

The Lantern



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

Sumter, South Carolina

Volume 81- Number 5

February 2019

Happy Valentine's Day

- League Meeting:** February 18th, 7:00 PM, First Baptist Church
Mandatory Meeting/Election of Officers & Admissions Committee
- Board Meeting:** February 11th, 6:30 PM, Hostess: Vicki Singleton
Co-Hostess: Stacy Montgomery
- Provisionals:** February 18th, Immediately following the General Meeting
- Lantern:** Articles due to Lisa Andrews by February 18th: Sumter Gallery of Art, Placement Council, Vice President's Report, Sustainer Representative, and Community Research, and Provisional Report

REMINDER: LEAGUE DUES WILL BE DUE BY APRIL 1.

The treasury committee will let us know the amount of the 2019/2020 dues.
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.

A Note From the President

"Do everything in love"
1 Corinthians 16:14



When I was in college my precious daddy mailed me letter, after letter, after letter. I remember the rush of opening my PO Box and seeing an envelope. Pure joy...sometimes tears, just to receive a letter. My freshman year, he mailed me a Valentine. It was one of the craziest, cheesiest Valentine's ever made...a blow up Valentine, "I (heart) U". That's it. I stood in front of my mailbox sobbing. Why? Because he was my best friend.

It has been eleven years since his passing, and I can still hear his laugh, his sarcasm, and his wise words. More importantly, I can still feel his love. He was a man of few words. His love was unspoken, often. However, I never questioned it. Writing his eulogy was the hardest thing I've ever done. I concluded it with a request to everyone at the service to do three things that he did everyday:

- 1.) Tell the truth...Daddy used to say "Always tell the truth, then you don't ever have to remember anything."
- 2.) Don't be afraid to be yourself. He wrote in one of my letters "to always take advantage of an opportunity that may never come again."
- 3.) Pass down love...in the end its all that really matters.

"Do everything in love" -1 Corinthians 16:14. What an incredible attitude to guide us in the Junior League. We are given this amazing opportunity to represent the league and the Sumter community. We are able to serve others, as we improve our community and ourselves. Start every task with a positive mind and a happy heart.

I have seen the incredible love that you have for one another. #pigtailsforpeyton is bringing love and support to Peyton, her family, and her medical team. Please keep praying. They are all such a special part of our community. All of our best, always, begins with love.

Warmly,
Valerie

SJWL General Meeting Minutes January 18, 2019

Call to order: Valerie called the meeting to order at 7:06. She welcomed us and reminded us of the change of scheule in the meeting tonight.

Devotion: Allyson Sanders gave the devotion tonight. She gave her testimony that involved moving back to Sumter and leaving a job that she loved as a Pediatric Oncologist Nurse. Her testimony involved a boy named Russell who was 15 that was diagnosed with a brain tumor. After chemotherapy he had to relearn to walk and talk. After treatment, he was told that he had beat cancer, but he soon relapsed. Later he was asked to speak at an event for his church where he stood up in front of 200 people and gave his testimony telling of his faith in Christ. He referenced the verse Psalm 27:14. This boy's relenting faith reminds us of the verse Proverbs 3:5 Allyson reminded us that whatever challenges we may be facing, stop to see the goodness of God in it and trust in Him.

President's Remarks: Valerie James

Les Thompson introduced the speaker. He is in business relations for the hospital. He told of his own experience in the hospital with open heart surgery and cancer in his tonsils. He spoke of a nurse that took care of him and prayed with him when he wanted to resign after his health issues. He introduced this nurse as our speaker, Michelle Owens. Michelle spoke at the meeting to give us an update on Tuomey partnering with the Greenville hospital and being changed to Prisma. She claimed that the end goal for our hospital is to remain focused on the patients. She spoke of many accomplishments along with advancements going on in the hospital. They included the following: the hospital ER project will come to fruition, the Foundation is supporting the hospital and we are purchasing a robot, we will install a linear radiation to advance treatment, we are baby friendly, we are a breast imaging center of excellence, we have telehealth in schools, we have athletic trainers in 4 schools, we are partners with a local elementary school, Lemira, we support feed my starving children, and this year Michelle is chairing the heart walk. She brought 4 ladies with her for us to connect with. She introduced Shannon Cribb NP who helped open a clinic for heart failure from Columbia, and Shannon Cornell from Denver. In this clinic, they specialize in general cardiology along with advanced heart failure. Dr. Jill McLeod, who came back to Sumter from Dillion, with her husband. She has two boys. She is at Sumter OBGYN- an all-inclusive care facility. She touched on the new robotic surgery that with hysterectomys and added that the practice is branching off into the Manning area. Dr. Elizabeth Clark, a plastic surgeon, who specializes in Botox and fillers, breast reconstruction and reduction, cosmetic surgery, and offers a variety of skin care products. Michelle wanted to leave us with us feeling safe working in the Wishing Well, and that she considered us a part of the hospital's family and team. She pointed out that if we ever had a problem to contact her. Valerie thanked Michelle and the other doctors for coming and continued on with the meeting. She thanked Lisa and Jenny for the previous Lantern. She mentioned that our Sustainer representative, Kim Harrelson was pictured in the Lantern in our Legends section. Brownyn motioned that the minutes had been received and were correct, and Nancy Lee seconded. We voted to approve the minutes. Valerie read correspondence from the following local areas in our community that we support: Solomon's Home and Sumter Volunteer Services. She reminded us of the Spring art classes that will be available at the Sumter Gallery of Art.

