



2014-2015

JUNIOR LEAGUE

of ANNISTON - CALHOUN, INC.

Annual Report

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Celebrating 30 years
1984 - 2014

2014-2015 Board of Directors

President

Maryann Gendron

President Elect

Lana Smith

VP Community Impact

Kristi Yates

VP Finance

Teresa Ross

Recording Secretary

Mary Martha Hall

VP Fund Development

Lori Ellis

VP Governance

Katherine Davidson

VP Marketing

Amanda Martin



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Message from the President

Dear League Members, Community Partners, and Friends of Junior League,

Our 2014-2015 League year is complete. I hope you have enjoyed receiving your newsletters this year. Our Marketing Committee has done an outstanding job putting them together each month. We hope you felt you were “in the know” about all Junior League happenings. The Marketing Committee has also been working on a new website that was rolled out in July. Please check out our new site www.jlanniston.org.

I cannot believe this year has already come to an end! It is especially hard to believe that I am now a Sustainer. I have had a wonderful time as an Active member in this League. I met incredible women and community leaders. I made friends that will last a lifetime. I worked on heart-warming community projects. I learned about leadership, activism, team work, and the importance of mentors. I thought I would be extremely sad to leave the Junior League Board that I have served on for 4 of my 5 years in the League. However, I am finding that the opposite is true. Our new President, Lana Smith, is a brilliant, hard-working, dedicated leader. She is going to do incredible things with our League. Our leaders over the last several years have worked diligently to strengthen the foundation of our League. Now, the foundation is ready and Lana and the new Board are going to build upon it. She has several of this year’s board members staying on, a couple of new ladies to give fresh outlooks, and several ladies who have had a break rejoining the Board. It is one of the strongest Boards I think we have had in my tenure in the League. These are strong, intelligent ladies that have the ability to affect lasting changes in our community. I am honored to have served with them and proud to pass the torch as they say.

I cannot thank each of you enough for your contributions to our League this year and over the last few years. Whether you contributed financially, by volunteering, attending our fundraiser, donating to our fundraiser, advising us on a topic, offering encouraging words, or helping us in another way, we could not have this much success without you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Because I invested so much of myself in this League, I take your contributions personally. I appreciate each of you!

Warmest regards,

Maryann Deason Gendron

Maryann Deason Gendron
Outgoing President



2014-2015 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Gold Partner:

Webb Concrete
& Building Materials

Silver Partners:

Alabama Power

Farmers & Merchants Bank

Laser Fabrication

Regional Medical Center

Bronze Partners:

Center for Domestic Preparedness Employee Association

ERA King Real Estate

Supporters:

Anniston Eye Clinic-
Dr. Dawn Wilczek

NHC Healthcare
Anniston, LLC

Patrons:

Davie's School Supply

Reaves Insurance Agency

JLAC Board of Directors



Mission

The Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, 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. It's purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Our Community Impact Focus Area is "Healthy Lifestyle Choices in Children."

Developing the Potential of Women

The League is led by a team of 8 ladies on the Board of Directors. These members participate in general member activities as well as manage the operations of the League. Most have minimal non-profit leadership experience but they enjoy on the job training and training from the Association of Junior League's International through online resources or traveling to conferences.

Improving Communities

JLAC kicked off a Focus Area of "Healthy Lifestyles Choices in Children" in the 2013-14 League Year and it continues through 2015-16. Service work within our Focus Area in 2014-15 included our various projects with our Adopt-A-School partner Weaver Elementary School and a Kids In the Kitchen program.



Provisional Class Project



The 2014 JLAC Provisional members chose to partner with Weaver Elementary School for their class project. On November 8th, the 5th and 6th grade boys attended an anti-bullying campaign field day event with the theme "Just Be Brave". The boys were coached in team-building skills with the volunteer efforts from a local boy scout troop, the local fire department and military personnel. Positive role models also shared information on health, fitness, hygiene and cyber-bullying topics. After lunch, each student pledged to not bully by signing their name on the graffiti pledge wall which is displayed at the school.

Community Impact

This was our second year for our Focus Area and partnerships which have proven to be very successful.

The League has continued a great relationship with Weaver Elementary School. Throughout the year we have had several service projects and opportunities to partner with them. Our League had four Done In a Day (DIAD) opportunities all of which focused on our partnership with Weaver. Our first Done in a Day was our art kit project for the 4th and 5th grade classes at Weaver. Weaver, like many area schools, no longer has art classes and we felt it necessary to incorporate art lessons into their everyday classrooms. Each art kit had four lesson plans and supplies for every child to complete the art lesson. The second DIAD was providing donations for the "Gotcha Program". Through our donations we have been able to buy prizes and supplies for rewards for students with good behavior. All items that were bought stay within our focus area of teaching and promoting a healthy lifestyle for children. The last Done In A Day was a work day at Weaver Elementary School where we were able to clean around the school, seal the gazebo and do other maintenance in the outdoor classroom. Through the sponsorship of Oxford Dental and Dr. Whit Welch we were also able to provide donuts to every student and their parents for the 'Munchies with Munchkins' initiative. This was a huge help for the school and a great way for parents to spend that extra special time with their children. We were also fortunate enough to once again provide breakfast for the staff at Weaver Elementary School during teacher appreciation week.

