

President's Message

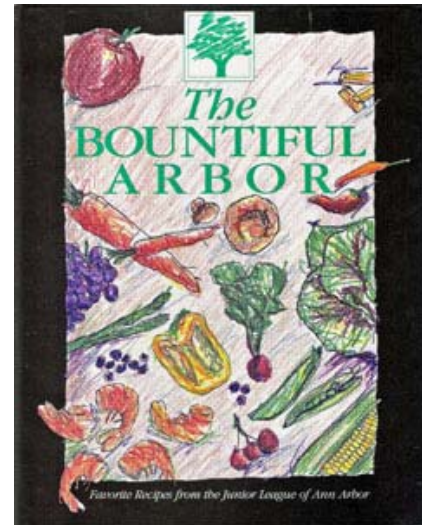
On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Junior League of Ann Arbor, I officially welcome you to the 2009-2010 League year. As we begin our year, the future is front and center in our minds. After celebrating our 25 years of voluntarism in our community, it is time for our membership and leadership team to dare to dream about the next 10 years. We are enthusiastic, committed and optimistic about our future-not only for this year, but also as we grow and sustain our organization for years to come.

The leadership of the JLAA is off to a lightning fast start. More will be coming on the transition to our new website, powered by Digital Cheetah, future fund development planning, and discussion and selection of a community impact issue. Your leadership team is daring to dream of a long range plan to help our organization reach its mission and vision, based on our values. As Albert Einstein said, "The formulation of a problem is often more important than the solution."

Our New Member Super Saturday sessions always remind me of just how special it is to be a Junior League member, and it reminds me of the power of association. It is an incredible privilege to collaborate, connect, and work together with the most dynamic and diverse group of women in our community. Together, possibilities are limitless. I am so pleased that you have chosen to donate your time, energy and resources to our organization to put our mission in motion. Jump on, I promise the journey will not disappoint!

Respectfully,

Holly Heaviland
President, 2009-10



Junior League Cookbook

Going, Going, Gone... ACT NOW! We hope to liquidate by September 30!

There are only 120 cases left of the Junior League of Ann Arbor's cookbook – *The Bountiful Arbor*. This could be your last chance to stock up on such a thoughtful, affordable hostess gift, business thank you, new neighbor gift, or addition to your best friend's culinary collection!

Please feel free to share this fantastic offer with friends and associates, in our area and beyond. Realtors, mortgage lenders, business owners, church groups, and reading groups could use this delicious cookbook as a quality giveaway, corporate holiday gift, teacher gift, thank you gift, hostess gift, shower favor, or ????? Possibilities are limitless.

Cookbook prices for League members and friends of the League:

**\$45 per case of cookbooks (10 cookbooks in a case)
or \$4.50 per single cookbook**

Contact Shannon Campbell at 734-827-1678 or email shannoncampbelldds@comcast.net to place your order.

2nd Annual JLAA 'Live Like A Millionaire' Raffle 2009/2010

Message from our President-Elect

Hello! I also wanted to extend a warm welcome to League members, as we kick off the 2009-2010 Junior League year at our GMM on September 15th. In an effort to help define the role of President-Elect, I would like to share the main objectives outlined in this year's PE workplan: meet with the League's Community Advisory Board to help generate ideas for future community collaborations, attend a monthly seminar - Leadership Ann Arbor - to help ensure that the League is current in our community relationships and opportunities, put into action the Power of Three that Deb describes in her article, and work to help liquidate JLAA's cookbook - [The Bountiful Arbor](#) (check out the ad to learn more about our cookbook!).

While lots of you are well into the work of your committees, many others are just now gearing up for the start of the Junior League year. As I try to retain the dates of League related events I need to remember (and ignore the rumblings of my family), I remind myself anew to - Enjoy! I love having the camaraderie of fellow League women, the satisfaction and pride for the work we do in the community, the skills training that helps me in my personal, professional, and volunteer life, just to name a few... Another thing I find it imperative to tell myself as our year starts rolling along, is that when I need help, support, advice, a friend to celebrate with or to drown a few tears, it is the women of the League who have my back. We are here for you, too! Never hesitate to share your concerns, questions or dilemmas with your chair, vp or advisor.

What a thrill to be part of an organization of such dynamic, hard-working, multi-tasking women! I am looking forward to catching up with friends and making new ones!

