# Western Reserve Junior SERVICE LEAGUE



2014 - 2015

Yearbook

### 2014 - 2015 Officers

President	Alice Demeter
Vice-President	Brooke Marlow
Corresponding Secretary	Cynda Graham-Krane
Recording Secretary	Carrie Dotson
Treasurer	Deanna Rowe

### **2014 – 2015 Board Members**

Admissions	Pam Martin & Stefanie Taub
Community Research	Carol Farnolz & Mary Jo Fryauff
Endowment Fund	Pam Morse
Finance	Deanna Rowe & Donna Skufca
Historian	Donna Skufca
Leadership Lake County	Stephanie Lee
Meeting Management	Brooke Marlow & Susan Fatica
Nominating	Judy Armington
Office	Becky Tuma & Linda Brown
Placement	Stephanie Lee & Grace Andrassy
Policy & By-Laws	Diana Yount
Provisional	Bev Wallace & Amy Sabath
Public Relations	Linda Dolce
Puppets	Sandy Patterson
Social Media	Lorraine Rice & Becky Tuma
Ways & Means	Chris Price & Susan Foley
Special Placements: Chamber Of Commerce	
Chardon	Jeanette Stone
Madison/Perry	Pat Cassella
Mentor	Dianne Vanas
Painesville	Maureen Dolan & Mary Jo Miller
Willoughby	Rikke Coach
Project Chairs:	
Candlelight Ball	Colleen Bergmann, Marlene Castilyn & Kathy Vaci
	Carrie Dotson, Lynn Kary & Ame West
Sustainer Trustees	Susan Zuber & Elizabeth Pitorak

### Admissions Committee Yearbook Report 2014-2015

Our energetic committee of Carrie Dotson, Mary Jo Fryauff, Cynda Graham-Krane, Brook Marlow, Chris Price, Tonja Schleicher, Sharyn Schmidt, Susan Sievers, Diana Spuzillo, Becky Tuma and Ame West met in the fall to set a goal for new members, plan a skit to kick off the campaign and determine the steps to take to meet our goal.

We decided to play off of the March Madness Basketball theme and went for a goal of "Sweet Sixteen". As of the May Dinner, we have 15 new Provisionals who have accepted membership.

The entire committee reached out to women and extended invitations to join us. In addition, we had business cards made with our contact information. The cards were given to any members who wanted them to hand out to potential members. The cards were given to guests at the Christmas Brunch and left in the ladies room at Kirtland Country Club during our Candlelight Ball. In addition, members reached out to cast members at the Red Stocking Revue rehearsal. Admissions packets were made available to cast members as well. Four of the new members are from the cast.

The March Admissions Open House was held at the Lake County Western Reserve Historical Society. The Historical Society board agreed to let us hold it there free of charge because we are so supportive of them. We also gave them an ad in the Red Stocking Revue program in exchange for the use of their building. Joe Hughes, a member of their board and husband of Ali, a Sustainer, was there to give tours during the Open House. The committee did an outstanding job providing refreshments and making everyone feel welcome. The majority in attendance completed the application and will be joining us.

We believe the increased number of prospective members is due to the committee getting the message out and involving the entire membership with seeking new members. The Open House and use of the cards were important factors, as well. But it was the members reaching out to others that made our new members feel welcome and interested in joining.

The one plan that we had that we were not able to initiate was speaking to women's groups about WRJSL in order to increase awareness and perhaps encourage membership. We recommend that the next chairs consider doing so. We also recommend that we continue the practice of Admissions Co-chairs. As a team, we were able to accomplish much and truly enjoyed working together.

Respectfully submitted, Pam Martin and Stefanie Taub 2014-2015 Admissions Co-Chairs

### 2014 - 2015 Community Research Report

Community Research started the fall 2014 funding period with requests from 18 local non-profit organizations in the Lake, Ashtabula and Geauga County area. The original requests amounted to \$64,645.21. Throughout our interview process we were able to meet our Grant Budget of \$21,100.00 for that session. The Committee presented their recommendation to the general membership for their vote. The Committee recommendation was accepted and grants were awarded to Beacon Health, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Forbes House, Lake Geauga Recovery Centers, Inc., New Directions, Project Hope For The Homeless and SPEA.

Our special Christmas donation was for The Hope Chest 'Shoes For School' program. Our membership brought new shoes, gift cards and money to support this project.

The spring 2015 funding period received requests from 16 local nonprofit agencies. The original requests amounted to \$60,692.00. At the end of our interview and review process we again submitted our recommendation to the general membership for their vote. Again, the Community Research Committee recommendation was accepted and a total of \$27,600.00 was awarded. Recipients for the Spring funding period are Chagrin Falls Community Center, Deepwood Foundation, Fairport Harbor Heritage Foundation, Fine Arts, The Hope Chest, Lake County Council on Aging, Lake County Historical Society, Lake Geauga Education Assistance Foundation, Lifeline, Inc., and Project Hope.

