



Laura Forbes-Brown

## President's Message

Ladies, these remarks are dedicated to the SMWL Committees. For our newer members, In the beginning 8 years ago, The Board of directors formed committees. Each member of the league is encouraged to participate and help support the board of directors by sharing some of the responsibilities and decisions for SMWL. The committees are all chaired by a board member.

The committees are encouraged to meet at least once a year, but twice is super nice!!!! I sent an email out over the summer asking you which committee you would like to serve on.....I heard from many of you and some I did not. I took the liberty of placing you on a committee. If you would like to serve on two committees please let me know, if you would like to choose a committee separate from the one I chose for you, please let me know!!! Your committee chairs will be sending you an email in the next week to touch basis with you and try to schedule your first meeting!!!! Ladies please keep in mind our committees are the back bone of The Southern Maryland Women's League. While we encourage your participation we do not require it to be a member. But, I will say these meetings and committees are fun and they help you to build new friendships with your league sisters.

**Below are the committees, committee members and brief list of responsibilities and description.**

**Program/Social Committee - Chairs: Vickie Johnson & Mary Lilly**

**Committee Members:** Sybil Alger, Rebecca Martin, Becky Hoffman, Diana Rucci, Lisa Wills, Candy Meyers, Bonnie Grier

**Description of responsibility:** planning events, scheduling events, email membership with updates and changes, keeping tally of attendees, help with check in process, plan Scavenger Hunt, Mystery Night & Christmas Party, work together with Membership Committee

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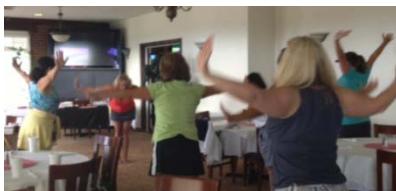
Programs & Events | Vickie Johnson & Mary Lilly

## Overview of our past meetings...



The Second Annual SMWL FIVE & DINE was held on Aug. 7, 2013 at the Hawthorne Country Club and St. Babe's Tavern on the Green. The event started at 5pm with a social time and practice on the driving range. Drinks included your choice of libations named after the event coordinators Rebecca Martin (The Rebeccarita) and Becky Hoffman (The Becky's Bogey). Tessa Echols helped us "Get our Golf Stretch on" with stretching exercises at 5:30pm and then it was "Tee Off" time. This wasn't your father's usual golf game...it was SMWL Style. Golf course contest included, closest to the pin on second shot holding one foot up, closest to the pin while singing "Just a Swingin" (Hit song set to SMWL lyrics by GLCS Pastor Long.), longest drive using "The Motion in the Ocean", and many more crazy items.

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*Few things in the world are more powerful than a positive push. A smile. A world of optimism and hope. A 'you can do it' when things are tough.*  
-- Richard M. DeVos



### 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...



**Southern Maryland  
WOMEN'S LEAGUE**  
*linked by love thru community*

**Diva's "Do's & Dont's"**

*Join your SMWL "Seasoned Sisters"  
for some great fun & interesting facts!*

**Wednesday, October 23rd, 6:00pm to 8:00pm**  
*Appetizers, wine & beer will be served at the home of  
Rona Kelley 8790 Greenbriar Court, Port Tobacco, MD*

*RSVP required by Monday October 21st  
Helen@bridgett-mock.com*

**Wednesday, November 6: SMWL Social: SMWL Success at Martinis**

We're back at Martini's for our regular monthly meeting and social where you'll enjoy great food, catch up on our league news and current events. This meeting will highlight members from organizations and non-profits who we have helped during the past year! It will give you an opportunity to see how our League (and your dedication) has made a difference in our own community. Please be sure to RSVP as quickly as possible.

**Friday, December 7: SMWL HOLIDAY PARTY!**

The Program Committee are busy as Santa's Elves in planning our special Holiday event! Stay tuned for the details and reservation information. I don't know about you, but I am ready to see everyone's ugly sweaters!

**CHRISTMAS SERVICE PROJECT WANTED!** If you know of a Service Project to help families during the holiday season that may serve our SMWL mission, please contact Laura directly. We'd like to have the entire League participate to truly help make a difference!



