



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
CEDAR RAPIDS**

Women building better communities®

IMPACT

Volume 76, Issue 3

November 2009

JLCR BRAVES COLD TO RAISE AWARENESS



The JLCR team tries to stay warm for the *Especially for You* Race on Sunday, Oct. 11.

On Sunday, Oct. 11, JLCR had a team of 35 members walking and running in the *Especially for You* Race in Cedar Rapids for the October Done in a Day (DIAD).

Although the weather was cold, JLCR members walked and ran through it and raised awareness and money for breast cancer research.

Congratulations to all who participated and especially to Megan Murray who won the 5K race out everyone who competed. Way to go Megan!

For more information on DIAD activities see Page 6 and www.juniorleaguecr.org.

Plan to Attend Annual Breakfast

The 2009 Community Awareness Breakfast is scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, at Four Oaks. Riley's Café will be providing breakfast.

The event will feature a panel, including Delaine Petersen, Executive Director for the Arc of East Central Iowa, and Craig Wood, Central Point Coordination (CPC) Administrator for Linn County. The panel will discuss issues with fully funding programs designed to support individuals with disabilities and improving community capacity to support all individuals with disabilities in their community of choice. According to data from the Department of Human Services, the combined total of individuals with disabilities waiting for services, from either an HCBS Waiver program or a county funded non-Medicaid service, is approximately 3,200. This number will continue to grow as more

people become eligible for services and county fund balances for MH/DD services continue to shrink.

Each year, JLCR selects non-profit organizations in the Cedar Rapids area with projects that match its mission. This year, JLCR will once again award deserving agencies a total of \$9,000 in community grants at the Breakfast.

Please join us for an interesting and educational breakfast. The breakfast is free and open to the public. Attendance at the breakfast will count as one General Membership Meeting for Actives. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Julie by phone at the Junior League office at 364-7892, by using the link on the JLCR website (www.juniorleaguecr.org) or via e-mail at info@juniorleaguecr.org by Nov. 30, 2009. Space is limited, so please RSVP soon to guarantee availability.

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ODI LAS VEGAS DELEGATES SELECTED

The Nominating and Placement Committee has selected Emily Ernst and Maria Sanchez-Masi, to attend the Fall Organizational Development Institute (ODI) in Las Vegas, NV, Nov. 6-8. Thank you, to all who nominated our pool of great women. As always, it was a difficult decision.

These two women will choose from four ODI tracks including: Achieving Community Impact, Membership Development, Diversified Fund Development and

Peak Performance. JLCR pays all related conference costs and travel expenses. After the ODI, both will be sharing their experiences in *IMPACT*.

Congrats to Emily and Maria!



Sanchez-Masi



Ernst

PREPARE FOR SLATE DAY

If you would like to be on the JLCR Board, Nominating & Placement, or Membership Development Committee for the 2010-11 year, you will need to complete the required Slated Position

Nomination Form, and return it by Tuesday, Dec. 15, to Lori Houston (SLLHHouston@mchsi.com), or to your Advisor.

Slating Day is scheduled for Jan. 9, 2010. The Nominating & Placement Committee is looking forward to seeing your name on a nomination!

HOLIDAY PARTY: Save the Date

Please save the date for the JLCR 2009 Holiday Party on Friday, Dec. 18, from 7-10 p.m.

The party will take place at OPN Architects. The cost is \$15 per person. We are looking for donations of food, beer, wine, and raffle prizes. Some examples

of past raffle prize donations are tickets to an Iowa basketball game or bottle of fine wine.

The RSVP due date is Sunday, Dec. 13. A formal invitation will be sent out soon.

BK SET FOR JAN. 31

Save the Date for Butterfly Kisses!

It will be 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010, at the Cedar Rapids Country Club. As the event approaches, find additional information on www.juniorleaguecr.org.

IRON CHEF UPDATE

Save the Date for Iron Chef!

Iron Chef will be 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 10, 2010, at Kirkwood Community College. Tickets will be \$45. Check www.juniorleaguecr.org for updates.

TAILGATING EVENT

The Membership Recruitment, Development and Retention Committee invites you to join us for a fun Tailgating Event.

