

SPRING 2015

THE LANTERN

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WILMINGTON, DE

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 2

A Bigger Impact **Doing More for Delaware's Neediest**

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Who is Erin Merryn?

Meet the Newest Actives!

Beat the Summer Heat: Can't Miss Summer Events



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THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WILMINGTON IS AN ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN COMMITTED TO PROMOTING VOLUNTARISM, DEVELOPING THE POTENTIAL OF WOMEN, AND IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE ACTION AND LEADERSHIP OF TRAINED VOLUNTEERS. ITS PURPOSE IS EXCLUSIVELY EDUCATIONAL AND CHARITABLE.

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Whale of a Sale

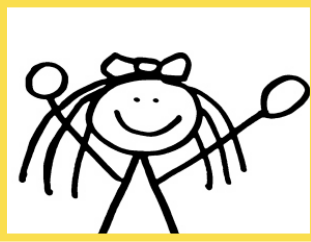
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Delcastle Golf Course
A.R. Morris Jewelers
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Chaddsford Winery
Penns Woods Winery
Judge Jane Brady
Jessica Dickerson
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*Gifts received as of 5/8/15

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Actives!



Virginia Atkins

I decided to join the Junior League because: I want to actively volunteer promoting social responsibility.

My favorite place in Delaware: Rehoboth Beach

My favorite song or artist: Coldplay

Two words to describe myself: Industrious and creative

Something on my bucket list: Travel the US in an R.V.

My life's mantra: "Better to give than receive."

Something that always makes me smile: Watching my daughter sleep



Carolyn Baker

I decided to join the Junior League because: I am interested in getting more involved in the community and meeting other women in the area (outside of work).

My favorite place in Delaware: Anywhere that I can do some tax-free shopping! Pizza by Elizabeth's is also at the top of my list...I love the décor and they have the best gluten-free pizza in the area! My fiancé took me there for dinner the night we got engaged.

My favorite song or artist: I don't have a particular song or artist right now...I like all kinds of music, but country is probably my favorite.

Two words to describe myself: Organized and thoughtful

Something on my bucket list: I studied abroad in Italy and would love to return there someday. There are so many things I wanted to do and see but I didn't have time for them all!

My life's mantra: "Never suppress a generous thought."

Something that always makes me smile: Old family photos/home movies



Coral Benedict

I decided to join the Junior League because: Wilmington is my home now so I would like to make an impact on the community and make some great friends along the way.

My favorite place in Delaware: The University of Delaware (it is where I met all of my best friends!)

My favorite song or artist: Drift Away by Mr. Probz

Two words to describe myself: Optimistic and organized

Something on my bucket list: Vegas with my best friends!

My life's mantra: "If you can't change it, don't worry about it."

Something that always makes me smile: Grumpy Cat

Something that always makes me smile: A good country concert, silly cat videos, and sitting on the beach with friends



Kia Booker

I decided to join the Junior League because: I wanted to volunteer with an organized group of women to make a difference in my community.

My favorite place in Delaware: I am a huge theatre buff, so I love the Delaware Theatre Company.

My favorite song or artist: Maxwell--he is my dream husband!

Two words to describe myself: Compassionate and giving

Something on my bucket list: Travel to all 50 states and see all seven continents. So far I have seen 37 states and four continents!

My life's mantra: "Live life to the fullest."

Something that always makes me smile: Spending time with my five year old nephew and four year old niece.



Lauren Brittingham

I decided to join the Junior League because: I wanted to become more involved in my community by giving back. I wanted to be part of something that would allow me to have fun while building lasting friendships and allowing me to give back to my community.

My favorite place in Delaware: Lewes Beach

My favorite song or artist: Red Hot Chili Peppers

Two words to describe myself: Sarcastic and witty

Something on my bucket list: To have lunch or dinner with Ina Gartner in her Hamptons home

Something that always makes me smile: The movie *Bridesmaids*



Marie Degnan

I decided to join the Junior League because: I live in Philadelphia and don't spend much time in Wilmington outside of work. I wanted to make more connections in Delaware.

