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The Mission of The Junior League of Tampa

Founded in 1926, the Junior League of Tampa, Inc. is an organization of over 1600 women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.
Letter from the Editor

Lighting a Fire through Education

As the distinguished poet, William B. Yeats so eloquently said, “Education is not filling a bucket but lighting a fire.”

The Junior League of Tampa has a rich history of developing education-based community projects to improve literacy and cultural enrichment for children and families in the Tampa Bay community. The goal is often simple – to encourage students to dream bigger and reach higher. The League’s current projects in this focus area include Children’s Literacy, Glazer Children’s Museum and Academy Prep.

Many of us can remember teachers, librarians or volunteers reading aloud in the early grades of elementary school and how doing so impacted our love of books for many years to come. Personally, I can recount vivid memories of an incredible volunteer, Mrs. Papale, who visited my second grade class once a week to read us a chapter of The Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner. Our class eagerly anticipated her visits and to find out what would happen next in the story. Having a guest come to our class always provided excitement. The Children’s Literacy project provides a similar opportunity to thousands of children in Title I schools across Hillsborough County. League volunteers read to these students monthly and help them begin their own home libraries. A look at the history of one of the League’s longest standing projects, Children’s Literacy, is found on page 18.

As I reminisce about my education at Theunis Dey elementary school in Wayne, New Jersey, less than twenty miles outside New York City, another memory that truly stands out is the field trips. It never occurred to me that all students did not have the chance to visit the Museum of Natural History and the United Nations as part of their curriculum. Being able to leave the classroom and see new and exciting things was what made learning so exciting. Now with construction of the Glazer Children’s Museum underway, students in Tampa Bay’s classrooms will be inspired by new learning opportunities and the innovative play and discovery the museum will offer. The League is proud to be a sponsor and is looking forward to our own hands-on opportunities to offer volunteer support after it opens its doors in 2010. More information about the League’s involvement with the Glazer Children’s Museum can be found on page 16.

Of the projects intended to help children and families surpass their greatest dreams for themselves, none is more closely related to this goal than Academy Prep. The League has supported this extraordinary school for the past six years by sponsoring a social skills program for its sixth grade students. In 2010 the League will return this project to the school and its exceptional staff to run for many years into the future. Read more about the transitioning of the Academy Prep project on page 20.

It is our hope that reading this issue will encourage you to look for opportunities in your own life to “light a fire” in the minds of children and inspire them to dare to dream bigger dreams for their futures.

Tracie Domino,
Editor, 2009 - 2010
WHERE THERE IS NEED WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY,
THERE IS A WOMAN WHO BELIEVES IN CHANGE.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF TAMPA.
Almost ten years ago, my husband and I were expecting our first son. Along with purchasing a crib and changing table we bought a small bookshelf. It did not take long for its shelves to fill with books by a variety of authors including Dr. Seuss and Eric Carle. Like many of you, books were as basic a necessity to our child’s development as bottles and baby food. For many parents in our community, the same desire to provide books to their children is inherent, but the ability is not. When the choice to buy a book means not buying food or clothes, it becomes a luxury.

Sadly, a lack of books has been shown to place children at a significant disadvantage. The National Commission on Reading stated in 1985 that, “The single most significant factor influencing a child’s early educational success is an introduction to books and being read to at home prior to beginning school.” Further, in 1998, Jeff McQuillan wrote in his book, The Literacy Crisis: False Claims, Real Solutions, “The only behavior measure that correlates significantly with reading scores is the number of books in the home.” He went on to say, “An analysis of a national data set of nearly 100,000 United States school children found that access to printed materials -and not poverty- is the ‘critical variable’ affecting reading acquisition.” The Junior League of Tampa has been working to address this issue since 1999.

Since its inception in 1999, The Junior League of Tampa’s Children’s Literacy project has allocated over $250,000 to assist Kindergarten students in select Title I Elementary schools develop a love of reading. At the beginning of each year, our Children’s Literacy Chair meets with a representative of the Hillsborough County School Board to determine Title I schools with the highest level of need. She also selects a reading curriculum suitable for Kindergarten students. All of the Children’s Literacy volunteers are trained on skills necessary to engage and inspire their audiences. Each volunteer visits her assigned classes monthly to read the selected book and provide each student with books to keep.

While students served by the Children’s Literacy project receive 16 books over the course of the year, many of these children never owned a book prior to receiving one from The Junior League of Tampa. Ask any committee member and she will share stories about the look in the eyes of her students the first time they realize the book they are holding is theirs to keep. Much of the success of this project has been made possible due to the generosity of a variety of grantors including The Saunders Foundation, Heritage Bank of Florida, the Frank E. Duckwall Foundation and Verizon Foundation.

In addition to assisting elementary children develop a love of reading, The Junior League of Tampa works with the students of Academy Prep to enhance their skills to succeed. Academy Prep is a private, non-profit middle school for inner-city children who qualify for need-based scholarships and who have the desire to succeed in a rigorous academic program. Most of the children who graduate from Academy Prep go on to receive scholarships at various private high schools in our community. Since 2004, The Junior League of Tampa has offered 6th graders a specialized course on social skills to increase their opportunities of success in new environments.

In October, I attended a tea hosted by the Academy Prep committee for the 6th grade girls’ class. I had the pleasure to sit with Anique and Ashley. They shared a love of fashion, the beach, and scary movies. What I enjoyed most was seeing how engaged they were in the lesson. Both girls asked thoughtful questions and practiced the skills they learned with care. I witnessed first hand just how important the classes are in increasing the students’ comfort level with a variety of social settings.

Additionally, The Junior League of Tampa is pleased to support the development of the Glazer Children’s Museum. The new 50,000 square foot museum is scheduled to open mid-summer 2010. While our involvement includes naming rights to the visitors’ information center and lead sponsor recognition on the Time Travels exhibit, it is the potential for new outreach projects that excites me the most. The Junior League of Tampa is working with the museum staff to create various experiences where children and their families can learn about themselves, one another and the world they live in through exploration, role-playing and direct experience.