Vice President: Vicki Singleton

Vicki received a proposal for a by-law change. The change is as follows: Hospital Gift Shop Regulations; Section 3 Wages A. (as written) Paid Workers are paid \$25.00 for any shift(s) that they work for members. (change to \$30) Reason: Our Wishing Well workers work hard to ensure that we have the time off that we need whenever possible. They have never had a pay increase, and this would let them know how much we value them, and their time.

Secretary: Amy Jones

Sustainer letters and Change of Status letters are due by February 1 at the General League meeting. Any member contact changes need to be submitted in writing (text/email). She has Directories available if you still haven't picked one up.

Treasurer: Cindy Ardis

Administrative Account Balance is \$32,890.56. Community Trust Balance is \$31,066.98. A finance committee meeting will be held at Cindy's house. Date to be determined. Cindy has the check book for any receipts that need to be turned in.

Assistant Secretary: Beth Poag

Beth asked if anyone had any old directories from years past that they wanted to donate to help in creating eligibility list for the upcoming years. She announced that election eligibility lists are in progress and will be finalized as soon as possible. Please consider leaving your name on the lists. If you want to see if your name is on the list or take it off come, see her after the meeting. No notes were written, please let Beth know if anyone needs any correspondence. Next Board Meeting is February 11 at the home of Vicki Singleton, with Stacy Montgomery providing refreshments.

Assistant Treasurer: Cheryl Landstrom

Cheryl was not able to attend the meeting. We collected \$644.20 for the Salvation Army when we passed along Valerie read her report. the kettle. That is up a little from last year when we collected \$610.

Admissions: Jennifer McMahon

Our first meeting with the Admissions Committee was held on December 3rd. We will be meeting again in March. Reminders will go out to the committee members, and sponsors will be called in February to schedule their appointment times for our meeting in March.

Community Research: Susan McGregor

Susan was not able to attend the meeting and Valerie read her report. Community research met in November. We received 7 grants. We had \$16,000 to spend. We will read the accepted grants at the next general meeting.

Computer: Day Caughman

Day reminded us to please send any change of addresses to her and Amy Jones. If we knew of any sustainers that need changes, we should notify her and Amy of those too.

Wishing Well: Julie Hobday

Julie had the following Wishing Well reminders for us: pay your paid workers in a timely manner, call the Wishing Well and make changes if you have a shift change, please write any notes to the Wishing Well Committee concerning gifts/food in the Communications folder to communicate instead of sticky notes Please don't forget to write the date, time, and who called with your initials. Please also look through the notebook for any procedure changes. Call her if you have questions.

Hospitality: Gretchen Meyers

Gretchen had no report.

Lantern: Lisa Andrews

The following placements have articles or pictures due this month: United Ministries, Crosswell Children's Home, Sumter Gallery of Art, and Sumter Little Theatre.

Minutes Continued

Placement Council: Katie Holloway

Katie announced that there are three placements that are complete. She will be getting in touch with members still needing to meet hours. Please keep a log of your hours and let your placement chair know. You should be half way through with your hours. They will need to be completed by the May Dinner.

Provisional Chairman: Stacy Montgomery

The provisionals passed the kettle at the meeting to help support the provisional project. Stacy mentioned that if we wanted to write a check to make it out to the SJWL. She added that the Provisionals are still working on their project. They will continue to collect donations and get a plan together to stock the classroom with toys. They are hoping to have the project completed by the end of February.

