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WWW.MIDLAND.EDU/WOODWARD

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TUMBLEWEED STAFF

EDITOR

AMBER HOELSCHER

ASSISTANT EDITOR

JAIMEY SLOAN WARREN

REPORTERS

MICHELLE CASH
BRITTANY CROWLEY
SHELBI CUDE
CRYSTALE GALINDO
ASHLEY MORALES
REBECCA PROCTOR

PUBLIC RELATIONS VP

SUZY PRUCKA

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIDLAND, INC.

902 West Dengar Avenue
Midland, Texas 79705
432-682-4732
FAX 432-682-4788
www.jlmidland.org

DESIGNER

HALEY BUCKLES
haleybucklesdesign@gmail.com

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE VP



At times, I find it hard to believe my League career began almost nine years ago. As I look back over the last decade, it seems the time went by so quickly because I was busy learning and growing. For this and much more, I have the Junior League to thank.

I joined the League in 2012 as a way to make friends in my new hometown. Back then, I had only a vague idea of the kinds of work the League did here in Midland. Since then, I have shared my love of reading with elementary students through our Reading Olympics program, helped families come together with our Kids First program, and spread the news of League accomplishments,

fundraisers, and events as the Editor of this magazine, *Tumbleweed*.

When I started as the *Tumbleweed* Editor in June of 2016, I was terrified. It's a big job: seeking advertisers, planning content, working with a layout editor, and coordinating reporters. I was out of my comfort zone and it was hard work! But I soon found my stride and the tasks became easier. Meanwhile at work, I was surprised to hear that my boss and co-workers noticed a change in my professional bearing. I was better at managing my time, at initiating tough conversations, and at delegating tasks. All the hard work I put into the League was brightening other corners of my life!

If you would like to learn more about the opportunities for service in the Junior League of Midland, we will be hosting a new member informational session on Tuesday, April 7, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at our Headquarters, 902 West Dengar in Midland. I hope that you will invite a friend (or two!) to take the leap and join our League. I can't promise that it will be easy, but I can promise that with some hard work, you'll soon see a great deal of growth throughout all areas of your life.

DIANA MARTIN

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIDLAND, INC.

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The Junior League of Midland members are active in the community through both our community placements, including IMPACT, Reading Olympics, and Suits with Skills, as well as volunteering for community organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Jubilee Center, and Mission Agape.

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By *Jaimey Sloan Warren*

LETTER FROM THE ASSISTANT EDITOR

Last year when I was selected to be the Assistant Editor of *Tumbleweed* following a year as a reporter, I was, of course, flattered, but also a little nervous. Sure - I can help gather photos and I can write a few articles about the League; no big deal. However, running the show - a whole different ball game!

In my mind, I had a whole year to prepare and shadow Amber Hoelscher, the current *Tumbleweed* Editor, in preparation to be Editor during the 2020-2021 League year, and I would be able to gradually gather all the tools needed to be successful in the coming year. Amber's guidance has been tremendously helpful, but I do not think any amount of training can prepare you for the amount of detail and planning needed to have a successful and timely publication that properly reflects the League's mission and showcases our community involvement.

In preparation for the next year as Editor, I took the lead on this issue and it has been an eye-opening experience. Not necessarily because of the workload, but the overwhelming desire to showcase all of the positive programs we offer in the community, the hundreds of volunteer hours we provide, and the uniquely strong women we have as members. As one of the leads developing content and layout, it is hard to not try to showcase all details of the Junior League of Midland.

A diverse organization of professionals, entrepreneurs, civil servants, and community leaders from various backgrounds, the Junior League contributes hundreds of hours of service both through our community outreach programs like IMPACT, Suits with Skills, Face the Race, Reading Olympics, and most recently, Pink Pantry and through our Volunteers in Midland initiative benefiting the youngest to oldest residents of the city of Midland.

I am excited to showcase the League and our contributions to the community over the next year and hope you find our organization as exciting and engaging as I do. I look forward to sharing this experience and impact through the pages of *Tumbleweed*.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal tail.

JAIMEY SLOAN WARREN
TUMBLEWEED ASSISTANT EDITOR
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIDLAND, INC.

ENTREPRENEURS WITHIN JLM

By Michelle Cash

At the core of the Junior League of Midland are goal-oriented and driven women who are involved in the community. So, it comes as no surprise that quite a few of our members are entrepreneurs. We asked a few of our members running independent businesses what it takes to be a successful owner and to share their advice to those interested in venturing into the world of being an entrepreneur.



Ashley Warne

ALW Consulting, LLC

Ashley Warne is the founder and owner of ALW Consulting, LLC, which provides Human Resources consulting services. She mainly works with small to medium-sized for-profit and non-profit organizations on projects, such as policy and procedure development and implementation, handbook writing/review, and employee relations. She also specializes in working with individuals on career advice, such as resume writing and interviewing. Ashley started this business because she has a passion for working with people and loves the HR field. After staying home with her sons for a few years, Ashley missed her professional life. With some encouragement from her husband and a couple of friends, she took a risk to open her own business and has loved it from the start!

Ashley first found it beneficial to learn how to manage the financial side of a small business. She counsels, "it's important to have a good CPA in your contacts!" The most important thing she has learned from starting her own business is to have confidence in herself. "It can be scary and risky to put yourself out there and hope that someone sees value in your product or service, but the moment they do, it's such a confidence booster!" Ashley reported. When describing advice for potential entrepreneurs, she suggests that you "do your research, explore and know your potential market/client-base and see what untapped need is out there that you can fill. You will never know what might have been if you don't at least try!"



Mandy Gregg

Color Me Beautiful Tans

Mandy Gregg grew up in a family business setting and has always had a passion for working with others. Her grandfather started Midland Frame and Wheel in 1973 and it remains a family business even today, with her parents at the helm. She grew up helping out where needed in the family business, developing her entrepreneurial spirit.

