THE INSIGHT
A PUBLICATION OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PASADENA, INC.

Issue Area Update
Switching gears: A mid-year review
Page 4

Annual Fund
Invest in the future of the Junior League of Pasadena
Page 6

Pasadena Senior Center
Founded by the Junior League of Pasadena 55 years ago
Page 11

Simply Speaking
Featured speaker and event details announced
Page 6
A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

“Why did you do all this for me?” he asked.
“I don’t deserve it. I’ve never done anything for you.”
“You have been my friend.” replied Charlotte.
“That in itself is a tremendous thing.”

E.B. White, Charlotte’s Web

Friends matter. This year we have asked our membership to pour their heart into our organization as we bend and stretch to find a new community focus, but that is a tall order without a little incentive. The Junior League of Pasadena is a mighty group of women who get work done, but we are also a fabulous group of women to call friends. You have all become the incentive to push through deadlines, work into the wee hours of the morning and set aside what little downtime we all have to plan League programs and events. It is because of the friends we make that this journey is so rich.

As a women’s organization determined to develop the potential of women, improve our community, and promote voluntarism, much of what we do comes down to the women we are doing it with and the fun that we have while rolling up our sleeves. It’s okay to admit that your committee meeting is fun. That you like coming to the General Membership meetings, not just because of our fabulous speakers, but to catch up with some of women from your provisional class you haven’t seen for a while. How lucky we are to have each other!

As we usher in 2015, the Junior League of Pasadena has the awesome responsibility of determining our next area of focus for our community programming. Our two potential areas, Youth Wellness and Mental Health and responsibility of determining our next area of focus for our community needs and member interests.

“Staying true to the remarkable legacy of the JLP, next year will bring new exciting opportunities merging member interests with community needs.”

Robyn Grandy
President 2015-2016
“For 2015-2016 we have a unique opportunity to launch our focus for a specific issue area, and I look forward to our membership collaboration to help others in Pasadena.”

Lauren Hooten
Community Director
“I’m looking forward to strengthening bonds with partners in Pasadena and supporting program development to define the future of the League.”

Jennifer Allan Goldman
President-Elect 2015-2016
“I love how the JLP researches community needs and member interests before embarking on new issue areas. I’m eager to see where our new issue area takes us in the community.”

Dana Jones
Fundraising Director
“I love how the JLP recognizes the support and development of women, have the great potential to redefine our organization. However, at our core, we will always be women of worth who I will gladly call my friends.”

Kim Ferreira
Marketing Director
“I am honored to be a part of this group of women who are passionately dedicated to bettering our community while continuing the proud heritage of the JLP.”

Amy Onderdonk
Membership Director
“Staying true to the remarkable legacy of the JLP, next year will bring new exciting opportunities merging member interests with community needs.”

Daryl Synowiec
Recorder
“I love the JLP because it recognizes people’s potential, creates long lasting relationships and inspires meaningful change in the community.”

Sasha Lazarevish-Sinnott
SPAC Senior
“The JLP fearlessly addresses issues that may otherwise go untended. Regardless of the direction we choose to take, our efforts make a profound impact on the health and vibrancy of our community.”

Jennifer Allan Goldman
President-Elect 2015-2016
“I love the JLP because it has brought me so much...friendship, training, and a strong connection to my community. I am honored to be able to give back to our League.”

Brooke Bennett
Finance Director
“To me, I love the JLP because it recognizes the support and development of women, have the great potential to redefine our organization. However, at our core, we will always be women of worth who I will gladly call my friends.”

Kim Ferreira
Marketing Director
“I am honored to be a part of this group of women who are passionately dedicated to bettering our community.”

Amy Onderdonk
Membership Director
“Staying true to the remarkable legacy of the JLP, next year will bring new exciting opportunities merging member interests with community needs.”
RESEARCHING OUR COMMUNITY’S NEEDS

This Fall, we explored the issue of Youth Wellness and Mental Health. We heard from counselors at San Marino Unified School District, explored wellness with the Pasadena Unified School District, and toured Foothill Family Services.

In October, members gained insight from an informative panel consisting of the Pasadena Police Department, Friends of Foster Children, and current member and BLAST employee, Katie Enney.

The Program Development and Support Committee will complete its research in the area of Youth Wellness and Mental Health by incorporating statistical data and public health information into its recommendations for Spring of 2015.

Those reports will be incorporated into the final project recommendations in time for a membership vote this year.

Looking toward the League’s second possible issue area, the Support and Development of Women, the Program Development and Support Committee has begun meeting with organizations that help women in various capacities such as parenting, professional development, and health/prevention.

