

League Lines

Volume 2 * Issue 3

Spring 2016

Letter from the President



Dear Members, Friends, and Community Partners,

Springtime in the League is the epitome of what springtime is. We spend countless hours from late spring to late winter working behind the scenes planning and preparing for the highlights of League events. Once spring arrives, we see our hard work come to fruition with an amazing class of new Active members, our Nancy Julian Distinguished Young Woman Award scholarship going live, our signature project quickly approaching, and slating a Board of Directors for 2016-17. It never fails that by springtime, I wonder where our League Year went but I love to see the blooms from the seeds of what we've planted!

In February, we encouraged members to share on social media why they love the JLAC. Following along (#LoveTheJLAC) it's obvious that each lady who shared truly has a special love for the JLAC. Each member has the ability to create her own experience and each experience depends on what the member puts into JLAC. Based on your feedback via conversations and the GMM survey, our Placement Fair in February was fun and informative. We want each member to have an active role in designing her League experience based on her availability, her skills and abilities she wants to use for the League, and what skills she desires to learn. This is a fresh idea from the Association and thanks to conferences, we are learning more about how to best engage members.

Our signature project, Kids in the Kitchen, was held at Noble Street Festival again this year in downtown Anniston on April 2nd. This supports our Focus Area "Healthy Lifestyle Choices in Children." Since this is the final year of our commitment to this Focus Area, as well as our Adopt-A-School engagement, we are transitioning out of a Focus Areas and into Issue-Based Community Impact. This expands on what we did with a Focus Area to a more holistic League approach. Each aspect of the League will circle around to the Issue we choose. It's an exciting time in the League as we decide how we can best leverage our League to make the greatest impact in our community!

We are strong women growing strong communities. Our actions as a League and as League members have the power to multiply once we invest in ourselves and our community. New opportunities and challenges will be presented to us and together, we can change our world!

Lana Smith



President, 2015-17

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2015-2016 Board of Directors

President
Lana Smith

Secretary
Mary Martha Dalrymple

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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Welcome New Active Members



On January 12, 2016, the Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Inc. welcomed 18 ladies from the New Member Class into Active Membership.

New Active Members Includes:

Mindi Amberson, Diandra Baeza, Jackie Blackwell, Katy Burley, Lana Dillesshaw, Brooke Duhaime, Dana Jennings, Kendra Lackey, Samiejo Legg, Jacki-Lyn Lowry, Kanani Miller, Morgan Montiel, Jordan Pilkington, Jessica Reed (not pictured), Maria Rosales, Katie Tyler, Laura Wesson, and Michelle Yancey

Looking to get involved and to make a difference in your community?

The Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Inc. may be the organization for you. We are a group of over 100 women (actives and sustainers) who volunteer our time, knowledge, and resources to better other women and children in our community. We partner the volunteerism with a social aspect and have a lot of fun together!

INTERESTED IN *Membership?*

Recruitment for our 2016-2017 New Member Class will begin soon! We encourage you to explore our website for more information on joining our League or to see who all you might know who is involved in our League.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact JLAC VP Membership at membership@jlanniston.org.



Fund Development

This spring JLAC members participated in the Martin's Family Clothing Benefit sale. Discount tickets were sold that enabled the buyer to 20% off their purchase on April 16th. All tickets sales plus a bonus for coupons used that day also went to support our Leagues mission. This event raised a total of **\$777** to support JLAC! Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser!

As we are preparing to close out another League year on May 31st we want to thank all our community partners for the support you have offered this year. The work our League does in the community would not be possible without your support. We look forward to another great year with you all. For more information on how to become a Community Partner Sponsor or how to support our League in the upcoming League year, visit: www.jlanniston.org/community-partners/

Finance

Membership renewals for the 2016-2017 League year have been emailed and/or mailed out to all Active and Sustaining members. We ask that you please respond to your renewal by our Annual Meeting on May 10th. We appreciate all our members and the support they provide for our League as we make a difference in our community. If you are a past member and would like to rejoin the League as an Active or Sustaining member we invite you back and would love to have you! Please contact our VP Membership at membership@jlanniston.org for more information.

Governance

It is an exciting time for the Nominating Committee! At the January GMM, we announced the upcoming open Board positions available for slate for the League year of 2016-2017, with a deadline to apply as February 11. At the February GMM, we announced our new idea to potentially slate more than our standard three Nominating Committee members, with a deadline to apply as February 18. We also held our Committee Placement Fair at the February GMM, allowing members to better learn about the committees and to rank their top 3 choices for committee placement for 2016-2017. Congratulations to Dana Jennings, whose completed placement card was drawn for our prize!

Nominating Committee has relished the chance to make improvements to our nominating and placement processes. First, we created an application for the open Board positions. This allowed us to compare experiences of the applicants as well as read their personal thoughts and ideas pertaining to their position of interest. Secondly, we asked applicants to include a resume, which provided better detail of their education, work, and volunteer experiences. Lastly, we interviewed each applicant by telephone conference on February 22 and 23, which fostered interesting discussions. After these steps, your Nominating Committee was quite confident in choosing slate, which was presented at our March GMM. Before presenting slate, we also presented our updated bylaws. Membership was given one month to look over both the slate and bylaws before voting at our April GMM. Voting took place by absentee ballots and in person at the April GMM by Active members where quorum was met and bylaws and slate were voted to be approved.

