

# coastalcolumns

A PUBLICATION BY THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SAVANNAH

## Soaring to New Heights

fall 2017

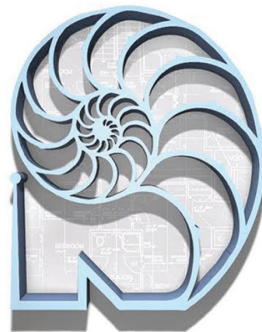


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# JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SAVANNAH

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# fall2017

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### our mission

The Junior League of Savannah is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

*Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.*



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letter from Dana Schuller Smith

*Editor*

## *Welcome to the 2017-2018 League year!*

*As the new League year officially began in June, the summer months rushed by while I struggled with what seemed an insurmountable task. A sinking feeling began to settle in that the position as Editor was going un(wo)manned.*

Fast forward to our first Council meeting and my head was spinning: *How will I sell enough advertisements to offset costs? How do I gather updates from the Chairs when I know so few of them? What is tweeting??* Taking notes feverishly during the meeting, I was more confused than ever and wondered if I lacked the grit to serve in a JLS leadership role. While exiting our new headquarters, Communications Council VP Shannon Buck must have noted the color left my face because she told me it would be fine, saying, "You'll do a great job." Simple but sincere words often make a considerable impact and a steely resolve to tackle the tasks welled within me.

Being a technology laggard, and stubbornly eschewing its purported benefits to our lives, a paper planner is my homage to those Luddite leanings. I maintain the use of a dog-eared planner is optimal to keep pace with daily meetings, my kids' school events, after school activities, dog's heartworm prevention, family visits, etc. There was no cell phone to complicate my life until 2002. I just learned an awesome new song called "Hey Ya"!

Far from being "dated" ourselves, the women of Junior League of Savannah uphold their commitment to the core and original traditions of improving the Low Country communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. My new role as Editor lifted a veil; our organization offers far more opportunities to volunteer in many rewarding capacities than I had imagined. As you thumb through this edition, open your eyes - and your minds - to the many ways you can soar to new heights to make a difference! Though just getting started, I have certainly stepped outside of my comfort zone and been personally rewarded with new knowledge and a sense of accomplishment.

So, thank you for holding in your hands this tangible, tree-consuming publication and bucking the online trend in our digital age. Page through it slowly and take it all in. It's an instruction manual on how to make a life fulfilling by pouring your heart into helping where it is needed most.

Sincerely,

*Dana Schuller Smith*



letter from Lisa Muller

## Outgoing President

**I am so honored to have been able to serve as President for the 2016-2017 League Year! You are a phenomenal group of women I am proud to call friends.**

"Learn. Serve. Light the way..." Thank you for embracing that theme and getting creative with it this year. I am excited that JLS and our members are featured as shining stars! You are each so wonderful, giving, and creative. Together we shine bright for our communities. Based on this year's theme, my outgoing speech involves the Olympics. My son, Jadon, loves sports and is a huge fan of the Olympics, already eagerly awaiting the Winter Olympics coming next year! The Torch will start to move soon. Symbolic of unity and using the power of fire, it will pass from person to person in the relay leading to the event. I want to share my top three reasons JLS is better than the Olympic Torch.

First, we are older and therefore must be wiser. The modern day use of the Olympic Torch and the relay to the games began in 1936. As an organization moving past our 90th Anniversary, we have been around longer than that modern day tradition. We have continued to grow wiser and stronger. You can ask my nine year old about his three year old sister; undoubtedly, he would state that with age comes wisdom. JLS is not a perfect organization, and we have made mistakes. We learned from them - which is the important factor - resulting in our growing stronger!

Next, JLS is better than the Olympic Torch in that we help to unify our community through community spirit. We work hard to help others. As a natural result of our work, we lift community spirit as we help others to strengthen the communities where we live. Better than the Torch, we not only encourage others, but we really share! I am proud of all that our members and sustainers have done through JLS!

Finally, the Torch moves from person to person and is lit during the games then extinguished. We are better in that we stay on the move and are more like an eternal flame. We do not stop or take long breaks. With our teamwork, our members share in our mission to keep things going. Our leadership passes the responsibilities and continues striving to further our mission. We all work and run in this relay - a marathon - passing our responsibilities as leaders on to the next group of women who will fulfill the job that needs to be accomplished.

