

# League Lines

Volume 2 \* Issue I Fall 2015

#### Letter from the President



Happy New League Year! Welcome to our New Members, Active and Sustaining Members, Friends, and Community Partners. Thank you for initiating and renewing your membership and partnership with our wonderful League.

Every successful organization operates by the hard work and effort of team members behind the scenes. Thank you to our Board members, New Member Chair and team, Murder Mystery Chair and team, and Points Team. These ladies have continuously met throughout the summer to ensure a smooth year ahead for us all.

We had an exciting summer with our wine tasting Social at Tyson's, the Summer Social, AJLI conferences and the New Member Retreat. I enjoyed meeting all of our New Members! These impressive ladies will be great assets to our League.

The Junior League boasts a very ambitious three-fold mission: promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving our community through the effective action of trained volunteers. Have you been asked to step out of your comfort zone yet? Have you made an impact by influencing a child or a fellow community member? Dear friend, this is your year! This is the year to learn how to plan a project, how to communicate with others, how to encourage each other; this is our year to grow as strong women.

Whatever we do to contribute to the League and to our community, we can be confident that our actions will multiply. We must begin the investment in ourselves and our community. New opportunities and challenges will be presented to us and together, we can change our world!

All the Best.

Jana O. Smith

Lana O. Smith President, 2015-17

#### Inside this issue:

AJLI Annual Conference	2
League Training	3
Moments and Milestone	4
Membership Report	5
Membership Events	6
New Sustaining Members	7
Meet the 2015-16	8

**Board of Directors** 

Page 2 League Lines

#### 2015-2016 Board of Directors

**President**Lana Smith

Secretary
Mary Martha Hall

**Treasurer** Teresa Ross

Treasurer-Elect Jennifer Jones

VP Community Impact
Tina Roberts

**VP Fund Development**Lindsay Ward

VP Governance Lori Ellis

VP Marketing Amanda Martin

VP Membership Alyson Mims



(Not pictured: Lindsay Ward)

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2015 Annual Conference Bringing It All Back Home

The 2015 Association of Junior League's International 93rd Annual Conference was held April 16-18 in Los Angeles, California at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza. President-Elect Lana Smith and VP Marketing Amanda Martin represented the Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun.

We were 2 of 575 delegates from 233 Leagues. What an amazing experience to be in the same room as 600 like-minded women! We flew in on Wednesday, the 15th, so we were able to have a touristy evening of a cab tour through Rodeo Drive, Sunset Blvd, and West Hollywood then a stroll through Hollywood Blvd, complete with dinner at In-N-Out Burger. Thursday morning we kicked off the conference with a 'First Timer's Orientation'- this was very beneficial as the conference was jam packed with workshops, networking opportunities, meetings, and celebrations. The Opening Session included a processional of every Junior League by decade of admittance to the Association, with festive music provided by a local high school honors band. It set the tone for a weekend of celebrating women's leadership! Highlights of the conference were keynote speaker Geena Davis, the Opening Reception at the Greystone Mansion in Beverly Hills, the Mary Harriman Community Leadership Awards Luncheon, time spent with fellow Small Leagues, the Annual Meeting, and the Awards Banquet. We split up for the various workshops and both of us have pages of notes and ideas. Not only were we able to learn from the presenters, but also from the League delegates we met. The Junior League of Los Angeles hosted excursions on our free afternoon so Amanda and I enjoyed a beautiful outing to Santa Monica Beach on Saturday. We were sad to leave sunny California but so excited to bring back our ideas to our favorite League, the JLAC!

~Lana Smith, President

#### Annual Conference Agenda & Workshops Attended:

- ♦ Annual Conference First-Timer's Orientation
- ♦ 12 Slides in 12 Minutes: Junior League Membership Showcase
- 12 Slides in 12 Minutes: Marketing and Fundraising Showcase
- ♦ Association/Governance Dialogue
- ♦ Storytelling to Open Hearts and Wallets
- ♦ Taking the Angst Out of The Ask
- ♦ Small League Big Impact meeting (Leagues with active membership less than 100)
- ♦ Rethink Your Business Model in 75 Minutes
- ♦ Whose Decisions Is It? Governance or Management?
- Our Strategic Transformation: Three New Models for a New Junior League



League Lines Page 3

#### Spring AJLI Organizational Development Institute



JLAC Secretary, Mary Martha Hall, and I attended the ODI conference in Charlotte, NC in May with 285 delegates from 99 Leagues ranging across the United States and Canada. We heard from great speakers such as Vicki Clark, who spoke on moving towards diversity and inclusion, and learned how to access resources of the AJLI website from Ines Sucre. Throughout the weekend I attended Membership Development sessions with Naomi Chavez-Peters, who presented on mentoring practices, recruitment programs, talent development programs, leadership styles, and provoked the "no requirements" theory. It was an honor to represent the JL of Anniston-Calhoun and to have the opportunity to absorb all the information from the great speakers as well as the fellow league members we met along the way. Some of our favorites were from the JL of Fresno California and Billings Montana - oh and not to mention the crew from the JL of Austin, Texas! This was an amazing leadership experience for me and will definitely be one of my most favorite Junior League memories.