All of the 2014 - 2015 Grant Recipients were invited to a General Meeting to present information about their program, meet our members and receive a plaque noting them as a grant recipient.

Respectfully Submitted, Carol Farnolz & Mary Jo Fryauff Community Research

### Endowment Committee Year end 2014- 2015 WRJSL

Committee Chair: Pam Morse

Committee: Carrie Dotson, Stephanie Lee, Deanna Rowe, Donna Skufca, Alice

Demeter, Amy Sabbath, Pam Martin

Sustainer: Elizabeth Pitorak Sustainer Advisor: Libby Hill

Endowment established and voted on in winter of 2014. Endowment partnership established with the Cleveland Foundation Fall 2014. First \$10,000 commitment from the first President of the WRJSL Julie Siegel. Other contributions in 2015 made in Honor of Julie Siegel of \$200 and a donation from Ron Skufca for \$500.00. Mrs. Siegel gave \$5000 for her first ½ and the second \$5000 was given from the WRJSL building fund. Mrs. Siegel's remaining \$5000 will be forthcoming in the summer of 2015.

Below are the March 2015 meeting notes.

Purpose: Funding the endowment

1. Who to reach out to? The First group of people to reach out to would be the past presidents. Establish a "Leadership" level of \$1,000.00 minimum giving with the first 50 endowment givers being established "leaders" and denoted in our publications with the WRJSL flower/heart logo beside their name. Keep the platinum, gold, silver, sterling levels with other possible levels added in. As the donor pledges and reaches different levels (cumulative giving) their level changes in WRJSL publications.

#### 2. What to reach out with?

- a. Tea/luncheon/power point/in person: The group decided that a luncheon/tea will take place on Saturday 9/12/15 from 11-2 p.m. Group would like to ask Dianne Vanas to host. Back up location Pam Morse's home. Serve the ladies at each table not buffet style. At the general meeting in September we will offer the "Leadership" level and explanation if current actives and sustainers would like to be one of the first "50" leaders of the Heritage Endowment Fund.
- b. Materials to use: Carrie Dotson to create power point with the ask information. There will be printed brochures to hand out from the Cleveland Foundation along with info about the partnership with the Cleveland Foundation and success stories that have resulted from funding from the service league. Ask the WRJSL PR committee to help choose one of the two colors selected last night to use on the CF publication that they offer us. (The colors are limited to the colors offered by the CF.....WRJSL cannot pick their own color). Put aside funding for an annual magazine/4 page color mailer with written stories and pictures of what WRJSL has been up to in the

past year along with printed levels of the "givers". Similar to an annual report.

- 3. Team reach out: Once established that there is interest to give from an individual a team of 2 from the endowment committee will go to the person/family. The group did ask for training from Bob Cahen
- 4. Set appointment: As the appointments are set up the team is encouraged to ask for funding from people that they are comfortable with.
- 5. The ask (\$\$) amount of each appointment: The amount asked for will be determined by the research done by the team going to the donor. The team will have to do a little research about the donor and level of giving or of a pledge. We will also ask Bob Cahen if he is familiar with benevolent giving so we can have that material as well when approaching the donor.
- 6. Question not addressed at this meeting: Percentage of Funds from our fund raisers going towards endowment. Or a 50/50 raffle at events going to the endowment. Or other options.

### Finance Committee Yearbook Report 2014-2015

There will be a complete report for the 2015-2016 Yearbook

### **HISTORIAN Yearbook Report 2014-2015**

The Historian's duty is to "document Western Reserve Junior Service League events for all posterity to reference." I collected WRJSL newspaper articles, photos, flyers, handouts, publicity, invitations, programs, etc. and kept a record of all WRJSL activities and events of 2014-2015 for future records.

The <u>WRJSL Shutterfly Photo Site</u> continues to be a work in progress. 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.

The challenge of having names on each and every photo to identify the members in the photos continues to exist. This will take some time, but very important to preserve the memories.

In 2014-15, 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 26<sup>th</sup> Red Stocking Revue and the May Dinner among other photos of the past year.

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

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).

One idea that I have been working on this year is to digitally scan newspaper articles and post on the website.

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 2014-2015

### WRJSL Leadership Lake County Year Book Report 2014-2015

The Leadership Lake County experience has been without a doubt one of the highlights of this year. While not yet over, I am and will always be eternally grateful to Service League for allowing me to be their representative.

Our opening retreat in September was held at Punderson Lodge. It is at this retreat that we experienced mind mapping, learned about our respective behavior styles and emotional quotient and got to know our class mates. We also were able to choose our Service Project and received our Program Day assignments.