The Committee’s research began last July with the publication of the 2014 report of the Commission on the Status of Women in Pasadena. The Committee will present its findings in the coming months in advance of a membership vote later this year.

HELPING OUR COMMUNITY ONE DAY AT A TIME

Our 2014 - 2015 Provisional class has been hard at work over the past few months and we are excited to announce details about this year’s Kids in the Kitchen event! The event will be held on May 3rd (time to be announced at a later date). Once again, Madison Elementary School has been kind enough to donate the use of their school for this annual event.

Kids in the Kitchen benefits the youth and families of the Pasadena community. The committee is organizing an exciting day full of educational activities to teach children and families in our community about the benefits of healthy eating, the fun of exercise, and how to make healthy lifestyle choices. Stay tuned for additional details about activities, schedule, and volunteer opportunities available.

November 8 | Mothers’ Club Family Learning Center:
The League returned to the Mothers’ Club this Fall to assist with a Thanksgiving themed Early Reader’s Book Club. JLP members ran a reading circle followed by a craft for mothers and their children.

October 24 | Harvest Festival at Hathaway-Sycamores:
JLP members helped with crafts and snacks at the annual Hathaway-Sycamores’ Harvest Festival. The event offers foster families information on resources in our community, along with fun activities and a parade.

December 9 | Operation Santa with the Pasadena Jaycees:
Members of the JLP read letters to Santa and compiled gift requests so the Jaycees could connect each child with their perfect gift. On Christmas Eve, the Jaycees sent Santa and Mrs. Claus to the home of each child to deliver the gifts.

SAVE THE DATE : KIDS IN THE KITCHEN ON MAY 3RD

Our 2014 - 2015 Provisional class has been hard at work over the past few months and we are excited to announce details about this year’s Kids in the Kitchen event! The event will be held on May 3rd (time to be announced at a later date). Once again, Madison Elementary School has been kind enough to donate the use of their school for this annual event.

Kids in the Kitchen benefits the youth and families of the Pasadena community. The committee is organizing an exciting day full of educational activities to teach children and families in our community about the benefits of healthy eating, the fun of exercise, and how to make healthy lifestyle choices. Stay tuned for additional details about activities, schedule, and volunteer opportunities available.

WELCOME OUR 2014-2015 PROVISIONAL CLASS

Michelle Acosta
Lisa Alberti
Jennifer Allen
Briana Armour
Gibson Banta
Katherine Bartscherer
Summer Bishil
Hayley Boaz
Julia Bowers
Amy Brandt
Irma Cabrera
Sierra Chai
Amanda Coleman
MaryLee Dula
Jenna Ewald
Sara Hatch
Emily Hofer
Katie Houghton
Susanna Kwan
Celene Lyddon
Nicolette Margi
Lauren McLaren
Kacie Mele
Leora Nader
Leah Rodemich
Parnian Ross
Marcie Sabatella
Rachel Salvio
Melissa St. John
Kelly Sun
Hannah Swanson
Melanie Thomas
Jade Ulrich
Linda Whittlesey
Nicole Whorton
Suzanne Wilhelm
Lisa Zastrow

“I have found a welcoming and diverse group of women devoted to improving not only themselves, but their community as well. I’m looking forward to seeing how the League shapes my life while I make an impact in Pasadena.”

~Hannah Swanson, Provisional class member

November 8 | Mothers’ Club Family Learning Center:
The League returned to the Mothers’ Club this Fall to assist with a Thanksgiving themed Early Reader’s Book Club. JLP members ran a reading circle followed by a craft for mothers and their children.

October 24 | Harvest Festival at Hathaway-Sycamores:
JLP members helped with crafts and snacks at the annual Hathaway-Sycamores’ Harvest Festival. The event offers foster families information on resources in our community, along with fun activities and a parade.

December 9 | Operation Santa with the Pasadena Jaycees:
Members of the JLP read letters to Santa and compiled gift requests so the Jaycees could connect each child with their perfect gift. On Christmas Eve, the Jaycees sent Santa and Mrs. Claus to the home of each child to deliver the gifts.
In 2014-2015, the Junior Leagues of California State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) co-sponsored AB 2035 relating to sexually exploited and trafficked minors. AB 2035 passed both the California State Senate and Assembly with unanimous bipartisan support, but was vetoed by Governor Jerry Brown. As this year’s budget provides funding to aid minor sex trafficking victims, Governor Brown directed the Department of Social Services to convene with stakeholders such as SPAC to advocate, educate, and stop human trafficking.

SPAC has also been working to educate delegates from member leagues on issues relating to education and foster youth. Pasadena delegates are hoping to bring information about these key issues to members of our home chapter in the near future.