Sustainer Representative: Kim Harrelson

No Report.

New Business

Kim drew a name to give away a coupon to the Wishing Well. Day Caughman's name was drawn.

Old Business

Above and Beyond was given to two people. Lindsey Bozeman was nominated to fill a shift with little notice, and Katie Holloway covered two wishing well shifts after a member could not complete them.

The next board meeting will be on Monday, February 11th at 6:30 at the home of Vicki Singleton, 120 Pinnacle Ct. with Stacy Montgomery providing refreshments. The next general meeting is mandatory, Monday the 18th at 7:00. We will be voting.

Adjournment

Valerie adjourned the meeting at 7:50.

Sumter United Ministries

By Nancy Lee Zimpleman

The SJWL is proud to have three different groups volunteering with the Sumter United Ministries, SUM.

Placement A, chaired by Nancy Lee Zimpleman, helps with in office support such as greeting clients as they arrive, helping clients with the paperwork required for help and most importantly serving as Intakers. An intaker will meet with the SUM client in need, go over budget expenditures, what the need is and how SUM can help from paying a light bill to providing a box of food. Our initial review with the client and recommendation is processed by SUM for a decision on the services provide. While all that is important, the listening ear that we provide to someone seeking help is often what is most needed. The girls serving in Placement A are Leslie Horton, Kristin Sills and Jennifer Miller.



Placement B, chaired by Deanna Smith, coordinates projects, office work and other assistance as needed such as Thanksgiving Food Boxes and Christmas Angel Tree. These ladies write countless thank you notes to all the wonderful donations that are given to SUM, they cut angels and angels to help with Christmas, wrapped boxes and served in the lines at Thanksgiving and a multitude of other tasks on an as needed basis. These tasks are greatly beneficial since SUM operates on a very small staff and relies heavily on volunteers to keep all the details going. The girls serving in Placement B are Lauren Locklear, Ashley Reddick, and Jennifer Smith.

Placement C, chaired by Susan Weber, provides services to the new SUM Medical Clinic. This Free Clinic provides primary healthcare to qualifying patients who work hard but find health care financially out of reach. Our volunteers are able to assist the patients upon intake and most recently in the pharmacy area as patients are seen and provided with prescriptions. This allows the patients to be seen quickly and shown the care and support they need. The ladies serving in this placement are Mary Beth Skey and Heather Enzor.

We all serve in different capacities and use our gifts differently, but all are able to make an impact on the citizens of our community who need it the most. No matter the service or the time we are providing it is all done with love for the least of these.

Sumter Little Theatre

By Allyson Sanders

The Sumter Little Theatre placement objectives are to assist the theatre in showcasing local talent, provide educational opportunities to the youth, and enrich the arts in Sumter and the surrounding communities. The theatre usually puts on about 4-6 performances a year. This year they will have done six performances. League members who are on this placement can help with the box office, ushering, or the concession stands during showtimes. Showtimes are usually Thursday - Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons. They can also work the box office answering phone calls, returning messages, and making ticket reservations on weekday afternoons a couple of weeks leading up to the performances. This year our committee members include: Allyson Sanders (Chair), Jenna Brown, Heather Cromer, Ashlee Lloyd, and Ashley Scott. These ladies have been a pleasure to work with and we look forward to serving the theatre during the remaining shows this year.



Sumter Junior Welfare League
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Crosswell Children's Home

By Kristine Hinson

Crosswell Children's Home is truly the most rewarding placement! So far this year we have had the opportunity to throw around 18 birthday parties, an ice cream social, and an ornament decorating party for Christmas. This unique experience has us working with children spanning between the ages of 4 days old-17years old. The time we spend getting to know them and getting the opportunity to place a positive impact on their lives is something we will all cherish long after our league years are done. I have had the honor of serving along side Cindy Dimitriadus, Tina Patterson, and Carrie Johnson this year and I am so grateful for the gifts each one of them selflessly share with these children.



When I started this placement I was pregnant and I'll never forget my first opportunity to meet the kids and having them connecting so quickly with me over talking about babies, and their siblings, and their family situations. This was a real moment where I felt God giving me the discernment of how to be the comforter, the teacher, and the counselor.

This placement truly embodies what the league is all about. I encourage everyone to do this placement during your league years. There is no measure to the blessing you will receive, by spending your time giving to God's children that are so in need.



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