Shannon Campbell (President—Elect)



The Second Annual 'Live Like A Millionaire' Raffle will be a leading fundraiser for the League this year and will build upon last year's tremendous success.

With a theme of '5 for 5' (\$5 a ticket for your chance to win \$5,000 worth of amazing prizes and 'Live Like A Millionaire') the raffle will kick off this fall with awesome signature items that will generate immediate excitement!

From an amazing Espresso Machine to Spa Gift Certificates, Sporting Event Tickets to Fine Dining Experiences, Retail Gift Certificates to Golf Outings – this year's raffle will be a wonderful way you, your friends and family can give back as well as have the chance to win this incredible package!

The raffle will be a great way for you to advertise the league to your family, friends and colleagues at work and we are asking every league member to embrace this wonderful fundraiser this year and help us beat last years fantastic efforts of raising over \$11,000! We will be creating an 'elevator speech' for every league member so that everyone can market the league and this fabulous fundraiser in a few short minutes.

The drawing will be held at the end of year Annual General Dinner on May 11th 2010 at the Polo Fields Golf and Country Club and the winner is not required to be present to win.

The money raised will go towards the Junior League of Ann Arbor, our non-profit organization in the greater Ann Arbor Area committed to promoting volunteerism, improving our communities and training leaders to serve in the non-profit sector. The JLAA has such an incredible history of providing financial support and man power to so many organizations in need locally, and we are truly committed this year to creating great excitement while being able to keep our message clear that everyone purchasing a ticket will be truly making a difference and having a hand in creating a positive impact in our community.

If you would like to donate prizes to this year's raffle or if you have any questions please contact Jen Parker at jennieparker@comcast.net or call 734.657.0031

Thank you in advance for helping us to make this raffle a fantastic success!

Jen Parker
Committee Chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS*President***Holly Heaviland***President Elect/VP of Planning and By-Laws***Shannon Campbell***Communications Council VP***Sarah Kautz***Community Services Council VP***Monica Williams***Finance Council VP***Kelly Williams***Fund Development Council VP***Natalie Hoffman***Membership Services Council VP***Christy Hoban***Nominating and Placement Chair***Kathy Gaines***Recording Secretary***Katie Fraumann***Sustainer Advisor to the Board***Anne Cooper****LEADERSHIP TEAM***Assistant to the President***Anjanette Stoltz***Sustainer President***Wendy Urquhart/Prue Heikkinen****Community Services Council***DIAD Sub Committee Chairs***Kristine Cable/Sarah Ekern***CAPP Chairs***Jennifer Vansumeren/Alison Cotsonika***Strong Moms Strong Girls Chairs***Karen Rothstein/Allison Kohtz***SOS Chairs***Dania Dunlap/Lisa Hopkins***Girls Group Chairs***Michele Eleby/Natalie Davidson****Finance Council***Bookkeeper***Paula Rand***Accountability Data Manager***Jackie Lapinski***Treasurer***Kim Scartelli****Fund Development Council***Fall Fundraiser Chair***Gemaya Griffin***Grants and Corporate Sponsorships Chair***Katherine Walker***Live Like a Millionaire Raffle Chair***Jen Parker****Membership Services Council***Arrangements Chairs***Kelly Bowers/Pam Georgiana***New Member Development Chair and Asst***Ryan Phaff/Catherine Potoff***Nominating and Placement Asst Chair***Natasha Cotton-Gordon***Training Committee Chair***Carly Stevens***Transfer Liaison***Amy Force***Sustainer Liaison***Kim Lyon****Communications Council***Communications Chair***Elizabeth Martin***SPAC Delegate***Marcia Minor****DIAD Update**

DIAD kicked off our league year with SOS Empty Bowls at the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival on August 21st- 23rd. With the help of many special JLAA volunteers we were able to help SOS raise over \$6,500! Many thanks to everyone that helped out at this great event!

This fall, the DIAD committee has many exciting opportunities for members to help out in the community. On September 26th we will be having a fall clean-up day at Arbor Hospice. This will be family themed and members are encouraged to bring their children and/or significant others to help prepare the outside of Arbor Hospice for winter. October is jammed packed with events such as the Ann Arbor Art Center's 100th Anniversary Fair, LLS Walk, and Alpha House desserts. In December, we will be once again be helping children decorate cookies at Perry Nursery.

