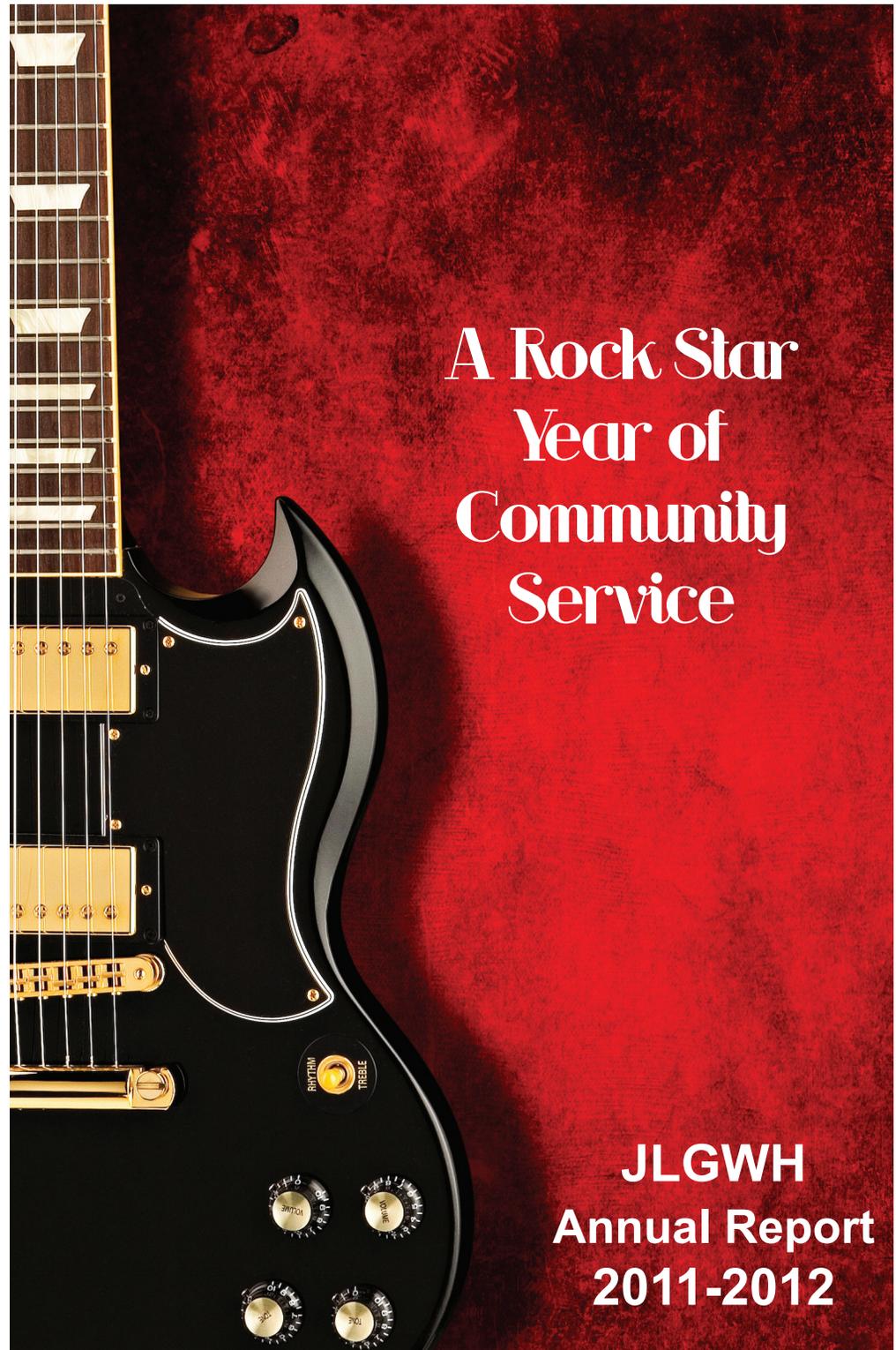




**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
GREATER WINTER HAVEN**
Women building better communities®

Post Office Box 7161
Winter Haven, Florida 33883-7161
863.583.7659

www.JLGWH.org • www.facebook.com/JLGWH



**A Rock Star
Year of
Community
Service**

**JLGWH
Annual Report
2011-2012**

Thank You Sponsors

The Junior League of Greater Winter Haven would like to thank our sponsors for all of their support this year. It is with their generous contributions that we are able to make such a positive impact in our community. For a full list of JLGWH sponsors please visit our website at: www.JLGWH.com.