As always, I would like to remind you that the success of our projects extends beyond the skills of our exceptional volunteers. Without the generous support of our donors, we would be unable to provide the programs necessary to train our members. Moreover, we would be unable to create and support the projects that impact our community. Thank you to everyone who has graciously contributed to our Annual Campaign.

All the best,

Jennifer Carlstedt
President, 2009-2010
dear, Junior League of Tampa

August 11, 2009

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the Glazer Children's Museum, thank you for sharing in our Topping Out Celebration.

Sincerely,

Glazer Children's Museum

Dear Junior League,

Thank you so much for the Smart Boxes. We had endless fun with them. We especially like the ocean and space Smart Boxes. Thank you again.

RCMA

Thank you for the supplies you gave us. We appreciate the nice stuff you did for us.

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Gracias, Junior League

love,
Bethany

Ronald McDonald House

Tampa Bay

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September 8, 2009 was national Literacy Day and a perfect time to reflect on the state of literacy in our nation and right here at home in Hillsborough County. While the country has made literacy a priority, there is still a long way to go to make sure that all Americans are able to read. According to the National Institute of Literacy, one in 5 adults is still not literate and two-thirds of those who cannot read are women.

Many years ago The Junior League of Tampa made a commitment to meet the needs of the community through three focus areas. Those areas are Basic Needs, Foster Care and Literacy and Education. After much research and discussion the League decided that these three focus areas were the greatest needs and where our members could make the most impact through our projects. Our projects have been successful in meeting those needs in our community especially in the area of Literacy and Education where the needs are great throughout the state.

When children lack the advantage of a home with an educated parent, they are less likely to be exposed to educational opportunities outside the home, and half of them start school as much as two developmental years behind their peers. Source Florida in the 21st Century.

By giving families an opportunity to increase their ability to read or learn new skills the quality of life can improve for parents and children. Children can become more engaged and successful in school; increase self confidence, and increase social and interaction skills with other children and adults. The list goes on. Improving the lives of children today can help make them better parents and members of society tomorrow.

Previous and current projects that fall within the Literacy and Education focus area have made an impact in this community to reduce the numbers that plague the state. While The Junior League of Tampa may not be able to eliminate illiteracy and poor education in Hillsborough County, our volunteers have hopefully set the foundation to break the cycle that plagues so many families.

If only a small number of women and children have been changed because of what they learned from our projects then the League has been successful.

Many of us who are parents cannot even begin to understand the struggle and problems that so many women and children in our own back yard may face. It may be hard to imagine not being able to read a book to your own child when they go to bed at night because you may not know the words or simply because you are not there since you are working to try and make ends meet. By helping give a parent a skill that may lead to a better job or by simply giving a kindergarten student their first book, our volunteers could be helping set the stage for a better life for an entire family.

We are not only living the legacy of those League members who came before us. We are setting the stage for a legacy in the community with those lives that we are so fortunate to touch today.
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Glazer Children’s Museum: Inspiring Young Minds

By Brandi Reeves

It’s more than a building under construction. It’s even more than an investment in the city of Tampa. And, it offers more than just a new project for League members.

The Glazer Children’s Museum is an investment in the future of local children. It is an experience every child, no matter their walk of life, will carry with them forever. This impact is something you as members have helped make possible. As we continue to watch the development of the museum unfold, let us look back.

The Junior League of Tampa was asked to be a significant sponsor of the museum three years ago. At this time, we agreed to pledge $250,000 payable over the next five years. Now, it is the vision of this investment that we are seeing come to life. As a sponsor, we have exclusive naming rights to the visitor information center, the League is recognized as a lead sponsor of the Time Travel exhibit, and once the museum opens we will offer volunteer support to develop programs in line with our mission of education and enrichment.

In August, President Jen Carlstedt, Community Vice President Wendy Brill, and current Glazer Children’s Museum Chair Ann Sells attended a pivotal celebration event, The Topping Off, which showcased the museum’s progress. Once completed, the museum plans to have 175 hands-on exhibits in 14 themed areas, five classrooms offering workshops and structured programs, a traveling exhibit hall, an education and family resource center and more! The Glazer Children’s Museum will continue the mission of the Children’s Museum Kid City that has been offering children an area to play, explore and imagine for over 20 years.

Think back to an experience you had at your local children’s museum. Or perhaps your first experience was when you took your own child. You walk in and see more to explore than you ever thought possible in a day. Where do you start? Which exhibit to go to first? You see children smiling, exploring, thinking, moving quickly through the museum to ensure they set their eyes on everything and touch as much as possible.

This experience is something the Glazer Children’s Museum and The Junior League of Tampa want to make possible for all children in our community. We are well on our way thanks to the commitment of your time, talent and treasures. The museum plans to open the summer of 2010.

Glazer Children’s Museum Committee
Chair – Ann Sells
Assistant Chair – Jana Alexander

Glazer Children’s Museum Past Chair: Heather Barrow
Helen Ayala Davis, a longtime member of The Junior League of Tampa, dedicated her life to philanthropic activities, which largely included raising millions of dollars and spending thousands of volunteer hours at The Children’s Home, Inc. Davis served two terms as president of The Children’s Home Board of Directors. As a member of The Junior League of Tampa, Davis was instrumental in securing the land The Children’s Home now occupies, enabling the home to serve over 3,000 abused and neglected children including nearly 100 housed in a residential program. The Children’s Home built Parkhill School onsite in the 1980s, and later donated 26 acres to the School District of Hillsborough County as part of an interagency agreement to establish a new elementary school. The school, Helen A. Davis Elementary, opened its doors August 5, 2004, with one wing of the new building dedicated to the former students of Parkhill School. Unfortunately, Davis suffered a series of strokes during the summer of 2004 and passed away the very day the school opened its doors. Her legacy lives on through both The Children’s Home and the elementary school on The Children’s Home campus that bears her name.

