



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
CANTON, OHIO, INC.

WOMEN BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES

et cetera

## Major Project Update

The Major Project Committee has been very busy finalizing the plans for the Life Skills Classes through May 2009. The committee hopes all will support the upcoming classes .

**“Life is a Highway”** - Natalie Bass and her husband have volunteered to host this class which will focus on the “INS and OUTS” of making a first car purchase. These Life Skill classes all have included information to prepare the children to make sound financial decisions. The car class will serve as an example of how to apply financial information already learned specifically, the total cost of ownership, financing, what is a credit score, how to maintain a good credit score and the cost of basic automotive maintenance. Financial information will be presented for practical application. February 19, 2009, 6:45- 8:00 p.m. at Park Mazda, Park Acura and Park Honda 921 Interstate Parkway, Akron Ohio. Contact: Natalie Bass.

**“Social Development”** - Back by popular demand this Life Skill class will emphasize health issues relevant to the teen. March 18, 2009, 6-8 p.m. at Renkert Building (SCCS-Market Ave.). Contact: Meredith Bailey.

Kristen Campbell has agreed to partner with Candy Kuntz and Holly Renninger to present the practical and financial aspects of **“The Landlord Tenant Relationship”**. March 30, 2009, 6-8 p.m. at Bretton Place Apartments 3133 Bretton St. N. Canton. Contact: Candy Kunz or Holly Renninger.

### Mission Statement

The Junior League of Canton, Ohio, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

### Vision Statement

Through the power of our association, Junior Leagues strengthen communities by embracing diverse perspectives, building partnerships and inspiring shared solutions.

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### Headquarters Reminders

The office will be closed on the following dates:

February 16  
March 30-April 3





Julie Worstell, President

# President's Perspective

Leadership training is an important component of the Junior League mission and in January we held our annual board retreat. To expand on the number of members that had the opportunity to receive this valuable training, all Active and Provisional members were invited to attend. Our Association of Junior League International's League liaison, Donna Panton, flew in from New York (unfortunately it was during a snow-storm) to facilitate the two-day event. Donna is the Senior Associate for Curriculum and Resource Development in the League Services Department and has previously operated her own consulting firm focusing on board development, organizational restructuring and executive coaching.

The first day of training was held with the Executive Board only and focused on governance of the League and board member roles and responsibilities. We were also trained on sound operations and risk and people management. JLC sends our President and President-Elect to trainings on these topics each year, but it was fortunate that we were able to have the training come to us and reach more of our board members directly.

The second day was opened for all of our members to attend and the focus was on team building, conflict management, crucial conversations and strategic thinking. The crucial conversations and conflict management trainings were especially valuable because we learned that although many look at conflict as a negative, conflict in organizations is inevitable and often essential to its growth. It is not realistic to believe we will always have consensus, but it is how we manage our differences that affect our productivity. Donna gave us important steps in managing and monitoring conflict. The steps included: listening to all sides, exploring all ideas and options, respecting each others differing viewpoints, and trying to select a workable and preferably win-win solution. Managing conflict usually requires a degree of compromise and by allowing ourselves to go through the process, we will arrive at the best decisions for our organization.

Executive Board has already begun the next step, which is to assess the retreat and the information gathered and decide what steps we would like to incorporate into our organization and when. The board spent time looking at League structure and forming a new Communications Committee next League year. This committee would be responsible for writing some of the articles for our organization's media and also keeping our website up-to-date, making sure articles are submitted to be printed in our etcetera newsletter, and sending press releases. The new committee would have one chair and the members would work together as a team to meet their goals.

I want to thank all of the dedicated League members who braved the snow storm to participate in the trainings. The retreat gave a renewed excitement about League and the possibilities of implementing the ideas into our organization. I also want to thank Donna Panton for the superior training and AJLI for granting The Junior League of Canton a League visit.

## Junior League of Canton's Board of Directors 2008-2009

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Training Chair  
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Lora Kilkenny  
Wendy Menegay  
Tricia Dever

Kari Willoughby  
Katie Miller

\* Executive Board Member

JLC Administrative Assistant

Trinette Cotsmire

# January Meeting Highlights

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On Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, over thirty members attended the January general membership meeting in freezing temperatures and snowy roads. The executive board chose a cottage style format for the evening meeting. The cottage meeting gave members the opportunity to discuss key issues in a more intimate setting. We would like to thank President-Elect JoAnn Ovnich and sustainers Joni Morrow and Nancy McPeck for hosting the meetings in their homes..

