

## Winter Sparkle 2014



What a wonderful party and successful fundraiser!

Thank you Everyone.



2013-2014 JLRI Board of Directors

President	Nancy Serpa
Recording Secretary	Mary Catharine Miller
Treasurer	Kimberly Moore
Communications Council Director	Elizabeth Noren
Community Service Council Director	Victoria McNally
Fundraising Council Director	Alissa Stuckey
Membership Council Director	Kara Butler
Sustainer Council Director	Erin Lambie

2013-2014 Committees

Nominating

Chair	Petra Jenkins
Chair-Elect	Kim Bigonette

Membership

Placement Advisory Chair	Polly Talbott
Placement Advisory Chair-elect	Putney Pyles
New Member Committee Chair	Sharon Currier
Recruitment Chair	Carrie Humphreys
Training Committee Chair-Elect	Lauren Goldenberg

Community Service

Community Outreach Chair	Tory Trainor
Community Outreach Chair-elect	Sarah Klump
Project Development Chair	Tracy Baran

Communications

Meetings & Social Chair	Lisa Museler
Public Relations Chair	Kate Barba
Public Relations Chair-elect	Larisa Kupris
Webmaster	Lisa Museler
Webmaster Chair-elect	Kerry Mello
Anchor and Redbook	Nettie Riley

Fundraising

Fundraising Committee Chair	Krystal Kazi
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Sustaining Members

Activities Committee Chairs	Lori Elias, Susan Neupauer, Sue Petrocelli & Grace Dugan
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Ad Hoc Committees

ALT Chair	Mary Catharine Miller
100th Anniversary Co-chairs	Petra Jenkins & MC Miller

Community Advisory Board

Marcia Coné	Chief Executive Officer <b>Women's Fund of Rhode Island</b>
Rosie Connors	Consultant with Community Relations Department of Hasbro, Inc.
Elizabeth Eckel	Senior Vice President, Marketing & Investor Relations The Washington Trust Company
Sally Strachan	Management Consultant
John A. Perry	Senior Associate Dean for Biomedical Advancement, Alpert Medical School Division of Biology and Medicine Brown University

*Mission*

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

*Reaching Out*

*The Junior League of Rhode Island, Inc. reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins, who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism.*

*Vision*

*The Junior League: Women Around the World as Catalysts for Lasting Community Change.*

The Junior League of Rhode Island  
21 Meeting Street-Garden Level  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
Phone (401) 331-9302  
Fax (401) 331-0517

Email: [jlri.jlrimail@verizon.net](mailto:jlri.jlrimail@verizon.net)

Website: [www.jlri.org](http://www.jlri.org)

Office Administrator Nettie Riley

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday: 9am to 1pm

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>2014-2015 Board Slate</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Action Learning Team</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Board Briefs</b>	<b>12-14</b>
<b>Calendar</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Condolence</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Congratulations</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Dues</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Hats Off</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Holiday Events</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Mission Statement</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Northeast League Training</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>President's Message</b>	<b>4,5</b>
<b>President's Office hours</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Project Development</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Sustainer News</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Training Center</b>	<b>8-10,11</b>
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	<b>6,7, 11</b>
<b>Winter Sparkle</b>	<b>1, 3</b>
<b>Words of Wisdom</b>	<b>17, 18</b>

# WINTER SPARKLE

*By Krystal Carnes, Fundraising Committee Member*

The weather seemed to be on our side (finally!) for our second annual Winter Sparkle. Although snow came, it came early enough so our logistics would not be interfered with as vendors came to set up and guests arrived to enjoy a wonderful evening full of creative culinary treats and cocktails galore displayed on tables fashioned by RI Rentals.

Partygoers came in dazzling outfits ready to mingle and sample decadent hors d'oeuvres from CAV, Vanity, Pawtucket Country Club, The Olive Tap, and B&M Clambake. An unlimited supply of fresh Oysters from Matunuck Oyster Bar, pulled pork sliders from The Preppy Pig by member Kristin DeSocio and grilled pizza from Chapel Grille by member Krystal Carnes tempted our hungry guests. Libations were flowing smoothly from Keel Vodka, Preston Layne Wines, Traveling Vineyards and Recuerdo Wines.

Our VIP guests were treated royally by Dennis the bartender, sipping champagne compliments of Bottles Fine Wine and dining on a feast of cheese hosted by former member **Jessica Wood's Wildwood Catering.**

The night was captivating as guests moved from one opulent room to the next stopping momentarily to pose for Sweet Finish **Photography** who captured the night's glamorous guests. The evening was capped off with sweet delights thanks to our friends at Decadent Designs and our reigning Cupcake **Wars** champion **Bake.Eat.Love's** own Crystal Sparkman.

Winter Sparkle truly shined that night and the fundraising committee would especially like to thank the Provisionals who contributed to the tasks at hand to help make this event a viable success. Additionally, we would like to thank the Board for their prompt responses and coordination with the committee and to the members of the League we thank you for attending, inviting your friends, family and community members. Lastly, we would like to thank each vendor who supported our mission that night. Without your support, our success would not be possible.

## A Very Big THANK YOU! To all who supported the JLRI 2nd Annual Winter Sparkle Fundraiser!



We would like to thank our sponsors: Nancy Serpa, Megan St. Ledger, Kimberly Moore, Lisa Museler, Gregg Perry, Beth Newbury, Carrie Humphreys, Kathy Chapski, Alissa Stuckey and Cristen Ciresi for their significant contributions to our goal!

We would like to thank our in-kind donors for establishing a fabulous raffle: Stock Culinary Goods, Flemings Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, Dugan Custom Jewelers, The Olive Tap, With Heart & Soul, Garrison Confections, Carolyn Killian, Kate Houston, Krystal Kazi, Vanessa Kiley, Sara Martin & Alissa Stuckey.