Who: JLCR Members, their families and friends

When: Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009

Time: TBD based on the start time of the University of Iowa Game

Location: Chappy's Safari Lounge, 229 16th Ave. SW (on the corner of 16th Avenue and J Street) in Cedar Rapids



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MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT: NOVEMBER

Kati Davis

In her second active year of Junior League, Kati Davis is the self-proclaimed geek behind JLCR's new Facebook Fan Page and a member of the Marketing Committee. If you haven't yet become a fan of JLCR, be sure to do so and check out her great work, which included sharing information about Lil' Kids & Big Rigs. Kati joined JLCR to give back to the Cedar Rapids community. She believes that being in League gives her the chance to do things she wouldn't normally do on a day-to-day basis, which helps her learn new things.



Kati Davis

Although Kati has only been in

League for a few years, she has a number of good memories so far—not only those that come from meeting great women and sharing laughs with them, but also hearing from individuals who have been helped by our efforts. “Getting a chance to actually hear their stories reminds me of why I'm a part of Junior League,” Kati said.

Married to Shawn, whom she calls her best friend in the world, Kati has a “sassy” 2.5-year-old, Lindsay, who forever reminds her and her husband that they don't always have life figured out as well as they thought.

Kati came to Cedar Rapids almost three years ago from Tampa, Fla., but is originally from Omaha. Still a Husker at heart, both Kati and Shawn are graduates of Drake University in Des

Moines. They moved to Cedar Rapids because they wanted to start their family in the Midwest, and they believe Cedar Rapids has great growth potential.

As an interactive strategist for Stamats Inc., which specializes in higher education marketing, Kati doesn't have much time for hobbies, although she says she loves to bury her nose in “chick lit,” as well as playing a little golf, which she just learned last summer.

Kati says she is inspired by many of the women in League who are not only active in the organization, but who also juggle their children's schedules and demanding jobs. Professionally, she is inspired by women like Marissa Mayer of Google who help set the tone for women in the interactive industry and who make “being geeky” look good.

Lijun Chadima

A member for four years and this year's JLCR Treasurer, Lijun Chadima joined JLCR because she wanted to be part of a women's organization that has devoted so much to make the community a better place.

“Junior League of Cedar Rapids has been a great asset to the community for a long time,” she said.

Lijun grew up in Taiwan, but said she now considers herself a Cedar Rapidian. She moved here in 1986 with her husband, David, who attended the University of Iowa to earn an MBA. In 1989, they moved back to Asia, where David pursued a career in advertising. They lived there for 10 years before moving back to Cedar Rapids in 1999.

Lijun is President of Thorland Company, a family business that owns and manages properties in the New Bohemia District, including the historic Cherry



Lijun Chadima

Building. Last year's flood damaged their properties on 3rd Street and 10th Avenue, and she and her husband have spent what Lijun calls a hectic year of rebuilding their properties. Oct. 23 marked a milestone for her company as they reopened the Cherry Building—16 months after it was damaged in the flood.

“The rebuild work is still going on, but it is a milestone that we are moving to the next phase of flood recovery,” Lijun said.

Lijun and her husband have a 10-year-old daughter, Elizabeth, a Yorkie named Tampopo and a cat named Sheharazad. She and her family enjoy music, art, travelling, and outdoor activities, including trying to grow native flowers each year and hoping “they come back,” Lijun said.

In addition to her involvement in Junior League, Lijun is also President-Elect of Cedar Rapids Rotary West, a Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Director, a Czech Village/New Bohemia Main Street Board Member and a Southside Investment Board Member.

GMM: Breast Cancer Survivor Shares Her Story

Minutes from the JLCR General Membership Meeting Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2009

Welcome

Mindy Sorg called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and welcomed the membership. She began by reading member quotes recounting the impacts that Junior League has made in their lives and in the community. Abbie Covenah called for an approval of the September meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by the membership.

Promoting Voluntarism

November Done in a Day (DIAD)

Tara DeWolf asked members to bring new and gently used coats to the November GMM. These coats will go to Tanager Place.

Developing the Potential of Women Education & Training

Emily Ernst introduced sustainer, Oline Stigers, who spoke about her diagnosis, treatment, and recovery with breast cancer. Oline is a breast cancer survivor of 21 years and now volunteers talking with women who are undergoing breast cancer treatments. She gave suggestions on how to be a friend to someone with cancer. She also spoke about the need to be aggressive with your own health and encouraged the membership to be their own advocates.