In 2018, Mandy was approached by her spray tanner, Letty Pressler, to become her partner in her business called Color Me Beautiful Tans. "I loved the idea of a side business that I can still be with my kids during the day and also help make women feel their best," stated Mandy. Letty trained her to become a certified airbrush and contour tanner and the rest is history! Throughout the last few years, Mandy has built up an amazing clientele of women who have become great friends. "My favorite part of tanning women is the "wow moment" of the first time they see themselves in the mirror and they are glowing and confident. That is why I do this!" exclaimed Mandy. Her advice to potential entrepreneurs is that anyone wanting to start a business should jump in and run with it! "I never dreamed this little business would turn into such a love of mine! I am still in shock at how fast it's grown and I'm excited to see what the future holds," she stated.





Mandy McCabe

Knife & Board

Mandy McCabe is the owner of Knife & Board, a cheese and charcuterie board company here in Midland. Years ago, she and her husband helped run their family wine bar in Houston, and it was during that time that she developed an interest in wine and cheese pairings. "I enjoyed selecting the meats and cheeses for our charcuterie boards, but even more so, I loved the creative aspect of plating and presentation," stated Mandy.

Owning her own company has taught Mandy the importance of customer service and adding your personal touch to separate yourself from the rest. Mandy reported, "I have met so many amazing people in our community, many that I now call friends, through this experience. For me, the hardest part was stepping out of my comfort zone to take that first step. I was fortunate to have a supportive husband and supportive friends who encouraged me to go for it!" Knife & Board is in its second year of business and going strong. Mandy is thankful for all the support Midland has provided!



SAVE THE DATE

for the Junior League Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

The Way Retreat Center
Social 6:00 | Dinner 6:30 | Meeting 7:00

Celebrate the 2019-2020 League Year &
Recognize Sustainer of the Year, Betty Whitmire Sumner Award,
Hand in Hand Award, and Provisional of the Year Award

Tickets available for purchase in late April at
www.jlmidland.org

THE COST OF BEING FEMALE

By Katie McBryde

Gender-Based Price Discrimination Costs Women Thousands of Dollars



Katie McBryde is a 4th year Active with the Junior League of Midland and is currently the Chairman of the Pink Pantry Committee. She was also the recipient of the League's Hand in Hand Award for her service to the League in 2018-2019.

In August 2019, the Junior League of Midland created its newest community initiative, Pink Pantry. Not only is the project's mission to make feminine hygiene and basic hygiene supplies available to students in need at several MISD secondary schools, but also to educate the community about the Pink Tax. Which begs the question, what is the Pink Tax?

Simply put, the Pink Tax is the additional amount of money women pay for consumer products and services. This "tax" begins from the time we are young girls buying pink bicycle helmets, transcends through our formative years with personal hygiene products like deodorant and shampoo, and continues through adulthood with inflated pricing for products like razors and adult diapers to services like haircuts and dry cleaning.

Although public chatter on this topic has increased over the past five years, the Pink Tax is not a new phenomenon. Laura Strausfield, co-founder of PeriodEquity.org notes that it stems back as early as the 1930s - 1960s: "It was a very different world at a time when [legislators] were figuring out which products to tax and which to exempt. It was a world in which it was single-income families with men working and women staying at home." Simply put, back then, these expenses were borne by a household; and today, women are purchasing these products on their own, with their own money. "This notion of the Pink Tax arises from the advances women have made in the workforce and bearing individually the cost of being a woman in the world," Strausfeld says. There are many other contributing factors as to why this phenomenon exists. Whether that be tariffs on women's clothing being statistically higher or that marketing a product geared towards women is significantly more elaborate thus passing the costs of marketing down to the consumer of the product.

In 1994, the State of California conducted its gender-based study, finding the average woman is charged an extra \$1,351 every year for consumer projects. I recently celebrated my 34th birthday. Based on that statistic, I have likely spent \$45,934 more than my male counterparts for certain consumer goods and services. Even more disappointing, I could have invested \$16,212 of that into my personal retirement account from the time I began my career instead of needing to fund the extra amount I pay for products geared towards women. This figure doesn't factor in the inflation in those 16 years.

So why are we hearing more about the Pink Tax today? One reason is that it is an active conversation in our nation's state legislatures. In California, the Pink Tax Repeal Act was introduced in 2016 by California Representative Jackie Spier. The overall goal of the Act is to end gender-based price discrimination. In 2018, Spier introduced a revised version of the Pink Tax Repeal Act, H.R.5464. Many states have used this concept to exempt menstrual supplies from state sales tax, coining the term Tampon Tax.

In today's news, arguably the most popular form of the Pink Tax is the Tampon Tax. "The Tampon Tax is a species of the Pink Tax that involves governmental taxation of feminine hygiene products. In a more objectionable form involving patent gender discrimination, some U.S. states exempted male-oriented medical care products like Rogaine (which fights male baldness) from state sales taxes, while not exempting feminine hygiene products." As of June 2019, 13 states have passed legislation exempting essential hygiene products. The argument for the Tampon Tax is tampons, pads and feminine goods should not be considered luxury products, rather a necessity for most women every single month until



menopause. I think every woman can agree that we certainly do not consider our periods a luxury. At the end of the day, this is a conversation about basic hygiene, regardless of gender, and as it currently stands, it is not a fair conversation.

So how can a woman not fall prey to the Pink Tax? First, do your research and spend your money with companies that take a stand against pricing discrimination. ValuePenguin.com lists the following companies who have pledged cost equality: "Boxed, for instance, has reduced the pricing on its women's products so they're the same price as the men's. Billie, a subscription shaving company, claims to offer pricing that's comparable to men's razor subscriptions. Aside from supporting companies with gender-neutral pricing, you can choose not to buy products marketed specifically to women. But if you want your state to ban the Pink Tax altogether, get in touch with your state representatives." The more people that voice their concerns and fight for change to their state representatives, the more support you'll have in the fight against gender-based pricing discrimination.

Still not sure about all of this Pink Tax mumbo-jumbo? Go to your local consumer goods store, look at items in the personal care section of the store and see it for your own eyes - shaving cream, razors, shampoo, all priced higher when it is labeled for female use. Next, visit the children's toy and recreation area, compare items that are essentially the same but geared towards girls versus boys and you will see the price inflation just because the item is pink or feminine. As consumers, regardless of gender, we are the only force that can stop this trend.

To learn more about the Pink Tax, please visit websites like Pink.Tax and axthepinktax.com. These sites provide educational resources, various articles, facts and price comparisons of consumer products. These resources also provide excellent suggestions for brands that stand up to gender price discrimination.