Lastly, we would like to thank each vendor who supported our mission that night. Without your support, our success would not be possible:

CAV, Vanity, Pawtucket Country Club, The Olive Tap, B&M Clambakes, Matunuck Oyster Bar, The Preppy Pig, Chapel Grille, Keel Vodka, Preston Layne Wines, Traveling Vineyards, Recuerdo Wines, Bartending by Dennis, Bottles Fine Wine, Wildwood Catering, Sweet Finish Photography, Decadent



Check out pics from the Holiday Sparkle in The Providence Journal at <http://www.providencejournal.com/features/lifestyle/social-snaps/20140220-social-snaps-winter-sparkle-event-raises-7000-for-the-junior-league-of-rhode-island.ece>

# President's Message

## Cracking the Member Engagement Nut

Checklist below for YOU to identify 2-3 areas to maximize your League experience.

By Nancy Serpa (in collaboration with Vanessa Kiley and Sue Ogle)

As we embark on a New Year, we have a wealth of opportunities in front of us, and a strong membership committed to our mission. While our members are committed to the League, it is becoming clear that to have a healthy League, we need to increase our overall member engagement, that means YOU.

Being an engaged member means you have a vested interest and are actively involved in the current and future League work. Per Vicki Clark, AJLI Trainer and Consultant, member engagement is highest when you feel connected, valued, respected, have a sense of achievement and development opportunities. Below are some ways you can strengthen your engagement within the League - check which ones most resonate with you:

- General Membership Meetings – Our GMMs are where we hold official League business, conduct trainings, allow our members to voice their individual and collective opinion, celebrate successes and recognize our members for all the great work we are accomplishing. It is also a wonderful opportunity for you to obtain nuggets of training on League-related topics. Are you making the most of the GMMs? Arriving a little early or staying a little late can be a great way to meet and socialize with members outside of your committees.
- Serving on a Placement – Our individual placements is how we get the day to day work done within the League. To be more engaged in your placement - ask yourself the following questions: Do you understand your placement role and its expectations? Could your skills be more effectively utilized? Do you need training to do your role? To answer any of these questions, please reach out to your Committee Chair, Council Director or your Placement Advisor.
- Committee and Council meetings – Committee and Council meetings are extremely important to learn about Board activity, share ideas, track progress against our goals, identify any issues/risks that need to be addressed and most importantly to bond as a team. If these meetings are occurring, are you an active participant, making your voice heard? Consider using concalls, **Fuze (AJLI's free webinar tool)**, Skype, Social Media, etc. to keep your team informed and connected.
- Training – Our training committee is delivering training to support you in and out of your role in the League, mostly focused on developing leadership, managerial and interpersonal skills. If you or your Committee have any specific training, facilitation or 1:1 coaching needs, please reach out to our Training Committee. As JLRI is a training **organization, it's important for members to reflect** on their League experiences. What are you learning in your role? How are you growing personally and/or professionally? What would you like to experience/learn/do in the future?
- Mentoring – For those who would like to give back to the League but are unable to fulfill a formal placement role, consider mentoring others who could benefit from your experience, your encouragement and coaching. Mentoring is a two-way opportunity for both parties to learn.
- Community Service – As we embark on this journey toward an issues-based community impact focus on young adults aging out of foster care, you are uniquely poised to participate in the volunteer opportunities provided and inform us on what you enjoy. These opportunities are open to all members – not just Actives. This program is in process. We are planning to incorporate feedback received at the February GMM to continue collaborating with members to help shape its future direction.

*Continued on next page*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

- Build your Network - The Connecticut Council of Junior Leagues has invited JLRI members to participate in a training event on March 8<sup>th</sup> in Hartford CT where AJLI Manager of League Relations, Anne Tishkoff, will discuss how to *Tap into the Potential of All of Your Members*. (See event details on page 6). This is a great way for you to network with other League members across New England and obtain some critical League training. Join us in our JLRI caravan to Hartford!
- Socials – We all look forward to fun and new ways to get to know each another personally. We have great Socials planned, including our Alex and Ani Charity by Design event on March 26 and our **St. Patrick's Day Newport parade on March 15**. The parade is a great opportunity to show our unity and pride in the League to all of Rhode Island. Please take a moment and provide your input to the Social Committee on future social outings: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/X7XLMPB>

There are a plethora of opportunities at your fingertips. Maximize your League experience by personally cracking your engagement nut. You will need to decide what is best and take the first step. The JLRI Board and I look forward to your renewed momentum. Welcome aboard!

*"People always have many different roles to play. The crucial thing is to be determined to make a wholehearted effort in everything and be fully engaged in what we are doing at any given moment."*