~Holly McCormick, New Member Chair

#### **AJLI Area III Conference**

THANK YOU League for sending JLAC Treasurer, Teresa, President, Lana, myself to the AJLI Area III Conference! This was my first AJLI Conference, as it was Teresa's, and I wasn't sure what all to expect, but I was ready to learn as much as I could. It was held in Charleston, SC at the Francis Marion Hotel. We were 3 of 96 delegates, representing 18 Leagues. The Opening Reception was Friday evening and sessions began Saturday morning. Between the three of us, we learned about: Governance & Management Transformation, Community Impact Transformation, Membership Transformation, Advocacy, Marketing, Robert's Rules, Fundraising, and Community Partners. There are so many changes coming in the Junior League organization & this weekend let us preview some of those changes. It's exciting, and I admit a little intimidating, to begin thinking about how we will implement them ourselves to impact our own League and mission. Opening remarks were by AJLI President-Elect Carol Scott and at the Luncheon we heard from Rebecca Darwin, CEO & Founder of Garden & Gun magazine. The two days in Charleston were absolutely packed with learning & networking, but it excites me to see our organization looking to transform itself to stay relevant with today's woman and still make a difference in the lives of our League members as well as our community. There are many wonderful things coming — it's a great time to be in the League!

~Kristie Warren Goodson, Nominating Committee





2015-2016
COMMUNITY
PARTNERS

**Gold Partner:** 

Webb Concrete

& Building Materials

**Bronze Partner:** 

Eastman

Patron:

JLAC Board of Directors

### **Training Opportunity**

Join the JLAC Board members as we participate in JSU's Continuing Education course 'Facilitation Skills'. All members are eligible but must submit an application to be considered. Space is limited - apply now! Selection is based on course availability and our training budget. Additional opportunities may be announced so stay tuned!

Facilitation Skills - Wednesday, 09/23/15 - 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Link to application: http://goo.gl/forms/b0Muj5aZfq

Page 4 League Lines

## **Moments & Milestones**

#### **MOVING ON UP:**

**CONGRATULATIONS to Active Member, Haley Gregg,** who recently accepted a new job with Wellborn Cabinets, Inc. She began her new position as their Assistant Marketing Media Manager on June 8, 2015.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Active Member, Amber Reynolds, who accepted a position with the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce as their Program Coordinator. In her new job she will be coordinating programs and special community events for the Chamber and Visit Calhoun County.

#### **LITTLE LEAGUERS:**



**Addison** Claire Wilkins was born May 15th at 5:28 pm weighing 7lbs and 20" long. Congratulations to mommy, Active Member, **Paisley Wilkins**, and dad Dustin.



**Barrett** William Young was born June 1st at 7:17 pm weighing 7lbs 6oz and 19" long. Congratulations to mommy, Active Member, **Amanda Young** and dad Benton.





Leighton Miranda Lawler was born May 26th, weighing 7lbs 9oz and 21" long. Congratulations to mommy, Active Member, Kellie Lawler, dad Jeff, big brother Marcus, and big sisters Blakely and Pierce!

#### **WEDDING BELLS:**

Angie Reaves, Active Member, and Randall Moore were married July 18, 2015. The wedding and reception were held at Anniston Country Club in Anniston, Alabama.



Kelly Moore, Active Member, and Jeremy Simpson were married July 17, 2015. The wedding was held in Gatlinburg, TN.



Kristi Warren, Active Member, and Randy Goodson were married May 24, 2015. The wedding was held in Hot Springs, NC.



Page 5 League Lines

#### **VP Membership - Alyson Mims**

Thank you to everyone who submitted names of potential new members, came to the Wine Tasting in June, came to the Summer Social in July, and those who are sponsoring New Members now. We've been very busy this summer actively recruiting and getting everything ready for what will be another great JLAC year. Special thank you also to Sustaining Member, Robin Cooper, who helped me line up Sustainers to provide food at our New Member Retreat. Thank you to Robin, Lynne Isom, Lisa Soleman, and Dawn Wilczek!

