



The

*Western Reserve Junior Service League*

WRJSL

Yearbook

2013 – 2014



## 2013 - 2014 Officers

<i>President</i> .....	Alice Demeter
<i>Vice-President</i> .....	Judy Armington
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i> .....	Heather Miller
<i>Recording Secretary</i> .....	Carrie Dotson
<i>Treasurer</i> .....	Julie Cooke

## WRJSL Board Members

<i>Admissions</i> .....	Marlene Castilyn
<i>Community Research</i> .....	Pam Martin, Carol Farnolz
<i>Finance</i> .....	Julie Cooke
<i>Historian</i> .....	Donna Skufca
<i>Meeting Management</i> .....	Judy Armington, Susan Sievers
<i>Nominating</i> .....	Maureen Dolan
<i>Office</i> .....	Becky Tuma, Diana Yount
<i>Placement</i> .....	Stephanie Lee
<i>Policy &amp; By-Laws</i> .....	Ali Hughes
<i>President's Report</i> .....	Alice Demeter
<i>Provisional</i> .....	Brooke Marlow, Bev Wallace
<i>Public Relations</i> .....	Grace Andrassy, Leslie Poyar
<i>Puppets</i> .....	Sandy Patterson
<i>Ways &amp; Means</i> .....	Chris Price, Amy Sabbath

### *Special Placements: Chamber of Commerce*

<i>Chardon</i> .....	Leslie Poyar
<i>Madison/Perry</i> .....	Pat Cassella
<i>Mentor</i> .....	Dianne Vanas
<i>Painesville</i> .....	Maureen Dolan, Mary Jo Miller

### *Project Chairs:*

<i>Candlelight Ball</i> .....	Diana Culley, Lisa Moore
<i>THE Bag Lunch</i> .....	Linda Dolce, Joanne Filipski
<i>Website</i> .....	Lorraine Rice
<i>Sustainer Trustees</i> .....	Michelle Jafelice, Susan Zuber

## **2013-2014 Admissions Committee: Annual Report**

**Chair: Marlene Castilyn**

**May 10, 2014**

The Admissions Committee was comprised of:

Tina Baucher

Colleen Bergmann

Linda Brown

Toots Leafgreen

Cindy Luoma

Theresa Lyden

Lisa Sabath

Stephanie Taub

Christine Taurasi

Ame West

This Committee met only ONCE in February, 2014 to plan for the Open House in March, 2014. The committee planned the food and agenda for the Open House of 2014 which was held at the Homestead Bed and Breakfast on April 10, 2014. This event was held later than usual at the request of Alice Demeter, our President. The spring fund raiser of the "Bag Lunch" was thought to bring more attention to admissions and attract more applicants. Thirty six packets were distributed with unfortunately no responses. The Open House was very successful with 11 perspective applicants in attendance. The sponsors and Executive Board Members also attended as guests. A light entree of sandwiches, fruit and cookies were served. Our Sustainer advisor, Connie Irwin, rounded out the evening with a spirited speech of her WRJSL years and experiences. Another highlight of this event was presentations made by (2) current Provisional Class members. I would highly recommend this as an ongoing addition to this event as their actual experiences brought forth good questions and conversations from the applications. An online meeting of the committee approved the applications. As of this report, 6 applicants have submitted dues forms for the 2014-2015 WRJSL year. It will be my honor to introduce this upcoming class at the May, 2014 Dinner.

## **2014 Community Research**

### **Yearbook Report**

Another successful year for Community Research is in the books! The committee consisted of:

Judy Armington, Linda Brown, Linda Burk, Pat Cassella, Rikke Coach, Susan Dolce, Connie Eyman, Mary Lou Ford, Mary Jo Fryauff, Leigh Hill, Ali Hughes, Pam Morse, Chris Price, Lori Rizzo, Charlotte Ross, Amy Sabath, Lisa Sabath, Stefanie Taub, Christina Taurasi, Bev Wallace and Ame West. Kay Redmond served as Sustainer Advisor. These members are to be applauded for the dedication, passion and thoughtfulness demonstrated as they collaborated to determine how best to distribute Grants.

The following agencies received Grants during the fall and spring funding periods:

Forbes House	Geauga Lyric Theater Guild
Lakeland Foundation	LEAF
Suicide Prevention Education Alliance	St. James Lunch Program
Women Safe, Inc.	Deepwood Foundation
Downtown Painesville Org.	Extended Housing, Inc.
Family Planning	Fine Arts Association
Council on Aging	Historical Society
Lifeline, Inc.	Project Hope
Rabbit Run Community Arts Assoc.	Senior Independence

The Spring Project was held May 3 at the Fairport Harbor Lighthouse Museum. Forty five members, two members' husbands and one members' granddaughter spent six hours polishing brass, dusting, rearranging, cleaning the kitchen and bathrooms and getting the museum ready to open. We had the pleasure of meeting volunteers at the museum who have continued the tradition of having the museum run strictly by volunteers since 1946!

Members who were unable to volunteer for the Spring Project have already committed to volunteering for the August Salvation Army "Back to School" event where they will help fill and distribute backpacks filled with school supplies to children in need of support.