Ways & Means

Kristin Roberts spoke about the Annual Fund. She compared the Annual Fund to a checking account – we pay our bills with it and it is more flexible. The endowment is like a

retirement account – it is restricted and the funds are not flexible. She emphasized that we need to put money in both accounts because they are both very important. The Annual Fund goal for this year is \$5,000 and as of Monday, October 19, we have \$4,171.48 and we are at 44% participation. If you need an additional pledge card, please contact any of members of the Ways and Means committee.

Project Research

Nicole Ridge announced that her committee is planning to survey the membership regarding what members want to see as our next big project.

Nominating

Andrea Dorn announced the two members selected to attend the fall ODI in Las Vegas. They are Emily Ernst and Maria Sanchez-Masi.

Membership

Jenn Higgins announced that the new member class will be about 40 people. They will have a final count after the membership retreat that takes place October 23-24 at the Bridge. She also announced that Chappy's Safari lounge is hosting JLCR members for an Iowa tailgating party on Nov. 14.

--Advisor Time--

Improving Our Community

Public Policy

Ellen Ramsey-Kacena announced that this year's public policy breakfast will take place on Dec. 5 at 9 a.m. Riley's will be providing breakfast and anyone wanting to attend can RSVP through the JLCR office. The breakfast will

feature a panel discussion that will focus on the Arc's legislative focal points. Ellen also announced that the community grants application is now available on the website. If anyone knows of an organization that might be interested in applying, they are encouraged to point them to the website.

Lil' Kids & Big Rigs Recap

Kimberly McGuire announced that Lil' Kids & Big Rigs netted \$6,251.53. The original goal was \$5,000.

The Arc

Maria Sanchez-Masi encouraged members to attend the third Arc sensitivity training on Saturday, October 24 from 10-11:30 am. They will be offering a fourth training that will be scheduled at a later date. She also announced that members can sign up to volunteer for Wrapping for a Cause on the Arc's website. There are also additional hours available that were sent to the membership over email. Maria is planning to resend the email as a reminder. Also, if you have not already filled out your paperwork to volunteer with the Arc, you will need to print the volunteer applications and background check documents that are available on the OFF and send them to the Arc.

Sponsor

October GMM Sponsor: Kris Berry from Silpada

ADJOURNMENT

Mindy adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectively submitted, Abbie Covenah, VP Administration



BOARD MEETING MINUTES: October**Minutes from the JLCR Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 6, 2009**

The Board meeting began at 5:30 pm at the Bridge. Present were: Kymm Barnes, Abbie Covenah, Marcy Dent, Ashley Felder, Ann Oleson, Ann Parmley, Karen Pelletier, Mindy Sorg and guest, Stephanie Rex.

Agreement on the Agenda

Kymm asked to move the Membership Council to the active agenda and Marcy asked to move the Community Council to the active agenda.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was approved with the changes.

Approval of September Board Meeting Minutes

The board minutes were approved.

Advisory Future Planning

Stephanie distributed a summary of the upcoming changes to the handbook. She is planning to alter portions of the bylaws, the standing rules, and the job descriptions. Stephanie will be sending each board member the job descriptions for their council, for review as well. She asked that the council VP's review these documents and send them back to her by Oct.ober15.

In order to clarify a portion of the bylaws, Stephanie moved that Section 3 under the Privileges of Membership should read:

"A member in good standing, who requests a Leave of Absence for personal, medical or change of residence, shall be granted one of the following privileges, upon written application in writing to the Vice President of Administration of this League." Karen so moved.

Stephanie continued by listing her proposed changes to the handbook. These changes included documentation of how often our league will complete a review. Kymm re-read the 2009 June board minutes and clarified that we agreed to conduct a review of our books every year for the next three years.

There were also some questions about some members in active advisory status. Stephanie is going to look through the

bylaws for more clarification.

Stephanie also wants to introduce four new policies and procedures:

Code of Conduct
Code of Conduct Violations
Whistleblower Policy
Confidentiality Policy

With regard to the new policies, Mindy asked Stephanie to review them with our AJLI representative, Ann Tiskoff. After the documents are reviewed by AJLI, Mindy will ask our attorney, Amy Reasner, to review them before a final board vote.

The board thanked Stephanie for her work and plans to vote on the remainder of the changes in November.

President's Report

Why Are We Here? – Mindy spoke about her experience volunteering for the ASAC "Art in the Park" DIAD event. She was especially touched by one ASAC client's devotion to her children.

