LEAGUE LINES

HONORING SARAH DUKES MCKAY

pg. 10

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF GREATER LAKELAND

2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

The Junior League of Greater Lakeland, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The Junior League is exclusively educational and charitable.

LEAGUE LINES STAFF

Katie Blondell • Katherine Fitzwater • Sheila Lotterhos
Maggie Ross • Alexa Russo • Brittany Sale

LETTER FROM VICTORIA MARTIN

President 2017-2018

Serving as the President of the Junior League of Greater Lakeland has truly been a blessing. I have grown personally throughout my year as President and am honored to be part of a group of ladies who call themselves Past President of the Junior League of Greater Lakeland. This is a high honor and I am very fortunate.

The Junior League is dedicated to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. According to Betty Ford, leadership can be summarized as, "not my power, but the power of the position, a power which could be used to help." During this year, we did a lot to help. We embraced the opportunity to train our members in League history and in a variety of areas related to professionalism.

I would like to thank each member for their hard work and commitment to the League this year. Thank you to our sustaining members and those who served as sustaining advisors. Your knowledge and expertise is greatly appreciated. Thank you for rallying your support for all our efforts throughout the year. Your continued support demonstrates how much you truly believe in our mission.

To the 2017-2018 board, I am extremely proud of the passion and commitment to the League you displayed throughout the year. I look forward to seeing your leadership skills develop and watch you continue to create your own legacy in the coming years. I know that through the training you are receiving in the League, you will continue to personally impact our League and create your own legacy in the community.

Thank you to my husband, Derek, for supporting me and the League this year through your constant encouragement. In my book, you're 'Super Dad' for managing soccer and baseball schedules, job changes, and our growing family. To my boys, I'll always value the picture Drake drew of me standing in the middle of the Junior League Sorosis Building. I trust you'll follow in my footsteps of valuing our community. Drake, Dylan and Degan, I am thrilled to be team mom again and work on your school's Parent Teacher Organization.

I am honored to be part of this powerful organization that is affecting change in our community. I am confident that as the League continues to evolve to best serve our members and our community, we will continue to honor the legacy that has been created over the past 85 years and continue to have a meaningful impact on our community.

Victoria Martin

Victoria Martin , 2017-2018 President

2017-2018 BOARD *of* DIRECTORS

President, Victoria Martin
President-Elect, Callie Miller
Communications Vice President, Katherine Fitzwater
Community Vice President, Paulette Brown
Finance Vice President, Erin Montgomery
Treasurer, Heather Jones
Funding Director, Stacy Walsh
Assistant Funding Director, Rachel Cashdollar
Membership Vice President, Jessica Brown
Secretary, Alexa Russo
Corresponding Secretary, Jillian Traurig
Parliamentarian, Tiffany Hawks

COMMUN
IMPACT

For 85 years, the Junior League of Greater Lakeland has worked to strengthen our community through outreach programs designed to provide maximum impact to our community through volunteers, partnerships and financial support.

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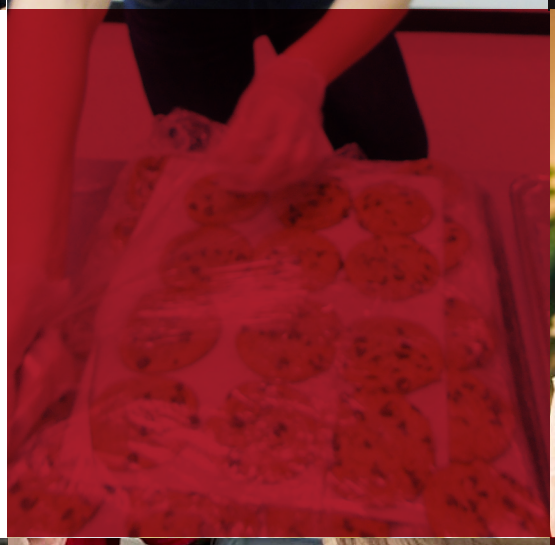