I must thank Melissa, all the members of 2016-2017 JLS Board of Directors, my family, my husband, and all League members as leaders in our community for your support and hard work. Together our light shines brighter, and it will only grow brighter and stronger! I know this is true as, I am not just about to pass the gavel, but I am honored to pass the leadership responsibility to our 2017-2018 President, Melissa Jackson.

Sincerely,

*Lisa Muller*



message from Melissa Jackson

## Incoming President

**I recently chatted with a Junior League of Savannah sustainer who so eloquently stated, “this ain’t your momma’s Junior League”. She is correct.**

The League has evolved over its 91 year history in some ways, yet in many ways it has remained the same. We are still an organization of women who are unified in our efforts to improve the community around us, to support one another as we develop and improve our skill sets, and advocate policies that will positively impact women and children. We are still a group of women who will jump in to help a member move into a new home, welcome the birth of a new baby, plan for a wedding, and support a member who has lost a loved one. Although we are not a sorority, we are a sisterhood - we are united by a shared interest in voluntarism and we are bonded by a desire to see each of the women around us develop into their best selves. Even more, we are bonded by our desire to see this organization, the Junior League of Savannah, evolve with the times and continue to leave a lasting legacy for the community and our members.

This year alone, we witnessed an evolution of the League. We welcomed the largest recent class of provisional members, with 79 newly active members joining our ranks. We saw Fit Kids Fest, in its 5th year of existence, expand to include an educational component. We voted to add a 4th community project in the upcoming year with our partnership with the Frank Callen Boys and Girls Club. We increased and expanded our social media presence. And of course, we accomplished the impossible by overcoming Hurricane Matthew and still holding a successful thrift sale. All of this was made possible by leaders who want to see this organization succeed in its effort to improve the community, and as I stated before, continue to leave a lasting legacy.

This past year I was able to form a bond with Lisa Muller who has been an amazing and dynamic leader. She is always positive, upbeat, and genuinely shines a light wherever she goes. She is blessed to have a huge heart and giving spirit and I have been fortunate to serve alongside her. Lisa, thank you for your encouragement, your support, and most importantly, your friendship.

We also have a woman who has created a lasting legacy within the league. Although, I do not know her well personally, she opened the door for women like me over 30 years ago. Many of you had an opportunity to hear her inspiring words at the January general membership meeting and I want to publicly acknowledge her for being a trailblazer. Mrs. Shirley James, it is because of you, I am able to serve as League President. In 1983, you joined the Junior League of Savannah as the first African American member. Today, I stand before you as the first African American woman to serve as president of the Junior League of Savannah. I am humbled by this opportunity and I pray that I serve you well.

As we enter into the 2017-2018 league year, we will have the unique opportunity to usher in a new governance and management structure, rewrite the bylaws and policies, and relocate our headquarters while still hosting major fundraisers throughout the year, supporting our community partners, and developing women within our organization. We have a challenging, yet exciting year ahead of us, and I am certain that all of our members are prepared and ready to tackle any and all challenges we may face. I am honored to enter this year with an amazing group of leaders and I hope you will join us as we soar to new heights!

*Melissa Jackson*

# 2016-2017 boardmemberspotlights

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## **MELISSA JACKSON, PRESIDENT**

> [meorja2003@gmail.com](mailto:meorja2003@gmail.com)

Melissa has been a JLS member since 2010. Melissa came to Savannah for a job promotion, and currently works at the University of Phoenix as the campus director of the Savannah location. Melissa and her husband James Jackson IV have two daughters, Alaina and Isabella.

In the past Melissa has served the League with placements in Done in a Day and Public Affairs. Melissa hopes to engage members by showing all the different ways we impact our community. During her term as League President, Melissa also wishes to determine the most pertinent issues affecting women and children in the Savannah area and to develop a strategy for League involvement.

*Fun fact: Melissa is a huge Prince fan and saw the artist in concert 3 times!*



## **JESSICA THOMAS, PRESIDENT-ELECT**

> [jessica.seagle@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.seagle@gmail.com)

Jessica was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky and earned her Bachelor's in marketing and an MBA from Stetson University. She joined JLS in Spring 2011 after moving to Savannah from Carmel, California. Her various leadership roles in the League include Public Relations Chair, Communications VP, Cookbook Chair, and Membership VP. In addition to her community work through the League, Jessica is a member of the Metropolitan Savannah Rotary Club, former Woman of the Year candidate for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House. Jessica works for Memorial Health as a corporate communications project manager. In her free time, she enjoys water activities, cooking, and traveling. She and her husband David live on Dutch Island with their two dogs, Bailey and Lucy, and are expecting their first child in December!

