



Laura Forbes-Brown

President's Message

Our summer is coming to a close. Although many of us enjoy the change of season to come, we begin to say goodbye to the warm sunshine, wonderful days at the beach, boating with friends and family, hanging out around the pool and the sense of freedom summer time seems to bring.

September is my favorite month of the year! My children are back in school (thank God) the fall events are beginning like The Mike Davis Foundation Annual Golf Tournament, The Civista Wine Tasting, Camp Merrick's Night at the Improv, and The Southern Maryland Hoe-Down to Benefit Cancer Care, let's not forget my good friend Diana is celebrating "Diana Gras" again!!!! And oh ya – It's my birthday too! Lol!! I'm sure I will see you at two or three of these events!

Committee Sign up: The overwhelming response from our fabulous membership when asked to join a committee was energizing. Our committees are designed to support the chair and share current and future responsibilities within that committee. Our committee meetings are designed to be fun and social. The board's desire is for each committee member to grow within SMWL and learn more about the functions of the club and committee you serve. You may decide to take on a larger role within the organization and possibly serve on future boards. The chair of each committee has received your name and is beginning to make arrangements for your first committee meeting. Our amazing board members will be contacting you soon if they haven't already to schedule your first meeting.

Angels Watch: A tour is being arranged for any members who would like to visit the Angels Watch Shelter. In the past we have brought desserts and coffee. We have also brought something special for the children. If anyone has an idea of what to bring to the residents, please let me know. This will be an evening visit during the week. On another note, one constant need the Angels Watch group has is paper goods. Napkins, plates, plastic ware, toilet paper, paper towels etc. Please bring any of these items to the next meeting in Swan Point or drop off to my showroom in Waldorf at anytime.

In closing, I thank our board who is working hard and volunteering their time to promote the continued success of SMWL. I hope to see all of you at Swan Point, this event is going to be tons of fun, be sure to bring a friend -- or two!

Programs & Events | Rona Kelley

Overview of our last meeting...



MEETING DATE: Wednesday, August 1
LOCATION: Blue Dog Saloon

...and, we thought the ONLY fun place in Port Tobacco was at Tessa's home :) What a fantastic turn-out at our August meeting! 38 members and guests came together to enjoy a fabulous buffet, great drinks and a lot of laughter and fun!
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Move out of your comfort zone. You can only grow if you are willing to feel awkward and uncomfortable when you try something new.

– Brian Tracy



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 event...

Chicks with Three Hole Scramble at Swan Point Yacht & Country Club Wed., September 5, 5:15 to 8:30 p.m.



3 Hole Shot Gun @ 6:00pm sharp! A special dinner and drinks will be provided following our three holes of Golf! Sure to be a lot of laughs, bring your clubs or use theirs, two of the three Pros will accompany us on the greens and assist those along who may need a little help. Golf Carts provided for all who participate! \$25 member/\$35 guest.

Swan Point has been a huge contributor to our fundraiser in the last few years and is very excited to host us for the evening. They are planning an evening you will not forget!! We know there is a little distance, arrange car pool if needed.

Help us prepare properly... RSVP NOW to Rona Kelley: rona@heatbyfire.com



Message from the Editor | Andy Sanford

Networking? We do that!

Our next meeting...

Wednesday, October 3 @ Martinis

Cocktails 5:30, Dinner & Meeting 6:00 p.m.

\$25 members/\$35 non-members



Promote your business, share your passion at our upcoming OCTOBER SMWL meeting at Martini's

When it comes to employment, our members truly represent the entire American work force. Many ladies own their own businesses within our community; several are managers, or exceptional team members for established companies and government contractors within our region; and many donate their time and talents to several charitable organizations to benefit women, children, educational opportunities, youth sports and much more. And, due to today's economy, finding new customers can be extremely challenging. With this in mind, our October meeting will focus on Business Networking!

Whether you are planning on buying, remodeling or refinancing a home; having your hair cut and colored, your teeth cleaned; your car's hail damage repaired, or thinking about renting a limo for a special event -- chances are one of your Southern Maryland Women's League Sisters has you covered! (*why buy from strangers, when you can support a friend?*)

At the Swan Point Social and over the next few weeks look for an important email featuring a quick **SMWL Member Business Survey**. This form will help you share your business, employers, or charity of choice name, location and contact information. It will also have an area where you can provide a description of services and a special Sister2Sister discount (if applicable).