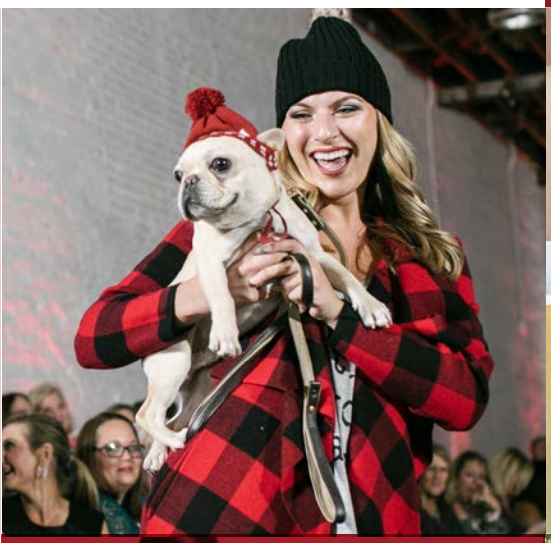

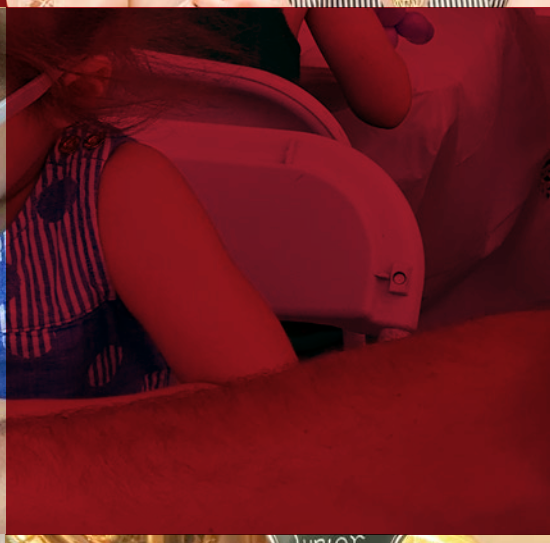

Community Impact

This year, through the leadership of our Community Outreach committee, the League provided volunteers and resources to likeminded nonprofits in our community, to include: the Achievement Academy, Girls Inc., Interact Alliance, Learning Resource Center, Tri County Human Services, Inc., VISTE and the YMCA. In addition, we partnered with the Junior League of Tampa to provide volunteers for the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida's STEMapalooza at Florida Polytechnic University.

Lakeland Christmas Parade

The Annual Lakeland Christmas Parade "A Night in the North Pole" was held Thursday, December 7, 2017 in partnership with the City of Lakeland. More than 40,000 parade viewers filled each side of the parade route in Downtown Lakeland hoping for a view of the more than 90 floats and nine marching bands as they rolled out of the RP Funding Center parking lot, down Lemon Street, over Main Street, around Lake Mirror to finish on Orange Street. The grand marshal was Georganne Carlton, CEO of Explorations V Children's Museum.

Parade Winners:

- Judge's Choice: Medulla Baptist Church
- Most Outstanding Band: Lake Gibson High School
- Most Original Float: True Plumbers & Builders
- Best Themed Float: Agnini Family Dental
- Best Youth/Education Float: Cub Scout Troop 106
- Best Professional Float: Samira Belly Dance
- Best Business Float: Party People Events
- Best Community Float: Central Florida Athletics

CRPD

The League is constantly evaluating its programs and seeking new ways to make an impact. This year, CRPD partnered with the Community Outreach committee to determine if a community need exists for a training program specifically focused on young girls ages 5 - 13. The training program, if approved, would partner with Girls, Inc. and facilitate learning opportunities in areas of interest for the young ladies. The initial areas of interest include fashion, self defense, meditation, and participating in a community service opportunity.

Ready to Read

In 2017-2018, Ready to Read held two events at Griffin Elementary. During the October and February events, League volunteers assisted teachers with literacy activities in their classrooms and distributed a book to every child in attendance. The League provided a well balanced meal prepared by First United Methodist Church. The Lakeland Public Library was onsite to create library cards for the families in attendance.

Additionally, this year the League provided Griffin Elementary with additional books for students unable to attend the events and was able to gift the school with $5,000 worth of materials for the media center. These materials will provide a much needed update to the school's library collections and ensure that future students have access to quality reading materials.

This year's Ready to Read events were made possible in part by a grant from the GiveWell Community Foundation.

Junior League of Greater Lakeland

WORLD *of* READING FESTIVAL

Where will Reading take You?

It was a sunny day with clear skies for the 2018 World of Reading Festival at Barnett Family Park on April 21, 2018. Excitement from the children and families resonated throughout the entire park. The free community event focused on family literacy, wellness and interactive learning. More than 1,200 people enjoyed face painting, live music, games, crafts and snacks.

Studies show that a child who reads at least four books over the summer has the potential to prevent a decline in reading achievement scores from the Spring to the Fall. This was the driving force behind the committee's goal of providing more books than ever! This was a small, but very beneficial step toward preventing the decline in children's reading development that can occur during summer vacation when children are away from the classroom and not participating in formal literacy programs.

More than 700 children were able to walk away with not one, but four books this year, a record number for the League.

Additionally, the committee elected to change the tent style and theme to focus on books and the worlds reading can take you. They focused on the four learning styles of children: visual, auditory, verbal and kinesthetic. This was achieved through decorations, activities, audio recordings (playing inside the tent) and verbal interaction with volunteers and authors.

SPOTLIGHT ON STYLE

As the Fashion Show committee began to plan for Spotlight on Style, the goal was to build on what the League had done in 2016, and to take a few risks. These challenges included hosting at a new venue, refreshing the look and providing more styles. This year, the event was held at Haus 820, a new event venue in Lakeland, and men's styles were added to the show.

From the moment the doors opened, guests were met with the clean, crisp look of the white linens draping the room, the delightful aromas of Nineteen61 and the hustle and bustle of our guests and vendors. Pop-up shops were bustling with crowds of perusing customers.