*Fun fact: Jessica boasts an adventurous side and has experienced both paragliding off an Alpine mountain and skydiving!*



## **JENNIFER MCKENZIE, FINANCE VP**

> [jen@crossfithp.com](mailto:jen@crossfithp.com)

Jennifer has been involved in the JLS for 10 years serving in community projects, on the Thrift Sale committee, as a provisional advisor, and on finance council. She believes that holding various League positions has allowed her to work side by side with women she wishes to emulate and to grow in her leadership skills. Jennifer's favorite JLS leadership position has been Thrift Sale Chair because she witnessed complete dedication toward such a massive undertaking. Jennifer and her husband Drew own Hyperformance Athletics and have spent nearly a decade helping families create positive forward momentum through fitness.

Jennifer and Drew have two sons and spend free time at Tae Kwon Do classes, swimming, and watching superhero movies. They love to visit Legoland and the beach.

*Fun fact: One of Jennifer's bucket-list items is to catch, cook, and eat a fish in the same day!*



## **AUDRA TAYLOR, TREASURER**

> [audra.taylor11@gmail.com](mailto:audra.taylor11@gmail.com)

Audra is in her third active year in the League, having previously held leadership positions on JLS Finance and Communications Councils. Audra also currently serves on the Governance/Management Rollout team. Audra will serve as an academic advisor at Armstrong State University through this December before her position an academic advisor at the new Georgia Southern University - Armstrong campus in 2018! She lives on Whitemarsh Island with her boyfriend.

*Fun fact: Audra used to be a zookeeper and once raised a wolf pup inside her own house!*

## 2016-2017 boardmemberspotlights



### **YUNTALAY GADSON, COMMUNITY VP**

> [ygadson1@yahoo.com](mailto:ygadson1@yahoo.com)

A Savannah native, Yuntalay has been a member of the JLS since 2013. She received her Bachelor's from Georgia State University, a Master's in Public Health from Armstrong State University and Master's in Health Communications from the University of Illinois. Yuntalay has served in various positions within community council, including Community Outreach Chair, Public Affairs Chair, and Fit Kids Fest Volunteer. She works as an Emergency Preparedness Specialist with the Southeast Health District. In her free time, she enjoys reading, traveling and trying new restaurants.

*Fun fact: Yuntalay means "precious jewel" in Arabic and fittingly, she claims an earrings addiction!*



### **BROOKE LOZIER, MEMBERSHIP VP**

> [brooke.lozier@gmail.com](mailto:brooke.lozier@gmail.com)

Brooke moved to Savannah in 2011 from the DC area and joined the League in 2012 to meet new people and establish roots within the community. She enjoyed chairing the Ronald McDonald House Committee during her first active year before focusing on League membership. Brooke moved up the ranks as Provisional Advisor, Provisional Chair-Elect, and then onto Provisional Chair and currently feels honored to serve to on the Board of Directors. Brooke also serves on the Governance Management Transition Team within JLS. As a small business owner who works from home, Brooke feels the League has provided her opportunities to foster life-long friendships and has rewarded her with the chance to serve the community. She continues to learn about herself as a woman and as a leader in her service.

*Fun fact: Brooke is "totally addicted to Candy Crush," having played to the end of the game and commits to waiting for the release of new levels each Wednesday!*



### **SHANNON BUCK, COMMUNICATIONS VP**

> [shannonsbuck@gmail.com](mailto:shannonsbuck@gmail.com)

A Florida transplant with a brief California interlude, Shannon has lived in Savannah for four years with her husband, Cliff, their two young sons, Cormac and Oliver, and their boxer Matilda. Shannon is an instructional designer in SCAD's eLearning department. Beyond online learning and technology, Shannon loves to run, cook, read, and play with her kids.

Shannon has been a JLS member since 2014 and has served as the Newsletter Editor and the IT Chair. Her goals for this League Year include continuing to increase the JLS's online presence through social media and website expansion, and to engage and connect with all members through a range of communication outlets.