Each of us was assigned to a specific Program Day. Our task was to plan the entire day from beginning to end, including travel time, places to visit, speakers and, yes, food. Each month had a separate theme. First was History Day, then Public Safety/Justice System Day followed by Government Day, Health & Human Services Day, Education Day, Business and Labor Day and lastly quality of Life Day. I was part of the Education Day.

January found us at the old McKinley Elementary day that is now a community service building for a mid-year retreat. This was an amazing experience in that it was a poverty simulation. We all had a taste of what real poverty is like and how hard it is to have to navigate through the various agencies in order to receive help.

In addition to planning a Program Day, each of us chose a Service Project. Our group chose to decorate a Christmas tree to be auctioned off at the Big Brothers Big Sisters Festival of Trees Charity Event. We were to also participate in an activity like bowling and ice skating to have an opportunity to meet some of the "littles", as they are called. I am proud to say that our tree won "Best of Show" and sold for \$5000, a record for the most money raised. As an aside, that \$5000 translates into \$100,000 worth of benefit to the BBBS organization. It was also great fun to meet and spend time with the "littles". They are terrific kids!

We also had several sessions in which we learned exactly what it means to hold a board position for a non-profit. We also learned how different Boards operate and what expectation an agency may or may not have. This is proving to be of great value as I begin new ventures within WRJSL.

My graduation is Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and I have been asked to be part of the presentation committee to recap our year. We are putting together a video presentation that will be lots of fun. I am excited and honored to represent Service League, and we are all blessed to live in Lake County, a wonderful caring community.

Respectfully submitted, Stephanie Lee Leadership Lake County Representative 2014-15

### Meeting Management 2014-2015 Annual Report

The Meeting Management committee met at the Mentor Library on June 11, 2014 to plan our general meetings for 2014-2015. The Co-Chairs were Brooke Marlow and Susan Fatica. Our Sustainer Advisor was Robin Baum.

### Our committee consisted of 18 members:

Grace Andrassy Carolyn Blackwell Linda Brown Pat Cassella Maureen Dolan Carrie Dotson Leigh Hill Lynn Kary Heidi Landgraf Karen Miller Pam Morse Lori Rizzo Lisa Sabath Diana Spuzillo Ame West Linda Wise Eileen Yates Diana Yount

The committee signed up in groups of 2-3 hostesses for each of the meetings for the year, except for the May Dinner, which is traditionally hosted by the Sustainer Trustees.

This year we decided to change the Community Research Awards presentations to one meeting in April. In prior years, we had the awards presentations take place at both the November and April meetings. Although VERY important, this takes up valuable time in the limited general meetings that we have each year. In an effort to show the importance of the Agencies that have won grants from us, we had each of the grant recipients from both the fall and spring funding periods attend the April meeting and setup tables around the perimeter of the room to display information on their respective agency and discuss volunteer opportunities with our members. This worked very well and we recommend that next year's committee consider doing this again.

The committee put together wonderful variety of meetings this year:

### September 18, 2014 – Empowered Women

Orchard Hills Center – Nancy Brown Hostesses: Alice Demeter, Susan Fatica and Brooke Marlow

### October 16, 2014 – The Wizard of Oz

Penitentiary Glen Nature Center – Sustainers Puppet Show Hostesses: Grace Andrassy and Leigh Hill

### November 20, 2014 – Peceptionology: How you are perceived is your reality

St. James Church - Donald Wayne McCleod Hostesses: Maureen Dolan, Lisa Sabath and Eileen Yates

### December 13, 2014 - Holiday Brunch

Legend Lakes Golf Club Hostesses: Carolyn Blackwell and Karen Miller

### January 15, 2015 – Follies Kick-Off

Harvey High School Hostesses: Carrie Dotson, Lynn Kary and Ame West

### February 19, 2015 – Birds of Prey and What's New at the Metro Parks

Lake Metro Parks Environmental Learning Center Hostesses: Heidi Landgraf, Pam Morse and Linda Wise

### March 19, 2015 – The Opiate Problem in Lake County

Tri Point Hospital – Kim Fraser

Hostesses: Pat Cassella, Lori Rizzo and Diana Spuzillo

### April 16, 2015 - Grant Recipients/Awards

Perry Senior Center

Hostesses: Linda Brown, Heidi Landgraf and Diana Yount

### May 21, 2015 - May Dinner

Mentor Harbor Yacht Club

Hostesses: Elizabeth Pitorak, Sue Zuber and Bev Lee

We would like to recommend that there be at least 24 members assigned to this committee. This would allow for three members to work together on each of the general meetings. This year we did not have enough members on the committee and several members had to work on more than one of the general meetings.