It was a pleasure to serve as co-chairs of this important committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Martin and Carol Farnolz  
2013-2014 Community Research Co-Chairs

**Finance Committee  
Yearbook Report  
2013-2014**

Administrative Fund

The annual Administrative budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year was \$13,825.00, plus an additional \$4500.00 for the WRJSL 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Dues were collected from 74 Active/Transitional members, 9 Provisional's and 83 Sustainers. The Finance Committee voted to keep Active/Transitional/ Provisional dues to \$65.00 and Sustainers to \$50.00. If dues is received by May 1, 2013 the dues is discounted by \$5.00

Community Fund

The Community Fund budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year was \$6300.00

For the Fall Funding period 2012, 7 agencies were given a total of \$22,480.00

For the Spring Funding period 2013, 10 agencies were given a total of \$19,480.00

## HISTORIAN Yearbook Report 2013-2014

The Historian's duty is to "*document Western Reserve Junior Service League events for all posterity to reference*" and with that being said, I collected WRJSL newspaper articles, photos, flyers, handouts, publicity, invitations, programs, etc. and kept a record of all WRJSL activities and events of 2013-2014 for future records.

One task that is a work-in-progress is the **WRJSL Shutterfly Photo Site**. It is a photo sharing website on Shutterfly for Service League members. Photos can be viewed, downloaded and used as needed. Anyone who has photos to share from a Service League event can load them on the site or send them to me to load. The website is very user friendly.

One challenge is to have names on each and every photo to identify the members in the photos. This will take some time, but very important to preserve the memories.

You will find photos of the new Provisionals including the lovely Cocktail Party in October; along with the WRJSL Holiday Brunch and the beautiful Candlelight Charity Ball and other WRJSL Events. The website will soon have THE Bag Lunch at LaMalfa and the May Dinner among other photos of the past year.

To look at the website, go to <https://wrjsl.shutterfly.com/>. To view photos click "Pictures & Photos" (Top, left side; under WRJSL). Any problems with access email me at [radskufca@att.net](mailto:radskufca@att.net).

I attempted several times to contact Kathie Purmal of the Lake County Historical Society with no success. I wanted to know if she had any suggestions or if the Historical Society can help WRJSL in any way to preserve our history.

Going forward, in trying to decide how best to preserve our history and, as beautiful as our annual scrapbooks have been (and as much fun as I had making one a few years ago), no one gets to see them. Instead of keeping lavish scrapbooks that no one sees, I worked on keeping everything electronic (for example, on line photo websites).

This is all a work-in-progress, and thus not all completed in 2013-14. New ways will be found to preserve our history in a digital format. The names will be added to the photos on the website in time.

My wish is to preserve our history for the next 50 years and beyond in a digital format beginning in 2013 and continuing to grow and improve methods in the coming years.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Skufca  
Historian 2013-2014

## **Meeting Management 2013-2014 Annual Report**

The Meeting Management committee met at the Lifeline office on June 20, 2013 to plan our general meetings for 2013-2014.

Our committee consisted of 21 members: Sue Ash-Sanford, Donna Beck, Pam Benko, Carolyn Blackwell, Linda Brown, Pat Cassella, Linda DeRosa, Maureen Dolan, Linda Dolce, Carrie Dotson, Joanne Filipski, Lynn Kary, Heather Miller, Karen Miller, Mary Jo Miller, Lisa Moore, Pam Morse, Lorraine Rice, Linda Wise, Diana Yount and Pat Doyle, our Sustainer Advisor.

The committee signed up in groups of 3-4 hostesses for each of the meetings for the year, except for the May Dinner which is traditionally hosted by the Sustainer Trustees.

The committee put together an interesting and informative variety of meetings this year.

### **September 19, 2013 – Never Underestimate the Power of a Woman**

Holden Arboretum/Thayer Center – Jessie Baginski

Hostesses: Judy Armington, Alice Demeter, Pat Doyle and Susan Sievers

### **October 17, 2013 - Business to Business**

Perry Township Community Center

Hostesses: Pat Cassella, Linda Wise and Diana Yount

### **November 21, 2013 – Grant Recipients/Awards**

TriPoint Hospital – Lubrizol Conference Center

### **December 7, 2023 – Holiday Brunch**

Candy Cane Cottage Revisited

Legend Lakes

Hostesses: Carolyn Blackwell and Karen Miller

### **January 16, 2014 – THE Bag Lunch Kick-off**

Heartland of Mentor

Hostesses: Joanne Filipski, Linda Dolce and Linda DeRosa

### **February 20, 2014 – History of the Steele Mansion**

Lynn VanDervort

Hostesses: Maureen Dolan, Mary Jo Miller and Pam Morse

### **March 20, 2014 – Lofty Goals are Attainable: Climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro**

Fine Arts Association – Dr. Paul Vanek

Hostesses: Sue Ash-Sanford, Pam Benko and Linda Brown

**April 17, 2014 – Grant Recipients/Awards**  
TriPoint Hospital – Lubrizol Conference Room  
Hostesses: Donna Beck and Lynn Kary

**May 15, 2014 – May Dinner**  
Mentor Harbor Yacht Club  
Hostesses: Michelle Iafelice and Sue Zuber

We recommend that first year Actives serve on this committee to be paired with a seasoned member. This is a great committee to meet others outside of their Provisional Class.

Also, we have found that due to the large number of Transitional members we have, that they need to be included as bakers for the general meetings.

Lorraine Rice has been making our nametags for our General Meetings. Encourage members to wear them at each meeting to make it easier for the new members to get to know others. At the end of each meeting remind members to return nametags to MM chairs.

We would like to thank our awesome committee for their imagination and commitment and also wish the very best to Brooke Marlow, the Vice-President and Meeting Management Chair for 2014-2015 along with her co-chair, Susan Fatica.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Armington and Susan Sievers



**Nominating Committee Yearbook Report 2014**  
**Submitted by Maureen Dolan**

The 2013-2014 Nominating Committee, comprised of Maureen Dolan, Pat Casella, Rikke Coach, Bev Wallace, and Mary Jo Miller submitted the following WRJSL 2014-2015 Slate of Officers. Sustainer Advisor was Rena Ellwanger and Nominating Committee alternate was Renee Sferra.