The larger venue allowed the committee the ability to bring more fashion, more models and the addition of men's fashion to the stage. The show included 92 looks in all-40 more than in its inaugural year! Each look was carefully planned out by our committee stylists and retailers to provide the audience the best of Fall Fashion in Central Florida.

The goal was to provide an authentic show, with the feel of New York Fashion Week, while providing styles that would peak everyone's interest. The committee achieved this by carefully planning every detail of the looks, balancing the casual looks with the formal, providing a variety of styles for any look and type, using a combination of real models and familiar faces, and keeping the music energetic and fun. The League was fortunate to have an amazing team of models – and even a doggie-model – who walked the catwalk!

This year we partnered with Top Buttons, a local nonprofit with a heart for building self-esteem in women through fashion.

Models included League actives, sustainer and past presidents, community leaders, business owners and a few professional models. Our models volunteered countless hours helping us prepare for the event by attending meetings, fittings and event day prep.

With 25 female models, eight male models and 92 looks in all, Spotlight on Style required a large crew and an extremely detailed backstage operation. With the help of the dedicated crew, dressers and volunteers, everyone worked together prepping models in head-to-toe looks. As models were dressed and ready for lineup, they were taken to the accessories/jewelry table where Wilson Diamond Brokers, Stationery Loft, Hattie's Branches and 5th and Hall provided jewelry. They were then placed in lineup, walked in the show and back to their tent to dress in their next looks, up to two, three, and for some models, four looks!

During the intermission of the show, Top Buttons shared how they are impacting the lives of young women in our community. We were also lucky enough to have a few of the girls walk in the show.

Thank you to our event partners, and the League volunteers who helped the day of the event!

Clothing and Accessories
Hattie's Branches
5th and Hall
BELK
RaneMade
Haley Michelle Boutique
W by Worth
Etcetera
J McLaughlin
What's New Consignment
Xiaolin

Hair and Makeup
Liquid Hair
Salon Chateau

Backstage Operations
Bear Construction
Bella Visage

PRO-AM TENNIS TOURNAMENT & JLGL BALL

Pro-Am Tennis Tournament

The 2018 Pro-Am Tennis Tournament was held March 3 & 4 at the Wynee Warden Tennis Center at Florida Southern College. The tournament was made up of sixteen male teams and twelve female teams, each having one professional and one amateur player. Chuck and Joanne Collier and sustaining members, Lauren Respress and Kim Lafferty coordinated the tournament.

Tournament Winners:

- Danny Barnes / Cliff Coleman
- Gail Gibson / Denise Maqueir.

JLGL Ball

The JLGL Ball was held on Saturday, March 3 at 6:00 pm at the Junior League of Greater Lakeland Sorosis Building.

The committee collected 117 silent auction packages and 6 live auction packages, which raised over $26,000 for the League.

A highlight of this year was bringing in a live auctioneer. The live auction included several vacations and a Golden Doodle puppy who was on-site to play with guests during the event. DJ Entertainment and a Photo Booth was provided by Celebrations. Everyone raved about the quality of the food catered by Patio850. Drinks were provided by Bernie Little, Tucker's Southside and Wine Stream.

REMEMBERING A TRUE VOLUNTEER:

SUSAN SPRIGGS-DELEPHIMNE

It is with deep sadness that we say "Goodbye" to one of our 2017-2018 provisional members, Susan Spriggs-Delephimne, who died this spring at the young age of 52.

Susan had only lived in Lakeland one month when she decided to become a provisional in our League. When asked why she wanted to join, what skills she hoped to acquire, and what experiences she hoped to have as a League member, Susan's response was very telling:

"I enjoy volunteering from all aspects — planning events, participating in and then regrouping to share the experience. I've met wonderful people, developed friendships and learned more about the community I live in. I would like to have interactions with women that demonstrate a positive outlook regardless of where one is in life. No matter if 20 or 60, married, single or divorced, employed or not... every woman has a story to tell, experiences to share, and through interactions like this, we realize our own growth."

In her response, Susan summarized what has always made this organization tick. We are first and foremost dedicated volunteers, volunteers who not only want to make a difference but who want to be the difference, with an important element of voluntarism being friendships we make along the way with women of all ages.

In the section about interesting facts, Susan shared that she was adopted by older parents and that while others were listening to MTV, she was listening to Nat King Cole and learning to do the foxtrot, the lindy, and the waltz. A California native, Susan was known for her love of the water which family members say was her happy place. Employed by United Health Care as a Senior Operations Trainer, the company encourages a positive work experience including giving back to the community through voluntarism. Susan was certainly stellar in that department and brought a wealth of experience to the table along with a motto of "Others First!" Her resume includes volunteering for the United Way of Dallas, American Heart Association, and Ronald McDonald House, building playgrounds for underserved schools, participating in nursing home activities, food drives for local food pantries, and meals on wheels, and preparing cards for local veterans facilities. Lakeland could have so benefitted from Susan's skills and experience, and we owe it to her, ourselves, and our community to approach our volunteering with that same sort of zeal and positive outlook.