Senora Roy, Indian Poet / Writer



- *The Sustainer Committee members Grace Dugan, Lori Elias, Susan Neupauer and Sue Petrocelli for organizing a festive holiday party.*
- *Sara Martin and Alissa Stuckey for managing the holiday auction.*
- *Alissa Stuckey for organizing the Breakfast with Santa outreach event; Kim Bigonette for playing Tootsie the Elf and her Uncle for playing Santa.*
- *All of our members who donated and/or purchased items towards the holiday auction and referred friends to the Bidding for Good site.*
- *MC Miller and Grace Dugan for hosting the December Area meetings.*
- ***Tracy Baran for coordinating the St. Mary's holiday celebration.***
- *Joan Khattab for her generous donation to The Junior League of Rhode Island.*
- *Vanessa Kiley for facilitating the member engagement discussion at the mid-year Board retreat.*
- *The Nominating Committee Petra Jenkins, Kim Bigonette and Stephanie Van Patten for finalizing the 2014-2015 Board slate.*
- *Cynthia Affronti for securing radio spots with Bruce Newberry from WADK and WHJJ to promote our Holiday Auction and Winter Sparkle events as well as coordinating Sparkle photos in Projo's Social Snaps page.*
- ***Lisa Museler for arranging our participation in the Newport St. Patrick's Day Parade.***
- ***Fidelity Investments for sponsoring Nancy Serpa's registration and hotel fee for AJLI Winter Conference. Nancy Serpa for paying all additional travel costs out of her own pocket.***
- *The Fundraising, Provisionals, Public Relations, Web and Treasury for all of their efforts in planning and executing all aspects of Winter Sparkle II. Thank you also to those members who secured raffle or in-kind donations and vendors. Truly a League wide effort!*
- *Sue Ogle and Vanessa Kiley for delivering insightful Delegations Part I and Handling Constructive Confrontations trainings. Feedback on both events were overwhelmingly positive!*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Please check the eAnchor, Website and Volunteer Calendar regularly for updates to JLRI events.

### Super Saturday

March 1, 9:00 am—1:00 pm

PPS Schoolhouse, 24 Meeting St., Providence, RI 02904

Admission: Free for Provisionals, \$10 for JLRI members

### JLRI Makes a Difference - Do You?

The Junior League of Rhode Island is pleased to welcome our newest class of Provisionals and JLRI members to Super Saturday 2014! This interactive training program led by JLRI member Sue Ogle will showcase our League's commitment to our community, include a meet and greet with JLRI members, and focus on the how and whys of expanding your team building skill set and creating high performing teams.

All members are welcome to attend!

**RSVP:** Erin Herzog Bisceglia at [erin.herzog@hotmail.com](mailto:erin.herzog@hotmail.com)

### Joint BOD Meeting - Erin Lambie hosting Tuesday, March 4, Portsmouth

Northeast League Training

### "Tapping Into the Potential of Your Members"

Saturday, March 8, 10:00 am—2:00 pm

Town & County Club, 22 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT, [www.towncounty.com](http://www.towncounty.com)

\$25 per person includes light breakfast and lunch.

Join the Connecticut Council of Junior Leagues for its spring training featuring AJLI's Anne Tishkoff. Learn how to leverage all levels of your membership in new and exciting ways that are inspiring and meaningful to them while building your League's capacity towards community impact and civic leadership.

JLRI Recruitment Event

### Bryant Women's Summit

Friday, March 14

Bryant University, 1150 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, RI

JLRI staffs an information table and provides promotional materials and League merchandise to prospective members.

### Newport 8<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saturday, March 15, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, followed by Family Celebration 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Get your Irish up and march with the JLRI in the 2014 St. Paddy's Parade in Newport. We will assemble at 10:00 am on the steps of St. Joseph's Church on Broadway (two doors down from City Hall.) Parade begins at 11:00 am. Details on page 7. RSVP via [www.jlri.org](http://www.jlri.org) via the Upcoming Events Calendar by Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.

### March GMM

Sunday, March 16, 6:00 pm—8:00 pm

PPS Schoolhouse, 24 Meeting St., Providence

RSVP via the Event Calendar.

Delegation Training Part II

Contact: Jeanine Barry, [jmbarry15@hotmail.com](mailto:jmbarry15@hotmail.com)

### March Daytime Brown Bag GMM

Thursday, March 20, 12:00 noon

JLRI Office, 21 Meeting St., Providence

from 12:00-1:00 pm. Please remember to RSVP 24 hours prior to the meeting and bring your own lunch. The meeting will be cancelled if no one RSVPs.

### Alex & Ani Charity by Design Shopping Event

Wednesday, March 26, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Alex & Ani, 159 Weybosset St., Providence

JLRI will receive 15% of gross sales at this event.

Please invite your family and friends. We need 25 people to attend to qualify for the 15%.

Register at [www.jlri.org](http://www.jlri.org).

Joint BOD Meeting – Alissa Stuckey hosting Tuesday, April 1

### BOD Retreat

April 5 & 6

Location TBA

### Touch-A-Truck

Saturday, April 19, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Warwick Mall Parking Lot, Rt. 2, Warwick

\$5 per child. Children 2 and under are free.

Rain Date is April 26

### April GMM

Tuesday, April 22, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Foster Forward, 55 S Brow St, East Providence

RSVP via the Event Calendar

### Bed & Breakfast tour

Sunday, April 27

Newport, RI

### May GMM

Tuesday, May 20, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm -

Pawtucket Country Club, 900 Armistice Blvd.,

Pawtucket, RI 02861

Please RSVP via JLRI event calendar.





## Come join the JLRI and March in the Newport St. Patrick's Day Parade!

**WHEN: Saturday, March 15, 2014, 10 am (JLRI meeting time) 11am (parade start)**

WHERE: JLRI members will meet at 10 am on the steps in front of St. Joseph's Church on Broadway (two doors down from City Hall) so we can get properly lined up in the parade.

The parade will have an 11:00 am start at Newport City Hall on Broadway finishing at Carroll Avenue at Saint Augustin's Church in the heart of the Fifth Ward. The parade will take approximately two hours.

**KID-FRIENDLY:** Yes! Please bring your families to march in the parade. Following the parade from 1:00pm-4:00pm is 8th ANNUAL SAINT PATRICK'S DAY FAMILY CELEBRATION at The "Hut", Golden Hill Street, Newport, RI 02840 (Behind the Newport Public Library).

