

Summit Junior Fortnightly Club – Brag Sheet!

Co – Presidents – Lucy Lord and Stephanie Perrone

Lucy Lord and Stephanie Perrone took over the running of the Summit Junior Fortnightly Club in May of 2010. We are thoroughly enjoying our experience as presidents and are navigating our way through a very busy year for our Club!

Please find below the highlights of our club year, commencing in May of 2010:

CHARITABLE EVENTS/FUNDRAISING:

1. Provisional Project - Our new recruits hosted a wonderful event in May of 2010. They decided to raise funds for Trinitas Hospital in Elizabeth, New Jersey and in particular for their Child Psychiatric Unit. The event – “A Night At The Races” - was extremely successful and raised \$14, 343 for Trinitas. Approximately 20 women worked on this event that was attended by approximately 100 people.

2. Tot Trot 2010 – Tot Trot is an annual event for Summit, NJ and the surrounding region which includes a petting zoo, games of all kinds, refreshments, and more, culminating in the children’s “Fun Run” race for ages 2-7. Approximately 400 small children raced their hearts out for the sheer pleasure of the run, while family and friends cheered them on and celebrated the support their children raised for charity.

Each year, SJFC selects a different charity to receive funds raised through Tot Trot. It is always a difficult decision since there are so many vital services provided by outstanding organizations in our local area. Tot Trot 2010 beneficiary was Good Grief. Good Grief provides educational workshops and a year-round peer grief support center for grieving children and their families.

This is one of our signature events and was very successful raising a great deal of money. Proceeds for the event were \$15,878

In terms of number of Club members involved – everyone was expected to participate. We estimate that 100 women volunteered for this event.

Number of hours planning and executing the event – Co-Chairs of the event worked tirelessly for about 5 months prior to the Tot Trot. Sub-Committees also did their part and these exact hours are hard to guess.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES– 2010:

1. Diaper Drive for the Area Baby Center – or ABC
2. Blanket and Towel Drive for Operation Warm Heart, the emergency shelter program of the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless.
3. Santa Claus Shop – Volunteers gave their time to help staff gift-giving and gift-wrapping for the poor of our local area. Although this project was run by a separate entity, our Summit Junior Fortnightly Club ladies added many “man” hours, toys and funds to buy some of the gifts that were given to the poor that day.
4. SHIP – Summit Helping Its People - Our Club makes meals for the homeless in Summit. Each of our individual departments - Home Life, Education and Health, make meals for the freezer over at the Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit. They each do this at least one time during our Club year. Each cooking session is about 3 hours long and is attended by approximately 15 women. 20 – 25 trays of food are made on each of the evenings and then stored at the church to be used when needed.
5. Turkey Drive – We collected funds for the purchase of 40 meals for needy families at the Thirteen Avenue School in Newark. A&P Supermarket was very generous in this effort as well.
6. Valentine’s Baskets – We collected items for Valentine’s baskets that were delivered to local elderly in our community. Items such as fruit, chocolates,

mugs, tea, etc., were assembled in attractively packaged baskets and taken around by car to the individuals' homes....

EDUCATION:

1. Adopt-A-Class – Our committee of volunteers goes to the Thirteenth Avenue School in Newark every month to provide a craft/activity and snack to children in the first and second grade. Often a book is read as well and donated to the class library. All members are alerted to this opportunity, usually about 10 members attend this morning event.
2. Spelling Bee – We have just completed a very successful Spelling Bee, here in the City of Summit. Held on January 22nd, the 5 public elementary schools plus 2 private schools of Summit were invited to participate in this event for 4th and 5th Graders. Approximately 90 students attended and we ran a serious-yet-fun day for all at the Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School. About 20 volunteers staffed the actual day – with 2 Co-Chairs and 2 back-up Chairs who will run the event next year.

STATE PROJECT 2011:

Our State Project event was held on Saturday, April 2nd at Rock Ice. This was a family ice skating afternoon and we raised \$590 for Valerie Fund.

TRAVEL AUCTION/GALA:

We, as a Club, have just completed our twenty-sixth Travel and Service Auction, which was held on Saturday, March 5th, 2011. Since inception, this event has raised over \$1.5 million, and has been well attended and supported. Past beneficiaries include myriad nonprofit organizations in support of children, the aged, the homeless, and medical research, including the Susan G. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer, Habitat for Humanity, the Inner City Scholarship Fund, Rainbows, Inc., and the Community FoodBank of New Jersey.

This year's beneficiary is the Summit Education Foundation (SEF), a nonprofit 501(c)3 charitable foundation that has supplemented public funding for education in Summit, NJ for nearly 25 years.

Our event was held at the Morris Museum and the theme was from Dr. Seuss, “Oh! The Places You’ll Go!” We solicited local vendors and non-local vendors to donate items, trips, dinners, services. We are extremely pleased to report that this event was a complete success and over \$60,000 was raised!