My favorite place in Delaware: Pochi, a Chilean restaurant in downtown Wilmington

My favorite song or artist: Pop & classical-- Fiona Apple, Bach, Chopin, Debussy

Two words to describe myself: Ambitious & Detail Oriented

Something on my bucket list: Become fluent in a foreign language

My life's mantra: "Seize the day."

Something that always makes me smile: My cat's antics.



Jessica "Jess" Dickerson

I decided to join the Junior League because: I was looking to meet new people in my area, since I work from home (and with all guys). I also wanted to start volunteering again, I participated in a lot of volunteer projects when I lived in Maryland and miss it. I wanted to become more involved in my community- making a difference in someone else's life is amazing!

My favorite place in Delaware: Sitting in the sun at the beach. My family has a house right outside of Bethany Beach

My favorite song or artist: Anything Country!

Two words to describe myself: Independent and open-minded

Something on my bucket list: Skydive and travel to Europe again. (I've only been to Ireland)

My life's mantra: "Be happy with what you have, while working for what you want." "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams, live the life you've imagined."



Lauren Fortunato

I decided to join the Junior League because: Having recently moved back to Delaware after living in other states for seven years I am excited to meet new women and get involved in the community.

My favorite place in Delaware: The beaches- I have so many wonderful childhood memories!

My favorite song or artist: The Script

Two words to describe myself: Full of wanderlust

Something on my bucket list: Travel to as many countries as possible

My life's mantra: "Hard work pays off."



Natalie Kozlowski

I decided to join the Junior League because: I wanted to meet other woman with similar interests and participate in volunteer opportunities.

My favorite place in Delaware: James Farm Nature Reserve

Favorite song or artist: Fool in the Rain

If I was to describe myself in two words: Motivated, Analytical

Something on my bucket list: Travel to Ireland

My life's mantra: "There's always room for improvement" (In a good way!)

Something that always makes me smile: Food...I love food!



Kristin Lang

I decided to join the Junior League because: I wanted to meet new people and get involved in my community.

My favorite place in Delaware: The beaches and Ashland Nature Center

My favorite song or artist: The Avett Brothers

Something on my bucket list: See all 50 states and travel as much as I can!

Something that always makes me smile: Puppies



Allison McCowan

I decided to join the Junior League because: I wanted to branch out and become more involved in my community.

My favorite place in Delaware: Fenwick- my home!

My favorite song or artist: Michael Jackson

Two words to describe myself: Motivated and fun

Something on my bucket list: Take a sommelier class or two

My life's mantra: "Why Not?"

Something that always makes me smile: Stupid things that pets and animals do



Isabella "Bella" Musial

I decided to join the Junior League because: I am new in the Wilmington area and am looking to meet new people and offer my time for volunteering.

My favorite place in Delaware: I am still looking! I would love for someone to show me around!

My favorite song or artist: I have a long and eclectic list!! Some include Modest Mouse, Vampire Weekend, Juan Luis Guerra, Elvis Crespo, 30 Seconds to Mars....

Two words to describe myself: Honest and loyal

Something on my bucket list: Travel to Ireland and Greece, and see the Nazca Lines.

My life's mantra: "Laugh when you can, apologize when you should, and let go of what you can't change."

Something that always makes me smile: Just about anything my pit bull does!



Ciara Rodgers

I decided to join the Junior League because: After spending over a year wedding planning, I realized I wanted to find a way to give back to my community and I am really looking forward to making new friends in the area.

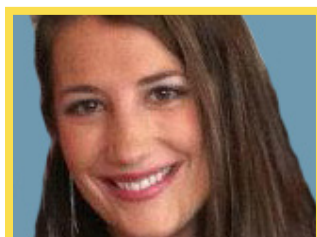
My favorite place in Delaware: Old New Castle and all of the gorgeous state parks!

My favorite song or artist: Fly Me to the Moon

Two words to describe myself: Positive and compassionate

My life's mantra: "Do it!"

Something that always makes me smile: Anything with kittens or cats!



