

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF INDIANAPOLIS
Women building better communities

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF SERVICE



The History of How Women Have Been Building Better Communities for 90 Years

Editor's Note: What better way to begin the re-telling of our 90-year history than through the words of one of our founding members, and third president, Katharine Watson Atkins? This forward, and the first 70-year history is taken from our 70th anniversary celebration. The most recent 20 years are told by Dr. Lynda Cook, Sustainer and Archives Chair.

Forward by Katharine Watson Atkins, JLI President 1924-25 & 1932-34

The year was 1922; I was 20 years old. I was elated at being one of the 10 young women asked to write to the then formed AJLA, to ask for a charter for a Junior League in Indianapolis. **Charlotte Moxley**, perhaps our oldest and wisest member, could not see starting a League without a definite purpose in mind, or a "main project" as it was called then.

The Riley Memorial Association had recently been formed to build the new Riley Hospital for Children as a memorial to the Hoosier poet. Mr. Hugh McKay Landon was the association's chairman, so Charlotte went to see him to ask him if we could be of any use at the Hospital. He conferred with his co-trustees and the medical staff and they came up with the idea of an occupational therapy department. O.T. became very popular during the Great War and was being used more and more by both orthopedic men and other doctors.

Our first act with them was to serve as guides on a lovely sunny fall day when the doors were first opened at Riley, and we took people through. Our own Occupational Therapy Department began with a search for a professional – the idea being that we would



*Katharine Watson Atkins,
JLI President 1924-25 &
1932-34*

establish, maintain equipment, and staff the department with Junior League volunteers – trained ones, of course, under the supervision of a professional. We found Winifred Conrick, a young woman who had just graduated from the Boston School of Occupational Therapy. Winifred rose to the height of her profession – she had not been with us long before Dr. Willis Gatch asked her to take over all the

physical therapy of the University hospital as well as the O.T., Dr. Gatch being Dean of the I.U. Medical Center. Then along came World War II and the Army grabbed her to supervise the occupational therapy in all the Army hospitals. But she came back to us when the commotion died down and I always felt that her first love, as stated in the original statement of purpose of AJLA was "To make efficient her volunteer service."

Then we invited 50 young women to become members and from then on, increased membership by five or 10 a year. We operated two shops, the Motor Corps drove indigents to clinics and delivered food from our catering department, we transcribed Braille on the old heavy wooden slates when a slim printed volume came to the size of the Encyclopedia Britannica, and our bout of culture was sending puppet shows to the various public schools and a glee club where the singers, robed in beautiful hunter green, sang in hospitals and other similar charities.

Our very first entertainment - or money-raiser if you will – was held in the Riley Room of the Claypool Hotel. A skit depicted the various activities of the League, the last one being the Motor Corps. Eight girls were in children's automobiles – the push peddle kind. Charlie Marlett, the handsomest "copper" on the traffic squad and whose station was at the intersection of Meridian and Ohio Streets where he operated his manual signals, joined us in the Riley Room and directed traffic for those eight cars. The young women sang "Eighty-one young and pretty maidens, trying hard on the spot, just to make Indianapolis, the Junior League of the lot...!"

When the time came for provisional

members, the job was handed over to the vice-president. The girls had a strenuous course, where they visited certain institutions in the city, courts with particular attention to the juvenile court, and ended with a parliamentary course when the leader held a small brown book of Robert's Rules and tried to keep a step ahead of her pupils. Then came the final written examination, which would have frightened me to death, but I suppose being young and just out of school it didn't phase them a bit. While I was vice-president, three of our belles and beauties took off for the Harvard-Yale game and a few days of theatre and sightseeing in the East. I was so appalled that I didn't know how to discipline them, so I took the coward's way out and did nothing. (I might add that the girls passed the course with flying colors!)

Today it is no longer truly a "Junior" League. Our girls were admitted as soon as they had finished their formal education – high school or college – and 32 was the deadline for members to join. Members join now at a later age. Two-income families, your own careers, and the fact that you are having children later in life has changed the picture considerably. All the mechanical gadgets, from the vacuum cleaner to the word processor, and including day care, do not take the place of mother at home, nor do you have the benefit of those wonderful trained and caring nurses whom we all enjoyed and who disappeared in World War II, hiring to factories or the army... at any rate, they never emerged again.

I am constantly amazed at the variety of your programs, the scope of your talent, and the thousands of dollars that you raise, and the wisdom with which you allocate



The Junior League Shop was one of JLI's first fundraisers, operating from 1922-1934.

it. It is indeed a remarkable achievement. Keep reading, travel all you can, enjoy your volunteer work, have fun...lots of fun... although I doubt that you can have it together now that you're so big...keep young at heart and you will always be a true Junior League. You have become..."the Junior League of the lot," and I salute you.

THE TWENTIES

Ten women interested in the issues prevalent in their community want to make a difference in Indianapolis. Aware that other cities have women's groups with an agenda for community improvement, **Charlotte Scott Moxley, Natalie Brush Gates, Katharine Holliday Daniels, Jane Ridgely Wolcott, Elizabeth Hogan McFarland, Ruth Hubbard Holliday, Agatha Reid Sutphin, Elizabeth Nicholson Brown, Katharine Watson Atkins, and Dorothy Bennett Stein** draft a constitution and bylaws, obtain a charter from the Association of Junior Leagues of America (AJLA) and organize the Junior League of Indianapolis in 1922. Two years later in 1924, the JLI is incorporated and the League begins its growth into a flourishing group of women concerned about improving the quality of life in their city.

Charlotte Scott Moxley is the League's first president and when the first general meeting is held in March of 1922, 40 additional members are admitted to the League. The League's first goal, or "projects" as they would later be called, are to equip and maintain the proposed Occupational Therapy Department (O.T.) of Riley Hospital for crippled children. This project will remain as one of

the League's major endeavors for the next 16 years. The efforts result in nationwide recognition of the program, which is used as an example and prototype for future hospital departments offering similar services for children and adults.