Each month, as always, JLAA will hold a monthly dinner at Ronald McDonald House and deliver meals for Meals on Wheels (formerly Motor Meals) on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. We are looking forward to many successful events this fall!

Kristine Cable and Sarah Ekern
Co-chairs
DIAD Co-Chairs

The Playing Learning Growing Program - SOS Signature Project

Do you like kids? Want to help shape the next generation? We need you! The Playing Learning Growing (PLG) program is part of the JLAA SOS signature project and is currently slating a fall project.

This newly developed program provides a way for parents and JLAA volunteers to collaborate during evening playgroups. The PLG curriculum teaches parents how to take advantage of opportunities to teach their kids through play. The first PLG session was conducted October through December 2008 and was a success! Volunteers played with the children in one-on-one settings as well as with group play while parents were counseled by SOS staff.

Moving forward, the playgroups are enhancing the program with structured activity stations and developmental exercises. Committee members are currently working with SOS to settle on the timing of the next PLG session - potentially as early as October, 2009.

If you are interested in getting a head start on your DIAD hours before the holidays, volunteer for the PLG program! Ask us how you can fulfill your DIAD hours in just one month. These programs are an excellent way to get into the community and make a difference one child at a time.

Please contact Kris Evangelista at kristin@kneconsulting.com or Christine Lammers at jplcll@comcast.net if you are interested in volunteering.

Fall Fundraiser Update

Gift Wrap

We need your participation to support our Sally Foster Fundraiser and we have some great contest prizes for our top sellers! Please remember the league will not have the funds needed to continue our MISSION without every member supporting this fundraiser. Think of your family, friends and co-workers! 50% of every order will help JLAA continue our MISSION of helping women and children in our community. Sally Foster has gift wrap for ALL occasions, home accessories, and a variety of new gift items.

Online orders may be placed through November 27th to qualify for the contest which ends on November 27th. Please keep in mind Sally Foster orders take approximately 2-3 weeks to ship. In addition, we need your help to facilitate as many ONLINE orders as possible. Go to www.sallyfoster.com:

- Click on Seller section link
- Enter email address
- Enter JL group ID #0329223
- Select JL as my group
- Create a password
- You'll be given a unique seller ID for your friends & family to use online

Save money! Free shipping on orders over \$70!



Poinsettias

We will have beautiful poinsettias once again from Turners Nursery. Why purchase poinsettias from the Junior League?

- Tax deductible
- Helps support the League's efforts
- Quality plants from a local nursery
- Use them as give-aways for holiday parties
- Decorate your home with these festive plants
- Host/hostess gifts for the holiday season
- Delivery before Thanksgiving for businesses
- Spa prizes for top sellers in the Fall Fundraiser Contest!

Member orders are due no later than Friday November 13th. Member pick up date is Saturday, December 5th. Business poinsettia orders can be delivered before Thanksgiving, November 17th, free of charge. Otherwise business orders will be delivered, December 7th or December 8th.

Sign up for the following DIAD hours:

- Help with delivery of poinsettias to businesses on Monday, November 23rd; Monday, December 7th;

or Tuesday, December 8th

- Help with JLAA membership pick up on Saturday December 5th
- Help calling businesses to promote sales after they received our letter about purchasing poinsettias
- Help with the mapping of the delivery routes

If you have any questions regarding gift wrap or poinsettia sales, please contact Gemaya Griffin, Fall Fundraiser Chair at 734-347-4082 or maya_de_ruijter@hotmail.com

Strong Moms Strong Girls

We are off to a great start as begin our 4th year of the Strong Moms and Strong Girls program in collaboration with the University Center for the Child and the Family (UCCF). We were very excited to receive a \$15,000 grant from the Knight Foundation. With this money, SMSG is going to host a full day educational Conference session that will provide awareness through the use of a nationally recognized speaker and author, and practice tools, through workshops and educational sessions. We are anticipating at least 300 people will attend. This seminar will provide adults such as teachers, school counselors, scout leaders, religious leaders, girls after school programs and other Community Organization leaders with tools to address relational aggression in their communities and organizations. This will be open to the extended areas around Ann Arbor. As a result of putting these tools into action that they will learn from the conference, these attendees can impact over 7,500 girls assuming that each attendee can impact 25 girls in their community. At this time, the UCCF is working on where we will hold this conference. Look for more information on this very soon.