OUR SMWL

2 Year Grant

The 2 year grant selection process is soon to begin. Applications will be available 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  
OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

- Flower: Marigold
- Birthstone: Opal & Tourmaline
- October 1: **Amy Gallo**
- October 11: **Carole Lewis**
- October 14: **Rona Kelley**
- October 16: **Martina Arnold**

- NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**
- Flower: Chrysanthemum
- Birthstone: Topaz & Citrine
- November 14: **Meme Ellis**



Message from the Editor | Andy Sanford

*An Attitude of Gratitude*

THANK YOU... I am truly grateful for my family, my friends and for my membership in the SMWL. And, I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for your friendship and support each and every day. I know that times are tough for us all and that at we may wish things were different – but, honestly as I get older – I am simply blessed to wake each morning and have a circle of friends who I know are here to help each other if necessary! If you want to start attracting positive things into your life, there is one small thing you should do every day—show your gratitude, appreciation and love for the people and things around you. Tell people you love them, say thank you often and as more of your thoughts and words become positive, you'll start attracting more positive people and circumstances into your life. Decide today that you are going to reduce negativity in your life by getting rid of the don'ts, not's and no's... the negative people, the negative thoughts. Get in the habit of appreciating things, start a **Gratitude Journal** and keep track of all of your blessings! BTW: I love you all!!!

**LIKE 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>





Our SMWL April 2013 Fundraiser:  
Net proceeds were \$30,000. Way to go ladies!

As the new Fiscal Year is now into its third month, we have been diligent about helping our project commitment and other 501(c)3 non-profits in their efforts to help women and children.

**Angel's Watch:** We provided the funds for a Moon Bounce for the Angel's Watch Children's Social and back-to-school event.

**CSM Scholarships:** a Committee comprised of Laura Brown, Sybil Alger and Lyn Bell reviewed all submitted applications and letters and chose three single mothers to receive \$500 each for each semester to utilize the \$3,000 in CSM Scholarship money we donated. I attended the Scholarship presentation ceremony, where one of the young women recipients told me how much she appreciated the funding and she has a special heart for our group. She wants to start a women's group similar to ours at the college.

**Donation to Indian Head Center for the Arts** to purchase six tickets to the Hexagoners theatre event to be used as a raffle item at the Sept. Crab Feast.

**Donation to Mike Davis Foundation** for their annual Golf Tournament

**Donation to Health Partners, Inc.** for their free dental program for needy children within the community.

Stay tuned for exciting news about our next fundraiser. It is a major change and expected to be met with much enthusiasm... Thanks to all of you wonderful ladies...

## Volunteer & Mentor Opportunities

### Submitted by Brianna Bowling

Opportunity 1: I am part of a business roundtable with the Superintendent of schools and we are tasked with finding new volunteers for the **Career Days** held at all Charles County Schools. They are different dates throughout the year and are for Elementary, Middle and High. Please consider sharing a couple of hours to share your career with the kids. We are making a special effort to share "regular" careers with the kids this year and ones that they may not have considered or known existed. If you are interested, please let me know.

I have done this in the past and received as much as I gave, if not more. In one instance, I gained an employee – a student reached out to me afterward and became my first intern. He has been employed with me since 2006! For more information, feel free to contact me directly. [Brianna@zekiah.com](mailto:Brianna@zekiah.com), 301-932-3788

Opportunity 2: I am going to be a speaker with a very innovative program called the **Young Entrepreneurs Academy**. It is a program where kids from grades 6-12 will meet from October through June once a week to learn about starting their own business and help develop a business plan. It culminates in a "shark tank" type interview where their business idea can be funded. If you know someone who may be a good candidate, I have the applications! This is a great program and this is the time to apply – it's the first year so applicants will most likely be a bit low. After people hear what a great program it is, it will be more difficult to join a class.

[www.yeausa.org/introduction.html](http://www.yeausa.org/introduction.html)

Let me know if you know any good candidates. Also, I believe that Darlene Breck and Betsy Burian (who are running the program) are looking for mentors, speakers, teachers, and interviewers as well as those interested in potentially funding the business ideas with a \$400 donation. You can contact Betsy at 301-932-6500.

## Treasurers Report Rona Kelley

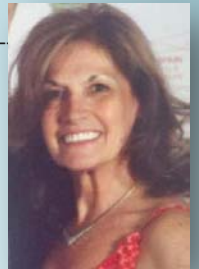


### SMWL EVENT RSVP PAYMENT REMINDER

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



### New Member!

The latest update of the Membership Directory, Membership Birthday List, and Membership E-mail lists was sent to everyone on August 2, 2013.

We are at 45 members now as we just welcomed our newest member – Teresa Kloper (see bio below) – welcome Teresa!