The Children’s Literacy Committee reconnected with Helen A. Davis Elementary in May 2009. As a recipient of a Saunders Foundation Grant totaling $8,500 Children’s Literacy purchased and provided books for students attending Title I schools in Hillsborough County, including Helen A. Davis Elementary. Nearly 80 percent of the students at Helen A. Davis Elementary qualify for free and reduced lunch. Like most Title I schools, many students do not have books in their homes. In an effort to increase literacy skills and love of reading, the Children’s Literacy Committee provided over 4,300 books to Kindergarten students in Title I schools across Hillsborough County, including 500 books to the students at Helen A. Davis Elementary. In response to the spring book fair at Helen A. Davis, the media specialist wrote, “Your literacy committee should be commended for its generosity and willingness to come and share the morning with our students.”

In an effort to continue, “Living the Legacy,” the Children’s Literacy Committee committed to include Helen A. Davis Elementary as a regular member of The Children’s Literacy Project. As a result, all six kindergarten classrooms will enjoy sharing read-alouds twice per month with JLT volunteers.
JLT visits Tampa Schools

There is no substitute for books in the life of a child.”
— Mary Ellen Chase

Children’s Literacy Committee
Chair – Jenifer LeBeau
Assistant Chair – Sarah Harrod

Children’s Literacy Past Chairs
Shannon Longo, Kim French, Laura Hobby, Betsy Graham, Ashley Merrill, Dara Leslie, Susan Touchton, Paula Perry, Joanna Calka
Academy Prep: Paving the Road for Brighter Futures

By Suzanne West Tow

Many remarkable young people, without means, dream of a real opportunity for success and fulfillment. These children are talented, creative and have the drive to lead productive lives. They can become adults who give back to their communities.

These children live in some of the poorest communities in Tampa Bay. Their families struggle day to day to make ends meet. They know few people who have graduated from college, and they lack access to the communities rich learning opportunities. These are the students Academy Prep serves and guides.

No one says it better than Bob Samuels, a retired banking executive and Academy Prep donor, who sees the school as a bridge to the future for these students. “Once you pass through it, you are on the road to real freedom.”

After all, Academy Prep is more than just a school. Where else will you find 10-14 year olds who are required to start their school day at 7:10 am with breakfast and a brief non-denominational convocation and end their day with a study hall that lasts until 6 pm? At Academy Prep, fifth through eighth graders don’t just go to school. Students here attend up to 11 hours a day, six days a week, for 11 months of the year. At Academy Prep, students don’t just take the traditional academic classes of a ‘regular’ school. They are part of an enrichment program that provides social guidance, character education and a required daily study hall. And, the results are staggering.

Did you know 97 percent of the graduates from Academy Prep are either in high school, college or starting their own careers? By middle school graduation, most of the students are reaching academic levels in English and math ranging from tenth to twelfth grade equivalency. These students earn scholarships to some of the best high schools and colleges in Tampa Bay and across the country. In a neighborhood where 30 to 50 percent of the adults have high school degrees, the results that Academy Prep offers its students are life changing.

Academy Prep Center for Education has been in operation since 1997 starting with a school in south St. Petersburg that replicated itself in Ybor in 2003. It is a private educational center for students who are at or below poverty level. These students learn with their own gender in classes of 15 or fewer and receive four years of tuition-free college preparatory education. They are part of a rigorous academic curriculum that includes social skills training and community service activities. Do you still think that Academy Prep is just another school?
The Junior League of Tampa has had the honor of sponsoring a social skills program for the sixth graders at Academy Prep of Tampa since 2004. JLT volunteers teach the students proper introductions, table etiquette, dressing for success and much more. They develop lesson plans, teach tutorials and provide workshops. The classes are held every Thursday after lunch during the fall; a total of 12 classes. At the end of the year, the students celebrate their newly learned social skills with our volunteers at a luncheon reception. But JLT is not the only organization to volunteer and support Academy Prep.

In addition to the efforts of the JLT, Academy Prep now has a self-sustaining volunteer base. Many Tampa Bay corporations have selected Academy Prep as one of their charities of choice including, Bank of Tampa, Bealls, Gulf Management Systems, J.C. Newman Cigar Co., Ferman Motors, Foley & Lardner, The Lightning Foundation, Merrill Lynch, Raymond James and Verizon. Volunteers from all over the Tampa Bay area have given more than 10,000 hours of service annually. The students’ families provide for a third of those volunteer hours. The Junior League’s mission of providing an educational program that offers cultural enrichment has been accomplished. It is now time for us to say good-bye to Academy Prep.

Unlike the English proverb, “All good things must come to an end,” the same will not be true when JLT phases out the Academy Prep project next spring. In fact, Academy Prep’s new volunteer base will not be left empty-handed. The League has already purchased curriculum to pass on for the following years. Workshops are planned for early next year to provide training to the staff and volunteers.

The last six years working with Academy Prep has been an incredible journey and our committed members and volunteers have done an amazing job. Although it is time to say good-bye to Academy Prep, it will not be forgotten and the success of the program will be seen through its graduates for years to come.