During our October NETWORKING meeting, we'll share a complete listing of the information collected from the survey in a fun and unusual way! You are encouraged to bring along any brochures or marketing materials to support this fantastic SMWL Social Sister2Sister networking opportunity! We look forward to learning more about you while having an opportunity to network and support your business! Please help us, help you and complete the survey as quickly as possible!

Care Committee | Donna Ellison



We Care!

The purpose of the Care Committee is just that! If it's your a birthday, you're getting married; have a new addition to your family; or are suffering from an illness or a death of a loved one, we just want you to know that we are thinking about you, and that we care.

You would be amazed that just a little card or a phone call can really brighten someone's day. As your Care Committee Chair, I'd love for you to email me to let me know if a SMWL member is in need of any assistance.

Now if any of you Ladies happen to get pregnant -- then we can really celebrate!! Also thanks to everyone who signed up to be on the Care Committee, I'll set up a meeting soon. Wishing everyone much happiness.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 1: **Bonnie Baldus Grier**

August 16: **Vickie Johnson**

August 17: **Lyn Bell**

August 24: **Candice Quinn Kelly**

August 25: **Mary Lilly**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Flower: Aster

Birthstone: Sapphire

Sapphire, the September birthstone, has been popular since the Middle Ages and, according to folklore, will protect your loved ones from envy and harm. Medieval clergy wore sapphires to symbolize heaven, while commoners thought the gem attracted heavenly blessings.

Foundation News



How would you like to do nothing for four weeks, and realize you made ██████! Well that is what our Southern Maryland Women's League Foundation has done by electing to invest some of the fundraiser money in a short term investment while awaiting the budgets/requests for the large grants. If the money invested stays in there to term, it will make approximately ██████ That is more money the Foundation can give out in grants and helping to meet the needs of Southern Maryland's less fortunate women and children. This is a great – and smart --organization!



Membership Development | Diana Rucci

Divas Do's & Don'ts

Our 2nd Diva's Do's & Don'ts hosted by the Membership Committee on July 19th at the home of Diana Rucci was a huge success. These meetings were established first by Doris Folino several years ago when she was Membership Chair. It was decided by the current board that these meetings were worthwhile and should be re-implemented. We had approximately 15 SMWL Diva's in attendance on the 19th and all left feeling a little more connected to one another and to SMWL. At the meeting we did a few introduction "ice breaker" questions, shared our practices, goals, committee responsibilities, fundraiser information and then closed with a recap of the evening. Our next Diva's Do's and Don'ts will be at the home of Rona Kelley in February and all interested will be invited. Stay tuned!



SMWL EVENT RSVP PAYMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

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.

Get ready for our annual SPA NIGHT at the Galleria Salon - Wednesday, Oct 10

Each year, our gracious hostess Pam Roberts opens her beautiful Galleria Salon & Spa to her SMWL sisters for an evening of relaxation and pampering. **Dr. Chairamonte will be on hand as well to offer his services and expertise.** Keep watch for upcoming information and special spa and pampering service offerings. Be sure to make your reservations on time, and mark your calendar now for this fun annual event!



Member Spotlight!

To help us learn more about our SMWL Sisters, each month we randomly select (pick names out of a hat) one lucky member to highlight and share!

For September 2012, we are excited to Highlight SMWL member...

Cathy Pette

Occupation/Business:
Senior Account Executive
for OfficeMax, Inc.



Are you married? Yes, to a wonderful man, Jim

Do you have any children? Yes, my daughter Kristen

What do you do now for a living? Sales to large corporate accounts

What do you want to be when you grow up? Boat captain!

What is the one thing that your SMWL sisters may be surprised to learn about you? I am a classically trained pianist.

Do you have a tattoo? No Eye Color? Brown

What is your favorite sweet treat?
Baskin and Robbins pralines and cream ice cream.

In your birth order, are you first/second/third...? Second.

What is something you are most proud of?
My daughter and my marriage.

What is your favorite meal? Mashed potatoes and hamburger gravy!

What motivates you to succeed? Money

What TV character best describes you? Chandler from Friends!

If you could play hookie for one day -- where would you want to go?
To see my daughter at university of South Carolina.



Have you visited our SMWL Facebook page?
It's the perfect place to learn about upcoming events, post committee needs, news, and much more! Go to:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Southern-Maryland-Womens-League/113078255376018>

Our Supported Project...

