



Laura Forbes-Brown

President's Message

Smwl sisters my letter is short but tender and sweet. I wish you tremendous blessings of joy, laughter and love. As wonderful as this holiday season is, it also adds much pressure to many people who have lost loved ones or who are under financial hardship. Whenever opportunity rises, give a kind word, lend a helping hand or lighten the load for another. Keep your eyes focused on what is true, what is right, what is pure, what admirable and what is lovely.....

In doing this, we can never fail but only reap what is good. A grateful and thankful heart will carry you through many days! Enjoy your families and tell them how much you love them! I am truly thankful for my SMWL sisters! Happy thanksgiving and may the true spirit of this season engage and challenge you.

***Ho! Ho! Ho! It's time to celebrate the season!
We can't wait to see you at our annual SMWL Holiday Party. Thank you Steve & Brenda Lowe for your hospitality and for sharing your lovely home.***



Programs & Events | Vickie Johnson & Mary Lilly

Program Committee News

The program committee has put together an exciting year of meetings and events that you will find on the calendar included in this issue. There will be surprises along the way—so put the dates on your calendar and get ready for some serious busi-ness—the selection of the next two (2) year project; competition; jaw-dropping questions, and lots of fun and laughter.

The ugly sweaters relinquished at last year's Christmas Party are going to find their way to E-bay hopefully soon with the help of Becky and Diana. Funds raised will be put towards the Programs Budget. This year, as a result of popular demand, both scavenger hunt and mystery night have been added to the calendar. Both have a higher cost than our normal meetings, so if we are able to help offset the fees a bit, we are hoping that the majority of us can attend both of these great happenings.

This year's Christmas Party will be hosted by Brenda & Steve Lowe and we thank them in advance for their willingness to open their home at the start of the Holiday Season. You can find all of the festive details for our annual event on page 2. Please RSVP ASAP! We can't wait to see you soon!

In this issue...

President's Message 1
Our Next Social 2
Foundation News 3
Calendar of Events 5

*Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.
-- Hamilton Wright Mabie*

We are...

An organization of women dedicated to promoting, strengthening and supporting women and issues of importance through fellowship, education, service and mentoring programs.

The **Southern Maryland Women's League** provides women with a wide range of opportunities to help each other succeed through the exchange of information, services, mentoring, charitable actions, shared experiences, friendship and motivational support.

We are a dynamic group of Southern Maryland business owners, entrepreneurs, managers, homemakers and people from all walks of life with a wide variety of life experiences.

We are dedicated to helping each other grow and support our community through fundraising, special events, volunteer efforts, shared experiences, and more.

Don't miss our next events...



JOIN IN THE FESTIVE FUN AT THE SMWL CHRISTMAS PARTY THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th

This year's Christmas Party will be hosted by Brenda & Steve Lowe and we thank them in advance for their willingness to open their home at the start of the Holiday Season! RSVP at Mary Lilly at maryagneslilly@mris.com no later than Saturday, November 30th.



SMWL Event location: The Lowe Residence *14665 Evening Star Court* Hughesville, MD 301.274.4191 (h) Cocktails at 6:00 p.m., Dinner at 7:00 p.m. by Chef Gary Fick Members attend without charge * Guest charge is \$60



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014

SOCIAL EVENT: CHINESE GIFT EXCHANGE at MARTINI'S

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m., \$25 Members/\$35 Non-Members
Menu: Mexican or Chinese

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

MEETING: 2 YR GRANT PROGRAM PRESENTATION & VOTE at MARTINI'S

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$25 Members/\$35 Non-Members , CHAIR: Laura
Menu: Chicken Marsala or Queen Cut Prime Rib



Message from the Editor | Andy Sanford

Support our Troops!

The holiday season is in full swing, and while most of us are warm and safe at home, we must remember the brave men and women and their families who are protecting our Nation at home, and abroad. No one wishes for peace on Earth more than military families. As a military brat, having my dad home for the holidays was a rarity. In fact, I remember one year that we left our Christmas tree up and lit it each night until July as my Dad's return date was postponed each month. Image his surprise as we held a true Christmas in July celebration upon his return!

