



Southern Maryland
WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Linked by More than Community

February

Southern Maryland Women's League

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

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| February 27, 2013



Laura Forbes-Brown

President's Message

This month's newsletter is dedicated to our past fundraisers. Many members have wondered how much we have raised over the last five years....well....I'm gonna tell you!!! But first, let's walk down memory lane and begin with our very first fundraiser in 2008 "It's Raining Men"!!!! All 12 of our live auction items were men!!! The fundraising committee that year was hoping to make \$10,000! Well, that event brought in \$23,564.45!!!!

This success really energized the membership and in 2009 "It's Raining Men" Live and Silent Auction added more services and half the bachelors and raised \$25,621.00!!!!

As 2010 rolled around the theme name changed to "It's Raining Again....."and SMWL stepped up our game and were amazed after the expenses....we profited \$36,150.27!!!!!! Amazingly, we had the lowest ticket sales in three years with selling only 216 seats. The fantastic return made up the difference. The live auction alone raised \$24,900!!!

The Fund raising committee decided to give the "Raining theme one more shot, so with a lot of creativity the event became for 2011 "It's Raining Again.....Ole"!!!! Ole was a huge success and at that time our fundraiser was the 2nd largest amount of money brought in during a one evening event!!!! Ladies, and they just say we are a wine drinking social club?!!!!!! Ole brought in a whopping \$65,721.00!!!!!! After expenses, we profited over \$47,000.00!!!!!! - continued page 4

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*Women are like roads.
The more curves they have,
the more dangerous they are.*



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.

Programs & Events | Vicky Johnson & Diana Rucci | January & February Meetings

Overview of our last general meetings!



Lisa & Carole gently re-gifting (NOT, LOL)

Wednesday, January 9th – Gift Re-Gift Exchange Martinis Prime Rib Room

By Vicky Johnson

Our first gift exchange was quite a hoot! Diana added some new twists to the pick or steal game and did a great job keeping us on track and reminding us of all the great gifts that were available for stealing, even though many of us did not want her to keep reminding people of what was still available to steal!!!!

It was a fun start for the year, and probably a new annual event for us. If you missed it, you missed a good time.

-- continued page 4

Don't miss our next event...



Mystery Night

What happens at Mystery night...
Wednesday, March 6, 2013
5:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
Bus departs from Martini's Lounge at 5:00
Members: \$50, Guests: \$65

Price includes: Drink and appetizers, Motor Coach Transportation with chilled libations along the way, Mystery Activity & three course Dinner with Champagne! Dress is sexy casual!!

Our Next SMWL General Membership Meeting is **APRIL 3rd** at Middleton Hall. This is our **annual fundraiser decorating/assistance meeting!** Watch for details and please be sure to RSVP as soon as you receive the official email invitation!



Treasurers Report | Rona Kelley

Money Talks

One of my jobs as Treasurer, is to collect the past due's and unpaid reservation/dinner fees from our meetings.

A couple of weeks ago, I sent an e-mail to all who owed, please

Be sure to catch up on past-due fees so you don't end up on the naughty list again, and thanks to those who have already caught up.

Our meeting in March is Mystery Night - just a reminder - that if you RSVP for a guest for Mystery Night you are responsible to make sure your guest is paid for, even if they do not attend. Please bring payment on Mystery Night we will collect on the bus. I'm so looking forward to attending a Mystery Night that I didn't plan and I'll see you there!
FYI: your club dues subsidize Mystery Night, the event costs way more than you pay.

Club Checkbook Balance: \$5,230.21

OUR ANNUAL SMWL FUNDRAISER!!!



Friday, April 19, 2013, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. | Middleton Hall, Waldorf
Open Bar (til 9:30 p.m.), Dinner & Dessert
\$50 per person | Guys & Dolls Fabulous 50's Costume Contest

*SMWL members, please invite your friends, family and business associates!
Help us gather awesome auction donations, sponsorships and guests!*



Care Committee |
Donna Ellis

We Care!

Having the opportunity to send cards and letters of support for members birthday's anniversaries and special occasions is just one way that we let each other know that we care. And, when a member becomes ill, experiences a loss or is just in need of a pick me up, it's the Care Committee that reaches out to show that we truly care about one another.

If you know of a member in need of some cheer or support, **please send me an email so we can send them a card or offer additional services.**

Rebecca Martin on the birth of her new granddaughter! We are grateful that she and mom are doing well!



February/March Birthdays!

- Heather Zeolla – February 12
- Terry Davis – February 12
- Brenda Lowe – March 20
- Tracy Harris – March 20
- Diana Divver – March 20
- Shelly Reed _ March 23

Stay Connected!

Visit and LIKE our Facebook page!

It's the easiest way to learn more and share information!