Academy Prep Committee
Chair – Megan Berrigan
Assistant Chair – Alexandra McGuire
Committee Members – Stacey Bessone, Lisa Bigelow, Melisa Brown, Ashley Gray, Kellie Haber, Rebecca Hall, Dena Hilderbrand, Sarah Hull, Nicole Polsky, Erin Reynolds, Whitney Webster

Academy Prep Past Chairs
Leigh Lambert, Amie Ragano, Lisa Blower, Cristina Godwin, Kristen Barrett

...a fond farewell!

www.jltampa.org | WINTER 2009
2009 - 2010 Provisional Class

Paola Gruner  Christy Guemple  Melissa Quinta  Amy Hamill  Sarah Hamill  Heather Hamilton

Ashley Harris  Jessica Hartsock  Jessica Heckel  Marcie Heitzmann  Dana Hess  Francine Hewes

Lindsey Hill  Joezette Hite  Leslie Hodz  Marissa Holdorf  Whitney Jones  Kristl Kamm

KiKi Kelaita  Julia Kennedy Scalfaro  Melissa Knight  Kristin Kraemer  Trista Krone  Natalie Krull
Happy Holidays Sustainers!

Can you believe it’s that time of year again? If you haven’t already started, it is time to start shopping, planning family dinners, and decorating your homes. These are all the things that mean getting together with friends and family.

Sustainers are also doing their volunteering during the winter months. Nobody knows how to pull off a fundraiser, food drive, Meals on Wheels, children’s project, environmental project, and the many other volunteer activities like our Sustainers.

This is the time of year that the League can really help the people who were impacted the hardest by the economy. We hear about it every day, and it impacts many close to home. Many have family members and friends that have lost their jobs during company downsizing. We can all relate to the people who have no one to help them during this time. We can help those children and their families!

This November the Sustainers are sponsoring a Food Drive to help people through this rough time. We are very excited to coordinate this Junior League wide food drive. Britt Cisneros has offered to chair the food drive with the help of you! Yes, it will take all of us, Actives, Sustainers and Provisionals! Look for all the information in your November Spur of the Moment and Hot Flash email blast.

We have a fabulous agenda in which to participate. We know where this drive to achieve came from, Junior League Training! I realize it more every day I spend with the involved group of Sustainers and our under 40 savvy Actives. With such a capable group of ladies, how can we miss?

Our Junior League Legacy shows in everything we do! After 84 years of women serving the community, The Junior League of Tampa has been a main stay in leadership and volunteerism since 1926. The Junior League is still going strong. We should reflect on this and be proud to be a member of a group of women, who over the years have achieved so much.

I want to thank Lesley Dobbins and Julie Lux, Transfer Chairs, and their hostesses for a beautiful Transfer Luncheon September 17th. Everyone had a fabulous time, and it was a great opportunity to meet new Sustainers and see some familiar faces.

On September 24th, the Sustainer Task Force had a very successful Back to the League Day. There was information on everything you might want to get involved with this year and a place to sign up. You must go next year. Back to the League Day was so informative and full of great camaraderie. Thank you to Sustainers Sue Courtright and Denise Cassedy, Actives Elaine Sweeney, Betsy Graham, and the Task Force members for their hard work.

Watch for upcoming events in the Hot Flash email blast and Spur of the Moment!

From my family to yours, we wish you a very healthy and happy 2009 –2010 holiday!

Sincerely Yours,
Rosann Martin Creed
Sustainer President

Sustainer News

Committee

2009-2010 SUSTAINER OFFICERS
Sustainer President ......................... Rosann Creed
Vice President/President Elect .......... Elizabeth Reynolds
Recording Secretary ......................... Wendy Garraty
Corresponding Secretary .................. Sue Cox

2009-2010 COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Sustainer Liaison .......................... Elaine Sweeney
Assistant Sustainer Liaisons ............... Cindy Hooks Morrison
Tina O’Connell
Program Chairman ......................... Beth Fontes
Spring Luncheon Taste & Toast .......... Lisa Andrews
Wendy Pepe

Day at the Races ............................ Connie Derrick
Eleanor Nesbit
Bridge Group ............................... Joanne Baldy
Helen Straak
Lunch Bunch ............................... Scottie Klein
Transfers ................................. Lesley Dobbins
Julie Lux
Antiques, Art Trips & Seminars .......... Marsha Lane
Investments ............................... Connie Detrick
Victory Garden ........................... Mary Kay Ross

Representing a League family legacy. From left to right is: Beth Creed Fontes, Jane Martin Carswell, Helen Woodward Martin, Rosann Martin Creed, Kim Stambaugh Carswell
### NOVEMBER
- **5**  HGM - Kick-off Party - Girls Night Out
- **6**  Sustainer Lunch/Meeting Holiday Gift Market
- **6-8**  Holiday Gift Market
- **8-13 Dec.**  Sustainer Sponsored - League Wide Food Drive
- **19**  Sustainer Cocktail Buffet - Home of Ann Lynn Byrd
- **24-26 Dec.**  Headquarters Closed

### DECEMBER
- **1-3**  Various Home for the Holidays Events
- **8**  Sustainer Toast and Taste - Home of Betsy Best
- **13**  Home for the Holidays at Nordstrom
- **TBA**  Antiques, Arts, and Seminars Group
- **25-27**  Headquarters Closed

### JANUARY
- **1-3**  Headquarters Closed
- **TBA**  Leadership Development Seminar
- **18**  Headquarters Closed

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**Sustainers enjoying “Back to the League” day.**

**From left to right is:** Christina Volini, Jen Carlstedt, Elaine Sweeney, Rosann Creed

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A school is the stories of its people. This is one of those stories.

“I was well prepared for my future not only because I received a great foundation academically, but also I was encouraged to take advantage of many opportunities on campus. The school’s size made it possible for me to make a real impact in student government, to sing in the choir and to participate in many areas. I was encouraged to take risks and I realize now that you can only excel if you are willing to take great risks.”

George Kayales, ’98 alumnus and graduate of the Wake Forest University School of Law – recipient of undergraduate academic and Carswell Continuation Scholarships

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Sally Hill had no idea a friendly tea party invitation from Mary Sue Logan in 1964 would be the beginning of a 45 year career in The Junior League of Tampa. “Little did I know the purpose of the tea was for the Membership Committee of the JLT to meet me and see if I met their requirements for membership.” When Sally was asked to join the organization, she was honored and dove right into learning all about the League and the City of Tampa.