2011-2012 Provisional Class

We are so happy and excited to have such an amazing group of new members. Thank you for your time and dedication this year, the League is very lucky to have you as members!

Suzie Bauer • Blair Brooks • Katie Brooks

Kirsten Curling • Dauphne Earnest • Erica Gill

Julie Hickman • Erica Humphrey • Amanda O'Halloran

Courtney Pate • Mia Schemmel • Lindsay Volpe



Board Members

President	<i>Jae Lynn Akin</i>
President-Elect.....	<i>Jill Bentley</i>
Finance VP	<i>Jill Dunlop</i>
Finance VP-Elect.....	<i>Jennifer Schaal</i>
Membership VP.....	<i>Amy Smith</i>
Community VP.....	<i>Paula Orcutt</i>
Communications VP	<i>Katie Campbell-Barris</i>
Publications.....	<i>Jessica Fischer</i>
Public Relations	<i>Angela Newell</i>
Fund Development.....	<i>Lora Donley</i>
Community Research / Project Development.....	<i>Mary Beth Jackson</i>



MISSION

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

FUTURE VISION

The Junior League of Greater Winter Haven, Inc. will be recognized as a civic leader that effectively impacts our community individually and collectively. With a pioneering spirit, the Junior League of Greater Winter Haven will work to meet the needs of our community through trained volunteers, education, funding and collaboration.

REACHING OUT

The Junior League of Greater Winter Haven, Inc. reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in, and commitment to volunteerism. No woman shall be excluded from membership because of race, religion, national origin, or disability.

1901 - The Junior League is Founded

In 1901, Mary Harriman, a 19-year-old New York City debutante with a social conscience, forms the Junior League for the Promotion of Settlement Movements. Harriman mobilizes a group of 80 other young women, hence the name "Junior" League, to work to improve child health, nutrition and literacy among immigrants living on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Inspired by her friend Mary, Eleanor Roosevelt joins the Junior League of The City of New York in 1903, teaching calisthenics and dancing to young girls at the College Settlement House.

1907-1920 - The Movement Expands

The second Junior League is formed in Boston, MA in 1907 and is soon followed by the founding of the Brooklyn, NY Junior League in 1910. In 1912, The Junior League of Montreal becomes the first League in Canada. Junior Leagues shift their focus from settlement house work to social, health and educational issues that affect the community at large. The Junior League of Brooklyn successfully petitions the Board of Education to provide free lunches in city schools. In 1914, the founders of the Junior League of St. Louis march for women's suffrage. During World War I, Junior Leagues play an active role, selling bonds and working in Army hospitals. The San Francisco Junior League forms a motor delivery service that serves as a model for the nationwide Red Cross Motor Corps.

1920s-1930s

In 1921, approximately thirty Junior Leagues create the Association of Junior Leagues of America (AJLA) to provide professional support to the Leagues. Dorothy Whitney Straight becomes the first AJLA President. During the 1920s, the Junior League of Chicago pioneers children's theater, an idea that is subsequently taken up by more than 100 Leagues across the country. Junior Leagues respond to the Great Depression by opening nutrition centers and milk stations. They operate baby clinics, day nurseries for working mothers, birth control clinics and training schools for nurses. Junior Leagues also establish volunteer bureaus to recruit, train and place much-needed volunteers in the community. Many Leagues create State Public Affairs Committees (SPACs) to influence public welfare policy. The Junior League of Mexico City joins the Association in 1930, further expanding the international nature of the organization. By this time more than 100 Leagues are in existence.

1940s

During World War II, Junior League members play a major role in the war effort by chairing hundreds of war-related organizations in virtually every city where Junior Leagues operate. Canadian and American League members serve overseas. Oveta Culp Hobby, a Houston League member, leads the Women's Army Corps. In 1940, the first Junior League cookbook, a compilation of recipes by The Junior League Augusta titled *Recipes from Southern Kitchens*, appears and begins a tradition of fundraising through cookbook publishing.

We are an amazing group of women, doing amazing things in our community. I am honored and beyond excited to be your President next year. I am excited to see everyone work together to fulfill our Mission as we promote voluntarism, develop our potential, and improve our community with the leadership of our trained volunteers.