The League Training Committee has hosted three events this Fall, offering training in league, leadership, and life.

**September:** We addressed the future of our League at our first training, “The Next Five Years: Junior League of Pasadena’s New Strategic Plan” with breakout discussions and League trivia.

**October:** We hosted a wellness event at Soul Cycle Pasadena! Twenty intrepid members rode to the beat of the music in a team-building class followed by a healthy happy hour with juices generously donated by Juice Served Here Pasadena.

**November:** League Training hosted our November training at Urban Kitchen South Pasadena. Classically trained chef and owner of Urban Kitchen, Michelle Holman led members in a unique holiday cooking experience culminating in an impressive display of chocolate truffles and pumpkin cheesecakes with candied pecans!

The Junior League of Pasadena’s Fundraising committee is delighted to invite you to Simply Speaking 2015, our second annual speaker and luncheon event, complete with our famous silent auction and donation drawing. The event will be returning to the University Club on April 11th at 10:00am.

This year, the event will feature the inspiring humanitarian Jane Olson, a Pasadena-area local. Mrs. Olson has devoted her life to international justice and humanitarian work. She has chaired the International Board of Human Rights Watch and the board of Landmine Survivors Network.

To wrap up Simply Speaking, we will present the Nancy Reed Payne Award to one very deserving Sustaining member. We will also recognize one distinguished individual from our community to thank them for their ongoing support of the JLP. We look forward to another wonderful Simply Speaking event!

Now, more than ever, the Junior League of Pasadena counts on your annual support so we can continue our impact on the community - this year and far into the future.

Whether it’s $5 or $5,000, your donation to our Annual Fund will allow us to follow our mission and continue to train women as volunteers with a commitment to community action.

How will your investment in the League and its mission make a difference? Contributions have kept the Junior League of Pasadena vibrant and meaningful to the community for nearly 90 years, touching the lives of thousands through the wide range of community projects we have supported and through the training opportunities we have provided.

Please visit www.MyJLP.com/annual-fund to make your donation to the Junior League of Pasadena today.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our League!

The Junior Leagues of California State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC): Making an Impact in California

**SIMPLY SPEAKING : APRIL 11TH**

April 11th 10:00am

University Club

Featured Speaker: Jane Olson

Humanitarian

**TRAINING FOR LEAGUE, LEADERSHIP, AND LIFE**

**GET CREATIVE**

Tap your inner creativity in the AJLI Altruettes Junior League Charm Challenge now through February 20th.

This challenge invites all Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. (AJLI) members to submit their ideas for a new charm to recognize and benefit the work of Junior League women around the world at a rate of 10% of the price of charm sold.

Five finalists will be announced at the Annual Conference in April 2015.

After an Association-wide vote, the winning design will be announced and sold at the Fall Leadership Conference in September 2015.

Deadline for submissions is February 20th.

Visit ajli.org for more information.

To invest in our future, the Junior League of Pasadena counts on your annual support so we can continue our impact on the community - this year and far into the future.

We are looking for your investment in our mission and our future,

Whether it’s $5 or $5,000, your donation to our Annual Fund will allow us to follow our mission and continue to train women as volunteers with a commitment to community action.

How will your investment in the League and its mission make a difference? Contributions have kept the Junior League of Pasadena vibrant and meaningful to the community for nearly 90 years, touching the lives of thousands through the wide range of community projects we have supported and through the training opportunities we have provided.

Please visit www.MyJLP.com/annual-fund to make your donation to the Junior League of Pasadena today.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our League!
A LEGACY OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

Since 1926, the Junior League of Pasadena has formed or assisted in forming over 130 organizations and programs, and given over $5,000,000 back to our community.

This timeline displays just a small sampling of the positive community impact we have made in the San Gabriel Valley.
LEAGUE EVENTS : CONNECTING OUR MEMBERS

The League Events committee is small but mighty, responsible for producing League events and meetings.

September GMM: At HillsideS (improving the well-being of youth and their families), each committee created a presentation showcasing a specific decade of our legacy.

October GMM: At Ability First, an organization offering a range of programs and services to help children and adults with developmental disabilities, attendees heard from a dynamic panel of leading members from local organizations speak to their involvement on the issue of youth wellness and mental health.

November neighborhood meetings: Members discussed the issue of youth wellness and mental health and participated in a project for the Institute for Girls’ Development.

In 2015, look forward to issue based meetings, our April placement fair, and our Annual Meeting.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM JACOB MAARSE!

On Thursday, November 20, 2014, JLP members and guests converged upon Jacob Maarse Florist for our traditional evening of music, food, friendship, and shopping.

