building Watchers Tours, and eventually led to the creation of the PRC.

In 1974, as a result of the momentum created through the book and tour series, then-JLNO president Ann Bell, and JLNO members such as Margie Lyman and Diane Manget, procured funding to staff and establish the PRC. Since that time, the PRC has not only been a driving force in major community change, such as revitalizing the Julia Street and General Taylor corridors, but also a proactive advocate for policies and ordinances which enhance the unique atmosphere of New Orleans. "One thing that was completely off my radar before joining the PRC board was all the advocacy that PRC does," said Julie Habetz, JLNO Sustainer

and the current PRC Board President. Though advocacy was PRC's initial role in the community, over time the PRC's collection of programs has grown to include resources for various stakeholder groups to maintain historic character. As Beverly explained, in 1988 the PRC expanded to a new generation of "Brick and Mortar" programming, including Rebuilding Together and Operation Comeback, which assist low-income homeowners and addresses vacant or blighted properties. JLNO has continued to be an integral partner in these programs. "For 25 years, JLNO has been a sponsor

and provided volunteers for one of PRC's largest programs, Rebuilding Together's October Build," said Julie. "This continued support has meant so much to the PRC and it has contributed to the program's success."

Throughout the PRC's tenure, the JLNO has continued to provide sources of funding, an ongoing stream of volunteers, and a pipeline of leadership from members like Margie Villere, Muffin Balart, Anne Redd, Holly Sharp Snodgrass, Sybil Favrot, Leah Tubbs, Jackie Derks and numerous others. JLNO's involvement over the years has ensured what Beverly describes as "a wonderful ride for the PRC," and all while preserving New Orleans' most treasured assets.



**Patricia Gay, Executive Director of PRC, continues her important work to conserve the heritage of New Orleans.** Photo by: Simone Burrell



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# Countdown to Sustainer of



Photo by: Torry Dean

## Anne Kock Montgomery, Sustainer of the Year 1977

Anne Kock Montgomery credits her time with the JLNO as “definitely setting me on the right path” in her long career of volunteer work that extended well beyond her years in the League. Anne served as president of the JLNO and was chosen as Sustainer of the Year in 1977. “I enjoyed the whole experience,” Anne said. “I had a very patient husband.”

Her work in JLNO helped as she continued to be active in volunteering beyond her active years in the League. She assisted her husband George and Kitty Duncan in their quest to make the Audubon Zoo what it is today, and volunteered with the Louisiana State Museum. She loved her volunteer work in the labor and delivery department at Oschner Hospital. “I loved every minute in the League,” Anne said.



Photo provided by: Diana Lewis

## Diana Monroe Lewis, Sustainer of the Year 1982

Diana Monroe Lewis is a sustainer who continues to volunteer and inspire today, more than 50 years after her initial involvement with JLNO. “Citizen participation is critical to a healthy democracy, in which we are so fortunate to live,” Diana said. “On a local and national level, as the economic gap continues to widen, our country needs everyone’s time, talent and treasure to resolve the economic and social inequities that are holding back our communities. We can – and should – all make a difference in someone’s life.”

Diana served as a president of JLNO and held posts on the Volunteer Bureau and Social Welfare Planning Council. Her tenure on the Area Council in the 1970s is her fondest League memory.

“We were testing the New Orleans Junior League training in a bigger pond for the benefit of some extremely talented Junior League presidents,” Diana said. “I loved the challenge! The side benefit was working with six incredible women from around the mid-South, who continue to be a special part of my life.”



Photo by: Torry Dean

## Florence “Bonnie” Scott Conway, Sustainer of the Year 1985

The JLNO provided a once-in-lifetime adventure for sustainer Florence “Bonnie” Scott Conway, who was head docent at the New Orleans Museum of Art as part of her League duties when she was an active member. One of New Orleans’ first gallery owners, Simone Sterling, enlisted JLNO, and eventually Bonnie, to help her distribute booklets containing historic paintings of the French Quarter by renowned impressionist painter William Woodward. The booklets, entitled “Early Views of the Vieux Carre” went out to thousands across the city, including the most prominent leaders in business and government.

“I was in my 20s and certainly no big shot,” Bonnie said. “I learned so much from Simone. She had so much pizzazz and was capable beyond words. She had this awe-inspiring confidence and intrigue due to her French upbringing. She taught me everything I know about fundraising, which was what I ended up doing for a career. We always ended the day at Brennan’s after our calls and deliveries. I’m so grateful the Junior League released me to her.”

Although Bonnie still does not know how her name came up in the initial conversation that Sterling had with Junior League leaders at the time, Bonnie says she took away one particular life lesson from that experience that she hopes all JLNO members embrace. “Embrace the opportunity,” Bonnie advised. “Keep going, keep learning and keep participating.”

# A Look Back at Sustainers of the Year

# the Year

Every year, the Junior League of New Orleans recognizes one outstanding member with its Sustainer of the Year award, as an exemplification of that member's incredible contributions to both the League and her community. As we celebrate this year's Sustainer of the Year, Ann Thorpe Thompson, we touched base with a few of our past Sustainers of the Year and asked them to reflect on their time in the League, what they learned, as well as the benefits of volunteering with an organization such as JLNO.

By: Autumn Town and Jennifer Hale



Photo by: Torry Dean

## Frances "Fran" Gable Villere, Sustainer of the Year 1994

Volunteering with the Junior League provides both a social outlet for those who are relocating and valuable real-world training, according to Sustainer Frances "Fran" Gable Villere, who moved to New Orleans from Florida as a young bride in the early 1970s.