Susan leaves behind her daughter Sarah Zambrano (Michael), her grandchildren Jessie, Ansley and Mikey Zambrano all of Italy, Texas, her beloved sweetheart and "rock" Wayne Goodwin of Lakeland, her sister Candice Hopkins (Paul) of Mesquite, and her brother Mick Hall and sister Donna Hall, both of California. Susan was preceded in death by her parents, Annie and Lawrence Spriggs. To this family and to her provisional family, we extend our sympathies and our deep sense of regret at losing a loved one and a valued new League member.

GREAT FLORIDIAN, WONDERFUL FRIEND

SARAH DUKES MCKAY

by Sheila Lotterhos, League Historian

When it comes to JLGL Past President Sarah Dukes McKay, she has fanned her possibilities into a veritable bonfire of accomplishments. Named a "Great Floridian" by a proclamation of the State of Florida, Sarah joins the ranks of such notable governors and grandees as Walt Disney, Lilly Pulitzer, Spessard Holland, Henry Flagler, Mary Bethune Cookman and even Ponce de Leon! At 92, Sarah is still going strong and stoking the flame both in service and philanthropy as evidenced by a vast array of awards and honors for a lifetime of service which still continues.

It is safe to say that faith, family, and education are what make Sarah tick. A devout Methodist who attended Wesleyan Conservatory in Macon, Georgia, Sarah developed a lifelong love for civics and history in high school. "I owe it to two high school teachers, Miss McIntyre and Norma Warren," said the Lakeland native. Additionally Sarah's love for the arts culminated in her auditing art classes at the University of South Florida, and these early loves have been recurring passions throughout her life.

As a young mother to Kirk (III), Mona and Paula and wife to Kirk, Jr., much of Sarah's early volunteer work revolved around her children's school and extracurricular activities where she was involved in everything from being a Scout den mother to PTA. Sarah also taught Sunday School at College Heights Methodist to various age groups and shared that she has served on "just about every committee" in the church. Not surprising considering her talents. Sarah also confessed that while music is something she loves, hers is not a choir voice, stating, "Had I sung in the choir, people would have fled the building!" While Sarah is no doubt being modest, the comment is a testament to her humor.

Sarah's wit, brains and sense of duty were rewarded when she was invited to become a member of the Junior Welfare League, the predecessor of the Junior League of Greater Lakeland. The League was involved in a variety of worthy causes during Sarah's active years such as purchasing and manning a bookmobile for the library, donating crutches and braces to disabled children, and fostering a sense of appreciation in children for the performing and visual arts through children's theatre, symphony programs, and suitcase exhibits at schools. Sarah's hard work and devotion were rewarded when she was elected to serve as the 1964-65 League president.

After the leadership training League members receive, sustainers in particular have been highly prized members on various community boards, and Sarah is certainly no exception. Sarah has served on the Board of Trustees for The Polk Museum of Art, receiving their Lifetime Achievement Award, and she shattered the glass ceiling by serving as the first woman chairman of the board of directors for Lakeland Regional Health where she was named Philanthropist of The Year and is a member of the Morrell Society. Sarah also proved her mettle when she served as the first woman president of the Florida Southern College Board of Trustees, leading the college in long range planning.

After her husband died, Sarah took the reins of the family business firmly in hand and was so successful that the Lakeland Area Chamber of Commerce awarded her its George W. Jenkins Award, making Sarah the first woman to receive this honor. Sarah has also served with the Downtown Lakeland Partnership, the Polk Theatre Advisory Board and the boards of the Givewell Community

Sarah Dukes McKay and family

Foundation and the United Way which honored Sarah with its Legacy Award for civic leadership.

In terms of education, Sarah has made a lasting impact in both the public and private sectors. Not only does Sarah serve on the Polk State College Foundation Board, she endowed PSC's Sarah D. McKay Scholarship. Sarah's commitment to civics led Florida House, on whose council she serves, to create the McKay Civics Initiative for middle schoolers and garnered her the first-ever and much deserved Champion of Education Award.

The point at which many of her passions meet is Florida Southern College, a fact recognized by her FSC Honorary Doctorate of Public Service. For in addition to having chaired their Board of Trustees, Sarah serves on the Board of Governors for the Lawton M. Chiles Center for Florida History and has made possible both the college's Sarah D. And Kirk McKay Jr. Archives Center and the McKay Chair for American History, Government and Civics. No small accomplishments!

This brings us to an important part of Sarah's repository of talents -- her ability to mentor. Not only has Sarah served as a trusted advisor to her children and as sustaining advisor to JLGL President Anne D. McLaughlin, Sarah has served as a confidante and guide to Dr. Anne Kerr, Florida Southern's first woman president who has led the college on a major expansion of its facilities footprint as well as efforts to widen the recognition for and restoration of its treasured Frank Lloyd Wright architecture. Further, Sarah has supported efforts for the college's formation of a dynamic partnership with the Polk Museum of Art.