The evening’s musical entertainment, Eclectic Waves, was a definite crowd pleaser. Guests were treated to dinner from Stonefire Grill, cupcakes from Big Man Bakes, and coffee that was kindly donated by Starbucks.

It was wonderful to see family and friends share stories as they perused the shop’s aisles. The selection of holiday items was top notch, and thanks to Jacob Maarse Florist’s generosity, 10% of all sales went back to the League.

We would like to thank the following sponsors for their support: Pasadena Magazine, Pasadena Now, Outlook Newspapers, Eclectic Waves, and Jacob Maarse Florist. Our partners exceeded our expectations - we couldn’t have created this event without them!

OUR GARDEN CLUB FLOURISHES

The Garden Club trip to the Rose Bowl scored a touchdown! On October 7th, members and guests enjoyed a behind-the-scenes tour of the newly remodeled stadium. Participants were even able to step out onto the field for a “turf talk” with the supervising groundskeeper. The tour concluded with a delicious luncheon in a private room at Brookside Country Club.

On November 17th, florist Margit Holakouei gave a stunning presentation to the Garden Club at the Town Club. Her unique demonstration highlighted how to use what you have in your closet and garden to decorate your tables and homes in preparation for this holiday season. Margit is a local florist who began her trade in the early 1970s. She currently has a shop in Arcadia and creates arrangements for clients throughout Southern California.

Members of the Garden Club enjoyed her creative and inspiring ideas for the holiday season.

The event was followed by a fabulous lunch by the Town Club with time to share ideas with long time friends.

THANKS TO OUR GARDEN CLUB OR YOUR SUPPORT AND FOR GIVING OUR HOUSE A MUCH NEEDED MAKEOVER WITH REFINISHED HARDWOOD FLOORS!

2014-2015
Garden Club Board
Chair
Rose Nielsen
Treasurer
Michelle Lytle
Publicity
Charlene Lefaus
Past Chair / Advisor
Lynda Patton
Sustainer Chair
Barbara Baptie
Arrangements
Sue Barry
Nancy Cole
Suzanne Davidson
Carol Deeter
Joan Dietrick
Virginia Doyle
Penny Gill
Carol Gordon
Gari Hall
Linda Moore
Andrea Nagata
Joan Pantano
Kristen Schwarz
Melinda Woodruff
Monica Zacharia

About the Garden Club
All Active, Sustaining and Provisional members of the Junior League of Pasadena are invited to join the Garden Club. We encourage you to participate!

We have six exciting and unique programs to share each year. Events are informal, fun, and a great source of ideas for the novice and expert gardener alike.
SUSTAINING MEMBERS EVENTS

Everyone on the Sustainer Board has been working very hard to develop exciting events for our JLP Sustaining members throughout 2014-2015.

On November 5th, we hosted Do You Know What’s In Your Own Backyard? - a fun and informative walking tour of the Pasadena Museum of California Art, the Pacific Asia Museum, and hidden works of art along Pasadena’s Colorado Blvd. The tour was led by Sustaining member and art aficionado, Joan Palmer.

Later that month, we hosted margaritas and munchies at El Portal restaurant before the annual shopping event at Jacob Maarse Florist. The evening was even more special because JLP Board and Council members also joined us.

Sustaining members, please join us for the following events to kick off 2015:

January: Cocktails and fashion talk at a private residence.

February 11: 50 Shades of Pink Champagne, Chocolate and Appetizers at the Town Club.

March 11: A docent led tour with lunch at the Nixon Library.

April 11: Simply Speaking at the University Club with the presentation of the Nancy Reed Payne award.

May 2: Year end Kentucky Derby party at Santa Anita race track.

Publicity and Technology Adviser: Lisa Cavelier

“Our committee can’t wait to begin working with Lisa. We have heard nothing but the best about her experience and talents to help take us to the next level as a committee.”

Provisionals Adviser: Alex Zucco

“We are grateful to have Alex as an extraordinary asset to the Provisional committee because of her insight and incredible energy.”

Fundraising Adviser: Kerry Slater

“Kerry’s years of dedication to the JLP and years of experience in fundraising make her a fabulous adviser for our committee.”

Fundraising Adviser: Debra Whitehouse

“We are so lucky to have Debra as an incredible asset this year. She brings wonderful ideas and energy to all that she does with us.”

League Events Adviser: Laura Kelso

“We are excited to have Laura as a part of our small but mighty committee this year. Her expertise and knowledge about the JLP and our community will benefit our committee and the League.”

Nominating and Placement Adviser: Phyllis Wilburn

“We are excited to benefit from any guidance her years in the league and experience in the Pasadena community can offer.”