Please share your love and gratitude and send a gift package to service person serving abroad (do a google search or contact a military family); send a note to a military family; call SMWL member, Carole Lewis at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home to see what you can do to help; pay for a veterans lunch or electric bill; or simply say thank you to someone in uniform or wearing a veterans hat! Trust me, you'll feel warm inside!!

OUR SMWL

2 Year Grant

The 2 year grant selection process will begin soon. Applications are due October 15th. Laura will send the information to all league sisters. Applications that are only 501 (c) (3) non profit status will be accepted. Please also keep in mind those 501c3 non profits who apply for the 2 year grant need to line up with our mission and purpose as an organization....Our mission and purpose is founded with the principle of promoting, strengthening and supporting women and issues of importance through fellowship, education, service and mentoring programs. Please contact Laura Brown directly with any questions.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Flower: Chrysanthemum

Birthstone: Topaz & Citrine

November 14 – Meme Ellis

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Flower: Poinsettia

Birthstone: Tanzanite, Zircon, and Turquoise

December 25 – Andy Sanford

December 27 – Lisa Wills

December 28 – Connie Fuksa

December 30 – Margie Earnshaw

LIKE AND POST ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

It's the perfect place to learn and share upcoming events, post committee needs, news, and much more! Don't delay, do it now click on this link...

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Southern-Maryland-Womens-League/113078255376018>



As winter sets upon us, we continue our diligence in regards to helping our project commitment and other 501(c)3 non-profits in their efforts to help women and children within our community.

Administrative Expenses include:

- Website hosting/annual renewal \$163.95
 - Fundraiser Expenses: None
 - Project Expenses: \$500.00
 - Angel's Watch Homeless Shelter \$500.00 (necessary supplies)
- Annual Expenses: \$3,000.00 - CSM Foundation Scholarship
Small Grants: \$1,660.00
- Lifestyles of So. MD "Walk to End Homelessness" - \$500.00
 - Community Foundation of So. MD Philanthropy Day Luncheon - \$160.00
 - Spring Dell Center, Movement & Wellness Program for disabled women - \$500.00
 - SLS Ministries for their Women's Restoration Retreat - \$500.00

At our last meeting, Fundraiser Chair Pam Roberts shared her vision for our next annual fundraiser. We're excited about the opportunity to come together to continue to raise funds in support of our SMWL Foundation.

Members Supporting Our Community...



Brenda Lowe & Helen Heier represented our SMWL at the 11th annual "A Walk to END Homelessness in Charles County" charity fundraiser was held Saturday, November 16, 2013. Individuals, families, businesses and community leaders united to show their support for the homeless population in our community. This walk was supported by the United Way and Charles County Homeless and Emergency Shelter Committee, and all proceeds benefit the "Safe Nights" program, a temporary homeless shelter that is operated by LifeStyles of Maryland Foundation, Inc.

The Annual Community Foundation of Southern Maryland Philanthropy Day Luncheon was held on Friday, November 1st, 11:30 a.m. at the Jaycees Hall in Waldorf. Several SMWL members attended this amazing event to represent our League and its many accomplishments.

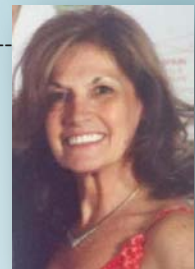
Treasurers Report | Rona Kelley



SMWL EVENT RSVP PAYMENT REMINDER

If you RSVP to attend a special event, you are required to pay for that event reservation. We purchase food and a wide range of items to support each event, and if you don't show up, your club members end of paying for you! And, if you reserve on behalf of a guest and that guest does not show – you are responsible for the cost as well. Please understand, we work extremely hard to keep expenses to a minimum, and these costs must be covered.

Membership Report | Helen Heier



3 New Members

The Membership Directory, Membership Birthday List, and Membership E-mail lists was last updated and sent to everyone on October 23, 2013. Our membership number is at 46 members as of today.

I have e-mailed an application to two (2) more new prospective members who have attained their three meeting requirement and still waiting for the applications to be returned. I will contact the prospective members again next week. Waiting on one (1) new member to pay dues to become an official member, then an e-mail will go out to announce her.

We still have some prospective members who will be able to join after they attend their third meeting and some prospective members who attained their 3-meeting requirements but not ready to join yet.

I have E-mailed all the members on the Membership Committee, received three responses at a second request, and now waiting for five more responses to set up our first meeting of the new committee members.

