

THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

THE WORLD'S GREATEST HEROES

FIRST APPEARANCE THE BRAVE & THE BOLD #28 (March 1960)

STATUS Team of Earth's greatest heroes

BASE The JLA Watchtower, the Moon

OFFICIAL MEMBERS AND POWERS

Superman The Man of Steel; possessor of superpowers beyond those of mortal men.

Martian Manhunter Alien telepath; shape-changer; gifted with strength, flight, and enhanced vision.

Batman The Dark Knight; master combatant and strategist, coordinating the team's counterattacks.

Wonder Woman Princess from Themyscira; gifted with strength, speed, wisdom, and flight by the gods themselves.

Aquaman King of the Seven Seas; has incredible strength, ability to mentally control sea life, and a mystic hand.

Green Lantern V Wielder of the emerald power ring; protector of space sector 2814.

Flash III The fastest man alive, capable of hyper-velocities; channels the Speed Force to fight crime; Speed Force surrounds him with a frictionless protective aura.

They are Earth's premier defense team and for the last decade have seen to it that the basic human rights of liberty and justice remain paramount to all citizens. They are the Justice League of America, comprised of the best of the best. Ever since Superman ushered in the modern heroic age, Earth has needed protection, from megalomaniac supervillains and especially, from greedy alien tyrants with hitherto undreamed-of technologies and nightmarish weapons of mass destruction. Even when the team has suffered internal strife, they have rallied, recognizing their obligations to all of mankind. Their reputation has spread not only beyond this solar system but beyond this plane of existence.



PREMIER LEAGUE *The JLA heroes first came together to battle a giant alien starfish!*

JUSTICE LEAGUE DETROIT

Being a super hero is a tough life! Various stresses in the personal lives of the team caused rifts from time to time. In the wake of an invasion by the alien Debris, the JLA was reorganized by Aquaman, who called for full-time commitment from each League member. In the aftermath, only Aquaman, the ELONGATED MAN, the Martian Manhunter, and ZATANNA remained. However, the roster soon began to expand when STEEL I, VIBE, and the VIXEN joined. Hank Heywood I, Steel's grandfather and namesake, offered the JLA headquarters in a warehouse in Detroit that became known as the Bunker. This incarnation of the League was tragically cut short when Vibe and Steel II were killed in action.

THE DETROIT LINEUP (clockwise from top) Martian Manhunter, Zatanna, Steel II, Elongated Man, Vixen, Vibe, Gypsy, Aquaman.



THE FIRST INCARNATION

When Earth was threatened by Appellax aliens, the MARTIAN MANHUNTER, FLASH II, GREEN LANTERN II, AQUAMAN, and BLACK CANARY II joined forces as the JLA to defeat these invaders. Inspired by the appearance of these powerful new heroes, J'Onn J'Onzz ended decades of hiding, publicly appearing as the Martian Manhunter. A short time later, plasma aliens invaded Earth, and the hero TRIUMPH

gathered SUPERMAN, the Martian Manhunter, Flash II, Green Lantern II, Aquaman, and Black Canary II to defeat them. During the fight, Triumph was trapped in a temporal anomaly and disappeared from the timestream.

THE SECRET SANCTUARY

The team's first headquarters, the Secret Sanctuary, was in Rhode Island, and secretly financed by Oliver Queen (the first GREEN ARROW). A teenage "cool cat" called Lucas "Snapper" Carr (see CARR, SNAPPER) helped install the team's high-tech gear, designed by Ted Kord (later BLUE BEETLE II). Snapper became the team's official mascot. After functioning as JLA members in all but name, Superman and BATMAN formally joined.

JL INTERNATIONAL

This team was discredited by GLORIOUS GODFREY's smear campaign, but a more powerful line-up was introduced, with the enigmatic Maxwell Lord (see LORD HAVOK) pulling the strings. The United Nations formally recognized the JLA as global peacekeepers. Later, the JLI split into two branches, Justice League America and Justice League Europe. Lord decided to make use of the reformed members of the Injustice League, along with the former alien Green Lantern G'NORT and the Scarlet Skier, as the short-lived Justice League Antarctica. The entire JLA, its reserves, and the JSA stopped SONAR's bid for power in Europe. Afterwards, Justice League Europe took the name Justice League International. The U.N. authorized the creation of a JL Task Force, a team led by the Martian Manhunter, intended for use on missions calling for discretion, and one which would recruit most members for a single case.

TOWER OF POWER *JL International continued to add team members, dispatching them via embassies scattered around the seven continents.*

TASK FORCE *J'onn J'onzz supervised a team of fledgling heroes, training them between crises.*



DEFENDERS OF EARTH

The League continued to expand and contract as circumstances demanded, with a Justice League West unit led by CAPTAIN ATOM, a later addition. At the request of the U.N., the various Justice League splinter groups disbanded and Superman, Batman, WONDER WOMAN, Aquaman, the Martian Manhunter, Flash III, and Green Lantern V were acknowledged as the official JLA. They built a base on the moon known as the Watchtower.

As the external threats facing the world and its citizens grow more and more extreme, the JLA has sworn to repulse all threats from space or from parallel worlds. The League continually redefines the scope of its mission; thanks to the JLA's selfless, heroic protection, humanity continues to prosper. RG

VIRTUE AND VICE *The JLA and JSA combine to battle an evil conspiracy—apparently from within their own heroic ranks!*



BRUTAL BATTLE *The JLA has faced all manner of opponents, from common criminals to intergalactic conquerors, but none has challenged them more than the Quantum Mechanics from another reality.*

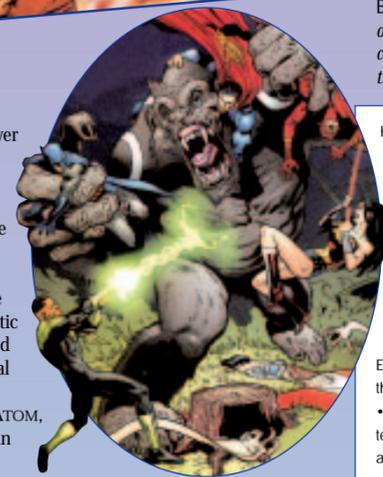


THE JLA OF THE FUTURE

By the 853rd century, the Justice Legion A will be the premier protectors of the solar system. They will be aided by the Justice Legions B, L, S, X, Super-Zoomorphs, Union, Young Justice Legion S, and Primate Legion.

LATEST LINEUP

From their Watchtower on the moon, the JLA continues to monitor activity on Earth, dispatching the team as required. Their ranks have swelled to include the Native American mystic MANITOU RAVEN and the reformed criminal MAJOR DISASTER. Others, such as the ATOM, remain available on an as-needed basis.



KEY STORYLINES

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #21–22 (1963): The JLA teams up with the veteran heroes of the Golden Age, The Justice Society of America.

• **JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #140–144 (MARCH–JULY 1977):** The planet Oa's Manhunter Robots threaten not only Earth but Oa as well!

• **JLA YEAR ONE (TPB, 1998):** Five distinct super heroes learn how to become a team.

• **JLA: WORLD WAR III (TPB, 2001):** Mageddon comes to Earth and it takes the JLA, plus many others committed to the cause, to save mankind.

• **JLA/JSA: VIRTUE AND VICE (TPB, 2001):** Earth's premier teams take on the combined threat of Johnny Sorrow and an enraged Despero.