What is a League member's time commitment? Members are required to give a minimum of three hours a week. A Sewing Committee is formed and hundreds of diapers, gowns and surgical dressings are made for Long Hospital, and the new Riley Hospital. The Motor Corps delivers products of the Exchange and runs errands for three other charitable organizations. Winifred Conrick, who will for many years be associated with the clinic and was a

"In view of the achievements of the Junior League and of its present standing, which we think, is due largely to the unfailing effort of our first president, Charlotte Moxley, I move that in appreciation of her work, Mrs. Moxley be made an Honorary Life Member of the Junior League, with exemption from payment of all dues." This motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

–Board Meeting Minutes, November 1922

treasured League friend, is hired by JLI at the recommendation of the National Society of Occupational Therapists. The League equips and decorates the clinic in time for the dedication of Riley Hospital, October 7, 1924. The O.T. department continues to grow at Riley; in 1926 a booth at the Indiana State Fair displays baskets and fabrics made by young patients. Exhibits, parties, entertainment, new equipment and gifts for the children are all part of the program. The League is the first in the field of occupational therapy in Indianapolis and five other hospitals soon follow with similar programs.

Other projects in the 20s are transcribing books into Braille, a children's book shop in connection with the Exchange, speakers for art exhibits and music, an Emergency Committee replaces the Sewing Committee, and a Glee Club of League members is formed as part of the Arts and Interests Committee. In 1928 the Trading Post, the forerunner of the Next-to-New Shop, opens at 14th and Illinois. "Salvage" shops were popular in other Leagues, and in its first year Indianapolis' shop sees a

profit of \$1,600.

To support these noble efforts, fund-raisers are developed. The previously mentioned Exchange opened in 1922 on Monument Circle, selling hats, jellies and candies. By the mid-Twenties the Exchange changed its name to the Junior League Shop and moved to 7th Street. A decorator from Kokomo stocked the Shop to include a decorating department with art goods to sell. Consignment merchandise was not profitable, so stock is now purchased outright. By the end of the decade, the Shop is able to contribute to the support of the O.T., which lessens the necessity of raising all monies from entertainment activities.

Social fund-raisers began in 1924 with a Cabaret Dance, for which costumes from



Charlotte Scott Moxley, founding member and first JLI President, 1922-23.



The League Follies, “social” fundraisers in 1928 and 1929, were professionally directed and costumed for four performances, presented at the Murat Temple.

Philadelphia and New York are rented to perform skits, followed by general dancing. Over \$2,000 is realized. The next year a Pink Ball at the Athenaeum raises about the same amount. In conjunction with L.S. Ayres and the Indianapolis News, League members pose for photos and write for \$5 an hour. In 1925-26 the League’s most profitable fundraiser yet is held. The “Advertising Ball” at the Indianapolis Athletic Club includes skits, modeling, and dancing, and decorations are ad posters from local businesses, to make

an \$8,000 profit. Other “social” fund-raisers include an Easter Ball (1927), a Radio Ball and Cabaret in 1928 at which tables could be reserved for 50 cents a person and profit was \$10,000. The League Follies in 1928 and 1929 are professionally directed and costumed for four performances, presented at the Murat Temple.

The League takes over the Indianapolis News for a day in 1927, sells advertising, writes articles about the League and “mans” the downtown newsstands. The paper sells

well and arouses interest in the League’s activities. In 1928 the Stutz-Hispano Race, a stock car race, is held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and the Stutz Motor Car Co. donates tickets to be sold by League members. The next year the League tries its hand at a Rodeo and Horse Show. Program sales, box tickets and general admission net \$15,000.

In the administrative area, the 20s are formative years. Innovations include a telephone committee; a trust fund is created and a committee of past presidents forms to confer with the Board. The Provisional course is implemented in 1924 (the League was growing – 98 members now) and Transfers are required to take the course as well. Work with the Community Fund (now United Way) counts as League hours now, to assist in social work being done in the city. Members of the Indianapolis League attend the National Conference as early as 1924.

In 1927 the secretary reported that members are encouraged to write articles for the national magazine, but the unappreciated manuscripts are returned. As a result it was decided to publish an Indianapolis League magazine dubbed *Outbursts from the Outcasts*, and all articles returned by National are incorporated into the magazine. The next year a city editor position is added to the Board and a “newsheet” is published, called *Pen & Inklings*.

THE THIRTIES

The League is 195 members strong. Now sound and successful, it seeks greater cooperation with, and recognition by AJLA. Four members of the AJLA visit in 1930 and that year Indianapolis hosts its first Regional Conference.

A finance committee is established to assist the Board with the overall financial picture, and the first Placement Chairman is inaugurated in 1934. A Theater Committee also is established, and the Arts and Interests Committee is renamed simply, Arts, which includes such activities as marionette shows at the Herron Art Museum (now the Indianapolis Museum of Art), which later developed into a major Project; a docent program at the Herron Art Museum; and helping the newly formed Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra by ushering and promoting ticket sales. The League organized a Boy and Girl Scout Troop for the children at Riley, so they can earn their craft badges. Work in transcribing Braille continues, although the old machines are wearing out. A permanent room at the Indiana State Library has been provided and members of the committee have become sponsors at the Indiana School for the Blind. In 1939 the Braille Committee is incorporated into an Education Committee.



Junior League Glee Club

ARTS and INTERESTS

THE Arts and Interests Committee of the Junior League was formed to encourage its members to interest themselves in the cultural life of Indianapolis and to sponsor all activities such as concerts, guild plays, art exhibitions, and classes in appreciation in art or music.

Local press coverage of the newly-formed JLI Glee Club.



June 1, 1935: The Indianapolis News reported on the Occupational Therapy Department at Riley Hospital.

Hospital work expands to begin a Convalescent Home at Rotary Hospital. The League now is active at Riley, Long and Rotary Hospitals and the I.U. Medical Center. The League continues to receive increased recognition from the I.U. Hospital Administration and other O.T. departments throughout the country regarding its work at Riley. Members fulfill requests for talks, articles and movies about the department in Boston, Detroit, 10 cities in Indiana, Cleveland, and New York City.

