



Southern Maryland  
**WOMEN'S LEAGUE**  
*Linked by More than Community*

# Winter Newsletter

## January 2017

Southern Maryland Women's League

| P.O. Box 2511, Waldorf, MD 20601

| 301-643-0556, Fax: 240-607-2259

| 1/30/2017



Diana Rucci

## President's Message

*Dear SMWL Sisters,  
In this edition of SMWL News I would like to take a moment to reflect once again on the highlights of our past year:*

- *We celebrated 10 years of success as a club!*
- *We gained 10 new members!*
- *We held 14 meetings and gatherings!*
- *We held 11 board meetings!*
- *We maintained 6 working committees!*
- *We hosted 1 major fundraiser!*
- *We gave 4 scholarships to women of CSM!*
- *We furnished the Jude House for Women and helped make all of their holidays a little brighter!*
- *We honored 42 women in our community like no one else!*
- *We built strong lasting friendships!*

*WOW...what a year! I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting on February 1st at Prime Street Grille. I am working on an extra special introduction question that is sure to put a smile on your faces!*

*Everyone has inside of her a piece of good news. The good news is that you don't know how great you can be, how much you can love, what you can accomplish, and what your potential is. — Anne Frank*

*Cheers,  
Diana*

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### 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.



### EXCITING NEWS!!!!

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Foundation announced that the grand total from Giving #Impact Tuesday (November 29th) was \$70,152 from 271 donors! This was their most successful Giving Tuesday in CSM's five-year history of participating in this national giving day program!

And, what does that mean for SMWL? Glad you asked! There were 20 people who donated to the SMWL Scholarship on Giving Tuesday through CSM's platform for a total of \$1,025.00! So instead of giving \$3,000 in scholarships to single parent students or students who were/are raised by a single parent, this year we can give scholarships totaling \$4,025! This is truly awesome!

Thank you to those of you who went online that day and made a donation! You are truly Women of Impact!

The Scholarship Committee will receive the letters/applications for the students applying for the SMWL Scholarships in June and will vote to approve 4 or 5 scholarship recipients. If you would like to be a part of this committee, please let one of the officers know! You are always welcome to participate in our giving!

Brenda Lowe, Chairperson



A wonderful evening was had by all at the 2016 Christmas Party. Cheers to the ladies of SMWL! \*Page 5 for more details.

### Greetings Sisters:

We have started this year off great! Our missed meals have been at an all time low. We have had quick response to missed meals with prompt payments, as well as use of the on-site card payment option and online payments.

Thank you! Let's keep it rolling!



Your 2016 -2017 SWML Board of Directors are delighted to serve you while maintaining the integrity of our mission and values.



### Membership Lists

Helen sent the last Birthday, Directory, and E-Mail Lists to the membership as of December 31, 2016 on January 11, 2017.

### Membership Numbers – 48

As of January 17, 2017, our Membership is at 48. Welcome to our newest member...Torri Turner! And others who have expressed interest and should be joining in the near future: Tequila House, Chrisie Mulcahey, Scarlett McColley and Rhonda Goldman.

All Membership Dues are paid by all members.

Program Invites are sent to all ladies who have expressed interest in joining SMWL and to those ladies who were former members, but resigned this past year due to extremely busy schedules.

Diva's Do's & Don't's Event – Ann Seely & Mia Ayanian – Co-Chairs  
**The Diva's Do's & Don't's** is scheduled for **Saturday, February 18th from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.** and will have a fun twist. Stay tuned for more info!

Brenda Lowe, Chairperson



Photo credit Ann Seely

SMWL donated \$500.00 worth of socks for the homeless. Pictured from left to right: Becky Humbert, Larisa Pfeiffer, Mia Allen-Ayanian, Pam Roberts, Suzanne Wible, Dr. Rev. Lyn Bell, and Brenda Lowe.