The parade itself is a non- alcohol and family friendly event. There will be entertainment with Bagpipers, Irish step dancers, Tony the Dancing Cop, pirates, and more. There will be a "How Green Am I" contest with cash prize and a \$100 cash door prize! There will also be giveaways. Entry is free! Enjoy a classic good time at no cost and a chance to win prizes and money! To learn more about the parade go to their website: [www.newportirish.com](http://www.newportirish.com).

RSVP: Those interested in marching should sign-up by Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at [www.jlri.org](http://www.jlri.org) via the Upcoming Events Calendar. Please specify how many will join you.

**DRESS CODE:** Green, Green and more Green! If you can try to incorporate any JLRI t-shirts and accessories, please feel free! Please dress appropriately for being outside.

**MEETING PLACE AFTER PARADE:** Buskers Irish Pub, 178 Thames St. Newport

**JLRI CONTACTS:** Prior to Event: Lisa Museler, [lmuseler@outlook.com](mailto:lmuseler@outlook.com)

Day of Event: Sue Curlett, [susan.curlett@gmail.com](mailto:susan.curlett@gmail.com)

### JLRI CALENDAR FEBRUARY - APRIL 2014

#### FEBRUARY

- 4 BOD Meeting
- 8 Winter Sparkle
- 11 GMM at PPS Schoolhouse
- 23 Handling Constructive Confrontations

#### MARCH

- 1 Super Saturday
- 4 Joint BOD Meeting, Portsmouth
- 8 North East League Training
- 14 Bryant Women's Summit
- 15 St. Patrick's Day Parade Newport
- 16 GMM at PPS Schoolhouse
- 20 Daytime GMM at PPS Schoolhouse

#### APRIL

- 1 Joint BOD Meeting
- 19 Touch-a-Truck Warwick Mall
- 22 GMM at Foster Forward
- 27 Bed & Breakfast Tour Newport

#### SAVE THE DATE

- May 20 GMM at Pawtucket Country Club

### NEW! Office Hours with Nancy

- Have a League question or an idea that you would like to discuss further?
- Want to provide some constructive feedback on a League experience?
- Interested in a JLRI Leadership role and want to know more about it?

Open to all members - I will be offering JLRI Office Hours every Friday from 12:00—1:00 pm (some exceptions will apply.) Feel free to email [nancy.serpa@fmr.com](mailto:nancy.serpa@fmr.com) to set up some time to connect.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Nancy

# JLRI TRAINING CORNER

Committed to Developing the Potential of YOU!

The Training Committee wants to hear from you! What would you like to be trained on? What areas could you use some additional help with? Please let us know! Contact Lauren Goldenberg, [laurengoldenberg@hotmail.com](mailto:laurengoldenberg@hotmail.com) with any ideas you have.

## AJLI TRAINING AND RESOURCES

AJLI Webinar Wednesdays Webinars are offered Wednesdays from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. To register, log into [www.ajli.org/?nd=webinarwed](http://www.ajli.org/?nd=webinarwed). **Reach out to Nettie if you don't know your AJLI login id/password. If you are unable to attend these upcoming sessions, no worries! You can view these and other past webinars on demand by clicking the same link.**

February 26: Accessing AJLI Networking Tools: Fuze Meeting and MyGroups

This Accessing AJLI Services webinar focuses exclusively on two online, completely free of charge, networking tools available on the AJLI member website, and will offer a thorough review of the following functions and benefits:

**Fuze:** This webinar software allows Leagues to hold meetings, large and small, online. With Fuze, Leagues are able to hold web-based training, meetings, and other events and allow members to participate from home, thus helping Leagues to better connect with their members. In addition, Fuze allows Leagues to bring in speakers and community leaders to participate remotely, if needed, in League meetings and training.

Learn how to:

- Schedule a meeting and invite members and other participants.
- Track member participation.
- Upload content and run a smooth presentation.
- Record your meetings and share recordings.

**MyGroups:** This information sharing platform allows Leagues and members who share common interests to form online networks to share documents, news, and generally connect with each other.

Learn how to:

- Create a group on MyGroups.
- Use the Calendar function to inform and invite (via e-mail) members to an event.
- Post documents, images, links, and news.
- Use the Notebook function to take meeting notes and share them with all members of the group.

## **March 12: Matteredness...How to Make Everyone in Your Ecosystem Count**

Tips on:

- Re-organizing our work to ensure that every person who wants to matter has an opportunity to speak, create, organize and help us donate on their behalf.
- Deconstructing the organizational walls/systems/cultures that keep people at a distance, and remaking connected and meaningful relationships with our constituencies.

## **March 26: Build Your League's Fiscal Fitness with StrongNonprofits**

John Summers and Stu Cohen of StrongNonprofits.org will show you how to use their web site's free tools, how-to's and guides for:

- Non-profit financial planning, monitoring, operations and oversight.
- a nonprofit accounting guide,
- "Go or No Go Decision Tool," an interactive technology powered assessment tool that helps an organization decide whether accepting a contract would help- or hurt- the group's bottom line.



# TRAINING CONTINUED

April 9: Collaboration: Going the Distance Together

- Attendees will learn: how to create deeper and more formal relationships with partners to achieve greater community impact
- How to clarify roles and responsibilities in such a way to that all parties stay accountable to each other and to shared goals.
- Strategic steps to form strong and enduring collaborative relationships.
- Tips for being focused and intentional in our work with community partners
- Steps to form deeper partnership for greater community impact.

## LEAGUE TRAINING – NORTHEAST REGION

A special New England League training event focused on Engaging and Retaining all levels of Membership

Tapping Into the Potential of Your Members

*Learn how to leverage all levels of your Members in new and exciting ways that are inspiring and meaningful to them while building your League's capacity towards community impact and civic leadership*

When: Saturday, March 8, 10:00am – 2:00pm (Includes light breakfast and lunch.)