A major step forward is taken in 1938 when the decision is made that in the future, all money-raising efforts would be made in the

“As I have looked back over the records of these eight years I am impressed with the courage, the vision and the energy of those who founded our League and of every member who has helped by her effort and sacrifice to further the aims of our organization.”
 –Elizabeth Holliday, President, 1930

name of the JLI Community Service Program, rather than as heretofore for the benefit of the Riley Hospital O.T. Department. So the profits – and expenses – of the Marionette Committee, for example, could be separated from the General Fund and incorporated into Community Service funds, thus allowing some freedom for expansion of education programs, etc.

Finally, and most importantly, in line with the AJLA policy that projects are either a demonstration of a need or an answer to a need and which, when off and running, should be turned over to the proper or appropriate area of the community for future financial

support, a committee was appointed to study what resources might exist for full or partial support of the O.T. department of Riley. Soon it was assured that the hospital could and would assume first partial and later full support of the O.T. program, while maintaining its high standards and policies.

It was then unanimously voted to relinquish one-third of the financial support of the O.T. department as a first step in ultimate turnover. This is a turning point in the history of the League. Its identification with Riley and the O.T. department had been the *raison d'être* for so long, and almost every member is emotionally involved in some way with its progress and development, and devoted to the highly talented and regarded director, Mrs. Winifred Conrick Kahmann, that to have taken this step forward toward the AJLA over-all policy owes a lot of the foresight, skill and diplomacy of Mary Collett, League President that year. Also, the assurance that the volunteers would still be welcomed at the hospital – if that represented the placement of their choice, proved a determining factor.

No major fund-raiser is attempted in the 30s due to the Depression. In 1932, the Entertainment Committee becomes the Ways & Means Committee, as fundraising is no longer party entertainment alone. The only party of the decade is the Crystal Ball, in 1937, held simply for pleasure. Ways & Means assumes a proper and responsible involvement in a nationwide movement to relieve unemployment and votes to cooperate with the Emergency Work Committee of Indianapolis to sponsor a high school football game. The proceeds go to the Emergency Committee to help relieve unprecedented unemployment

and suffering. George Washington and Arsenal Tech schools played at Butler Stadium.

The Ways & Means Committee does ask the League to assist in one new activity, the Indiana Horse Round-Up. Its second year, in 1934, Will Rogers appears at the event, making it quite successful. The League also assists with opening night of the Colleen Moore Doll House exhibit. Although times are tough for funds, Ways & Means works toward planning a large fund-raiser in order to meet the \$7,600 budget set to support the Hospital project. Options are studied and it is voted to stage a “review.” Jerome Carghill of New York is engaged to furnish costumes, directors, etc., for “Number, Please,” held at the English Theatre on Monument Circle. Carghill was retained again in 1938 for “Gaieties of 1883.”

Because of the Depression and the country's economy, major money-raising efforts were focused on increasing the profitability of the Trading Post. The name is changed to Next-to-New Shop and its location moves to 3418 N. Illinois. The League Shop is struggling due to the Depression and in 1934 closes after 12 years. With the closing of the Shop, Next-to-New becomes bigger and better. Each member is responsible for two bags of rummage in addition to her own quota. By the end of the 30s, a professional manager is hired, and the search for yet another location for expansion begins. Through imposition of dollar-value quotas for contributed merchandise the Next-to-New reaches its objective of meeting the entire League budget by the early 40s. This allows the Ways & Means Committee to consider other money-raising efforts on their merit – without regard to size of potential profit. It could even look at the “fun” aspect of a project without embarrassment.

Pen & Inklings becomes the “Mouthpiece of the Organization.” Other League activities include a Rodeo Committee, Camera Club and Scribblers, for the creation of essays, stories and poems. By the late 30s the League has taken a giant stride into the future. It is well-financed, volunteers are properly spread throughout the community via informed placement, and the League is ready to assume new responsibilities.

THE FORTIES

There are 289 members in the JLI. The world is at war and the League enlarges its volunteer services to more fields of community and war projects. In addition to League service, members serve in the Civilian Defense, Service Men's Clubs, Red Cross, Citizens Service Corps, and Overseas League at Fort Benjamin Harrison, and sell War

On Behalf of Crippled Children



The JLI continued to support the Occupational Therapy program at Riley Hospital.

Bonds. The League operates a War Stamp Booth at the Columbia Club and later operates booths at Wm. H. Block and Charles Mayer & Co. Because of the shortage of gas and tires in this time of emergency, the Marionette Shows' trouping to schools is discontinued. These war years mark for the first time placements in agencies other than the League Projects, with credit given to their service. Agencies include Day Car, Salvage, and Women's Organization Committee of the Marion County War Savings Staff.

Work continues at the O.T. Department of Riley. Mrs. Kahmann is granted a leave-

"While the War has overshadowed everything and made daily tasks seem trivial and unimportant, we can best show our patriotism and serve our country by continuing to perform our daily tasks well and faithfully. Especially does this apply to the JLI volunteers and to others involved in community service."

—Mary Hamilton Collett, President, 1941

of-absence to become Superintendent of O.T. in the Army-named General Hospitals, with headquarters in the Surgeon General's office in Washington, D.C. A new Project consists of presentations to the public schools of 15-minute radio transcriptions prepared by AJLA, entitled "Books Bring Adventure." Broadcasts follow the curriculum and book

lists work out to correlate with the program. These also are used in the branch libraries for story hours and at Riley Hospital. In 1943 the establishment and successful operation of the Central Avenue Day Care Center, in cooperation with the Indianapolis Emergency Day Care Services, Inc., receives favorable community comment, but is an unpopular placement because members are caring for their own children longer hours. The sponsorship was discontinued in 1944, as federal funds and parents' fees maintain the center now. This project was an overwhelming success in terms of good public relations.

In 1944 the Board of Directors decides to follow the recommendation of the Finance Committee to use any surplus in the General Fund to establish an office. Junior League makes its headquarters in the Winter Apartments, 1321 North Meridian Street. Furnishings are whatever can be begged, borrowed, or bought from the membership! The office officially opens the next year. This also is the year that night group was started for professionals who cannot attend day meetings.