*Fun facts: Shannon is running her fourth half-marathon in this November's Rock 'n' Roll Savannah. She detests bananas and eats avocado toast almost every morning.*



### **CARRIE JANE WILLIAMSON, STRATEGIC PLANNING CHAIR**

> [carriejane82@aol.com](mailto:carriejane82@aol.com)

Having worked in the corporate world, taught middle school, and served as a school principal, Carrie Jane is currently the Assistant Superintendent of Schools for the Catholic Diocese of Savannah. As a member of the League since 2009, she has served in a number of volunteer and leadership positions, currently serving as the Strategic Planning Chair.

*Fun fact: Carrie Jane's favorite volunteer activity for the League to date has been leading Thrift Sale's Saturday morning Bod Squad shift!*



### **LISA DEAN, SUSTAINER BOARD ADVISOR**

> [lisa\\_dean@comcast.net](mailto:lisa_dean@comcast.net)

Lisa joined the JLS in 1992 and served as 2001-2002 League President. She currently serves on the boards of Hospice Savannah, Inc., The Ronald McDonald House of the Coastal Empire and is a member of the Savannah Estate Planning Council.

Lisa's employer is Synovus Trust Co./Sea Island Bank and serves clients in the Savannah and St. Simons Island markets. Eddie and Lisa live at Tybee with their rescue pup, Bella. They have two sons, two daughters by choice and three precious grandchildren.

*Fun fact: Lisa's next career involves interior design and renovations once she convinces her husband, Eddie, there is room for another Chip and Joanna Gaines in this world!*

## 2016-2017 board **members** spotlights



### **BERNADETTE BRYANT, PARLIAMENTARIAN**

> [bbryant@hospicesavannah.org](mailto:bbryant@hospicesavannah.org)

Bernadette was born and raised in Greenwich, Connecticut. She graduated with an accounting degree from Savannah State University and an MBA from Webster University and currently works at Hospice Savannah as the Controller.

Bernadette has been in JLS for 12 years, having served in leadership capacities on several councils as Thrift Sale Chair, Back Pack Buddies Chair, and Training & Education Chair. She also was Provisional Committee Advisor, Done in a Day Projects Volunteer and Community Program Development Volunteer. She joined sustaining status in 2013, later deciding to return to active in the League. Bernadette attests she could not sustain since nominating kept selecting women whom she respected and wished to support as League President! She loves the JLS ladies and being a member alongside them.

*Fun Fact: Bernadette loves musicals and has wanted to be a professional dancer!*



### **SUZANNE MOSELEY, NOMINATING CHAIR**

> [SBMoseley@bbandt.com](mailto:SBMoseley@bbandt.com)

Suzanne was born and raised in Savannah. She graduated from St. Vincent's Academy and the University of Georgia with a BBA in Risk Management and Insurance, and works for BB&T Insurance Services. She joined JLS in Spring of 2005 and has enjoyed many different placements over the years, both in-league and community. She has enjoyed the responsibility selecting the best leaders to ensure the continued successes of the League.

In addition to serving on the JLS Board of Directors, Suzanne also serves on the board for both Girls on the Run of Coastal Georgia and the IAG Young Agents Committee. In her spare time, you will find her on the water in the summer, and cheering on the Dawgs in the fall with her husband Andrew.

*Fun fact: Suzanne helped deliver the original Savannah Style cookbooks with her mom who served on the cookbook committee in the '80's, making this her very first JLS placement!*

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**Dr. Terri**



# 2016-2017

## Communications Council Update

*Submitted by: Shannon Buck, 2017-2018 Communications VP*



Communications Council has already been super busy this year working to increase the League's digital presence, get members engaged for the new year, and facilitate information sharing and event registrations. The Communications Council has a year's worth of newsletters and postcards scheduled for circulation and they look forward to supporting all Councils and Committees with their respective strategic goals!

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# Community

## 2016-2017 PROJECTS & UPDATES

*Submitted by Yuntalay Gadson, 2017-2018 Community VP*

Each year, the Junior League of Savannah focuses its support on various community projects, committing financial support and hundreds of volunteer hours to fulfill the mission of improving our community through effective action and leadership.