**Vice President:**

Brooke Marlow

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Cynda Graham-Krane

**Recording Secretary:**

Carrie Dotson

**Treasurer:**

Deanne Rowe

**Nominating:**

Judy Armington

Pam Benko

Carrie Dotson

Pam Martin

Susan Sievers

**Nominating Alternate**

Leigh Hill

Election of Officers was held at the April 17, 2014 General Meeting and all candidates were elected.

## **Office Committee Report 2012 - 2013**

### ***The Pink Book***

Office committee started off the year by producing the 2013 – 2014 Pink Book. This year, the Pink Book was entered and formatted in Word to make transferring the file to the printer easier. The current Pink Book was checked against the dues sheets and any changes were made to our members' information. After the changes were made and WRJSL members proofread the Pink Book, it was sent to the printer. We used a local printer this year and saved approximately \$100 from last year's price. When the Pink Books were received, they were labeled and given to the Provisional Class at their August Welcome. All the Pink Books were labeled and available at the dinner for Actives and Sustainers to pick up as well.

The dues forms were updated to hopefully make compiling the information for the Pink Book easier. An area to note if your information is the same or has changed was added. If used, it will mean that checking members' information against the dues forms will be a much quicker process.

### ***Members Addresses***

Office also maintains an Excel file with all the members' (Actives, Provisionals and Sustainers) addresses. This allows any committee or member to request this list and print mailing labels as needed. Office Committee also receives any changes to members' information (addresses, email, resignations, etc.) so that these changes can be incorporated into the file and Pink Book file as they occur, so there is an up-to-date list and accurate count of members at all times.

### ***Mail/P.O. Box***

WRJSL's Post Office Box was checked on a weekly basis, and any mail distributed as soon as possible. During the times when Grant Requests were expected, the box was checked at least twice weekly and arrangements made to get the Requests to the Community Research Chairs on a timely basis.

### ***Yearbook***

The due date for the Yearbook is the June Board Meeting to allow for all reports to be completed. Even after several reminders, we did not receive reports from the Mentor Chamber of Commerce and the Candlelight Ball Committee.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Becky Tuma and Diana Yount  
Office Co-Chairs*

# Placement Committee Yearbook Report

## 2013/2014

The Placement Committee had an active year. Our organizational meeting was held in September, 2013. Each committee member received a folder that included the Placement Calendar the list of Approved Placements and Interview sheets for September. Rather than assigning their advisees, we encouraged the committee members to choose whom they would like to have as their advisees. Each member had about 5 advisees. The only stipulation was that they could choose 3 gals that they knew and then chose 2 that they would like to get to know better. That seemed to work well since it was felt that advisees would be more open with someone they already knew. Since the Approved Placement List had been updated last year, members did not have to call agencies. However Grace Andrassy volunteered to work on checking out agencies during the year.

“What every member should know” was distributed at the September General Meeting. We also announced a Mentoring Program to the general membership, explaining that as the Provisionals finished their year, each would be assigned a Mentor to assist them in melding into the organization. The Mentoring program was open to all members not just the Placement Committee.

The January interview sheet was revised and emailed to Committee members. The Placement meeting was held in February and membership comments were discussed relative to WRJSL issues. The Provisional Co-Chairs were also included in this meeting. Mentoring guidelines were distributed and discussed. The Provisional Co-Chairs were asked to assist in assigning Mentors. In addition to interested Placement members, there were 4 general members who expressed interest in being a Mentor. Those were emailed the guidelines and given their Mentoring assignments.

The committee approved 5 new Approved Placement Agencies, Breckenridge, Cleveland Food Bank, Deepwood Foundation, New Voices and Womensafe.

The Spring Placement Review was held at Diane Vanas’s home in March, 2014. All but three Provisionals attended as did the Placement Committee and the appropriate Mentors.

I would like to thank the following women who served so diligently on the committee and contributed greatly to the success of this committee:

Sustainer Advisor: Elfie Roman

Grace Andrassy

Judy Armington

Pam Benko

Carolyn Blackwell

Marlene Castilyn

Maureen Dolan

Lynn Kary

Chris Price

Renee Sferra

Donna Skufca

Christin Taurasi

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Lee

Placement Chair

2013/2014

**WRJSL Policy & Bylaws Committee**  
**Year End Report for 2013-14**

**Submitted by Ali Hughes**  
**April, 2014**

The Policy & Bylaws committee was chaired by Ali Hughes. The Sustainer Advisor was Kim Newman.

The women on the committee were:

Tina Baucher  
Colleen Bergmann  
Carrie Dotson  
Pam Martin  
Pam Morse  
Deanna Rowe  
Diana Yount

The committee met once to review all of the policies, bylaws, and procedures. The changes they recommended were minor adjustments to make how we currently operate sync with what is on paper. The membership unanimously approved all of the changes.

Thank you to the committee for their time and diligence.

## President's Yearbook Report 2013 -2014

It doesn't seem possible that a year has gone by since Donna Skufca presented the gavel to me as the new President of WRJSL. It has been quite a journey that we have all taken together and I can truly say that the experience has already been so incredibly memorable.

I hope that the organization has seen that I have taken to heart the Purpose Statement for the Office of the President, which states: *'The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the WRJSL and is ultimately responsible for the operation, achievements and morale of Service League.'*

This statement continues to fill me with a sense of humility as I look back at the great legacy of our past Presidents. With each passing day, I grow as a leader and see how important it is to collaborate and always maintain a perspective of presuming positive intent with every situation that arises.

As the old adage says – There is no 'I' in team and Service League will only continue to grow and flourish if each and every one of our members' voices are heard and are involved and committed to our mission.