Some of Sally’s fondest memories are held through her placements in the League. As a member of the Thrift Sale Committee, Sally had the opportunity to meet and work with many league members. She also recalls volunteering at the MacDonald Training Center as an instructor for crafts and sewing. She went on to become one of the league members who launched the SERVE school enrichment program. “These placements really made me feel like I was doing more for the community and helping others.”

Being a member of the league also allowed Sally to develop skills she continues to use to this day. “JLT helped me to build more confidence in myself in becoming a leader and helping others by giving me tools to use and follow.” She is currently using those skills while actively working with Alpha House of Tampa and the Tampa Bay Chapter of the American Red Cross.

After more than four and a half dedicated decades to the League, Sally hopes to continue to raise awareness about the many ways JLT touches our community.

Sustainer Becky Savitz has served The Junior League of Tampa for more than 40 years. In her 20’s, Becky already had a full life including a college degree, a husband and children. However, after being associated with a long line of past League members, her own involvement, as she described, seemed like a “rite of passage.” She eagerly took the necessary steps to join the organization to begin her involvement in the community.

Becky has worked on many different projects over the years and was President from 1986-1987. While she enjoyed this time, her fondest memories were as Chairman of the Follies in the mid ‘80s, a variety show that featured dances and skits performed by both League and community members. After a huge success the first year at the University of Tampa, they moved the show to the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center where they raised over $200,000, surpassing all other fundraisers to date. “It was amazing to see how talented people were,” Becky recalls stating that a director from New York was acquired to help out with the show.

Though much has been accomplished for the community during her time in the League, Becky indicates that she has personally received so much more than she has ever put in. From the life skills that she has learned such as organizational, administrative and writing skills to becoming more involved in the Fine Arts, she has gained a sense of fulfillment and personal satisfaction that as she stated “is only gained by helping others.”

As a member of The Junior League of Tampa since 1952, Joy Bell has always felt that it is an honor and a privilege to be involved with the organization. She attributes her interest in the League to its reputation in the community as well as having many friends who were already involved. As someone who wanted to give back to her community, the League was the place to be.

During her years of service, Joy has had many placements that she enjoyed however, her position as Education Chairman was one of her favorites. This position allowed her to learn more about the city in which she lived as well as to meet and interact with younger members of the League. Throughout her League career, she has gained many benefits including skills involving organization as well as the ability to work with groups of people. When Joy later became President of The Home Association, President of the Henry Plant Museum Society and President of the Episcopal Churchwomen at St. Andrews’s Church, these skills were put to good use.

When asked about the one thing that she would like the public to know about the League, Joy simply replied, “Everyone knows about the League.” Even after 57 years of service, the same reputation of the League that lured Joy and so many others to it still stands a group of women working together to better the community in which they live and in the meantime learning tremendous life skills and gaining lasting friendships.

www.jltampa.org | WINTER 2009
Tampa Junior League takes etiquette to school

Ernest Hooper, Metro Columnist, The St. Petersburg Times and JLT Community Advisory Board member

The Junior League of Tampa held a tea Thursday.

That may not sound like news for a group that is stereotyped as lacy doilies and delicate crumpets, but this tea took place in Ybor City not trendy South Tampa. The special guests were not the darlings of society but sixth-grade girls from Academy Prep’s Ybor campus.

Applying, scones and cucumber sandwiches have more to do with education than you might realize. As part of a 12-week social skills course, Junior League members meet with sixth-grade boys and girls from the school every Thursday. Lessons range from dining manners to telephone etiquette to how to handle yourself in an interview or at a networking event.

Those are skills some may take for granted, but with Academy Prep’s rigorous curriculum producing future Exeter, Culver Prep, Berkeley Prep and Tampa Prep students, it’s important that urban kids develop a comfort level.

“To be successful, not only do they have to strive in academics, but they have to have great social skills,” said Megan Berrigan, Junior League chairwoman for the program.

On Thursday, the girls quietly walked into Ybor City’s Tea Room Cottage and politely sipped tea while engaging in conversation. They were encouraged to ask questions about etiquette, manners and what to do if you’re served something you don’t enjoy.

At the end of the tea, each girl received a gift — a small necklace with a letter pendant matching the first letter in her name.
Meanwhile, the boys were back at school getting dress-for-success lessons from Chris Blowers of Greiner's Clothing. They learned the art of tying a tie, and were allowed to keep the ties.

Don’t underestimate the simplicity of such experiences. They’ve gone a long way toward building esteem and self-assuredness during the program’s six-year run.

“We’ve really seen a tremendous growth in the kids with this program,” Academy Prep’s Chris Humboldt said. “We’ve taken our eighth-graders into social settings, and they’re very confident greeting people and asking intelligent questions.”

Confidence building is just one of the League’s specialties. Now in its 84th year, the organization has more than 1,600 women fueling community projects.

The League’s Kids Connect events have helped match more than 100 children with families since 1994.

Through other outreach efforts, the League has promoted literacy, given meals to underserved kids, helped foster children who aged out of the system and provided assistance to organizations that help women and families.

All of its net proceeds go toward projects, and over the past decade, it’s donated more than $3 million to programs. League volunteers also lend a hand to nonprofits.

Yet, people still think of white gloves instead of work gloves when they think of the League. “We still have to keep explaining that we’re more than ladies who lunch,” president Jen Carlstedt said.

As one of the newest members of the league’s community advisory board, I’m jokingly suggesting they should get Larry the Cable Guy to be a spokesman. After all, they just quietly Git-R-Done when it comes to making our community better. Clearly, this isn’t your mom’s Junior League.

That’s all I’m saying.