One of the two Signature projects that were offered to our members was helping to create a Butterfly Garden within Weaver's Outdoor Classroom. We spent all day planting shrubs, cutting shrubs trees, and putting down mulch all to help in the attraction of butterflies. To complete the day we did the necessary steps to help in the accreditation process. We helped build an arbor and another entry way into the Outdoor Classroom. It was a very busy and successful day as we completed everything needed to be done to create a habitat for butterflies. WES now has the Outdoor Classroom space ready for accreditation thanks to the donations of time and resources by the JLAC!

Our second Signature Project this year was our Kids in the Kitchen Event at the Noble Street Festival. What a wonderful success this day was! Our goal for this event was to reach as many kids as possible and teach them how to live healthy. We did this by teaching them where their food comes from and letting them plant a tomato plant to take home. We also let them see that eating healthy can be delicious and fun. We had eight different healthy and easy snack foods that we let the kids make all throughout the day. Lastly, we had great instructors who came and showed us how to have fun while exercising. We were able to serve an estimated 400 children throughout the day!

2014-2015 COMMUNITY IMPACT

Healthy Lifestyle

Choices in Children

Kids in The Kitchen
event at Noble Street
Festival

Adopt-A-School

Weaver Elementary School

Art Kits

Gotcha Program

Munchies with
Munchkins

Butterfly Garden &
Outdoor Classroom

Anti-Bullying
Campaign

Teacher Appreciation
Breakfast

**2014-2015
FRIENDS OF
THE JUNIOR
LEAGUE**

Margaret D. Bateman
Debbi Clonts
Betty Deason
Jennifer H. Easterwood
Joyce Payne French
Becky Helton
Jean Jaudon
Anna King
Mandi King
Sally Lewis
Gale Saxon Main
Sylvia Malone
Debbi Matthews
Gayle McClellan
Jeanne Meigs
Paige Mooreland
Charlotte Mullis
Ginger Newton
Maggie Burn Owens
Gina Stephens
Lynn Talbot
Gena Vineyard



Fund Development

Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre and Silent Auction

Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Inc.'s main fundraising comes from our annual Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre and Silent Auction. Our 14th annual Murder Mystery took place the evenings of Thursday, October 23rd and Friday, October 24th at the Anniston Country Club. We had two Sustaining Members, Hervey Folsom and Kara Silvers, and an Active Member, Kimberly Davenport, perform in our play "*Unprincipled*". The Fund Development Committee did the League proud with this year's event, which raised over \$9500 through ticket sales, silent auction items, and mystery clue purchases.

We would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to our Community Partners as well as our Friends of the Junior League, listed on pages 3 & 5 respectively. We appreciate your support!



Leadership Development

The League sent two leaders to the AJLI Fall Leadership Conference, which is designed for Presidents and President-Elects. President Maryann Gendron and President-Elect Lana Smith attended the Nashville weekend conference in September.

Maryann Gendron and Lindsay Ward attended the Alabama Power of Good Elevate conference on behalf of the League. Both ladies were able to interact with other nonprofits from Calhoun County and across the state, as well as come back with a wealth of knowledge about how to better our community.

In October, the Alabama Junior Leagues met for lunch, speakers, and roundtable discussions. Maryann Gendron represented JLAC. She also enjoyed League presentations of their community impact efforts and the leadership speaker. This was the first year the Alabama Leagues collaborated for a meeting and we look forward to working with them in the future.

As a member of the Association of Junior Leagues International, our League has a responsibility to be present at the Annual Conference each year. This year Lana Smith and Amanda Martin attended on behalf of the outgoing President.

Junior League Legacy

Founded in 1901 by New Yorker and social activism pioneer, Mary Harriman, the Junior Leagues are charitable nonprofit organizations of women, developed as civic leaders, creating demonstrable community impact.

Today, the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI) is comprised of more than 150,000 women in 292 Junior Leagues throughout Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom and the United States. Together, they constitute one of the largest, most effective women's volunteer organizations in the world.

In Calhoun County, what began as the Alabama Shakespeare Festival Guild in 1973 evolved into the Anniston-Calhoun Junior Service League in 1984. After much dedication by members in the late 80's and early 90's, the Service League became the Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Inc. in 1992. Thank you to our amazing Sustaining Members for your commitment to the League and to our community!

Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun Membership

Actives	45
Sustainers	69
Sustainer Emeritus	11
Provisionals	12
League Membership	137

Welcome Provisionals

Katy Cairo, Kim Davie, Charlanda Engram, Jenifer Harper, Lara Henderson, Mandi Henderson, Mylie Johnson, Jennifer Jones, Rachel Kline, Casey MacAllister, Kelly Moore, Amanda Young



Moving to Sustaining League Membership

2014-2015: Kara Silvers

2015-2016: Holly Clonts, Katherine Davidson, Leann Emrick, Maryann Gendron, Kristi Yates
(Pictured at right)



Financial Management

The League ended 2014-2015 in the black! Such an exciting accomplishment. The Board and Membership agreed to raise Active Member dues to \$175 for this year. This increase combined with a dedicated effort to cultivate our Community Partners and streamline costs where possible made our year financially successful. The Board of Directors has chosen to hold 80% of the funds earned from this year's major fundraiser for next year's programs and training opportunities. This is our second year in recent history to make this forward-looking commitment.

Marketing

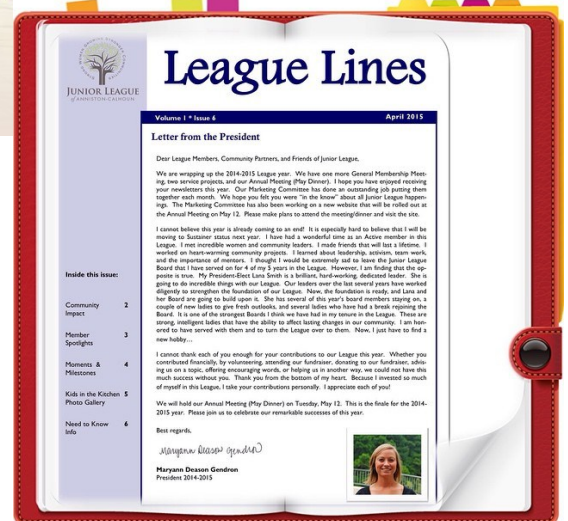
Our Marketing Committee has been hard at work this year to increase our branding and awareness for our League. An updated newsletter, League Lines, was developed and sent to Membership, Community Partners, and Friends of the League monthly. In July a redesigned website was launched to better reflect who we are as a League. Check it out at www.jlanniston.org. We also joined Instagram and Twitter this year so be sure to follow us @jlanniston for updates and news!



The new JLAC Website



The redesigned JLAC newsletter, League Lines



League Business

The Board of Directors of the Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Inc. meets monthly on the first Tuesday. Routine business conducted by the Board outside of the meeting includes: treasury duties such as paying bills and managing the budget, managing social media accounts, maintaining records of membership contact information and membership requirements, staying in contact with other Leagues and AJLI to learn best practices and adapt what is best for JLAC, reviewing and updating bylaws and policies, cultivating community partnerships and researching community impact opportunities. Every member serves on at least one committee: Fund Development, Membership, Marketing, Finance, and Community Impact. Through the placement of the members in these committees, we are able to fulfill our mission as a League.

Membership Votes

The members of JLAC own the bylaws of our League and by that have the ability to elect leaders and manage the League. Votes by general membership were for: the revision of bylaws/policies and slate for 2015-2016 Board of Directors and Nominating Committee.

2015-2016 Board of Directors & Nominating Committee

President	Lana Smith	president@jlanniston.org
Secretary	Mary Martha Hall	secretary@jlanniston.org
Treasurer	Teresa Ross	treasurer@jlanniston.org
Treasurer-Elect	Jennifer Jones	treasurer-elect@jlanniston.org
VP Marketing	Amanda Martin	marketing@jlanniston.org
VP Membership	Alyson Mims	membership@jlanniston.org
VP Fund Development	Lindsey Ward	development@jlanniston.org
VP Community Impact	Tina Roberts	community@jlanniston.org
Nominating Committee	Lori Ellis	nominating@jlanniston.org
Nominating Committee	Kristie Warren Goodson	nominating@jlanniston.org
Nominating Committee	Angie Reaves Moore	nominating@jlanniston.org

Looking Forward

Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Inc. is engaged with the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) initiatives to redesign Governance/Management, Community Impact, and Membership Systems to position Junior Leagues to better engage in the community as “a network of women empowered as leaders creating community change.”

What a wonderful 2014-15 League Year we had! We look forward to more exciting growth and change in 2015-16.

Finance: We expect to continue cultivating our Friends of the League and Community Partner relationships.

Programs: We will enter year three of our commitment to Weaver Elementary School and to our focus area of “Healthy Lifestyles Choices in Children.”