To learn more about the Junior League's Pink Pantry program, please contact the Junior League of Midland at (432) 682-4732, email pinkpantry@jlmidland.org, or visit www.jlmidland.org.

PINK TAX

A comparison between the same products marketed to **Women vs. Men**

Shampoo & Conditioner



\$8.39



\$5.68

Women pay 48% more

Body Wash



\$5.70



\$5.40

Women pay 6% more

Razors



\$8.90



\$7.90

Women pay 11% more

WHAT COSTS MORE FOR WOMEN?



13%
more for
personal care
products



8%
more for
adult clothing



7%
more for
toys & accessories



4%
more for
children's clothing

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Standard Sales Company, L.P. is a company with a proud heritage of supporting and serving worthy community projects and events in the counties it serves. We are honored to support the Junior League of Midland and the efforts they make to improve the lives of people in the Permian Basin. Cheers, to JLM and to another 70 years of community service!



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**DUE TO COVID-19
PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES,
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SHOTGUNS & STILETTOS EVENTS
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

*Ticket and sponsorship opportunities are still available.
Please visit our website for the latest details.
<https://www.jlmidland.org/shotgunsandstilettoes>*

Annual Luncheon
featuring Rebecca
Thursday, March
Midland County
Ticket: \$175
Table of 8: \$1,400

Soiree
Donuts
2020
of Midland
Ticket: \$200
Table of 8: \$1,600

Please visit www.jlmidland.org/shotgunsandstilettoes,
call 432.682.4732 or email ss@jlmidland.org
for more information.



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THE JLM ADMISSIONS PROCESS

By Brittany Crowley

Bloom Where You're Planted

Junior League of Midland is dedicated to the promotion of voluntarism, the development of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. Originally comprised of 29 women in 1949, today, the current membership reflects more than 770 women who annually give more than 16,000 uncompensated hours of service to more than five projects and a dozen non-profits. Fundamental to this growth is the admissions process, which has evolved over the Junior League of Midland's seventy years of operations.

Given the Junior League's mission, a prospective member should have a strong commitment to volunteerism, commitment to community service, and motivation to develop leadership potential and skill set. Prospective members must be at least 24 years of age by August 1 of the year of application. There is no upper age limit on joining the Junior League of Midland. All prospective members must be a current resident of Midland County or a surrounding area if there is no other League opportunity.

No sponsorships are required to join the Junior League of Midland, though attendance at a pre-admission informational session is required. A pre-admission information session will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at the Junior League of Midland Headquarters, located at 902 W. Dengar Avenue in Midland.

To achieve the League's goals and mission, prospective members will learn about and explore all aspects of the Junior League through her Provisional Trainer. In the prospective member's first year, she should expect to attend monthly prospective member meetings, general meetings, explore the various committee placements the Junior League of Midland offers, as well as dedicate her time to community service in the Midland community. After her Provisional year, she becomes an Active member, where the majority of her time is spent serving on a committee and attending monthly membership meetings.

Junior League of Midland is currently accepting applications for 2020-2021 Provisional Members. Prospective members can find the application and further details online at www.jlmidland.org. Membership is limited to the first 70 applicants who fully complete the admissions process. Applications and associated fees are due no later than May 1, 2020.

If you have additional questions about membership requirements, please contact Lacey Holloman at join@jlmidland.org.

JLM BY THE NUMBERS

Members that hold an Associate Degree or higher
96%

Members that work full-time outside of the home
62%

Members that work part-time outside of the home
18%

Members with children
56%

Members Native to the Permian Basin
35%

Members that serve on the Board of other community organizations
24%

Members that volunteer or serve with other organizations
54%



“

I remember sitting at my first general meeting nine years ago. I knew one person in the room and I was very apprehensive. I was excited to meet some new people, serve the community – and let's face it, leave the baby duty for my husband for a little bit. It did take some time and lots of commitment from myself, but several of the ladies in the room became some of my dearest friends.

Our theme for the 2019-2020 League year is "Bloom Where You're Planted." The League has allowed me to bloom in places that I never thought I would feel comfortable - places that have helped me grow personally and professionally. I am thankful for an organization that encourages personal growth and equips women with the proper training and education to bloom. My hope is that this year, every member can take root in their civic life and blossom into a trained servant leader, so that we, the Junior League of Midland, may continue to bloom as the prominent women's organization in Midland.

— Marina Stanaland, 8th year Active and current President of Junior League of Midland

”

Sometimes, it's hard to imagine
what your impact looks like,
and sometimes, it's easy.



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
MIDLAND



Interested in joining Junior League of Midland?

Prospective New Member applications are now open and will be accepted until May 1, 2020.

Pre-admission informational session will be held at 6:30 p.m. on April 7, 2020
at Junior League of Midland Headquarters.

For more information, visit <https://www.jlmidland.org/membership/membership-packet>.

Questions? Email join@jlmidland.org.

Mark Palmer



(L to R) Sam Palmer, Susan Palmer, Preston Palmer and Mark Palmer

Mark Palmer currently serves as the Executive Director for the Abell-Hanger Foundation. As Executive Director, he oversees day-to-day operations, the grant-making process, and identifies emerging or existing unmet needs in the community. He also represents the Abell-Hanger Foundation in all public situations and works with the foundation trustees to set strategic courses that will be of the greatest benefit to the community. When asked about his role with the Abell-Hanger Foundation, Mr. Palmer believes he has the best job in Midland stating, “The Legacy of this foundation and its support of Midland for the past 65 years is, to me, an incredible legacy. George and Gladys Abell left a gift to this community that has strengthened, maintained and, in the case of Midland Shared Spaces, even created numerous charitable entities.” Mr. Palmer has served as the Executive Director of the Abell-Hanger Foundation for the past three and a half years. Before his role as Executive Director, he spent five years as the Special Projects Manager for the Foundation.

Originally from Iowa, Mr. Palmer graduated from Texas Tech University in 1987 with a degree in psychology and has 21 years of experience working in the nonprofit sector. Prior to his time working with nonprofits, he spent ten years as a classroom teacher. In his spare time, he enjoys watching movies and traveling.