"I had no idea that volunteering could be as critical and as skilled as running a big company," Fran said. "The Junior League offered the tools for members to learn Robert's Rules, process, organizational skills and financial where-with-all, including budgeting and forecasting. I was eager to learn it all. It was also an opportunity for me to work with bright, attractive women, and I met a whole cadre of friends in my new town."

Fran chaired the Junior League Thrift Shop during her days as an active member of the JLNO and has continued her volunteering efforts into her tenure as a sustainer. "Volunteering is magical," Fran said. "One gives to one's community, yet the volunteer is the real winner. I have been lucky to meet some of the best people in this community as my various volunteering experiences. It is amazing how many times I have had the opportunity to work with other JLNO sustainers who were also in leadership roles. I treasure the diversity of the people I have met volunteering. I count many of these individuals as my closest friends. Our paths might not have crossed without our common community interests."



Photo by: Torry Dean

## Ann Mahorner, Sustainer of the Year 1996

Ann Mahorner has the distinction of having served as the 1985-1986 Junior League President, as well as being chosen for Sustainer of the Year in 1996. One specific lesson she remembers from her years with the League is that "meetings last just as long as the time allotted....meetings scheduled for one hour lasted one hour, meetings that allowed three hours to accomplish the tasks, usually lasted three hours. Lesson learned: Plan short meetings."

Ann believes that volunteering is a win-win situation. "The volunteer gains skills, experience, growth and personal satisfaction and the organization benefits from the volunteer's involvement, skills and dedication." She said that volunteering is especially important because it is a way everyone can participate in problem-solving. "No matter what a volunteer's age, income level or range of interests and talents, there seems to be a way to jump in and work to make communities a better place."



Photo by: Torry Dean

## Elizabeth "Betsy" Shaw Nalty, Sustainer of the Year 1999

Elizabeth "Betsy" Shaw Nalty served as JLNO President during 1979-1980 and was Sustainer of the Year in 1999. She was first active in the League in the 1960s and 1970s, when programs like the Preservation Resource Center, the Parenting Center and the Nature and Science Center were being developed. She notes that without computers and the technical support we have today, League membership "could be a full-time job." Time management was important, and organizational skills are one positive takeaway from her time with the League. Betsy also emphasizes "the importance of consensus and the ability to listen and compromise," which are "real qualities that one learns and should develop and exercise."

She finds that the greatest aspect of volunteering is serving others, which also can lead to personal growth when you need to "think outside the box in certain areas to be helpful and constructive and effective." Betsy thinks voluntarism is a "tremendous reward," and one of her favorite memories with the League was when she served on JLNO's choral group. A group of approximately 15 women, they performed in such places as Orleans Parish Prison, the old Rivarde Home for Boys, Charity Hospital, and what is now the Hainkel Home. While it was tough at times, they were very well received everywhere they performed. "It was wonderful group, even for those of us who couldn't sing at all. But we tried and they didn't boot us out."



Photo by: Daniel Erath

## Susan Jones Gundlach, Sustainer of the Year 2001

Susan Jones Gundlach began her service with the JLNO as a provisional in 1961 and had the distinction of being selected as Sustainer of the Year in 2001. Joining the JLNO introduced her to numerous and varied programs throughout New Orleans, which opened her eyes to interesting volunteer opportunities. Her time in the League taught her that “in addition to educational programs, being with and observing many talented women in action was a learning experience in practical application, a real chance to grow as an individual.”

While Susan enjoyed all of her placements, volunteering at The Cottage School for the Deaf, The Holman Center for the Educable Retarded Children, and being The Provisional Chairman were especially rewarding experiences. Susan’s interest in preservation and the Preservation Resource Center began with a Building Watcher’s bus tour, and she credits the JLNO with broadening her horizons and teaching her the best practices in the volunteer world. “Giving back to the community has been and continues to be an important part of my life,” she said.



Photo by: Torry Dean

## Janet White Bean, Sustainer of the Year 2010

Janet White has a rich history with JLNO. She served as the 1981-1982 League President and was selected as Sustainer of the Year in 2010. Her experiences working with JLNO taught her “management by objective,” which involves setting a goal, breaking that goal down into objectives and then breaking down those objectives into the who, what, how and by when. She emphasized the importance of surrounding yourself with good people and having fun. “When one has a team of talented, focused, responsible people, then you are 90 percent to your goal,” Janet said.

Janet’s favorite JLNO memory comes from when she took over as President. The outgoing President gave her a little “Book of Sheets” that she had collected after meetings. In order for her not to be too nervous about the meetings or to take herself too seriously, the outgoing President assembled seat-sheets on which members had written things such as, “Remind me to skip the March meeting next year” or “When is the acceptance letter to \_\_\_\_\_ going out? I feel sick.” “I always remembered that humor is often the best way to get a point across,” Janet laughed.



Photo provided by: Julie George

## Julie Livaudias George, Sustainer of the Year 2011

Sustainer Julie Livaudais George, a partner at the law firm Chaffe McCall, somehow has made time to do it all. She’s a third-generation member of the Junior League, and her JLNO experiences date back to her childhood.

“My mother and grandmother were both JLNO members,” Julie said. “My memories go back to when I was seven years old and had a Christmas story published in *Lagniappe*. Very exciting!”

Julie certainly didn’t stop there though. She continued on to serve as President of the League and was named Sustainer of the Year in 2011. The consummate volunteer, Julie has seen most of JLNO’s programs, but her favorite was the Teen Court initiative.

“It was featured in *Gambit* Magazine with a cover photo of several of us looking decidedly un-Junior League-like because we were standing in a jail cell,” Julie recalled. “The article was entitled ‘No More White Gloves’ because the program was definitely an image-changer for the JLNO.”