Our supported Foundation Project for 2012/13 is the

Young Women Leadership

Program (YWLP) The Young Women Leaders Program is a mentoring program that empowers middle school girls to be leaders by combining one-on-one mentoring with targeted group activities for a year to address issues related to girls' sense of self, scholastic achievement, body image, social aggression, and healthy decision-making. Building on self-determination theory, YWLP focuses on building all participants' sense of themselves as competent, connected and autonomous leaders.

The group meetings follow a research-based curriculum that focuses on problem-solving, decision-making and leadership skills. Integrated experiential activities help prepare the girls to become leaders and face such issues as bullying, peer pressure and adolescent decision-making.

Groups also take on a service project like a voter registration drive, food drive or an anti-bully campaign. These projects showcase the leadership skills the girls have acquired and the broader perspective they have gained through contact with women leaders and mentors. This unique program provides long-term mentoring for girls in grade 6 through 8 who are nominated by their teachers or a school associate for their leadership qualities and good academic standing. The YWLP is open in three public middle schools in Charles County.

Last year, we voted to support this amazing program by providing sponsorship grants over a two year period. And, many of you have stated that you would like to do more on a personal level. Here are a few upcoming opportunities where you can share your time and expertise.

YWLP Meet & Greet: Gear Up For Success

Thursday, September 27, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
Milton Somers Middle School Cafeteria

Don't miss your opportunity to meet the young women in person, ask questions and make a connection. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to swesolowski@cboe.com

Milton Somers Career Day

October 25, 2012, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Milton Somers Middle School Gymnasium

You are cordially invited to join us at our annual school Career Day to explain career opportunities and expectations to the students of our school. The presentation should include a general description of what you do and last approximately 20 minutes. Prepare to share pertinent information such as:

- Educational Requirements and Special Skills
- Advancement Opportunities
- Staffing Needs
- Job Description and other responsibilities
- Employee Benefits and Working Hours
- Working Hours

Please bring any visual items that are applicable to your profession such as tools, equipment, or wearing apparel. Brochures and other handout material would also be very beneficial for the students. The presentations will be broken into approximately seven different sessions throughout the morning, with 10 students at each session.

FYI: We are also planning a **Food Drive for November**, and will kick off our **Anti-Bully campaign in December with Rachel's Challenge**. Thank you again for your interest and support for our emerging young woman leaders at Milton Somers Middle School.

Our last meeting continued...

The meeting began with a happy half-hour, and then the buffet was quickly presented. Tomatoes with fresh herbs and mozzarella cheese, shrimp, chicken, beef, home-style potato salad, cole slaw, and so many other delicious goodies were enjoyed by all!



Our President (and gracious hostess) Laura Brown took the floor (and the microphone) to share the latest news and updates. She then introduce

each Board Member and Committee Chairperson, who shared their current accomplishments and future plans with the group.

The evening continued as we all gathered for a group photo with Blue Dog owner and extraordinarily talented chef, Gary Fick (pg 1).



We're not sure if he's recovered from all of our focused female attention as of yet, so you may want to stop-in and check on him again sometime soon! Remind him that you are a Southern Maryland Women's League member and thank him and his staff for their hospitality and support of our organization!



And, for you -- our SMWL member -- we may not state it enough, or loudly for all to hear, but we truly cherish you and your membership and we enjoy seeing you participate at our meetings and supporting our special events! We can't have a successful club with your participation and support! Don't forget to RSVP to Rona Kelley on time to attend our next meeting at Swan Point!

Membership Report | Helen Heier



Our Numbers...

Diana and I are in the process of setting up the first meeting for the new membership committee, date and time will be determined when all responses are received, but it will be in September. We look forward to everyone's help.

As of today, August 22, 2012, our membership number is 48, counting (1) rejoining member, Beverly Lahman from CSM and (1) new, Tracey Harris.

We have (9) members who have made 3 meetings but some not ready to join yet. I will be eMailing an application for joining to some of the other perspective members. We also have (14) perspective members who have attended two meetings, needing one more. If anyone needs an application, just contact Helen.

I will be sending out new Membership Lists with the new members listed and I will be making more notebooks and getting name tags to give to our new members as soon as the last new perspective member sends in her dues to qualify as an official member.

2012/13 SMWL Calendar of Events...

Wednesday, August 29

BOD Meeting, 5:30pm Re/Max 100 Building

Wednesday, September 5

SMWL Meeting at Swan Point Yacht & Country Club, Golf and Social Event!!! **RSVP NOW!!**
Go back to page 2 for details!!