Mr. Palmer has served on the Junior League of Midland’s Community Advisory Panel (CAP) for approximately five years. On the panel, he represents the Foundation and is asked to share his knowledge and experience within this field. Through his time volunteering on the CAP, he has come to appreciate the meaningful work of the Junior League of Midland.

“The one thing that I most appreciate about the Junior League is the way the organization prepares members for community service.”

The Community Advisory Panel is comprised of a diverse group of community leaders who support the Junior League of Midland. These leaders represent a full spectrum of professions, as well as levels of community engagement. The overall goal of this panel is to act as a sounding board for our League’s senior leaders. Twice yearly, the Junior League hosts meetings with the panel to discuss what is going on in the League and how we can improve or meet other needs within Midland. Our current panel includes ten community leaders who volunteer their time to help the Junior League of Midland engage with other nonprofits and organizations to help support and enrich our community.

“

Members and Sustainers of the Junior League of Midland, in many cases, are some of the most well-known and longest-serving volunteers in Midland.

”

Members of the Junior League of Midland Community Advisory Panel include Rebecca Bell, Teresa Cain, Kevin Foreman, Alice Freidline, Jay Hendricks, Laurie Johnson, Mark Palmer, Dr. Eileen Pivetz, Melissa Wicker, and Holly B. Williams.

JLM 2020 Vision includes Rebranding

At the January General Membership Meeting, members were introduced to the new look of the Junior League of Midland. Suzy Prucka, Public Relations Vice President, unveiled new logos for Face the Race, IMPACT, Pink Pantry, Reading Olympics, the Rummage Sale, Suits with Skills, Volunteers in Midland, Shotguns & Stilettos, and the general JLM Logo.

Ms. Prucka explained the design scheme was created and developed after market research and input from a variety of audiences, including League leaders and League members across membership categories. However, the rebranding was part of a larger shift Suzy has led throughout the 2019-2020 League year.

“JLM has been the leading women’s organization for social change for 71 years and I would like for us to more overtly showcase that legacy and the meaningful work of the League,” she said. “We are a training ground for community leadership that has created many of Midland’s greatest institutions – 85 percent of Active members are career-oriented leaders who joined the Junior League due to their personal commitment to volunteerism and improving communities in the Permian Basin.”

Suzy said she believes by spotlighting JLM’s incredible work and featuring logos that better reflect the times and the League’s projects, JLM should be better able to recruit new members and inspire existing members to continue to do good work.

Look out for new advertising, to include a video that communicates who Junior League of Midland is and the 71 years of community impact.





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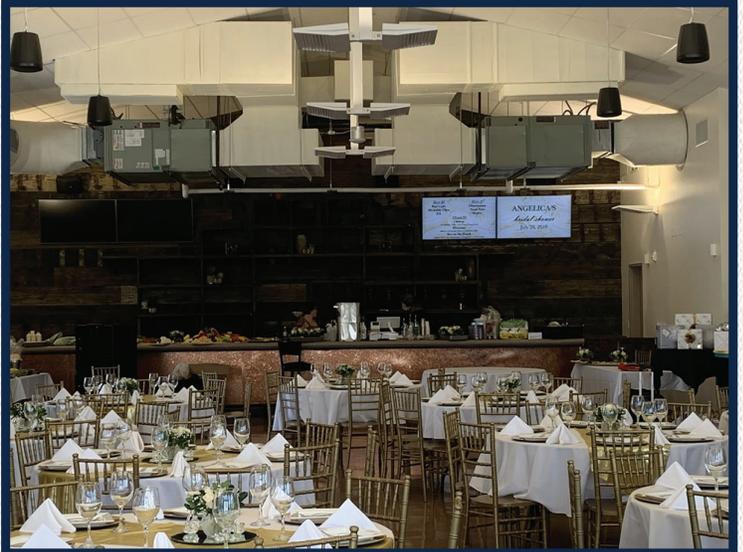
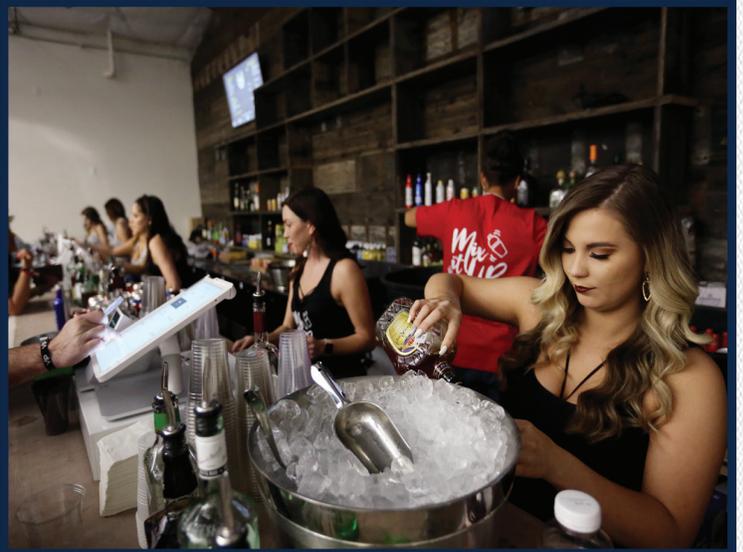


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BACKSTAGE

EVENT CENTER



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Empowering Women Through All Stages of Life

Finding the right job with the right employer may sound simple enough, but the process to achieve success in employment may not be easy for everyone. A job interview gives you and a potential employer the opportunity to determine if you are a good fit for the job position, but what if you are not strong in interview skills? What happens if you are not sure how to write a resume? What if no one ever offered advice on the best way to dress for a job interview?



Junior League strives to reach and empower women through all stages of life and, as a result, created “Suits with Skills” as a mentoring program for female survivors of domestic abuse. The program has been expanded to include underserved women who need a boost to enter or reenter the workforce.



“Suits with Skills helps develop the potential of women by providing them with professional resources to assist them in furthering their careers,” explained Naomi Cobb Melchiorre, chairman of Suits with Skills – Buckner. “This helps them gain the confidence and skills needed to pursue and obtain their dream job.” Melchiorre shared that the spring program is eight weeks long. Six of the sessions have speakers come to present on resume and interviewing, estate planning, finance, make-up for the workplace, interview and workplace wardrobe, safety, and health and fitness.