Rachel Stargatt

I decided to join the league because: After buying a home in Wilmington, I was looking for a way to get involved with my community and meet like-minded women. When I learned about the JLW, it seemed like the perfect fit.

My favorite place in Delaware: Winterthur, where I got married!

My favorite song or artist: The Doobie Brothers- Black Water

Two words to describe myself: Enthusiastic and loving

Something on my bucket list: Travel to all seven continents

My life's mantra: "Growth only occurs outside of your comfort zone!"

Something that always makes me smile: Pizza!

As well as...

Tatiana Arthur, Jessica Curry-Kelth, Amanda Follett, Stephanie Graves, Kimberly Hyers, Rachel Kevehazi-Schultz, Hillary King, Katie Litchfield, Joanna Martin, Susie Matthews, Jennifer Nagourney, Hayley Richardson, Dionna Sargent, Sarah Williams, and Hilary Sechler.

Welcome, ladies! We're so glad to have you!

Memory Board



Congratulations to Sustainer Cathy Cessna for winning first-place and second-place ribbons in the Sailor Valentine Division of the Philadelphia Shell Art Show in October!

A Bigger Impact

JLW BROADENS THE APPROACH TO COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAMS

Throughout 2014-2015, members of the Junior League of Wilmington were engaged in a wide variety of community impact efforts. Life skills and wellness workshops were developed and implemented for youth served by Bayard House, the Delaware Adolescent Program, Inc. (DAPI), and the Delaware Center for Justice (DCJ). The League took on its first legislative advocacy project in a number of years, gearing up to encourage the passage of Erin's Law legislation in Delaware. (See page 13 for details.) In addition, the fall Provisional class organized the placement and delivery of the remaining merchandise from Whale of a Sale, ensuring that as few leftover items as possible were disposed of or given to Goodwill. A significant amount of planning went into the launch of this year's CI programming, and the effect was palpable.



Highlights from the year include:

- A schedule of monthly drives was implemented to collect items to benefit our partner organizations. Throughout the year, the membership donated spices and nonperishable foods, coats and scarves, diapers and baby food, and other needed items. This fall, winter wear was collected for Bayard House and DAPI. When the coats were dropped off, the recipients were so



amazed at how many we brought that they immediately hugged CI Chair Danielle Logan, telling her how grateful they were for the donation and how it was more than they could have imagined.

- In March, members rolled up their sleeves to revamp the community room and kitchen at DAPI. There is still work to be done, but a fresh coat of paint and new furniture have made a tremendous difference to their living area.

- A Kids in the Kitchen event was held at Wilmington Senior Center. Residents and their grandchildren were eager to learn about healthy eating and the grandparents especially enjoyed the bonding time with their little ones.

- Job readiness workshops were designed and implemented for DCJ and Bayard

House. League members led trainings on topics such as interview prep, resume writing, and dressing for success. After working one of these events, Communications Chair Rebecca Gärten remarked to friends, "I just finished coaching a young mother at Bayard House through resume building and interview skills. She was such a sweetheart, and she has no idea that the hour and a half I spent with her was by far the best part of my day. I'm just so grateful that the League offers me opportunities like this to give back."

A big thank you to all of the League members, friends, and partners who have volunteered their time and/or donated to our efforts this year!



Just Like Christmas Morning

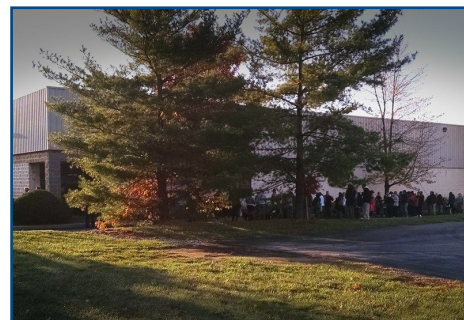
EXCITEMENT IN THE AIR FOR 33RD WHALE OF A SALE

The crowd had wrapped itself down the long path in front of 312 Cherry Lane and around the corner (and around again!) long before the sun had finished rising on Saturday, November 8th. As the doors finally opened and Whale of a Sale kicked off its 33rd year, those hoardes of people somehow, within mere seconds, ushered themselves into the 32,000 sq. ft. warehouse. Despite the enormity of the space donated by The Commonwealth Group, there was hardly a spare square foot of unoccupied floor space as people rushed about in search of their great deal.