Where: Town and County Club, 22 Woodland Street, Hartford, Connecticut; <http://www.towncounty.com>

Hosted by: The CT Council of Junior Leagues

Presenter: Anne Tishkoff from AJLI

Cost: \$25/person, tickets must be purchased in advance

## JLRI TRAINING AND RESOURCES

March 1, 2014

What: Super Saturday- Provisionals & Open to all members  
Location: PPS Schoolhouse  
Led by: Sue Ogle  
Topic: Team Building

March 16, 2014

What: Part II Delegation training at March GMM  
Location: Providence Preservation Society Old Brick Schoolhouse, 21 Meeting Street, Providence, RI  
Led by: Vanessa Kiley (lead)/Sue Ogle  
Purpose: To identify potential obstacles/barriers & solutions to delegating and to practice building your delegation skills  
Process: Brainstorming, small & large group discussions, JLRI cases, practice  
Payoff: By gaining confidence in delegating, you will maximize your time & results

Apr 22, 2014 GMM

What: Advocacy Training  
Location: Foster Forward  
Led by: Allison Bowman  
Purposes: To learn what is Advocacy & how JLRI does Advocacy work  
Process: Presentation & discussions  
Payoff: Gain awareness of how Advocacy relates to JLRI's new "Aging out of Foster Care" issue

# EXTERNAL TRAINING AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

## Rhode Island Foundation Trainings: The Initiative for Nonprofit Excellence

Location: RI Foundation, One Union Station, Providence, RI 02903

Visit [www.rifoundation.org](http://www.rifoundation.org) website for more details.

The Organizational Development program offered through the Initiative for Nonprofit Excellence is designed to complement and strengthen management practices at the senior leadership and board levels of the nonprofit sector. Programs are organized in sequence but may be selected on an individual basis. Each program will:

- Offer current information on best practices in organizational development
- Provide participants with skills and tools to achieve excellence in nonprofit management
- Encourage networking and exchange among program participants

### February 27: Integrating Events Effectively into your Fundraising Plan

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Location: Rhode Island Foundation

Fee: \$25 individual registration, \$15 per person for groups of two or more.

Events can be a vital part of your development efforts if well-planned, exceptionally executed, and integrated effectively. This workshop is designed to help organizations create a signature event where your organization is the star and it positions you to build a growing and sustainable philanthropy program.

Attendees will learn:

- How to effectively raise money in advance of the event. Engage sponsors, get the right people in the room, know who your target audience is, and brand your event to create a buzz before people even attend.
- The optimum way to structure your event to raise significant dollars at the event. Present a riveting and compelling program that will position your organization as the charity of choice. Learn to manage your logistics so that people leave with a positive and generous feeling.
- Keep all those donors engaged once the event is over. Discover strategies to lay the foundation immediately for your next event and transition the donors at your event into long-term donors for your organization.

**Suggested Audiences:** CEO's and executive directors, Development directors, Board members with a responsibility for development

### April 1: Building Profitable Relationships that Last

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM, lunch served from 12:00 - 12:30 PM Location: Rhode Island Foundation

Fee: \$40 individual registration, \$25 per person for groups of two or more

**Do you want to raise more money? Everyone does. But that's not going to happen unless you embrace loyalty as the Holy Grail of fundraising – and then do the right stuff to build a loyal donor base. So what's the "right stuff?"**

Creating a donor-centered organization. Knowing enough about your donors. Offering donors extraordinary experiences. Engaging your donors in conversation, not presentations. Soliciting your donors personally and face-to-face. And more.

New! 10 quick tips program series

Want to pick up some quick tips on a few timely topics? Check out the NEW brown-bag lunch series, 10 quick tips. Each program runs from 12:00-1:15 PM at the Rhode Island Foundation. Here's how it works:

- **BYO lunch (we'll provide beverages)**
- A speaker will offer 10 useful tips on the featured topic
- You will get a chance to ask questions, bring challenges for discussion, and network with peers

### 10 quick tips dates and topics:

March 5: Better time management

Time: 12:00 – 1:15 PM

Location: Rhode Island Foundation

Fee: FREE!

April 2: Using social media

Time: 12:00 – 1:15 PM

Location: Rhode Island Foundation

Fee: FREE!

## New! AJLI's Learning Portal

**AJLI's Learning Portal** is a website e-Learning Portal dedicated to continuous learning and development for Junior League members whenever, wherever and however you want it. No matter where you are in your pursuit of community and civic leadership knowledge and skills, you will find learning paths and associated resources geared to meet your needs.

*Community Impact* is the first concentration available through the Learning Portal. Improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers is at the core of the work of The Junior League. Learn how to engage in integrated and coordinated efforts to create sustainable community impact.

Members may use it as a self-study guide or as a syllabus for membership training and development. AJLI's goal is to eventually offer curriculum framework in all six concentrations critical to developing Junior League members on the road to community and civic leadership. Work on the next concentration, *Organizational Management*, is well under way and will be available spring 2014 followed by the third concentration, *Fund Development*, later in the year.

The link to access the Learning Portal is [https://www.ajli.org/?nd=lp\\_landing](https://www.ajli.org/?nd=lp_landing).

## DUES ANNOUNCEMENT

JLRI Members, you recently received your dues notice letter in the mail in February. Membership levels are: \$135 for Gold Active & Active, \$110 for Sustainers. Emeritus members are not required to pay dues.

Please submit your membership renewal payment by March 30<sup>th</sup>. Checks can be mailed to The Junior League of Rhode Island, 21 Meeting Street, Garden Level, Providence, RI 02903. You may pay by credit card online at [www.jlri.org](http://www.jlri.org) in the e-store section via member login or by contacting the League Office. Please note that according to our by-laws, a late fee of \$25 will be incurred if dues are paid after May 1, 2013, and if payment is not received by May 31, 2014 you will be resigned not in good standing. Thank you!