This article is reprinted with permission from The St. Petersburg Times October 15, 2009.
BRIGID STODDARD FUTCH

Member status: Active
Junior League Member Since: 2005
Current Placement: Placement Mentor & TLC Coordinator

Occupation: HR Senior Specialist, Accenture
Family: Husband-Bill, Son-William
I Wish I Knew How To: Snow ski
If I Could, I Would: Learn to play the piano
Favorite Thing About Tampa: Cuban sandwiches, Gasparilla and my family
Community Activities: JLT and Homeroom Mom
Three Accomplishments You are Proud of: My son, my marriage and my career
Something You Wish Someone Had Told You Earlier: Business is about human relationships
Your Life Philosophy on A Bumper Sticker: Never, I mean ever, apologize for passion.
What Experience has Changed You Most: Going away to college
My Worst Habit is: Snacking!!!
Favorite JLT Placement: Placement Mentor
One Thing People Would Know About You: I am patient
One Thing People Wouldn’t Know About You: I like boy bands

DORA VILENSKY

Member status: Active
Junior League Member Since: 2007
Current Placement: Transfer from Chicago, IL

Occupation: Consultant, Revenue Management Solutions
Family: Engaged to Dr. Alexandre Furman (Wedding is December 12, 2009)
I Wish I Knew How To: Knit and sew
If I Could, I Would: Spend a few years traveling the world
Favorite Thing About Tampa: Just moved here 2 months ago…. But I’ve explored International Mall a fair bit.
Community Activities: In Chicago I tutored inner-city kids, served as a captain for the Chase Corporate Challenge and served as the Fundraiser Chair for the JLC Windy City Nights in 2008
Three Accomplishments You are Proud of: Founder of a Goodness Day at the University of Michigan, quitting my job to attend Cornell’s Mgmt. of Hospitality Program & visiting 20+ countries.
Your Life Philosophy on A Bumper Sticker: Eat, Drink and be Merry
What Experience has Changed You Most: Spending a year focused on me at Cornell
My Worst Habit is: Biting my nails
Favorite JL Placement: Windy City Nights Committee with the JL of Chicago
One Thing People Would Know About You: I am very outgoing
One Thing People Wouldn’t Know About You: I like extreme sports. I completed my rescue diver certification in scuba diving, bungee jumped, skydived, and canyoned.

PAOLA GRUNER

Member status: Provisional
Junior League Member Since: 2009
Current Placement: Provisional

Occupation: Teacher
Family: My parents are retired and live in Peru, my brother and nephew live in Weston, and my boyfriend, Stephen, lives Tampa
I Wish I Knew How To: Sing
If I Could, I Would: Run a marathon!
Favorite Thing About Tampa: My friends and the wonderful restaurants
Community Activities: JLT
Three Accomplishments You are Proud of: Earning my Master’s degree, learning how to ski and being an educator
Something You Wish Someone Had Told You Earlier: To always carry my camera with me, so I can always capture the moment
Your Life Philosophy on A Bumper Sticker: “Be Nice!”
What Experience has Changed You Most: Teaching overseas, I learned so much from different cultures
My Worst Habit is: Falling asleep on the couch every time I watch a movie
One Thing People Would Know About You: I love cookies and cooking
One Thing People Wouldn’t Know About You: I have lived in three different countries
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Junior League member since 1993

www.jltampa.org | WINTER 2009
What’s Cooking?

Let the JLT Cookbook Committee be your secret weapon this holiday season.

It has been more than 17 years since *Tampa Treasures* made its debut and the time has come to sunset this treasure that served our League and community so well. The Junior League of Tampa cookbooks have always served as a part of our legacy, an investment of time and wonderful traditions, handed down from mothers and grandmothers with pride. More than that, these cookbooks are an investment in the foundation of our community projects. Over the course of its run the *Tampa Treasures* cookbook has sold over 70,000 copies. All of the proceeds from the sales of this fantastic cookbook have gone directly back into funding our community projects.

Orange Cranberry Nut Bread

**Ingredients**

- 4 C. flour
- 2 C. sugar
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 stick butter, softened
- 1/4 C. hot water
- 1 C. fresh orange juice
- Grated rind of 2 oranges
- 3 C. of fresh cranberries, chopped
- 1 C. pecans

**Prep Time:** 15 minutes  
**Cook Time:** 1 hour

*Treasure Tip:* When baking just one loaf of bread, place it in the center of the oven to ensure that it receives even heat and does not rise more on one side than the other. When baking more than one loaf, make sure loaves are evenly spaced to allow good air circulation and even heat distribution.

Preheat oven to 350° F. In large bowl of electric mixer combine flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Add eggs, 1/2 stick of butter, 1/4 cup hot water, orange juice and rind; mix well. Blend cranberries and pecans. Pour into greased loaf pans (2 large or 4 small). Bake 1 hour and 10 minutes for large pans, less time for small pans. Remove from pans immediately; rub loaves with 2 tablespoons of softened butter. Wrap tightly in wax paper; refrigerate 1 hour. Rewrap in plastic wrap; refrigerate for at least 4 hours before using. Store in refrigerator or freezer. Makes 2 large or 4 small loaves.
*20% off
*While supplies last

Toast to You!

So as a “toast to you” Sustainers, Actives and Provisionals alike, the cookbook committee would like to share something with you. Yes, you personally!

We are extending you an offer of 20% off Tampa Treasures. This is for a limited time at General Membership meetings, and only while supplies last. Let the legacy of Tampa Treasures live on with your little ones. Why not purchase this special book for your little legacy, have a son...hmm why not for your future daughter in-law too? What a thoughtful gift this would make with a personal hand written note in the front cover, commemorating the moment.