We would like to thank all of the committee members for their dedication and creativity that lent to a very informative and interesting year of general meetings! We also wish the very best to Ame West, the Vice-President and Meeting Management Co-Chair for 2015-2016.

Respectfully submitted, Brooke Marlow and Susan Fatica

### Nominating Committee Yearbook Report 2014-2015

### **Nominating Committee Members 2014-2015:**

Judy Armington - Chair Carrie Dotson

Pam Benko Pam Martin

Amy Sabath (alternate)

Susan Sievers

Sustainer Advisor: Bev Lee

\*Leigh Hill took a leave of absence therefore Amy Sabath was asked to fill in as the alternate.

This is a very easy committee to serve on as there is only one meeting right before April meeting to elect Officers and new Nominating Committee members. This year we had to vote for a new President...only one member requested to be considered for this position.

At our meeting we discussed and voted on the following:

### Slate of Officers 2015-2016:

President - Stephanie Lee Vice President - Ame West Corresponding Secretary- Linda Brown Recording Secretary - Carrie Dotson Treasurer- Deanna Rowe

### **Nominating Committee Members 2015-2016:**

Grace Andrassy Julie Cooke (alternate) Leslie Poyar Carolyn Blackwell Mary Jo Fryauff Amy Sabath

Election of officers and the new Nominating Committee members was held at our April 16th general meeting. All candidates were elected and confirmed.

### Congratulations to all!

Respectfully Submitted, Judy Armington

### Office Committee Report 2014 – 2015

#### The Pink Book

Office committee started off the year by producing the 2014 - 2105 Pink Book. The Pink Book is 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. 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.

#### Stationery

With the addition of the new Service League logo, new letterhead & envelopes and new Thank you notes & envelopes were ordered and are now available.

#### 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Becky Tuma and Linda Brown Office Co-Chairs

### Policy & By-Laws 2014 – 2015 Diana Yount – Chair

No Report is Available

### President's Yearbook Report 2014 - 2015

It is absolutely surreal for me to be sharing my final message as the President of Service League. It has been quite a journey that has brought me to this moment. I have done my best to keep in mind the Purpose Statement as defined by our founders for the Office of the President. Here is what it states: 'The President is the Chief Executive Officer and is ultimately responsible for the operation, achievements and morale of Service League.'

Every time that I reflect on this statement, I am filled with a sense of humility as I look back at the great legacy of our past Presidents. It is also humbling and inspiring to look back over these last two years and see what we have accomplished together as a team in supporting one another and our community by being so committed to our mission.

Our mission statement is powerful and embodies all that Service League represents...

"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."

In alignment with our mission, I promised during my tenure to lead Service League within these three main points of my leadership framework:

Deliver Successfully
Develop the Talents of the Organization
Advance the Capabilities of the Organization

### Point #1 - Deliver Successfully - And that we did!

- Two spectacular Candlelight Balls were held.
- We introduced a brand new fundraiser THE Bag Lunch. This truly has the
  potential to become one of our key signature events that reaches out further into the
  community.
- We also just held a fun-filled Follies which continues to receive rave reviews!
- These four events raised many tens of thousands of dollars to give back to those in need across the communities that we serve.

### Point #2 - Develop the Talents of the Organization

- Our Provisional Program was enhanced to provide a deeper understanding of our organization and our community while also providing an environment to build lasting friendships through the use of creative team builders.
- We established a mentoring program within the structure of our Placement Committee and made certain to align each Provisional and newer Active, in

- particular, with experienced members to learn from and assimilate smoothly into the organization.
- As you know, our newer members are our future and we have focused on supporting them in achieving their potential as leaders and role models in our community.

### <u>Point #3 - Advance the Capabilities of the Organization – I am so very proud of all of our accomplishments especially in this area!</u>

- Our website went through a complete overhaul as we upgraded the operating system and enhanced all of the pages and navigation and did a phenomenal job of organizing all of the documents and content.
- We started leveraging Facebook to reach out via social media.
- Back in 2013, we held Strategic Planning sessions to lay out areas of opportunity that needed to be addressed in order for Service League to continue to grow and flourish for decades to come.
- As a result, our Endowment Fund has since been established and steps are being taken to continue to build this long term mechanism for increased future giving.
- Our Mentoring Program was established, as I just shared, and was folded into our Placement Committee responsibilities.
- And...We turned much needed attention to marketing & branding and our fabulous logo was created. Over time, this will give us a brand identity that will help to raise awareness of Service League more broadly across the community.

We all should all be so very proud of all of these wonderful achievements. It took each and every one of our members to bring all of this to fruition and, as I bid farewell as your President, my heart is filled with so much love and joy for you and for our beloved Service League.

