

The Lantern



Printed monthly for members and friends of the Sumter Junior Welfare League, Inc.

Sumter, South Carolina

Volume 79- Number 5

February 2017

Happy Valentine's Day!

- League Meeting:** February 20th, 7:00 PM, First Baptist Church
Mandatory Meeting/Election of Officers & Admissions Committee
Please be prompt. For security reasons, doors will be locked at 7:15 PM.
- Board Meeting:** February 13th, 6:30 PM, Hostess: Vick Singleton; Co-Hostess: Lisa Burke
- Provisionals:** February 20th, Immediately following the General Meeting. Hospitality & Lantern
- Lantern Articles Due:** February 17th Placement Council, Vice President's Report, Sustainer Representative, and Community Research
- Admissions Committee Meeting:** March 15, 5:30PM Location TBA
- SJWL Account Balances:** Administrative: \$25,176.70; Community Trust: \$38,866.33

LEAGUE DUES ARE DUE BY APRIL 1.

\$70.00—Actives

\$40.00—Sustainers

\$25.00—Non-Residents

(No charge for Sustainers 65 and over)

Dues may be paid at the February or March
General meetings, or you may mail your dues to
Assistant Treasurer Nancy Branham; 2361 Brookgreen Road, Sumter, SC 29154

Dues not received by April 1 will be considered LATE, and a \$10 fine will be assessed.
Members whose dues are not paid by April 30 shall be removed from membership.
The by-laws will be enforced.

Please submit your dues in a timely manner.

Congratulations and well wishes to League members Jenna Brown on the birth of a daughter, Addie Birch and to Meg White on the birth of a son, Hunter DuBose!
Congratulations!

SJWL General Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2017

President Gretchen Meyers called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Anna Moorman read a devotion from Proverbs 31 Ministries, titled "How God Changed My Attitude Without My Help". The devotion encouraged us to allow God to enter our thoughts. He can change everything: our joy, our attitude, and our minds. God has the potential to lead us toward thankfulness, love, grace & kindness. Romans 13:14a says, "Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ...". Let God change you from the inside out.

Gretchen welcomed members and introduced our guest speaker, **Meghan Burgess** of the American Heart Association. Meghan proceeded with your board members are passing out bags for all of you. Heart disease is the #1 killer of women. WE are the 1st generation who will not live as long as our parents. February is National Heart Month. Take small steps toward a healthier life! Galloway and Moseley is joining with AHA for a Rock Your Red fundraiser on Tuesday Feb. 7th 5:30-7:00PM. They will offer light refreshments and door prizes. Come support us and make a wish list for Valentine's Day. J.K. Rowling said, "We do not need magic to change the world, we carry all the power we need inside ourselves already: we have the power to imagine better." Impact in the community starts with yourself. Eat differently. Exercise more, sleep more, and be more proactive. **Gretchen** continued with minute approval and correspondences. Molly Matthews made a motion to approve the November Minutes. Nancy Branham 2nd. Gretchen read Alston Wilkes Society thank you letter and Sumter School District letter from Arthena Woods. Budget committee to review. **Vice President Molly Matthews** had no report. **Secretary Valerie James** reports please remember to sign in and that you are allowed 2 missed general meetings per year. The board would be happy to work with you in special circumstances, but we can't help if we don't know. Sustainer letters & Change of Status letters are due by Feb. 1st. Please continue to send any phone/address changes to me. **Treasurer Susan McGregor** is absent and her report is read by Nancy Branham reporting, balance of Accounts: Community Trust: \$38,866.33, Admin Account: \$25,176.70. \$6,875 was distributed in Jan to the Community Trust donation recipients. \$129.31 was paid to Kmart as part of the Sumter School District Emergency Welfare Fund. Budget Request forms need to be returned to Susan. The Finance Comm. will meet in Jan. **Assistant Secretary Sarah Smith** reports two birth notes and six condolence notes were written. Eligibility lists are available. Sarah will leave them up front. Please consider. **Assistant Treasurer Nancy Branham** reports Salvation Army donations totaled \$765.88, an increase over last year. Thanks to all! Dues notices are going out in February. **Elyn Croft, Admission Committee Chair** had no report. **Community Research Chair, Vicki Singleton** reports We have approved \$12,000 for grant requests. They are: Sounds of Grace, The Advocacy Parenting & Pregnancy Center, Sumter Civic Dance Company, National Wild Turkey Federation, Sumter High School Orchestra, Sumter Family Health Center, Sumter Education Foundation, & The American Red Cross. **Computer Chair Lisa Burke** had no report. **Whitney Dunlap, Wishing Well Chair** reports Christmas sales look great! Committee has just come back from Market. New purchases arriving weekly. Gift Committee is reminded to check in regularly. We will be starting a new checklist for shifts because it's outdated. Also, when restocking food, please remember to put the new food towards the back so that food doesn't expire. Brian Durant made a Wishing Well card holder. It is next to the cash register. Please give the Bible scripture cards to any customer. **Ann Canon of Hospitality** had no report. **Leslie Day Caughman, Lantern editor** is absent and Valerie read her report that deadline for Feb. Lantern is today. Please send any Light News to Kelly Mills. After the meeting photos for chairs featured in Feb. Lantern. The deadline for March Lantern is Feb. 17th. Articles needed are Placement Council, VP, Sustainer and Community Research. **Placement Council Chair, Nancy Branham** reports placements are moving along smoothly. Behind on hours? Contact Nancy. **Provisional Chairman, Rebecca Montague** reports please remember to sign in on the attendance sheet, monthly. The Provisionals are teaming up with the SPCA for their class project. A "bucket" is being passed for donations. **Provisional, Ashley Reddick** gave a brief summary of what the SPCA needs. The drop-off deadline is March 25th. Monetary donations/lists for needed supplies will be provided via email. Rebecca asked the Provisional Class to stay after the general meeting for a very brief meeting. **Sustainer Representative Angie Sistare** is absent and had no report. **New Business** includes the next Board Meeting will be on Monday, Feb 13th at 6:30 at the home of Vicki Singleton, with Lisa Burke providing refreshments. The next General Meeting is mandatory and will be on Monday, Feb. 20th at 7:00 at First Baptist. **Old Business** is Elyn Croft won a 40% off coupon for the Wishing Well Door Prize. **Gretchen** adjourned the meeting at 7:31PM.

