



231 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830
Telephone: (203) 869-1979 Fax: (203) 869-9215
E-mail: jlg@jlgreenwich.org Website: www.jlgreenwich.org

President 2018-2019: Elizabeth Peyton (eacpeyton@gmail.com / 203-912-1020)
Communications Director: Martha Agarwal (mwagarwal@gmail.com / 646-283-2372)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fall Session of Boys Achieving More (BAM!) a Roaring Success! *Outdoor Adventure Program for 5th Grade Boys* *Presented by the Junior League of Greenwich took place September 15*

GREENWICH, CT September 25, 2018 – The fall session of Boys Achieving More (BAM!) was held on Saturday, September 15 with 31 fifth grade boys in attendance from 11 schools at Seton Scout Reservation in Greenwich. The program was in such demand that the session filled within the first 48 hours of opening registration. BAM! was created by the Junior League of Greenwich (JLG) to give boys the opportunity to practice respect, trust, communication and leadership. “BAM! was a great experience for these boys,” says Elizabeth Peyton, JLG President. “They participated in activities that required teamwork, survival skills and stepping out of their comfort zone, in the challenging but enjoyable environment of Seton Reservation.”

The JLG partnered with the Greenwich Council of Boy Scouts of America, the Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich, the YMCA of Greenwich and REACH Prep to deliver the program. Facilitators from local organizations – Bob DeAngelo, CEO of the YMCA of Greenwich, Bobby Walker, CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich, TJ Ramirez, Director of Middle School Programs at REACH Prep in Stamford, as well as Kevin O’Shea, Scout Executive and Heather Brown, Program Director for Greenwich Council of Boy Scouts of America – worked with the Junior League of Greenwich to design activities to engage the participants in the desired topics of discussion. “We are fortunate to have such wonderful community partners for BAM!,” says Peyton. “The success of this program is largely due to the collaboration among us all.”

Bob DeAngelo and JLG members created an “Amazing Race” through a portion of the Seton Scout Reservation where the participants walked in line through fallen trees in the woods, threw wood spears against a natural target, threw colored (environmentally friendly) paint powder against a rock, and fell off a log into a rope ladder held by the other participants. These activities facilitated discussions about trust, health and exercise, balance, focus, and respect for other people.

Bobby Walker led a “Survival Skills” workshop along with Junior League members where the boys hiked through the woods, discussed leadership qualities, what it means to be a good leader, and how to get to know the people around you. The boys became “lost,” chose a leader from amongst themselves, and found their way back to home base.

TJ Ramirez worked with the Low Ropes course at Camp Seton and Junior League of Greenwich members in a workshop focused on trust, communication and teamwork. Each “climber” navigated the rock wall, focused on directions from his peer “spotter” to locate the appropriate hand and feet grips, trusting that the spotter would guide him up the walls and through the course. Then, the entire group went to the “Whale Watch,” a large wooden balance board, where they must work as a team, communicating to balance the board for 60 seconds, then get off the board one by one without letting it touch the ground.

The next session of BAM! will be in the Spring of 2019.

About the Junior League of Greenwich

The Junior League of Greenwich (JLG) has been bettering the community for nearly 60 years. It is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained individuals. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. The Junior League of Greenwich welcomes all women who value the Mission. The JLG is committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities. Women interested in joining the Junior League of Greenwich and making a difference in the community can contact the JLG Office at (203) 869-1979 or visit the website at www.jlgreenwich.org.

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