What a truly amazing organization!

I have said it before that 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 allowing me the honor and the privilege to represent Service League as your President!

Respectfully submitted, Alice Demeter President 2013 - 2015

### 2014 – 2015 Provisional Committee Year End Report

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

Bev Wallace Amy Sabath

### **Provisional Sustainer Advisor:**

Joyce Hach

### 2014-15 Provisional Class Members:

Janet Albertson Christy Jeresko Bettina Tabor

Linda Dembek Robin Johnson
Cathy Huffman Cheryl Kanetsky
Shayna Jackson Stephanie Landgraf

### **Committee Members:**

Judy ArmingtonChris PriceStephanie LeeJanet BlanchardLisa SabathPam Martin

Toni DiBlasio Susan Sievers Stephanie Meacham

Cynda Graham-Krane Dianne Vanas Pam Morse
Toots Leafgreen Carolyn Blackwell Charlotte Ross
Marienne Lipomi Marlene Castilyn Joanne Filipski Jeanette Stone
Mary Jo Miller Leigh Hill Suzanne Zak

### **Provisional Class Synopsis:**

Again this year we used "ice breakers" to relax participants thereby allowing them to be more receptive to listening and contributing. The ice breakers were fun, amusing, humorous and surprising. They helped participants to reveal something personal about themselves which encourages participants to get to know each other.

New this year after each class the Provisionals were given a survey to fill out regarding that class. Questions included: 1) How well-structured was this evening? 2) How comfortable did you feel asking questions at this event? 3) Did we allow too much time for discussion, too little time, or about the right amount of time? 4) How would you rate the location? 5) Is this your first time visiting this location?

Results – Lighthouse, loved it but would have liked a formal tour. Crime Lab, loved it and thought it was interesting. Gallery One, it was OK but somewhat boring. Rabbit Run, liked it but felt it was too cold! Schoolhouse, loved it and the tour was great. Deepwood, enjoyed. Emergency Center, by far the favorite, loved the tour and speakers.

**Provisional Welcome:** We gathered at the beautiful home of Dianne Vanas to "Welcome" the new Provisionals. Thank you to Carolyn Blackwell, Jeannette Stone & Dianne Vanas for hosting the meeting and organizing the food which was delicious.

Carolyn Blackwell welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Provisional Co-Chairs, Bev Wallace and Amy Sabath. Sustainer Advisors, Susan Zuber & Elizabeth Pitorak and Provisional Advisor, Joyce Hach were introduced. Current President, Alice Demeter introduced all the past Presidents that were present and had them say a few words about WRJSL.

The Provisionals were each given an envelope when they arrived that contained a "10-Minute Exercise" in which they were paired with a fellow Provisional to interview during refreshments and then they introduced that Provisional during the meeting. Information obtained included: where she lives; family info; does she work; where did she hear about WRJSL; something unique about her and to identify at least one thing they have in common.

Alice provided the new Provisionals with a warm welcome message and Carolyn read a very moving letter from Julie Siegel.

**History in the Counties:** This meeting was held at the Fairport Harbor Marine Museum & Lighthouse. Pam Morse and Tonja Schleicher planned this meeting and provided refreshments. Pat Spivak, Fairport Harbor Tourism Director explained the history of Fairport Harbor from early 17<sup>th</sup> century to present day. Prior to the meeting the Provisionals were encouraged to walk through the Lighthouse and view the many "treasures" collected over the years.

**Government Night:** was hosted by Lisa Sabath and Marienne Lipomi at the Lake County Crime Laboratory in Painesville. A delicious meal was served and our very own Sustainer Linda Erdei, Crime Lab Director presented an informative slide show of how the crime lab functions.

**Culture in the Counties:** was held at Gallery One in Mentor. Our hostesses, Leigh Hill and Charlotte Ross provided us with a wonderful meal. Norah Lynne Brown owner of Gallery One spoke on picture arrangements and President Alice Demeter explained our newly formed WRJSL Endowment Fund. Next was Puppet Chair Sandy Patterson, she talked about the WRJSL puppets, how they got started and what their plans are for the coming year.

**Community Outreach:** was held at Rabbit Run Theatre and hosted by Marlene Castilyn and Toots Leafgreen. After eating a nice dinner outside on the patio, Carol Farnolz, Co-chair of Community Research explained her committees' responsibilities. Marlene then introduced Brent Learned, Executive Director of Rabbit Run Theatre who talked about the Community Arts Program and how thankful they are to have received grant funding in the past.