When I submitted my proposal to Nominating back in December of 2012 for the Presidency, I shared these three main points that I try to live by and how I promised to lead if blessed with this position:

### **The first point is to: Deliver Successfully**

I cannot say enough how proud I am of the positive outcomes that we have achieved through the tireless efforts of our organization!

The Candlelight Charity Ball was beautiful and elegant, in true Service League fashion, and had a record profit of over \$30,000. 184 guests attended, which is the largest number that we have seen in years. Every exquisite detail was attended to and the results that were achieved can be directly attributed to the heart and soul of each and every one of our members who helped to orchestrate this substantial event.

And then...Where do I even begin to sing the praises of all involved in making *'THE Bag Lunch'* such a phenomenal success?! We all need to take a moment and remember how this came to be:

- Two prior venues were researched and discarded due to low estimated profit, and then...
- Ways & Means went back to the drawing board and, after hearing numerous ideas, made the decision to present the option to try a brand new fundraiser just for women.
- The membership voted in November and preparations did not really get into full swing until January.
- In a matter of just a few months, this lovely event came together due to the exceptional leadership by the Co-Chairs and their amazing committees and volunteers!
- Over \$16,000 in profit resulted with an attendance of over 230!! These results exceeded our greatest expectations!

The two mini-fundraisers are also to be recognized as they contributed to the success of our major events.

Because of our focus to deliver successfully...Community Research was equipped with over \$50,000 to distribute right back to our community via our Grant Recipients!

## **The second point within my leadership framework is to: Advance the Capabilities of the Organization**

WRJSL has been so well established by our Founders and has such a reputation of being a viable force in serving the community for over 51 years. With my project management background in Corporate IT, I wanted to see how I could help to lay out a plan that would enable our organization to continue to grow and provide support to so many in need for decades to come.

A partnership was formed with Bob Cahen, the Executive Director of the Lakeland Foundation.

- Bob graciously provided pro bono consulting and he and I co-facilitated three Strategic Planning sessions with a diverse group of 20 of our members.
- Three teams were formed to drive out recommendations in the areas of marketing and branding, general research, and philanthropy & endowments.
- Out of these efforts, WRJSL has made the historic decision to move forward with the establishment of an endowment fund, which will get us focused on more strategic long-term planning and giving.
- Bob will continue to provide consulting and will be training the new Endowment Committee this summer on the proper process and approach to follow when soliciting funds.
- The profit potential is limitless!

Next year...We will be looking to grow also in our marketing and branding approach so that we can increase our visibility across our communities to a greater extent.

## **And finally....the third component of my leadership framework is to: Develop the Talents of the Organization**

I am so very proud of the great strides that have been made in this area, particularly within our Provisional and Placement Committees. We worked within the solid foundation of our Policy with the intent of raising up future leaders and role models.

The leadership and outcomes that were demonstrated have truly been phenomenal as shown with:

- A mentoring focus that has been incorporated within our Placement Committee.
- I am so impressed with the positive feedback that continues to be received.
- The structuring of the Provisional Program that has been done to clearly teach:
  - The mission of Service League and the importance of being actively involved, along with...
  - The rich history and Policy & By-Laws of the organization,
  - While also increasing an understanding of the communities that we serve.
- The Program also delivered wonderful relationship building opportunities through the use of creative team builders.
- I know that I speak for everyone at how proud we are of our 13 new Actives and how excited we are to have our next class of Provisionals begin their adventures with us in Service League!

I have mentioned this throughout the year and would like to do so once again, to please take a moment every so often to open your Pink Book to the very first page and read our mission. These words are powerful and should instill a sense of pride in being an important part of this organization. Here is what we stand for:

“WRJSL promotes enrichment of educational, cultural and charitable service organizations of Lake County and surrounding communities by providing dedicated volunteers, financial support and proven leadership. We value commitment, honor tradition, foster personal growth, expect accountability, share accomplishments, cherish friendships and proudly hold high standards in all we do.”

What a truly amazing organization!

As I have said before....I have never met so many women with:

- Such beautiful hearts to serve,
- Such passion in making a positive difference in the lives of others so desperately in need,
- And to do so with such a high standard of integrity and grace.

Thank you for an exceptional year of service!

Respectfully submitted,  
Alice Demeter  
President 2013 - 2015

## **2013-2014 Provisional Committee Year End Report**

### **Provisional Co-Chairs:**

Brooke Marlow  
Bev Wallace

### **Provisional Sustainer Advisors:**

Melissa Ferguson  
Mary Profeta

### **2013-14 Provisional Class Members:**

Antoinette (Toni) DiBlasio  
Susan D. Fatica  
Susan Foley  
Marianne Lipomi  
Stephanie Meacham  
Bridget J. Montana  
Judy Rubertino  
Nancy Shorts  
Diana Spuzillo  
Kristy Stenberg  
Jeannette Stone  
Eileen Yates

### **Committee Members:**

Elena Bateman  
Donna Beck,  
Marlene Castilyn  
Rikke Coach  
Maureen Dolan  
Joanne Filipski  
Debra Fitzgerald  
Cynda Graham-Krane  
Lynn Kary  
Toots Leafgreen  
Stephanie Lee  
Cindy Luoma  
Teresa Lyden

Pam Martin  
Diana McCubbin  
Tammy Militello  
Heather Miller  
Mary Jo Miller  
Chris Price  
Tonja Schleicher  
Laurie Soloman  
Dianne Vanas  
Cheryl Widmer  
Diana Yount  
Susan Zak

### **Provisional Class Synopsis for 2013-14:**

New this year was the additional of Ice Breakers conducted at each meeting. The term "icebreaker" comes from "break the ice", which in turn comes from special ships called "icebreakers" that are designed to break up ice in the arctic regions. Just as these ships make it easier for other ships to travel, an icebreaker helps to clear the way for



successful exchange of ideas by making the participants more comfortable and engaging them in conversation. Ice breakers help to relax participants thereby allowing them to be more receptive to listening and contributing. Ice breakers serve to build a team atmosphere and generate enthusiasm. Ice breakers should be fun, amusing, humorous, thoughtful, or surprising. They should help participants reveal something personal about themselves which encourages participants to get to know each other personally. They will truly help to create group cohesion based on trust and understanding.