UPDATED NEW MEMBERSHIP NEWS... – SEE PAGE 4!

The Angel Watch Shelter, our two year grant recipient reached out to us with many practical needs. Thanks to many of you, were able to make a large (truck load) delivery of much needed items in November, however the need still continues and your support is much appreciated!

Please review the attached list, if you and anyone you know may like to help please bring items to our Christmas Party tomorrow and we will deliver them directly to Angel's Watch and the families it serves.

- Pillows - standard
- Blankets - twin
- Comforters - twin
- Locks for lockers
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Dish washing liquid
- Gloves – Non latex and food prep
- Garbage bags – small, medium, large
- Hand Soap
- Hand Sanitizer
- Laundry Detergent - powder
- Lysol Spray
- Bleach
- Pine Sol
- Towels – Bath size, wash cloths
- Mops
- Brooms
- Plastic wrap
- Aluminum foil
- Fast food gift cards or Movie Theater Gift Cards (used for resident appreciation program)
- Gift Cards to stores – Walmart, CVS, Target, Rite Aid (assist with prescriptions)
- Gift Cards to Lowes / Home Depot (for repairs around the shelter)

- Resident Needs List
- Kid's slippers - all sizes
- Women robes - all sizes
- Women Slippers – all sizes
- Women PJ's – all sizes
- Baby Monitors

- Large Items Needed
- Vacuum
- Steam cleaner for floors
- TV – Large one for Playroom

WELCOME 3 NEW SMWL MEMBERS!

Tammy Semega – Sponsored by Pam Roberts: Tammy Semega comes to our group with a lot of community service that will transfer over to the SMWL. She has been a resident of Charles County since 1981. She served for five years on the Homeowners Assoc. in Kings Grant and participated in developing the by-laws for the neighborhood, and establishing the Association from the ground up when the developer turned over this function; started the Sacred Heart Church Dinner as a fundraiser and served as Chairperson for 9 years; with great profits for the church; in addition started the Italian dinner at church to raise funds for Mt Carmel; worked with Children Aid's Society through Christmas Connection for many years, served Catholic Charities and worked on the Angel Tree program at church and the administrative offices, served as the Chairperson for the Small Agency Council, Administrative Services Committee for 4 years, this is a group of over 120 small government agencies that network and keep informed of issues facing government. She is good at organization and project management and can make an event happen with great results.

Carla Kemp – Sponsored by Brenda Lowe. “I consider myself to be independent, hardworking, and caring. I come from a very loving family and have one sister. I was married, and now divorced, but from that marriage, my beautiful daughter Courtney Rayne was brought into my life. I have my own office for Resource Title and am licensed to close in ALL "50" States. I have been in the Title Industry for over 15 years and feel that God has lead me to Resource Title. My daughter is now working with me at Resource Title. I received a scholarship from Senator Mike Miller after graduating with honors from Surrattsville Senior High and attended the University of Maryland and left with an accounting degree in which I went straight to Price Waterhouse and worked for many years. I grew up doing tap, jazz, ballet, and gymnastics and spent my life in the dance studio. I was honored to be picked as the very first “Miss Maryland Teen USA” at the age of 17 and appeared on TV in the “Miss Teen USA” pageant and came right back from the pageant and started my first day at the University of Maryland. I was also very lucky to have cheered “7” years for the “Bullets” who are now the Wizards. I cheered for 3 years and took over as the Director for 4 years following. This is where my charity work really began. I believe that if you are fortunate to be given something that puts you in a place to allow you to do for others than you should. I was able to be involved in so many charitable functions that I am blessed to be a part of so many things still in my life that allow me to continue what I love doing most. I am a very big sports fanatic and would enjoy being at any sports event than anything. I enjoy being on the water and near the beach whenever possible. I enjoy reading to relax. I am your every day pony tail and sweats type of girl and can have fun anytime but can also put on a gown or nice evening dress and be ready to shine. I am thrilled at the opportunity to be a part of the Southern Maryland Woman's League whom I have always looked up to. I can promise you that I will always uphold the standards that you want in any woman that is proud to be nominated into such a special group that does so much for the community but also have a real tight-knit group of friends to support them and know that they have each other in their lives.”