Development: Board members and Committee leaders will continue to attend AJLI Conferences as well as local nonprofit conferences. Throughout the year, we will have speakers at our general membership meetings, participate in AJLI webinars, and host social activities.

Annual Meeting and May Dinner Award Recipients



Provisional of the Year
Casey MacAllister



Natalie Henderson Unsung Hero
Jennifer Maddox



Volunteer of the Year
Lindsay Tyson



President's Award
Jean Jaudon



Lifetime Achievement Award
In Memory of Martha Vandervoort
Accepted by her husband,
Dr. Buddy Vandervoort



Outgoing President Recognition
Maryann Gendron



Community Partner Recognition
F & M Bank

Not Pictured
President's Award
Ellen Bass



Community Partner Recognition
Laser Fabrication



2014-2015
Outgoing Board of Directors

Nancy Julian Distinguished Young Woman Scholarship

The League continues the legacy of honoring Nancy Julian by presenting a \$3,000 scholarship to a deserving Calhoun County high school graduate. The receipt is chosen by a panel for her scholastic and philanthropic efforts. This years recipient is Madelynn Barker from Weaver High School.



In Memory of League member Nancy Julian



Madelynn Barker, with JLAC VP Community Impact, Kristi Yates

2015-2016

WISH LIST

Office space for Board meetings and Board matters and materials

Need boxes of old documents scanned

Host homes or space for member development meetings, New Member events, etc.

Murder Mystery Dinner set up help

Email Lana at president@jlanniston.org or call her at (256) 618-1139 if you can help with our wish list items!

This Work Needs Your Help

For each member, Active and Sustaining, the League pays \$43 to the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI). AJLI's role is to provide the League with the training and resources needed to execute the work of the League. The League is facing several transitions over the next several years. We need your help! We need funding to send our League leaders to conferences, both AJLI sponsored and within the community. We need funding to bring in speakers and trainers to Anniston! The League recognizes the need for focusing on our member development as a key portion of our mission.

Donations may be made on our website at jlanniston.org under the "Donate" button or by mail to: Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Post Office Box 2557, Anniston, AL 36202

Volunteer and Make a Difference

Ladies 21 and older who are interested in making a difference in their community are encouraged to visit our website for more information and to attend events hosted by JLAC. Community members who cannot commit to membership but believe in our mission are also encouraged to connect with us for opportunities to help!

- Volunteer to speak at a General Membership Meeting about civic or women's leadership
- Volunteer to meet with the Board about governance and management of a nonprofit
- Volunteer for hands-on projects with JLAC

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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Message from the Incoming President

Dear League Members, Friends, Community Partners, and Community Members,

It is with great honor and excitement that I write to you as the League's Incoming President. Four years ago at this time, I knew very little about Junior League but in this short four year span, my life has been greatly enriched by this organization.

Amanda Martin, VP Marketing, and I attended the Association of Junior League's International Annual Conference in April on behalf of JLAC. To borrow from our Association President's Opening Session speech, she said the Junior League allows for the Multiplier Effect. The Multiplier Effect is an economic concept that "we must spend some to reap more." For the League, we experience the Multiplier Effect when we begin collaborations, start initiatives, or expand current programs. As a member, we engage in the Multiplier Effect by spending of our time, our talents, and our resources. As we reflect on our efforts in the community and time spent with each other, we see the lives touched, change realized, and impact made is far greater than our original investment!

Whether you are a new member or a seasoned member, you probably understand that within the League, as a member, we can't do it all. We can't attend every meeting, every social, contribute to every community impact event or fundraiser. That's okay because not one single aspect is solely Junior League- not Community Impact, Membership Development, Fund Development, or administrative and marketing roles. These are tremendous parts within the League but the whole is always greater than the parts alone. As we utilize and expand upon our skills, our experience and our learning abilities, we see we are a whole League. Together, we can create the Junior League of the future. Together, we add up to the meet needs of our community. We realize the needs of our community are complex. In working with fellow League members and seeing your passions and dedication, I believe the League is ready to address these needs. We are committed to our community. We are looking forward to how we can best truly make an impact. Thank you for your commitment to the League and to our community!

As we reflect on this past year's efforts, including the initial Friends of the League campaign and starting a membership points system, I hope you see the League evolving for the future and being relevant to membership and to the community. Here's to a wonderful year!

Warm regards,

Lana O. Smith

President, 2015-17
Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Inc.
(256)618-1139



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
ANNISTON CALHOUN,
INC.**

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Did you know that you can give back to JLAC while doing your Amazon shopping?! -- Make sure to login to Smile.Amazon.com on your computer and choose Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun so we'll receive a 0.5% donation from Amazon on purchases made. #YouShopAmazonGives