In addition to the traditional departments—antiques, children's toys, clothing, electronics, furniture, and housewares—this year's sale featured a boutique section, a new item department, and a 4 for \$1 department. By early afternoon, the once-packed building was nearly emptied. This year's fall Provisional class organized the remaining items and ensured that they were donated to more

than a dozen nonprofits and programs that could use them. Fewer than ever remaining items had to be trashed or sent to Goodwill! And the good news doesn't stop there; expenses for both Whale and the preview party, the Blues, Brews & BBQ Bash, were both under budget, and \$27,000 was netted between the two events.

Aside from raising needed funds to finance the League's work in the community, Whale is an event eagerly anticipated by both the public and our membership in a way that could be likened to waiting for a cherished family tradition. One shopper commented, "My mom took me [to Whale] when I was young and I loved it. It kind of felt like Christmas to me. Now that I'm older, I have four kids and I'm a single parent. Money is really tight. So now it still feels like Christmas, except now the gifts are for my kids." Perhaps knowing that deep impact it has is the real gift, and why Whale is beloved by so many in the League.



Board's Eye View

AS WE WRAP UP A BUSY AND EXCITING LEAGUE YEAR, OUR BOARD REFLECTS ON THEIR EXPERIENCE—THIS YEAR AND IN GENERAL—AND SHARES WHAT MAKES THEM TICK.

Susan Colby, President

What was the most fulfilling part of this year?

Seeing so many of the goals we had be achieved: Running multiple Provisional classes, reversing the Active membership decline of the last five years or so, completing the 2015-17 Strategic Plan, solving the headquarters-cost problem, offering committee-specific training for every committee, thinking less in terms of our statuses as Actives, Sustainer or Provisionals and more in terms of us all being League members.

What has been your most memorable League moment?

During my first few weeks as a Provisional, I approached Board members to offer my work expertise for publicizing Whale of a Sale and was embraced instead of being regarded as overstepping my bounds. That feeling of being respected and appreciated despite my "newbie-ness" has stuck with me, and since then I've always encouraged new JLW members to forget about being shy or "waiting their turn" when they've had something to contribute.

Kristen McMullen, President-Elect

What are you looking forward to about next year?

I could not be more excited about next year! I take serving as your president very seriously because the Junior League is about YOU - our members. You will have the opportunity to be part of the new leadership training certificate program through the JLW Leadership Academy, you won't want to miss any general membership meetings as they will be taking on some fun and exciting twists, you will have the opportunity to partake in some very meaningful community projects, and there will be several new social opportunities to help build friendships and have your family join in the League fun. I could go on and one but in the interest of space, please just know that it is going to be a great and memorable year that you will not want to miss!

Sandra Borrer, Sustaining Chair

What motivates you to work hard for the League?

There are lots of professional organizations out there that can certainly be helpful in career networking. However, the connections I have with League members who are committed to serving others and making a better community go way beyond career development. The League is about personal development and relationship development. I am motivated to help keep this organization vibrant and rele-



vant so that we can continue to provide a valuable resource to our members and our community—as well as many wonderful experiences, memories, and friendships!

What makes you laugh the most?

My husband sends me links all the time to really silly animal videos, and we often stop on America's Funniest Videos when we're channel surfing. Yes, I must admit, the cat videos crack me up!

Stephanie Graev, VP Community Programs

What did you get out of this year?

Seeing the physical transformation of DAPI. Forging long-lasting relationships with other organizations in the community like the Wilmington Senior Center and Bayard House. Hearing how our community impact programs have truly affected those that have participated, both from our lead and from the community organizations. Learn-

ing about finances and the role they play in League operations. Going to two AJLI trainings and seeing how other Leagues do things similarly and differently from us and learning from other Leagues. Seeing how involved the Provisional classes are at such an early stage in their League careers. Meeting lots of new people.

