



May 1, 2008

## ***A letter from the President***

**Dear Friends, Supporters, and Members of the Junior League of Wilmington,**

The spirit of the Junior League lies in its mission: To promote voluntarism, develop the potential of women and improve communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. This mission defines us, drives us, and shapes us. It is what we stand for and what we are all about. During the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the focus on this mission helped the Junior League of Wilmington accomplish so much through a renewed sense of spirit and service.

The **Community Programs Council** led several initiatives touching organizations in the community in various ways. Continuing our focus on literacy, the East Side Charter School, our Signature Project, benefited greatly from our donation of \$12,000 for an accelerated reading program, as well as the coordination and support of two family activity nights. In addition, our Provisional members spent several hours working with the students on a separate mentoring project, preparing and presenting unique educational activities to the two third grade classes. Other organizations such as the Delaware Adolescent Program Incorporated (DAPI), Knollwood Community Center, GrandParents United, and Read Aloud Delaware were also fortunate to gain our support with their service programs. In total, 3,080 books were donated, 1,400 people were served, a total of \$18,000 was contributed, and over 400 hours of volunteer time was donated – all of which stacked up to a successful year serving and supporting the greater Wilmington community. It's no surprise that the Council proposed a unique way of documenting the Junior League's history and our dedication to the community by celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2008 with an Archival Project.

The **Ways and Means Council** focused on the financial support and growth of the Junior League of Wilmington, while also planning for future fundraising endeavors in an ever-changing environment. From the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Whale of a Sale to the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Heart of the Home<sup>®</sup> Kitchen Tour, the Junior League of Wilmington experienced success on all fundraising fronts. The 2006 Whale of a Sale fundraiser raised over \$25,000 and, through various media avenues, including The News Journal and ABC's

Prime Time Live show, increased public awareness of our organization. Through the generous support of several community homeowners, restaurants owners, and local businesses, the Junior League of Wilmington brought a glimpse of beauty, craftsmanship, and delicious treats to the Wilmington area and raised over \$45,000 at the Junior League's Kitchen Tour! During our Annual Fund campaign, we raised another \$10,000 to support our mission, surpassing our financial expectations. On top of all of this hard work, the Ways and Means Council took the time to design a plan for the future of our fundraisers in order to ensure continued support and success.

The **Membership Council** focused on our most important asset – our members. With a keen awareness of membership growth and retention, we welcomed to the League a group of 19 dedicated and enthusiastic new members who displayed exceptional skills and talents throughout the entire year. The Placement and Nominating committees supported the needs of our current members while also ensuring the success of our future leadership. Training was taken to a new level for our membership with the combination of professional speakers, Association of Junior League International training courses and coaches, nonprofit community leaders, and hands-on involvement in fundraising endeavors and organizational financial management. The Membership Council also designed a comprehensive plan targeting membership satisfaction over the next few years.

The **Administration Council** supported the areas of operations and communications. The Junior League of Wilmington Headquarters, the tangible core of our organization, functioned smoothly providing office space for our administrative employee and much needed meeting space and storage space for membership. Archiving of invaluable Junior League of Wilmington records began with the goal of preserving and sharing our history. Also, we continued to lease office space to the Greater Brandywine Village Revitalization, Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to improving our neighborhood. Many more members opted for the online version of our monthly newsletter, *The Lantern*, thereby resulting in incremental cost savings. Most important, our website was redesigned and is now being used as a vital source of information. The website has both an external section, which we use for media, fundraising, communication, recruiting, and advertising, as well as an internal section which is a great resource of information for our members. Please take a look for yourself at [www.jrleaguwilm.org](http://www.jrleaguwilm.org).

Along with our normal course of business this past year, we embarked on a major capital campaign – **The Cornerstone Campaign** – to raise funds for the renovation of our Headquarters located at 1801 North Market Street in downtown Wilmington. This

campaign commenced with the signing of the deed amendment between the Junior League and Old Brandywine Village, Inc. on September 12, 2006, thus transferring complete ownership of the house to the Junior League of Wilmington. Soon thereafter, the committee submitted the foundation grants and conducted face-to-face meetings with Foundation Chairs. Thanks to this dedicated and hard working committee, we raised over **\$620,000** of our **\$750,000** campaign goal by May of 2007. We look forward to major the improvements that will be made to our Headquarters within the next year, making it a place to properly train members and improve our support of the community.

The 2006-2007 year was filled with a sense of spirit built on the foundation of the Junior League of Wilmington's mission. I invite you to review the Junior League of Wilmington's 2006-2007 Annual Report which is now available for download at [www.jrleaguewilm.org](http://www.jrleaguewilm.org). Please click on the Annual Report link available on our homepage.

In closing, I want to thank the membership, the community, and supporters and friends of the Junior League of Wilmington for your dedication and focus on promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving our community. **You** made the 2006-2007 year a success! With the celebration of our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the selection of a new **community focus area** in 2008, I look forward to your continued support and the continued success of the Junior League of Wilmington.

Sincerely,

Francie Truran Warther  
Junior League of Wilmington President 2006-2007

## **Statement of Financial Position**

Please click the link below to view our audited financial statements as prepared by Haggerty & Haggerty, P.A.

<http://www.jrleaguewilm.org/documents/2006-07audit.pdf>

## 2006-2007 Annual Fund Contributors

Eyvonne Abele	Kimberly Gessner
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Carol Beck	Amanda Heberton
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Kristin DeMesse	Mary Martin
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Karla Tobar  
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Anne Wattman  
Nancy Wells  
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Doris Wiswall  
Jane Wood  
Cynthia Woolley  
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## 2006 – 2007 Cornerstone Capital Campaign Contributors

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Virginia Gordon  
Nancy Graves  
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Heart and Home Gifts  
Barbara Hoy  
Amy Hughes

Thomas Hughes  
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Wes Jones  
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The Junior League of Wilmington, Inc. gratefully acknowledges the support of our contributors in accomplishing our mission:

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