Photo by: Jessica Bachmann

## Harriet “Muffin” Wilson Balart, Sustainer of the Year 2013

Sustainer Harriet “Muffin” Wilson Balart looks back warmly on her active years in the Junior League as a wonderful time of personal growth. “To be part of the enormous collaborative that is the League was inspiring and exhilarating,” Muffin said. “To see the value of working together toward collective goals, which were clearly defined and smartly refined, was such a great learning experience. To witness the importance of listening to each other – and discussing the pros and cons brought forth – was a great learning experience.”

The value of volunteering was instilled in Muffin in her early days as a student at McGehee School in Uptown. The principle of giving back to one’s community through service has been a life-long theme for Muffin, a calling that she has lived to the fullest.

“I believe that we have a responsibility to give what we can in time and money,” Muffin said. “Most important: time....to improve that which we can in our community. We should never feel that maybe what we are doing is not enough. Every act of volunteerism is valuable, not only in its own worth, but in the worth of good example. There is a profound impact on the community when citizens demonstrate their commitment to the community by volunteering to make things better.”



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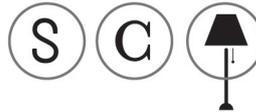
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# 2016 Sustainer of the Year:

Photo by: Jessica Bachmann

# Ann Thorpe Thompson

By: Emma Pegues

*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. Nowhere is this better realized than in the heart of 2016 Sustainer of the Year, Ann Thorpe Thompson.*

Nevermind that Ann Thorpe Thompson was recently awarded Sustainer of the Year for the eighth largest Junior League in the world, or that this means she is recognized as the woman who best exemplifies the organization's educational and charitable mission out of 2,300 members. All Ann wants to talk about is what the Junior League of New Orleans has done for her. "It's an incredible organization," she exclaimed, the enthusiasm clear in her voice. "I can't say enough how really wonderful it is." Upon the encouragement of her sister-in-law, Iris Thorpe, Ann joined JLNO in 1986 and never looked back. "It saved me," she said simply. "It gave me a purpose."

Despite 30 years spent driving positive community change as a member of JLNO, Ann was "stunned" to open her door mid-December and receive the news of her award. "I was perplexed," she laughed. "I still don't believe it."

## Fast Facts

**Name:** Ann Thorpe Thompson

**High School:** Isidore Newman School

**Undergraduate School:** Tulane University, B.A. Political Science & Sociology

**Graduate School:** Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, J.D.

**Role Model:** Her mother, Aline Thorpe Anderson

**Husband:** Shaw Thompson

**Children:** Steven, Michael and William Thompson

**Dogs or Cats:** Dogs – she's had seven!

**Favorite JLNO Memory:** Teen Court

**Hobbies:** Reading, fishing and boating

**Often Spotted:** Volunteering outside or walking in Audubon Park



**Sustainer of the Year Chair Laura Politz (left) and JLNO President Shannon McCloskey Able (right) surprised Ann Thorpe Thompson (center) at her home in early December with the exciting news of her award.** Photo by: Shaw Thompson

Whether she believes it or not, Ann stands apart as a testament to the power of voluntarism and is a shining beacon of community activism. “Ann selflessly and passionately utilizes all of her special traits and talents for whatever cause she supports, always putting other’s needs before hers,” said JLNO Sustainer Carol Pointer. There is no denying Ann’s deserved place amongst the accomplished predecessors who paved the way for her to become JLNO’s 60<sup>th</sup> Sustainer of the Year.

### Committed to promoting voluntarism

As humble as she is dedicated, the only thing that outweighs Ann’s modesty is her devotion to the concept of voluntarism in her hometown. “It’s so important to the growth of a community,” Ann said. Ann is an accomplished alumna of Isidore Newman School (1974), Tulane University (1978) and Loyola University College of Law (1982).



**JLNO President-Elect Maria Huete smiles and hands Ann Thorpe Thompson a bouquet of flowers as Ann learns that she was selected as JLNO’s Sustainer of the Year.**

Photo by: Shaw Thompson

Ann credited volunteer organizations like JLNO with accomplishing objectives that often are not able to be directly targeted by city governments or private businesses. “When you think about all that the Junior League has accomplished and the impact it’s made on this city – it’s all because of voluntarism,” Ann said. Ann believes that it is the structure and training that JLNO provides to members, from Provisionals to Sustainers, that sets JLNO apart from other organizations and allows it to open the doors of community to change and evolve.

Not only has Ann’s time in JLNO made her a better volunteer, but it provided her with networking opportunities that would impact her volunteer career well beyond her active years in the League. “I went to conferences all over the country and met women I never would have met. It was just amazing,” Ann said. The support JLNO offers may establish the groundwork for a successful career in voluntarism, but what’s just as important as taking advantage of all the League can offer? According to Ann, it is finding something you love. “You should enjoy it,” she declared, “It’s different than work, and volunteering should be fun!”

### Developing the potential of women

Always ahead of the curve, Ann was living JLNO’s current focus on Advancing the Wellbeing of Women well before her time. Upon recognizing the positive impact League involvement had on her fellow members, Ann believed in encouraging women around her to volunteer. “Young women who are working, who have children, who don’t have support or family here – it can be difficult,” Ann said, empathizing with the plight of so many women she met during her years as an Active League member. “But it’s worth it.” Ann believes that the meaningful work JLNO facilitates helps its members to form strong female friendships and provide women in need with an at-the-ready support system.

Ann is also a shining example of the remarkable opportunities that come to women who immerse themselves in its good works.