The 2017-2018 Community Focus Area Projects are: **Fit Kids Fest**, **America's Second Harvest Food Bank: Back Pack Buddies**, **Frank Callen Boys & Girls: Amazing Ultimate Journey, Done in a Day**, and **Build A Bridge Foundation: DIVAs Program**. The Committees of the Golden Isles and South Carolina Low Country also support projects and advocacy in the community. Financial support for our community projects are provided through Community Assistance Funds, Community Emergency Funds, and Kids Who Care Scholarships.

*Though we are just started another League year, we are well underway with lots of planned activities and events!*



### FIT KIDS FEST

Many of our Chatham County Schools' students perform significantly below the state's averages for proficiency in language arts and math. Additionally, Georgia's childhood obesity rate is the 17th highest in the United States, with some studies correlating obesity with poorer academic performance as early as kindergarten. Statistics show that children who are more active and eat healthier exhibit better attention spans, fewer behavior problems, and more academic successes. Thus, our mission of hosting Fit Kids Fest is to promote fit minds and bodies in K-12 children

through interactive education and healthy lifestyle resources, in partnership with local organizations for a free community event. Children and their parents can participate in a fun interactive day that not only introduces them to academic resources in the community but also educates them on making healthy choices and living an active lifestyle. Tips on making healthy meals and snacks, exercise and other fun ways to get moving, as well as access to resources for strengthening the mind are just a few of the activities available at Fit Kids Fest.



### AMERICA'S SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK: BACK PACK BUDDIES

*Submitted by: Caroline Jackovich, 2017-2018 Back Pack Buddies Chair*

This program, in our 6th year of involvement, is designed to provide children and their siblings from low-income families with nutritious pre-made meals they otherwise would not have over the weekend. This program creates immediate access to food to improve children's overall health so they may focus more on academic achievement rather than on their own hungry bellies. The program has grown tremendously as the need within our community has increased. JLS volunteers will purchase and pack 96 nutritional bags from Second Harvest Food Bank for distribution to Chatham County public school children.

This year the committee is moving our packing location to the NEW Volunteer Center at the Second Harvest Food bank. We brought a group to an August packing event at Second Harvest where we packed emergency packs for the community in 12 hours. The committee is excited to begin serving the students again as they pack for the upcoming school year.

### FRANK CALLEN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS: AMAZING ULTIMATE JOURNEY

The Amazing Ultimate Journey is a brand new community project for the 2017-2018 League year! This is an after school program that teaches 100 children ages 9-12 about the environment, various cultures and global natural resources through music, games, crafts and discovery-based activities. Stay tuned for updates and photos from events in the spring newsletter!

# Done in a Day UPDATE

League members choosing DIAD for their placement complete projects focused on women and children that can be completed in a day's work for a variety of non-profit community agencies. In addition to its ongoing community projects and grants, the Junior League of Savannah annually undertakes 6 to 8 projects that are completed in a day, usually occurring on a Saturday or Sunday. For each Done in a Day project, a group of 5 to 15 JLS members assist local organizations through hands-on volunteer work and financial support.

Funding of up to \$1,500 is available, and must be specifically related to the project described on the applications. Requests must include the need for volunteers as well as funding. Requests for funding only will not be accepted as Done in a Day projects.

#### SPRING SEMESTER:

Applications are accepted October 15 – December 15 for projects in March, April, and May

#### FALL SEMESTER:

Applications are accepted January 15 – April 15 for Projects in September, October, and November

Please contact **Amber Johnson**, 2017-2018 Done in a Day Chair, for more details ([amberrjohnson1@gmail.com](mailto:amberrjohnson1@gmail.com))



*JENNIFER HEYD WHARTON*

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# DIVA Program

*Build a Bridge Foundation of Georgia Update*



The DIVAs program returns this year as a JLS community project. This program supports sustainable, high-quality, out-of-school time for 12-17 year-old girls in middle and high school. Through advocacy and mentoring, DIVAs is designed to enhance the welfare of young women. As a mentorship program, the goal of the program is to nurture young women into becoming successful and educated through cultural exposure, after school tutorials, etiquette classes, and college tours to help them develop positive peer relationships and self-esteem. DIVAs serves approximately 60 young women, both community and school based, who attend Title I middle and high schools in Chatham County.

