



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The 2017 - 2018 League year has started, and we are busy "building better communities." We had our Board of Directors and Committee Chairwomen training in August. I presented a lot of material from AJLI trainer, Vicki Clark, which I gained at Annual Conference this past May. I reminded members to delegate responsibilities and train the members of their committees as if they are planning for their departure as chair. I encouraged them to be persuasive, not abrasive, and to not be afraid to make mistakes, only to learn from them. I stressed to everyone to give affirmation where it is deserved and to keep their goals for the year SMART - Specific, Measurable, Action, Relevant, Timely. I encouraged everyone to refer to our new strategic plan for 2017 - 2020 as the best resource to stay on track. So far, everyone is doing a great job.

I'm so proud of everyone for planning and executing a successful Ninth Annual Touch A Truck fundraiser. I want to send a huge thank you and congratulations to our chairwomen Gina McAndrew and JoAnne Rossi, and to the entire League. Wait until you read how many vehicles participated! I'd also like to thank our History Committee for writing two grants that, if awarded, would help the preservation of our historical memorabilia. Great job, ladies!

Our Membership Transformation Rollout 3.0 Committee is hard at work on some major changes to our bylaws/policies and procedures. This is an exciting endeavor, and I think everyone will enjoy this transition because it will provide a better balance of training, direct service, and fun.

Our Membership Development Committee introduced 16 provisional members to the League. I had the pleasure of meeting and talking with most of them. They are truly an amazing group of talented women, and we are so fortunate to have them! Each September, I think of my provisional class. I think it's time for a reunion!

Our Board of Directors will choose chairwomen for our community programs that include: A Crockpot Cooking Series, A Nutrition and Hunger Forum, and a Happy Hour, as well as possibly bringing back our Scranton Girl Tea Fundraiser. All projects will be planned for this spring. They will be centered on childhood nutrition and hunger in order to help us become experts on the subject.

I look forward to the numerous upcoming programs and Done in a Day projects such as our Kids in the Kitchen series, our Blood Drive, our Provisional Tea, volunteering at the annual Friends of the Poor Thanksgiving Dinner and participating in the annual downtown Scranton Santa Parade.

Sustainer Representative Terra McAulliffe and I had the pleasure of being a part of the Roseann Smith Alperin Award selection committee. The annual award will be presented on Nov. 9 at the Women in Philanthropy event at the University of Scranton.

This quote was shared at AJLI Annual Conference, and I shared it with the members at Board Training and the first General Membership Meeting. Now, I would like to share it with you. Enjoy!

"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something. So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make New Mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: art, or love, or work or family or life. Whatever it is you're scared of doing, Do it. Make your mistakes, next year and forever." ~ Neil Gaiman

I feel truly honored to have the opportunity to serve as President of the Junior League of Scranton. May you and your families be blessed this holiday season and throughout the rest of the year. I look forward to the exciting events in the year ahead!

Sincerely,
Shannon



2017 - 2018 Board of Directors

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Amie Talarico

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Shannon Roche Cusick

President Elect
Nicole Lance

Recording Secretary
Amy Betts

Treasurer
Maggie Martinelli

Sustainer Representative
Terra McAulliffe

Nominating
Tami Nasser

Membership
Erin McFadden

Community Research
Noelle Griffiths

Parliamentarian
Gretchen Wintermantel

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JLS Ninth Annual Touch A Truck



The Junior League of Scranton held its Ninth Annual Touch a Truck on Sept. 30 at Nay Aug Park. **Gina McAndrew** served as Chairperson of the fantastic event with **JoAnne Rossi** at her side serving as Co-chair. Although it was a bit chilly, the event was attended by almost 1,200 people! With more than 60 vehicles, it was the largest vehicle turnout in Junior League of Scranton's Touch a Truck history! We welcomed several new organizations to our event, including the Lackawanna County Sheriff's Mounted Unit, and were thrilled to be joined once again by many companies and organizations that have supported our event each year.

This year we saw the return of the performance area, with K-9 and yoga demonstrations, as well as performances by the Lackawanna Trail cheerleaders and Marywood University Dance Team. Fun was had by all, with kids enjoying a scavenger hunt, fingerprinting by the Scranton Police Department, face painting, caricatures, car karaoke, and... of course, lots of beeping!

Next year will mark 10 years of Touch A Truck, and we hope to celebrate by having some special vehicles on hand!

Thank you to all of our committees, League members, and volunteers for your hard work! We couldn't have done it without you!