**Ann gathers with her family over dinner and fondly recalls bringing her sons along to JLNO. From L-R William, Michael, Shaw, Ann, Steven.**

Photo provided by: Ann Thorpe Thompson

Having served on the boards of several local non-profit organizations, including the National Council of Jewish Women and the Bureau of Government Research, Ann is confident that her experiences within JLNO gave her the skills necessary to expand both her capacity for and ability to excel within other realms of service. The Junior League, she asserted, teaches women how to be great board members, and more importantly, how to be *effective* board members. But for Ann, it doesn't stop there. She remembers one night she stayed up with another JLNO member until three in the morning writing grants for their placement. "So many women are able to bring these skills back into the work force, to advance themselves professionally. That's huge."

### Improving communities

Ann is a lifelong volunteer and beacon of community activism, and noted that she has "loved community service since the minute I was born." Ann has served the Greater New Orleans area in countless ways, and found herself in good company among the 82 percent of JLNO members who volunteer with organizations outside of the League. "Volunteering brings people together and promotes meaningful connections," Ann said, crediting her mother, Aline Thorpe Anderson, who encouraged her to begin volunteering at an early age.

Ann continued her family's tradition of helping those in need. She described her children as having grown up in the JLNO, as her three boys were often at her side, not only for meetings but for placement shifts with Kids on the Block and Teen Outreach as well. "I used to take them to Sophie B. Wright," she recalled, a sweet smile spreading across her face, "they couldn't wait to go."

Ann's long list of volunteer service makes it clear that her priorities lie with improving our community in any way she can. Ann has been involved with the Jewish Children's Regional Service for nearly three decades, which is the oldest existing Jewish children's social services organization in America providing scholarships to

vulnerable Jewish youth. Ann is currently the Vice President of the board at [marketumbrella.org](http://marketumbrella.org), a homegrown organization which cultivates community farmers' markets that utilize local resources to bolster authentic local traditions. It should come as no surprise that JLNO is not the only organization which has recognized Ann's commitment to our city. She is also the recipient of the Barney Mintz Leadership Award for her outstanding work with the Anti-Defamation League.

Though her list of accomplishments is long, Ann cannot resist the opportunity to once again turn the attention to her fellow JLNO members. "I have always been amazed by the commitments of these women," she reflected. "Every woman I met was dedicated to making an impact in New Orleans and making it a better place." While Ann Thorpe Thompson continues to speak for others, her actions will continue to speak for themselves, giving credence to all that we stand for at the Junior League of New Orleans.

## Crescent City Crusader

A born and raised New Orleanian, Ann Thorpe Thompson has served on countless local boards including:

- Anti-Defamation League
- Breakthrough New Orleans
- Bureau of Government Research
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JLNO Member Shannon Sarrat and her children, Little Leaguers Claire and Thomas, lending a helping hand on MLK Day of Service.

Photo by: Stephanie Campani

# “What are you doing for others?”

## JLNO’s Little Leaguers celebrate MLK with a Day of Service

By: Katy Darrith

*In our follow-up piece from our Winter Issue’s “Nurturing a Grateful Spirit in Today’s Modern Child,” the Junior League of New Orleans is excited to introduce its Little Leaguers program as a way for JLNO members to get their children involved with our first Little Leaguers event.*

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. challenged: “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’” The Junior League of New Orleans accepted Dr. King’s challenge and hosted its first Martin Luther King Day (MLK) of Service. JLNO invited members and members’ children to Headquarters to sort and package 100,000 diapers for the Diaper Bank. “It was a perfect time to include children as volunteers and as part of a bigger vision, Little Leaguers,” JLNO President Shannon McCloskey Able said.

Little Leaguers is a new program that Shannon and the JLNO Board have been passionate about creating within the League. Several other Junior Leagues have similar children’s volunteer programs. With so many of the board members wanting to get their own children involved in volunteering, it seemed like the perfect time to start a program specifically geared towards encourag-



JLNO President Shannon McCloskey Able and her daughters, Little Leaguers Sydney and Madison, are working as a team to get diapers sorted during MLK’s Day of Service.

Photo: by Stephanie Campani

ing children to participate in New Orleans community outreach activities. “As Junior League of New Orleans members we are models for the children we know, and it is our responsibility to teach them how to be good citizens, caring, compassionate and giving,” Shannon emphasized.

The program will not only give opportunities for volunteering, but will teach children the reasons behind and benefits of helping others. Questions such as, “What is a volunteer?” “Why does Mom volunteer?” and “Why do we help others?” will all be addressed during Little Leaguers activities. Children and young adults will be able to help with various tasks alongside members, such as sorting clothing at the Bloomin’ Deals and sorting and packaging diapers at the Diaper Bank. Ideally, once a month JLNO will offer a Little Leaguers volunteer opportunity to children related to JLNO members.

The first Little Leaguers event on MLK Day was a success and brought excitement and motivation to members present. The child volunteers at the MLK Day of Service had fun working with each other and alongside their mothers. The children had their fill of king cake and beignets and also worked on Martin Luther King, Jr. activity books.

JLNO is also working to incorporate more family-friendly activities, such as movie night, to get children more involved with each other, and Little Leaguers is certainly designed to expand the children’s sense of community as well.

*“We can all do something — no matter what age, how big or how small.”*

— JLNO President  
Shannon McCloskey Able

JLNO Member Shannon Sarrat volunteered on MLK Day of Service and said she brought her children, Thomas, age nine, and Claire, age eight, as Little Leaguers. “They have so much, and it’s important to give back to the community for others who don’t,” Shannon said. Her son, Thomas, was helping Shannon tear down empty diaper boxes, which Thomas proclaimed was “the fun part!” Both children wore big smiles as they worked together.