We will be jumping off of the Big Stage and onto the Runway. We are stepping onto the Runway to Community Impact. We are all super "role" models, in our community, and in our homes for our families. Together we can impact our community by developing, and growing our projects, and fundraisers with training and everyone sharing their special talents to have a super year!

Have a great summer, enjoy your friends and family and get some beauty rest so you are all ready to step onto the Runway next year!

Best Wishes,
Jill Bentley, President -Elect

*"Service to others is
the rent you pay for
your room here on
earth"*

- Muhammad Ali



President-Elect Report

Dear Members and Friends,

We have had a Rock Star year as we Rocked our League, Rocked our Community, and Rocked the Future! As I look back over the past year I cannot keep from thinking about the impact we have made in our community thanks to each of you.



We set the stage early and began our league year with a great training by Dr. Mimi Hull. A fabulous Provisional class jumped right in to help us Rock. I am so proud of all of the hard work and dedication that the Provisional class has shown this year. I am so excited to see the work they will do in the league to rock the future of our league and community.

Looking back over the year I am so proud of our league and the work we have done to fulfill our mission. We have had great training opportunities this year as we have come in contact with some obstacles worked together as creative, hard working women and contoured them. Our projects and fundraisers are at a whole new great level. We are working together to raise money to help make our projects outstanding and make a great impact in our community.

Our lead musician this year has really done an outstanding job! I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to work with Jae Lynn this year. Jae Lynn has led this league to success and has truly moved our league forward. She has created an environment for great things in our league and our community. I plan on continuing the path that Jae Lynn has set, and continue to Rock the Future. I want to thank Jae Lynn, for being a fabulous President and role model for me as well as our league. I have had so much fun working with Jae Lynn over the past year, and gaining a great friend! I am honored to follow in her footsteps and continue her great work.

1950s

By the 1950s, nearly 150 Junior Leagues are volunteering in remedial reading centers, diagnostic testing programs and programs for gifted and challenged children. Leagues collaborate in the development of educational television and are on the forefront of promoting quality programming for children. In 1952, the Mexico City League establishes the Comité Internacional Pro Ciegos, a comprehensive, international center for the blind. By the end of the decade, Junior Leagues are involved in over 300 arts projects and multiple partnerships in many cities to establish children's museums. The 1950s also marks the growth of regional Junior League cookbooks as a key fundraising tool, spearheaded by the Charleston League who aggressively and successfully markets its Charleston Receipts cookbooks to food editors and critics around the country.

1960s

In this period of great turbulence and social change, Junior Leagues rise to meet many challenges. As the decade progresses, nearly half the Leagues spearhead health and welfare projects, including alcohol programs, adoption services, clinics, convalescent care and hospital services, and many Junior Leagues begin to add environmental issues to their agendas. The Junior League of Toledo produces the educational film, Fate of a River, a report on the devastating effects of water pollution. Leagues also establish programs addressing the education, housing, social services and employment needs of urban residents. By now, more than 200 Leagues are part of the Association, which dedicates itself anew to building leadership skills and increasing membership diversity.



1970s

In 1971, the Association changes its name to the Association of Junior Leagues, Inc. (AJL). Throughout the 1970s, Leagues expand their participation in public affairs issues, especially in the areas of child health and juvenile justice. In 1973, almost 200 Leagues work with the National Commission on Crime and Delinquency and the U.S. Justice Department on a four-year program seeking to improve the criminal justice system. In Canada, the Canadian Federation is formed to promote public issues among the Canadian Leagues. In 1978, the first Junior League outside North America is established in London.

Junior League History

1980s - 211 Junior Leagues

During the 1980s, Junior Leagues in the U.S. gain recognition for advocacy efforts to improve the child welfare system. U.S. Leagues also help gain passage of the first federal legislation to address domestic violence. More than 100 Leagues develop the "Woman to Woman" campaign that actively and comprehensively tackles the impact of alcohol abuse on women. The Canadian Federation holds its first national conference focusing on violence against women and the negative impact of pornography. In 1981, Junior League of Phoenix member, Sandra Day O'Connor, becomes the first woman to be appointed a Supreme Court Justice of the United States. In 1988, the Association officially becomes the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI), better reflecting the international scope of the member Leagues. In 1989, the Association is presented with the prestigious U.S. President's Volunteer Action Award.