**TOUCH
A TRUCK**

Kicking off Kids in the Kitchen



On October 16, the Nancy Kay Holmes branch of the Scranton Public Library was host to this year's first Kids in the Kitchen. The event, captained by **Shannon Reed-Black**, was attended by nearly 30 children! On hand to help out with the Rice Cake Owl recipe were Active Members **Molly Jones** and **Nicole Sullivan**, along with Provisional Member **Megan Boettcher**. Providing entertainment for the children in attendance via animated and engaging reading of three children's books related to the event ("*Up, Up, Up, It's Apple Picking Time*", "*Apple Countdown*", and "*Why Do We Eat Healthy?*") were Active Members **Tami Nasser** and **Dawn Talley** along with Provisional Member **Holly Scacchetti**. The focus of the KITK event was learning to eat fruits and vegetables that

are in season for good nutrition and because they are most affordable when in season. The families were provided with a reference handout listing seasonal fruits and vegetables along with a word search and coloring pages. The children also copied the Rice Cake Owl recipes on their own recipe cards! The autumnal theme of apples and owls was a great success!



Friends of the Poor Thanksgiving Dinner

Any Junior League members who would like to volunteer at the annual Friends of the Poor Thanksgiving Dinner can contact Gretchen at gretwin@gmail.com or (703) 868-6804 to be added to the list of this year's volunteers. The dinner is at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2017 at the Scranton Cultural Center at the Masonic Temple. Volunteers will be asked to report as close to 4:15 p.m. as possible, as doors open to the public at 5 p.m., but can arrive later if necessary due to work. Please wear any Junior League attire you may have.

Getting to know... The 2017-2018 Board of Directors!

Chairman of the Board - Amie Talarico



This is Amie's second term as Chairman of the Board. She sat as President of the Junior League of Scranton for two years. Amie has worked in public education for 13 years, and is currently the Director of Special Education for the Lackawanna Trail School District. Amie also works as an adjunct faculty member at Keystone College. Amie continues to work for various grant-funded programs in conjunction with Friends of the Poor and Keystone College. Amie enjoys spending time with her family and with her boyfriend, John Culkin. You can find her cooking, spending time on some local trails, and waitressing at Market Street Bar and Grille when she has some precious free time.

President - Shannon Roche Cusick



Shannon Roche Cusick is a director and producer at WNEP where she interned while attending Penn State and never left. She starts her day dark and early to direct Newswatch 16 This Morning and oversees the station's Annual Feed A Friend Campaign, the Operation Save A Life Program, produces Public Service Announcements and the Good Morning Pennsylvania segments. This is Shannon's second term as President of the Junior League of Scranton and her seventh active year. She was previously President-Elect, Parliamentarian, and Public Relations Chair. She co-chaired the Fourth Annual Touch A Truck and two Cinderella's Closet Fashion Shows. She is a member of the Sponsorship, Placement, Issue Based Community Impact and Membership Transformation 3.0 committees. She has been on the Nominating, Membership Development, and Arrangements committees and was the Voluntary Action Center liaison. In

2015, Shannon was the proud recipient of the Margaret L. Richards Award. Shannon is a past chair and is a current volunteer for the Annual Susan G. Komen NEPA Race for the Cure and Cinderella's Closet of NEPA. She lives in West Scranton with her husband, Joe, and loves spending time with her niece, Emily, her nephew, Charlie, and all of her friends' children. She loves going out to eat, making crafts, and planting flowers.

President-Elect - Nicole A. Lance



President-Elect Nicole Lance is also the current Chair of Strategic Planning and Bylaws, in this her seventh overall year in the League. Nicole joined the League when Christina Nasser-Thomas became President because of her encouragement and Nicole's interest in all the volunteer work Christina and her sister Ashley had been doing. Because of what she thought was a very narrow understanding of what the League did and what she thought it was about, Nicole was not sure a Child Welfare Social Worker with very harsh views of the world belonged in this organization. However, through her work on the History Committee for the 75th Anniversary Celebration, she had an "aha" moment when she saw the work the League had done to prevent child abuse in Lackawanna County. It was at that moment she knew she belonged. Nicole is a Social Worker

and currently employed by the University of Pittsburgh as a Practice Improvement Specialist. When she is not traveling for work, she spends time with friends and family, works on home improvement projects, and volunteers with other organizations such as the VAC, Cinderella's Closet of NEPA, Making Strides with the American Cancer Society, North Scranton Neighborhood Association/Watch. In addition to that, Nicole also loves to cook and bake, especially now that the cooler weather has come!