*Pictured L-R back to front: Kathryn Mason, Shelby Weitzel, Mia Mance, Kimberly Smith, Jan Johnson, Tameka Harris, Abby Johnson.*



*Not pictured: Andrea Ponder, Deja Stephenson, Shelby Weitzel, Christine Culver, Ashley Schuller*



*Pictured L-R: Deja Stephenson, Natasha Holmes, Tameka Harris, Shelby Weitzel, Ashley Schuller, Andrea Ponder, Christine Culver, Mia Mance, Kathryn Mason*

The 2017-2018 DIVA committee has a full schedule planned for the rest of the year. They kicked off their first event on August 26th at the Second Harvest Food Bank to instill in the girls the importance of social responsibility by serving their community. In September, the girls will attend Women Rock, a conference with the theme of "Value You." Conference topics will range from entrepreneurship, financial management, and self-esteem.

In October, they will prepare for college with College Readiness Day, with 100 Black Men of Savannah and JLS President Melissa Jackson.

In November, they get into the spirit of gratitude with a Thanksgiving dinner, complete with a course on etiquette. Their three major focuses all year long are securing a long-term transportation solution for the DIVA program, increasing League participation in DIVA events, and reciprocating with increased DIVA girls participation in League events.

## DIVA EVENTS THROUGH 2017

**9/23:** Women Rock (8a-12p) | **10/28:** College Readiness Day (10a-12p) | **11/11:** Etiquette for Success (11a-1p)

All JLS members are encouraged to learn about the work of the DIVA program. We would love your participation working with these bright and promising girls! Please contact DIVA correspondents Mia Mance (mia.amini@gmail.com) or Kimberly Smith (smittywife2005@gmail.com) for more details. Please note: DIVA requires all volunteers to complete a brief training course to work with the young women.

# Public Affairs

## UPDATE

*Submitted by Gennie Long, 2017-2018 Public Affairs Chair*

The role of JLS Public Affairs is to educate and inform members about legislation that affects our focus area on both state and local levels. The Public Affairs committee also advocates on behalf of legislative issues that affect our focus area, currently K-12 education. To better accomplish this task, all twelve of the Georgia Leagues participate in the State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC). The President and the Public Affairs Chair are the current JLS representatives on SPAC.

SPAC influences public policy on specific issues within a particular geographic area, such as a state, a county or a city. Each year, SPAC identifies issues that resonate with their members and are relevant to the League Mission, and develops strategies for tackling them. This advocacy takes many forms – it can be as straightforward as building awareness and educating the public about a pressing problem, or as ambitious as sponsoring and writing a bill that ultimately becomes law.

SPAC held its first meeting on June 10 in Albany, Georgia to discuss their goals and agenda for the 2017-2018 League year. This year, SPAC's advocacy efforts will fall into three focus areas: education, health and aid and protection. The Savannah League will participate in the education subcommittee of SPAC. Stay tuned to learn more about the various legislative proposals that will be forthcoming in the 2018 Georgia Legislative Session and how our League can advocate to better improve K-12 education!



### SHOUT OUT TO THE JLS!

Horizons Savannah graciously thanks the Junior League of Savannah for providing financial support for their summer programs. Because of the JLS Community Assistance Funds and other community partners, Horizons claims another successful summer of learning at their three campuses which support participation in project-based learning, STEAM, field trips, reading and math activities for over 200 students!



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# \$ Finance update

Submitted by: Elizabeth Summerell, Cookbook committee member

During the Cookbook Committee's first meeting of the new year, five committee members worked together to make 60 bags for the provisional members as their provisional retreat "gifts." Each gift bag included seven historic cookbooks, including the new On the Squares: Savannah Style, in under 30 minutes. Talk about a workout!

## Own a piece of Junior League of Savannah history



{ The Junior League of Savannah's first cookbook, *Savannah Style* was first printed in 1980. It has been placed in the *Southern Living* Hall of Fame. There are almost 200,000 copies in print today. The cover image is by Ray Ellis featuring a low country oyster roast. }

{ The fourth and newest book, *On the Squares Savannah Style*, features 140 triple-tested recipes. All of the photography found in the book was done by Junior League of Savannah member Katie Joyner. }

{ 100% of cookbook and cookbook merchandise profits go to funding the Junior League of Savannah's community projects. }

To order your cookbooks, email [cookbook@jrleaguesav.org](mailto:cookbook@jrleaguesav.org), or call (912) 790-0222. Visit the website [www.jrleaguesav.org](http://www.jrleaguesav.org) any time for additional information.

# THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SAVANNAH THRIFT SALE HAS BEEN SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS FOR 70 YEARS!