**Provisional Welcome:** The Provisional Welcome was held at the home of Dianne Vanas on August 28, 2013. The Provisional Class members met the Executive Board, Provisional Chairmen and Committee, and other WRJSL members. They received a welcome message by Alice Demeter (President) and then Alice read a moving message from Julie Siegel. Brooke and Bev then conducted an orientation session to discuss the upcoming provisional year. The Class was asked to participate in an 'Introduction-Ice Breaker'. Each member of the Class was provided an envelope as they arrived that contained a name of another member of the Class. The envelope contained the following instructions:

Tonight During Refreshments (7:00-7:30 PM)

Spend at least 5 minutes talking to (NAME).

During our meeting you will be asked to introduce her!

Information to find out:

- Where she lives

- Family Info

- Does she work? Where?

- How did she find out about WRJSL?

- Something unique about her

- Identify at least one thing you have in common other than WRJSL

The intent of this exercise was to help the Provisionals learn more about each other and begin the bonding process.

**History in the Counties:** This meeting was conducted at the Lake County Historical Society on September 4, 2013. Kathy Purmal discussed the history of the Western Reserve area and the Historical Society House. She then took the Class on a tour of The Lake County Historical Society house. The Ice Breaker for the evening was 'Name Enhancement' - Each Class member and guest was asked to introduce themselves **positively** with two adjectives beginning with the same letter as the initial of their first name. For example, Rational, Realtor Robin; Businesswoman, Blessed Brooke.

**Government Night:** The group met at the Lake County Crime Lab on September 11, 2013. Linda Erdei, M.S., F-ABC, the Lab Director, discussed the history and services provided by the Lab and then took the Class on a tour of the facility. The Ice Breaker for the evening was the 'Candy Bar Question' - Three different types of candy bars (Reese, Snickers, Hershey) were placed in the center of the table and each Class member was asked to take one. If you had a Reese's you had to answer the question: What's your favorite activity to do locally and why. If you had a Snickers, you had to

answer the question: What's the craziest thing you've ever done in your life. And if you had a Hershey, you had to answer the question: What's a favorite family memory that has stuck with you into your adult life and why.

**Culture in the Counties:** The Provisional Class met at The Fine Arts Association on September 18, 2013. Amy Sabath, Director of Development, provided the Class with the history of this learning institute as well as information on the classes, private music lessons, theater performances, concerts and cultural activities that they offer. The Ice Breaker was - Fact or fiction? Everyone was asked to write on a piece of paper three things about themselves, which may not be known to the others in the group. Two are true and one is not. Taking turns they each read out the three 'facts' about themselves and the rest of the group voted which were true and false. There were some surprises!

**Community Outreach:** This meeting was held at the Crossroads Early Childhood Services Center on September 25, 2013. Diana Yount discussed Community Outreach in WRJSL including information on providing grants to 501c3 Organizations, In-Kind Donations, and Volunteering with approved organizations. Representatives from Crossroads (an approved placement agency) speak about their organizations and volunteer needs. The Ice Breaker was - If you Could Be... - Each Class member was asked to complete a different statement such as: If you could be a cereal, what cereal would you be and why?; If you were a color, what color would you be and why?; If you were a car, what car would you be and why?; If you were a flower, what flower would you be and why?, etc.

**Sustainers, Policy & By-Laws and General Meeting Structure:** The Provisionals met at the Children's Schoolhouse Nature Park on October 2, 2013. Melissa Ferguson, our Sustainer Co-Advisor, discussed the history and the role of the Sustainers in WRJSL. Ali Hughes, Policy & By-Laws Chairman, explained the "glue" that keeps the organization together, recent changes, and important highlights as well as reviewed members' responsibilities to meet the Policy & By-Laws, the hour's requirement, and guidelines ("What Every Member Should Know"). In addition, the structure of the general meetings was presented by Diana Yount. Sue Ash-Sanford discussed the Programs and Events available through this facility that is a part of the Lake Metroparks and took the group on a tour. For the Ice Breaker, each Provisional was asked to discuss what's been their favorite thing that they've learned about our community or WRJSL so far on their Provisional Journey and why it's their favorite thing.

**Ways & Means and Community Research:** This meeting was conducted at the Lake County Board of Mental Retardation and Development on October 9, 2013. Chris Price and Amy Sabath, Ways & Means Chairmen, explain this committee's objectives, how the funds are raised and the importance of each member's participation in the fundraising projects. Diana Culley and Lisa Moore, Chairmen of Candlelight Ball, and Joanne Filipski and Linda Dolce, Chairman of the Spring Fundraiser, each provided an overview of their upcoming fundraising projects and provide examples of how each member can participate and support these activities. Pam Martin and Carol Farnolz, Community Research Chairmen, explained this committee and how funding decisions

are made. The Ice Breaker was - A Penny for Your Thoughts - Each Provisional selected a penny from an envelope and was then asked to tell the group a personal, memorable or significant event that took place the year the penny was minted.