“There is also a shopping night at Kohl’s where the women are provided a gift card to find interview and workplace attire,” she said. “The last session is graduation where the women invite friends and family to dinner with a guest speaker.”



Melchiorre said, “As someone who has been pursuing my career for the last ten years and going through the job process many times, it was important to me to be chairman of Suits with Skills. I have been fortunate enough to have family and mentors in my life help train me along the way in the skills necessary for pursuing my career,” she shared. “Many women do not have that, and I believe it is important that I give back that knowledge to other women in the community.”

Melchiorre agrees that the skills learned in the program are life-changing, because they help women move toward meaningful work and financial security, as well as building their confidence in themselves.

“Buckner and its women are excited to participate every year,” she said. “Some even ask to repeat the program because they loved it so much!”

READING OLYMPICS FALL 2019

Imagine planning a themed book club for kids with all of your favorite childhood books. What would you pick? *James and the Giant Peach*? *Jumanji*? *Harry Potter*? Twice a year, the Reading Olympics Committee gets to plan such a club for a group of very enthusiastic students at the Boys and Girls Club of Midland.

Each fall, Junior League of Midland's Reading Olympics program kicks off at the Boys and Girls Club Half Park. Junior League members spend every Thursday for nine weeks with over fifty elementary aged children, reading a book with them, doing a relevant craft activity and providing them with a snack. Every child receives an age-appropriate book to add to their personal library and share it with their families.

In Fall 2019, Reading Olympics - Half Park graduated 55 students, with 90% of those students attending every session. This year's Half Park committee included: Samantha Voss (Chair), Mary Meadows, (Assistant Chair), Bianca Acosta, Katie Coffman, Ashley Farmar, Elana Ladd, Kelli Mayo, Jordan Milling, Charissa Reeves, Andrea Reynolds, Lauren Szot, Dale Wilson, Sarah Walker, and Juliana Wright.

One committee member is responsible for a session and plans the book, its accompanying craft activity, and the snack. This year, a Harry Potter themed evening involved making magic slime with mix-ins and Bertie Botts Every Flavor Beans as a sweet treat!

Reading Olympics works to improve literacy in our community by making children more comfortable with reading. Small group sessions give students the opportunity to read aloud in a relaxed, non-academic environment and the discussions that follow contribute to gaining a love of reading. Committee members serve as mentors and cheerleaders for the students and develop a sweet connection with each other as the semester goes on.

As Chairman, I have found that one of the most rewarding aspects of this program is watching the children develop a true passion for reading outside of the classroom. Their enthusiasm for discovering a new book grows every week and their technical skills and confidence improve alongside it.

Junior League of Midland's Reading Olympics program makes literature more accessible to the youngest citizens of our city and fulfills a great community need. This program is a valuable asset that leaves both the students and the volunteers feeling proud of how they've spent their time.



Since 1957, Centers for Children and Families (Centers) has believed that strong, emotionally healthy families make a strong, healthy community. We are designed to be an affordable resource for individuals and families facing various stages of need, and also provide parent education and teen sessions. Our counseling programs emphasize support and healing of individuals and families facing challenges. Below are just a few of our counseling areas:

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Second tuesday Club

By Shelbi Cude

Christmas Brunch

December 9, 2019, was a lovely day for a Christmas Brunch! Sustainer Helen Shelton opened her home for the Second Tuesday Club's December gathering with every room decorated and holiday cheer in the air. Members enjoyed a delicious array of sandwiches, salads, and desserts. The co-chairs were Cari Chaplin and Sarah Lauritzen. Their committee members were Kitty Chalfant, Alice Freidline, Anita Gamertsfelder, Victoria Gilkerson, Bettye Jones, Barbara Leeton, Apryl McDonald, Samantha Smith, Sara St. Clair, and Ellen Ramsey. From the pleasant greetings at the door to the Merry Christmases upon departure, the party was a joyous occasion full of fun and fellowship!



Upcoming Second Tuesday Events

April 14

Second Tuesday Club

"And You Think You're A Busy Bee"

Special Guest:

Beekeeper Todd Cage

11:30 am

JLM Headquarters

May 19

JLM Annual Dinner

6:00 pm

The Way Retreat Center

**Second Tuesday events will
resume in the fall.**

Funeral Potatoes

Ingredients

2 lbs. of hash brown	1 tbsp butter
½ cup of butter	2 cups longhorn cheese,grated, firmly packed
2 (10 ¾ oz.) cans of condensed cream of chicken soup	1 ½ cups corn flakes, crushed
1 pint sour cream	4 tbsp butter, melted
½ tsp salt	
¾ cup onion, chopped	

Directions

1. Sauteé onion in 1 tbsp of butter until translucent.
2. Mix all ingredients, except cornflakes and 4 tbsp of butter, together.
3. Put potato mixture into a 9x13 inch baking pan.
4. Combine cornflakes and butter, and sprinkle evenly over the top of the casserole.

Bake at 350°F for 40-50 minutes or until
heated & bubbly.

Ready in: 55 minutes

Serves: 6-8

January Sustainer Luncheon

On January 14, 2020, 75 Second Tuesday Club members were entertained by Mary Lou Cassidy as she read excerpts from *Being Dead is No Excuse*, *The Official Southern Ladies Guide to Hosting the Perfect Funeral*, by Gayden Metcalf and Charlotte Hays. The authors' hilarious take on southern traditions had the group laughing hysterically. Dianne Anderson and Kathy Robbins co-chaired the event held at The Branch Reception Center at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory. The caterer as well as the hostesses used recipes from the book to prepare southern fried chicken, red beans, "Funeral Potatoes," and desserts. Attendants dressed the part in pillbox hats and black attire. Cheryl Behrman, Nancy Burnes, AnnaRee Downing, Michelle Gerald, Debbie Owen, Debbie Vasicek, Emily Ware, Sharon Webb, and Barbara Young hosted.