JLNO Member Ty Salvant brought her two sons, Shane, age twelve, and Seth, age eight. “You have to give back to the community,” Ty said. “We volunteer as a family often. If they are raised this way to help, they will continue to do it once they grow up.” Shane has volunteered at many places, but his favorite experience was helping build Kaboom! at Lakeview Presbyterian Church. Shane’s perspective is beyond his years and a testimony to the power of helping others from a young age. “Knowing that some people will get something out of our volunteering- it’s

important to me,” he said wisely.

JLNO President Shannon McCloskey Able’s daughters, Sydney, age eight, and Madison, age six, helped count and deliver diapers to members packaging the diapers. Shannon said her girls often help around JLNO Headquarters, unloading drinks and making copies, and also at Bloomin’ Deals. “Sydney likes selling things!” Shannon exclaimed.

Shannon said when her family sits down for dinner, she asks her children about their day and what they are grateful for. Hearing their responses reminds her that they want to help and are very capable of doing so. “I want my kids to be engaged, to help more and to be more compassionate. It is my job to help them,” Shannon said. “Plus, it is really fun for them to help alongside Mom.” Little Leaguers gives Junior League members a way to help their younger family members get involved while they are completing community shifts and helping others as well.

*If you would like to get your child, grandchild, niece, nephew or other family member involved with Little Leaguers, please email Shannon Able at [president@jlno.org](mailto:president@jlno.org) or send an email of interest to [info@jlno.org](mailto:info@jlno.org). There will be several forms to fill out, such as a waiver and photo release form. Any age is welcome, and it is a great opportunity for young adults to complete service hours for school as well. Open your child’s eyes and mind to the fun and fulfillment of volunteering!*



**Little Leaguers Ty, Seth and Shane Salvant break down boxes to keep the area nice a tidy during MLK’s Day of Service.**  
Photo by: Stephanie Campani

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# Staying Safe in New Orleans

By: Tiffanie Brown

New Orleans is a city full of life and is usually a mystical escape for tourists. While the city may be a magical place, residents and visitors must be mindful of crime that is currently plaguing our beloved city. To make sure everyone is able to stay safe, there are several tips from safety experts that everyone should keep in mind. During a safety training recently held at the Junior League of New Orleans, New Orleans Police Officer Edgar Staehle shared



Officer Edgar Staehle talks to JLNO members about ways to stay safe in New Orleans.  
Photo provided by: JLNO

some important safety tips. If you are traveling alone whether to or from your car, “Be aware of your surroundings; always keep your head up and look around before going to or getting out of your car.” He also mentioned that it is best to have your car keys in your hand when traveling between your car and your destination. If you have your key in hand, “you can use the button to initiate the car alarm if someone suspicious approaches you.” When it comes to traveling and shopping, do not leave anything of value in your car. Place all packages in your trunk or on the floor of your back seat.

When asked what parents of teenagers and college students should do to ensure their children’s safety, NOPD

informs you of their location and make sure they come home with whomever they go out. New technology can help parents with monitor their children’s whereabouts. “Most smartphones are GPS enabled; parents can use GPS to track and monitor their location. Cars also have GPS as well,” Shayna said. In an age where technology is king, it can help!

Christine Vinson, owner of Vinson Guard Service, gives safety talks upon request for clients and customers throughout the city. She offered some personal safety tips that she utilizes from day to day. “When using public transportation, make a fictitious phone call, or call a friend or loved one, to ward off would be offenders. If you

**“Be aware of your surroundings; always keep your head up and look around before going to or getting out of your car.”**

– *New Orleans Police Officer,  
Edgar Staehle*

Membership Education Chair, Shayna Connell, offered up some helpful tips. “Have your children stay in large groups if they are going out- this makes your child less of a target,” said Shayna. Also, make sure your child always

are staying alone, they will believe someone is expecting you.” All of these tips are helpful for both residents and tourist- and if there is one thing that everyone agreed on, it is to always be aware of your surroundings.

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JLNO member, Rivers Spencer, took her love of antiques and great style and created "Rivers Spencer Interiors." Photo by: Tim Black

# Struggles & Rewards

## Women Entrepreneurs Share how they Started their Businesses

By: Mary Leonard

The Junior League of New Orleans is a nonprofit run by women and focuses on advancing the wellbeing of women within our community. JLNO's focus is why many of its members are motivated women who run their own successful businesses. How have these members become successful entrepreneurs? Many of the businesses in our area are owned and started by Junior League members. Our JLNO entrepreneurs offer advice for those hoping to venture into entrepreneurship.

Reading articles and attending seminars about what to expect when you open your own business is good preparation, but what about what you don't plan for? What you don't expect or plan for can make or break your business. JLNO member Heather Hutchins-Hays, owner of Palmtree Playground, noted that her biggest obstacles were "obstacles you can't see or plan for," and were the hardest experiences for her to overcome. Heather expected people to find her business sooner, but in this city where word of mouth is worth more than any amount of traditional advertising, it took her longer than she had financially planned to build a customer base. Now Heather has a successful business, and she did not let the unexpected obstacle define her business.

JLNO members Hattie Moll, of the Hattie Sparks boutique, and Ann Herren, of *Nola Baby* magazine, agreed that they had to learn along the way and keep changing plans to make their businesses work. Their businesses taught them that you have to roll with the unexpected, be willing to learn and not give up.