Sympathy

The Sumter Junior Welfare League
extends sympathy to:

Sustainer Wendy Waynick on the passing of her stepfather;
Sustainer Suzanne Jackson on the passing of her husband;
Sustainer Jana Jackson on the passing of her father-in-law;
Active member, Susan McGregor on the passing of her grandmother;
Provisional member, Stefanie Durham on the passing of her nephew;
And the family of sustainer, Anne Thomas.

“A Little Time And A Lot Of Love”

by **Mechelle Reynolds**

It has been a privilege and a blessing for me to be a part of the Crosswell Home Placement. I can feel the presence of the Lord each time I enter the gates. Each time we go there, we hope to be a blessing to the children. However, we are the ones who receive the blessing. The children are always glad to see us and only ask for a little of our time.

I have come to realize that to serve on the Crosswell Placement, you just need to have a willingness to work with children, a few ideas of how to entertain them, a somewhat flexible personality, and a sense of humor. You have to arrive on time because the children anxiously await your arrival and treat these children as your own. This is the opportunity that Stacey Montgomery, Candi Payne, Melissa Timmons and I were given at Crosswell Home for Children.

Members are assigned specific months that they are in charge of children's birthdays for that month. They will be responsible for ordering the cake, setting up in the dining hall and serving the cake after dinner. We also help the Volunteer Director with any additional activities or chores. We have several group activities. The first is an ice cream party in July where we meet everyone. The next event is a Christmas party where we make ornaments and celebrate Jesus' birthday with a birthday cake. And the last group activity will be a skating party.

I would say the most important thing we do in the Crosswell Home Placement is offer time, support, and loving care. We are building relationships with children who need quality time with a female adult. This is a placement that everyone in the League would be more than “qualified” to serve. Crosswell Home Staff Members say we are important to them because we offer their children our invaluable time and “that is something that they just can't buy”.



Sumter Gallery of Art

By **Sharon Chapman**

The Sumter County Gallery of Art placement is completing another exciting year! The staff at the gallery, Executive Director, Karen Watson, curator, Gardner Cole Miller, and Art Education Director, Amanda Cox, are a pleasure to work with and always gracious hosts. The SCGA is a nonprofit art institution and features traditional and contemporary art by local, regional and nationally recognized artists. The SJWL members have been volunteering at the summer art camps, Second Saturday programs and at the catered gallery openings that take place throughout the year.

Meg Hill and Ann-Frances Stoddard Brown completed their hours serving the students at the Summer Art Camps. Keonna Porter and Sherri Kennedy also completed hours during the art camps and helping students create art in a variety of mediums during Second Saturday events.

This placement has year round opportunities to serve and makes it perfect for anyone in the league. The SCGA also offers half price tuition to league member's children, so babysitting is not a problem.

The Sumter Junior Welfare League volunteers are truly appreciated. Thank you ladies for your hard work this year and please take an opportunity to visit the gallery.



Sumter Junior Welfare League
P.O. Box 626
Sumter, South Carolina 29151

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SUMTER, SC
PERMIT NO. 25

Sumter Little Theatre By: Stacey Reaves

The Sumter Little Theatre is a non-profit organization that plays an important role in the Sumter community. The Theatre is celebrating its 72th year of showcasing local talent and providing acting classes for children and young adults. Scholarships are available to those who need assistance with the cost of classes.

This year the League members assigned to this placement are Cindy Ardis, Marissa Deakin, Allyson Sanders, Allison Stevens, and Stacey Reaves, Chair. To support the theater, we work the box office, serve as ushers, sell concessions at intermission, and even help with props when needed.

The 2016-2017 season began with the *Driving Miss Daisy*, followed by the musical *Ain't Misbehavin'* and the hilarious *A Christmas Story*. Three more performances are scheduled in February, March and May, and they are *Leading Ladies*, *Cyrano*, and *The Producers* respectively. Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings with a matinee on Sunday. Each performance runs for two weeks. Season memberships are available. Call the theatre at 803 775-2150, or go the website at sumterlittletheatre.com for more information on upcoming performances. Please help to support this valuable addition to the Sumter Community. The shows are always a treat.



SUMTER LITTLE THEATRE
... a meeting of creative minds.

The Lantern Staff:

Editor—Leslie Day Caughman, (803)229-0610, leslieday25@gmail.com

Co-Editor—Kelly Mills, (803) 968-0046, kellygmills@yahoo.com

www.sumterjuniorleague.org