



Southern Maryland

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Linked by More than Community

April/May 2014

Southern Maryland Women's League

P.O. Box 2511, Waldorf, MD 20601

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5/6/14



Laura Forbes-Brown

President's Message

The Southern Maryland Women's League has embarked on what I believe to be one of our best years yet! We have matured by leaps and bounds as a still very young entity. Every aspect of our organization is thriving, growing & changing.

SMWL thrives as we continue to attract new sisters and prospective members by building new relationships. We have also made a respected name for ourselves in the community by mentoring, supporting and helping many 501 C3's. Our attendance to monthly meetings has increased and overall participation is at a record breaking high. SMWL has moved in many new directions by adapting a new concept for our upcoming fundraiser "Heels on Wheels". The upcoming fundraiser which is set to kick off next week is a great example of the excitement and anticipation that is generated among the members.

Heels and Wheels is sure to be explosive as we work together to reach our goal of \$75,000.00!!! This upcoming fundraiser will be a valuable en diver for league sisters to get to know each other better and have a lot of fun in the process!! I personally cannot wait for the celebration party in October. Just think, we have a 51 plus out of 3000 chance of drawing the winning ticket belonging to a league member!!!!

As SMWL moves forward, all members benefit. We will continue to conquer growing pains and overcome obstacles. We will maintain our uniqueness and identity and the true spirit of who we are as a Woman led organization that strives in creating a fun and safe place for welcomed members to laugh, cry, socialize, raise funds for worthy causes and celebrate who we are and all that we bring to the table.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting where we will play "Minute To Win It"

Laura Brown, SMWL League & Foundation President

Programs & Events | Vickie Johnson & Mary Lilly

Program Committee News



APRIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

What an interesting meeting we had in April... Tony Medoro certainly gave us a lot to think about. What was especially motivating was finding out that just by knowing a few basics, if we ever found ourselves in a position to use a gun as a weapon, we could somehow maintain a bit of control in a chaotic event and keep ourselves/others potentially safe.

The other 'motivators' were our wonderful, take charge organizers Pam and Rona, who along with a great committee put together a heartfelt presentation on why it was so important to work hard and *(continued page 3)*

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Happiness is not something ready made. It comes from your own actions.
- Dalai Lama



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...



SMWL MAY MEETING

Wednesday, May 7th
Prime Street Grill
4680 Crain Highway, White Plains, MD

Don't miss the fun and competition of
MINUTE TO WIN IT!

Mingle and Check-in from 6:00-6:30 // Dinner at 6:30, Members \$25 // Guests \$30
Please pay for dinner during check-in. And, don't forget your \$5 for the Heads & Tales Game!
THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT MEETING AND A LOT OF FUN—PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.
After dinner, Fundraising Teams' Captains & Co-Captains will randomly select names to form ticket selling teams for Heels on Wheels. Identified teams will then participate as a team in the fun of the Minute To Win It games!

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4th – SMWL MEMBER APPRECIATION NIGHT!



Message from the Editor | Andy Sanford, PR & Marketing

Visit Our New Website!

OKAY LADIES.... have you visited our website as of yet?? It's filled with photos and information about our league, archives of our past newsletters and much more! If you have photos, flyers or even program books from our past events we would love to have you share them so they can be included and archived in our virtual photo album! Please email me any photos you may have or share the hard copies and I can scan to include! Our SMWL is pretty amazing and we want to be sure that women for generations are aware of the great things we accomplished together! Email to asanford12@gmail.com

We are so excited to introduce our new fundraiser "Wheels & Heels" event at our next meeting tonight, Wednesday, May 7. This is a TEAM EVENT and team members will be randomly selected at this meeting. Please be sure to join us so you will have an opportunity to meet & participate with you team during the evenings' festivities. We look forward to seeing you!

Care Committee | Meme Ellis

SMWL Cares About You!

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 SMWL member is in need of assistance.



SOUTHERN MARYLAND
WOMEN'S LEAGUE

*Happy
Birthday
Ladies*

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- Maria F. Salazar – March 10
- Brenda Lowe – March 20
- Tracey Stinnett Harris – March 21
- Teresa Klopfer – March 22

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

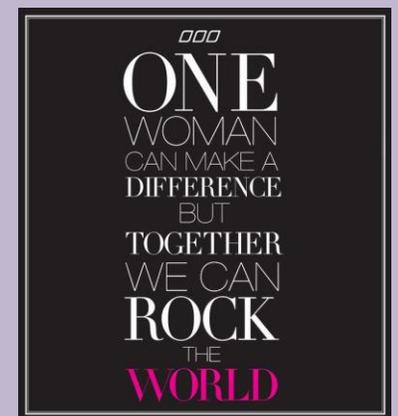
- Tessa Echols – April 13

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- Michelle Jones – May 21
- Jenny Matche – May 25
- Candy Meyers – May 26