By 1945 the Next-to-New Shop has completed its fourth and most successful year as Ways & Means' only project, with a profit of over \$13,000. Donations were made to the Indiana Artists Show, and a waiting room was furnished at the Billings General Hospital as a result. The League also assists with the Thorne Rooms exhibit at the Herron Art Museum, and the Puppetry Institute is a revival of the Marionette Committee. The Radio Committee continues its work with the Red Cross. The Arts Committee broadens its purpose to include Girl Scout, camp fire, and Sunday school groups as well as the sixth grade public school children.

When the post-war years begin, the League faces the problem of "used-up" volunteers who have spent so many years maintaining service not only in the League, but with emergency war projects. The efforts of these women were recognized by the U.S. Treasury Department for the excellent results achieved by the War Bond Committee. In compliance with the government's request to "Stay Off The Trains," AJLA holds no conference but suggests all Leagues have a Conference Day. Indianapolis' is observed with a skit describing the participation of the League members in war activities.

With the formation of the Future Policies Committee, and an AJLA-reported trend away from large projects (like the O.T. department at Riley), toward a broad and varied program of community volunteer

service, the question is – has the time come when we should consider giving financial assistance to worthy projects which do not require volunteer service? In 1946 a new Project for discussion (only at a called meeting) is the establishment and partial maintenance of a child care center on the near north side. This would be carried out in cooperation with the Day Nursery Association. The membership approves this proposal. The League pledges \$15,000 over three years, which is the largest financial commitment to date.

THE FIFTIES

Now 531 members strong, JLI addresses a concern of Leagues nationwide – what is expected from AJLA? In the early 50s, AJLA hears from larger Leagues inundated by transfers during and right after the War, and who think the per capita dues with frequent

"The pursuit of learning is and always can be considered a hallmark of JLI endeavor. Within our framework, learning is almost unavoidable."

—Sally Jackson, JLI President 1959

increase are excessive. This concern threatens Leagues' financial stability and many talk of withdrawing from AJLA. During the 1953 conference at Coronado, a survey is conducted to find out what Leagues want from AJLA, many issues are addressed, and the upheaval is resolved.

The League offices and the Puppet workshop have moved to the basement of the Marrott Hotel on Meridian. Provisionals now are rotated between Junior League projects – the Arts, Education, Hospital and Puppets Committees – on a one-month basis! Each group of 10 provisionals and members work two consecutive months at the Next-to-New. This plan is successful, giving members experience at each project.

In 1951 the Braille program is completely turned over to the Indiana State Library. The League supports bond issues to build a new juvenile center and the Crossroads Rehabilitation Center. When trouping and construction of hand puppets in the form of



The Next-to-New Shop was a primary fundraiser for JLI.



Children watch molding done by Mrs. Samuel F. Sherwood.



Mrs. Pierre B. Aiman puts finishing touch on puppet.



Mrs. John R. Scott tries various techniques of manipulating puppet. A life-like show depends upon great control of hands.

Grover while the latter is picking his friend's teeth as birds are wont to do with crocodiles.

Unless Grover can be freed from his damp place of imprisonment Luminopolis may be moved to another star, the Dipper Dopper is informed. The twins succeed in springing the saddened bird and everybody is happy.

Via their flying saucer, Tom and Sally return to earth in time to hear mother telling them to go to sleep.

JUNIOR LEAGUERS are old hands at puppet shows.

Before World War II they worked with the John Herron Art Institute to produce shows for Indianapolis school children. Later they accepted invitations to appear in various parts of the state.

Two years ago they abandoned the marionettes they

MARCH 29, 1953

had been using in favor of hand puppets and organized another school program.

The TV start came when the Indianapolis Community Fund offered air time for a puppet show to promote fund-raising. And in the present show Red Feather Boy, the fund's puppet, sings the "United Red Feather March" at the beginning of each program.

ACTIVE IN designing, constructing and producing the show are Mrs. John R. Scott, Mrs. James K. Northam, Mrs. Samuel F. Sherwood, Mrs. Pierre B. Aiman, Miss Marjorie Mueller and Mrs. Willis H. Tomlinson.

If space men ever actually arrive here, we'll be so accustomed to small boys in grotesque regalia no one will pay any attention. ★ ★ ★

the Puppet (Marionette) Committee was terminated in 1954, Crafters begins. The Crafters make stock puppets and toys for hospitals and clinics, renovate toys brought to the Next-to-New and work on spot projects involving puppets. In all, this committee makes 2,000 special items for the benefit of General Hospital and Central State Hospital. In 1953 the workshop undertakes a 13-week television serial, along with regular trouping to the public schools.

The new projects evolve from the Child Guidance Clinic: Child Guidance Education and Public School Service. Guidance Education services the Clinic by showing films promoting the principles of child guidance to interested groups. Public School Service, in cooperation with IPS and the Special Education Department, assists with vision testing programs and gives scholarships to train teachers for the Gifted Child Program in schools. A new Project is the Golden Age Project, a club for people over 50. The group meets once a week at the Central Library and League volunteers serve as hostesses and assist the club in various projects.

In the late 50s and 60s, League members discover a wealth of Indiana history. Linda McLaughlin went to the basement of the Indiana State Library to obtain a replacement driver's license. While waiting in an endless line, she notices open, tattered and unlocked cases holding Indiana artifacts. Concerned about this, she consults with the Board of Directors and others to obtain permission to investigate the possibility of delving into a search and rehabilitation of these treasures. JLI members then roll up their sleeves, and get down to the dirty business of sorting, organizing and categorizing items. The League allocates funds to build moveable glass cases and "History on the Move" is born. Now filled with various subjects relating to Indiana history, the cases are made available to the schools, and League members give lectures pertaining to the artifacts.

A new fund-raiser is the 500 Festival Golf Tournament, for which the League sells tickets and assists in publicity. This prestigious tournament attracts top pros, and the League is involved for several years. Meanwhile at the Next-to-New, remodeling has taken place, and in 1959 an additional room is added and known as the French

Room for consignment.