WORKSHOP UPDATES

We had one workshop in July and the next one is Sept. 13th. We have them scheduled out till July 2010. The workshops will be open to the League for DIAD like last year, but only to the members that had been trained. We will update as the need arises. The Rec and Ed Fall catalog just came out with the SMSG Workshop advertisement as it did last year, we expect a big rise in the demand for mother-daughter participants.

PRESENTATION UPDATES

A partnership with the Ann Arbor Public Library has been established for the UCCF to deliver a presentation on "Sexting, Lies, and Cyberbullying". This will be on Sept, 21st at 7:00 p.m. at the Pittsfield Branch. In this program, clinical psychologist Sharon Gold-Steinberg, Ph.D, will emphasize how parents can use their power of their relationship with their children to keep their youngsters from hurting themselves and others online. This topic is becoming more and more prevalent in our schools and everyday life. Come learn more about this and earn DIAD

Strong Moms Strong Girls (con't)

credit as well.

The U of M attorneys are currently working on a MOU with the Junior League in Lehigh, Pennsylvania to facilitate the transfer of the SMSG program to them. We are currently waiting on JL-Lehigh for confirmation on finding a community partner for the SMSG program. They are very close and already have a committee in tact to start the program.

OTHER SMSG BUSINESS

We will be continuing the book club this year and are currently confirming titles, facilitators, and locations. We will once again offer a mother-daughter book night since it was a success last year when we had it. Look for more information soon. If you are interested in hosting a book club talk or facilitating one, please contact me at kerothstein@gmail.com. This is another great way to earn DIAD hours as well as learn more about Relational Aggression.

We are off to a great start this year with the SMSG program. Having received this grant money has opened up so many more opportunities with its approach to Relational Aggression. The program now has more power to broaden awareness to many more leaders in the community. Our committee has a lot of enthusiasm and already are bringing in new and fresh ideas to spread knowledge and awareness. Stay tuned to more exciting news with SMSG.

Karen Rothstein - SMSG Chair

Nominating and Placement Updates

Every year Junior League of Ann Arbor members are assigned an advisor from the Nominating and Placement committee. One of the most important jobs of an advisor is to get to know their advisees...making sure things are going well with current placements, helping members work toward their league career goals with placement decisions for next year, keeping them informed of what is happening in the league, just lending an ear to listen, or a resource for information.

The 2009/2010 NP advisors will be easy to find at general membership meetings this year. Each advisor will be wearing their nametag on a red and black lanyard...of course, we like to be stylish, but this is really a means of identifying advisors among the entire membership. We want members to feel that they can approach any advisor with questions about the league and know that if she doesn't have an answer for you right away, she will find out and get back with you as soon as possible!

Another charge of the NP advisors this year is to get to

know as many members as possible. This makes voting for board and leadership positions, as well as placing the entire league in their general committee placements, much easier. So don't be surprised if an advisor introduces herself to you this year if you don't already know her!

Also be on the lookout for updated interview forms this year, that focus on helping you map out your league career goals and setting personal goals for your JLAA year. Everyone should try to attend their small group interviews scheduled by your advisor. This social meeting is the time to start getting to know each other as well as planning for next year, especially if you might be interested in a board position. Board of Directors positions are placed in November 2009 for the 2010/2011 year, which comes up quickly. Check out the Nominating and Placement section of the website for a list of positions placed in November, as well as the list of leadership positions placed in February 2010.

The entire Nominating and Placement Committee is excited about the year ahead with the talented group of ladies that were placed on the board and on the leadership team last year. We look forward to getting to know you and helping you have a successful and fulfilling year with JLAA.

This year's advisors are:

Molly Bodenschatz
Stacey Bodner
Natasha Cotton-Gordon (Assistant Chair)
Amy Force (Transfer Liaison)
Kathy Gaines (chair)
Erin Hall-Westfall
Julaine LeDuc (Sustainer Liason)
Laurie McNamara McClatchey
Amy McNulty
Heidi Nelson
Susie Pearson
Paula Prisby
April Savage
Kim Walsh

Never hesitate to contact your advisor with any questions you may have...we are here for you!