Policy & By-Laws, Sustainers and General Meeting Structure: was held at the Children's Schoolhouse Nature Park. Our hostesses Stephanie Lee, Diana McCubbin and Stephanie Meacham provided a school house "bag" supper and a very interesting line up of guests starting with Susan Zuber, Sustainer Trustee who talked about the sustainers' role and responsibilities to WRJSL. Diana Yount, By-Laws chair explained the differences between policy & by-laws and Committee purpose/responsibilities. Stephanie Lee was next to highlight the general meeting structure which included Parliamentary Procedure and Roberts Rules. President Alice Demeter did a marvelous job presenting the Presidents role of WRJSL. To end the evening Sue Ash-Sanford took the Provisionals on a tour and history lesson of the Schoolhouse.

**Ways & Means** was hosted by Joanne Filipski, Toni DiBlasio and Janet Blanchard on October 8<sup>th</sup> at the Lake County Board of Mental Retardation and Development center in Mentor. After a grand meal Chris Price explained the responsibilities of the Ways and Means Committee. Susan Foley talked about our newest fundraiser, The Bag Lunch. Next the class heard from Marlene Castilyn who talked about the elegance and fundraising of our upcoming Candlelight Ball. Then Lynn Kary did a wonderful job explaining Follies and volunteer opportunities. And finally we couldn't go home without a visit from The Cat in the Hat performed by Pam Martin and Chris Price.

On Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> the **Provisional Cocktail Party** was held at Lake Erie College Social Parlor, College Hall and hosted by Chris Price along with her committee. It was a fabulous night of delicious food, great conversation and abundance of spirits. Our Provisional class was introduced in style and stepped into the spotlight to say a few words about their thoughts on WRJSL. A lovely night enjoyed by many. Mary Jo Miller deserves a big Thank You for securing the Social Parlor at Lake Erie College for this elegant evening.

**Standing Committee** was held at the Lake County Emergency Operations Center in Mentor and hosted by Judy Armington, Cynda Graham-Krane, Susan Sievers, and Suzanne Zak. After dinner Standing Committee Chairs each presented a short explanation of their committee. Next Larry Greene, Director, Emergency Management Agency and Lieutenant Cynthia Bake from the EOC talked followed by a tour of the facility. This meeting is one of the longest but well worth it.

The **Wrap-up Dinner** was held on October 22<sup>rd</sup> at the home of Susan Zuber and hosted by Susan Zuber, Brooke Marlow and Sandy Morton. Alice Demeter joined us for dinner and historian, Donna Skufca was on hand to take pictures. It was a lovely night enjoyed by all. The "test" was given prior to dinner and everyone took it with great pride and passed. The dinner was a nice way to end our Provisional classes. Thank you to Susan, Brooke and Sandy for making our Provisionals feel so special.

**Spring Placement Review:** This meeting was hosted by the Placement Committee at the home of Sue Ellis on March 23, 2015. Brooke Marlow provided two Provisional ice breakers. 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:

We would like to thank the Provisional Committee for putting together a phenomenal year for our 2014-15 Provisional Class. This year was great, each provisional had something special to share and we are grateful for their dedication to learning the values, mission, traditions and history of WRJSL.

### **Suggestions for Next Year:**

- Need to explain better what each of the committees do and what we expect from the committee members. I would not have a speaker and use the time for explaining the standing committees.
- 2. Pair the Provisionals with their Mentors at the wrap-up dinner. The Mentors could then encourage their Provisional to come to the general meetings, December brunch and guide them in making good Standing Committee choices at the Provisional Placement Meeting in March.
- 3. Having a meeting/get together in January or February to keep the momentum going and they don't feel left out.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Bev Wallace and Amy Sabath 2014-15 Provisional Committee Co-Chairs

### Public Relations 2015 Yearbook Report

The Public Relations committee's key objective this year was to design and implement a logo for Service League. This task was an outcome of the prior strategic planning sessions where the need for an identity was discussed.

The committee met monthly to create, develop, tweak and finalize Service League's first logo. The "unveiling" took place during a General Meeting. Canvas shopping bags displaying the logo were distributed to all attendees. The Public Relations Committee members were polo shirts bearing the logo.

Continued utilization of the logo in all Service League communications will lay the groundwork in securing an identity for the organization throughout the community. The stationary now incorporates the new logo and all committee chairs have a copy of the logo guideline documents.

Public Relations for the Candlelight Ball and Follies focused greatly upon electronic communications. This direction was taken as response from the local print media sources was negligible; that, along with increasingly low readership moved the committee toward promotions on the Service League website and Facebook.

### **Puppets Report** 2014 – 2015

This year the Puppet Troupe performed the new show, "The Wizard of Oz." Everyone, children and adults, enjoyed the show.

We trouped to schools, senior centers, community centers, libraries, and a General Meeting of WRJSL.

Our performances are on Tuesday mornings. The exception to this is libraries that have the children's reading hour in the evening.