Pen & Inklings is expanded to include more photos, new features and a new design. It wasn't all work – there were three balls of note: A Night in Paris, A Mardi Gras, and A Winter Cotillion. And for the first time, "leave" is presented; after five years as an active, members are entitled to a one-year leave.

THE SIXTIES

The League divides the office of vice-president into two positions – Administrative and Community projects. A Public Affairs chairman is appointed, who informs the membership of non-political issues of public concern. New headquarters for the League are now in the Winterton complex in the Nora area. The Professional Group, consisting of active members in the business world, is established and becomes an active League sector. This group is represented on the JLI Board and later is granted a voting position. They have 31 members, elect their own board and meet four times in 1967-69.

Three additional rooms are rented to store clothes at the Next-to-New. The shop moves again in 1964 to 42nd and College. In 1967 all-member placement goes into effect for the Next-to-New; it is one of the best years in its history, with an \$18,600 profit.

Crafters is terminated and no new community craft need is found. The League is now exploring a cookbook project, but the idea does not become a reality for two more decades. The History on the Move Committee continues to work with the traveling history cases, but becomes more of a promotional committee with the objective of realizing a museum for the permanent exhibition of these State artifacts. The project is then terminated when the committee realizes its objectives are not within reach. The committee's efforts, however, are responsible for igniting interest in what eventually becomes the Indiana State Museum. New Projects in the 60s include Parent Education, Public Welfare, Lockfield Co-op Nursery, Welfare, Girls School and School Volunteers.

Reunion Day is a highly successful in-League undertaking in 1963. Invitations to the one-day seminar at the Columbia Club are issued in order that Provisional classes of the

The JLI Theater Committee provided a marionette show (coverage by The Indianapolis Star Magazine, March 29, 1953).



Pen & Inklings became the "Mouthpiece of the Organization" in 1939 and was produced until 1979.

Group, *Pen & Inklings*, and the new *Hotline*. The new position of Communications Coordinator's function is to bring together the chairmen of *Hotline*, *Pen & Inklings*, (later to become the *Junior League Review*) Public Relations, and Public Television, and to coordinate these chairmen and their committees to the best advantage of the League. An annual report is published to increase the level of professionalism in the League and to enhance community awareness. The *Yearbook* goes from spiral to looseleaf!

In the late 70s, 11 community leaders are asked to form the Community Advisory Council and meet twice a year to enhance communication between the League and the community. The Coalition of Volunteer

"During these 50 years...programs have developed that are now a continuing part of the community's service, and the interest gained and time given have made many women better citizens and this community a better place."

—Sue Zinser, President, 1972

Advocates also is formed; the League and five other women's groups plan a conference to address community issues. The ex-officio duties of the Executive Committee have been divided among all members.

Two new fund-raisers are implemented in this decade – a Christmas Boutique renamed Holiday Mart, and the publishing of a cookbook. The Holiday Mart at the Murat Temple is a very successful first, bringing 23 shops, plus the League's Mistletoe Madness booth together for three days of pre-holiday shopping in October. Over \$16,000 was raised for the Community Projects Fund, and the membership votes to continue the project for three years. The cookbook begins preparations for researching ideas and information from the Leagues and compiling recipes.

New Projects are the Eagle Creek Nature



The Schnull-Rauch House was gifted to JLI in 1979. JLI offices moved to the Schnull-Rauch House in 1981, and stayed there until 2009.

past sit together. A high-powered panel covers the topic "Spectator or Participant – Can We Afford Such a Choice?" This is the very beginning of the women's movement.

In 1966 after two years of planning, 430 registrants attend a community conference held at the Athletic Club. Represented are community agencies, churches, schools, businesses, interested individuals and 62 Junior League members. The purpose is to inspire awareness of community problems, coordinate improvement of existing agencies, focus attention on the lay person's need to volunteer, and to motivate the community to solve its problems.

In 1967 a 45th Anniversary Ball is held and past League presidents are honored. Founding member Mrs. Edward L. Mayer and 19 presidents are in attendance. A "magnificent" affair at the Columbia Club, over 200 League members attend.

THE SEVENTIES

In the 1970s, the goals are to remain project-oriented, yet try to meet the needs of all the members, and broaden community interests. In 1970 the first evening General Meeting is held to bring the entire membership together. And 1972 marks 50 years for JLI. A luncheon honors community organizations and individuals involved with the League over its history, and the 50th Anniversary Golden Ball is held to commemorate the occasion.

In the League's 50th year, Administrative Planning begins its first year of existence. The committee evaluates nominating procedures and recommends a single slate of officers. In 1975 the Admissions Committee implements the innovation of a sponsor's meeting prior to interviews, a candidate's meeting prior to acceptance, and reduces the number of signatures on admissions from six to four. These actions are extremely successful.

Later in the decade, areas of study are the Ways and Means chairman, the Professional



The Arts in Education project was supported by JLI from 1978-1981.

Center, the International Center, Big Sisters and Girls Club. With the gas shortage in the mid 70s, car pooling is organized, but school buses without adequate gas further curtail the Arts Project, so more extension lectures are taken to schools. Nature Center volunteers develop programs to take to schools, and the Bookmobile gas supply is available through Red Cross.

A new category of League activity, Special Events, is developed. These are short term, one-time events. They include involvement in the International Advanced Transit Association Conference held in Indianapolis in 1978, L.S Ayres and Co., Estee Lauder and the JLI "High Tea" to increase awareness of Historic Preservation and to benefit the Old Northside Revolving Fund, and "A Day in the Country" in conjunction with the Traders Point Hunt Charity Horse Show. A week-long workshop is held in 1977 to introduce the arts in education concept to the public schools. League members develop and publish an extensive resource manual.

The following goals are set by the end of the 70s: 1) increase impact on the community, 2) increase training activities, and 3) commitment to the League, or "happy" placement.