In view of her ongoing efforts and achievements, there is little wonder that Sarah was awarded the Stanley S. Kresge Award from the United Methodist Church Higher Education Foundation. This national award is the highest honor a person can receive for "dedicated membership in the United Methodist Church and for unselfish support of United Methodist-related education." Along with this honor, the Foundation created a scholarship in Sarah's name.

While many of Sarah's awards have been catalogued by the press, one of her very favorite awards is the Rotary Club's Four-Way Test of Things We Think, Say and Do: "Is it truthful? Is it kind? Does it build a better friendship? And is it beneficial to all concerned?" There is little wonder that Sarah passed this test with flying colors; these traits are ingrained in her very nature.

For many decades, this incredible woman has been making a difference in the lives of others, sometimes "the" difference, and what a worthy example we have in Sarah's altruistic and dedicated nature. Sarah is not only a Great Floridian, she is a Great American and an even better friend. We are so blessed to have her among our ranks, and nothing gives me more pleasure than to thank Sarah on behalf of the League for her years of loyal friendship and service. Sarah, you are truly heaven-sent and loved beyond measure!

> "Make the most of yourself by fanning the tiny, inner sparks of possibility into flames of achievement. -GOLDA MEIR

Mrs. McKay greets a fellow League member

JUNIOR LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING & SPRING BANQUET

The Junior League of Greater Lakeland held the annual Spring Banquet at Lone Palm Golf Club on Tuesday, May 15, 2018.

Over 140 provisional, active and sustaining members were in attendance for the event celebrating the 85th anniversary of the Junior League of Greater Lakeland's commitment to improving our community. President **Victoria Martin** presided over the annual meeting.

Over 140 members in attendance

Communications Vice President **Katherine Fitzwater** announced the creation of the Sarah D. McKay Award honoring Sustainer Emeritus and Past President **Sarah Dukes McKay**.

2017-2018 president, Victoria Martin, is honored

After a year of leadership development and community service opportunities, 26 women graduated from Provisional to Active membership.

Callie Miller was installed as President alongside the 2018-2019 Board of Directors.

Callie Miller is presented as 2018-2019 president

Katherine Fitzwater announces Sarah D McKay Award

Annual Award Winners

2017-2018 ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

HEART OF THE LEAGUE is awarded to an active member with passion for the League. This year's recipient was **Emily Paladino**, who received this award for her leadership and passion chairing the World of Reading committee. Emily is creative, hardworking and is an enthusiastic leader.

SPIRIT OF THE LEAGUE is awarded to an active member who is enthusiastic and full of pride for the League. This year's recipient was **Sheenna McKenzie**, who received this award for her efforts on the Admissions-Provisional and Pro-Am Tennis Tournament committees. Sheenna is always willing to help the League with excitement and a great attitude.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR is awarded to an active member who gives 100% of herself to her individual committee, as well as helping out on other committees and projects of our League. This year there were two recipients of this award **Katie Blondell** and **Rachel Cashdollar**. These women received this award for going above and beyond for their committees and their hard work and help with other committees and events as well.

BRIDGE TO THE COMMUNITY is awarded to an active member who is not only an amazing asset to our League , but serves other nonprofit and civic organizations throughout our community as well. This year's recipient was **Stacy Walsh**, the League's Funding Director, who received this award for her dedication to the League's mission and her involvement in numerous local nonprofit organizations including SPCA Florida, Lakeland Volunteers In Medicine, PACE Center for Girls and READ Lakeland. Stacy is also a graduate of Leadership Lakeland Class XXXIV.

SUSTAINER OF THE YEAR is awarded to a sustaining member who has given tremendous support to our League throughout the past year serving as a committee advisor, volunteer or advocate. This year's recipient was **Ashley Link**, who received this award for her constant support of the League by opening her home for an April House Party and her support as a Sustaining Advisor.

PROVISIONAL OF THE YEAR is awarded to a provisional member who exhibits a dedication and enthusiasm for the League and goes above and beyond the expectations set for this level of membership. The Provisional of the Year is selected by her classmates. This year's recipient was **Ashley Madden**, who received this award for organizing a Provisional Class project in

PROVISIONAL COURSE - A YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2017-2018 provisional course was a great success for the Junior League of Greater Lakeland! On May 15, 2018 we welcomed 26 new active members at the annual Spring Banquet at Lone Palm. These women have a passion for volunteering, leadership development and improving the Lakeland community.

Welcome party at Marilyn Clyne's house

Sustaining Member Marilyn Clyne graciously hosted approximately 75 woman in her home to kick off the provisional course with the Welcome Party on August 17, 2017. On August 20, a new member retreat was held at the Junior League Sorosis Building that marked the official start of the year. Membership VP Jessica Brown and Provisional Chair Courtney Larson reviewed new member requirements and gave an overview of the League. New members were introduced to the Board of Directors and Provisional Committee, got to know each other through fun icebreakers and learned some history of the League from a panel that included Sustaining Members Alice O'Riley, Stephanie Madden and Kami Lawson. The half-day retreat continues to prove to be a fundamental part of a great provisional course.

