



Suzanne Wible

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a pleasure serving as your President these past two months and all I can say is WOW - what a way to sail into the Spring season with our exciting 'Minute-To-Win-It' event earlier this month.

I am excited for continued fun at our next Membership Meeting on April 4th, where we will hear presentations from the top three candidates for our 2 Year Grant recipient. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Board message: As you are all aware we have had a few changes on the Board of Directors this year. I'd like to welcome our latest Board member, Rona Kelley. Rona has jumped right in and has graciously agreed to be the Chairman of the SMWL Media and Newsletter Committee. Welcome Rona! Also, Ann Seely was voted in as your new Vice President. Thank you, Ann! The Program committee continues to wow us with fun and exciting events and I want to thank Michelle, Teresa and Becky for the hard work you put into these events to make them enjoyable to all.

A special thank you to Tammy Semega and Brenda Lowe for stepping up to Chair our biggest programs in the Spring. Tammy has put together a phenomenal committee to review the 2 Year Grant applications and we are excited to hear from the three finalists at our April 4th meeting.

Brenda is in the process of putting the committee together for the CSM Scholarship program and I thank these phenomenal woman in advance, for volunteering to being a part of the scholarship selection process.

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"I've always believed that one woman's success can only help another woman's success."

■ **Gloria Vanderbilt**



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.



TO OUR NEXT SMWL MEETING
Wednesday, April 4, 2018

Beginning at 5:30, Kaow Thai Restaurant, La Plata
\$25 Members/\$30 Guests

This is a very important meeting, and we can't wait to see YOU! Don't miss your opportunity to come together to view presentations and learn more about the three amazing non-profit organizations vetted by our 2-Year Program Committee. After the presentations, you'll have an opportunity to vote for the program of your choice. Join us for a fun and informative gathering and let your voice be heard!

-- Learn more on page 5

NEWS FLASH!!!!

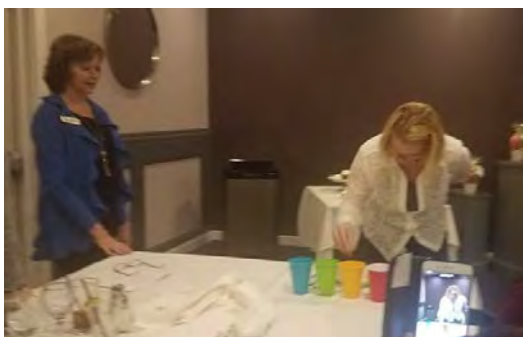
The 2-Year Grant Committee just met and made their final selections of the top three applicants. *And, they are . . . DRUMROLL . . .*

- Hope 4 Nichole
- Center for Children
- Catherine Foundation

RSVP to Helen NOW to attend, learn more and vote!

Program Committee/Event Chairs

Becky Hoffman, Michelle Jones, Teresa Klopfer



SMWL WE'VE HAD A GREAT TIME TOGETHER...

IN DECEMBER on the 10TH we celebrated the Annual Christmas/Holiday Party at Hawthorne CC with a cocktail hour, fabulous upscale buffet by DJ Delectable Catering, and live music by the BackFin Band. We also collected gift cards for the Jude House at the event. A wonderful holiday-spirit and fellowship embraced the event as we wished each other Happy Holidays and a Joyous New Year!

IN JANUARY on the 10th was our Annual Chinese Gift Exchange at Szechuan Gardens in Waldorf. All in attendance enjoyed the selection on wonderful Chinese dishes and oh yes, the Mai Tai's that Kiki is famous for. The gift stealing back and forth was at its best and made for a fun filled way to start the New Year. We voted to sponsor the Big Hair Ball "Carnival Chaos" that would take place on March 23 to support Lifestyles, Inc.

IN FEBRUARY on the 7th we gathered at the MEXICO RESTAURANT for BINGO! What a night! Suzanne was able to secure the game sheets, dabbers, and ball cage from the JC's. Ann S. donated designer sunglasses as one of the prizes and Carla donated some wonderful jewelry. In additions we had gift cards and libations for the winners. The evening started with a great menu of "House Specials" and a complimentary Margarita for each person in attendance. Everyone loved the program and hoped that we would visit MEXICO again next year.