Angela Gustavsen, Secretary

What did you get out of this year?

The biggest takeaway from my year as Board Secretary has been that there is no special sauce, nothing magic happening at the Board table. Everyone there loves the League, wants it to succeed and wants to be part of that success...period. No one is a genius or has all the answers, and everyone just does their best, and we figure things out as we go along. So, anyone with passion for the League and desire to work for it can serve on the Board, and serve the League well. To me, that's more exciting and a better lesson than if I learned some fantastic secret to leadership.

The secret is that there is no secret!

Do you have a "motto"- spoken or unspoken?

When I get cranky (about anything, not just JLW stuff!), my husband reminds me to get over it, asking, "What's our family motto?" And it is, "Always look on the bright side of life," which we saw made into a crazy singing spectacle in the finale of Spamalat on one of our early dates. And it helps!

Kesha Clarke, Assistant Treasurer

What did you get out of this year?

This was a great year for me. I was exposed to the financial side of operating a non-profit organization, and the JLW specifically, from establishing a budget to implementing it. As the year progressed, I noticed how I also progressed through working on how we managed JLW's money to understanding the reasons we make the decisions that we do. It has definitely been a rewarding learning experience!

Sustainer Corner

A NOTE FROM SUSTAINER CHAIR SANDRA BORROR

This has been a busy year for the JLW Sustainers! Thanks to the great ideas and hard work of **Diane Dunham**, we started off last summer with tours of the Nemours Mansion and Gardens followed by a lovely tour and iced tea at the Hotel du Pont. In the fall, after the summer tourist season had subsided, we enjoyed the Downton Abbey costumes at Winterthur.

The Sustainers hosted a holiday party and invited the whole League, providing an option for members who might not be able to attend the Active-hosted potluck or who wanted to experience a festive evening at Wilmington Country Club. Thank you to **Faith Greeley** for coordinating this event for a second year! Following the holiday party, Faith went the extra mile to also organize the Winter Cocktail at Buckley's.

Diane Dunham was busy again in the spring, coordinating tours of both the Philadelphia Art Museum costume and textile collection and the amazing tour of the Amazon fulfillment center in Middletown. Diane is definitely an Energizer bunny!

Cindy Dunn assured that the Sustainers continue to wine and dine well, organizing our traditional fall dinner at Caff e Gelato, plus adding a new taste of farm-to-table cuisine this spring at Harvest restaurant. Thank you to Cindy for being Sustainer Chair for three years, and for letting me shadow you as co-chair while I learned the ropes!

A big thank-you to **Kate Cowperthwait**, **Cathy Guber**, **Sandi Schneider**, and **Amy Hughes** for hosting coffees in February for the Actives. This is always a great opportu-



nity for us to share perspectives and keep in touch with issues and activities of the Actives.

At our April Sustainer coffees, we were all very pleased to hear of the great progress this year's Board has made with increasing Active membership and investing cash reserves so that the earnings can pay most of the House operating costs. We are so proud of our innovative leaders for thinking outside the box for these quick and effective solutions! An especially memorable coffee was held at Kendal/Crosslands community, where we were so happy that our oldest Sustainer Emeritus, **Louise Belden** (can she really be 104?!), was able to join us and share a few memories! Thank you to our hosts **Pam Cornforth**, **Marianne Cameron**, and **Stephanie Cory**.

We know we Sustainers like our social events, but that's not all we do. We have eight very active Sustainers on the Gardening Committee who keep the Headquarters' curb-appeal looking fantastic! We also have eight sustainers who have volunteered to mentor incoming Provisionals. In the summer and fall, our Sustainer Com-

mittee is trying something new and planning a small service project—look for more info soon! Sustainers still make a difference in the League and in the community!