**THRIFT SALE**  
*Junior League of Savannah*

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Sustainer Toast and Shopping 6pm-8pm

Doors Open to the Public

Thrift Sale is Saturday, October 7th – 7:30am-3:00pm

Thrift Sale is upon us, my favorite time of year! Can you believe that this is the 70th Annual Thrift Sale? That means we have worked together successfully to plan and execute such a huge event for 70 years! I am honored to take on this challenge as the Thrift Sale Chair.

Dawn Poe, Thrift Sale Chair-Elect, and I are working hard to make this a memorable and fun thrift sale. On October 6th, all Sustainers are invited to join us for a champagne toast hosted by Kendra Scott to kick off the Preview Party from 5pm-6pm. Sustainers will also have an hour to shop the floor before the public. Stay tuned....I believe there will be more surprises for this year's Preview Party!

The Thrift Sale Committee is working hard gathering items from Sustainers, Prize Girls, and Members. Thrift Sale began in the 1940's when our nation was at war, and people in the community needed our help and supplies. This need is still evident today with many of Savannah's residents suffering from poverty and benefitting from our assistance.

Thrift Sale serves two purposes for the Junior League of Sa-

vannah. First, it's our duty as League Members to "Soar to New Heights" and provide our community with items that they otherwise would not be able to purchase. Second, this is our largest fundraiser, and it enables our membership to give back to the community through the Boys & Girls Club, DIVA program, Backpack Buddies, Done in a Day, and Fit Kids Fest.

So please, over the next few weeks, I entreat you to soar to new heights in deciding which items you will donate for quota, and dedicating to Prep Activities, Pricing Shifts, Preview Party, and Sale Day!

I look forward to seeing you over the next few weeks!

**Laura McKenzie, 2017-2018 Thrift Sale Chair**

([lauramckenzie07@gmail.com](mailto:lauramckenzie07@gmail.com))



TS18 ladies prepping for some heavy lifting

Pictured L to R: Laura McKenzie, Dawn Poe, Laura Schoenecker, Katie Messinger, Bernadette Bryant, Lisa Smith



File under hard work!

Pictured L to R: Abby Foster, Courtney Bonney, Megan Shew, Natalie Ray

# Provisionals



SAVANNAH AND SOUTH CAROLINA LOWCOUNTRY PROVISIONALS WITH THEIR ADVISORS.

## Golden Isles Provisionals

*Submitted by: Jennifer Morrow, 2017-2018 Golden Isles Projects Chair*

The Golden Isles chapter had a busy 2016-2017 year. They added 19 new provisional members, their largest addition ever! They participated in a book giveaway and Halloween costume party at the local library, packed food bags for community children in need, and collected school supplies for the lower-performing schools in our area. The summer was spent recruiting for new members and we are looking forward to an exciting upcoming League year! There are 57 new provisional members with this year's theme being the League of Extraordinary Ladies. Each Small group is a superhero! They represent Storm, Wonder Woman, SuperGirl, Bionic Woman, Black Widow, Captain Marvel, and BatWoman.



GI girls, Caption, Golden Isles members at the small group general membership meeting at Jennifer Morrow's home August 2017



Golden Isles members participate in a brown bag loading event at the America's Second Harvest of Glynn Count to load bags of groceries for the community's hungry, setting a record for the highest number of bags loaded in a morning session!

# IN THE *Sustainers'* NECK OF THE WOODS

*The Sustainers' year is off to a great start!* Their Activity Committee worked hard over the summer to plan the entire year's calendar and have several fun events organized for Fall. The Committee mailed Savannah area Sustainers welcome back letters. They also email newsletters at the start of each month.

## Savannah Area Sustainers

*Melanie Finnegan, 2017-2018 Sustainer Activities Chair*

The Welcome Back Party was September 9th, with the ladies enjoying their time together for a Low Country Boil. After the Thrift Sale activities, Savannah Sustainers finish up Fall with a volunteer opportunity at Tybee Fresh Air Home later in October, then a Cocktail Mixing Class at the American Prohibition Museum in November. They are excited for these events and hope to see lots of friends there!

If you have questions or ideas for future events or need to update your email address, contact **Melanie Finnegan** (melanietfinnegan@gmail.com).