**Cocktail Party:** This lovely social event took place on October 12, 2013, at the Social Parlor, College Hall, on the Lake Erie College campus. This evening event provided the Provisional Class members, along with their spouse or guest, with an opportunity to meet and socialize with the WRJSL Active, Transitional and Sustaining members. The 2013-14 Provisional Class was presented to the attendees and each spoke about their provisional year.

**Standing Committees:** The Class met at the Lake County Emergency Center on October 18, 2013. Representatives from the following WRJSL Standing Committees provided an overview of the roles and responsibilities:

- ☐ Admissions
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ Historian
- ☐ Meeting Management
- ☐ Nominating
- ☐ Office
- ☐ Placement
- ☐ Public Relations
- ☐ Special Placement
- ☐ Website

Larry Greene, Director of the Emergency Operation Center (EOC), provided background on the services provided by the EOC and took the group on a tour of the facility. Due to the length of this meeting, the Ice Breaker for this meeting consisted of passing out a package of Ice Breaker candies to each Provisional.

**Wrap-Up Dinner:** This wonderful dinner was held on October 23, 2013, at the home of Mary Profeta and hosted by our Sustainers Advisors, Melissa Ferguson and Mary Profeta. This dinner was a fabulous way to complete the Provisional Class Schedule. The Provisional "test" was administered prior to the dinner and all Provisionals passed!

**Spring Placement Review:** This meeting was hosted by the Placement Committee at Dianna Vanas' home on March 31, 2014. The Provisionals participated in two Ice Breakers with their Mentors and provided an opportunity to get to know one another better. During the refreshments portion of the meeting, each pair of Mentor/Mentee was provided a "Common Traits" chart that they were asked to complete. They were then asked to identify three things that they had in common and present those to the entire group during the introduction portion of the meeting. At the end of the meeting, each of these teams were asked to take five minutes to reflect and share with each other their Provisional Year experiences. They then were asked to write a headline describing this experience and share and explain the headline with the entire group. Stephanie Lee,

Placement Chairman, reviewed the approved volunteering opportunities available in the community, and the WRJSL membership responsibilities. The Mentors and Mentees then met to complete their Provisional Sign-up Sheets.

**Conclusion:**

It was an honor to co-chair this year's Provisional Committee and we are grateful to the members of the 2013-24 Provisional Class for their dedication to learning the values, mission, traditions and history of WRJSL. We look forward to serving together with them as WRJSL Active members in support of our community.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Brooke Marlow and Bev Wallace, 2013-14 Provisional Committee Co-Chairs

## Public Relations 2013-2014 Yearbook Report

A press release was written to introduce the Provisional Class and it appeared in the News-Herald and a few local newspapers along with a photograph of the class.

The PR for Candlelight Ball 2013 was coordinated by Grace Andrassy and Leigh Hill. Press releases and calendar announcements were written and sent to local media and the WRJSL website. Additionally, banner advertisements were placed in the News-Herald.

Flyers were created and submitted to the local Chambers of Commerce and an announcement was made on WELW 1330 Good Morning Lake County radio program with Ellen Foley Kessler. After the Ball an article was published in the Gazette along with photographs. Lastly, Kathryn Riddle from Currents Magazine once again attended the Ball and ran an article after the Ball.

WRJSL Website: Tickets could be purchased online this year and photos and information about the auction and raffles were posted on the website.

A press release for the Prospective Member Open House was written and sent to local media.

PR for THE Bag Lunch was handled by Leslie Poyar and Elaine Barnard. A logo was created and used on flyers, posters, business cards, rack cards and a digital banner file. A press release and calendar announcement was written and sent to the media. An announcement was made on the WELW 1330 Good Morning Lake County radio program with Ellen Foley Kessler. The digital file was sent to the News Herald for a purchased banner advertisement and also sent to the local Chambers of Commerce as well as the WRJSL Website.

WRJSL Website: Lorraine Rice and Becky Tuma posted the digital file on the website and created a form to purchase tickets online with additional links to Facebook.

Press Releases were written for both Fall and Spring Grant disbursements and sent to the media along with a photo.

Lastly, a press release was written for the WRJSL Spring Service Project and sent to the media.

Respectfully submitted,  
Grace Andrassy and Leslie Poyar

## **Puppets Report 2014**

The Puppeteers spent most of this year writing a new show, "The Wizard of Oz." We completed the costumes and scenery in record time. We were ready to perform a show on February 14, 2014.. During March, April and May we performed eight shows. We will start performing again in September.

A special thank you goes to Brooke Marlow for helping us out by sewing the costume for Glinda the good witch.

Sincerely,  
Sandy Patterson

## **2013-2014 WAYS AND MEANS YEARBOOK REPORT**

### **Amy Sabath & Chris Price – Co-Chairs**

Candlelight Ball: Diana Culley & Lisa Moore

Murder Mystery/Bag Lunch: Linda Dolce & Joanne Filipski

Treasurer: Julie Cooke

Public Relations: Grace Andrassy & Leslie Poyar

Members of the Committee: Sue Ash-Sanford, Heather Miller, Tina Baucher, Sharyn Schmidt, Pamela Benko, Renee Sferra, Carrie Dotson, Christine Taurasi, Pam Morse, Maureen Dolan

Sustainer Advisors: Nancy Dickinson & Molly Hill

The Ways and Means Committee held its organizational meeting on September 9, 2013. We discussed the purpose of the committee and then moved on to current and new fundraising plans to raise additional funds for WRJSL. We did a recap of problems and recommendations for Follies. The Candlelight Ball Chairwomen provided an update on plans for the 2013 Ball.