Finally, thank you to Faith Greeley, **Sheila DiSabatino**, and **Barbara Mitchell** for many years of serving on the Sustainer Committee. They have stepped off the committee during the course of this year to focus on other personal commitments. Our Sustainer Committee meetings are always open to anyone who wants to attend. We'll send out the calendar in August or September, so if you see a date for which you are available, please join us! And we encourage anyone who wants to be involved on a regular basis to join the Sustainer Committee. It's not a huge commitment. Usually just one meeting per month (alternating between morning and evening meeting times), plus whatever else you might volunteer to help coordinate. We know there are lots of Sustainers out there with great ideas, and we'd love to have you join the fun!

—Sandra



The JLW Sustainer Committee proudly announces a summer service project supporting USO Delaware.

Our project consists of three parts:

1. Item drive
2. Social event
3. Delivery of items to Dover Air Force Base and tour of the USO Center

More details to come.

AJLI- Association of Junior Leagues International, the national-level organization dedicated to providing continuity and support, guidance, and leadership development opportunities to individual member Leagues.

CI/CIC- “Community Impact” or “Community Impact Committee”, interchangeably used in reference to both the committee itself and the service events/projects it plans.

Digital Cheetah- The integrated calendar/database/file storage service in the password-protected, members-only side of the JLW website. If you’re looking for information, it’s probably on Digital Cheetah.

Erin’s Law- Legislation that requires all public schools to teach a prevention-oriented child sexual abuse program.

“Going Sustaining”- “Retiring” from Active status. Members are eligible to become Sustainers after either serving eight Active years or, if a JLW member on or before September 1, 2007 and a member in good standing, upon reaching age 40. Sustainers continue to support the League through the payment of dues and participation in League life.

Kitchen Tour- Sometimes abbreviated as KT, The Heart of the Home Kitchen Tour is a self-guided tour of the area’s best recently renovated residential kitchens. It’s the League’s major fundraiser held in the spring of odd years.

Whale- Short for Whale of a Sale, the League’s major fundraiser in even years. Traditionally held in the fall, Whale is a giant garage sale and the longest-running garage sale in Delaware.



Who is Erin Merryn?

JLW TAKES ON LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY PROJECT TO PREVENT CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE

Erin Merryn is a beautiful young woman in her twenties who has had to overcome some big obstacles in her life. That’s why she fights every day to help others. Erin was sexually abused twice in her childhood: once by a family friend when she was six years old until she was eight, and then again by a cousin starting at age 11 and continuing until she was 13. After years of emotional trauma, Erin wrote a book about her experience, *Stolen Innocence: Triumphing Over a Childhood Broken by Abuse: A Memoir*, which was published in 2005. From this time, Erin started writing letters to legislators of her home state of Illinois. The statistics she shared with them are staggering: one in four girls and one in six boys are sexually assaulted before the age of 18. A child is sexually assaulted in the United States every six minutes.

Erin asked officials to consider laws that require school administrators, teachers, and age-appropriate children to have sexual abuse prevention education in school. In 2010, she met with an Illinois state senator, who later became her bill’s first legislative sponsor. Erin was invited to testify in the state legislature and, in February 2011,

succeeded in convincing Illinois to become the first state to pass the bill later known as “Erin’s Law”. This great achievement for Erin was the start of a state-by-state movement to adopt Erin’s Law.

“Erin’s Law” requires that all public schools in each state that passes it implement a prevention-oriented child sexual abuse program that teaches:

- Students in grades preK – 5th grade age-appropriate techniques to recognize child sexual abuse and tell a trusted adult
- School personnel all about child sexual abuse
- Parents and guardians the warning signs of child sexual abuse, plus needed assistance, referral or resource information to support sexually abused children and their families

As of September 2014, 19 states have passed the law, and 22 other states have planned or pending legislation. Erin has taken her story and her message to the media with appearances on Oprah, CNN, Good Morning America, Katie Couric, and with the support of many celebrities. Actress Juliana Margulies has said of Erin’s Law, “[It]

will give children a fighting chance, a voice, and the tools to help protect themselves. It should be passed in all 50 states. Common sense. It’s as simple as that.”