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

Foundation News



I suppose this is the “Calm Before the Storm” with the SMWL Foundation. There is little to report on recent or new donation requests. We are gearing up to raise more funds for our projects and the smaller grant needs in the Southern Maryland area. So far, since the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, we have donated a total of \$24,928.00. This total is comprised of:

Grants to non-profits:

- Southern Maryland Food Bank
- CSM Foundation
- Mike Davis Foundation
- Cancercare
- Civista Health Foundation – Honor Roll of Women
- SLS Ministries, Inc.
- Lifestyles of Southern Maryland
- New Life Church (Human Trafficking)

Project Funds:

- Chesapeake Security Service (Angel’s Watch)
- YWLP
- Regency Furniture Store (Angel’s Watch)
- Rachel’s Challenge (YWLP)
- Hospice of Charles County – Hospice House Room

Annual Scholarship:

- College of Southern Maryland Single Parent Scholarships

Thanks to each of you wonderful ladies and your help in our one annual fundraiser, SMWL Foundation is able to maintain a reputation for caring and giving; and is well on its way to leaving a lasting legacy!

Congratulations to our very own celebrity...

Helen Heier

We are so incredibly proud of our Helen! Selected as the “Outstanding Chamber Person of the Year” at the Charles County Chamber (CCCC) of Commerce Ball, January 26, 2013 at Middleton Hall, Helen truly deserves this award for her hard work and dedication on behalf of our local Chamber and our community.



Helen’s involvement in the Chamber began in 1982. In 2002 she began serving on the Board and was elected as the 50th President of the Chamber in 2008. Helen has also served as the Chairperson for the President’s Ball from 1996 to the present, Chairperson of the Working Women’s Day from 1979-1992 and again in 2010, member of the Membership & Growth Committee from 2001 to the present, and she has attended and participated in almost all Ribbon Cuttings and Grand Opening since becoming a member. Helen actively attends all of the Chamber mixers as well as many of the Morning Perks and Networks at Noon.

Professionally, Helen is the Firm Administrator for Bridgett, Mock & Associates P.A. and right now -- as it’s tax season -- we know she’s really, really busy!

From all of your League Sisters, we are continually amazed at your devotion and commitment to your community, as well as your endless energy and love. Congratulations Helen!!!

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 February 2013, we are excited to highlight SMWL member...

Cindy Lantz

Occupation/Business: Realtor/Property Manager
Are you married? No. Once. But it didn’t take.

Do you have any children? No. I have a cat named Hamlet who takes care of me.

What do you do now for a living? Real Estate

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I’m never growing up.

What is the one thing that your SMWL sisters may be surprised to learn about you?

I am a huge history hound and am attempting to write a novel. I also have been heavily involved with the local theatre since high school and have produced or acted in about 15 shows with the Port Tobacco Players.

Do you have a tattoo? No, only because I can’t think of anything I would like enough to have permanently on my body.

What is your favorite sweet treat? No sweets. But I could live on popcorn.

In your birth order, are you first/second/third...? I am the middle child out of 3, but I also have 3 step siblings.

What is something you are most proud of? Finally being able to devote some time and money to my community and being able to say “yes” when people ask me for help.

What color are your eyes? Hazel

What is your favorite meal? Without a doubt, Maryland Blue Crabs!

What motivates you to succeed? Being a failure blows!

What TV character best describes you? Flo from the Progressive Commercials.

If you could play hookie for one day -- where would you want to go? Vegas! But I might have to extend the trip!

President's Message continued...

The Fund raising committee decided to give the "Raining theme one more shot, so with a lot of creativity the event became for 2011 "It's Raining Again.....Ole"!!!! Ole was a huge success and at that time our fundraiser was the 2nd largest amount of money brought in during a one evening event!!!! Ladies, and they just say we are a wine drinking social club?!!!!!! Ole brought in a whopping \$65,721.00!!!!!! After expenses, we profited over \$47,000.00!!!!!!

We have so many people to thank for this, I especially want to thank our founding sisters and Charter Members. Some of these ladies are no longer with SMWL but, they had an amazing vision for this league, they were very talented and gifted on helping us reach this point. My hat is off to all of you ladies!!!!

Our Fabulous Fifties Live and Silent Auction is right around the corner, let's all come together and make this event just as spectacular as past 5....whatever we raise, whether large or small....it will make a difference in the lives and organizations we serve. Thank you SMWL for being amazing women, I am truly humbled by all that you do!!!!

Laura Forbes-Brown
SMWL President

Overview of our last meetings...



Sure wish I had that beautiful colorful lap blanket (Robin!) to keep me warm while I was typing this or that beautiful ring Brenda, but I don't hold grudges. What do you think Lynn or Lisa?

Meeting: Wednesday, February 6, Martinis

What an honor it was to have Dr. Ellie Faherty speak and share so much information about our women's health and the services available within our community

By Diana Rucci



It was refreshing to know that we have such a talented, dedicated female surgeon attending at our local hospital. Thanks you Dr. Ellie Faherty for answering all of our health related questions and concerns, and thank you Rebecca Martin for chairing the meeting and bringing us such an interesting speaker for our February 6th general membership meeting. We hope to have Ellie join us a member in the future as well.