The start of the year was interrupted a bit by Hurricane Irma and the first meeting had to be postponed. Provisional Ashley Madden organized a fun project for the class with Florida Baptist Children's Homes Compassion Center where the class packed backpacks for local children.

In keeping with tradition, the Provisional Class supported the Christmas Parade committee by serving as day-of volunteers for the annual Lakeland Christmas Parade. This event is always a lot of fun for our new members and gets everyone in the holiday spirit.

Provisional meetings were held on the second Tuesday of each month providing an opportunity for our new members to learn about the Junior League of Greater Lakeland history, organizational structure, fundraisers, projects and community impact. Organizations and businesses throughout Lakeland welcomed the League into their spaces to host meetings. Locations included: the Polk Theatre, Catapult, Explorations X and Hall Communications. By holding meetings at various locations, new members are able to see first hand the impact the League continues to have on our community and learn more about the businesses that support the League.

Our sustaining members continue to play a critical role in the new member course. Each month a group of sustaining members provide food and beverages for the new members and offer an opportunity for fellowship before each monthly meeting. The Provisional Committee thanks everyone involved in making the 2017-2018 new member course a success!

To help with the 2018-2019 Provisional Course contact Lauren Wolfe at provisionals@jlgl.org.

2017-2018 provisionals at the spring banquet

FBCH service project

New member retreat

NEW SUSTAINERS

Christie Bassett

Lee Faneca

Melissa Gravitt

Tiffany Hawks

Laura Irvin

Candace Mong

April Novotny

Courtney Philpot

Transfer Members

Jinx Chaney
Junior League of New Orleans

NEW ACTIVES

Brooklynne Atwell

Danielle Baker

Amber Bright-Costanza

Sonia Browning

Susan Spriggs-Delephimne

Cacheta Dilworth

Lisa Gifford

Kaitlyn Harrison

Kerrianne Hippely

Brittany Howell

Julia Huerta

Katie Kelly

Melissa Lenihan

Mary Lewis

Ashley Madden

Sherry Martinez

Melissa McCormick

Nicole Minott

Sumner Moncrief

Kierstin Oswald

Jennifer Petty

Mallory Putnam

Julia Saunders

Jennifer Slade

Sara Snyder

Alexandria Taylor

Molly Vazquez

Natalie Waldman

Brittany Wilds

Melissa Williams

Adrienne Wright

Transfer Members

Ashley Barnett
Junior League of Atlanta

Lisa Bryan
Junior League of Tampa

Lauren Lloyd
Junior League of Manatee County

Bridget Newsum
Junior League of Gainesville

Janel Plowright
Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale

Katherine Sultenfuss
Junior League of Tampa

FINANCIALS 2017-2018

Total Expenses
$233,314.17

- Leadership Development 26%
- Building Operations 22%
- Fundraiser & Event Expenses 19%
- Meaningful Community Impact 16%
- League Operations 9%
- Employees 8%

Total Revenue
$219,442.79

- Building Rental 33%
- Membership Dues & Fees 32%
- Fundraising 21%
- Partnerships 10%
- Other 4%

Honor Our Legacy

What better way to ensure the long-term security and stability of the League for our membership and community than by giving to our annual fund. Simply put, your gift is your ability to Leave a Legacy that will allow the League to Sustain our Service.

To learn more about the Annual Campaign or to make a gift, visit jlgl.org/support-us/annual-fund. Questions? Contact funding@jlgl.org.

ANNUAL FUND

Donations to The Junior League of Greater Lakeland support our mission-driven programs and projects. Each year, our annual donors support special events and contribute as individuals, foundations and businesses in support of our Mission.

$99 AND UNDER

Chantele Aldridge
Lynda Buck
Robin Butz
Stephanie Brown
Jennifer Simpson Campbell
Sue Coleman
Suzanne Ellsworth
Katherine Fitzwater
Hannah George
Luisa Harrison
Paul Hayman
Lyn Holcom
Judy Hopkins
Heather Jones
Ashley Lauren
Courtney Larson
Janice Martin
Victoria Martin
Sarah Massey
Patricia Meland
Alexa Russo
Alyss Ruster
Emily Paladino
Emily Plank
Heather Pharris
Elizabeth Phillips
Elizabeth Prestipino
Brittany Sale
Ava Ann Severance
Kristin Shelnut
Beth Sherling
Margaret Sweat
Joy Williams

$100-$199

Patricia Blalock
Kim Brunson
Marilyn Clyne
Sandra Ellington
Elmhorst Family Fund at the GiveWell Community Founadtion
Leah Gonzales
Julia Harrell
Mary Hinson
Beverly Hollis
Callie Miller
Tiffany Osler
Alice O'Reilly
Ann Varasse
Josephine Sawyer
Nancy Stanley
Nettie Stone

