

The Jabberwock

OCTOBER 2021

VOL. 53, ISSUE #2

President's Message



BETTER LEAGUE TOGETHER

What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make - Jane Goodall

We were all drawn to the Junior League of Billings for a reason....to positively impact our community, connect with like minded women, or grow personally. Whatever brought you to the JLB, we are so glad that you are here. JLB members truly make a difference in the Billings community!

This year we are focusing on developing personal connections while we continue to serve those in our community. The board has made it a priority to implement the recent survey results. This was reviewed at the General Membership Meeting in September. If you weren't able to make it, don't worry, we will be sending the results out to members.

We also discussed the Small League Fast Track Renewal Plan. This comprehensive plan, developed by AJLI, will allow us to continue to engage members, focus on recruitment and intentionally serve our community. If you are interested in participating, please let me or a board member know. I know that our members have some great ideas to carry on the JLB mission!

I hope we see you at our upcoming GMM October 12 at our new location Billings Hotel and Convention Center. We will continue to offer in person and virtual attendance. It was nice to see everyone at the GMM, whether you were present or virtual. It was a great reminder that we are Better Together!

Yours in service, Helen Laferriere



2021-2022 Board of Directors

> **President** Helen Laferriere

President Elect Marisa Clark

Executive Secretary Katie Vaughn

> **Treasurer** Tani McKeever

Communications Council Leaders Elizabeth Campoy Cora Smit

Community Council Leader Ashley Braaten

Fund Development Council Leader Elizabeth Russell

> Membership Council Leader Dawn Gilman

Sustaining Advisor Mary Jane Knisely

Nominating Chair Jennifer Massey

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October General Meeting

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

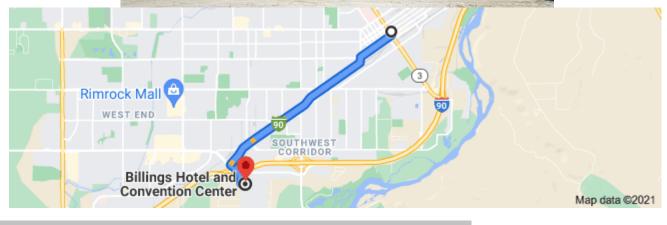
The meeting will be virtually and in person at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center 1223 Mullowney Lane



Social: 5:30pm Council Meetings: 6:00pm General Meeting: 6:50pm

Don't forget to bring bottles of wine for our Bingo Night wine toss to the meeting.





The Jabberwock

President Elect

Happy October, JLB! The new league year started with a fantastic General Membership Meeting - all of our GMM's this year are going to be fun and educational, and you won't want to miss a single one! During that meeting, we discussed the results of our Member Survey. I prepared a presentation about those results, and I will be sharing that in the Facebook members group. If you aren't on Facebook but would like to see the presentation, feel free to reach out to me and I'll be happy to send it to you!

We also discussed a great new plan to refresh our league. We are taking part in a renewal plan that has been proven to work in other small leagues, and it will take 6-9 months for us to complete the steps of the plan. The best news is that many of the things our members said they want in the survey are provided for in this plan, so these two things really work together to make a greater impact on the community AND to create the best experience possible for our members. Our renewal plan efforts need you! We need 2-3 general members to serve as team members on our special renewal plan team - Membership (Team Leader Marisa Clark); Fund Development (Team Leader Elizabeth Russell); By-Laws (Team Leader Jennifer Massey); and Community (Team Leader TBD). Please reach out to me or any board member if you are interested in serving on one of these special teams - it's a great way to get involved, develop leadership skills, and connect with other members!

As I mentioned at the GMM, if you ever want more involvement or connection with the league, but aren't sure how to make that happen, I would love to help! Email me at presidentelect@juniorleagueofbillings.org and we will work together to find your best JLB experience!

Marisa Clark President Elect

OCTOBER LAUNDRY DAY OCTOBER 23

Mark this date on your calendar. Please sign up to help at the next Free Laundry Day!

We are looking for businesses who would like to sponsor a laundry day. The cost is \$500 per day and we would also love to have their business volunteer with us.





amazonsmile

Don't forget when you are ordering items on Amazon to mark the box to donate to the Junior League of Billings.