1990s - 294 Junior Leagues

In the early 1990s, 230 Leagues participate in a public awareness campaign to encourage early childhood immunization called "Don't Wait to Vaccinate." In 1998, Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker becomes the first Hispanic President of the Association. The Junior Leagues renew their dedication to the Junior League Mission. The Association's Board adopts goals to guide and position the Association for its second century. The goals stress the importance of the Association in helping Junior Leagues develop women for community leadership, achieve a shared, positive identity, and function as strong, viable and healthy organizations, consistent with The Junior League Mission.

2001-Present - The Junior League's Second Century

In 2001, Deborah Brittain, the Association's first African-American President, presides over The Junior League's centennial celebration. Maya Angelou, Nane Annan, and Gloria Steinem, among others, address the members at the Association's Annual Conference in New York City, site of the first Junior League. AJLI co-chairs the U.S. Steering Committee for the United Nations' International Year of the Volunteer (IYV) with the Points of Light Foundation. As part of IYV activities, President Vicente Fox recognizes the Junior League of Mexico City's members for their "high level of social leadership and human quality." In 2002, the Association launches the Junior League PR/Marketing Campaign, which includes a new brand logo and tagline. The Association's Board of Directors also launches its "Healthy League Initiative," a formal self-evaluation process designed to ensure that each League continues to achieve its full potential in its community by assessing its strengths and weaknesses. In 2006, more than 225 Junior Leagues participate in the launch of Junior Leagues' Kids in the Kitchen, an initiative to address the problems associated with childhood obesity and poor nutrition. The initiative is taken on long-term in 2007, with more than 255 Junior Leagues participating across four countries. In 2008, The Association of Junior Leagues International wins the Award of Excellence in the 2008 Associations Advance America Awards program, a national competition sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) and The Center for Leadership, Washington, D.C. for its Kids in the Kitchen program.

Fund Development

We would like to thank the members of the JLGWH and our sponsors throughout the community for supporting our 2011-2012 fundraisers, Merry Market and Casino Night. The money raised through these efforts directly impacts our projects and membership development.

Merry Market is an exclusive shopping event with over 40 vendors set up at Olde Towne Square in downtown Winter Haven. This two-day shopping weekend was kicked off with our first annual Hops & Grapes event. Guests received gift bags, an array of appetizers, entertainment, photo booths, wine and craft beer to accompany their shopping experience. We would like to thank the Merry Market Committee and the Hops & Grapes Committee for all of their dedication to this fundraiser. The Provisional class also helped tremendously with the kick off party, it was their hard work and vision that made the evening successful. Save the date for this year's Merry Market: November 2&3.



We ended the year with the Casino Night Fundraiser which was a Mardi Gras themed event held at Tanner's in Winter Haven. The night included Cajun food, Texas holdem, black jack, music, drinks, dancing, a silent auction and fabulous raffle prizes. The Casino Night committee deserves a great deal of appreciation for their commitment and hard work pulling off this amazing fundraiser.

Special Thanks to all of our Fundraising Chairs and Co Chairs this year...

Merry Market—Angela Newell & Hannah Taylor
Hops & Grapes—Danielle Chevrier & Lauren Jones
Casino Night—Jaleeann Johnston & Amanda Rabon

Lora Donley
Fund Development Chair

Community Report

The women of The Junior League of Greater Winter Haven not only worked on the elected projects and fundraisers but they also volunteered at other events in the community. This program that we call Done in a Snap, sets us apart from other organizations in the community. This year the Board voted in 6 Done in a Snaps. We were able to provide trained volunteers for The Regency’s Baby Fair, The Big Pink Ribbon, The Salvation Army’s Christmas Toy Shop, Winter Haven Hospital Foundation/PSC’s Polk County Cup, Healthy Kids Day at the Y and Heartland for Children’s Pinwheels for Prevention. Our time and effort was greatly appreciated by those we assisted.

This year we were able to award 3 - \$1000 Silver Tassel Scholarships to High School Seniors from All Saint’s Academy, Haines City and Lake Region High Schools. The recipients are well-rounded individuals who have given to others through community service.

