

2000-2001

This year was one of significant activity for our League. We started a new community effort in family literacy with the Lycoming County Literacy project. Born to Read entered its third year of providing a book to each newborn in our county, and second year for Union County. PIAD adopted 3 families for the holidays, in addition to continuing activities of recent years. We had a large provisional class and held our first Super Saturday training with them in a revised provisional course. We voted on a significant dues increase, and Ways and Means met its fundraising goal. The Education committee offered significant training to the general membership and to committee members' specific needs. The sustainers inaugurated a Past Enthusiastic Presidents (PEP) Club, which fundraised for a sustainer community grant.

2001-2002

This past year was one of significant 'firsts' for the Junior League of Williamsport. We saw the first summer Leaglet and a single sponsor for the September edition. We hosted the first very successful JLW 2002 Community Forum, and we held our first 'Open House' at the Placement Fair. We adopted the first Endowment Fund bylaw as well as the first universal Junior League logo. This was the first provisional class to be voted into Active Membership in March in order to be eligible to vote for projects and fundraisers for the coming year. And last but not least, we recognized for the first time an "Active Member of the Year" at our Annual Meeting.

2002-2003

This league year was characterized by great success in despite a decline in the number of active members. The past year has also been characterized by strong support from our sustaining members working with our active members. The Ways and Means committee exceeded its goals in large part due to sustainer support.

In November 2002, we initiated the Junior League Endowment Fund, which is being administered by the Williamsport-Lycoming Foundation. The initial reports are promising, and the Income Development committee will continue to solicit donations in the next league year. Also, in November we hosted a two-day visit from Marian Sroge from AJLI who spoke with several groups to aid us in the all-important area of Membership Development. The League recognized that membership issues are of the highest priority at this time. An ad hoc Membership Initiative committee was formed to research ideas, which will be implemented in the following league year. We were able to make a significant impact in the community with our two community projects: The Literacy and Food Allergy Awareness Programs. Both programs received significant coverage in the Williamsport Sun Gazette, as did the launch of the Endowment Fund. The League continued its participation in the Newspapers in Education program. In the interest of combining community service with marketing the league, we moderated a forum of judicial candidates sponsored by the YWCA. We also participated in a panel with other community service organizations in a presentation to the current Leadership Lycoming class.

2004

The 2004-2005 year was a time for reorganizing and educating the League. All councils were involved in the AJLI's Healthy League Initiative, a tool for self-assessing procedures, practices,

behaviors and actions against benchmarks established for League Healthiness. At the September Dinner meeting our new Web Site was unveiled. The Ways and Means Committee, with the help of all active and many sustaining members saw a profit of over \$17,000 for the Holiday Auction. Education of our members was a focus as the Education Committee developed a two-year course of Leadership Certification, League Development and Personal Enhancement. Public Relations/Marketing purchased a Media Screen to use at all events the in which the League participates. The Communications Committee, in co-operation with the Oral History Committee, compiled a special 75th Anniversary Edition. Membership Development Committee revamped the training program to enhance the training that is presented to our new members. Community Research granted six requests for a total of \$2,030 and developed a Request for Proposal form that was posted on our web site. Of course, our projects continued, and we were involved in the community with Projects in A Day, Allergy Awareness, and Literacy.

2005

Not available.

2006

This year focused on membership retention and recruitment through strengthening local partnerships, enhancing our public image and establishing a number of administrative "best practices" recommended by AJLI. Through their training and advice, we revised our Strategic Plan and created a three-year "rolling" plan, we prepared an Annual Plan with action steps and council assignments, we established a three-year Financial Forecast, wrote Board job descriptions and surveyed Sustainers for assistance as advisors and mentors. We formed a Community Advisory Board comprised of Rocky Boone, Executive Director of The Campbell Street Family, Youth & Children Association, Ltd. (The Center); Diane Glenwright, Executive Director, YWCA and Sustainers, Carolyn Bullock, Treasurer, City of Williamsport and Judy McKeague, Director of Field Services, Special Olympics PA. We took our general membership meetings to local agencies for on-site training and tours: YWCA, Lycoming County Historical Society's Thomas Tabor Museum, and the Community Arts Center; we held meetings at Lycoming College, Penn College, the Genetti Hotel and Little League International. We sought to increase our media exposure and met with the Life Style Editor of the Sun-Gazette, consequently averaging a photo or article almost each month.

In keeping with our important mission as a training organization, we had five members graduate from our Leadership Certification program, sent our President-Elect and incoming President-Elect to AJLI Conferences, and had a member graduate from the Leadership Lycoming program. An AJLI Governance Fund stipend of \$1,000 was received to defray Conference costs. In November, AJLI board member, Ellen Rose, a past President of the Junior League of the City of New York, met with our members to increase awareness of our affiliation to AJLI. The First Community Foundation provided training on our Endowment Fund.

This was the last year for the Literacy Read-in sessions after a successful six-year run at The Center and J.V. Brown Library where the reading scores of the children improved. A new community project was voted in, "Gala of Gowns" based on the research of an Ad Hoc Project Research Committee. The Finance Council surpassed their goal by over 9% raising almost \$19,000 through the Holiday Auction, Sally Foster and cookbook sales, and non-profit shopping days at Macy's and BonTon. They also held their first annual Cookbook sale and tasting. Next year, the Leaglet will be reinstated to eight issues from four. The roles of the Council Vice President and Committee Chair were combined into one and Assistant Chairs were slated. Placements were made to councils rather than committees recognizing that our members prefer to work in a group rather than in small committees.

In keeping with our commitment to literacy and our vision to improve the quality of life for children in the community, we were a sponsor of the Sun-Gazette Newspapers in Education program and pledged a \$5,000 donation distributed over five years to the J. V. Brown Library capital campaign for a new children's wing.

2007

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2008

This year's theme was "Have Fun & Get it Done" and that we did. It was also a year of firsts: first year of our new community project Cinderella's Closet, first year the council VP also served as Committee Chair, first year the secretary managed the Leaglet publication. This was also a year of streamlining and concentrating on what can be done with an active membership of 22 to have the highest impact with the least membership burnout rate.

The Community Council arranged for 5 Projects in A Day this year as well as granting \$2,250.00 in Community Grants to the following organizations: Youth Leadership Lycoming, Special Kids Network – Autism Conference, Keystone Healthy Zone – Kids Triathlon, St. John Neumann – Arts Department, Habitat for Humanity – Women Build, Special Olympics – Volunteer Picnic.

Cinderella's Closet debuted with glowing reviews, 80 girls were in attendance and 69 were able to obtain dresses. We also spent the year emphasizing the importance of this project in that it was about teenage girl self-esteem.

The Finance Council raised over \$17,280 with the Holiday Auction, Sally Foster, Shopping Passes and a Silpada Jewelry Party. This year's auction theme was Diamonds and Pearls with pearl and diamond earrings donated by Blair Brothers and we had a billboard advertising the event for the first time.

In keeping with our mission of being a training organization, the Membership Council organized three leadership certification courses, four league development courses and one personal enhancement course. The committee also recruited 9 new members this year. We continued to send out members to conferences, sending a total of 12 different members to various AJLI conferences and trainings throughout the league year.