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- Brianna Bowling – June 6
- Cathy Secor – June 7
- Sybil Alger – June 8
- Mary Sue Greisman – June 11
- Cindy Lantz – June 11
- Robin Magoon – June 17
- Pam Roberts – June 18
- Cathy Pette – June 19
- Sherrie Sanders – June 20
- Evie Hungerford – June 21
- Donna Ellis – June 23





The Southern Maryland Women's League membership voted in February to support the Angel's Watch Homeless Shelter as their two-year project.

There were two other wonderful finalist organizations that applied and presented: Spring Dell and Health Partners. The Foundation donated small grants to each of these organizations to help with their projects.

During the first quarter of 2014 we have also donated to our members' teams in the March of Dimes Walk for Healthy Babies and to the JP Home Foundation to help with alcohol and drug addiction – to provide a safehaven and chances to rebuild.

We are gearing up for our Car Raffle Fundraiser to help fund a Part-time Residential Counselor at the Angel's Watch Homeless Shelter. This will be a very exciting event for the League and hopefully a lucrative outcome!

Thanks to all of the wonderful ladies who comprise the Southern Maryland Women's League! You are awesome! I look forward to continuing to work together to have the wherewithal to truly make an impact on helping women and children in Southern Maryland.

Program Committee Message *(from page 1)*

raise money for a project very dear. The concept for "Heels on Wheels" was unique, fresh and fun. The majority of members at the meeting voted to accept the event and move forward with it as soon as possible. The 'heels' of course are us women, and the 'wheels' are a wonderfully, fun Mini Cooper that the Club purchases then sells \$25 chances from now until October.

With the stage set for competition – and we all know there are a few competitors in our midst – get ready, and hone your skills for Minute – To – Win – It at our upcoming May meeting to be led by none other than Lisa Wills and Candy Meyers.

Hope to see you all come out for the fabulous fun, frustration and freak-out moments during the intense competition... will there be raw spaghetti; junk in the trunk; ping-pong balls? Can't wait to see everyone in action! You may want to wear some comfortable clothes to allow you to move a bit more freely. Looking ahead...

June's meeting will be the State of the Club address and SMWL Member Appreciation Night!



8 New Members

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

April 16, 2014: The Membership Directory, Membership Birthday List, and Membership E-mail lists were last updated and sent to everyone on February 17, 2014. Our membership number at that time was 48; we have gained 3 new members, so our membership is now 51.

Our New Members:

Lorrie Johnston – Sponsored by Connie Fuksa (04-04-14)

I was born and raised in St. Mary's County. I have 2 brothers and 1 sister all older than me. My parents are from St Mary's as well both coming from a large family. Mother, 1 of 14 and my father, 1 of 7. There were always family gatherings and fun times. During High School I was in a Vo-Tech class for Graphic Arts. I placed 1st in Regional's and 3rd in State for a competition in my field. With this, I got recognized by a local company Automated Graphics in White Plains, MD, for which I started my career a month after my graduation. I had on-the-job training and blossomed from there. I expanded my talents to a few different printing companies training others below me until I finally landed a great one in Rockville where I was able to develop the Graphics/Pre-Press department from scratch. After 19 years in the printing industry, I made a hard decision to quit my job during a recession so I could come home and take care of my grandmother in-law that was living with us as she needed 24 hour care. It was a blessing to be there for her during that time minimalizing her time needed in a care facility. She has passed now as of Dec. 2013. During this time at home, I started helping my husband with his business, Proforma Johnston & Associates that he has owned for 8 years. Proforma Johnston is a unique company where we can have the friendly one on one feel of a local business but with the resources of a large company with competitive pricing. This is possible because we are a network of companies like our own nationwide that make it possible. We do anything from printing, mailing services, multimedia, e-commerce, logo decorated apparel and promotional products. Basically anything you can put a logo on, we can do it. I love having moved into the position of CSR with my husband's business. I am able to go to various networking events like BNI and SMWL. It has been great meeting local business owners and forming a great network of friends. BNI is how my husband and I met Connie Fuksa. With my position, I am also able to be there for my 8 year old son and all of his activities. They grow up so fast. Also we are able to travel because our business can go anywhere. Just last month I was able to go on a trip with my parents and a couple of aunt and uncles at the last minute to Florida. That is what I love. I love having such a big family all right here around me. I plan a party every year for my mom, her 7 sisters and 1 of their daughters where we do crazy games and just act like kids again. It is so much fun. I have been to 3 SMWL meetings now and have loved everyone of them! Especially after this last meeting setting up the car fundraiser, I am SO excited to get involved and make this happen. You are a great group of ladies!