I have e-mailed an application to five (5) new prospective members who have attained their three meeting requirement. I will contact them again in a week if I have not received their returned application by then. We still have some perspective members who will be able to join after they attend their third meeting. So, I am confident that membership numbers will increase very soon.

**Teresa Kloper** (sponsored by Brenda Lowe) is a Realtor with Remax 100 and has always been a supporter of Southern Maryland Women's League's fundraisers and events. She enjoys the camaraderie of the ladies and the good will that they spread throughout the Southern Maryland area. She is looking forward to becoming a member of this awesome group of ladies. She is a single mother of three grown sons and her middle son recently married and has graduated law school.

**From the President...**

**Fund-raising Committee - Chair: Pam Roberts**

**Committee Members:** Carole Lewis, Rona Kelley, Mary Sue Griesman, Meme Ellis, Helen Heier, Susan McClanahan, Cathy Pette, Benadette Cole

**Description of responsibility:** Oversee all sub-committees, Sub committees include: decorating, silent & live auction, ads and advertising, set up & clean up, sponsorships, 50/50 raffle, check in & check out. Other responsibilities - create budget to present to the board, locate and identify venue, make all preparations

**Membership Committee - Chair: Helen Heier**

**Committee Members:** Rita Shane, Leslie Clair, Sheila Draper, Tessa Echols, Evie Hungerford, Marcia Keeth, Robin Magoon, Diana Rucci, Terry Davis

**Description of responsibility:** Greeting all members & guest, updating email lists & membership directory, check in guests at monthly events, work together with program committee, send emails to perspective members, spear head Diva's Do's and Don'ts for new members, handle voting process for new members

**Care Committee - Chair: Meme Ellis.**

**Committee Members:** Donna Ellis, Lyn Bell, Ruth Mudd, Sherrie Sanders, Jenny Matche, Doris Folineo, Tracey Harris, Margie Earnshaw. **Description of responsibility:** Reaching out to members in times of joy and also times of sorrow by sending cards, gifts, flowers. Providing meals, car rides or any type of support that may fitting according to the need. Providing a helpful hand and words of encouragement when needed. notifying the president of members needs, deaths or sickness

**Media/Newsletter Committee - Chair: Andy Sanford**

**Committee Members:** Brianna Bowling, Martina Arnold, Connie Fuksa, Amy Gallo, Sue Greer, Heather Zeolla. **Description of responsibility:** Sending & writing press releases, updating monthly newsletter, request articles & updates from committee chairs, taking photos, maintaining website in current status and other media outlets and social media, such as Facebook.

**Two Year Grant Selection Committee - Chair:**

**Laura Brown. Committee Members:** Candice Kelly, Marcia Keeth, Mary Lilly, Lyn Bell, Cindy Lantz

**Description of responsibility:** prepare applications, collect all necessary paperwork to be included with applications, sign confidentiality contract, advertise to the community, review all applications and score according to application guidelines, review all applications with a fair and balanced mind set, send letters to applicants who are not awarded two year grant, set up a meeting before the membership to present the three top choices, vote and notify the New Two Year Grant Recipient.

Our last meetings continued...



Prizes included goodie bags of wine, "Bottoms Up" wine glass, and fuzzy slippers. Other prizes were pink golf balls, pink ball sack, and gift certificates. Thanks to Well Fargo (Diana Rucci) and Babe's Tavern (Debbie Zentz ?) for contributing to the cost of the prizes. We even had a Cherry Stem Contest. A great time was had by all. Overall "Stacked" winning team was Lisa Wills, Melinda Long and Mary Jane Couples. Can't wait till next year's golf event!!!



**September 4, 2013  
ANNUAL CRAB FEAST & SOCIAL**

Thank you to Sherrie & Larry Sanders for opening their lovely home and hosting our annual crab feast and social. The food (provided by Shymansky's Restaurant in Cobb Island and the Program Committee) was exceptional and of course the libations provided by our own Vickie Johnson were pretty fantastic as well. It was the perfect place to sit back and relax with our spouses, guests and sisters to enjoy the beautiful waterfront view and catch up with everyone!

**OCTOBER 2, 2013  
ANNUAL SPA NIGHT at the  
GALLERIA SALON**

Each year, our gracious hostess Pam Roberts opens her beautiful Galleria Salon & Spa to her SMWL sisters for an evening of relaxation and pampering. It was the perfect time to enjoy a manicure, pedicure, facial, massage and other amazing spa services. Dr. Chairamonte was on hand to offer his advice, services and expertise. And, we truly thank him for his continued support of our league and its members!