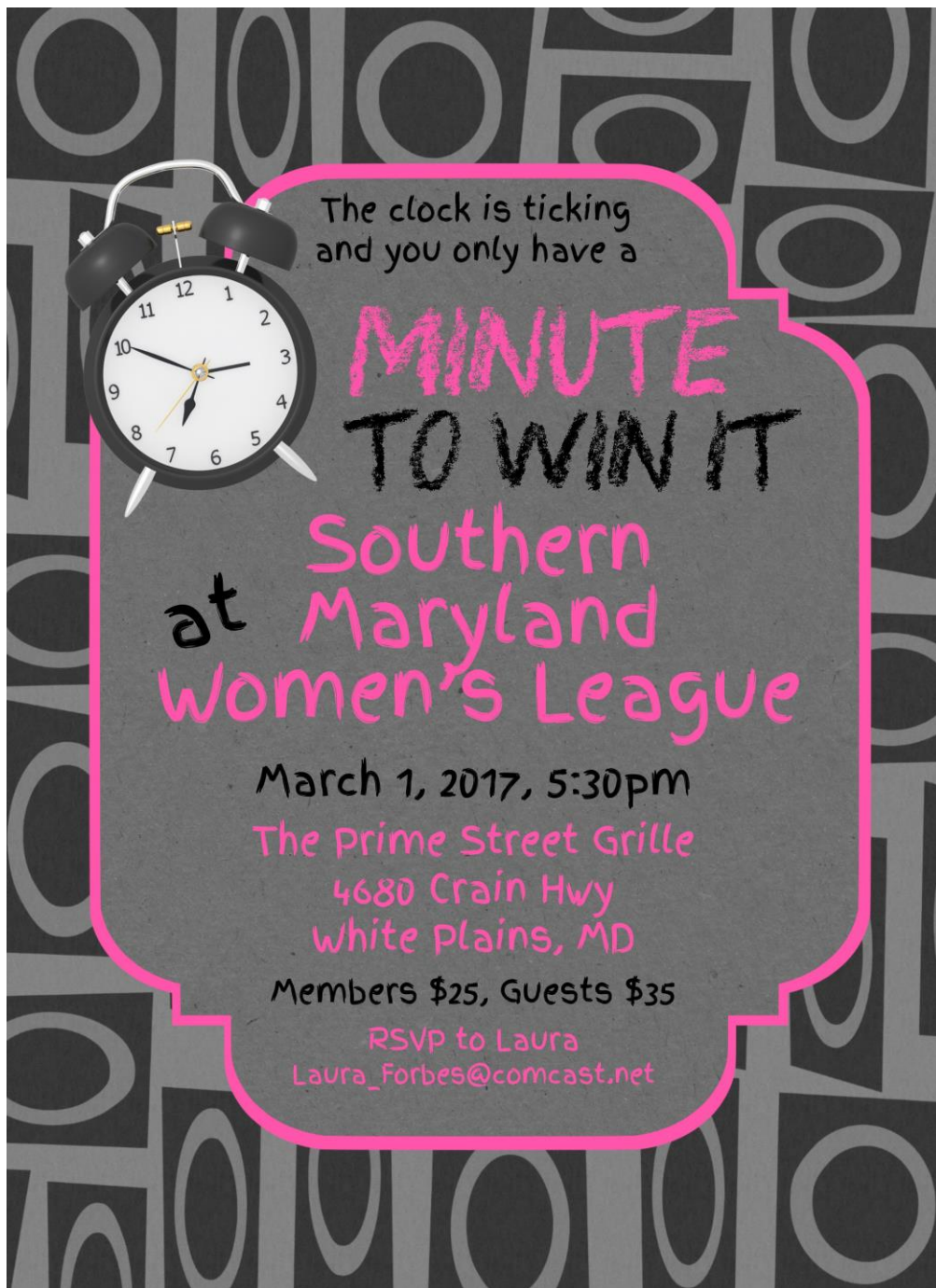
## Foundation Treasurers Report Becky Humbert



Wishing you all a very Happy New Year. Our second annual Women Of Impact event raised \$13,567, of which \$8,140 is available for donation to our 2 year grant recipient. Along with fundraiser money from the previous year, we have a total left of \$14,458 which is available to donate to Jude House's documented needs.

Balances at the end of 2016:  
 Certificate of Deposit \$31,289.11 (Redeemable Balance as of today is \$31,354.96. counting \$65.85 in accrued interest). Community Foundation of So MD Donor Advised Fund: \$37,119 as of 9-30-16 (still waiting on the report for 12-31-16). Overall Balance in the Foundation checking account: \$23,295 (including the \$14,458 available for our project recipient). Let's spend some money!-Becky





Special thanks to Ann Seely, Special Events Coordinator, Laura Forbes – Programs Chair, and Mia Allen-Ayanian, Co-Chair for Programs and Events, for planning this fun night.