## TOUCH-A-TRUCK

*Where kids of all ages can climb, discover and explore their favorite things on wheels*

Saturday April 19, 2014



Rain Date April 26, 2014

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

\$5 per child

(children 2 and under are FREE)

Warwick Mall parking lot Near Firestone Tires  
(Rt. 2 Warwick, RI)

*Featuring construction vehicles, Monroe Dairy Truck, RI State Police, Roaming Railroad, Warwick Police Dept., Warwick Fire Dept., W.B. Mason Truck, and many more!*

**Proceeds from the "Touch-A-Truck" event will support the Junior League of Rhode Island, Inc., 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.**

# BOARD BRIEFS

JLRI Board Minutes  
Tuesday November 5, 2013

Call to Order: 6:35pm

I. Consent Agenda with additions

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion made by Nancy Serpa. Second by Erin Lambie.

Action: Approved

II. Financials

a. October 31, 2013:

Motion: MC Miller made a motion to approve the October, 2013 financials as presented. Second by Nancy Serpa.

Action: Approved

III. Event Close-out Process:

- a. Event Summary (steps A-Z, key contacts, reference docs) / Lessons Learned
- b. Survey to committee / shift workers / board as needed (Survey Monkey is a fun tool)
- c. Debrief with external partners as needed
- d. Budget reconciliation – target 7-10 days
- e. Documentation filed at SH – ideally **“soft copies in the cloud”**
- f. Event materials/cleanup at SH – properly store in bins in back office
- g. Target 30 days to complete entire event close-out process.

IV. Shift Management:

- a. Releasing people from shift duty if no longer needed that day
- b. Event/Community – Chair(s) or the next person in charge to make evaluate situation and make the decision to release volunteers early.

V. Relieving the Pressure:

- a. League Holiday Break (Dec 20 – Jan 3) – let members take a break (if

possible given the nature of their position or committee obligations).

- b. Board to revisit Goals for January 12<sup>th</sup> Retreat – identify those that can be extended, modified or canceled altogether.

VI. Membership ALT Update:

- a. Interview Tool from ALT
- b. Need to document our pilot process
- c. The JLRI ALT team will probably be able to report out to the membership in February.

VII. JLRI Org Simplification:

- a. Fundraising Council

VIII. February 2013 ODI Recommendations:

- a. Kara is still in the process of looking at candidates who have requested an interest to attend an ODI.

IX. Board Norms / Effectiveness Discussion:

- a. Board training led by Vanessa Kiley
- b. Focus on how we currently communicate

Adjourned: 8:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Catharine Miller, 2013-2014 Recording Secretary

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Provisional Barbara Nwaehi and her husband Ifeanyi on the birth of their daughter Adaora Bella Nwaehi who came into this world on January 4, 2014, measuring 20 inches and weighing 6.5 pounds.



# BOARD BRIEFS CONTINUED

JLRI Board Minutes

Tuesday December 3, 2013

Call to Order: 6:47pm

I. Consent Agenda with additions

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion made by Nancy Serpa. Second by Tori McNally.

Action: Approved

II. Financials

- a. November 30, 2013: Kimberly distributed the Balance Sheet at the board meeting
- b. Promote internal external fundraisers – everybody needs to support.

Motion: MC Miller made a motion to approve the November, 2013 financials as presented. Second by Liz Noren.

Action: Approved

III. Membership Status Change

IV. Recap November Board Discussion / Membership:

- a. Every member of the board needs to be working towards success
- b. **This is a training organization. It's the ONLY (non-profit) Organization in the United States of America – that specifically trains women to be civic and community leaders. Therefore, we owe it to all of our members to support and coach them to develop their potential.**

V. Community Service Feedback:

- a. People are not showing up on time to shifts – **it's affecting people we are working with: Amos House – St. Mary's** – we need to strongly encourage people to show up!

VI. Sustainer Holiday Party:

- a. Consider reducing the price / going back to potluck for future holiday parties.

VII. December Area GMM Topic / Facilitators & January – March GMM:

a **December Area GMM's discussion** points:

- i. Daytime GMMs will be no longer than 60 minutes and members must RSVP if they plan to attend. If there are no RSVPs received by the day prior, the meeting will be cancelled.
- ii. Holiday Auction closing – December 14<sup>th</sup>, not too late to refer friends and **place a bid. Jacky's Waterplace social** on December 12<sup>th</sup>.
- iii. Breakfast with Santa – December 14<sup>th</sup>
- iv. Community Service Shifts – Amos House starting in January
- v. Short-term 12 movie screening to be rescheduled
- vi. Promote the January 21<sup>st</sup> GMM – Location at the State House. We are hoping to get a tour. (Brian Newberry is trying to arrange it for us, since he will be on vacation). We need **everyone's attendance as we will be** conducting a pulse check on our new community issue
- vii. Winter Sparkle – February 8<sup>th</sup> at Lippitt House

b January GMMs:

- i. Message re: Community & Fundraising Shifts
- ii. Pulse Check re: Issue re: Foster Care
- iii. Slate **Vote (pending Nominating's progress)**

## BOARD BRIEFS CONTINUED

- c February GMM:
  - i. Two part training on Delegation p. 1
- d March GMM:
  - i. Two part training on Delegation p. 2
  - ii. Budget presentation

- VIII. JLRI Org Simplification:
  - a Communications Council:

- IX. Membership ALT Update:
  - a. We will discuss at the January Board mid-year retreat

- X. Dues Comparison:
  - a. We will discuss at the January Board mid-year retreat

- XI. February 2014 – ODI Recommendations / Winter Conference Discussion:
  - a. Not in a financial position to promise any one at this time. Members are welcome to register and attend if they are willing to fund the expense out of their own pockets. Placement should contact interested parties for ODI accordingly.