IN MARCH on the 7th we hosted our annual "MINUTE-TO-WIN-IT" at the Prime Street Grille in White Plains. Oh yes, we are a competitive group of ladies. Becky Hoffman organized the event with the help of volunteers Suzanne, Ann S, Darlene Breck, and Carole Lewis. The games rolled on with four teams that were chosen by the draw of the card!!! The team names were selected: Joan and the Virgins, Diamond Divas, Spit Fires, and Spade Divas. The scores were close, but the Spit Fires smoked them out!!!

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Information may change, updates will be shared.

MARCH: 3/27/18 BOD Meeting

APRIL: 4/4/18 General Meeting and 2-Year Grant Review & Vote

5:30 pm, Kaow Thai, La Plata
\$25 members/\$30 Guest.

Listen to the presentations of non-profits that have been vetted by the 2-Year Grant Committee and then place your vote to support the organization of your choice.

4/17/18: BOD Meeting

MAY: 5/2/18 SMWL SCAVENGER HUNT

Begins at 5:30 at the Facchina Building in La Plata. Michelle Jones is heading up this outing and has lots of tricks up her sleeve and surprises to keep us traveling all over town.

5/15/18 – BOD Meeting

JUNE: 6/6/18 Member Appreciation Night and Board of Directors Election

5:30, Kaow Thai in La Plata

6/19/18 – BOD Meeting

July - no meeting – summer break

AUGUST: 8/1/18 General Meeting – TBD



TO THE FOLLOWING SMWL SISTERS!

- Brenda Lowe 3/20
- Tracy Stinnett 3/21
- Teresa Klopfer 3/22
- Pam Frank 3/27
- Jillian Short 3/30
- Natalie McKinney 4/06
- Tessa Echols 4/13
- Suzanne Wible 4/14
- Kadie Moffitt 4/20



MOU/Scholarship between the Jude House and CSM

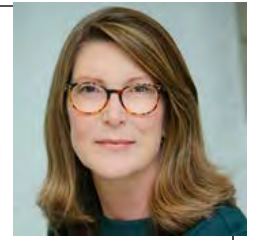
The Jude House has been working with CSM to develop an MOU for a Scholarship program for the clients at the Jude House. Once the MOU was developed there was a need for funding. A letter was sent to SMWL asking to kick off the scholarship by funding it with \$5,000.

As the two-year grant recipient, and as a final request, SMWL was asked to establish **The Jude House Recovery Annual Scholarship** with the **College of Southern Maryland Foundation**. This Scholarship will be for the sole purpose of providing financial assistance to current clients utilizing recovery services provided by the Jude House. This will afford clients assistance for tuition, books, fees, and other related items.

The Scholarship funds can provide a GED, classes to obtain a skill, or the start of an educational path. It is not enough to be drug free; people need a purpose and a skill to make them successful.

This scholarship would not have been possible without the generous \$5,000.00 grant provided by our League to start this program. In the future, the Jude house will seek funds from other organizations to help keep this scholarship in affect.

SMWL should be very proud of this program. There was a ceremony at CSM for the signing of the MOU, and the presentation of the check. A press release and photo will be coming in the next week and will be provided to SMWL for their website and to share with the members. You have no idea how much this program can mean to someone in a recovery program, just to know there is something more to look forward to when they finally leave and re-enter our community.



Nominating Committee Ann Seely

In a few short months we will elect new members to the Board of Directors.

As the Vice-President is the Chair of the Nominating Committee, I am in the process of asking 4 (four) of my SMWL sisters to assist on this Committee.

As a reminder, in keeping with our Standard Operating Procedures, the Committee is comprised of no more than five (5) active members. Our bylaws dictate that there is at least one (1) additional member of the Board of Directors and a minimum of one (1) Member at large.

When I have received a response of acceptance from those I have asked to work on the Committee, I will announce the composition of the committee to the membership.