Kathy Gaines -NP Chair 2009/2010

New Member Update

The Fall New Member class kicked off their first Junior League of Ann Arbor year with a Super Saturday event on August 22nd. There were ten fantastic women in attendance and they had a wonderful time learning about the JLAA as well as bonding through a League themed scavenger hunt. In addition, seven wonderful women participated in a make-up Super Saturday session, and we're excited to introduce the entire Fall New Member class to the JLAA at the next GMM!

We are also thrilled to announce that our New Member project is Kids in the Kitchen, which is an initiative to promote healthy lifestyle choices amongst the youth of today. The New Members will be partnering with Girls on the Run in an early spring event. GOTR is a development program to teach young girls about being healthy and active through the power of running. Stay tuned for more details as the New Members work closely with GOTR to develop an outstanding KITK presentation for the young runners.

Please contact Ryan Pfahl (ryan.pfahl@gmail.com) or Catherine Potoff (genker@yahoo.com) for additional information.

Ryan Pfahl - New Member Development Chair

Girls Group - "Building a Better Future, One Girl at a Time"

This fall a new signature project is taking flight with the launch of a three year partnership between the Junior League of Ann Arbor and the Girls Group, Inc. Only six years old, Girls Group is a unique nonprofit organization dedicated to helping high school girls achieve emotional and economic security through expanded educational and professional opportunities. The 30 girls in the group meet weekly with Sue Schooner (founder and unpaid executive director), as well as other mentors to learn skills that can enhance their self-confidence, leadership abilities, social consciousness and sense of self-worth. All of the Girls Group members are encouraged to stay in school, avoid pregnancy and substance abuse, and plan for college and future success.

Eager to get moving, the Junior League's Girls Group Committee has already begun meeting to lay the foundations for the next three years. There are two major focuses of this new collaboration. The first component that is being kicked off is a series of monthly seminars and presentations on topics related to the overall development of the Girls Group members as well as exposure to new opportunities. The first panel, "Career Day", is scheduled for the evening of Friday, September 25th. It will showcase the many wide-ranging career paths and professions that the Junior League members represent. Through these interactions, it is the Girls Group Committee's goal to provide and share personal knowledge, skills and experiences while developing awareness and promoting leadership.

In order to expand upon the experience, the committee will also work to develop a one-on-one mentorship program for the members of Girls Group. Participants will be matched with a Junior League member in order to provide positive, enriching interactions that will correspond to the monthly panels and presentations. Not only will this bring together the Girls Group members with diverse, positive community leaders for networking, discussing and exploring growth opportunities, but provide an enrichment opportunity to the Junior League mentors themselves.

Be sure to keep an eye out for many ways you can get with the Girls Groups!

Michelle Eleby –Girls Group Chair

Our Mission

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

A Message from Our Immediate Past President

The POWER of Three

Welcome Back! I hope you all had a wonderful summer. I just wanted to take a moment to fill you in on an exciting change in our leadership model that we have been developing over the summer.

Most Junior Leagues have a well laid out plan and placement for their "Immediate Past President" in the year following her Presidential year. We in Ann Arbor have enjoyed having the title and placement of "Past President"; but have had limited structure or obligations surrounding this role. Given the amount of valuable leadership training that the Junior League membership has invested in this person, we (as a Board of Directors) felt it was important to make some subtle changes to the roles/responsibilities of the Past President so as her leadership skills can continue to be maximized well after the presidential year is complete. We discussed how to better utilize this role and allow for this position to be more active.

This discussion brought us the model of the "Power of Three" developed by the Junior League of Boise, Idaho (JLB). The JLB was given an outstanding leadership development award in 2006 by the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) for this model. Essentially, this model allows for an optional (but certainly encouraged) third year investment for the President of the Junior League. The President-Elect and Presidential years remain similar to what they have been in JLAA. The year after the Presidential term, the Past President would become the "Chair of the Board". In this model, this Past President/Chair of the Board will continue on for a third year with the BOD as an advisor/mentor of sorts. Sitting on the board as chair, the Past President will follow the agenda and help facilitate discussions; particularly ones surrounding votes. This will free up the President to be more "present" in BOD discussions while not acting as facilitator. The Past President will also help facilitate training of the BOD at retreats, and of membership as requested.