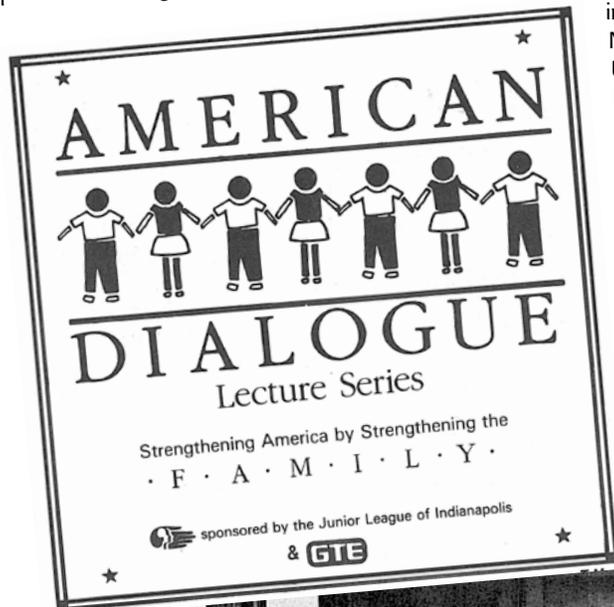
Sustainers now have the opportunity to join their own special interest groups such as tennis, golf, bridge, and needlepoint. And they desire special events for "Sustainers only!"

The first phone call concerning the acquisition of the Schnull-Rauch House is made in 1978-79. In August of 1979 a special meeting of the membership is called. An affirmative action is voted to be taken to accept the donation of the Schnull-Rauch House.

There are now over 700 members in the League.

THE EIGHTIES

The maximum age for admission is raised to 37. Shortly thereafter at the AJLA annual meeting, delegates vote to make the maximum age 45. Sustainers not yet 45 may reinstate as active. In 1982 Administrative Planning made the



The American Dialogue Committee

"The Junior League, a social organization? Absolutely. Not in the sense you may first think, but really in the truest and finest sense of the word. The Junior League is proud of its social conscience."

—Kathryn Brillhart, President, 1989

following recommendations: 40-year-old members be offered the option of participating in one project, fund-raising or committee activity, as the only active membership requirement outside of payment of dues and attendance at General Meetings.

Architects are chosen for the Schnull-Rauch House, landscaping and renovation instituted; in 1981 a parking lot is built, and fund-raising efforts intensified. In April of 1981 the League moves its headquarters to the Schnull-Rauch House at 3050 North Meridian. Restoration is completed in 1983. Offices for non-profit organizations are also available at the house.

The Provisional class size is more than doubled in the early 80s, to 92 new members. This is also the first time there are "non-secretive" admissions, to emphasize the sponsor's role.

Community involvement in the 80s includes League participation in the National Sports Festival in 1982, the United States Figure Skating Association's National Championships in 1987 and the Pan American Games, also in 1987. And by joining forces with the Commission for Downtown and Historic Landmarks, the Circle Theatre Associates are formed to renovate and operate the Circle Theatre. JLI participates in the National League of Cities Convention held in Indianapolis in 1984, and provides over 1,000 volunteers for the event.

In 1986 the Next-to-New moves a final time to Hillside Avenue. American Dialogue is adopted as a new fund-raiser and earns \$32,000

American Dialogue was adopted as a new fund-raiser and earned \$32,000 in its first year, 1986.

in its first year, 1986. After several years in the planning and producing, the first JLI cookbook debuts in 1985. Called *Winners*, it is a great success.

A Financial Development vice-president is added to the Board; this position oversees all fund-raisers. Under the various sub-committees of Finance the following goals are achieved: the combination of the Community Projects and Administrative Trust Funds; the establishment of personnel policies for all Junior League employees, and the establishment of a Grants Committee and its guidelines.

A progressive new logo (the present logo) is adopted in 1981. To keep up with the times and keep the League's operations up-to-date, a Computer Committee is developed. A membership practices committee is established as well, and increased involvement of Sustainers is desired, so the placement of a Sustainer on each committee is implemented.

In the late 80s the Endowment begins its first year by raising over \$65,000. An annual fund is inaugurated, and "planned giving" is introduced to the Junior League membership. Four new projects are developed: Riley Child Life Services, Domestic Violence Network, Dyslexia Remedial Association and Youth Institute.

The first *Quarterly Report* to the community is sent as a major communications tool in 1988, and the *Hotline* becomes a more professional-looking publication with the use of desktop publishing.

A new impact area is adopted in 1982-83 – that of women. AJLA becomes AJLI – the Association of Junior Leagues International.

THE NINETIES

The 1990s were a time for change for the JLI. Employed women had been the majority of our members for many years but now the percentage rose even higher. With that was the realization that the JLI would also have to change in its expectations for its members. A



The National Council of Negro Women recognized JLI for our efforts in the Indianapolis Public Schools.

MAKING IT EASIER



Staff Photo / Robert Scheer

Jamilah Heater, 2, received an unexpected gift this week from a Junior League of Indianapolis volunteer. The gift, a bag of toys, was one of 1,500 that league volunteers are

handing out to children who are brought to Marion County courts. The league hopes to raise awareness of the need for support services for children in domestic violence cases.

JLI supported the Family Advocacy Center's Kids Kourt program from 1994-1996, and again in 1998.

Leadership Course was formed for applying participants to ready them for leadership in the League and in the community.

We also saw growth financially. A new financial accounting system was developed and implemented. A million-dollar gift was given to the JLI Endowment by a Sustainer's estate. A new cookbook, *Back Home Again*, was unveiled and sold throughout the decade. The Holiday Mart continued to grow and bring money into the JLI to run its community projects.

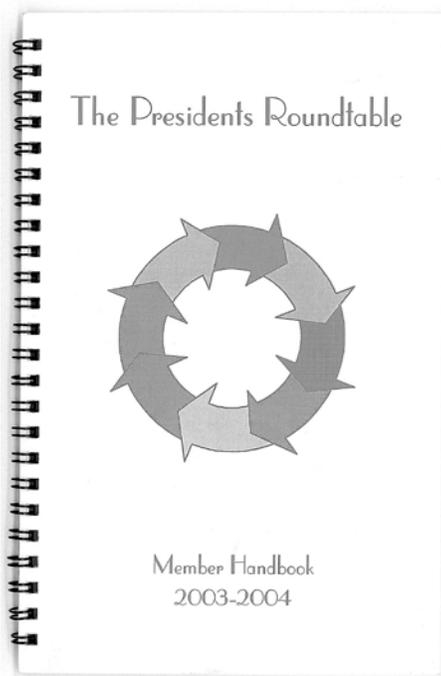
An extensive Strategic Plan was developed and implemented. Our 70th and 75th Anniversaries were celebrated. Our membership numbers remained high at 800+ Sustainers, 500+ Actives and 90+ Provisionals.