Recording Secretary - Amy Betts



Amy Betts is The Junior League of Scranton's current Recording Secretary. She joined the League in 2011 making this her sixth year! Her previous chair positions include PR, Education and Training, and Strategic Planning. In addition to serving this year on the Executive Board of JLS, Amy serves as recording secretary of Peace Lutheran Church Council, and as a member of The Lutheran Academy School Board. She also works part time as the Parish Administrator of Peace Lutheran Church, and continues to grow her Mary Kay business of 20 years. In her spare time (as if she has any to speak of) she loves to read and spend time being silly with her husband, Ky, and her two children - Nora, age 13 and Alfred, age 7.

Treasurer - Maggie Nasser-Martinelli



Maggie Nasser-Martinelli, in her seventh active year with the Junior League of Scranton, is currently serving as the League's Treasurer. Maggie has previously served in the roles of Parliamentarian, Recording Secretary, Sponsorship Chair, Cinderella's Closet Chair, and Arrangements Chair. She works as the Manager, Administration and Special Projects at the Scranton Area Community Foundation, where she oversees many of their programs, including Women in Philanthropy and Center for Community Leadership and Nonprofit Excellence. She is also on the boards of Cinderella's Closet of NEPA, Jewish Family Service of NEPA, and The Scranton Cultural Center. Maggie was extremely honored and humbled to have received the Mary Harriman award in 2013, the Margaret L. Richards award in 2014, and the AJLI Rising Star award in 2015. She resides in Dickson City with her husband, Eric Martinelli, and their golden retriever, Maisie.

Sustainer Representative- Terra McAulliffe



Terra McAulliffe is the current Sustainer Representative. She began her Junior League Journey in 2006 and loves to contribute her time and energy to the League, finding the women inspirational and the impact on the community tangible. As an on-the-go mom of two young boys and her 16-year-old step-daughter, Terra runs three businesses with her husband, Joseph McAulliffe, DC. With all of that going on, participation on outside boards has slimmed down a bit, but she's currently on the board of Yoga Journeys and is an avid supporter of local arts organizations as well as those tackling the issue of childhood hunger. Her favorite non-league activity aside from spending time with her family and work, is typically sitting down with tea and a good book; however, she recently took up rock climbing and loves practicing yoga.

Corresponding Secretary - Gina McAndrew



Gina McAndrew is Corresponding Secretary for the 2017-2018 year. She joined the Junior League of Scranton in 2015 and is currently in her second year as an Active Member. In addition to being Corresponding Secretary, she served as the 2017 Touch A Truck Chair and also serves on the Nominating, History, and Ways and Means committees. She has also been a part of Arrangements and Sponsorship, and was Co-chair of Touch A Truck in 2016. Gina truly values the friendships made within the League and looks forward to creating new memories each year! Outside of the League, she serves on the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Committee and is a member of the Leadership Lackawanna Finance and Selection Committees. Gina resides in Scranton with her husband of nine years, Kevin, and their fur-baby, Roo! Outside of the League, you can find her at Steamtown Hot Yoga or running the mean streets of Scranton with Scranton Running Company's Barrier Breakers. She also enjoys reading, dancing, and spending time with her friends and family, especially her nieces and nephew.

Nominating Chair - Tami Prall-Nasser



Tami is the current Chair of the Nominating and Sponsorship committees. This is her seventh year in the League, including her provisional year. During her time in the League, she has served as Chair of Membership Development, Arrangements, and Education and Training. She served on the Public Relations, Placement, and Issue-Based Community Impact committees and the History Committee for the League's 75th Anniversary. Tami co-chaired the Fifth Annual Touch A Truck and the Scranton Girl Tea. She served as Dress Sorting Committee Chair for Cinderella's Closet and Community Outreach Chair for Project Vitality. Tami does not currently sit on any additional boards. However, she is a member of the Marley's Mission Blue Ribbon Gala Planning Committee. Her favorite non-League activity is roller-skating when she has time, and she also enjoys yoga. She lives in Scranton with her husband and her golden retriever, Otis.

Membership Development - Erin McFadden



Currently the Membership Development Chair and Public Relations Chair. Erin has previously served as the Nominating Chair, Public Relations Chair and Vice Chair, Scranton Girl Tea Co-Chair and Beyond the Pearls Co-Chair. This is her sixth active year (her seventh including her provisional year). Outside of the League, she is a Board Member on the Zeta Tau Alpha NEPA Alumnae Chapter and Chair of her company's Corporate Social Responsibility Committee. Erin volunteers with Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and runs an annual fundraiser for the cause called Drink to Pink. She lives in Scranton with her two fur babies. Her favorite out of League activity is spending time with her family!