- XII. Prep for January, 2014 Board Retreat:
  - a. Nancy will prep via email.



*Sue Ogle presented Delegation Training Part One at the February 11th GMM*

### 2014-2015 JLRI Board of Directors Slate Approved at February GMM

Voting members of the JLRI approved the following ballot submitted by the Nominating Committee at the February 10, 2014 General Membership Meeting.

#### *For Governance Leadership Positions:*

Nancy Serpa	1 year term as President
Kimberly Moore	1 year term as President Elect
Lisa Museler	2 year term as Treasurer
Mary Catharine Miller	1 year term as Recording Secretary

#### *For Management Leadership Positions:*

Kate Barba	2 year term as Communications Council Director
Tracy Baran (S)	1 year term as Community Service Council Director
Erin Herzog	2 year term as Membership Council Director
Nancy Dorsey (S)	2 year term as Sustaining Council Director

*Note: The position of Fundraising Council Director has not yet been nominated.*

Adjourned: 9:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Catharine Miller



*Condolences to Sustaining Member Nancy Tripp whose husband Fred passed away suddenly on January 15, 2014 in Vero Beach, Florida.*

# JLRI HOLIDAY EVENTS

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS HOLIDAY PARTY

A good time was had by all at the annual sustainer holiday party. It was held on December 7th at the home of Grace Dugan and Greg Pizzuti. Over 30 people attended the event. As in the past, food was prepared by Amos House's More than a Meal catering. JLRI Sustaining Members are proud to support the work of More than a Meal which generates income for Amos House while training and employing formerly homeless persons in the catering business.

We also collected books for the upcoming Karla Harry Event scheduled for spring 2014. Watch for details in future issues of the eAnchor.



*Tiernan Boghosian and Grace Dugan*



*Alyce Wright and Russel Taby*



*Susan Neupauer, Sue Petrocelli and Lori Elias*

## 2D ANNUAL HOLIDAY AUCTION

The 2013 Holiday Auction was hosted on [BiddingforGood.com](http://BiddingforGood.com) from November 29, 2013 to 14 December 2013. The event was a resounding success with more than 50 items, ranging from dinner on Federal Hill to an African safari! **This year's auction generated more than a 30 percent increase in total sales over last year!**

Thank you to all members who donated items, facilitated donations, referred their friends to the auction website, and participated in the auction by bidding on the many fabulous items on offer. Because of your help, JLRI will log another successful fundraiser to help support our mission.

In a trend repeated from last year, the majority of purchases—54 percent—were made by individuals outside of the JLRI membership, demonstrating the effectiveness of the auction in generating external support for the League!

The success of the 2nd Annual Holiday Auction bodes well for next year's event. Stayed tuned for details!

## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

It was a festive morning at the Tasty Diner in North Providence on December 14 as we brunched with a jolly Santa Claus (Kim Bigonette's Uncle, and his Elf Assistant Tootsie (Kim Bigonette.) The event included a hearty breakfast, a visit with Santa, photos, and cookie decorating.



*Affronti Family at Breakfast with Santa*



*JLRI members, family, friends, Santa,, and Tootsie the Elf*

## ACTION LEARNING TEAM

### What is the Action Learning Team (“ALT”)?

*By: Mary Catharine H. Miller*

After detecting that the Junior League membership had been in a gradual decline since its peak in the mid-1990s, the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI) undertook research to understand the current membership experience in order to adapt to **the needs of today’s women.**

In order to address the challenges detected, AJLI harnessed its most valuable asset: its members. Through a participatory and inclusive Action Learning process, 79 Junior Leagues are developing Junior League infrastructure for the 21st century: more effective governance and management systems, a more flexible membership model and an issue-based community impact platform.

For the past three years, the JLRI has been working on one of the Membership Action Learning **Teams. The membership ALT’s** have been working to create a more flexible membership model that better aligns with the needs of its members, therefore increasing member satisfaction, engagement, and retention. More specifically, these membership ALTs have been piloting innovations focusing on these aspects of the Member experience: Mentoring, Sustainers, Multiple Entry Points, and Flexible Leave.

The JLRI has been specifically involved in the Multiple Entry Membership ALT (small Leagues). The over-all goal and purpose: Create a system to connect with new members, by offering meaningful first experiences to facilitate their seamless entry into the League and to build the foundation for

lifelong membership. The system is designed to enable the new member to plug into the League in a way that balances her skills and interests with what she needs to do to continue her personal development. This system **leverages each new member’s unique** skills, knowledge, and experiences to strengthen the capacity of the League and facilitates community and civic development of other League members. Lastly, it is intended to balance the needs and interests of both the League and the new member to ensure that the League’s work gets done and members are satisfied with their League experience, which will lead to increased membership retention and growth.