Members of the strategic planning committee facilitated the discussions. The issues presented included: gathering opinions on the possible name change from The Junior League of Canton to The Junior League of Stark County, the pros and cons of changing our major fundraiser and the current requirements for active membership. The evening ended with discussion revolving around multi-year projects. Strategic planning will compile all key points from each home and present their findings to the general membership at our February GMM.

Our next general membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at Peter Shears. Our guest speaker will be Mr. Robb Hankins, President and CEO of ArtsinStark. We hope you can attend.

## Now That's Dedication!

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We'd like to take our hats off to the following members who have attended all of the General Membership Meetings so far this League year. They are:

Meredith Bailey  
Lara Kimbell  
Candy Kunz  
Leslie Letner

Lauren Maxwell  
Wendy Menegay  
Katie Miller  
Megan Pellegrino

Nancy Platek  
Kari Willoughby  
Julie Worstell

## March General Membership Meeting

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Please plan to join us on March 10, 2009 at Malone University for our next General Membership Meeting. The social will begin at 6 pm and the meeting will begin at 6:30. We will be meeting at John's Bar and Grill after the meeting for a little fun and frivolity!

## Upcoming Events

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### February, 2009

February 10	General Membership Meeting	11:30 am social (Peter Shear's)
February 19	Major Project Training-Purchasing/ Maintaining a Car	6:45-8:00 pm (Park Motors)

### March, 2009

March 3	Executive Board Meeting	6:00 pm social (Lauren Maxwell's)
March 10	General Membership Meeting	6:00 pm social (Malone University) Social Following Meeting (John's Bar & Grille)
March 14	CODE Day	Cleveland
March 18	Major Project Training-Social Development	6-8:00 pm (Renkert Building)
March 30	Major Project Training-Landlord/Tenant	6-8:00 pm (Bretton Place/3133 Bretton St., N. Canton)

# ***Holiday Gala 2008***

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Holiday Gala 2008 was a huge success thanks to the hard work and generosity of our Junior League members! Over 100 guests enjoyed a fun evening at Glenmoor Country Club with wonderful food, great music and lots of exciting bidding on our live and silent auction items. The event raised over \$27,000 for our League.

Special thanks to the Major Fundraising Committee members for their hard work. Thank you to all the League members and provisionals who made underwriting calls, set-up the day of the event, made a donation and attended the Gala. Even with difficult economic times, our donors were extremely generous and provided us with wonderful items and cash donations. If you know a business owner/manager that supported our Junior League this year, please tell them "Thank You!"



## ***2008-2009 Provisional Class Project***

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The 2008/2009 Provisional Class is working hard on the yearly project for Kids in the Kitchen. The class will be collaborating with Lighthouse Ministries, a program serving 60 youth from the Belden and Hartford Elementary Schools of the Canton City School District. Executive Director, Darin Nissley oversees the program which is held at Belden Elementary School and First Mennonite Church, located on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE in Canton, Ohio.

Fifteen students are selected each year from grades 2 through 6 that require after school programming focusing on homework assistance, daily living skills and one-on-one peer mentoring. This program is in session for the entire school year. Our provisional class is planning on visiting the program twice to empower the youth to make healthy lifestyle choices and help reverse the growth of childhood obesity and its associated health issues. This will be accomplished by setting up four stations over a two-day period. The stations will provide healthy eating choices, samples and exercise and fitness routines. Information will also be provided for participants to interact with and walk away with that can be implemented in their daily living. If you are able to help support our new class, the sessions will be held on February 12<sup>th</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 - 3:30 pm. Please contact Lora Kilkenny at (330) 854-1299 for further information.