Lastly, the Golden Gloves Award honors an individual who serves as a role model to others due to his/her leadership and dedication as a volunteer. This year JLGWH will make a \$250 donation to the qualifying 501 (c)(3) organization of the recipient’s choice.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Orcutt, Community Vice President

Grants 4 Greatness

We believe that motivated and inspired teachers know the needs of their students best. The Junior League of Greater Winter Haven awarded 16 grants up to \$250 to individuals who proposed innovative programs, participated in high-quality professional development experiences, had a need for resources, or presented an experience that profoundly affected their student achievement.

Congratulations to the following educators:

Fall 2011 Grant Recipients: Ryan Walsh-All Saint's Academy, Liming Maguire-All Saint's Academy, Danielle Bilbrey-Wahneta Elementary, Julie Sear- Grace Lutheran, Kevin Hubert- Garden Grove Elementary, Phillis Brady and Belinda Ressel-Chain of Lakes Elementary.

Spring 2012 Grant Recipients: Krista Wright- Caldwell Elementary, Brandi Miller-Caldwell Elementary, Darla Fenley- Chain of Lakes Elementary, Mallory Mannix-Chain of Lakes Elementary, Teresa Negley- Chain of Lakes Elementary, Sarah Brucato- PSC Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School, Melodie Hoffman-Winter Haven High School, Judy Symes-Jewett Academy Middle School, Mrs. Johnson & Mrs. Campbell- Beymer Kindergarten



Famous JL Members

Member	Positions & Community Service
Mary Harriman Rumsey	Founder of JL, National Resource Administration
Eleanor Roosevelt	First Lady; social reformer; humanitarian; author. U.S. Delegate to the United Nations
Oveta Culp Hobby	First Commander of Women’s Army Corps; First US Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare
Sandra Day O’Connor	First Female U.S. Supreme Court Justice
Barbara Bush	First Lady; literacy activist
Laura Bush	First Lady; literacy activist
Betty Ford	First Lady; substance abuse prevention activist
Nancy Reagan	First Lady; substance abuse prevention activist
Julia McWilliams Child	Chef; author of “Mastering the Art of French Cooking”
Eudor Welty	Author; Pulitzer Prize for The Optimist’s Daughter
Shirley Temple Black	Child actress; Delegate to the United Nations; U.S. Ambassador
Katharine Hepburn	Actress; women’s issues activist
Sarah Palfrey Cook Danzing	Tennis champion; two-time Wimbledon champion





Our theme for the year was to Rock the Community, Rock the League, and Rock the Future.....and we have done just that! I am so proud of all we have accomplished, the lives we have touched, the friendships we have made and nurtured, and the development we have all received. It has truly been a Rock Star year and you all deserve a standing ovation!

A rock band needs every singer, instrumentalist, and back stage hand to make a concert successful. Regardless of your placement in the league this year- your role was vital to our success to ensure that we promoted voluntaryism, developed women, and impacted our community. Through your hard work and commitment to our league we did make a difference to the women, children, and families in our community and you should all be very proud! We raised money, read stories, awarded grants and scholarships, educated families, made a room more comfortable and inviting for new mothers, launched a magazine, and we all developed ourselves in some way this year. Our projects and fundraisers were definitely Grammy winners this year because of your truly rock star work!

I am especially proud of our Provisionals this year and I am so excited to see each of these amazing women rise to active status. They jumped onto the stage with us last fall and have not stopped performing yet. They rocked Hops and Grapes with star studded efforts and Kids and the Kitchen was a fabulous event. It has been fun to see these women grow and develop in the league and I'm so excited to see where the Runway takes them next year.

Our sustainers have joined us on stage this year in greater numbers and with enthusiastic support. These women have a wealth of knowledge and experiences to share with us and it's been an encore to our year to see them connect with us at the Sustainer Luncheon and our other events. It is so important to have sustainer support and I look forward to seeing even more sustainers on the Runway next year

JLGWH Playground Project Update

BACKGROUND: The Junior League Playground project is a 5 year project designed to build an inclusive playground accessible to all children in the community. With childhood obesity on the rise, there is a tremendous need in our community to provide another recreational opportunity for children to interact with siblings and their peers. While there are several existing playgrounds in Winter Haven, many are in undesirable neighborhoods and are in desperate need of structural improvements.