We welcomed I4 New Members at our retreat on Saturday, August 22 and then another 6 at our makeup retreat on Thursday, August 27. We look forward to having these 20 ladies join us this year. They will be having their meetings on the 2nd Thursday of each month and are excited to start planning their project. The option they chose to complete for their New Member Project is the (Free) Fall Yard Sale for Weaver Elementary School students. When you see these new ladies, make sure to say hello!

2015-16 New Member Class: Jessie Adams, Mindi Amberson, Diandra Baeza, Jackie Blackwell, Katy Burley, Lana Dilleshaw, Brooke Duhaime, Kayla Hodges, Dana Jennings, Kendra Lackey, SamieJo Legg, Jacki Lowry, Kanani Miller, Morgan Montiel, Jordan Pilkington, Jessica Reed, Maria Rosales, Katie Tyler, Laura Wesson, and Michelle Yancey.

Alyson Mims, VP Membership, 2015-16 membership@jlanniston.org



2015 New Member Committee Casey MacAllister, Holly McCormick, Alyson Mims, Mylie Johnson



Not all members pictured.

#### 2015 Summer Social













Page 6 League Lines

#### **New Member Retreat**













#### Wine Social



League Membership enjoyed a fun night out on June 18th at the wine tasting at Tyson Fine Wine and Things!

# **Fund Development**

We are excited to announce that JLAC received a Young Child Priority One grant from Anniston Kiwanis to help fund our Kids in the Kitchen program! Our President, Lana Smith, and our VP Fund Development, Lindsay Ward, accepted the grant from Anniston Kiwanis President, Steve Madeley.



# **Alabama Power Elevate Conference for Nonprofits**





President, Lana Smith, and VP Marketing, Amanda Martin, attended the Alabama Power Elevate Conference on June 11 and 12, 2015. Thursday evening they were able to attend a networking event at the Birmingham Barons game where they mixed and mingled with other leaders from nonprofits across the state. Friday they attended breakout sessions on Leveraging Technology in Nonprofits and Working Together Collaboratively. Both sessions were full of great information and ideas that were brought back to incorporate into our League. The conference was concluded with a lunch and speech by keynote speaker, Bryan Stevenson, Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative. Thank you to Alabama Power for hosting this free conference!

Page 7 League Lines

#### Ladies Who League - New Sustaining Members



Holly Clonts joined the League in 2011. During her time as an Active Member she served on the Board as the VP Marketing. Her most treasured experience while on the Board was attending an AJLI conference in Indianapolis. She says this was a great opportunity to learn about the influence of AJLI and gained insight among other Leagues. Holly also loves that JLAC has helped her identify the numerous other opportunities available to volunteer in our community.



Leann Emrick joined the League in 2011. While an Active Member she served as a member of the Fund Development Committee. Her favorite experience as part of that committee was spending one on one time with members while working to plan the annual Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre. Leann says she has gained her greatest joy and satisfaction from interacting with the public and contributing time and resources to the community.



Katherine Davidson joined the League in 2009. During her time in the League she served as VP Governance and Recording Secretary on the Board. She counts one of her favorite JLAC memories from an event as a Provisional Member where she met ladies in the League who shared similar interests and were at the same place in their lives. These ladies ended up becoming some of her best friends! Katherine loved that the League enabled her to serve her community with friends who shared the same passion for helping others.



Maryann Gendron joined the League in 2008 in Milwaukee and transferred to Anniston-Calhoun in 2010. While an Active Member she held Board positions as Treasurer, VP Community Impact, President-Elect, and President. She also co-chaired our Murder Mystery Fundraiser one year. Maryann's favorite JLAC experience was volunteering for the Piedmont Benevolence Center. She says the recipients of their food program were so appreciative, and many of them worked with us that day. She even enjoyed it so much she organized a fundraiser for them a year or so later. Through Junior League, Maryann developed confidence and pride in herself. She learned that she is a strong woman and that she can make a positive impact on those around her.



Kristi Yates joined the League in 2009. While an Active Member she held Board positions as VP Community Service and VP Placement. While serving on the Board Kristi was able to participate in an AJLI Organizational Development Institute conference and counts the knowledge and experience gained as one of her favorite League memories. Kristi takes pride in knowing that a small group of women can make such a big difference in our community.

League Lines Page 8

#### Support Us - Become a 2015-16 Community Partner

The Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Inc. has multiple donor levels available for individual and corporate contributions. Our League would not be able to fulfill our mission promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers without the help of our donors and sponsors.

We are grateful for your support of our efforts!

For more information on becoming a Community Partner, visit jlanniston.org or contact our VP Fund Development, Lindsay Ward at community@jlanniston.org.