Delaware has not yet considered Erin’s Law, but the Junior League of Wilmington is stepping in to change that. The League has formed a committee to push information about Erin’s Law in front of Delaware’s legislators in the hopes that one of our elected officials will agree to write and sponsor a bill to bring Erin’s Law here. Although the first half of the current legislative session will close at the end of June, League members are working diligently to launch an Erin’s Law advocacy campaign in time for the session’s next opening in January 2016. This is the first time in a number of years that the League has been involved in an advocacy project, so there is a lot to learn, but Erin’s Law is a worthy cause and the membership is excited to help make Delaware’s children safer in this way.

Erin continues tirelessly to achieve her goal. She has written 2 other books, *Living For Today* and *An Unimaginable Act*. More information about Erin and Erin’s Law can be found at www.erinslaw.org.

Beat the Summer Heat

YOUR GUIDE TO SUMMERTIME FUN

SAVE THE DATE

5/21. Screening of Disney's 101 Dalmations (1961)- Delaware Art Museum, 4-6:30 pm. Free

5/24. Wilmo A Go-Go Car Show- Dravo Plaza, 11am-4pm. Free. 1972 or older cars and motorcycles, music, BBQ, vendors, pin up and mustache contests. All ages.

5/31. Wilmington Beer Fest- Santa Fe, 12-5 pm. \$45. Home brew competition, slip and slide, oversized beer pong.

6/2-6/6. Greek Festival- Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 11am-11pm.

6/5-6/14. Wonderland: The Musical- Wilmington Drama League, Fri/Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm. \$12-15

6/7-6/14. Italian Festival- St. Anthony's Parish

6/13. Wipeoutrun- Frawley Stadium, 10am-7pm. \$60-85. 5k with oversized obstacle course. Ages 18+. Save 10% on registration with code INW.

6/13-6/20. Jazz Festival- Rodney Square. Free. Also includes lunchtime series at H.B. DuPont Park.

6/27-6/28. Ice Cream Festival- Rockwood Park. \$5, ages 12 and under \$1.

6/27-6/28. Civil War Commemoration- Hagley Museum, 5am-5pm. \$0-14. Reenactment, hands-on family activities, and entertainment commemorating the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

7/11-8/5. Nunsense- Candlelight Theatre, 6pm. \$59 adults, \$33 children.

7/16. Ladybug Festival- LOMA (Lower Market Street- 4th-2nd Streets), 5-10 pm. Free. Block party with lineup of female music artists playing in locations down lower Market. All ages.

7/31-8/02. Riverfront Blues Festival- Tubman Garrett Park.

ONGOING

Toddler Tuesdays at the Kalmar Nyckel- First Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am. \$6 per child. Ages 2-4, includes a healthy snack.

Wilmo Wednesdays- Free music/entertainment at World Cafe Live at the Queen. 7-10 pm.

Tuned IN Block Party Series- Fourth Thursdays, 5-8 pm. Free. May at LOMA, June at the Riverfront, July at Union Street, August at Washington Street, September at Market Street, October at Rodney Square.

Wilmington Art Loop- First Fridays, 5pm till. Don't miss the programming at the DCCA.

Telescope Nights at Woodside Farm Creamery- Last Fridays, 7-8 pm.

Rock Climbing Adventure Camps- Alapocus Run Park, 8:30am-3:30pm. After care available 3:30-5:30 pm for \$30. Ages 8-10: 6/15-6/19 and 7/6-7/10, \$275. Ages 11-13: 6/22-6/26, \$275. Ages 13-17: 7/13-7/17, \$325.

Free Admission at the Delaware Art Museum- Thursdays 10am-8pm, Sundays 10am-4pm.

Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts- Always free admission. Closed Mondays.