More information on nominations will be coming out next month. If you have ever thought about running for the Board I would encourage you to do so! It is a great way to get more involved and get to know your SMWL sisters better!



NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE REPORT

Rona Kelley

It is the goal of the Newsletter Committee to provide a monthly newsletter to enhance communications to and about the membership.

We will include information about other events that you are personally involved with to help you spread the news about other community happenings. (no flyers or articles– just the 5 W’s (Who, What, Why, Where, When)

Don’t be afraid to toot your own horn either – something interesting happen to you or your business? Send it for some networking exposure – no more than 2 lines. Members in the news? – pass along any information and let’s share it with the club. Send your submissions to me, Rona or our Newsletter Editor/Designer – Andy Sanford asanford12@gmail.com

Deadline: 15th of each month

NETWORKING NOOK

Calling all members: Submit a 2-line message to be included in the next newsletter regarding your job or business.

Change every month if you want. Submit by the 15th of the month to be included in the next newsletter. Go ahead - toot your own horn! Submit to rona@heatbyfire.com - include Networking Nook as the subject.

Terry Davis sells real estate in partnership with her son, Matt. If you need help with real estate or just need information or advice, you can reach us at Teamdavissells.com. Or [301-233-0586](tel:301-233-0586)

Becky Hoffman coordinates “Heavenly Creations and Events... by Grace”! Check out our website at www.growingwithgrace.org

Rona Kelley from Tri County Hearth and Patio Center in Waldorf. There is a floor model clearance sale on wood stoves and gas fireplaces. Up to 50% off.

Carla Kemp is your Home Closer with Foote Title Group. To learn more about Foote Title Group go to <http://footetitlegroup.com/>

Brenda Lowe, Business Development Officer from Old Line Bank There are some great Certificate of Deposit (CD) specials for a Limited Time Only! 6-Month CD at 1.40% APY - \$500 Minimum

Joan Rosier is a Shop-At-Home consultant with Next Day Blinds. She can be reached at [443-553-3437](tel:443-553-3437) for an appointment.



SMWL BOD - March 2018

President: Suzanne Wible
Vice President: Ann Seely
Secretary: Anna Keselyak
League Treasurer: Carla Kemp
Foundation Treasurer: Becky Humbert

Members at Large

Teresa Klopfer
Michelle Jones
Becky Hoffman
Rona Kelley

Committees:

Programs - Michele Jones, Teresa Klopfer & Becky Hoffman
Membership- Carla Kemp
Care – Ann Seely
Media/Newsletter – Rona Kelley
CSM Scholarship - Brenda Lowe
2-Year Grant - Tammy Semega
Nominating Committee - Ann Seely

PAST PRESIDENTS

League

2006-2007	Rona Kelley
2007-2008	Rona Kelley
2008-2009	Diana Rucci
2009-2010	Diana Rucci
2010-2011	Doris Folineo
2011-2012	Terry Davis
2012-2013	Laura Brown
2013-2014	Laura Brown
2014-2015	Brenda Lowe
2015-2016	Diana Rucci
2016-2017	Diana Rucci
2017	Mia Allen-Anayanian

Foundation

2006-2007	Candice Kelly
2007-2008	Candice Kelly
2008-2009	Mollie Gieseman



2-YEAR GRANT COMMITTEE REPORT
Tammy Semega

Ladies - Mark your calendars for Wednesday, April 4, 2018 to attend the SMWL membership meeting to vote

for the next 2-year grant recipient.

The committee has been working on evaluating the six applications that we received and have narrowed it down to the top three.

The night we meet, each applicant will have an opportunity to present what their organization is about, what they do, and why the need for funding from SMWL is needed for the next 2 years. Once the presentations are completed, the membership will make the final decision by selecting one of the top three.

If you won't be able to attend the meeting, you will be able to vote online by ballot. Your vote will be needed the day prior to the meeting. However, please try to attend as the presentations are so worthwhile. Sometimes we think we know everything an organization does and who they help, but until you hear it directly from the organization you really have no idea.