$250-$499

Joanne Allen
Lu Fitzwater
Gaines Jewelers
Cecelia M Wilhite

$500-$1000

Katherine Coleman
United Way of Central Florida

ENDOWMENT FUND

$100

Gwyn Hughes
In Memory of Beth Harlan
Amy Royal

COMMEMORATIVE FUND

$100

Katherine Fitzwater
In celebration of the births of
Catie Beth Clyne (Shannon & Colin Clyne)
Thomas Miller (Kathleen & Mac Miller)
Preston Miller (Callie & Zach Miller)

AJLI ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE TRAINING

Lynda Buck
Pat Blalock
Katherine Fitzwater
Lu Fitzwater
Tiffany Hawks
Alice Koehler
Stephanie Madden
Sarah Dukes McKay
Alice O'Reilly

Donor list as of May 31, 2018.
If you believe your name has been omitted in error, please contact the Treasurer at treasurer@jlgl.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS

85TH YEAR KICKOFF

APRONS COOKING CLASS

POSTO 9 HAPPY HOUR

RAFA NATURAL SPA NIGHT

PAST PRESIDENTS AT THE SPRING BANQUET

SPRING HOUSE PARTY

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

SIP 'N' SHOP

SPOTLIGHT ON STYLE

LETTER FROM CALLIE MILLER

2018-2019 President

It is a true honor to be asked by my peers and colleagues to serve and represent an amazing group of women as President of the Junior League of Greater Lakeland. Thank you for entrusting me with this role and the opportunity to lead the League in expanding the meaningful impact we are able to make in our community. The League has a long history of fulfilling our mission - to promote voluntarism, develop the potential of women, and improve our community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

We have real, pervasive needs in our community. Needs never go away; they may change over time, but they are always there. That's why our community is fortunate to have an organization like the Junior League of Greater Lakeland. This year, we will lead the way in understanding the critical needs of our community and developing comprehensive, collaborative solutions in the areas of children's literacy and school readiness, and women's wellness. If we, as a community, are to make a collective impact in these areas, we need to work together to ensure agencies and programs not only collaborate on those comprehensive solutions, but that they also have the financial wherewithal and tools to provide measurable, successful results.

As the 2018-2019 Board has met throughout the last few months, we have been intentional about making it easier to understand what the League hopes to accomplish. The current basis for decisions and strategies that we are setting is under a very simple premise - let children be children. Empower children to live purposeful lives. Remove the adult barriers that prohibit, that weigh down, a child's ability to be successful in school. To ensure that every child has the necessary reading skills to pass the FSA by 3rd grade in the Greater Lakeland area. We currently do that by building the home libraries of children through RIF, by engaging families and caregivers in reading and wellness activities at Ready to Read, and by encouraging the imaginations of children, bringing stories alive and giving children the opportunity to meet authors at World of Reading.

But the passion of our League members does not stop at literacy. It includes caring about the other 'life factors' that unfairly and inappropriately weigh down a child, that make reading and literacy a less important and more unattainable goal for kids. How do you approach school with a fresh perspective when your basic needs of clothing and access to food are not met?

We have many wonderful and like-minded organizations that desire to meet the needs of our community. And, what I believe is so exciting is that when opportunities are identified, when ways to meet needs in our community are supported, there's no more powerful of a force to be reckoned with than nearly 550 Junior League ladies in Lakeland. Where new solutions need to be created, we will do just that - as we have for the past 85 years - and where there are opportunities to partner with like-minded nonprofits so that we are not attempting to duplicate an existing program, we can further good work together.

The approach the League will take on is not about 'serving' our community. It is not about approaching the needs of our communities most vulnerable from a posture of superiority. This is about living - eyes wide open - IN our community. For what greater joy can there be to help our neighbors, to stand up for, to advocate, and to love - with an ACTIONABLE love - one another.

By God's goodness and grace, I look forward to reporting to you many times during the next two years that through the action of the League - you and your peers - we have made a significant impact. That your leadership has had a positive, lasting and growing ripple effect through our community.

Thank you for renewing your membership in the League. Thank you for attending Spring Banquet, our community events, for buying silent auction items, giving to our appeal - for entrusting the League to be good stewards of your time, money, and passion.

Let's continue to partner together and let children be just that, children.

Callie Miller

Callie Miller, 2018-2019 President

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in MEMORIAM

REMEMBERING ELIZABETH JACOBS

The League was saddened to hear of the death of Sustainer Emeritus Elizabeth Townsend Jacobs at age 97. A supportive member and friend over the years, Elizabeth was an energetic dynamo with a love for her family, community and country. Born in DC and having grown up in Maryland, Elizabeth majored in history at Dickinson College where she was a member of Chi Omega Sorority, Winter Ball Queen and in Senior Women's Honorary Society. Like many of the Greatest Generation, Elizabeth supported the country's war efforts during WWII. In her case, she did so by serving in the civilian intelligence service Elizabeth married the love of her life, Rusty, and eventually settled in Lakeland where she was a mother and active community volunteer. First Presbyterian Church was a big part of her life, and she served there as a Sunday School teacher and church circle member. Elizabeth gave tirelessly to others as everything from a board member of Lakeland General Hospital (now LRH) to a VISTE driver for the frail elderly to serving as a volunteer Red Cross worker meeting planes of Cuban refugees and helping with Hurricane Alma. In addition to her League work and her children's school activities, Elizabeth stayed busy with her antiques circle, the Lakeland Republican Women and PEO. If Elizabeth could be summed up in a word, it would be "encourager", as she was quick to cheer on the efforts of others, particularly younger women, while she gave generously of her own time and talents. Elizabeth leaves behind her son Lincoln, daughter Gayley Lauteria with husband Lou, son Phillip with wife Ruth, and a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren to whom we express our sympathy along with our thanks for sharing Elizabeth with us all these years.