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Fund Development

Hello Junior League,

The Fund Development is already off to a busy start! . We will be hosting a bingo night fundraiser on October 15th at the Elks from 6:00-9:00. Tickets will cost \$50 and are available for sale on our website. The event will feature a taco bar, 10 rounds of music bingo, raffle baskets, wine ring toss, and a game of heads or tails to win a Nintendo Switch. We are looking for members to donate bottles of wine at our next meeting that we will use for ring toss. We are also looking for local businesses and individuals to sponsor our bingo rounds for \$100 each. Please reach out to me if you or someone you know might be interested.

We are also actively planning our annual Montana Women's Leadership Conference. This event will be held on February 11th, 2022 at MSUB. Our keynote speaker will be Pamela Barnum, a former undercover police officer and federal prosecuting attorney as well as a Montana native. We are taking applications for breakout session leaders. Please feel free to share our application with anyone that you think would be a good fit for our event. Tickets will cost \$80 and will be available online starting this fall.

Elizabeth Russell Fund Development Leader



Bingo at the Elks Club October 15, 2021 from 6:00-9:00pm

Join the Junior League of Billings for an evening of Bingo and games Cost: \$50 per person Catered Dinner Elks Club, 934 Lewis Ave.

> You can purchase your tickets NOW for Bingo at the Elks Club. Go to the JLB website and click on Bingo at th Elks Club. \$50 per ticket.



Actives

October 17	Alison Howard
October 21	Tani McKeever
October 24	Jennifer Massey
October 26	Cora Smit

Sustainers

October 7 Helen Mahnke October 17 Dorothy Peete October 17 Jennifer Kondracki October 24 Susan Germer October 29 Sylvia McCalla October 30 Ione Young October 31 Katie Link



Scenes from our New Member Social

A huge thank you to Sustainer Kay Foster for opening up her beautiful home and hosting the JLB new member social. It was a wonderful event!



The Jabberwock



September 14, 2021/General Membership Meeting **Location:** Billings Hotel and Convention Center and via Zoom

President Helen Laferriere called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM.

Helen welcomed everyone and introduced herself.

Attendees played a Bingo social to get to know one another for 15 minutes.

A motion was moved to approve the May's General Membership Meeting minutes. It was approved, seconded and passed.

Marisa gave presentation on member survey results. The survey is still open. If anybody has not filled out the survey, please do so. We would love to hear your input!

Helen gave a presentation on the Fast Track Renewal Plan. If anyone is interested in filling the community leader position, please contact Helen.

There will be a celebration bucket at every GMM moving forward. If you or someone you know is celebrating something in their life, please drop a note in the bucket so we can celebrate them at the GMMs. We will also be celebrating members birthdays at each GMM as well.

Council Updates

Fund Development: Bingo night will be Friday, October 15th and tickets are on sale. They are taking donations for wine for the wine toss game. They have also been busy planning the Women's Leadership Conference, which will be held on Friday, February 11th. They are still looking for breakout speakers so if you know of anyone that would be interested, please let Elizabeth know so she can get an application to them.

Communications: They are going to take some training on member essentials and find a great way of providing a tutorial so that everyone knows how to use it. They will be posting members' birthdays on social media. The really want to promote the JLB campaign and continue with Dina's corner.

Membership: The new member open house was a huge success and had 12 potential new members join the social. They have put together a tentative social calendar for the year and is available for members to see. There are some dates and times that still need to be confirmed. The next social is this Thursday at Thirsty Street garage for Blues Night from 7:00pm-9:00pm.

Community: Laundry days has served 151 people from June through August. They will be starting a laundry bag drive so that people can leave with a clean laundry bag when they get their laundry done. They will be implementing a new way of doing Laundry Angels. The volunteer(s) can choose what day and time works best for their schedule to get it done. They are looking at other volunteer opportunities in the community, such as Ronald McDonald House.

The October General Membership Meeting will be October 12 from 6-8 PM at Billings Hotel and Convention Center and virtually.

President Helen Laferriere adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Katie Vaughn Executive Secretary