This only happens every two years, and to show your support to these groups by listening to their true need for support from SMWL, is necessary.

Once the applicant is selected, they will be notified that evening, the other two will also be told that they were not selected. The remaining three applicants will be informed prior to the presentations. Our President, Suzanne will then select two individuals to serve as liaisons to the organization, will meet with the winner and determine what are the immediate needs. This will be brought back to the Board, and they will vote to fund the first requirement.

It is a wonderful process, and I recommend that members sign up for this committee next time around, as it is so worthwhile.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

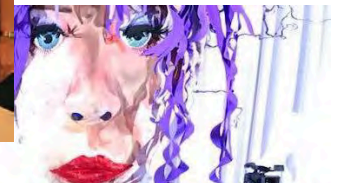
Carla Kemp

Southern Maryland Woman's League is at 44 members strong. I hope to see the membership grow over the next couple of months with 5 applications outstanding, the great response we are having on our website and the guests that are being

invited to each meeting. Please help us increase our membership by sharing our meetings, events and charitable donations on social media and inviting other woman who are dedicated to our mission to "LIKE" our facebook page.

SPECIAL SMWL SPONSORED EVENT

SMWL recently sponsored the Big Hair Ball in support of Lifestyles – Haven of Hope and its efforts to serve those in need within our community. Several of our members attended this fun event to represent our League and our sponsored Eye of the Tiger fabulously fierce model! Here's a few photos – to see more, visit the Facebook page (www.facebook.com/SoMDWomensLeague)



SMWL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Meet One of Our Earliest Members HELEN B. HEIER

Submitted by: Candice Kelly

Name: Helen

Nickname/Petname: Binky (childhood nickname)

Where were you born?

"Physicians Memorial Hospital," now University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center, La Plata, Maryland

Where did you grow up? Charles County, Waldorf, MD

When did you come to Charles County & why?

I am a lifetime (born & raised) resident of Charles County, Maryland. (With the exception of living in Annapolis for two years (2014-2015) and now back to Charles County)

Tell us about your best childhood friend and what did you love about him or her?

My four sisters were my childhood best friends (my two brothers were born later). We climbed trees, built houses in the woods, played in the rain, jumped in mud puddles, picked wild flowers, caught lightning bugs in jars, and sang & danced on our front porch as cars drove by. We love each other and we are all still best friends.

Who sponsored you for SMWL? Brenda Lowe

Tell us about your Sponsor? *She is one of my best friends who is one of the kindest people I know, and I deeply respect and love her. She is an individual who will do anything for you. She is always willing to help where ever needed. She and her husband have always been there for me since my husband passed away.*

Why did you join SMWL? *I wanted to be active in helping and serving more in the community and be around great women who exemplify generosity by supporting women and children in the community when needed.*

What is your idea of a fun evening with women friends? *Just relaxing, talking, laughing, and just being who we are.*

What is your dream vacation? *My dream vacation is a trip to Rome/Italy to visit the Vatican...which will happen.*

What show, movie, book or activity "cracks you up"? *Just doing spontaneous things cracks me up. For instance, on a trip with my friend, we were passing some mountains and I said, "that mountain would be nice to climb". So, spontaneously, we pulled over to the side of the road and climbed that mountain 2000 feet up. That was the very first time I have ever climbed a mountain. OMG.*

What is your favorite hobby?

If there is spare time, I like to do crossword puzzles, walking and site seeing. I love, love, love to go dancing!

What movie star would play you in a movie? Julia Roberts.

What is your occupation? Firm Administrator (which means I do it all LOL).

What is your vocation? Administration.

Tell us something about yourself that would surprise us? As a country girl, not in all my thoughts did I ever think I would have accomplished all I have done in my life. I was Miss Veterans Day in Charles County back in my senior year of school. I especially cherish serving on the Board of SMWL and serving as the 50th President of the Charles County Chamber of Commerce. My deceased husband and I are the only husband and wife who have served in that position. I totally know that God has control of everything.



Beautiful Helen dressed in style for our 2012 Bollywood Fundraiser!