REMEMBERING NANCY PETERSON

The death of Native Floridian and Past JLGL President Nancy Streater Peterson was a shock to her family and friends when she passed away suddenly after celebrating her 90th birthday in the North Carolina mountains. To those family members who shared Nancy with us over the years (including her daughter Nila Lane and husband Landon, son Pete and his wife Suzette, daughter Lee Ann Pritchett and her husband Mike, eight grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren), we extend our sympathy on the loss of their mother and grandmother and our friend. Nancy was always very civic-minded and such a giver. After attending Florida State University and marrying the love of her life, J. "Jay" Hardin Peterson, Nancy settled down to become a mother and an active Lakeland community volunteer where she served as League president among a plethora of other activities. Two of the great passions of Nancy's life were the Polk Theatre which she and Jay worked diligently to save from proposed demolition while serving as catalysts for its initial restoration efforts and Habitat for Humanity of which she helped found the Lakeland chapter. Her work for these two endeavors cannot be over-emphasized. Nancy was also a loyal member of First United Methodist Church which she faithfully attended until moving in 1990. It is people like Nancy who were the strong building blocks of the Junior League, and we are proud to honor her memory as a past president and friend.

REMEMBERING ELIZABETH ALLEN

Sustainer Elizabeth Wheeler Allen, a devoted member of the Junior League of Greater Lakeland, passed away last fall, but she will always be remembered for her lovely smile, gentle voice, and kind spirit. Elizabeth was a North Carolina native and a graduate of Duke University with a degree in nursing in which profession she served for years, first at Watson Clinic as Dr. John Verner's nurse and later at LRH. Through her profession, she touched countless lives throughout the community and beyond. Elizabeth volunteered in a number of organizations including the League and was a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church. Our condolences go out to Elizabeth's family including her daughter Jennifer Sundgren with husband Brad, son James with wife Stacy, son Patrick with wife Ashley Duckett along with Elizabeth's grandchildren, her brother Dr. Clifton Wheeler and his wife Margaret Anne and family, and her brothers and sisters in law and their families. Elizabeth was a beautiful lady whose winning smile and innate sweetness will be sorely missed by all who knew her. We were blessed as League members to call her our friend. Elizabeth would have been 79 this spring.

REMEMBERING ANN STEIN

It is with much sadness that we say our affectionate goodbyes to Sustainer Emeritus Ann Bryan Stein who died this June in Georgia at the age of 88. A native Floridian who grew up in Tampa, Ann graduated from Florida State University where she was a member of Chi Omega Sorority. She continued that affiliation as a member of Panhellenic in Lakeland where she moved in 1976 and opened a real estate office and later a mortgage company with her husband Bob in 1991. As a member of our League, Ann was always supportive of events and also of "League Lines" with which she was a faithful advertiser for many years. In addition to serving as president of the local realtors, Ann was awarded a meritorious service award by the Florida Bar for her work as a lay member of the 10th Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee. An infectious smile was Ann's trademark, and that smile will be missed by family and friends alike. Preceded in death by her husband of 30 years Bob Stein, her son Walter Grahn, her siblings, and her parents, Ann is survived by her daughters Gretchen Grahn Hitchcock (Norman) and Stephanie Grahn Krantz, her stepchildren Constance Ruth Stein Upshaw (Charles), Mary Katherine Stein Hicks, Carol Jane Stein Locarro (Robert) and Robert Stein Jr. (Toni), nine grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. To Ann's beloved family, we extend our sympathy and gratitude for her years of loyal service. While a service was held in Georgia, Ann will be inurned at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Lakeland.

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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
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To rent the historic Junior League of Greater Lakeland's Sorosis Building for your next event, visit **JuniorLeagueSorosisBuilding.com** or email us at **rentals@jlgl.org**.

Mark Your Calendar!

August 25, 2018
ANNUAL KICKOFF PARTY

September 29, 2018
THRIFT SALE

October 25, 2018
SPOTLIGHT ON STYLE

December 6, 2018
LAKELAND CHRISTMAS PARADE

December 9, 2018
LIGHT UP LAKELAND FOR LITERACY

March 8 & 9, 2019
PRO-AM TENNIS TOURNAMENT AND SPONSOR VIP PARTY

April 13, 2019
WORLD OF READING

May 7, 2019
ANNUAL MEETING AND SPRING BANQUET