# Happy Birthday to You!

12/1 Candee Bishop (s)	1/1 Barb Cockroft (s)	2/1 Nancy Baker (s)
12/1 Leslie Letner (a)	1/2 Kathleen Schauer (a)	2/1 Sally Kitson (s)
12/3 Christy Sedmock (s)	1/3 Jeanne Balloon (s)	2/2 Denise MacNealy (s)
12/4 Amy Goehring (s)	1/3 Mary Becker (s)	2/4 Renee Rojas (a)
12/4 Lucia Pileggi (s)	1/3 Sara Strattan (s)	2/5 Nancy Marion (s)
12/6 Linda Alford (s)	1/4 Mary-Margaret Evans (s)	2/6 Diana Bethel (s)
12/6 Deanie Johnson (s)	1/5 Sally Bernard (s)	2/8 Melanie Murphy (a)
12/7 Julie Baxter (a)	1/6 Susie Grossman (s)	2/10 Stephanie Bradford (s)
12/7 Lynn Jenkins (s)	1/6 Lara Kimbell (a)	2/11 Meg Peretzky (s)
12/9 Patricia Brooker-Smith(s)	1/7 Janet Peckinpaugh (s)	2/12 Kristen Campbell (a)
12/10 Teresa Golden-McClelland (s)	1/9 Meredith Bailey (a)	2/12 Jan Ickes (s)
12/10 Denise Schauer (s)	1/10 Jolyn Parshall (s)	2/13 Nancy Platek (a)
12/14 Amy Whitman (s)	1/11 Gail Moore (s)	2/14 Andrea Ziarko (a)
12/16 Vicki Conley (s)	1/13 Nichole Cardinale (a)	2/16 Liza Sisler (s)
12/18 Anita Jensen (s)	1/14 Luann Worstell (s)	2/16 Candy Wallace (s)
12/18 Chris Kruman (s)	1/15 Lois Buker (s)	2/17 Theresa Wukusick (s)
12/18 Jane Smyth-Ryan (s)	1/15 Joan Miller (s)	2/21 Anna Istnick (a)
12/19 Eileen Shaw (s)	1/20 Ellen Caruso (s)	2/23 Tricia Dever (a)
12/22 Rhoda Hart (s)	1/20 Rachel Schneider (s)	2/23 Kathy Haupt (s)
12/22 Torie Utterback	1/20 Suzanne Semonovich (a)	2/24 Nancy Bond-Bundy (s)
12/24 Monica Gwin (s)	1/22 Diane Frank (s)	2/24 Pauline Whitacre (s)
12/25 Holly Borden (s)	1/22 Karen Stock (s)	2/27 Angela Schervish (s)
12/25 Karen Essig (s)	1/25 Nanci Stradley (s)	
12/25 Barbara Lawrence (s)	1/26 Gail Tuttle (s)	
12/26 Katie Miller (a)	1/27 Marilyn Croasdaile (s)	
12/28 Janet McPeek (s)	1/28 Pat Lindesmith (s)	
12/29 Mary Ellen Bockius (s)	1/29 Denise Nielsen (s)	
12/30 Judi Humphries (s)	1/31 Sally Efremoff (s)	
	1/31 Julie Katzeman (s)	



## Shining Star Awards



The November shining star has been a backbone of the JLC for years. Many adjectives that come to mind about this individual include: positive, goal setter, motivator, upbeat, achiever, loyal and cheerleader. She has tirelessly served the league especially in the area of membership recruitment. She has also been instrumental in the web-site renovation. This member has never missed a GMM until the October 2008 GMM. In addition to this, she designed a standardized format for the provisional curriculum. For these reasons, the November Shining Star is Tricia Dever.

December's Shining Star recipient is one of our most dedicated and dependable leaders. Kari Willoughby is the Chair of the Membership Development and Training Committee and has done an amazing job of not only planning each of our General Membership Meetings, but also our summer social which was held at Sippo Lake. Everything that Kari does she does with great thought and consideration. She never misses a deadline and is a joy to work with. Thank you Kari for all that you do!



Our January shining star is a volunteer organization's dream. She is an extremely active League member and helps in any way she can, with a smile and a positive attitude. She has contributed her talents not only on her committee, but also by volunteering to "buddy" with a foster child. She not only helped with the Holiday party for the foster children, she went above and beyond by independently bringing gifts for the foster youth. She has been a great support for our fundraiser and was one of two members not serving on League's leadership team that braved a snow storm to attend the board retreat leadership training. Our January shining star award goes to Susie Shearer. She truly shines!

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