SAVE THE DATE:  
MYSTERY NIGHT  
MAY 10, 2017



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**2015/2016 SMWL Board of Directors**

President: **Diana Rucci**  
[dianarucci@gmail.com](mailto:dianarucci@gmail.com)

Vice President: **Mia Allen-Ayanian**  
[miallenayanian@gmail.com](mailto:miallenayanian@gmail.com)

Secretary: **Brenda Lowe**  
[ahloweha@aol.com](mailto:ahloweha@aol.com)

League Treasurer: **Lyn Bell**  
[lbell@sisministriesinc.org](mailto:lbell@sisministriesinc.org)

Foundation Secretary: **Andrea Sanford**  
[asanford12@gmail.com](mailto:asanford12@gmail.com)

Foundation Treasurer: **Becky Humbert**  
[becky@arm-rents.com](mailto:becky@arm-rents.com)

Program/Event Chairs:  
**Laura Forbes Brown & Mia Allen-Ayanian**  
[Laura\\_forbes@comcast.net](mailto:Laura_forbes@comcast.net)  
[miallenayanian@gmail.com](mailto:miallenayanian@gmail.com)

Membership Chairs: **Brenda Lowe & Becky Humbert**  
[ahloweha@aol.com](mailto:ahloweha@aol.com)  
[becky@arm-rents.com](mailto:becky@arm-rents.com)

Care Committee  
**Suzanne Wible**  
[suzanne.wible1@navy.mil](mailto:suzanne.wible1@navy.mil)

Special Event Coordinator  
**Ann Seely**  
[ann.seely@yahoo.com](mailto:ann.seely@yahoo.com)

Media/Public Relations/Newsletter  
**Andy Sanford & Larisa Pfeiffer**  
[asanford12@gmail.com](mailto:asanford12@gmail.com)  
[lpfeiffer@csmdu.edu](mailto:lpfeiffer@csmdu.edu)



## Program and Event Committee | Laura Forbes Brown & Mia Allen-Ayanian

We have had a fabulous end to the year and the Program Committee is quite excited about what is up and coming!!!! Our Annual Christmas Party was a wonderful evening of friendship and laughter. I want to thank our wonderful hosts Chuck & Kim Rosenfield!!! Thank you for opening your beautiful home I think we can all agree it was a great time to be had by all!!! I must say - Our ladies looked so gorgeous!!! We entered the New Year with our Annual Chinese Gift Exchange at Szechuan Gardens!!! Our gift exchange was a real "HOOT" Donna Ellis is our star player every year, how does this happen??? LOL!!!!

Our next event for February is at The Prime Street Grille - we will get together for a time of socializing, committee reports and catching up with each other....please bring a guest!!!! Also, add to your calendar for March our Annual "MINUTE TO WIN IT" at The Prime Street Grille - This is one of our best events!!!! PLEASE BRING A FRIEND!!!!

Just a few other updates - Due to inflation and the cost of food going up, we may need to consider raising our membership dinner meetings to \$27.00 per member.....we as a board and a committee are trying to keep all associated costs very low and minimum....please know we are doing our very best to provide our membership with great events and meals and not hurt your purse strings.....

Please remember to pay Helen at each meeting - you can pay with check or credit card. Also if Lyn Bell has sent you a bill for of a past meal, you can pay Helen at the next meeting or go to our website at [www.smwl.org](http://www.smwl.org) you can pay there as well!!!!

So from the Program Committee - we are looking forward to serving you in 2017 with fun!!!!

**Happy Birthday to our January & February members!**



**1/22 Anna Marie Galterio-Keselyak**

**1/30 Rebecca (Martin) Cervino**



**2/12 Terry Davis**

**Be sure to wish these ladies a very happy birthday at our next meeting!**



### **2 Year Grant Report Dr. Rev. Lyn Bell**

Jude House for Women sends their sincere thanks for our \$500.00 donation toward Christmas presents for the ladies. Also we were able to collect 50 toys for the Annual Children Christmas Party. Our toy drive drawing winners were: Laura Forbes and Teresa Klopfer.