The Chairs of the Murder Mystery Event explained how this event would work and the costs involved with little return. After much discussion the committee voted to not do this fundraiser and would pursue another option. The Committee voted to hold a golf outing. This was then recommended to the full membership in October and was voted down. The committee then researched holding a golf outing and doing a 5k run among other ideas. After much discussion and research, the committee voted to hold a Bag Lunch fundraiser which would include an early lunch and the auction of several handbags which were donated by retail stores and members of WRJSL. This was presented to the full membership in November and passed unanimously. The event was a huge success. It was held on April 5, 2014 and made \$16,400.

The Committee brainstormed on other possible mini fundraisers. After conducting a vote via email, it was decided to hold a fall mini fundraiser at Matchworks. The event held on Sunday, November 10, 2013, was a clambake and featured entertainment from Horsefeathers.

The Ways and Means Committee reconvened on January 29, 2014. Once again, the fund-raising projects were reviewed. There was much discussion of the upcoming Bag Lunch and plans were well underway.

The Committee voted on a mini fundraiser to be held in the spring at Matchworks in March. This one was a Mardi Gras theme and raised \$1,278.

There was a presentation of the results from Candlelight Ball 2013 which raised \$30,540. There was also discussion on approving the Ball early so that the location can be secured in a timely fashion.



## **Website Committee 2013 – 2014 Year End Report**

We will be meeting over the summer to look at new and exciting ways to promote WRJSL through the website, Facebook and twitter.

We will continue to update the website to make it more user friendly as well as a common place for members to get accurate and up to date information

Looking forward to a great new year

Website

Lorraine Rice

Becky Tuma

## **Chardon Chamber Annual Report 2014**

Chardon Chamber had 6 bi-monthly meetings and a casual monthly event called "5 O'clock Somewhere" which is held at a member's business. The bi-monthly meetings were changed from lunchtime to a rotation of breakfast, lunch and dinner meeting times. I was unable to attend some of the meetings and did not attend the events this year.

The average number of persons in attendance was 35. Every meeting allows time for a brief introduction of each person in attendance. Once a year, a speed networking meeting is held which allows more time to promote each organization. This has been quite helpful in the past in spreading community awareness of Western Reserve Junior Service League and its mission. Most attendees leave business cards, brochures and other advertisements at the tables for distribution at every meeting. I have found this useful in distributing WRJSL business cards and event flyers. Chardon Chamber's monthly online advertisement allows members to send information promoting their organization. I did not feel this was as useful as posting information at local businesses this year because I have heard through members that it has not benefited them in the past and that most members do not look at the newsletter.

The annual membership dues are \$100. Organizations are allowed to attend all meetings and distribute their information without being a paying member. The only advantage to paying members is to use the monthly online advertisement which is distributed only to members. As stated previously, I did not find it helpful this year. I had greater results posting WRJSL information in Chardon businesses. I would recommend not being a paying member.

**WRJSL**  
**Year End Report Madison-Perry Chamber of Commerce 2013-2014**

**Submitted by: Pat Cassella**  
**May 2014**

The Madison-Perry Chamber of Commerce (MPACC) is a group of retail and service providers located in Eastern Lake County. It serves businesses (300+) in the Communities of Madison, Perry Village, Perry Township and North Perry. There is a formal arrangement of leadership within the chamber and several volunteer participants. Funding is through membership of area businesses.

A variety of venues throughout the year make socialization, education and job awareness opportunities available to the participants and the community.

Contacts and Coffee is a regular event held at many local establishments in the early am to allow sharing of information and socialization for participants.

I was privileged this year to serve on the meeting planning committee.

Western Reserve Junior Service League opportunities are shared at each meeting either through brochures, discussion and our fund raising activities.

I thank WRJSL for the opportunity to participate in this community activity.

**Painesville Chamber Commerce  
2013 – 2014 Yearbook Report**

The Painesville Area Chamber meets monthly. Meet the Candidates is in the fall and gives all candidates who choose to present their views a chance to be heard.

Most meetings are about business enhancement, motivation, marketing, health insurance and security for employees and property.

There was an announcement made after much deliberation by both the Painesville and Madison boards that both chambers will be blended together within 18 months.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Jo Miller

**THE Bag Lunch**  
Report from the Co-Chairs  
Linda Dolce and Joanne Filipski

THE Bag Lunch was presented by Western Reserve Junior Service League on Saturday, April 5, 2014, 10:30 am, at LaMalfa in Mentor, Ohio. The event was attended by 233 guests and included Chinese and Silent Auctions of new and gently loved handbags along with a luncheon, a 50-50 Raffle and prize giveaways.

**History**

There was much controversy and discussion in the initial planning of this Spring fundraiser. Previously, the membership had voted to organize a "Murder Mystery Night" as its main income-producing event for Spring, 2014. Further research into this event, however, proved that it would not bring about the desired level of income. The "Murder Mystery" idea was removed and the committee changed gears to pursue a golf outing fundraiser. The membership did not support the implementation of a golf outing; the committee completed additional research on fund-raising ideas and "THE Bag Lunch" was created, receiving unanimous approval from the membership.

It should be noted that because of the numerous changes in ideas for this event, the planning and organizational time for "THE Bag Lunch" was reduced to approximately four and a half months.

**Planning**

Venues were researched which included Pine Ridge Country Club, LaVera Party Center, St. Noel Party Center, Manakiki and LaMalfa. The latter was selected based upon room size and limited dates available at the other locations.

Committees were created to encompass each aspect of the event:

**Auction Committee** - to oversee the collection of bags; to store and clean the bags as well as to research the appropriate pricing.

**Auction Set-Up Committee** - to transport the bags from storage facility to the event site; to display the bags for the auctions.

**Auction Rovers Committee** - a sizeable team of women to monitor the auction tables throughout the entire event; to serve as "runners" during the distribution of the bags at checkout.

