



# LINK

October/November 2015

## A Balance of Breakneck Speed and Vigilance

*"Time is of the essence."*

*"All the deadlines are essential and required."*

How often is this a part of our lives? In our headlong shifting from one responsibility to another, one person to another, one space to another, we simultaneously hold many components and systems together to reach a goal. No matter how we learned to multitask so well, I like to believe that our hurried lives allow plenty of time for giving back to the community.

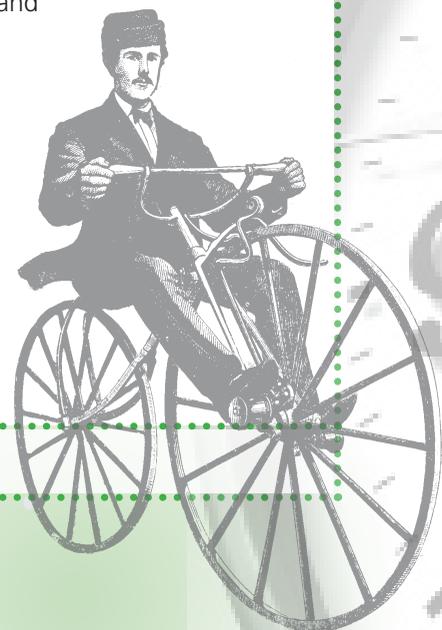
In the League, I see the remarkable commitment of board members, the drive of committee members and the gratitude of those we serve. In our hurried lives, we come together as the League to help others and to nurture our own spiritual and intellectual growth.

Because League members continue to give time, share expertise and support the League financially, we persist in building excellence as we celebrate 104 years of service to the community.

- We have a dedicated and experienced board that focuses on mission, sets priorities and monitors financial performance.
- We constantly generate and evaluate ideas to better serve others, through grant making to women and children, for example.
- We are strategically assessing how to creatively and efficiently use our funds as a nonprofit.
- Cognizant of best practices and the needs of the community, we strive to be leaders who possess the ability and desire for introspection and improvement.

I hope that your hurriedness and mine always leaves room for unbridled enjoyment and generosity!

Fran Rusciano Murnane • League President



## League Brings Library to Life

**The love of reading and of stories is essential to literacy and lifelong success.** St John Paul Preparatory School—formerly Pope John Paul II Catholic School—is grateful to the volunteers from the League of Catholic Women, under the direction of Ginny Vizard. They have organized and managed our school library and provided a welcoming space where our students can experience the power of stories and learning. They have made this a project of love, and our children are blessed because of it.

These generous women spent 350 hours working in the library last year. They established a regular time for students to access the library, manage the checking out of books and established a story time in which they read to our lower grades. The ladies of the League purchase books and magazines in both English and Spanish to keep our library current. They assist students in finding materials and inspire our children to become lifetime learners. These LCW volunteers include:

**Ginny Vizard, Judith Adams, Eileen Hedberg, Judith Hirdler, Lynn Hartman, Peggy Lindgren, Jean Dunn, Pat Kramer, Lavern Levy and Donna Ward.**

Our school is enriched by the dedication and commitment of the League of Catholic Women and its members. Although digital media has become popular, holding a book in their hands and experiencing reading in a library environment, like the beautiful library maintained by League volunteers, makes a tremendous impact on the minds of our young people. The students, families and staff of Saint John Paul are blessed and grateful for all they have given.

Maureen Novak, Development Director,  
St. John Paul II Preparatory School



## Partners Pack a Wallop

The League of Catholic Women has believed in partnering with others to build a better community since 1911. In 1913, the League joined with Hennepin County to create one of the first settlement houses in the Midwest. It was later named The Margaret Barry House in honor of its founding League member.

In the 1960's Hennepin County provided per diem assistance to the League's youth group homes, once again a first for our area. Hennepin County was also a League partner in funding Emergency House, LCW's transitional housing project.

In 1998, over 50 training schools and organizations counted on their partnerships with the League to provide women entering the workforce with clothing suited to their individual needs and with personal support as they entered a new phase of life.

In the 21st century, non-profits realize more than ever that joining forces with others maximizes their potential for making needed social changes. Consequently, Jean Dunn and her committee members on the League's Project Development and Evaluation Committee (Judy Dawes, Laverne Levy and Mary Murray) are exploring new partnerships and fielding suggestions from members.

In September, the LCW Board of Directors approved a recommendation from the PD&E committee to become a "Friend of the Future" partner with NAZ, Northside Achievement Zone. The Board is also considering a recommendation to strengthen ties with North Side Child Care Center. Both initiatives further our mission to better the lives of women and children.

Watch for details about these two projects as well as other new project ideas in the winter issue of the Link and in bi-monthly e-blasts. You may also access our website [leagueofcatholicwomen.org](http://leagueofcatholicwomen.org), e-mail [lcwmppls@gmail.com](mailto:lcwmppls@gmail.com) or call 612-813-5321 for more information.