- October 6** - Sustainer Champagne Toast, Civic Center from 5-6pm
- October 21** - Volunteer Project, Tybee Fresh Air Home at 10am
- November 13** - Cocktail Mixing Course, American Prohibition Museum at 6pm

## South Carolina - Lowcountry Sustainers

*Mona Ridge, 2017-2018 SC-LC Sustainer Chairman*

The SC-Lowcountry Sustainers have a full events schedule for the remainder of 2017, complete with a welcome back party welcoming all Lowcountry Actives and Provisionals, exciting events surrounding Thrift Sale, visit to the Pink House, and Holiday luncheon. They also have planned an event called The Spartina Story which focuses on how the local handbag and accessory business began, the ups and downs along the way, and the company's eventual success.

- September 27** - Welcome Back Party, Hilton Head Plantation, 5-7pm
- October 6** - Sustainer Champagne Toast, Civic Center from 5-6pm
- October 19** - The Spartina Story, Country Club of Hilton Head, 11:30am
- November 15** - History and Property Tour, The Olde Pink House, 11:30am
- December 5** - Holiday Luncheon, Tidepointe with pianist Sharon Bell

## Golden Isles Sustainers

*Bess Thompson*

The Golden Isles Sustainers commence their new year with a Kickoff Luncheon, where they can visit with old and new friends alike to discuss upcoming events for the year. Always very active socially, they maintain their monthly bookclub gatherings and did so even through the summer months. Many more events will be planned throughout 2017, so be on the lookout for updates from the Golden Isles Ladies!

- September 26** - Fall Kickoff Luncheon, Ocean Forest Golf Club on Sea Island
- October 6** - Sustainer Champagne Toast, Civic Center from 5-6pm



*The SC-Lowcountry Sustainer Boards for 2016-17 and for 2017-18 enjoying lunch at the Leamington Beach House at their combined May Board Meeting*

## Nominating UPDATE

*Submitted by: Suzanne Moseley, 2017-2018 Nominating VP*

Please **be on the lookout** for Nominating ballots and applications for the 2018-2019 League year to go live later in the Fall.

## Calling All Sponsors!

The Junior League of Savannah is currently looking to expand our network of Sponsors!

Through in-kind and monetary donations our community partners help the League serve those in the community who need it the most. All of the sponsorship we receive helps the Junior League of Savannah support our community programs and overall mission so a referral from you will truly help others!

### DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO MIGHT BE A GREAT FIT?

Please reach out to the Fund & Development Chair, **Nikkie Swain**, to submit your referral information. (Nikkieswain90@gmail.com)

Thank you in advance for your support!

# Mark your calendars! Upcoming Junior League Events around town...

**SEPTEMBER** 23 DIVA Women Rock, Coastal Georgia Center at 8am  
27 SCLC Sustainers Welcome Back Meeting  
30 Governance and Management Town Hall, 10-11am, Savannah Coffee Roasters

**OCTOBER** 1-5 Thrift Sale set-up, Civic Center daily  
6 Thrift Sale Sustainer champagne toast at 5pm,  
Preview Party at 6pm, Civic Center;  
GI fall project, Arthur Brunswick Library at 5pm  
7 Thrift Sale, Civic Center at 7:30am  
11 Governance and Management Town Hall, 7:30pm, Facebook Live  
28 DIVA College Readiness Day, DIVA HQ at 10am

**NOVEMBER** 6 GMM, Knights of Columbus at 6pm  
11 DIVA Etiquette for Success, DIVA HQ at 11am

**DECEMBER** 13 GI Holiday Party

9/9, 10/27, 11/11, 12/16 Cookbook Sales - 9am-1pm - Sea Island Farmer's Market

SCLC Social Meetings for Actives and Provisionals the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month** at 6:00pm

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SAVANNAH REQUESTS THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY AT THE

## Annual Masquerade Ball

Saturday, February 3, 2018 | Six o'clock in the evening

**SAVANNAH STATION** (601 Cohen Street, Savannah, GA 31401)

Silent & Live Auction

**Tickets are \$75 individual or \$125 per couple, Open to the Public**

Live music from Main Street | Cash Bar | Heavy Hors D'Oeuvres | Black Tie Optional

Sponsorship Opportunities Available, Email [headquarters@jrleaguesav.org](mailto:headquarters@jrleaguesav.org)



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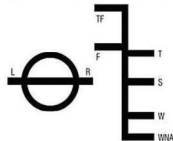
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