Community Research - Noelle Griffiths



Noelle is currently the Community Research Chair. Her Committee is working on increasing the number of direct service hours available for League members. They are also busy researching the nutrition and hunger needs in our community and strengthening partnerships with community organizations. Noelle also serves on the Membership Development and Placement committees. This is her sixth League year! Since joining in 2012, she has served as the Arrangements Vice-Chair and has served on several other League committees. She is most proud of her two years as the Co-chair of Touch A Truck. Noelle currently resides in South Abington Township with her husband, Ryan, and two Siamese cats, Cassie and Lillie. She is an assistant principal at Commonwealth Charter Academy. The leadership training she has received as a League member has been invaluable to her career. The League continues to provide Noelle with so many incredible opportunities. However, she is most grateful for the wonderful friendships she has made with so many incredible women. Her favorite non-League activities include spending time with her friends and family, going out to eat, exercising, and binge-watching any and all sitcoms (she is currently watching *Curb Your Enthusiasm!*).

Parliamentarian - Gretchen M. Wintermantel



Gretchen is serving her second year as Parliamentarian and History Committee Chair. She is also Public Relations Vice Chair and in her second year as a member of the Nominating and Bylaws/Policies & Procedures committees. This is Gretchen's eighth overall year in the League. Gretchen co-chaired the Fourth Annual Touch A Truck and Project Vitality. She has served as both Chair and Vice-Chair of the Community Research and Ways and Means committees. Gretchen co-chaired her provisional class project, *KNOWME: Positive Expressions Through Art*, which is one of her favorite League memories. Gretchen compiled the text of the League's published history celebrating our 75 years of service. She served as the Tripp House Liaison and is now a board member of the Society for the Preservation of the Tripp Family Homestead. Gretchen has volunteered with Marley's Mission since 2010 and she co-chaired the organization's Third Annual Blue Ribbon Gala in 2013. Gretchen was extremely humbled to receive the League's 2013 Margaret L. Richards Award. Gretchen's professional background includes journalism, communications, and public transit. Gretchen is from East Mountain and resides in Dunmore with her two cats, Sawyer and Leroy. Outside the League, she enjoys writing, photography, and spending time with her boyfriend, family, and friends.

The Santa Parade



Calling all Provisional, Active, Active Preferred, and Sustaining members. The Junior League of Scranton will once again be participating in The Santa Parade. We will be meeting for the parade on Saturday, Nov. 18 at 9 a.m. in Downtown Scranton. Come join us in this festive and fun activity! For further information, please contact Lindsey Courtright at lindseycourtright@gmail.com.



Save the Date

Junior League of Scranton Annual Holiday Party
Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2017
6:30 p.m.
Tripp House
Invitations to follow.

JLS Past President and Past Member to be Awarded

Women in Philanthropy, a project of The Scranton Area Community Foundation, will hold their Annual Event on Thursday, Nov. 9, at the University of Scranton, Leahy Hall in the Kane Forum. At this year's Annual Event, WIP will honor **Nada Gilmartin**, the 2017 recipient of the Margareta Belin Chamberlin Award, and **Anne Falzett**, the 2017 recipient of the Roseann Smith Alperin Award. WIP will also recognize the work of our Entrepreneurship and Micro-Lending Advisory Circle and be joined by the current participants and recent graduates of the University of Scranton's Small Business Development Center's StartUP program.



History Committee News

The History Committee has applied for two grants to assist with archiving the rich history of the Junior League of Scranton. One grant could provide funding for digitization of all League scrapbooks from the 1930s through 1960s totaling more than 900 pages, as well as other archiving supplies. The other grant would provide funding for both the History Committee and Membership Development Committee. It would provide funding for archiving supplies, a bus tour for the Provisional Class that would showcase League and local history, and an opening reception for a League historical exhibit open to the public. In June, the committee purchased archival boxes to store the League's copies of the *Dope Sheet*, *Focus*, and *The Source*, as well as anti-static cotton gloves that will protect scrapbooks, documents, photos, and artifacts from oils while being handled.

Congratulations

We would like to thank our Mission Sponsors:



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Engagements

Maria Bertha to Karl Turetsky
Nicole Sullivan to Ryan Janthor
Lindsey Courtright to Matt Jones
Yvonne Caudullo to Tom Mez

Public Relations Committee 2017-2018

Erin McFadden, Chair * Gretchen M. Wintermantel, Co-Chair
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