WORTH SCOPING OUT

Rooftop movies at Southbridge Shoprite

Summer concert series- Rockford Park, Dravo Plaza, Brandywine Park and others

Riverwalk Mini Golf and Stratosphere Trampoline Park at the Riverfront

Fearless Improv shows at Penn's Place in New Castle

Tubing down the Brandywine- Put in at Thompson's Bridge, take out at the Rockland Road dam. 2.5 hour float. About \$10 to park two cars.

www.inwilmingtonde.com and www.brandywinebuzz.com for more ideas

The Top 10

THE BEST OF OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS LEAGUE YEAR[®]

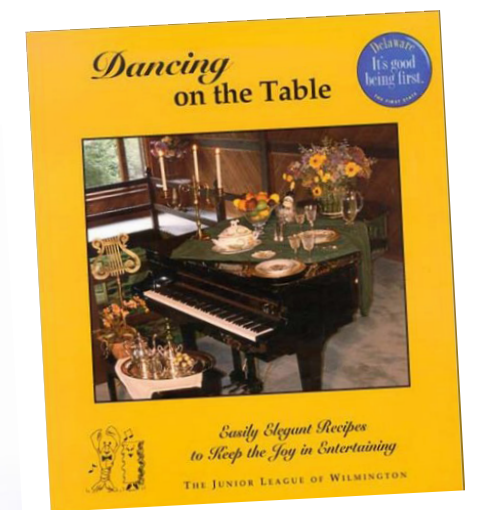
1. Introduced committee-specific training at the beginning of the League year, with at least one training for each committee.

2. Launched an Active-hosted coffee event in the fall as a complement to the Sustainer-hosted February Coffees.

3. Moved from one yearlong Provisional class year to three classes per year: fall, winter, and summer.

4. Netted \$27,000 in funding for the 2015-2016 League year with our 33rd Whale of a Sale.

5. Sold the last of the JLW's "Dancing on the Table" cookbooks, bringing in a final \$225 from the 2001 publication.



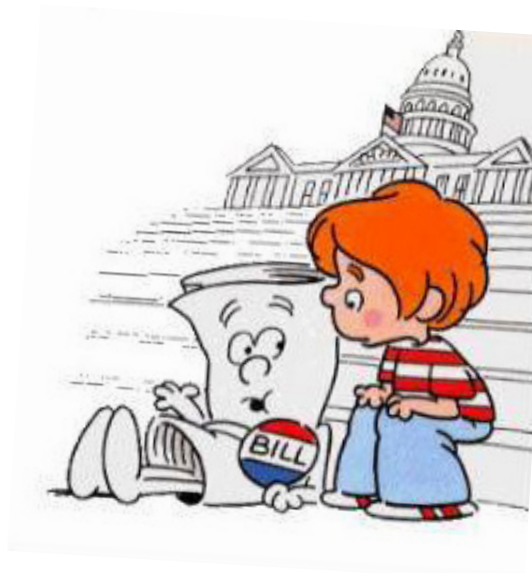
6. Conducted monthly drives for our partner organizations-Bayard House, DAPI, and Delaware Center for Justice-providing needed items such as diapers and baby food, career clothing, winter wear, and nonperishable food.

7. Researched lobbying and legislative advocacy, and created a comprehensive plan to introduce and pass Erin's Law legislation in Delaware.

8. Year-round momentum changed the League culture to eliminate the winter and summer lulls, allowing for a more cohesive League year.

9. Crafted a lease agreement with Doncaster Fashion Network to use part of the Headquarters for three periods over the year, generating more than \$1,000 in unanticipated revenue.

10. Completed the 2015-2017 strategic plan.





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The du Pont Tree

In November of 2014, the Sustainers purchased and planted a tree in the front yard at Headquarters to honor the good works of Irene and Barbara du Pont. In addition to their many contributions to the Delaware community, Mr. & Mrs. du Pont have been longtime champions of the League. Mrs. du Pont served as League president in 1958-1959, and the du Ponts have graciously hosted the spring Sustainer cocktail party at their home, Granogue, for about 35 years.

In recognition of their deep commitment to the League and greater community, the Sustainers honored the du Ponts at their 2013 holiday party and purchased the Okame cherry tree pictured here. It was planted by Kathy Doolin, Jeanie Hayes, Lisa Simon, and Mary Warburton. The beautiful blossoms remind us that the many small things we do to make a difference in the community can add up to something much larger and more meaningful. Our deepest thanks, Mr. & Mrs. du Pont.