Mindy updated the board on a conversation she had with Ann Tiskoff about using absentee ballots. AJLI feels that they are a liability. Also, if there are any changes to an original motion, the absentee ballot is no longer valid. Karen shared with the board that in the past, when we gave members the option to submit an absentee ballot, few people have used the option. Mindy is going to look into whether there is anything in our state laws about requiring an absentee ballot option. If there are no state laws regulating this issue, we should eliminate the option to submit absentee ballots for member votes.

During the October GMM, Mindy plans on having each speaker introduce the next speaker, to move the meeting along more quickly. Otherwise, the meeting will be similar to the September GMM format.

Mindy also announced that the Sustainer group will be working with the Actives for December's DIAD project. There has also been some discussion of inviting the two groups to each other's holiday parties. Marcy brought up that there might be a size concern about doing this, and that it would require a little more pre planning.

Finance Council

Kymm reported that Kristin is concerned about how slow the corporate responses have been. The following companies need solicitors: Penford, CCB Packaging, and Carousel Nissan.

After a short discussion, the board agreed that it would be a good learning experience for some of the Ways and Means Committee members to go on these "Asks" with a more experienced solicitor like Karen.

Kymm reported that the LKBR committee will be sharing final LKBR fundraising totals at the October GMM. With LKBR complete, Mindy is concerned that the committee members will have a hard time staying engaged with league. She suggested that since there are several committees that are short staffed, that the LKBR committee members be asked to serve on other committees.

Kymm then accepted questions regarding the budget vs. actual report. Karen is concerned about the website budget. Kymm is keeping an eye on the spending on that line item, and is working with Ann to determine the web designer's priorities for the year. Also, Kymm reminded the board that when we chose to have a review this year instead of an audit, it opened up previously budgeted dollars for line overages, like the web designer contract.

Administration Council

Julie, our office manager, is leaving to take a new job. Abbie feels that Julie is leaving the office in very good shape and is now accepting resumes for the Office manager position. Ashley suggested several free job posting sites.

Other Business

Marcy reminded the board to clarify the issue of the "hours offered within league" section of the committee report form. There has been some confusion, and Marcy wants to make sure these hours are documented correctly for year end reporting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Abbie Covenah, VP Administration

UPDATE FROM SUSTAINER CO-PRESIDENTS

Dear Fellow Sustainers,

We enjoyed seeing more than 70 Sustainers at our fall event. What fun to reminisce about the past by wandering through “Women Building Better Communities—75 Years of the JLCR.” Looking forward, we have some exciting future plans for both Actives and Sustainers.



Ronda Hill

Our newsletter, *IMPACT*, is currently mailed to all Sustainers. However, in the interest of saving both a few trees and money, we would like to offer you the opportunity to receive *IMPACT* electronically. If you are comfortable with receiving *IMPACT* via email, we encourage you to do so. Please contact Cari Foss with your preference at cari.foss@hotmail.com or (319) 270-1902.

The Annual Fund has been approved as a fundraiser for JLCR and all donations will support League’s operating budget. It is different than the endowment, which is set up much like a retirement account and functions to secure JLCR’s future. The Annual Fund, much like a checking account, helps pay JLCR’s bills, fund its daily operations and supports the community grant program. Please consider making a donation to this year’s Annual Fund. The goal is 100 percent participation, whether you can give 25 cents, \$25 or \$250, your gift will allow JLCR to continue to make a

difference in our community.

We attended the September GMM and heard about two of the projects the League is involved with this year. Two fabulous young women thanked the JLCR for supporting organizations that have helped them turn their lives around. The organizations are the Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC) and Heart of Iowa. Their comments were inspirational and made us proud to be related to the Actives of JLCR.



Kara Heying

Our Sustainer holiday parties are planned for Tuesday, Dec. 15. We will have an opportunity to participate in one of the Actives’ DIAD (Done In A Day) projects by bringing a gift to donate to Waypoint for their Christmas holiday shopping event. The morning coffee will be at Susan Ovel’s (138 Guildford SE) and the evening cocktail party will be at Kathy Layden’s (2355 Blake Blvd., SE). More information will be included in your party invitation.

We welcome your comments and suggestions as we plan for a great year.