OBJECTIVES: Plan and design a Playground for the Winter Haven Community, utilize the services and resources available from the Winter Haven Parks & Recreation Department, marketing, grant writing, and fundraising.

PROGRESS: During the first exploratory year of the project polls were taken of the members and community members. The league voted to improve an existing park whereas the community voted to create a splash park. A website was created at Kaboom!, a nonprofit organization, which provides assistance to groups to develop community parks. During several meetings with the Parks and Recreation Department with the City of Winter Haven it became apparent that they want the League's assistance in revitalizing an existing park or a significant financial contribution to construct a multi-million dollar complex in SE Winter Haven. To date, the city does not own any land to construct such a park in the SE section. As part of the exploratory process the committee researched parks created by various leagues throughout the country. Overwhelmingly, other leagues have created splash parks. In reaching out to the Junior League of Lynchburg it was revealed that they built a splash park for around \$30,000.00 on land donated by the city of Lynchburg. Through various fundraisers the league continues to grow the size of the park by adding on additional play areas. The Lynchburg league believes that their project has provided an outlet for children to play especially during the summer months.



RECOMMENDATION: At the present time, it does not appear that the Junior League of Winter Haven has enough resources to build the type of park that is desired by community. At this time the City of Winter Haven will not donate any land for the construction of a splash park. The option of improving a park is not the best option since the parks that need improvement are not located in ideal settings. The new Landings development has designated a splash park in its initial designs and it may behoove the league to reach out to its developer to assist in the project. It is the committee's recommendation to put the project on hold and donate its resources to other community needs.

Community Projects

The Junior League of Greater Winter Community projects for the 2011-2012 focused on families, women, children, and community. Our main projects this year were Family Fit Fest, A Mother's Voice, finishing the Mother & Baby Comfort room at the Regency, and completing the research on the community need for a park.



Kids in the Kitchen paired with Family Fit Fest for a fantastic Saturday filled with children of all ages. Central Park in downtown Winter Haven was the site for the second year in a row and we had a great turnout! As the families registered each child was given a Bingo card to complete. They had to visit each of the vendors and get their cards stamped to complete a full black out card Bingo. The parents received a nice tote bag to collect the valuable give-aways and information that the vendors brought to share. Our provisional class designed the "Kids Cook-Off" competition. Each child had the opportunity to make their way thru 4 stations starting with designing their apron, creating a fruit salad, tackling ants on a log, and creating their own blend of trail mix. The children also received a set of recipe cards to take with them. A fun run was set up around the park so all age groups could compete and enjoy a run with the crowd cheering them on! The Family Fit Fest chaired by April Porter presented the community with over 30 vendors promoting and showcasing healthy living, health screenings, nutrition and exercise. The league gave out 200 t-shirts to the kids who completed their Bingo cards. The league was also given the opportunity to promote the event on both radio and local TV.

A Mother's Voice is in it's third year and going strong with a dozen ladies trained and more than 20 recordings done! Our partnership with the Polk County Sheriff's department remains strong this year with Laura Frost leading the project. AMV reaches out to women who have been incarcerated and are separated from their children. In an effort to promote literacy and family connections, trained league members record the women reading a story to their child. The recording, the storybook, and CD player are delivered to the children so they may listen to a story read to them by their mother. This project runs year round.



Through donations and purchases the league provided cabinets, countertops, faucet, sink, flooring, TV, DVD's, furniture and books for The Regency Mother and Baby Comfort room. Courtney Marshall provided design assistance and acted as a liaison between the league and The Regency. The unique room was designed to provide comfort and peaceful environment for moms and their newborns.

Special thank you to project chairs: April Porter, Courtney Marshall, Laura Frost and Renee Pobjecky!

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Jackson, Community Research and Project Development

It has truly been my honor to serve as your President and I thank you for entrusting me with the leadership of our very amazing organization. I am especially grateful for the rock star women who have led beside me on the board. These women have played beautiful music all year long – no matter what came before us or what hurdle we had to overcome – they have led as selfless servant leaders – committed to the good of our league, committed to making our community better, and committed to development, and committed to our success. A big thank you to this great group of women!!