Holly Heaviland (President), Shannon Campbell (President-Elect) and I (Past President) have worked on documents during the summer outlining this proposed change in leadership, and have discussed them with the BOD at length. We agree that this is a change that has potential to maximize the investment of training we offer to our President, and as a result could be a direct benefit to our membership. Our hope is that by utilizing this model we will be able to run as efficiently and effectively as possible by allowing continuity of leadership.

I would be glad to share any of the documents that we are working on if you are interested in hearing more about this.

There will be necessary changes to our Bylaws and Operational Policies once all documents are completed, so you will be hearing more about this as the year goes on.

Thanks!! Deb Urquhart—JLAA President 2008-2009

Fund Development Council

Greetings from the Fund Development Council! We have an exciting year ahead. Last year, membership voted to create a new committee entitled Future Fund Development. As the name implies, this committee is dedicated to developing a plan that will serve as a foundation for our fund development strategy over the next several years.

The committee cannot develop a successful plan without your input and support. Throughout this year the committee will be soliciting your opinions and ideas and sharing them with the rest of membership. Our goal is to incorporate your thoughts with outside research to develop a plan that is both enthusiastically supported by membership and sustainable in today's economy.

In light of this additional focus on strategic planning, the council has reduced our overall fundraising goal for the year to \$23,000. Even considering the economic climate, I believe we can raise more! Exceeding this goal would allow us to contribute towards a future Signature Community Project. With this in mind, please continue your ardent support for the Sally Foster Gift Wrap, Cookbooks, Poinsettias, and our 2nd Annual Live Like a Millionaire Raffle fundraisers.

Additionally, the Arrangements Committee is working hard on developing multiple fundraising social events. Please support those fun events as well!

All of us within the Fund Development Council, most especially the Future Fund Development committee, thank you in advance for your enthusiasm and support during this transitional but exciting period.

Whether you are a new member or a long time sustainer, we welcome any input you may have regarding the future of JLAA's Fund Development. Please do not hesitate to contact Katherine Watler, Future Fund Development Committee Co-chair, at k.watler@yahoo.com, or me directly.

Best Wishes for a Tremendous League Year,

Natalie Hoffman
VP, Fund Development
Co-chair, Future Fund Development Committee

Update from CAPP

The CAPP Committee has already started working hard with its research on a big change coming to the Junior League of Ann Arbor.

A new Signature Project will not be chosen during the 2009-10 league season. Instead, the committee will be spending the year researching a specific community concern with which the league can help and how it can focus its attention for the next few years with the Signature Projects.

It is not unusual for Junior Leagues to specifically align with one issue or cause. The Junior League of Detroit, for example, focuses much of its attention on literacy development. The Junior League of Birmingham addresses children's health and wellness issues. Specializing in one area of need helps brand Junior League chapters as the go-to organizations in a community for a specific cause, which, in turn, helps leagues with their marketing and fundraising. The Junior League of Ann Arbor has been considering this change for a few years. So how will a specific focus be chosen for the league?

The CAPP Committee will be spending the next few months completing research about the community, as well as JLAA itself. We will be talking to representatives from area non-profits, league members and members of the community to find out what areas are being underserved in Washtenaw County. We will be conducting research about how the community has changed in the last 5 to 10 years and what may come in the future. We will explore what issues JLAA has addressed in the past, with Signature Projects and DIAD events, and which ones members seemed to like ... and which ones didn't go so well, and why.

Later in the year, we aim to present two or three issues to the general membership to vote on as a specific focus for our future Signature Projects. How long will we align with said issue? It depends on how long a need exists for help with the area of concern and JLAA's desire to continue with the project.

There is a possibility the research will continue for the entire league season and the topics may not be presented for a general membership vote until 2010-11. But the CAPP members are working hard in their research and eager to learn about issues and organizations with which the Junior League of Ann Arbor can align.

Don't hesitate to contact Community Services Council VP Monica Williams, CAPP Chair Jennifer VanSumeran or Assistant Chair Alison Cotsonika with any questions about this exciting opportunity.

Alison Cotsonika
CAPP Committee Chair



This fall join hundreds in taking steps toward cures for cancer.

Each year, in communities across the nation, families, friends, neighbors and teams from local businesses and national companies come together for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Light The Night Walk event to bring help and hope to people battling blood cancers.