Sincerely,

Sustainer Co-Presidents

Ronda Hill and Kara Heying

Remember to Collect Coats for Kids for DIAD

JLCR is conducting a coat drive for the children at Tanager Place for the November Done In A Day (DIAD). We are already experiencing cold weather and these kids need our help this winter! Coats, hats, mittens, gloves, boots, and scarves in all sizes are needed. With our membership of almost 100, we can keep these kids warm this winter. Plus this will be a great time for you to go through your closets.

DIAD Chair Kari Cooling sent a flyer to all Actives by e-mail at the end of October that you can post at work or pass on to family and friends. Bring all winter gear that you collect to the Nov. 17 GMM.

Upcoming DIAD Activities

December

We will be helping the women that Waypoint services

shop for gifts for their children. Moms will come in on Dec. 18 and 19. You will be partnered with a mom to help her shop. You can also sign up to wrap presents.

January

We will be having a sledding day with the Head Start Families

February

We will be working with Families Helping Families

March

We will be doing a Kids in the Kitchen Activity with the Young Parents Network.

April

Many of you had the opportunity to work with Arc of East Central Iowa’s Easter Egg Hunt last spring. We again will be assisting with the Easter Egg Hunt.

GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND

A big thank you to the following members and committees:

- **Molly Baynes** for all her work on the JLCR 75th anniversary press release and media follow ups.
- **Kati Davis** for an amazing job managing the media and PR for LKBR.
- **Nicole Ridge** totally stepped up to the plate when it came to coordinating the water pick up and selling water at LKBR. LTTC made more than \$100 from water sales!
- **All LKBR committee members and volunteers.**

Seeing the kids' reactions made all the hard work worth it!

Kristin Roberts! The Butterfly Kisses Committee feels that Kristin has really taken the time to educate their committee about Ways and Means and what their role is in relation to her role. "Kristin is always willing to take time to answer questions, work us on sponsorships and provide meaningful feedback. Before this we weren't really 100% sure about the relationship between Ways and Means and the Butterfly Kisses committee, but Kristin helped us define our role (and did so several times!)."

HEART TO HEART

Engagement

Congratulations to **Shantelle Smrha** on her engagement to Nathan Franzen in May of 2009. The couple has a June 5, 2010, wedding planned.

Share your big life events with your friends in Junior League.

Wedding? New baby? The Social Committee would like to congratulate you.

Have you lost a loved one? Struggling with an illness? We'd like to send our sympathies and support.

Please take the time to complete our "Heart to Heart" forms available at all general membership meetings, or e-mail a committee member with your news.

TALBOTS

When you buy a gift card at Talbots, 10 percent of the purchase goes back to the League of your choice! These gift cards may only be purchased online at www.talbotsgivesback.com/AJLI, but they may be redeemed in any Talbots store, through their catalogs or online at Talbots.com.



Shelli Adams	2	Susan McCray	15
Susan C. Sokolsky	2	Gingie Hunstad	18
Denise Bandel	6	Diane Stefani	18
Jane Witt	8	Malora Cosgrove	20
Ann Barber Doyle	9	Mary Westphalen	22
Heidi Braksiek	11	Kären Wilson	23
Skippy Bell Atherton	12	Corey Morehead	26
Stephanie Rex	12	Jennifer Smith	26
Dalene Sinnott	13	Kay Jackson	28
Kathy Buckner	14	Rachel Mills	28
Kris Sterner	14	Lois Donovan	29
Deana Berg	15	Sharla McCarron	29
Jillian Knutson	15	Lezlie John	30



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IMPACT COMMITTEE:

Cindy Duran
 Jessica McAllister
 Vanessa Solesbee
 Cari Foss, Chair

Junior League of Cedar Rapids (JLCR) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. JLCR reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to voluntarism.

JLCR 2009 CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2009

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----------|
| 3 | Board Meeting | 5:30 p.m. |
| 6-8 | ODI Las Vegas | |
| 11 | New Membership Meeting | 7 p.m. |
| 14 | Tailgating Event, Chappy's Safari Lounge, 229 16th Ave. SW | TBD |
| 15 | IMPACT stories due | |
| 17 | GMM | 7 p.m. |

DECEMBER 2009

- | | | |
|-------|--|-----------|
| 1 | Board Meeting | 5:30 p.m. |
| 5 | Community Awareness Breakfast, Four Oaks | 9 a.m. |
| 15 | IMPACT stories due | |
| 18 | Holiday Party at OPN | 7 p.m. |
| 18-19 | December DIAD | TBD |

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

Active: 96
 Emeritus: 17
 Sustainers: 207