The Cookbook Committee would like to thank you all for your hard work and dedication to The Junior League of Tampa and wish you a wonderful holiday season filled with fun, fantastic, and fabulous memories!! Cookbooks are available for purchase at our monthly General Membership meetings, local retailers, corporate & special events or on our website www.jltampa.org. Your generous support of our cookbooks “Help families taste the best of life.”

Tampa Treasures

K.I. McKay’s Champagne Punch .................... pg 10
Smoked Mozzarella and Salmon Rounds............. pg 15
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Gasparilla

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Featured Favorites!

Don’t have the time to sit down and pore over your cookbook collection to find that perfect holiday menu? Let us do the work for you! Try one of the menus below, you will be sure to impress your guests and taste the best of life.
Committee Spotlights

ARRANGEMENTS
Did you know that the Arrangements Committee has 28 amazing members tasked with executing all General Membership Meetings, Home for the Holidays events and our fabulous Annual Dinner? Led by Melissa Kelly, each month they plan the General Membership meeting themes, menus and décor in hopes that each member feels welcome and relaxed. They have also begun planning this year’s Home for the Holidays events, which are sure to be a great time. Stay tuned for more details!

Arrangements Committee:
Melissa Kelly (Chair), Lauren Patterson (Assistant Chair)
Committee Members: Steely Taglione, Kelly Cone, Caroline Hatton, Rebekah Johnson, Jennifer Lima-Smith, Laura Sansone, Alexa Argerious, Katherine Asturias, Beth Benn, Jennifer Boucher, Taylor Clifton, Kathryn Einselen, Karen Ferguson, Kristi Grooms, Elizabeth Harris, Loralee Koontz, Courtney Loebel, Katherine Raser, Layla Ringhoff, Monica Schmalz, Jessica Shea, Lauren Catoe, Dana Coberly, Hope Donnelly, Sharon Flaspohler, Erin Hall, Annie Kilby, Mary-Carleton Laux, Kathleen Novinskie, Jessica Olson, Kimberly Williamson

BY-LAWS/PARLIAMENTARIAN
The By-Laws/Parliamentarian Chairman, Jenay Iurato, serves as meeting manager of the Board of Directors and General Membership meetings. This entails having a working knowledge of and training members on Robert’s Rules of Order and parliamentary procedures. The By-Laws/Parliamentarian is also responsible for reviewing requests for changes to the League’s By-Laws and Policies and Procedures to ensure that proposed changes are consistent with current By-Laws and AJLI By-Laws. Jenay has been keeping busy with many proposed changes to the By-Laws and Policies and Procedures.

BY-LAWS/PARLIAMENTARIAN
Jenay Iurato

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
As Community Advisory Board (CAB) Chair, Paula Cardoso works closely with the JLT President to plan the annual objectives for the CAB and to ensure each CAB member is valued, engaged and actively participating in the JLT’s mission to create positive outcomes. The chair coordinates two committee meetings/lunches per year, encourages and coordinates opportunities for the CAB members to offer leadership and training support within the JLT and invites them to attend the League fundraising events and community project events.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
Paula Cardoso

ENDOWMENT
The Junior League of Tampa Endowment Fund was established to support the long-term sustainability of the League and our charitable endeavors. Donations secured by our committee ensure a future permanent revenue stream as they are invested and managed by the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, rather than spent. Currently, all interest earned returns to the fund to increase the value and provide for future interest withdrawals. Since original donations to the fund are never spent, they will support the JLT indefinitely. Donations made to the Commemorative Fund support our Endowment Fund

Endowment Committee:
Front Row: Jennifer Johnson, Dr. Robert Yelverton, Pam Divers, Lynn Haag (Assistant Chair), Heather Barrow (Chair) Back Row: Jennifer Carlstedt, Lee Lowry, Terri Parnell, Laurie Ann Burton and Betsy Graham
MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Each woman in JLT serves as an ambassador to our community, spreading news about our organization and the great work of our volunteers. Members of the Marketing & Public Relations Committee work to “kick it up a notch” by engaging mass media to tell our stories about how we’re living the legacy of those who served before us. Whether promoting Holiday Gift Market, cookbooks or one of our other many worthwhile projects, these women are committed to promoting our efforts and maintaining community support for The Junior League of Tampa.

Marketing and Public Relations Committee:
Tanya Egger (Assistant Chair), Lisa Patterson (Chair), Natalie Bugg and Nicole Gitney
Not pictured: Laurie Buckey, Tabitha Jones

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Public Affairs Committee researches the state’s legislative process and addresses policy issues that are important to the Mission and membership of the League. The committee educates the membership on its findings and develops position statements for the League’s approval based upon its research. The committee’s chair, Michele Hinston serves as a voting delegate of the Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC), where she votes on SPAC’s legislative priorities. This year, SPAC is chaired by JLT member Jenay Iurato.

Public Affairs Committee:
Michele Hinston (Chair), Isabel Dewey (Assistant Chair)
Committee Members: Stephanie Bolton, Stacy Jarrard, Jennifer Tanck

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

The Junior League of Tampa’s Technology Committee is comprised of seven league members that are charged with managing technology operations and the infrastructure of the League. Specifically, this includes the JLT website, the hardware at headquarters and maintaining wireless connectivity. Maintenance of the website includes updating articles, managing the volunteer calendar, and enabling the yearly Placement Fair and Willingness To Serve process. The Technology committee supports the League’s committees to resolve issues, manage information, and provide training on how to use the website functions.

Technology Committee:
Front Row: Susan Rickles (Website Manager), Robin McKinney (Assistant Chair), Michelle Bremer (Assistant Website Manager)
Back Row: Angie Fox (Chair), Kathy Fitzhugh, Melissa Gelwix, Amanda Petrowsky
Not pictured: Laurie Buckey, Tabitha Jones

Public Affairs committee members from our League and others around the state at The Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee Summer Conference held in Tampa, Florida on August 29, 2009.
Leaving a Legacy.
Sustaining our Service.