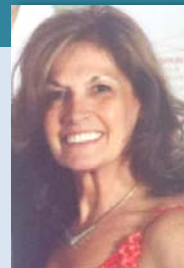


On April 3rd we will meet at Middleton Hall for a decorating work. The meal will still cost \$25 and there will be a standard open bar. The drink prices are very reasonable as well.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Hold on to your hats! This year's Mystery Night on March 6th is going to be one for the record books! We will leave from Martini's promptly at 5:00pm to take off on our adventure. Dress is city, sexy casual! There are only 2 seats left so HURRY!

Membership Report | Helen Heier



Our Numbers...

The latest Membership Directory, Membership Birthday List, and Membership E-mail lists were sent out February 20, 2013 via email to all members.

If you have changes to your information please get them to me asap....updated information is very important because this is how you get information from anyone in this Club.

As of February 20, 2013, our membership number stands at 51. We still have some perspective members who need to attend one more meeting in order to apply for membership.

One application was given out at our last meeting for membership. If anyone needs an application, please contact me directly.

I have given out name badges and notebooks to our newest members and have 3 more to deliver.

Our Diva's Do's and Don'ts meeting at Rona Kelley's home has been postponed to a later time (TBD). We will advise everyone of the new date when a new date is selected.

To contact Helen directly, helen@bridgett-mock.com

2013 SMWL Calendar of Events...

Wednesday, March 20

BOD Meeting
5:30pm Re/Max 100

Wednesday, April 3

Decoration Workshop
for Fundraiser
at Middleton Hall

Wednesday, April 19

BOD Meeting
5:30 pm Old Line Bank

Friday, April 19

SMWL Annual Club
Fundraiser, Fabulous 50's
Live & Silent Auction
and Dinner
at Middleton Hall

Wednesday, May 1

SMWL Meeting
Minute to Win It!!

Wednesday, May 15

BOD Meeting, 5:30pm
Old Line Bank

Wednesday, June 5th

Annual Business Meeting
@ Martini's

Wednesday, June 19th

BOD Meeting
Transitional meeting
of current and new
Board of Directors



This is your newsletter!

Send your information,
By-the-Ways or Pet Projects
so we can include them in
our next newsletter!

Space is limited, so expect
editing and submissions are
first come-first served.

Send information to Andy
Asanford12@gmail.com

OUR ANNUAL FUNDRASIER

The Southern Maryland Women's League goal is to promote, strengthen and support women in our community through fellowship, education, service and mentoring programs.

We know you're extremely proud to be part of an organization that has successfully served this mission each year by raising money through our Annual Silent & Live Auction to benefit a wide variety of organizations in need within our community. In fact, over the past six years, we have raised over...

Your SMWL membership requirements are few: members attend fun and informative programs and business meetings, pay their annual dues, and participate in our annual major fund raiser. And, it is this fundraiser participation that is paramount to our overall success. As a SMWL member, we'd like to share the following minimum ways that you can participate in this year's event:



Mark your Calendars:

Friday, April 19, 2013

Sell Event TICKETS: Every member is provided 8 tickets to sell. In order to ensure a success – every member should sell ALL of their tickets. Premier seating is available on a first-come-first-served basis only. We encourage you to invite your friends and host your own table of eight!

Donate a new item to the Silent Auction (suggested \$50 minimum) Items may be combined to make a silent auction gift more attractive. Think about all the places you go, ask for donations/gift certificates, shop for after-holiday specials, etc. Donation letters and receipts will be available for your use.

Sell 10 raffle tickets. Perfect for friends who cannot make it to the actual event. Attendees will also have an opportunity to purchase tickets during the actual event.

Help with a Live Auction item. Make a donation, find a sponsor, work together with members.

Solicit a Sponsorship for the event. Own a business, work for one? Or consider making a family sponsorship – all funds raised serve our mission.

Sell Ads for the Program booklet. Your office/job? A neighbor/friend? Ad Sales Flyer will be provided.

Help set-up the room on the day of the event – all hands on deck! Strengthen your SMWL relationships than to help your sisters organize and decorate.

- **Share the event on your personal Facebook** profile, business page, and Twitter feeds
- **Post the Event Flyer at your work**, church, gym, your business, your office, etc.
- **E-mail the Electronic** version of the flyer to all your friends, co-workers, etc.
- **Talk about the event** to everyone you know and share how much fun you had last year!



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: Cindy Lantz (2012/14)
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 (2011/13)

Diana Rucci (2010/14)

Vicki: vjohnson7775@aol.com

Diana: diana.n.rucci@wellsfargo.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

Angel's Watch Grant Liaison

Laura Forbes-Brown

laura_forbes@comcast.net

PAST PRESIDENTS

Rona Kelley: 2006-2008

Diana Rucci: 2008-2010

Doris Folineo: 2010-2011

Terry Davis: 2011-2012