Most people fear starting a business, especially fear of failure. Ann's best advice was to not be afraid to fail and to find a mentor who can help guide you through the rough patches of starting your business. Having someone with experience to help guide you makes a huge difference. JLNO member Rivers Spencer, who owns Rivers Spencer Interiors, advised that you must truly invest in your staff. "Hire and train people who believe in your business as much as you do. Treat them well and respect them because these people are the face of your business just as much as you are," Rivers said.

Every entrepreneur commented that the loss of time is the largest sacrifice that a business owner will make. Anyone considering starting their own business realizes it will be a time invest-

ment, but most do not realize how consuming it will become. None of these women really understood how much time it would take until they were in the middle of making their business a reality. The first few years are the roughest, when you are trying to get your business off the ground. This is when you work 12-14 hour days, six to seven days a week. Your life is a continuous cycle of work, home and work, which is the dedication and devotion it takes to get your business up and running. It is a large sacrifice, but Heather, Hattie, Ann and Rivers all agreed that it was well worth it to ensure their businesses' success.

Starting your own business is not an easy task, but well worth it. The sacrifices and the learning curves can make it a difficult process but satisfaction of creating a successful business is worth the effort.



JLNO member, Hattie Collins Moll, is the proud owner of the classy boutique "Hattie Sparks" where girls can get casual yet refined clothing, jewelry, and even home accent pieces. Photo by: Evie Hunnicutt

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# How Does She Do It?

## Tips from Our Members on Maintaining Balance in Life



Figuring out how to properly prioritize matters helps our busy members balance their jobs, volunteer work and family life. Photo by: Jessica Bachmann

By: Erin Oufnac

**H**ow do some women seem to keep that perfect balance between work life and social life? The women of the Junior League of New Orleans have some wonderful ideas that can help. JLNO member Jessica Bosworth is a working mom with a young daughter and a baby on the way. Jessica advised that having a shared calendar with her husband and making sure to get sleep are essential. “I learned to say no, and it’s also important for me to make sure I have an empty calendar on the weekends so my family can do things together,” Jessica said.

JLNO member Coleena Wolfe agreed with Jessica’s sleep sentiment, and noted that you should watch how much you drink and that “sparkling water is your best friend.” Coleena works full-time and balances several side jobs while planning her wedding. “Junior League helps prioritize. It holds me accountable to do things that I want to do,” Coleena said.

JLNO member Erica Washington is in her provisional year and emphasized the importance of knowing your limitations. She

said that learning how to balance her work life and her personal life has, “really been an evolution for me because I used to always just agree and say yes I can do this.” Erica added, “Understanding that saying no can actually help me to do the things that I can do better.”

JLNO Sustainer Leila Conner is married and has one son. Although Leila no longer works outside of the home, she is as busy as ever. “I keep a list of things to do. It’s a working list. I put a smiley face next to the things I’ve accomplished,” Leila said. The list is long and impressive. Leila noted that it is important to make time for your spouse. “When I was working, we would come home and sit on the front porch and talk for 15 minutes and it was our time.”

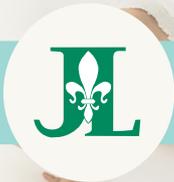
Finding time for everyone and everything is an ongoing challenge. JLNO Sustainer Ann Dufrene works part-time and said, “You just have to figure out what your priorities are. The house may not be as clean as you would like it, but the most important thing is your child is fed, his homework is done and there is support for your family, so that is good enough.”

JLNO member Chrissy Sheets has two young children and works part-time. As a working mom with many side jobs and commitments, things are pretty busy in her household. “At meal times especially we do not have phones at the table,” Chrissy said. “Meal time is no phone time. Pretty much from when we get home until the kids go to bed we focus on our family.”

There is no perfect balance to work, home and social life. It is an ongoing process of prioritization and compromise. But with creative ways of finding time for family and friends, setting boundaries and learning how to prioritize what is important, we can all find some balance, no matter what season we are at in our lives.



JLNO Members like how the League’s structure helps them prioritize their busy lives. Photo by: Jessica Bachmann



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# Get On Board Prepares Leaders to be a Positive Influence in the Community

By: Mary Leonard

**G**et on Board (GOB) is an amazing way for the Junior League of New Orleans to help nonprofits in our area fill their board seats with knowledgeable and well-trained members. These members can improve our community and give these organizations the help they need to grow.

“As a past participant, the knowledge I gained from Get on Board has helped me immensely, both to understand sound board practices as well as be a better board member,” said co-chair Maribeth del Castillo. “JLNO’s Get On Board program has provided invaluable training to hundreds of current and future board members in our community, and serves to deliver useful and necessary information to allow non-profit organizations to operate successfully and with sound board practices.”

GOB also features prominent leaders in the nonprofit community who facilitate discussions with participants about many aspects of nonprofits organizational management.

Charles Heim and Nancy Perret participated in the training for JLNO’s GOB in 2016 as speakers. Both are consultants for nonprofits with more than 20 years of experience to share with participants. Nancy Perret previously worked for IBM and started her own consulting firm. Nancy’s discussion focused on explaining the roles and responsibilities of board members. Charles’ discussion focused on how to help nonprofits build committees, develop and narrow their focus, and implement strategic planning and fundraising.

Blanche “Dee” McCloskey, past JLNO president and Director of Corporations and Foundations at Ochsner Health System’s Department of Philanthropy, was also a speaker for the 2016 session. She spoke about foundation philanthropy as part of a larger overall fundraising strategy and ways board members can help their organizations secure foundation support.

“Great board members have both an interest in serving the community and the tools to help nonprofits succeed,” Dee said. “GOB gives people who already have an interest in community service the tools to help their nonprofits as responsible directors asking the right questions and ensuring strategic direction and resources along the way.”