#### Meet our 2015-16 Board of Directors



President: Lana Smith Hometown: Lineville, AL
Occupation: Maintenance Management Specialist in Material Management at the Anniston Army Depot Fav thing about JLAC: My favorite thing about the League is that I don't know everything and I don't have to because every member has a role and I have learned how to ask questions and rely on the available resources within the League.



VP Fund Development: Lindsay Ward Hometown: Long Beach, MS Occupation: Director of Business Development for the Calhoun County Economic Development Council

Also involved in: Young Leaders Society; Leadership Calhoun County; Coordinator of the Advanced Capital Entrepreneur System; Region 5 Workforce Development Council; Be The Match Donor

Fav thing about JLAC: I love meeting like-minded women that are active in the community.



Secretary: Mary Martha Hall Hometown: Anniston, AL Occupation: Teller at BB&T in Alexandria and Nerium Skincare **Brand Partner** Also involved in: JSU Alumni Association; Delta Zeta Alumna Fav thing about JLAC: My favorite thing about the League is meeting all different types of people and learning from them. I have made some great friends from the League and I love



VP Governance: Lori Ellis Hometown: Anniston, AL Occupation: Homemaker Also involved in: Founder of Panther Packs for Wellborn Elementary School; Board Member of Family Links: Member of S.A.P.A.C.: Member and Children's Teacher at Golden Springs Baptist Church Fav thing about JLAC: My favorite



VP Marketing: Amanda Martin Hometown: Alexandria, AL Occupation: Program Coordinator, Jacksonville State University Housing and Residence Life, Office of Support and Conference Operations
Also involved in: Sponsorship Chair for the Annual Boys & Girls Club Hook & Cook: Ritual Adviser for Phi

Mu Fraternity at JSU Fav thing about JLAC: My favorite thing is meeting new friends and learning how to be a leader for my community in and out of the League.



VP Membership: Alyson Mims



Treasurer-Elect: Jennifer Jones Hometown: Fayetteville, GA Occupation: Banker at Wells

Also involved in: Funkalicious Alabama Kudzu Queens; Delta Zeta at JSU Chapter Adviser Fav thing about JLAC: I love that we cover a cross section of women in Calhoun County! We embody service to our community!



Treasurer: Teresa Ross Hometown: Anniston, AL
Occupation: Mail Carrier with the USPS Also involved in: Local NALC Branch 448 as their Treasurer

Fav thing about JLAC: My favorite thing about the League is being able to meet people in the area and helping our local community.

VP Community Impact: Tina Roberts

Occupation: Attorney and owner of

Also involved in: The American Red

Cross Calhoun-Cleburne County

Fav thing about JLAC: I love being a

part of an organization that

encourages and empowers women

Hometown: Weaver, AL

Roberts Law Firm LLC

to be their very best.

Chapter as a Board Member





Hometown: Anniston, AL Occupation: Payroll & HR Manager at ServiceMaster by Mimsco and Education Coordinator at Disaster Academy

Also involved in: Kiwanis Club of Anniston Past President; Interfaith Ministries Advisory Board; The Donoho School Alumni Council Fav thing about JLAC: My favorite thing about the League is the people!!



**President:** 

president@jlanniston.org

Secretary:

secretary@jlanniston.org

Treasurer:

treasurer@jlanniston.org

**VP Community Impact:** 

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**VP Fund Development:** 

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**VP Governance:** 

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**VP Marketing:** 

marketing@jlanniston.org

**VP Membership:** 

membership@jlanniston.org

**Treasurer-Elect:** 

treasurer-elect@jlanniston.org



#### **Strong Women Growing Stronger Communities**

# JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ANNISTON CALHOUN, INC.

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#### Dates to Remember:

#### October

8th -New Member Meeting 6 P.M. 13th -General Membership Meeting 6 P.M. 22nd & 23rd - Murder Mystery Dinner Fundraiser

#### November

3rd -Board Meeting 6 P.M.
10th -General Membership
Meeting (Home Harvest) 6 P.M.
12th -New Member Meeting 6 P.M.

#### December

Ist -Board Meeting 6 P.M. 8th -JLAC Christmas Party 6 P.M.





Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre and Silent Auction

"Unprincipled 2: The Sophomore Year"

a new play by Mike Stedham featuring the same cast of characters from last year's smash hit — "Unprincipled"

Anniston Country Club Thursday, October 22 Friday, October 23



Cocktails and Silent Auction at 6:30 pm Dinner served at 7:00 pm

\$50.00 per person

Reservations required. No tickets will be sold at the door. Make plans to join us for our 15th Annual Murder Mystery Dinner Fundraiser!

Tickets are now on sale!

Visit jlanniston.org to purchase tickets or call our ticket coordinator, Rachel Kline, at 256-239-3759.