(Continued page 4)

New SMWL Members BIO's Continued – 8 New Members!

Michelle Jones – Sponsored by Tessa Echols/ Laura Brown (03-26-14)

I am a forty-five year old mother of two beautiful girls. My eldest is 21 years of age and my youngest is 12. I am happily married to the love of my life and best friend Frank Jones. We have been married since May 7, 1999. I currently reside in Swan Point and am an active member of the Swan Point Women's Golf Association. I served as the Association President for 2 consecutive years. I was employed by the Honorable Christopher C. Henderson, Circuit Court Judge for Charles County from 1994 to 2008 at which point he retired. After the Judge retired I returned to college to complete my Bachelor's Degree in Legal Studies. I received my BA in May of 2012. I currently work alongside my husband who is a Partner at the Law Firm of Sasscer Claggett & Bucher. The main office is in Upper Marlboro however I work solely from the La Plata Office. I look forward to becoming a part of this fabulous group of woman.

Cathy Secor – Sponsored by Bonnie Grier (03-19-14)

Cathy has been married for 26 years to Jeff and they have no children. Cathy spent 25 years working for various National Political Organizations in the following areas: Major Donor Fundraising; Events; and Human Resources Director. Cathy's hobbies and likes are: Travel, especially to South Carolina and Georgia Beaches and great historic towns like, Beaufort/Charleston as well as Savannah!! She is always searching for wonderful antiques, does power walking, and old house restoration. Cathy is a member the Charles County Garden Club. A Big Welcome to our newest member from everyone at Southern Maryland Women's League. We look forward to your involvement in our Organization.

Maria Salazar – Sponsored by Laura Forbes-Brown (12-06-13)

Currently Settlement / Marketing Officer Lakeside Title
Previous- Settlement Officer / Manager Buyer's Title for 8 years
Branch Manager/Officer for M&T Bank 15 years. Currently a Spin and Boot Camp instructor at Waldorf Fitness and La Plata Fitness
Past President of University of MD Charles Regional Medical Center Foundation Current Board Member of University of MD Charles Regional Medical Center Foundation. Member of SMAR.

Tammy Semega – Sponsored by Pam Roberts (12-02-13)

Tammy Semega comes to our group with a lot of community service that will transfer over to the SMWL. She has been a resident of Charles County since 1981. She served for five years on the Homeowners Assoc. in Kings Grant and participated in developing the by-laws for the neighborhood, and establishing the Association from the ground up when the developer turned over this function; started the Sacred Heart Church Dinner as a fundraiser and served as Chairperson for 9 years; with great profits for the church; in addition started the Italian dinner at church to raise funds for Mt Carmel; worked with Children Aid's Society through Christmas Connection for many years, served Catholic Charities and worked on the Angel Tree program at church and the administrative offices, served as the Chairperson for the Small Agency Council, Administrative Services Committee for 4 years, this is a group of over 120 small government agencies that network and keep informed of issues facing government. Started the Employee Recreation Association at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission which provides programs at discounted rates for all employees. Set up fair with over 20 different vendors to discuss what services they offered, charged.

Carla Kemp – Sponsored by Brenda Lowe (12-05-13)

I consider myself to be independent, hardworking, and caring. I come from a very loving family and have one sister. I was married, and now divorced, but from that marriage, my beautiful daughter Courtney Rayne was brought into my life. I have my own office for Resource Title and am licensed to close in ALL "50" States. I have been in the Title Industry for over 15 years and feel that God has lead me to Resource Title. My daughter is now working with me at Resource Title. I received a scholarship from Senator Mike Miller after graduating with honors from Surrattsville Senior High and attended the University of Maryland and left with an accounting degree in which I went straight to Price Waterhouse and worked for many years. I grew up doing tap, jazz, ballet, and gymnastics and spent my life in the dance studio. I was honored to be picked as the very first "Miss Maryland Teen USA" at the age of 17 and appeared on TV in the "Miss Teen USA" pageant and came right back from the pageant and started my first day at the University of Maryland. I was also very lucky to have cheered "7" years for the "Bullets" who are now the Wizards. I cheered for 3 years and took over as the Director for 4 years following. This is where my charity work really began. I believe that if you are fortunate to be given something that puts you in a place to allow you to do for others than you should. I was able to be involved in so many charitable functions that I am blessed to be a part of so many things still in my life that allow me to continue what I love doing most. I moved to Laguna Beach, California for four years in which I continued my studies since it was free as a resident. I returned to Maryland once I was engaged and we than wanted to settle down where our families were and have our lives started together here in Maryland. I am a very big sports fanatic and would enjoy being at any sports event than anything. I enjoy being on the water and near the beach whenever possible. I enjoy reading to relax. I am your every day pony tail and sweats type of girl and can have fun anytime but can also put on a gown or nice evening dress and be ready to shine. I am thrilled at the opportunity to be a part of the Southern Maryland Woman's League whom I have always looked up to. I can promise you that I will always uphold the standards that you want in any woman that is proud to be nominated into such a special group that does so much for the community but also have a real tight-knit group of friends to support them and know that they have each other in their lives.