**Do you know someone who would make a great addition to our League?  
Be sure to invite a friend to join you at our next SMWL event!**



# 2013/14 SMWL Calendar of Events...

## Monday, October 21 – 6:00 p.m.

Board meeting @ See-Thru Windows, Waldorf

## Wednesday, October 23 – 6:00 p.m.

SMWL Diva's Do's & Don'ts: Rona Kelley's Home

## Wednesday, November 6

SMWL Social: SMWL Success, Martinis

## Friday, December 7

SMWL Social: Christmas Party, more info to follow

## Wednesday, December 18

Board meeting @ See-Thru Windows

## 2014: Wednesday, January 8

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

## Wednesday, January 22 – 6:00 p.m.

Board meeting @ See-Thru Windows, Waldorf

## Wednesday, February 15

SMWL Social: Heart Month – Mind, Body, Soul (TBA)

## Wednesday, February 19 – 6:00 p.m.

Board meeting @ See-Thru Windows, Waldorf

## Wednesday, March 5

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

## Wednesday, March 19 – 6:00 p.m.

Board meeting @ See-Thru Windows, Waldorf

## Wednesday, April 2

SMWL Social: SCAVENGER HUNT!!! (TBA)

## Wednesday, April 23 – 6:00 p.m.

Board meeting @ See-Thru Windows

## Wednesday, May 7

SMWL Social: Mystery Night (TBA)

## Wednesday, June 4

SMWL State of the League  
Annual Business Meeting @ Martinis

## Wednesday, June 25

BOD Meeting: Transitional meeting  
of current and new BODs

*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.

## By-the-Ways....

**SLS Ministries & Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. present the 2013 Silent No More Domestic Violence Awareness Prayer Breakfast.** October 12, 2013, \$25 per person. All tickets must be purchased in advance. No Money collected at door. College of Southern Maryland, Call 301-919-6840 for tickets.

## SOUTHERN MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS (SMAR) COAT DRIVE

Coats are donated to Men's, Women's and Children's Shelters. Donate your coats, scarves, gloves and hats. Clothing will be donated to students in local elementary (K - 5) schools. Contact: Terrie Leonard at [leonard@leonardrealty.com](mailto:leonard@leonardrealty.com)

## Drop off Locations - Through December 31<sup>st</sup>

- Baldus Real Estate  
101 E. Charles St, La Plata, MD
- Century 21 New Millennium  
55 Stoakley Rd, Ste E, Pr Frederick
- Davis Realty  
109 La Grange Ave, La Plata
- Home Towne Real Estate  
13940 HG Truman Rd; Solomons, MD
- Leonard Realty  
22607 Three Notch Road, California
- RE/MAX 100  
10665 Stanhaven Pl, Ste 300, White Plains
- 23076 Three Notch Rd, California, MD
- SMAR  
8440 Old Leonardtown Road,  
Hughesville

## Walk to End Homelessness in Charles County

Saturday, November 16, 2013  
7:30am – 12:00pm, 305 Queen Anne Street  
La Plata Town Hall

In Support of LifeStyles of Maryland Foundation, Inc. This event provides funding to support our "Safe Nights" program, an emergency shelter that provides services to Charles County's homeless population.

**If any SMWL members wish to participate in the Walk, the League will pay your entry fee. Please contact Laura via email for additional details.**

The goal is to raise \$30,000 annually to support this program. For event information, please contact Corae Young 301-609-9900



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](mailto:laura_forbes@comcast.net)

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

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

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

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

*Program/Event Chairs*  
**Vickie Johnson (2011/15)**  
[vjohnson7775@aol.com](mailto:vjohnson7775@aol.com)  
**Mary Lilly (2013/15)**  
[maryagneslilly@mrisc.com](mailto:maryagneslilly@mrisc.com)

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

*CSM Grant Project*  
**Laura Brown**

*Care Committee*  
**Meme Ellis (2013/15)**  
[meme-ellis@comcast.net](mailto:meme-ellis@comcast.net)

*Special Event Coordinator*  
**Pam Roberts (2013/15)**  
[pe\\_roberts1@yahoo.com](mailto:pe_roberts1@yahoo.com)

*Media/Public Relations/Newsletter*  
**Andy Sanford (2012/14)**  
[asanford12@gmail.com](mailto: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**