All performances went smoothly without any problems. Everyone had a lot of fun and that is what our shows are all about.

We always ask the WRJSL president to join us and Alice Demeter was able to be there for our Christmas celebration.

We are looking forward to another successful year.

Thank you, Sandy Patterson

### Social Media Report 2014 – 2015

### Website

With the addition of the new Service League logo, the site has been updated to reflect the new colors and logo. There have been additional upgrades to pictures, links and the overall general layout.

Additional pages have been added, one being for the Endowment fund and one for Provisional members. All other pages have been reviewed and updated as needed. The website will continue to be updated to make it easier for members to find information as well as Committees being able to add their own information as well.

We will be meeting over the summer to look at new ways to promote Service League through the web site, Facebook, You tube and twitter. We will also being looking into making it more interactive for the members as well as visitors to the site.

The future goal is to make WRJSL more visible and accessible to the public as well as for our members.

Looking forward to a great new year,

Becky Tuma Lorraine Rice

### 2014-2015 WAYS AND MEANS YEARBOOK REPORT

Chris Price & Susan Foley - Co-Chairs

Candlelight Ball: Coleen Bergmann, Marlene Castilyn, Kathy Vaci

Follies: Carrie Dotson, Lynn, Kary, Ame West Treasurer: Deanna Rowe & Donna Skufca

Public Relations: Elaine Barnard, Linda Dolce, Brooke Marlow

Members of the Committee: Alice Demeter, Pam Martin, Lorraine Rice, Tina Baucher, Heather Miller,

Eileen Yates

Sustainer Advisors: Nancy Dickinson, Rena Ellwanger, Pat Doyle

The Ways and Means Committee held its organizational meeting on September 9, 2014. We discussed the pros and cons of when and if to hold the next Bag Lunch. At the first meeting, members of the W & M committee voted to hold it spring (March) of 2015 because they did not want another organization to duplicate WRJSL's inaugural Bag Lunch. This decision was presented at a general meeting, voted upon, and passed.

It proved somewhat difficult to get volunteer commitments to serve on The Bag Lunch committee, so a second meeting was held with the President, Ways & Means co-chairs, and Candlelight Ball auction chairs. A decision was made to postpone The Bag Lunch event until early September of 2015. This decision was again presented at the next general meeting. However, some members of the Candlelight Ball committee felt it would be too taxing on the membership with regard to serving on both event committees. In addition, they felt that the success of Candlelight Ball 2015 would conflict with The Bag Lunch.

Another vote was taken within the Ways & Means committee and a recommendation was made to the Board to postpone The Bag Lunch until spring of 2016. This event would then be held on an "off" Follies year.

## 47<sup>TH</sup> Annual Candlelight Charity Ball Saturday December 6, 2014 Submitted by Colleen Bergmann, Marlene Castilyn and Kathy Vaci

The 2014 Candlelight Charity Ball was a beautiful and magical night.

This year's theme was

### "When you wish upon a Star"

This theme was carried out in the invitations, table decorations and decorations throughout the ballroom. White painted tree branches with Purple and white twinkle lights were appropriately placed. Each guest was presented with a special gift box with their name, table number and silent auction bidder number. A special thank you to Kathy Vaci for the purchase of the bracelets.

Kirtland Country Club prepared a delicious dinner of Starters, Salad, Entrée and delicious dessert. Although the service seemed forever slow, the meal was delicious.

We want to thank all committee members for their cooperation and details to complete and define their responsibilities. Through their efforts we were able to realize a profit of \$20,023.92.

### 2015 Follies The 26<sup>th</sup> Red Stocking Revue Yearbook Report

This year, the 26<sup>th</sup> Red Stocking Revue was held on May 1 and 2, 2015 at Harvey High School in Painesville. This year's theme, The Gong Show, was revealed to the membership at the January Kick-off meeting, also held at Harvey High School.

We were announced as Co-Chairs at the 2014 May Dinner and immediately got to work. Our first task was interviewing directors and Lisa-Marie French was chosen. Over the summer of 2014, contracts were signed with Lisa-Marie and her crew, including the musical director, costumer, dance captain and band, and the script was developed. We also assembled our committee who were tasked with making the show a success. Our first meeting with our committee was held in the fall of 2014, but work began in earnest in January 2015, after the conclusion of the Candlelight Ball.

This year's show, modeled after the 1970s TV show, was unique—it had a nice variety of speaking/acting parts, as well as small group and large group musical acts and a children's choir—and incredibly well received. We held Meet the Director Night and auditions the last week in March and had casting in place by the first week of April. We tried a new rehearsal schedule this year, in which the full cast wasn't required every night and this was met with favorable reviews. Tech week was the last week in April and full attendance was required.