Everyone loves getting involved and making a difference, but is becoming a board member right for you? Charles and Nancy noted that this was an important question that one must ask themselves to ensure that board service is the right fit. Both Nancy and Charles mentioned that people will often join a board to pad their resumes. Board service is a major time commitment that is necessary for a nonprofit to achieve its goals.

“Having business acumen on a board is something that helps board members make great contributions,” Nancy said. Every person has a unique set of experiences that gives them different knowledge to contribute to a board. Part of being a good board member is knowing how and when to use the different experiences you have to help grow the nonprofit you serve. Being on a board takes time, passion, knowledge and an innate understanding about how a nonprofit functions. Through JLNO’s Get on Board training, its speakers and their valuable knowledge, future board members can learn how they can make a difference on nonprofit boards.

Dee said that GOB is a great opportunity to build a network of volunteer leaders throughout the community. “Who knows when you will have an opportunity to work together or be in a position to refer a well-trained potential board member to a future organization?” she asked. “It’s just one more way GOB has a positive ripple effect throughout our community.”

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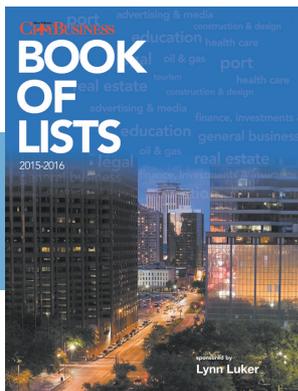
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# To Post or Not to Post: Tips for Navigating Social Media

By: Kristin Durand

When something interesting, unexpected or infuriating happens, do you have the urge to “tell the world”? Today’s technology allows you to share instantly, but what you say online can quickly become viral and be seen by hundreds of strangers worldwide. So how do you know when to say “no” to that next social media post?

Mallory Messina, Social Media Management Consultant and Founder of NOLA Tweetheart, said to tailor your posts to the websites’ intended audience. Something you’re happy to tell your best friend may not be something you’d want broadcast to your boss. Think of Facebook as a cocktail party with your friends, Twitter as a bus ride with strangers, and Instagram as a virtual photo album. She warns against the temptation to over-share, which can annoy even your most loyal friend. “If you *think* it’s going to offend somebody you know, it’s *going* to offend somebody you know, so just don’t do it,” Mallory said.

You should also be mindful of your digital footprint. Junior League of New Orleans member Kathlyn Perez Bethune, an employment law attorney with the Baker Donelson law firm, advised to check your privacy settings to ensure only those in your network can see your posts. Kathlyn recommended not posting anything you are uncomfortable with either your employer or your entire family seeing, “now and 30 years from now.” This is especially relevant for those job hunting. “Employers have the right to do due diligence on the individuals they are considering hiring,” said Kathlyn. She reminded us to always ask, “Will the image that I portray of myself today on social media impact my opportunities in the future?”

The social media universe moves quickly. Posts often fly fast and loose off the fingertips. What happens if your emotions prevail and you post something that in reality is not only embarrassing but potentially harmful? Mallory noted, “First things first: take it down. Then, take a break from social media for a little while. Clean up your friends and followers list, and don’t address it. Social media is fleeting.” A best practice to keep in mind is to exercise self-control, and think before you post.

Businesses can benefit from social media just as much as an individual, but they should obey the same rules. Engage with your followers, promote your product, but don’t over-share. Posting too much can chase away prospective clients.

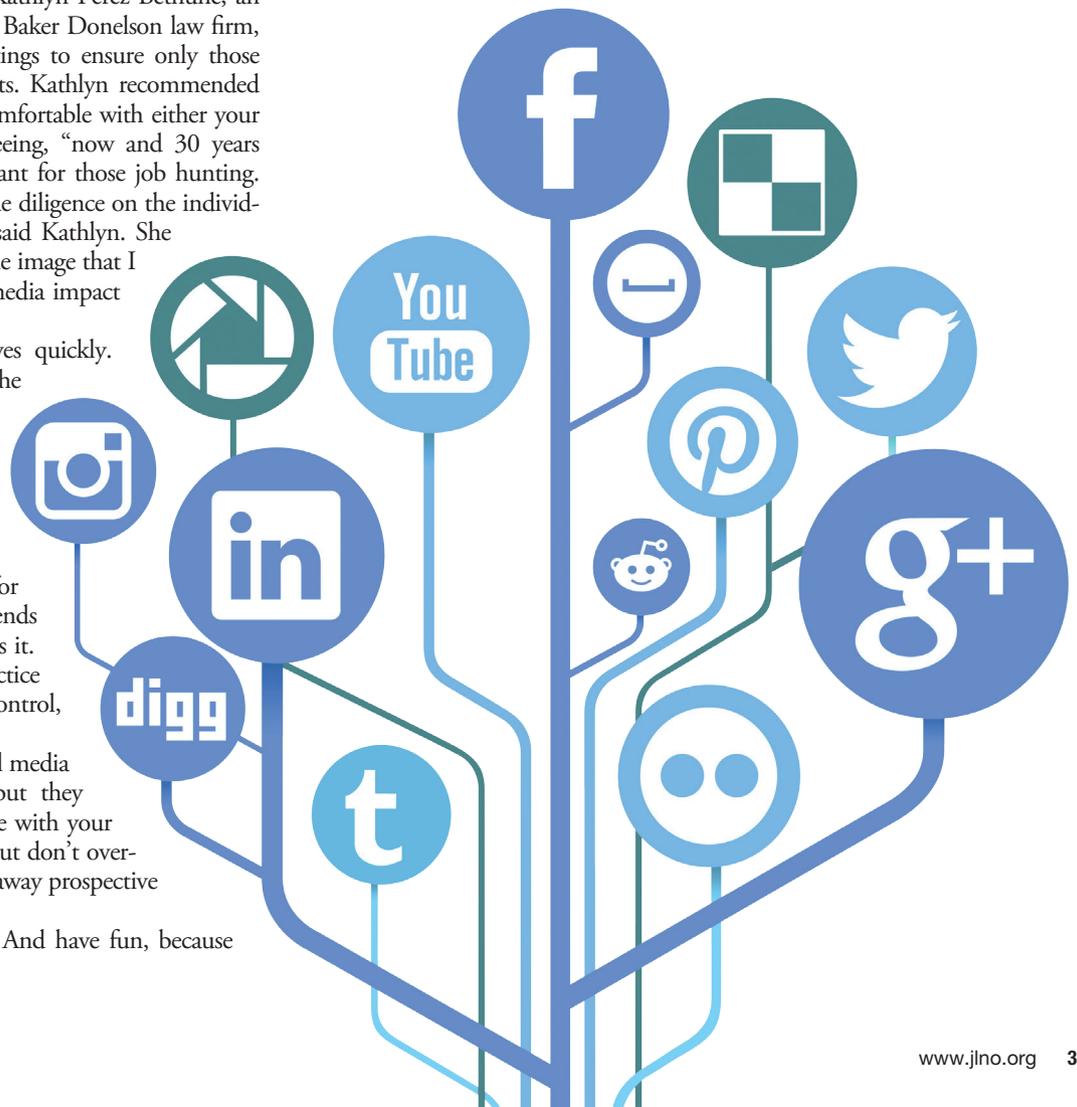
So keep it short. Keep it clean. And have fun, because remember #yolo.