# October /November calendar

## *Coming Attractions for ALL*

Thursday, October 1	R.T. Rybak Program: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. The Woman's Club
Thursday, November 5	First Impression / Samaritan Ministry / St Olaf
Monday, November 30	Advent Morning of Reflection: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Our Lady of Grace Church (see flyer)

## *Continuing Activities for MEMBERS*

Tuesday Club Volunteers	second Tuesday each month / St.Olaf /10:30 a.m
Daytime Book Club	second Thursday / private homes / 9:15 a.m.
Evening Book Club	third Tuesday each month / private homes / 7:00 p.m.
Docent Tours	Tuesday, October 6 & November 17 Minneapolis Institute of Art. 10:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.
Exec. LCW Board Mtg.	first Tuesday each month / The Woman's Club
LCW Board of Dir. Mtg.	first Tuesday Sept, Dec, March, June / Woman's Club

For further information

Consult our website:  
[leagueofcatholicwomen.org](http://leagueofcatholicwomen.org)

Read our member e-blasts

E-mail us:  
[lcwmpis@gmail.com](mailto:lcwmpis@gmail.com)

Call us at:  
612-813-5324



## In Memoriam

In loving memory of:

**Ted Carr,**  
son of Penny Carr

**John Sheahan,**  
brother of Jane O'Neill

## LCW History in the Making

In 2014, the League of Catholic Women received this long awaited news:

**"I am pleased to report that the Minneapolis League of Catholic Women collection at the Minnesota Historical Society is now catalogued.**

**You can access the collection's 'finding aid' at  
<http://www.mnhs.org/library/findaids/01105>."**

This welcome message came from Duane Swanson, Curator of Manuscripts. Mr. Swanson worked with the Centennial Year committee for over two years as LCW volunteers sifted through a medium-sized room piled high with records dating from 1911. It turned out to be a fascinating, frustrating, ultimately fulfilling task. We now know what tidbits of history are worth saving. We also know that these items are being carefully preserved as a valuable part of Minnesota history. And finally, we know that we will never wait 100 years to try this again!

We want to express our great gratitude to Duane Swanson and to our intrepid volunteers. We also have this suggestion for Link readers: Google the site above to discover in what ways the League has contributed to our community.



## changes

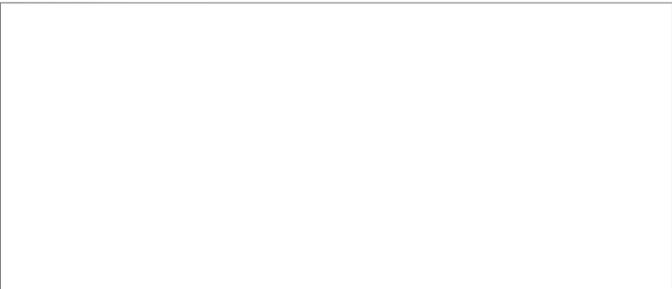
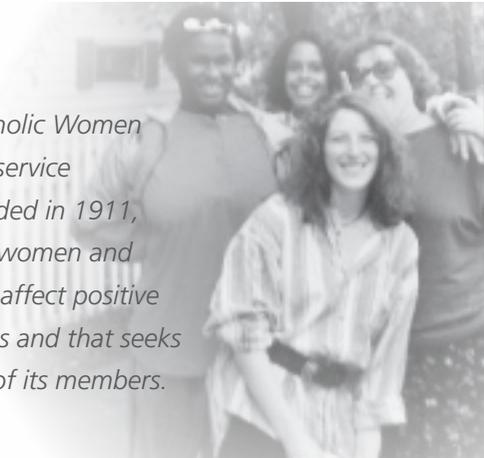
Forms of communication have changed. The League Link used to be the single means of reaching our members. Today there are bi-monthly e-blasts and a new website to keep members current. With this in mind, the Link will now be published quarterly.



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*The League of Catholic Women is an independent service organization, founded in 1911, that partners with women and families in need to affect positive change in their lives and that seeks to enrich the lives of its members.*



## The League is On-line At Long Last!

The re-vamped LCW website is now up and running. Please take a look! [leagueofcatholicwomen.org](http://leagueofcatholicwomen.org). It is the best way to access all kinds of League information in a quick convenient way. Both members and women surfing the web for women's organizations will benefit from being able to reach the League of Catholic Women on-line.

### MEMBERS:

- Check and register for current events and programs
- Hear about any cancellations or changes to the calendar
- Discover what items or services are needed for social outreach projects

### INTERESTED PERSONS:

- Learn about our mission
- Find location and contact information
- Understand our history, membership requirements and public programs
- Explore volunteer opportunities
- Ask for information, fill out a membership application and pay dues on-line

### ■ ■ ■ IF YOU ARE NOT A COMPUTER USER:

- Call the office and leave a message to be returned during office hours
- Ask friends to share LCW e-blasts or Web site info



**Important League Information. Please clip and save.**

LCW Office Address: 410 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis, MN 55403  
LCW Office Phone: 612-813-5321  
LCW Office E-mail: [lcwmp1s@gmail.com](mailto:lcwmp1s@gmail.com)  
Website (soon to come): [leagueofcatholicwomen.org](http://leagueofcatholicwomen.org)  
LCW Office Hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays | 9:00 a.m. to noon

The Link is a quarterly publication of The League of Catholic Women, located at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, two blocks east of the Walker Art Center.