The JLT is delighted to announce the founding of The Junior League of Tampa 1926 Society.

The 1926 Society is comprised of League members and friends who indicate to the Endowment Committee that they have included The Junior League of Tampa in their will, estate plan or foundation.

The 1926 Society enables you to leave your legacy in our community by supporting the future of our League and its members.

For more information, please visit the donor page located on our website at www.jltampa.org
Meet Your Members-At-Large

The Members-At-Large are three women elected by the membership to represent their interests by serving on the Board of Directors. Their responsibilities include serving as Ex-officio members on the Leagues standing committees, recognizing outstanding members with the ProActive of the Month awards; spotlighting deserving committees; organizing a JLT Girl’s Getaway and much more. This year, Angier Miller, Gretchen Dominguez and Alison Reteneller are serving as your Members-At-Large.

Angier Miller

Angier Miller joined The Junior League of Tampa in 2004. Her previous placements include Assistant Treasurer of Holiday Market, Treasurer and Secretary of Holiday Gift Market, Placement Coordinator and member of the Fundraising Committee. She is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and The Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. Angier is the Associate Director of Development at Berkeley Preparatory School, and her goal as Member-At-Large is to get to know as many new Junior League members as possible.

Gretchen Dominguez

Since 2005, Gretchen Dominguez has been an Active Member of The Junior League of Tampa. In addition to serving as a Member-At-Large, Gretchen’s prior placements include Cookbook Marketing Co-Chair, Cookbook Public Relations, Children’s Literacy and the Advertising Manager for The Sandspur. Gretchen attended Kent State University where she studied Communications and Public Relations. She is a consultant at Seedling’s in South Tampa and partner, along with her husband, in the York Harbor Inn in York Harbor, Maine. Gretchen looks forward to hearing and sharing the ideas and suggestions of our membership to continue developing the potential of our members as a Member-At-Large.

Alison Reteneller

Alison Reteneller has been an Active Member of The Junior League of Tampa since 2004. In addition to serving as a Member-At-Large, Alison’s prior placements include Holiday Gift Market Special Events and Arrangements Coordinator (totaling four years with the HGM Committee), Provisional Liaison and Treasures for Tampa Assistant Chair. Alison graduated from North Carolina State University with a B.S. in Business Management and USF with a B.A. in Mass Communications. She is currently a Technology Recruiter at Accenture. Alison looks forward to working with our League members this year and serving you as a Member-At-Large.
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Exceptional Professionals is a group of business women who love their work as well as appreciate their volunteer involvement in the Junior League of Tampa. We help you take care of your “To Do” items in a fast and friendly setting so you can concentrate on what is important to you. We look forward to hearing how we can simplify your life. Contact us today.

The group meets monthly for lunch to keep up-to-date with members. We welcome additional services not yet represented. Contact Exceptional Professionals and join us for lunch! Call Krista Allred at 813.269.4040.

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Out of our League

It is amazing to see how many of The Junior League of Tampa's members are making an impact in Tampa Bay. They are truly living the mission of our organization-trained volunteers developing their potential as women and impacting the community.

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Cassie Johan

Berkeley Preparatory School Parents' Association
Volunteer Chairs
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Stephanie Wiendl Christine Kehl
Angier Miller Melanie Harden

MOSI Executive Vice President for Operations
Vicki Ahrens

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Vestry
Mary Virginia Wilson

H.B. Plant Museum Board
Angie Ammon Katherine Frazier

Christ the King School Director of Development
Jo Ellen Archerd

H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center Hospital Board Member
Karen Arnold

Athena Society Secretary of Executive Board
Karen Arnold

H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center Foundation Board
Katherine Frazier

H. Lee Moffitt Institute Board of Directors
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General Membership Meeting

Wendy Brill, Angie Fox, Andrea Layne, Angier Miller, Tracy Clouser and Jen Carlstedt at the Fall Board retreat.

Laura Hobby, Nicole Hubbard, Tracie Domino, Sarane Harrell and Paula Cardoso at the Board Retreat.

Members talking about what they have learned from being a member of The Junior League of Tampa.

Chez Bryce Social

Avery Dickey, Nicole McNally and Kayleigh Mataluni chatting at Chez Bryce after the first GMM meeting of the year.

Susan Zelenka and Kim Carswell at the Chez Bryce Social.
Lesley Carney, Ellen James, Tina O’Connell, Kerri Sullivan and Ashley Newman savoring the delicious drinks & appetizers at Chez Bryce after the first GMM of the year.

Gail Messamore, Nicole Dagostino, Chrissy Prpich and Lauren McQueen enjoying the evening at Chez Bryce after the September GMM.

Christina Matassini, Amy Ayers, Bethany Fox, Karen May, Corey Poe, Danielle Post, Ashley Rushing, Germaine Gibbs, Nicole Andriso, Alisha Zambino, Amanda Rustman, and Katie Fleetwood at Chez Bryce after September GMM.

Fundraising Committee doing a skit at the General Membership Meeting to educate members about the importance of contributing.

Listening to The Junior League of Tampa President speak.
“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
— Nelson Mandela

Nutrition Facts

Children 300

*300 Children in Title One Schools learned about Nutrition last year.

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BEACH PARK
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SUNSET PARK WATERFRONT
Elegant 4 bedroom 3.5 bath newer Key West style construction in Sunset Park. $899,900 Jeanne Wolfe 813.997.7654

BALLAST POINT
Beautiful 3 BR/2.5 BA home has an open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. Master retreat features a private fireplace, balcony, and walk-in closet $399,900. Monique Winans 813.334.9090

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† Results may vary. Rapid weight loss may be associated with certain medical issues and should only be considered by those who are medically appropriate. © 2009 Medi-Weightloss Franchising, USA, LLC. All Rights Reserved.