Elizabeth Rainey

Elizabeth Rainey grew up in Lockhart, the barbecue capital of Texas. She earned her Bachelor of Arts *cum laude* in Communication from Texas A&M University. During her time in college, she studied abroad in London, traveling all around Europe and fell in love with exploring new places and new adventures. Life's next adventure sent her to Lubbock, Texas for law school. She met her husband, Shaun, on her first day of class. He introduced himself as their civil litigation tutor and she was infatuated. In order to "catch up" to Shaun, she graduated Texas Tech School of Law in two and a half years.

Since 2011, Elizabeth has been a licensed attorney and is currently the Magistrate Judge for the Midland County Drug Court. In less than two years, her team has opened three different specialty courts to serve the people of Midland County struggling with addiction issues. Elizabeth presides over the Adult Felony Drug Court, Transitional Treatment Court, and DWI Court.

Elizabeth and her husband have three children 5 and under - Nolan, Caldwell, and Chambers - all named for Texas counties! In her spare time, she enjoys volunteering with the church youth group, attending Midland Community Theater productions, and traveling.

Elizabeth joined the League in 2012 because she was encouraged by her then-law-firm-boss that it was a great way to meet friends and develop a potential client base. While the League failed to be a source for new clients, it has been invaluable in teaching her skills like grant writing, networking, helping nonprofits, and of course building friendships. Over the years as an Active member, she has served in many capacities within the League including the most enjoyable placement, the Advisory Planning Committee. "In this placement, I felt I was truly contributing to the League as this position helps to shape and mold the future of the League." Her current placement on the Historian Committee has been enjoyable for her last Active year in the League, "Reflecting on the past and sharing that with

the community has been fun and only reinforces the progress we have made within the community through volunteering and social programs, but the progress we have made within the League itself."

Elizabeth is pleased with the progress the League has made in adapting to the changing dynamics of women's lives: "Over my many years in League, I've watched our League make great strides toward flexibility for working women like changing Provisional requirements, implementing the point system, and adding Volunteers in Midland options. If you look at a picture of the hundreds of women who work together for a better Midland, they all look different, have various backgrounds and family dynamics, yet the League is welcoming and cohesive. We have so much wisdom, strength, and hope to pull from to accomplish any goal we set."



Gwendolyn Taylor



Gwendolyn Taylor was born in Las Vegas, NV, and grew up in Ft Worth, TX. She attended Jarvis Christian College located in the “Piney-Woods” of East Texas (Hawkins), where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sociology and a Minor in Speech. While attending Jarvis, Gwendolyn met the love of her life, Vance Taylor. Married in May 1989, they recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in New York. Gwendolyn and Vance have two older sons, Bradley and Zachary, and are enjoying the perks of being empty-nesters.

Her previous volunteer work in Fort Worth included working as a candy striper for six years at St. Joseph Hospital as well as Meals on Wheels, her Houston church’s clothes closet, and various local food pantries. Before moving to Midland with her family in June 2012, Gwendolyn worked for the Houston Independent School District as an employment specialist and senior sponsor assisting high school students with special needs transitioning into the workforce.



After moving to Midland and looking for an opportunity to serve the community, Gwendolyn coincidentally learned about the Junior League from then-City Councilwoman Sharla Hotchkiss while Ms. Hotchkiss was campaigning in her neighborhood. This chance meeting introduced her to the League and Natalie Cargile, a previous Junior League member. She greatly appreciates both Mrs. Hotchkiss and Mrs. Cargile for helping her make the transition to the Midland community along with her church family Macedonia Baptist Church.

Gwendolyn presently works for Midland High School as a Collegiate Coach. In this role, she is an advisor who assists high school students at risk of not graduating, correct their path and achieve their goal of successfully completing high school. Currently, she serves on the Pink Pantry committee and sees the impact of this JLM initiative daily through her role at Midland High School. “The Pink Pantry provides an immediate resource for those students in need of basic hygiene products that otherwise would need to be requested or sourced from outside agencies. This helps my team fill an immediate need without the middleman or additional paperwork to provide these items,” Gwendolyn said. The Pink Pantry placement has become a passion for her and she would like to develop in this committee as chairman in the future.



Since joining the League in 2014, Gwendolyn’s previous placements have included the Scholarship Clearing House, Rays of Hope, Kids in the Kitchen, and Reading Olympics. Her favorite placements to date have been Rays of Hope as she enjoyed helping children express themselves during a difficult time and Reading Olympics where she ecstatically served two years. “Joining the League,” Gwendolyn says, “is one of the best decisions I ever made. A good portion of the members are transplants from other cities and states, but we all share the same desire to help people and care enough to make an impact in the community we live in.”

Debbie Vasicek

Debbie Vasicek was born in Austin and moved to Midland after the second grade. She has been in Midland for most of her life with a few short-term times in other cities. She graduated from Midland High School and has a Kindergarten/Elementary Education Degree from the University of Texas in Austin with a Reading Specialization. Being interested in teaching children to read, she became an Alphabetic Phonics Therapist. Today, she has an antique clothing and gift booth at Old Town Antiques. Debbie enjoys investing in real estate, playing tennis, sailing, and traveling as much as possible. She also loves to visit her two daughters, Kristen and Ashley, in New York City. Her son Lance lives in Midland with his wife Ashley Vasicek, who is a Provisional this year. Lance and Ashley are soon expecting her first grandchild.

Debbie joined the Junior League in 1986. She became a member of the League because she thought it would be a great way to meet people and get involved in the community.

As a Junior League member, Debbie hopes she was able to improve the community by volunteering and sharing her knowledge. She gained a great deal by being a member of the League. The training she received while she was a provisional taught her many new skills that reshaped her perception and that gave her the confidence to do more for others. Debbie gained so many friends and connections by being in the League, and she feels it is a great organization.



Kay Baker



Kay Baker joined the Junior League of Midland in 1990 and not only is she an active Sustainer, but is the current Chairman of the Second Tuesday Club, which coordinates and plans all of the Second Tuesday events for the League's sustaining members. Kay will hold this position next year as well.

While as an Active member in the League, she served on the Next to New Summer Market Fundraising committee, as Holiday Fair Research Advisor, as Assistant Chair for Opportunity Knocks, and on the Festival of Trees Committee. She said her favorite placement was being a member of the Public Policy Committee where several members visited Austin and met with the then-Governor George W. Bush and Speaker of the House Tom Craddick to discuss policies that were of interest to the organization. Her final Active placement was as Co-Chair of Kids Zone.