Wednesday, September 19

BOD Meeting, 5:30pm Re/Max 100 Building

Wednesday, October 3

SMWL Meeting at Martinis
Promote Your Business or Non-Profit Event!
Cocktails 5:30, Dinner and Meeting 6:00 p.m.
\$25 members/ \$35 non-members

Wednesday, October 10

Spa Night at the Galleria Spa & Salon in Waldorf with Dr. Chiamonte

Wednesday, October 17

BOD Meeting, 5:30pm Re/Max 100 Building

Wednesday, November 7

SMWL Meeting w/Special Guest Speaker
\$25/members; \$35/non-members, details TBD

Wednesday, November 21

BOD Meeting, 5:30pm Re/Max 100 Building

Friday, December 7

SMWL Christmas Party, more info to follow

Wednesday, December 19

BOD Meeting (subject to change)

2013: Wednesday, January 9

SMWL General Meeting,
\$25/members; \$35/non-members, Location TBD

Wednesday, January 23

BOD Meeting, Re/Max 100 Building

Wednesday, February 6

Event for National Heart Month, Celebrate Body, Mind & Soul
More information to follow

Wednesday, February 20

BOD Meeting, 5:30pm Re/Max 100

Wednesday, March 6

SMWL Meeting: Minute to Win It
at Martini's, \$25 members/\$35 non-members

Wednesday, January 24

Diva's Do's and Don'ts, Hosted
at the home of Rona Kelley

Wednesday, March 20

BOD Meeting, 5:30pm Re/Max 100

Wednesday, April 3

Decoration Workshop for Fundraiser

Wednesday, April 19

BOD Meeting, 5:30 pm Re/Max 100

Friday, April 25

SMWL Annual Club Fundraiser

Wednesday, May 1

SMWL's Mystery Night

Wednesday, May 15

BOD Meeting, 5:30pm Re/Max 100

Wednesday, June 5th

Annual Business Meeting @ Martini's

Wednesday, June 19th

BOD Meeting: Transitional meeting
of current and new BODs

By-the-Ways....

- **Southern Maryland Hoe-Down**
September 29, 2012
Serenity Farms, Benedict.
Horseshoes, Cornhole, Cow-Pie Bingo, Sam Grow Band. To sponsor, volunteer or play, contact Connie Fuksa: 301-643-2100.
- **16th Annual Mike Davis Foundation Golf Tournament**
Friday, September 7, 2012
Potomac Ridge Golf Course
To sponsor, volunteer or play contact Matt Davis: 301-785-9080
- **15th Annual Civista Autumn Wine Tasting**
Saturday, September 15, 2012
Port Tobacco Courthouse, 6pm - 10pm
Enjoy an evening under the stars featuring over 30 wines, food prepared by the finest restaurants in Charles County, specialty bars and the sounds of Jazz. The event also contains a huge Silent Auction.
- **17th Annual "When The Hammer Falls"**
Crab Feast -- Thursday, October 11, 2012
Capt. Billy's Crab House, 2:00 - 8:30pm
A fun social gathering of Crab Picking! Guests enjoy a variety of food, a Cake Wheel and our 50/50 Raffle.

Submit YOUR news and information for next month's newsletter no later than Sept 15!



Southern Maryland
WOMEN'S LEAGUE
Linked by More than Community

2012/2013 SMWL Board of Directors

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

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

Secretary: **Doris Folineo** (2011/13)
dfolineo@msn.com

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

League Treasurer: **Shelly Reed** (2012/14)
emzomma@yahoo.com

Program/Event Chairs
Vickie Johnson (2011/13)
Rona Kelley (2010/14)
Vicki: vjohnson7775@aol.com
Rona: Rona@heatbyfire.com

Membership Chairs
Helen Heier (2011/13)
Diana Rucci (2012/14)
Helen: heier2@comcast.net
Diana: diana.n.rucci@wellsfargo.com

CSM Grant Project
Carole Lewis (2011/13)
icare4faces@yahoo.com

Care Committee
Donna Ellis (2011/13)
donnajellis@hotmail.com

Media/Public Relations/Newsletter
Andy Sanford (2012/14)
asanford12@gmail.com

Foundation Grant Liaison
Patty Harris pj.harris@juno.com

Angel's Watch Grant Liaison
Laura Forbes-Brown
laura_forbes@comcast.net

PAST SMWL PRESIDENTS

Terry Davis, 2010/2012
Doris Folineo, 2008/2010
Diana Rucci, 2006/2008
Rona Kelley, 2004/2006