We wrapped up Follies with our committee at a wrap up meeting in mid-May and with the cast and crew at the Follies DVD Watch Party in mid-June.

In total, attendance for both nights combined was 736 and \$12,640 was raised with ticket sales. As always, advertising sales is the biggest source of revenue. Our ad sales team worked hard and overall, over \$20,000 was raised with advertising. Additional funds were raised through the raffles, t'shirt sales and other small things. While final numbers aren't yet available, we are pleased that we know we've raised at least \$30,000, which was our goal going into Follies!

Submitted by: Co-Chairs, Carrie Dotson, Lynn Kary & Ame West

### Sustainer Yearbook Report - 2014-2015

#### **FALL COCKTAIL PARTY**

The Sustainers began the year with a Wine Tasting Cocktail Party held at *Red Wine & Brew*, in Mentor, Ohio. The party was held on Sunday afternoon, October 5, 2014, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There were 30 Sustainers, Transitionals, and spouses that attended. We were seated upstairs in their party room. Wine-type decorations from RW&B were used. Sustainer, Kathie Hannibal helped plan this event.

A very knowledgeable employee from RW&B presented samples of each wine, gave an explanation of where the wine originated from, and explained why it was paired with a specific appetizer. Pastries were served following the wine tasting. It was a unique experience and a chance for everyone to see RW&B and what they have to offer.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO CANDLELIGHT BALL

In November/December, the Sustainers collected monetary contributions to be used for the Candlelight Charity Ball. The donations were used to supplement items for the Silent Auction.

#### WINTER DINNER

Our Winter Dinner was held on Monday, February 9, 2015, at *Skye Bistro*, a relatively new restaurant in Mentor, Ohio. Thirty-one ladies attended, including seven Presidents.

We used a Valentine's Day theme. A buffet dinner was served, consisting of Honey Mustard Chicken, mashed potatoes, and Pepper Gnocchi with a cash bar. Our dessert was a delicious treat of cheesecake with raspberry topping, made by our own Sustainer Trustee, Elizabeth Pitorak. Centerpieces of Primrose plants were raffled off to members. Sandy Morton helped with this event.

#### **MAY DINNER**

On May 21, 2015, 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 Parmesan Crusted Chicken, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, vegetables, salad, Rolls, and Pastries for dessert.

Our Out-Going President, Alice Demeter, began the Program with her message, followed by a brief General Meeting. A skit was performed by the new Actives, introduction of new Provisionals, and recognition of the out-going Board. Our In-Coming President, Stephanie Lee, was introduced by Alice Demeter and handed the gavel. Following the new President's message, she introduced her in-coming Board.

It was a lovely evening with 95 members in attendance, including eleven WRJSL Presidents. Every detail was attended to by the Sustainer Trustees, in traditional Service League Style, including rose corsages for the Presidents. The new Provisionals in attendance received the centerpiece plants as their gift. Our theme was the new branding colors; featuring pink and grey tablecloths and napkins, bright pink Petunia centerpiece baskets, along with nametags, and Oreo Cookie favors for all. Sustainer, Bev Lee helped with this event.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Pitorak and Susan Zuber Sustainer Trustees

### Chardon Chamber Annual Report 2015

Chardon Chamber met six times since June 2014 – casual business after hours event at United Way in August, holiday party in December, annual dinner in January, State of the City Address in February, State of the County Address in March, and breakfast meeting on Amplifying Your Sales in April. The May meeting was cancelled. Due to work and family commitments I was unable to attend the December, January, and April events. Due to issues with the Chamber of Commerce website from August – November, loss of application in the mail, and lack of follow through on my part, I did not have contact with Chardon Chamber from September – November. Once I was back on their email list mid-November, I was kept informed of upcoming events, but due to a class conflict was unable to attend the dinner meetings in December and January. This evening conflict will continue in 2015-2016.

Chardon Chamber members were interested in WRJSL and I was able to share flyers for Follies and was included on the hot sheets for the January and April meetings. I passed out organization flyers at the August after hour's event and all meetings I attended. This was good networking for WRJSL as most of the people I spoke with had no prior knowledge of WRJSL.

The annual membership dues are \$100 and due to my registration and check being "lost in the mail" we did not become paying members again this year. As Leslie Poyar stated last year, I am not sure if there is any benefit in being a paying member as the only advantage to paying members is to use the monthly online advertisement which is distributed only to members. Now, that the website is back up and running and I am once again on the email list it will be easier to stay current with Chardon Chamber meetings and events.

Respectfully submitted by Jeannette Stone May 27, 2015

### **Mentor Chamber of Commerce**

No Report Available

### Madison/Perry Chamber of Commerce No Report Available

Painesville Chamber of Commerce No Report Available