Maria Salazar – Sponsored by Laura Brown. Currently Settlement / Marketing Officer Lakeside Title, Previous- Settlement Officer / Manager Buyer's Title for 8 years, Branch Manager/Officer for M&T Bank 15 years
Currently a Spin and Boot Camp instructor at Waldorf Fitness and La Plata Fitness
Past President of University of MD Charles Regional Medical Center Foundation
Current Board Member of University of MD Charles Regional Medical Center Foundation Member of SMAR.

2013/14 SMWL Calendar of Events...

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Lowe Residence
14665 Evening Star Court, Hughesville, MD
Cocktails at 6:00 p.m., Dinner at 7:00 p.m.
By Chef Gary Fick
Members attend without charge
Guest Fee: \$60
CHAIRS: Vickie & Mary
Committee: Vickie, Mary, Brenda

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014

SOCIAL EVENT: CHINESE GIFT EXCHANGE

Martini's
Cocktails at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$25 Members/\$35 Non-Members
CHAIR: Diana
Committee:
Menu: Mexican or Chinese

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

MEETING: 2 YR GRANT PROGRAM

PRESENTATION & VOTE

Martini's
Cocktails at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$25 Members/\$35 Non-Members
CHAIR: Laura
Menu: Chicken Marsala or Queen Cut Prime Rib

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

MEETING & PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT

YEAH FOR YOGA w/TESSA ECHOLS

La Plata Fitness
140 Drury Drive, La Plata, MD 20646
CHAIR: Jami
Committee: Jami, Tessa

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

SOCIAL EVENT: Scavenger Hunt

CHAIR: Doris
You won't want to miss this fun & crazy challenge!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

SOCIAL EVENT: Minute To Win It!

Martini's
Cocktails at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$25 Members/\$35 Non-Members
CHAIRS: Candy, Lisa

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

ANNUAL MEETING: STATE OF THE LEAGUE

Martini's
Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$25 Members/\$35 Non-Members
CHAIRS: Jami, Mary, Becky, Vickie

THURSDAY, FRIDAY OR SATURDAY

JULY 10, 11 OR 12

MYSTERY NIGHT
(DAYS/DATES PROVIDE GREATER
POSSIBILITIES)
CHAIRS: Rebecca, Becky

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

SOCIAL & PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT

EVENT: GOLF AT POTOMAC RIDGE

CHAIRS: Sybil, Mary

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

SOCIAL EVENT: CRAB FEAST

CHAIRS: Diana, Vickie
HOST: Sherrie

OCTOBER

NO MEETING—'FUNDRAISER'

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

MEETING & PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT

DR. ELLIE FAHERTY
CHAIRS: Bonnie, Teresa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

SOCIAL EVENT: CHRISTMAS PARTY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015

SOCIAL EVENT: CHINESE GIFT EXCHANGE

Remember,

This is your newsletter!

Send your information, By-the-Ways or Pet Projects in to our league President, and we may include them in our next newsletter! Space is limited, so expect editing and entries are first come-first served.



Southern Maryland
WOMEN'S LEAGUE
Linked by More than Community

2013/2014 SMWL Board of Directors

President: **Laura Brown** (2011/14)
laura_forbes@comcast.net

Vice President: **Brenda Lowe** (2012/14)
ahloweha@aol.com

Secretary: **Cindy Lantz** (2013/15)
cynlantz@yahoo.com

Foundation Treasurer: **Brenda Lowe**
(2012/14), ahloweha@aol.com

League Treasurer: **Rona Kelley**
(2012/14) rona@heatbyfire.com

Program/Event Chairs

Vickie Johnson (2011/15)

vjohnson7775@aol.com

Mary Lilly (2013/15)

maryagneslilly@mrisc.com

Membership Chairs

Helen Heier (2011/13)

heier2@comcast.net

CSM Grant Project

Laura Brown

Care Committee

Meme Ellis (2013/15)

meme-ellis@comcast.net

Special Event Coordinator

Pam Roberts (2013/15)

pe_roberts1@yahoo.com

Media/Public Relations/Newsletter

Andy Sanford (2012/14)

asanford12@gmail.com

Foundation Grant Liaison

Laura Brown

PAST PRESIDENTS

Terry Davis, 2010/2012

Doris Folineo, 2008/2010

Diana Rucci, 2006/2008

Rona Kelley, 2004/2006

Candice Quinn Kelley: Foundation