Jami Keyes – Sponsored by Becky Hoffman (10-18-13)

Jami Keyes is a native to Charles County being born and raised in La Plata and now resides in Port Tobacco. She is a wife, a mother of three daughters, and a small business owner. Along with her father, Jami manages their highway transportation company, Katlyn, Inc., and the company's contracts with the United States Postal Service. She also serves as Secretary/Treasurer to the National Star Route Mail Contractors Association based in Washington, DC. When not dealing with company issues, Jami enjoys spending time with her family, her pets, and her friends. She also enjoys vacationing, riding her motorcycle, and small home improvement projects. Jami is a volunteer at her daughter's middle school, volunteers with the Charles County Humane Society, March of Dimes, and CancerCare Hoe-Down.

Teresa Klopfer – Sponsored by Brenda Lowe (10-02-13)

Teresa Klopfer 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.

We still have more prospective members who will be able to join after they attend their third meeting and some prospective members who attained their 3-meeting requirements but not ready to join yet. I have a couple of women who want to start coming to our meetings to see what we do and possibly join after the third meeting. I send them an e-mail of the upcoming meeting to see if they can attend.

2014 SMWL Calendar of Events...

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

SOCIAL EVENT: Minute To Win It!

Martini's
Cocktails at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$25 Members/\$35 Non-Members

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

ANNUAL MEETING:

STATE OF THE LEAGUE

Martini's
Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$25 Members/\$35 Non-Members

THURSDAY, FRIDAY OR SATURDAY

JULY 10, 11 OR 12

MYSTERY NIGHT
(DAYS/DATES to come)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

SOCIAL & PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT

EVENT: GOLF AT POTOMAC RIDGE

CHAIRS: Sybil, Mary

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

SOCIAL EVENT: CRAB FEAST

CHAIRS: Diana, Vickie, HOST: Sherrie

SATURDAY, OCTOBER, 11

Wheels & Heels FUNDRAISER

October 11, 2014
at Waldorf Elks Lodge #2421
2210 Old Washington Road
Waldorf, MD 20601

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

MEETING & PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT

DR. ELLIE FAHERTY

CHAIRS: Bonnie, Teresa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

SOCIAL EVENT: CHRISTMAS PARTY

Remember,

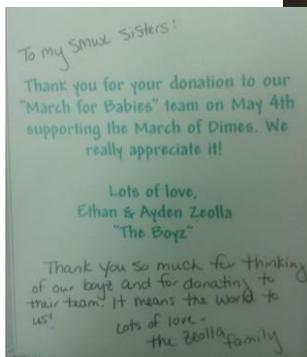
This is your newsletter!

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.

LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO RECEIVE UP TO DATE INFORMATION, AND FEEL FREETO POST NOTICES, INFORMATION & PHOTOS!

Thank you to SMWL from those we have supported:

We have received several thank you notes from Spring Dell for our \$500 donation towards rehabilitation equipment for Women; from Health Partners for our \$500 Donation towards their Women's Health – Breast Cancer Screening Programs; from member Heather Zeolla thanking us for her March for Babies Walk; and from Joann Heier Acton (Helen's daughter) for us donating to her March for Babies walk team.



2013/2014 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** (2013/15)
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 (2011/15)
vjohnson7775@aol.com
Mary Lilly (2013/15)
maryagneslilly@mris.com

Membership Chairs
Helen Heier (2011/14)
heier2@comcast.net

CSM Grant Project
Laura Brown

Care Committee
Meme Ellis (2013/15)
meme-ellis@comcast.net

Special Event Coordinator
Pam Roberts (2013/15)
pe_roberts1@yahoo.com

Media/Public Relations/Newsletter
Andy Sanford (2012/14)
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