Sincerely,
Lori Ellis [VP Governance/Nominating Chair], Kristie Goodson, Angie Moore

Congratulations to the 2016-2017 Board of Directors and Nominating Committee!

President: Lana Smith
President-Elect: Amanda Martin
Secretary: Lori Ellis
VP Community Impact: Tina Roberts
VP Finance: Jennifer Jones
VP Fund Development: Lindsay Tyson
VP Marketing: TBA
VP Membership: Casey MacAllister
Nominating Committee: Mary Martha Dalrymple, Kristie Goodson, Morgan Montiel, Lisa Spurling

2015-2016 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Gold Partner:

Webb Concrete
& Building Materials

Silver Partner:

Center for Domestic
Preparedness
Employee Association

Bronze Partners:

Eastman

Service Master by
Mimsco

Supporter Level:

Anniston Eye Clinic

Patron:

JLAC Board of
Directors

Community Impact

At our March GMM we had a Done-in-a-Meeting project to raise money for the Weaver Elementary School GOTCHA program that reward students caught in good and kind behavior with small prizes to keep them active. Thanks to our wonderful members we raised **\$475** for this program!

On March 1-2, our League sponsored the 'Donuts with Your Darlings' breakfast for Weaver kids to share with their moms and dads during Read Across America Week.

A committee of Active and Sustaining League members worked to review applications and interview candidates to select a deserving young lady for our Nancy Julian Distinguished Young Woman Award. This award was established by the Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun, Inc., in 1996. It honors the memory of Nancy Julian, a very active member of our League and community. Each year the award goes to an outstanding high school senior in Calhoun County, Alabama, who has maintained an excellent academic record and has displayed a willingness to serve her school and community through volunteerism and extra-curricular activities. This year's recipient has been chosen and will be introduced at our Annual Meeting on May 10th.

This spring, over 30 Active and Sustaining members volunteered at our Kids in the Kitchen booth at Noble Street Festival on April 2. At our booth in the KidsZone, children were able to pick up a healthy snack, plant a tomato plant to take home, win different KITK cookbooks, and participate in fun Zumba exercises. All these activities promote the Leagues current focus area of Healthy Lifestyle Choices in Children. Our booth was open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and served over **300 children** throughout the day! Within our first hour open we had our first repeat 'customer' from last years KITK booth. She came by with her two daughters and told us that she was so happy to see us there again and hoped she would find us. As her daughters grabbed a snack and planted their tomatoes she told us how big their plants had grown last year and that her family used them to **share food** with a family in need, even canning the last of the summer tomatoes for that family to use throughout the winter. Her and her girls were excited to be able to give back to the family again this year with their KITK tomatoes!

Kids in the Kitchen



January Membership Meeting

We had a great first General Membership meeting of 2016! We officially welcomed 18 new ladies into Active membership. These ladies also presented on their successful New Member Project 'Fill Closets For Fall' and the impact it made on them and the families they served from Weaver Elementary School. After the induction we broke into small groups and shared mid-League year updates. Afterward, a group of us enjoyed a dinner together at a local Mexican restaurant.



February Membership Meeting

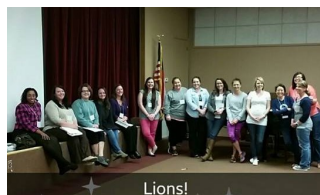
This GMM we heard from three members who attended AJLI ODI conference on behalf of JLAC. We also had our placement fair for the 2016-2017 League year. Members were able to visit tables where each of our VPs created a fun presentation to share what her League committee does to support our League mission. Members were then able to rank their top choices for next year's placement.

We also introduced a fun contest for membership to share why they #LoveTheJLAC on Facebook and Instagram! One participating member was the winner of a fun JLAC prize for her post!



March Membership Meeting

Our March GMM was a full one! We celebrated International Women's Day, took a fun personality test and members participated in a Done-In-A-Meeting to support Weaver's GOTCHA program. Slate and bylaws amendments were presented by Governance and the Nominating Committee, and we heard from **Sasha Robertson** on behalf of one of our Community Partners, **Center for Domestic Preparedness Employee Association**.



April Membership Meeting

At our last GMM for this League year, we celebrated National Volunteer Month and voted on bylaws revisions and slate for the 2016-2017 Board of Directors. The Community Impact committee lead a presentation and discussion on new League Focus Area since our current three year commitment is coming to an end. This presentation was amazing and these ladies have put in a lot of hard work and research to find the best area for our League to make a lasting impact in our community! Stay tuned as we share more details soon about this amazing service opportunity!

Moments & Milestones

MEMBERS OF THE MONTH:

These ladies have been chosen among the Active League members as Member of the Month for their exceptional efforts and commitment to our League, going above and beyond their normal duties.