During the 1990s, seven community projects were transitioned to the community and we had projects as diverse as A Child's Haven, NCAA Men's Final Four Basketball, Nordstrom's Gala Opening, Neighborhood Harvest, First Baptist Youth Center, Kids on the Block, the Watkins Community Center, and Agape Therapeutic Horseback



Back Home Again was printed in 1993 and 1998, for a total of 40,000 copies.

Riding. The President's Roundtable was established by the JLI for the presidents of the top women's organizations in our community; our Gennesaret Free Clinic earned one of President Bush's Points of Light Awards. The League's Quarterly Report received a Public Relations Award from AJLI; we were honored by the National Council of Negro Women for our work in the Indianapolis Public Schools;



The Presidents Roundtable was established by the JLI for the presidents of the top women's organizations in our community.

we received the King Wilkins Walker Award for "building bridges" in the community by the African American Community. AJLI's President visited our League and spoke at a General Meeting.

THE TWO THOUSANDS

We charged into the new Millennium with gusto. The Holiday Mart prospered, the Gala continued to evolve and be enjoyed by the membership, two golf events were held, and the Next-to-New Shop continued. But the demographics for women were changing dramatically and the Next-to-New, though serving a valued community niche, was determined to be too time-intensive for our members. So it was closed and for the first time since 1928, the JLI did not operate a thrift shop.

Recognizing the shift in demographics the League established several ad hoc committees to study the changes and make recommendations about membership requirements and membership satisfaction. A new category of member was enacted that allowed more experienced members to remain Actives but with fewer requirements. Since there are no longer any upper age limits, a member may join and be involved when it suits her personal life. One year we had a mother and daughter Provisional set! We celebrated our 80th and 85th anniversaries with dinners, cocktail parties, special publications, *Hotline* articles and an excellent DVD about our long history. The Strategic Plan was evaluated and

updated each year and continues to guide our progress.

We had numerous new projects in the community ranging from the World Police and Fire Games, the Julian Center Art Therapy, Day Nursery program, Storytelling Arts of Indiana, Indy Reads, the Ronald McDonald House, Indiana Women's Prison Mentoring Children, Kids in the Kitchen, and again the NCAA Men's basketball Final Four.

The *Hotline*, previously published monthly is now published four times a year with the *Hotmail* emailed to members every week. The Bylaws and other League information went online and a directory rather than a yearbook was published.

Probably the biggest change for us was the sale of the Schnull-Rauch House. We had been involved with the SRH since 1979 as part of our continued commitment to Historic Preservation. We upgraded the interior and exteriors of the house and protected it with easements from Historical Landmarks that now

preserve the house for the future.

This decade was a decade of great financial commitment to the community: \$554,961 was given in community grants with \$85,000 given during our 85th year.



Holiday Mart celebrated 40 years in November, 2011.

THE TWO THOUSAND TENS

We are only two years into this decade but already it has been one of continued service to the community and the development of trained volunteers for the community. Our projects have been the Weekend to End Breast Cancer, School on Wheels, Indy Reads, and Day Nursery

Emerging Readers Club. In only two years we have granted to community organizations \$154,000 so they can continue their positive programs.

We will celebrate our 90th Anniversary, a monumental milestone for any organization! We shall continue to strive in the upcoming years to fulfill our Mission to the community we all live in.



Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the Senate concurring:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly congratulates the
- 2 Junior League of Indianapolis on its 90th anniversary and thanks the
- 3 organization for its many contributions to Indianapolis and the
- 4 surrounding communities.
- 5 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
- 6 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the Board of
- 7 Directors of the Junior League of Indianapolis.

2012

HC 1035/DI 84+



The Junior League of Indianapolis was recognized for 90 years of service by the Indiana House and Senate on March 1, 2012.