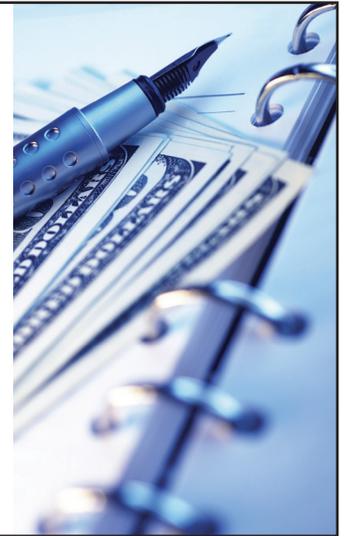
I'm excited to see Jill Bentley step off of the concert stage and onto the Runway of Service as she begins her year as President. She has spent this year planning and preparing. She is ready to be your President. She is a truly talented servant leader - full of ideas, enthusiasm, creativity, and a huge passion for the league. I can't wait to see where the Runway to Service takes us!

My best,
Jae Lynn Akin
President 2011-2012

FINANCE REPORT

As April 30th 2012:	
Program Expenses:	\$12,523.50
Support Expenses:	\$4,805.60
Fundraiser income:	\$24,063.28
Community Project Expenses:	\$11,449.79
Checking Account:	\$38,426.96
Savings Account:	\$52,651.19

Respectfully Submitted:
Jill Dunlop, Finance Vice President
Jennifer Schaal, Finance Vice President-Elect



AJLI

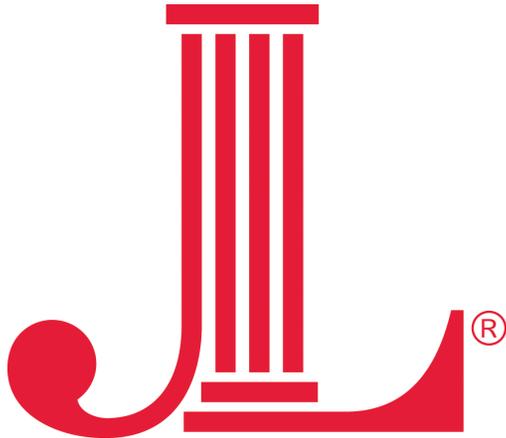
The Junior League of Greater Winter Haven is one of the 293 leagues with membership in the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. Learn more and sign in to the “member” section at www.AJLI.org.

OUR VISION

The Junior League: Women Around the World as Catalysts for Lasting Community Change.

ASSOCIATION PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. is to add value to its Member Leagues in their fulfillment of The Junior League Mission.



*The Junior League of Greater Winter Haven
is proud to celebrate 31 years
of improving our community!*

This year the members of the Junior League of Great Winter Haven were invited to Rock the Community, Rock the League, and Rock the Future. We definitely were able to do all of the above and so much more with such a fabulous group of ladies within the League!

It was a great year, beginning in August and September when all the members were able to meet their Placement Advisors and get to know other members within the League. During our General Membership meetings, we focused on how to be a good volunteer, health & fitness, the joys and tears of writing a book, mentoring in the Public School system, and hearing about the Strategic Roadmap from AJLI.

Jae Lynn Akin, our President, along with the Board helped to lead us along the way as we were all able to play an active role in various programs and events throughout the community. Our members continued with our Mother’s Voice Program, Family Fit Fest, Casino Night, wrapped up the Regency Project, continued with planning for the Parks Project, and promoted Hops and Grapes and Merry Market. Once again, our members were ROCKING!

In December, the slate for the 2012-2013 Executive Board was presented and was approved in January. Our Membership Advisors for 2012-2013 were also approved at that time. In April, we held a mini-placement fair, presenting new projects and fundraisers for 2012-2013 which our members were invited to participate in leading and facilitating. A new Placement Catalog was also presented to the members to aid in their decision making process. Members will then be placed into their roles for 2012-2013.

We had a wonderful group of new Provisionals join the League this year and we look forward to their involvement for years to come. It has been a ROCKING year and we could not have done it without wonderful membership support from the entire League. From Sustainers, to Advisory Actives, to Active members, to our brand new Provisionals, every single lady ensures that the JLGWH Rocks the Community, Rocks, the League, and Rocks the Future.

Thank you all for your hard work, your time, talents, and dedication to the JLGWH.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy L. Smith, Membership Vice President





A Rock Star Year of Community Service.



Post Office Box 7161

Winter Haven, Florida 33883-7161

863.583.7659

www.JLGWH.org • www.facebook.com/JLGWH