Kay and her husband, Marvin Baker, celebrated forty years of marriage this past October. A native and second-generation Midlander, they raised their three daughters, Betsy, Emily, and Caroline here. Her family has expanded to now include two adorable grandsons, Meyer and Rowan, and two Schnauzer mix fur babies, Sophie and Pixie. While raising her three daughters, she stayed involved outside of the League with her daughters' school and extracurricular activities including service as the president of the MHS Volleyball Booster Club and the Midland Aggie Moms Club.

Outside of the League and home, Kay worked in the fine jewelry business for many years in a management capacity for several local stores. She has catered for 20 plus years and enjoys baking and entertaining.

Kay said, "I have learned so much from being involved with the Junior League of Midland, including planning and organizational skills, friendships, broadening my horizons, and learning to apply fundraising techniques to other organizations in the community."

MEMBER MILESTONES



Maggie Hegenbart married Jason McDaniel in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on October 5, 2019.



Naomi Cobb and Garrett Melchiorre were married on July 13, 2019, in San Antonio, Texas.



Cecilia Quinn married Grant Warren Goebel on December 7, 2019, in Fort Worth, Texas.



Andra Lancaster Jones and husband, Kyle Jones, welcomed their daughter, Falyn Mae on August 21, 2019. She weighed 6 pounds 15 ounces and measured 20.5 inches long.



Audrey Sirgo and husband, Grant Sirgo, welcomed their daughter, Anna Hope on August 6, 2019. She weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces and measured 21.75 inches long.



Heidi Winkler and husband Clayton Winkler, along with big brother Elliott, welcomed Taylor Rose Wynne Winkler on October 31, 2019, at 1:58 p.m., weighing 7 lbs 15 oz and measuring 21 inches.

(Right) Raelye Hoelscher, daughter of *Tumbleweed* Editor Amber Hoelscher & husband Aaron, won Reserve Champion at 2020 Midland County Livestock Show. Raelye also won Lightweight Grand Champion Goat, Mediumweight Reserve Champion Goat, Heavyweight Grand and Reserve Champion Goats, Junior Girl Goat Showmanship, and Junior Girl Top Hand.

(Far Right) Ryan Rowzee, son of Sustainer Elizabeth Hartman and grandson of Sustainer Doris Braun, won Breed Grand Champion with his Southdown Lamb.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

By Elizabeth N. Rainey



Historical Ball Committee Members: Mary Blake, Karen O'Brien, Patti Wallace, Laura Jordan

As members, we have all seen those photos from League years past with the glamorous women donning fur coats, model-like poses on the sand dunes, and, my personal favorites, candid of dances featuring those super rad 1980s puffy sleeves and giant hair. These photos are fun to flip through, while we say a silent prayer that our granddaughters never laugh at our own League photos decades from now. As we approach another successful Shotguns & Stilettos Bash in March, let's take a look at our fundraising initiatives over the years!

In 1951, Charity Ball was established as a fundraising event featuring elegant ball gowns and a night out on the town. Themes for the evening included Arabian Nights (1993), South Sea Island Ball (1977), Le Bal aux Jardins (1982), and even Cruise Around the World (2000). In 1991, the Charity Ball celebrated its 40th year with a Le Gran Cirque theme and plenty of big hairdos. The Charity Ball served as the League's primary fundraiser for fifty-three years.



Charity Ball, 1966, Aladdin's Lamp: Susie Sharp and Gwen Hissom

In addition to the Charity Ball, the League operated a clothing mart where members donated clothing items to be sold to the community. In 1957, the League built the Next-to-New Shop and League members volunteered to work shifts at the store. During the 1988-89 League year, in honor of our 40th birthday as a Service League and our 25th as a member of The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI), funds from Charity Ball and the Next-to-New Shop were donated in a total of \$100,000 in gifts to 13 different community organizations.



Next-to-New Store, 1993: Susan Harmon, Tanya Kreuz, Karen Davis

From 1992 through 1997, the League hosted a fundraiser called the Festival of Trees. This event consisted of a weekend of holiday-themed events, including breakfast with Santa, choir and dance performances, cookie decorating all surrounded by lavishly decorated Christmas trees local organizations and sponsors.

In the early 2000s, after determining it was time for a change in our fundraising efforts, the League introduced the Clay Shoot in 2001 and the Spring Fling in 2004. In 2006, Buckshot Bash was added to the weekend's line-up, a night of dinner and dancing to celebrate the success of the Clay Shoot during the day. Unlike the dances of the Charity Ball days, Buckshot Bash was fashioned as a laidback night of fun. By 2010, the League decided to combine all fundraising events into one consolidated effort called Shotguns & Stilettos. In 2018 and 2019 a high bar was set when Shotguns & Stilettos raised over \$393,000 with help from our fellow Midlanders and featured luncheon speakers former President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush.



Charity Ball, 1961: Dorothy Holt Johnson and Mrs. James Pierce

This year, we continue to enjoy three days of events including Annual Luncheon, Clay Shoot, and Bash and this year's events will no doubt be yet another success for the League. So, while you're choosing your perfect outfit for this year's Bash ("A Southern Soiree"), remember that your grandchildren will look at your picture and think your outfit is lame, but know that your participation with our fundraisers help the League achieve our goal of building a better Midland.



Festival of Trees, 1994



Festival of Trees, 1994



Charity Ball, 1960s



Festival of Trees Committee, 1994: (Front Row, L to R) Terry Atkin, Mary Blake, Allyson Groner, Sandy Sledge; (Middle Row, L to R) Penny Angelo, Cathy Woodside; (Back Row, L to R) Donna Bruno, Kathy Harrison, Karla Davis, Kris Thagard, Kim Hatchett, Jill Roberson



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VOLUNTEERS IN MIDLAND

By Crystal Rau

League Members Gave Over 300 Hours to Midland through Volunteers in Midland

Volunteers in Midland (VIM) ended 2019 with over 300 hours of volunteer time from our members since June, and participation is still going strong into the New Year! One of the things that makes VIM so successful is the variety of agencies we partner with to give our members a choice as to who they spend their service time with. When volunteering, it is important for our members to be engaged and to enjoy the work they are doing.