December: Holly Hurst

January: Casey MacAllister

February: Jennifer Maddox

March: Laura Jones

LITTLE LEAGUERS:



Braxton Kirk was born April 4th at 10:51am weighing 6lbs 14oz and 19.5" long. Congratulations to mommy, Active Member, **Elizabeth Kirk**, dad Jarod, and big brothers Bridger and Bennett.



Michael Fischer Burley was born April 8th at 8:52am, weighing 8lbs 3oz and 21" long. Congratulations to mommy, Active Member, **Katie Burley**, and dad Chris!

WEDDING BELLS:



Congratulations to **Mary Martha Hall**, Active Member, and Blake Dalrymple, who were married January 9, 2016. The wedding was held at Anniston First United Methodist Church and the reception was at the Buckner Center in Anniston, AL.

Moments & Milestones

MOVING ON UP:



CONGRATULATIONS to Active Member, **Jennifer Jones**, who was promoted within her company, Wells Fargo, on February 8. She moves to the Piedmont branch as the Service Manager. Jennifer has been with Wells Fargo Jacksonville branch since 2014 serving as a Personal Banker.



CONGRATULATIONS to Active Member, **Holly Hurst**, on her promotion and new job title with Honda as an Inventory Analyst within the Inventory Management Team. Her new responsibilities include daily management of inventory transactions at steel sheet processing centers and inventory management at various warehouses in the South. Furthermore, she is involved with investigating and resolving inventory gaps to the Raw Materials Supply System for Honda.



CONGRATULATIONS to Active Member, **Casey MacAllister**, who became the General Manager of the Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton in Oxford, AL (owned and managed by Hall Equities Group of Walnut Creek, CA) on December 28, 2015. She will continue to serve the corporate brand as an Ambassador to all Hampton hotels worldwide.



CONGRATULATIONS to Active Member, **Diandra Baeza**, who has recently hired as a Disney Travel Agent! Contact her to plan your next trip to the happiest place on earth!

MEMBERS IN THE COMMUNITY:



Our amazing President, Lana Smith, has been mentoring a student at Wellborn Elementary since mid-November. Under Lana's mentorship, this student has gone from being held back last year to making honor roll this January! The following praise comes from WWES Guidance Counselor, and newly active JLAC member, Mindi Amberson:

"Lana became a mentor at Wellborn Elementary after tirelessly pursuing mentorship through her employer, the Anniston Army Depot. Seriously, she even had to give her own blood to join in! Since Lana came to Wellborn we have watched her mentee blossom. Lana not only takes time to get to know her, but purposefully attends special days at school such as Christmas programs, Awards Day and much more. She always listens to the child, not like one just killing time, but rather one who cares for a child and wants to see life through her eyes. On more than one occasion, Lana has come to me with concerns for her mentee and relentlessly talks through solutions until one is found. When done right, mentoring changes lives. Lana has achieved this status within such a short time period that it is a miraculous blessing to watch this new confident child walk through our halls greeting me with a smile where a once withdrawn, sad face used to be."

Ladies, we could not ask for a better example of service than Lana Smith!
We love you and appreciate you so much!

AJLI Organizational Development Institute (ODI)
January 29-31, 2016
Hyatt Regency at Miami, FL

Attendees:

Jennifer Jones [Treasurer-Elect]
Casey MacAllister [Membership Committee]
Lindsay Tyson [Fundraising Chair]

As a whole, we thoroughly enjoyed our experience being able to represent JLAC at this conference. We were able to meet women from all walks of life and discuss ideas and share knowledge of how to make our League more impactful. The **diversity and inclusion** discussion was one of the conference highlights that spoke to us. It made us really think about how we perceive others, what can we do to change those perceptions, and to always remember to not judge a book by its cover.

It was nice to be in warmer weather and get to experience a few sights and sounds of Miami while learning how to help our League reach its goals. The speakers that stood out to us were Vicki Clark, who spoke about moving toward diversity and inclusion and cultural acceptance, and special guest speaker, Andria Hanley, who spoke about Camillus House, a full service center offering a “continuum of care” for persons who are poor and homeless.

Jennifer attended learning sessions on Building Internal Capacity. “I gained valuable knowledge in the area of handling finances for the League and how important it is to plan and do research to make sure you have an effective budget in place for your League. I am thankful that we have money we can give back to our community without major restrictions. I learned that is essential to identify and develop women within the League who are comfortable with operational issues in more effectively run community programs and fundraisers.”

Casey attended learning sessions on Membership Development and Lindsay attended sessions on Diversified Fund Development.

*Special thanks to these ladies for taking time to attend AJLI training and develop into future Leaders for our League!



Casey, Jennifer, and Lindsay with speaker Vicki Clark



Strong Women Growing Stronger Communities

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ANNISTON CALHOUN, INC.

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Dates to Remember:

May

3: Board Meeting 6 P.M.
10: JLAC May Dinner 6 P.M.
12-14: AJLI Annual Conference
Atlanta, GA

June

3-5: AJLI ODI
Houston, TX
11: Board Retreat

July

Summer Social for potential new
members: Details TBA



JUNIOR LEAGUE
of ANNISTON - CALHOUN, INC.



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