PROJECTS of the Junior League of Indianapolis – 1922 to May, 2012

1922-48 Riley Hospital Occupational Therapy Equipment	1961-64 Parent Education Center at Riley Hospital	1982-85 Indiana Repertory Theatre Docent Outreach Project	1991-96 Susan G. Komen Race For The Cure	2000-01 World Police & Fire Games
1923-51 Braille Transcribing	1962 Indianapolis Children's Zoo	1982-85 Indiana Prime Time: The Arts WFYI Channel 20	1992-94 Do In A Day	2000-02 Julian Center Art Therapy
1928-06 Next to New Shop	1962-65 Children's Music Committee – "Young Audiences"	1982-85 Ronald McDonald House	1992-95 Youth as Resources	2001-02 Day Nursery
1929-46 Community Service Council	1962-69 Welfare Self-Help – Marion County Welfare Dept.	1982-85 Indianapolis City Center	1992-95 Nature Conservancy Training, Inc.	2001-02 Indiana Women In Need (IWIN)
1933 Volunteer Service Dept. Community Service Council	1962-71 Speech & Hearing Center Pre-School Nursery	1982-86 Super Me with Carmel/Clay School System	1993-04 JLI Cookbook Back Home Again	2001-03 Julian Center Playroom
1936-51 Puppet Workshop – Art Museum & public schools	1963-65 Lockefield Garden Nursery	1982-88 Garfield Park Conservatory	1993-94 Fairbanks Hospital	2001-04 Storytelling Arts of Indiana
1943-45 Day Care Center	1963-66 Community Education Conference	1982-89 Conner Prairie Pioneer Settlement	1993-96 Now For The Future	2002 Indiana Schools for the Blind and Deaf
1944 Ft. Harrison-Hospital waiting room, bond sales	1964-67 Indiana Girls' School	1983-84 JLI Mission Statement	1993-96 Women's Appointment Collaboration/CONNECT	2002-03 St. Christopher Center/Craigne House
1945-81 Art Education for Docents at Art Museum	1965-74 School Volunteers	1983-85 Alliance for Girls' Services	1993-97 Ryan White Foundation, Inc.	2002-04 American Heart Association
1947 Community Puppet Theatre with public schools	1967-72 Volunteer Bureau	1983-85 Mud Mania	1994-95 Community Assistance Grants	2002-04 Indiana Schools for the Blind and Deaf
1947-53 Child Guidance Center with Indiana University	1968 Public Affairs Seminars on Inner City Conflicts	1983-86 Special Friends with Visiting Nurse Service	1994-95 Indiana Society to Prevent Blindness/Glaucoma Screening	2003 St. Vincent Children's Hospital
1950-55 Marion County Juvenile Court Center	1969-76 Neighborhood Health Centers	1983-87 Project LEAD	1994-96 Kids on the Block	2003 Indy Reads/Greater Indianapolis Literacy League
1950-55 Servicemen's Center	1970-76 Holiday Mart	1984 National League of Cities Convention	1994-96 Family Advocacy Center/Kids Kourt	2003-04 St. Vincent Children's Hospital
1951-54 Vision Testing in public schools	1970-76 PBS – Channel 20	1984 Circle Theatre Opening	1995 World Youth Forum, Sister Cities International	2003-04 Indy Reads/Greater Indianapolis Literacy League
1951-54 Gifted Program in public schools	1971 Mental Health Association	1984-90 Youth in Arts with Madame Walker Urban Center, Inc.	1995 Nordstrom Circle Centre Opening Gala	2004 Ronald McDonald House
1951-55 Golden Age Club for People Over 50	1972-76 Tom Thumb Bookmobile with Red Cross	1984-90 Early Prevention of School Failure with IPS	1995-04 Silent Witness National Initiative/State Public Affairs	2004 National League of Cities
1953 Community Hospital Drive	1973-75 Scarborough Peace Games	1985-01 JLI Cookbook Winners	1995-96 NCAA Men's Basketball First Round Competition	2004-05 Ronald McDonald House
1954 Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra	1974-76 Bicentennial – Holler House	1985-86 Parenting Fair	1995-97 Agape' Therapeutic Horseback Riding	2005-07 Mentoring Children of Promise with Choices, Inc. – Indiana Women's Prison
1954-61 Crafters made toys for hospitals	1974-77 Girls' Club	1985-88 Volunteers for Youth with Marion County Prosecutor's Office	1995-98 Caring Neighborhoods with Youth (signature project)	2005-08 Indiana Mothers' Milk Bank
1954-67 Noble School for retarded children	1974-77 Big Sisters	1985-89 Project Partnership	1996-97 Homeless Initiative Program	2005-09 Early Childhood Program at St. Mary's Child Center
1955 Children's Carnival of Arts at Herron Museum of Art	1974-82 Eagle Creek Nature Center – Indianapolis Parks	1986-87 Pan American Games	1996-97 NCAA Men's Basketball "Final Four"	2005-09 Kidz Krew at the Damien Center
1955 Basketball Program at School No. 9	1974-82 International Center	1986-90 Life/Leadership Development	1996-98 Distance Learning: Indianapolis Zoo	2005-09 NCAA Men's Basketball "Final Four"
1955-58 Crossroads Rehabilitation Center – Speech Therapy	1976-82 Historic Preservation	1986-91 American Dialogue	1997 Willing to Wait	2005-06 Women's Prison – Choices, Inc.
1956-65 General Hospital (Wishard)	1977 Insight Series Educational Seminars	1986-91 Heritage Place of Indianapolis	1997-04 Childwatch	2006-11 Kids in the Kitchen
1957-59 Television Research Committee	1977-80 Senior Companions	1987-90 Greater Indianapolis Literacy League	1997-98 Project Safe Place	2007-08 Trinity Free Clinic
1958-59 Little League Baseball – School No. 9 area	1978 Traders Point Charity Horse Show	1988-89 Woman to Woman	1997-99 Let's Talk	2007-08 John P. Craigne House
1958-61 Teen Guide Program – behavior code for teens	1978-81 Legislative activity – Public Affairs	1988-90 Guardian Ad Litem	1997-99 A Child's Haven	2008-10 TherAplay
1958-63 Occupational Therapy	1978-81 Arts in Education	1989-93 Dyslexia	1998 Kid-Ability	2009** Girls Inc.
1958-76 Children's Theatre	1978-83 DUSO with Washington Township Schools	1989-93 Riley Hospital Child Life Services	1998 Healthy Families	2009-11 Weekend to End Breast Cancer Benefiting St. Vincent Foundation
1959-60 "History on the Move"	1979-'09 Schnull-Rauch House, JLI Headquarters	1989-93 Indiana Youth Institute	1998 Junior Girls Cottage w/The Guardian Home	2011** School on Wheels – Tutors in Action
1960-61 Civil Defense	1979-89 Family Support Center	1989-94 Homeless Project/Dayspring	1999 Growing Together	2011** Indy Reads Family Literacy/Advance Reading in Kids
1960-63 "500" Festival Golf Tournament	1980-84 Outreach w/Children's Museum	1990-91 NCAA Men's Basketball "Final Four"	1999 The Children's Museum – Citizen's Improving Community Center	2011** Day Nursery Emerging Readers Discovery Club
	1982 U.S. Figure Skating Championships	1990-93 Child Advocates	1999 First Baptist Youth Center	
	1982 National Sports Festival	1991-93 Indianapolis Campaign for Healthy Babies Committee	1999 Watkins Community Center	
	1982-85 Circle Theatre Renovation	1991-95 Older Adult Services and Information Systems (OASIS)	1999-00 NCAA Men's Basketball "Final Four"	
	1982-85 United Negro College Fund Gala		1999-01 Foster Families	
			1999-04 The Presidents Roundtable	

**Denotes ongoing or current project