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*“Think of Facebook as a cocktail party with your friends, Twitter as a bus ride with strangers, and Instagram as a virtual photo album.”*

– Mallory Messina

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# League Faces

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



1. JLNO member Regan Dupuy (left) and her Atlanta business partner Maggie Tereshinski (not pictured) have the perfect holiday gifts for any girl on your list from their online boutique, Stryker + Elizabeth. JLNO member Caroline Avegno (right) helps out at the Holiday Marketplace. Photo by: Evie Hunnicutt

2. A festive evening at the Provisional and Transfer Holiday Party hosted by Provisional Co-Chair Rachel Stickney. Left to right are Co-Chairs Elizabeth Feigley & Rachel Stickney, Transfer Chair Sarah Elizabeth Gundlach, President Shannon McCloskey Able, Transfer Chair Kate Kelley and Provisional Co-Chair Sibby Charbonnet. Photo provided by: Rachel Stickney

3. JLNO member Leeann Evans enjoys movie day with her daughters at Headquarters on December 20, 2015. Photo by: Lacreacia Jones

4. JLNO members gather to celebrate the Kendra Scott opening. L-R: Shannon McCloskey Able, Kristen Moore, Susanna Ruddock, Kristen Koppel, Marie Claire Bennett (Kendra Scott New Orleans Community Relations and Events Manager), Carol Starr and Michelle Craig. Photo by: Erin Guedry

5. Provisional advisors Hillary Christiansen (left) and Ann Kirk Harris (right) enjoy holiday festivities at the Provisional and Transfer Holiday Party at the home of Provisional Co-Chair Rachel Stickney. Photo by: Rachel Stickney





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**6. Karen Laborde, Sarah Ehrensing and Peggy Laborde celebrate at the Sustainer Holiday Party.** Photo by: Marianna Barry

**7. Having a good time making King Cakes during Carnival! Sarah Harbron, Sarah-Elizabeth Gundlach, Kimberly Allen, Nancy Kirkeby and Jessica Krinke.** Photo by: Rachel Vette

**8. Emilia Anderson, Rebecca Gibbons, Kelly Grace and Rebecca Hollis are looking forward to enjoying their finished cakes.** Photo by: Rachel Vette

**9. Amanda Molay puts the finishing touches on her King Cake.** Photo by: Rachel Vette

**10. Loryn Brien and Blane Clayton, owner of B Boutique & Beauty, show off their merchandise at the Holiday Marketplace.** Photo by: Evie Hunnicutt

**11. The Porsche Club sponsored a diaper drive for JLNO's Diaper Bank. L-R: Ryan DeToro (Porsche Service Manager), Danny Haro (Porsche Manager), Rick Payton, Tina Payton and Blair Duquesnay.** Photo provided by: JLNO

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12. Festive party-goers included Sustainers Patricia Thompson, Courtney-Anne Sarpy and Ann Fuselier. Photo by: Marianna Barry

13. Santa Claus (Frank Hankton) joins Director of Educare New Orleans Rafeal Hart in handing out gifts at the Educare Winter Wonderland Party on December 17. Photo by: Simone Burrell

14. Surprising our well-deserving Sustainer of the Year at her home, Ann Thorpe Thompson! Second row, L-R: Alice Wright, Maria Huete, Katherine Raymond, Ann Thorpe Thompson, Shannon McCloskey Able, Carol Pointer, Ruthie Frierson and Susan Gundlach. First row, L-R: Ellen Coleman and Laura Politz. Photo by: Shaw Thompson

15. JLNO members Hillary Christiansen and Rachel Stickney pose with Santa during movie day at headquarters on December 20, 2015. Photo by: Lacreacia Jones

16. Hostess Barbara Bush and Deborah Smallpage at the Sustainer Holiday Party held December 9. Photo by: Marianna Barry

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