**Auction Rules** - to create and supply the supplemental items for the auctions such as raffle tickets, ticket bags, bid cards, rules sheets.

**Solicitation** - a committee to establish the plans for the solicitation of the bags from area retailers, second-hand stores, membership of WRJSL; to collect all bags and evaluate before taking them to the auction committee.

The Auction Set-Up Committee, Rovers, Rules and Solicitation Committee members all “served” under the Auction Committee Chairs.

**Public Relations** - promotion of the event through meaningful media sources and creation of promotional materials.

**Decorations** - creation of table centerpieces to coordinate with the theme and color scheme of the event and venue.

**Tickets** - management of all details associated with the sale of tickets; creation of the ticket; sale and distribution of tickets via email, phone and website; maintain up to date spreadsheet of ticket sales; assign seating for the luncheon.

**Website** - promotion of the event through the website; monitoring of PayPal activity.

**Bankers** - provide checkout services for all guests; credit card option should be available.

**50-50 Raffle** - sale of raffle tickets throughout the event

**Master of Ceremonies** - using a roaming microphone, promote the sale of bags, the timing/schedule for the event, the information that is important for the guests.

**Check-in Table** - register and welcome each guest; hand out gifts; provide nametags.

### **Miscellaneous Information**

The venue of LaMalfa provided very adequate space for the event. The planned layout required guests to walk past the auction tables each time the buffet was visited. A cash bar was available.

The co-chairs had preferred to host a “sit-down” lunch with more of a “ladies” flair but faced opposition from the caterer. The cost of the buffet lunch was \$17/person plus 20% gratuity for a total of \$20.40 per person. There was a room charge of \$350 which, when spread over 233 guests, results in an additional \$1.50/person. Thus, the cost per person for lunch was \$21.90; with a charge of \$28/person that allowed for a \$6.10 profit per person.

The shopping bags, along with 2 colors of tissue paper were donated by the co-chairs for the event. The guests received gifts of purse hangers were donated by Susan

Sievers and Judy Armington. Kathy Lampson designed the original logo for the event. Ahmie Longstaff from Junie Baloonie donated the purse accessories that were presented as gifts (one per table).

A total of three committee meetings were held prior to the event and one wrap up meeting was held afterward.

No program was printed, no ads were sold, and no underwriting was sought or utilized for this event.

A mini-fundraiser was held in February, 2014, to raise some seed money for THE Bag Lunch.

Personal letters of invitations were written to Executive Directors/Board Members of some local non-profit agencies where a relationship existed between WRJSL and the agency. Hand-written notes were added to the letters to encourage attendance at the event. These letters were quite effective in getting these invitees to the event.

LaMalfa allowed us to come in the day prior to the event to set up between 9:00 and 5:00. Some met at Bella Donna's, where the purses had been cataloged and stored, for transport to LaMalfa. Committee members began arriving at 11:00 to work on their respective areas and left when finished. The Auction Setup was the last to leave.

On the day of the event, most committee members and volunteers arrived around 8:30-9:00. The doors opened at 10:30 for our guests.

The buffet lunch was available at 11:30. This allowed our guests to frequently check their bids as they went back and forth from the buffet line. All Auctions closed promptly at 12:15. When all were seated, Alice welcomed the group and spoke about Service League. As the Bank began preparing for check out, the Rovers began placing the bags in shopping bags in order to expedite check out. The Bank was ready for check out at 1:00. Initially there was a delay in the process but with an added person, everyone finished the check out in one hour.

There have been many positive comments from our members and guests about THE Bag Lunch. The committee worked very hard and did an outstanding job, in just over three months putting on this memorable event.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Dolce and Joanne Filipski

## **Sustainer Yearbook Report – 2013-2014**

### **FALL COCKTAIL PARTY**

The Sustainers started the year off with a Fall Cocktail Party at *Grand River Cellars Winery*, in Madison, Ohio. The party was held on Sunday afternoon, March 6, 2013, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. It was a beautiful Fall day with temperatures in the 70s which helped to make the day perfect to be in or outside.

Hardy appetizers were served with a cash bar. A Server, employed by the Winery, brought drinks for individuals and ran tabs. We provided desserts from local bakeries. There were 40 Sustainers, Transitionals, and spouses in attendance. Everyone had a great time.

### **CONTRIBUTION TO CANDLELIGHT BALL**

In November/December, the Sustainers collected \$310 in donations to be used for Candlelight Ball.

### **WINTER DINNER**

Our Winter Dinner was held on Monday, March 3, 2014, at *Your Vine or Mine*, a local Winery in Painesville City. We had 29 ladies attend, including six WRJSL Presidents. During the evening, Penny and Alex, owners of the Winery, gave demonstrations on bottling, corking, and labeling a wine bottle which each person was able to take home.

We served a buffet dinner, catered by Ted Knuth, (Cash Bar) along with appetizers and desserts which we provided.

### **MAY DINNER**

On May 15, 2014, the May Dinner was held at Mentor Harbor Yachting Club, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with a Social Hour (cash bar). A family-style dinner followed, consisting of Chicken Parmesan, Fettuccini Alfredo, vegetables, salad, cupcakes, and WRJSL cookies.

Our President, Alice Demeter, began the Program with her talk, and the General Meeting continued with a skit by the new Actives, introduction of new Provisionals, and recognition of out-going and in-coming Boards.

It was a beautiful evening with 85 members in attendance, including nine WRJSL Presidents. Every detail was attended to by the Sustainer Trustees, in traditional Service League Style, including gifts for the Presidents and new Provisionals, nametags, and favors for all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle lafelice and Susan Zuber  
Sustainer Trustees