Fundraising Adviser: Teresa Aubert

“We are so lucky to have Teresa as adviser to the League Training Committee! She has been a fantastic mentor and resource. Thank you, Teresa!”

We couldn’t do it without you!
One thriving example of the JLP’s legacy is located just down the street from our headquarters, the Pasadena Senior Center. This year they are celebrating their 55th Anniversary and the JLP is being recognized and honored by them for being the organization’s founder.

In 1957, Pasadena’s city leaders, joining a national movement concerned about the welfare of seniors, wanted to provide a place for social interaction and community engagement for those who may feel isolated at home. A site was identified, and a bond was issued to pay for constructing the building and the Center opened its doors in 1960. Missing still was money to hire the staff. The JLP came to the rescue, making the Center its main community project, raising money to hire an executive director and staffing the Center with countless volunteer hours. Eventually, board members were able to develop fundraising sources that provided a full-time staff. The Center continues to succeed thanks to its many volunteers, but its existence today would not have been possible without the support of Junior League members. Back then, the Center was mainly a place where seniors gathered to drink coffee and tea, play cards and other games, occasionally socializing and interacting with community leaders. Today the Center provides more services to seniors than any agency in our community.

The Junior League of Pasadena Sustainers invite you to:

Fifty Shades of Pink
$45 per person/guests are welcome

Put on your favorite pink dress, scarf, or shoes
Enjoy delightful hors d’oeuvres, decadent sweets, and sip champagne with your friends

The Town Club 278 So. Madison Ave.

For questions or to RSVP, please email jlpi@earthlink.net

Our Community Advisory Board

The Community Advisory Board for the Junior League of Pasadena is an esteemed group of local leaders who provide guidance to the League in a variety of areas.

This year, the Board will continue to meet and discuss revisions to our Strategic Plan and learn about the future of our community programs.

Please join us in thanking our Community Advisory Board members for their ongoing support.

Catherine Allgor
Director of Education
The Huntington Library & Gardens

Bill Bogaard
Mayor
City of Pasadena

George A. Brumder
Vice President / Board Member
Pasadena Educational Foundation

Mary Donnelly-Crocker
Executive Director
Young & Healthy

Jennifer Fleming DeVoll
Executive Director
Pasadena Community Foundation

Priscilla Gamb
Director of Volunteer Services
Huntington Hospital

Akila Gibbs
Executive Director
Pasadena Senior Center

Julianne Hines
Vice President, External Affairs
Planned Parenthood

Catherine Allgor
Director of Education
The Huntington Library & Gardens

Bill Bogaard
Mayor
City of Pasadena

George A. Brumder
Vice President / Board Member
Pasadena Educational Foundation

Mary Donnelly-Crocker
Executive Director
Young & Healthy

Jennifer Fleming DeVoll
Executive Director
Pasadena Community Foundation

Priscilla Gamb
Director of Volunteer Services
Huntington Hospital

Akila Gibbs
Executive Director
Pasadena Senior Center

Julianne Hines
Vice President, External Affairs
Planned Parenthood

Melissa Johnson
President
The Institute for Girls’ Development

Charlene Liebau
Past President
Junior League of Pasadena, Inc.

Talin Mangioglu
District Director
CA State Senator Carol Liu

Jennifer Allan Goldman
President
Institute for Girls’ Development

Melissa Johnson
President
The Institute for Girls’ Development

Our Community Advisory Board

BRANDING AD-HOC

This year, a Branding Ad-hoc committee was formed and is working to support the branding efforts for the Junior League of Pasadena’s strategic plan. The committee is made up of both Active and Sustaining members of the League with a wide range of knowledge and expertise in branding both professionally and within the JLP. Each member is motivated and excited to be updating existing JLP branding guidelines and communication policies as well as creating marketing plans for our future.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
Anna Agadjanyan
Alison DeVriendt
Kim Ferreira
Shannon Gleason
Sharick Leigh
Faith Mellinger
Bianca Nickols
Sandy Roberts

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AD-HOC

The Administrative Services Ad-Hoc is tasked with “evaluating the League’s utilization of headquarters and professional and administrative service providers to maximize organizational effectiveness and fiscal health.” The committee is made up of a great group of Active and Sustaining members with years of expertise in these issues. We are reviewing existing contracts, considering new options, brainstorming ways to better use 149 S. Madison, and taking a look at how we can professionally and within the JLP. Each member is motivated and excited to be updating existing JLP branding guidelines and communication policies as well as creating marketing plans for our future.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jennifer Allan Goldman
Emily Mencken
Jennifer Quan

Sarah Rogers
Beth Saliba