Everyone knows cancer is a terrifying word. "When it's directed at you or a loved one, it can turn your world upside down and leave you in a dark and scary place," said Tina Fey, National Light The Night Walk Spokesperson.

Joy Erkfritz, of Ann Arbor, knows this feeling all too well. Joy was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in May of 2008 at 36 years old. Joy had to go through grueling chemotherapy, a bone marrow transplant and many tests before she finally achieved remission. Joy has also had to endure a ton of horrible side effects from her treatment including anemia, the feeling of her body deteriorating, plasmacytoma (a growing plasma tumor) and her immune system shutting down. But Joy is not alone. Every four minutes someone gets diagnosed with blood cancer and hears those awful words: you have cancer. But Joy is prepared to beat the odds and will attend the Ann Arbor Light The Night Walk on October 10 as her team's honored hero.

This year, thousands of walkers, like Joy and her family, will come together to form a community of caring and bring light to the dark world of cancer in Ann Arbor on Saturday, October 10 at 6 p.m. at Community High School. Teams of co-workers, families and friends walk together in twilight holding illuminated balloons - white for patients and survivors, red for supporters and gold in memory of loved ones lost.

As a walker, you too can make a difference to Joy and the millions of other people whose lives are touched by blood cancers by raising funds for lifesaving cancer research and services for patients and their families.

The Light The Night Walk is a 2 mile, non-endurance event where children, adults and seniors of any fitness level can participate. Participants at this year's Walk will enjoy a festival-like atmosphere with music, food and plenty family activities.

As a national volunteer-driven organization, you can also help by donating your time to working in the Bone Marrow Drive tent in partnership with the DIAD program. The Walk will feature a Bone Marrow Drive to encourage participants and the public to join the National Marrow Donor Registry to help people who need a bone marrow transplant, like Joy received.

If you'd like to learn more about The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Light The Night Walk and how you can participate as a fundraiser or volunteer, please contact the LLS office at (248) 581-3898 or visit www.lightthenight.org. In a recent interview, Tina Fey said: "Come experience the warm glow of a caring community. We all know someone impacted by cancer. It's time to walk the talk."



Joy Erkfritz

Michigan State Council of Junior Leagues (MSC)

By Amy Suhrheinrich, MSC President

We always like to say "welcome back" at this time of year, but I know most of you have never left. It is very exciting to see all of the progress that has been made over the summer months. I would like recognize and thank all of you who have been meeting to prepare goals and finalize strategic and annual plans throughout the summer months. It is your efforts that make our Leagues run smoothly and continue to be successful.

One of our goals is to educate membership regarding MSC. Our Mission is as follows: MSC is an organization of the nine Junior Leagues of Michigan committed to providing added value to the Junior League membership and to supporting each of the member leagues in fulfilling our common mission. In addition, our Vision provides that through the strength of association, the Council increases the effectiveness of individual League members and enhances the potential of community impact of the Michigan Junior Leagues. MSC is composed of the President- Elects, Presidents, Immediate Past Presidents and Immediate Past-Past Presidents of the nine Michigan member Leagues. To further familiarize you with MSC, we are planning a series of short informational articles on other aspects of the Council.

Another goal of MSC is to provide support to our member Leagues. One of the main pillars of support is training. The trainings are funded by the dues paid to MSC from each of the Michigan Leagues. Consequently, we encourage everyone to take advantage of these unique opportunities, as well as to network with women from around the state. At this time, I am very excited to announce that state-wide training sessions have been set for **Saturday, January 16** and **Wednesday, March 10**. Detailed information regarding the topics, speakers, and locations for these two sessions will follow shortly.

Please contact me or one of the Executive Committee members with any questions or suggestions that you may have. On behalf of the Executive Committee and the members of the Michigan State Council of Junior Leagues, we wish you a successful and rewarding Junior League Year!

Amy Suhrheinrich

Amy Suhrheinrich, MSC President, JL Lansing
(rsuhr@comcast.net)

Deb Urquhart, MSC Secretary, JL Ann Arbor
(urquhart3@gmail.com)

Lisa Fildes, MSC Treasurer, JL Detroit (lfildes@hrblock.com)

Kim Whitmore, MSC Nominating Placement Chair, JL Flint
(wit247@sbcglobal.net)