Our newest partners are The Cimmaron Senior Living Center and SHARE - Sharing Hands a Respite Experience. Cimmaron Senior Living Center is an assisted living facility where our League members have taken the role of game room facilitators at the center and the residents have begun to look forward to our weekly visits. This is one of those opportunities that is even kid-friendly so our members can get their whole family involved if they choose. SHARE offers parent support nights and respite nights for the parents of special needs children. Our members have been able to step in to help SHARE with these fun evenings of the families that are a part of this organization.

This spring, we are continuing our partnerships with the Jubilee Center, Kids First, Mission Agape, and Teen Court. Additionally, our annual event with Habitat for Humanity will be held on February 29. We are always looking for new agencies to partner with as the Junior League of Midland has a large base of talented and skilled women that can make a great impact on our community.

If you are interested in partnering with us, please send any inquiries to vim@jlmidland.org.



Current Volunteer Opportunities for JLM Members

CIMMARON PLACE

Providing local seniors with an opportunity to enjoy games and conversation in their game room.

Ongoing opportunity every Sunday and Monday from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm.

JUBILEE CENTER

A client choice food pantry servicing approximately 1300 people per month.

Opportunities are available for both stocking on Fridays and assisting clients with shopping on Saturdays.

KIDS FIRST

A supervised visitation program that provides a safe and conflict-free space for children to build and maintain a bond with and attachment to their non-custodial parents.

Thursdays 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

MISSION AGAPE

Service includes delivering food to area schools for students who do not have access to meals on the weekends.

Thursdays from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm.

S.H.A.R.E. PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

S.H.A.R.E. offers support sessions for parents of children with special needs. These fun events allow the parents to socialize in a group setting with others who are experiencing the same challenges with childcare.

A new opportunity for members that occurs 1 to 2 times a month.

TEEN COURT

A youth diversion program where teen juries determine sentences for fellow students charged with minor traffic and criminal infractions.

Monday from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Midland County Courthouse.

AJLI WINTER CONFERENCE

We were honored to represent the Junior League of Midland at the annual AJLI Winter Leadership Conference, held this year in Scottsdale, Arizona.

One of several conferences and training opportunities presented by AJLI, the Winter Leadership Conference takes place every winter. The focus is on training and preparing future Presidents and Executive Vice Presidents for their upcoming roles. Presidents-Elect, Presidents-Elect-Elect, Executive Vice Presidents and Executive Vice Presidents-Elect from all 291 Leagues in four countries are invited to come together to network, brainstorm, share ideas, and work together in preparation for their roles as League leaders.

This year's conference was jam-packed with two-and-a-half days of training and leadership development sessions where we explored best practices in leadership, governance, management, membership, diversity and inclusion, and communications.

In the evenings and during breaks, we deepened our long-time close friendships with other Texas Leagues, and had deeper conversations about specific strategic or operational needs, challenges, and opportunities.

Our fundraising efforts enable the League to send delegates to conferences such as this, enhancing our mission of training civic and community leaders.

— Candice Kendrick, Heather Martin, Anne Reese, and Evelyn Serrano



(L to R) Evelyn Serrano, Anne Reese, Heather Martin, Candice Kendrick at AJLI Winter Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona.

PLACEMENT FAIR

By Shelbi Cude

On Tuesday, February 19, the annual JLM Placement Fair was held at the JLM Headquarters. Members had a great time visiting the various placement tables and learning more about all available placements and committees for the 2020-2021 League Year.



MIDLAND ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

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Librado is a locally owned and operated upscale bar and grill bringing a different take on seafood, steaks, and cocktails to the Permian Basin. Boasting prime steaks, fresh seafood, changing daily specials, classic brunch items, and chef-driven cuisine, Librado has something for everyone.

*Open from 11 am to 12 am
Monday thru Sunday*

*Open 11 am to 2 pm
Sunday*

*Located at
4610 N. Garfield*



The Little Gym is a children’s enrichment and physical development franchise known for its curriculum-based program for kids ages 4 months to 12 years. They offer classes such as gymnastics, Parent/Child classes for the little ones, Dance, and WonderKids Club, which includes arts & crafts, story time and other forms of creative play. They also offer birthday party packages as well as 3-hour camp opportunities.

*Class times vary.
Open from 8 am to 8 pm
Monday thru Thursday*

*Open 3 pm to 9:30 pm
Friday*

*Open 8 am to 6:30 pm
Saturday*

*Located at
4400 W. Wadley, Suite 103*



Raising Cane's is a fast-food restaurant chain, and a Texas favorite, specializing in chicken fingers and opened in early February 2020. Founded in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1996, the concept of the restaurant is to keep it simple, and with only 6 options on the menu, it is hard to go wrong. Raising Cane’s is open daily and offers drive-thru window service.

*Open from 10 am to 12 am
Sunday thru Thursday*

*Open from 10 am to 1 am
Friday and Saturday*

*Open from 12 pm to 5 pm
Sunday*

*Located at
1407 N. Loop 250 West*

LEAGUE CALENDAR

March 17

General Meeting

7:00 pm at JLM Headquarters

March 19-21

Shotguns & Stilettos

Luncheon

Clay Shoot

Bash

April 7

Prospective Member Meeting

6:30 pm

at JLM Headquarters

April 21

General Meeting

7:00 pm

at JLM Headquarters

May 19

Annual Meeting

Social at 6:00 pm

Dinner at 6:30 pm

Meeting at 7:00 pm

at The Way Retreat Center

GROWTH GROUPS

Over the last year, the Management Members-at-Large have coordinated social meetups. Groups have met for coffee, drinks, lunch and dinner as an effort to develop growth and comradery among League members.



Ashley Warne hosted the October Growth Group Lunch Bunch at Garlic Press.



Catie Hill and Madison Dobbs hosted the February Growth Group Happy Hour at The Patio.



Ashley Warne hosted the January Growth Group Lunch Bunch at Wall Street.



Charissa Reeves hosted the November Growth Group Coffee Chat at Hand Cafe.



Ashley Warne hosted the November Growth Group Lunch Bunch at the Cafe at the Garden located in Alldredge Gardens.



Tanya Bidwell and Melissa Dickson hosted the January Growth Group Dinner Diva at Librado.



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