The eight small Leagues working on Multiple Entry Membership (JL Calgary; Cedar Rapids; Charleston; Dayton; JLRI; Sioux City; Tacoma; Yakima) arrived at the pilot innovation through shared agreement that we were not meeting new members’ needs and expectations when they join the League if we keep plugging in members to where there are open opportunities in Leagues. We wanted to place importance and value on an early placement interview process to identify new members’ key goals and desired outcomes to ensure they have a Junior League experience that fits with their expectations. This work, thus far, is helping us to create support tools to allow Leagues to identify and define where new members can plug into the League to create a satisfied member. Currently, the JLRI is in the process of using the support tools to interview the current Provisional class as part of the ALT **“roll-out” within our League. Stay** tuned for more information on our process and progress at upcoming **GMM’s!**

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS NEWS

### Attention Sustaining Members

Want to hear more about the current status of the League? What changes are taking place? How we are progressing with our Project issue? Standby for the upcoming Sustaining Member Forum! Please contact Erin Lambie (erinlambie@aol.com) for more information to add additional topics to the discussion.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Project Development Report

*By Jenn Peters*

Over the past several months, Project Development has continued to work with the premier aged out foster care program in the state, Foster Forward, while also reaching out to meet other smaller organizations to see how they work. To give our membership a proper idea on what kind of work the League would do in this program, we’ve offered shifts at St. Mary’s to spend time with the girls there, as well as preparing and organizing donation drives for Foster Forward.

The pulse check from the League at the February GMM on Member experiences with the different types of shifts and volunteer opportunities will move us forward with the program and prepare for additional volunteer opportunities and training. We hope to have a member vote at the April GMM to determine if any changes need to be made.



*Sandwich making shift for Amos House*



# WORDS OF WISDOM FROM PAST AJLI PRESIDENTS

*By Nancy Serpa, JLRI President*

At the AJLI Winter Leadership Conference this past January, I had the pleasure of listening to a phenomenal panel discussion where past AJLI Presidents provided their words of wisdom as it relates to their leadership experience in the League. Below is a summary of their insights that I hope you will find some inspiration from.

AJLI Leadership Panel:

Moderator:

Toni Freeman - JL Charlotte, current AJLI President

Panel Participants:

1. Deborah Brittain - JL Greater Princeton NJ, AJLI President 2000-2002
2. Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker - JL Buffalo NY, AJLI President 1998-2000
3. Maridel Moulton - JL Oakland-East Bay CA, AJLI President 1988-1990
4. Sandi Kemmish May, JL Ft Wayne IN, AJLI President 2006-2008
5. Debbie Brown Robinson - JL Houston TX, AJLI President 2008-2010
6. Nancy Evans, JL Cedar Rapids IA, AJLI President 1994-1996

What were your next steps after your Junior League Presidency?

- Many served on the AJLI Board right after being President in their local Leagues.
- Examples of other leadership included: School Board, CA State of Trustees, one became the first woman to be the Police and Fire Commissioner in her city.
- Take your Junior League experience and do something else with it in other organizations that need women's leadership.
- Research local community papers to see what was needed at state/local level.
- Figure out what you liked best from your experience and tap into that passion. Make choices of what is best for you.
- Focus on doing your best and take advantage of the opportunities that are presented to you.
- In most cases, someone encouraged them to take the next step, try to do the same for others.

How did your League experience prepare you for future leadership roles?

- Loved doing advocacy work and the ability to stand up for a cause.
- Allowed me to take risks in a safe environment.
- Really prepared me for outside Board service.
- Many organizations recognize the brand of Junior League leadership experience - you can run for office and get appointed based upon this experience.
- The role modeling that all of us do for each other can be infectious!

What do you think are traits of Exceptional Leaders?

- Servant leadership model - sacrifice and commitment becomes secondary to the mission.
- Be humble and understand the need to continuously learn.
- Appreciate the power of forming partnerships both internally and externally.
- Be a good listener, willing to hear multiple viewpoints and open to try new things. **Try to stay neutral and allow for the collective voice of the Board and membership.**
- **Share the credit and recognize others along the way.**
- **Be a calculated risk taker.**
- **Focus on pushing the momentum forward vs. maintaining the status quo.**
- **Focus on making the organization stronger after you leave.**
- **Willing to do any job that is needed to support the League and mission.**
- **If you are comfortable then you probably are not leading. If you are anxious and keeping up a night, then you are leading.**

## WORDS OF WISDOM CONTINUED

### How did you balance work/life/League demands?

- Ask what is the right balance for you personally? Everyone has different thresholds and it is dynamic.
- Don't beat yourself up - you cannot do it all and have it all. Do the best you can and hope the organization supports you.
- Do not suffer quietly, ask for help from others in the League.
- Be willing to make sacrifices (e.g. soccer games, recitals) but you do not have to sacrifice everything. Consider it an opportunity for you to delegate to others who want to grow.
- Received support of my family, friends and employer – important to set the expectations up front and talk to them throughout the journey.
- Have your spouse/family come to events and see you in action; they will develop a sense of pride.
- Children were able to spend more quality time with their father and other family/friends, their relationship is now different because of your leadership.
- Served as a role model for my children who appreciated my leadership experience many years later.
- Set up office hours to manage your time more effectively.

### What are your recommendations for improving the satisfaction of younger members?

- Find ways to encourage people and support them.
- Give them meaningful leadership opportunities, not just the mundane tasks.
- Partner / mentor individuals for specific assignments.
- Don't talk to them or at them - talk with them.
- Acknowledge their contributions.
- Have them teach older members new tools like Social Media.

### How did you prepare for your JL Presidency role?

- Talked to many past presidents.
- Researched the community we serve.
- Observed what you liked and what you didn't like from other leaders.
- Did some hands-on assignments within in the League and used it as a learning experience.
- Leveraged sustainers to help mentor others that come along.

### What is the legacy you hope to leave behind?

- Advocacy and women's leadership.
- Leading from behind, mentoring and being a role model for others.
- Leveling the playing field for others.
- Inspired by others and encouraged by others and hope that I'm part of the same.
- Keeping this organization relevant to my daughters and grand-daughters.



*Left to right: AJLI President Toni Freeman, JLRI President Nancy Serpa and AJLI Executive Director Susan Danish at the AJLI Winter Leadership Conference in Phoenix, January 2014.*