

# The Lantern



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

Sumter, South Carolina

Volume 78- Number 4

January 2016



## Happy New Year!



Thank you to sustainer  
Jackie Olsen and the Hospitality  
Committee  
for a  
wonderful  
League  
Tea!



### Mark your calendars...

**League Meeting:** January 19, 2016, 7:00 PM  
First Baptist Church

**Lantern Deadline:** January 15, 2016–  
Crosswell Home, Sumter Little Theatre,  
Sumter Gallery of Art

**Board Meeting:** January 11, 2016, 6:30 PM  
At First Baptist Church  
Hostesses: G. Meyers & C. Ardis  
With Provisionals

**League Meeting:** February 15, 2016  
7pm, First Baptist  
MANDATORY

February 8, 2016; 6:30 PM  
Hostess: Jackie Olsen  
Refreshments: Nancy Lee Zimpleman

**Provisionals:** January 11, 2016, 7:00 PM  
at First Baptist Church  
With the SJWL Board Meeting

February 15, 2016, Post Gen. Meeting  
At First Baptist Church

\*\* Please be aware of your  
absences– you are only allowed  
two excused absences for the  
entire year. Don't forget the  
February Meeting is  
mandatory.\*\*



## SJWL General Meeting Minutes November 16, 2015

President Mary Geddings called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. She thanked everyone for being there and reminded everyone to turn off their cell phones. Sharon Chapman shared the devotion from "a day in her life." She encouraged us to remember that we are doing great even when we feel defeated and to keep in perspective and that we are daughters of a king. Mary introduced the guest speaker, Kristen Hallal, Director of the Sumter Pregnancy Center. She shared with us a story of a woman who was helped by the Pregnancy Center. Ms. Hallal explained their mission is trying to save the unborn and also ministering to the women involved. She gave us a glimpse of the different types of women who might come in for help. The center offers parenting classes and hosts a big baby shower. Some of the women have never had anyone care for them and having a personal relationship with them makes all the difference. She explained the different ways women can volunteer. The Center serves 450 clients a year. She asked for prayer, and also encouraged us to get involved in volunteer time. The Lantern was emailed and should have been received by all. Everyone attending appeared to have received their copy. The minutes from the September general meeting were provided through the Lantern. Valerie made a motion to accept the minutes as written, and Bronwyn seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mary shared about the Tuomey Foundation's Circle of Lights to help raise money and encouraged members to consider it as a good gift to those for which you don't know what to buy. Vice-President Gretchen Meyers announced that by-law changes must be submitted to Gretchen by January 10<sup>th</sup>. They will be reviewed at the following Board Meeting. Secretary Molly Matthews announced that there were additional directories available if anyone did not get one from the last meeting. She also announced several changes of information to be noted in everyone's directories.

Active Beth Poag (c) 803-468-3954

Sustainer Cheryl Baker-move to non-resident status: 432 Doane Way, Charleston, SC 29492

Active Ann Cannon (h) 773-7371, (c) 983-5187

Sustainer Mary Belting Jones-needs to be added to sustainer list. 102 Chappell St., Sumter, SC 29150, 803-778-9892

Sustainer Sabrina Anne Walker (Ms. Anne Walker)

Active Alexa Rowe, 11 Calhoun Dr., Sumter, SC 2910

She also reminded everyone that any changes in information should be sent in writing to her. Molly announced that Sustainer letters and change of status letters are due by February 1<sup>st</sup>. Assistant Secretary Valerie James announced that she has sent 1 birth note to Heather Smith who had a baby boy and 1 condolence.

Treasurer Cindy Ardis announced the bank balances: Administrative Account: \$28,867.07; Community Trust: \$27,453.13. She has completed the paperwork to get the online banking set up. She handed out budget request forms. They are due December 31<sup>st</sup>. Cindy Ardis announced for Assistant Treasurer Susan McGregor that the Salvation Army kettles were being passed around. Admissions Chair Janelle Smith announced that the Admissions Committee will be hearing from her soon. Community Research Chair Nancy Branham shared that she had received several grant requests and no placement recommendations. She will be presenting those for approval in January. Computer Chair Nancy Lee asked members to see her if anyone was not getting emails. She also said website will be up and running soon. Gift Shop Chair Gretchen Meyers thanked all those who helped decorate and get the WW ready for Christmas. She brought up various issues regarding Wishing Well policies as well as void procedures and the cash register. She reminded us that the Wishing Well is phasing out the greeting cards. She also reported a successful Open House and a coupon in the Lantern. She announced the 12 days of Christmas for the Tuomey employees. Business Manager Jennifer McMahon explained the new void procedure. The Food Buyer Becky Craft thanked everyone for what they do for the WW and asked everyone to write on the list of any foods that we need to order and various other things. Hospitality Chair Amy Moss announced that the League Tea will be December 7<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm at the home of Jackie Olsen. Lantern Editor Bronwyn McElveen announced that there is no Lantern in December. The deadline for the January Lantern is December 18<sup>th</sup>. Bronwyn announced the pictures she needed to take at tonight's meeting. She also announced article deadlines for Lantern. Placement Council Chair Cheryl Landstrom thanked everyone for the hours they're pouring into the Sumter community. She also announced that the Placement Council met Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Provisional Chair Lisa Andrews no report. Sustainer Representative Jackie Olsen is looking forward to having us in her home for the Tea. Old Business: Mary announced a 40 percent off coupon to be given to Shelly Stokes for thinking of donating the "Emergency Fund" money to Millwood students and their families who were affected by the flood. New Business: Nancy Branham announced the "Above and Beyond" award for Amanda Tindal and Mary Beth Mims. Mary reminded everyone that the Tea will be on Monday December 7<sup>th</sup>. She also reminded everyone to think about leaving your name on the officer forms. Mary adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.

## General Meeting Minutes December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015

A drop-in tea was held on Monday December 7th, 2015 in honor of our new provisional members at the home of sustainer Jackie Olsen. The weather was beautiful and unseasonably warm making it a delightful setting inside and out. President Mary Geddings, hostess Jackie Olsen and Provisional Chair Lisa Andrews greeted each guest as they arrived and introduced them to the provisional members. Provisional co-chair Rebecca Brogdon and Hospitality Chair Amy Moss also greeted the guests as they entered. The guests milled about the house enjoying the delicious food as well as all of the interesting, exotic treasures and antiques on display. Beautiful poinsettias decorated the home with the colors and scents of Christmas all around. The turnout was a delightful 103 guests with 63 active members, 20 sustaining members and 20 of our provisional members in attendance.

Respectfully Submitted, Molly Matthews, SJWL Secretary



### PLEASE NOTE:

*If you are planning on going semi-active or sustainer for the next year, please submit a letter to Molly Matthews before February 1, 2015.*

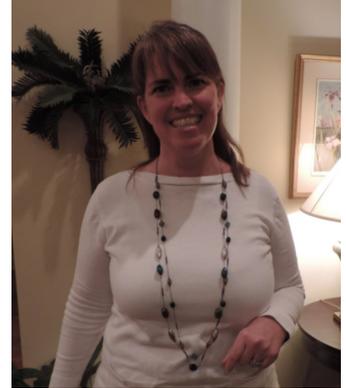
**Welfare and Emergency Aid**  
**By Susan McGregor**

The Welfare and Emergency Aid Committee consists of two members, the Vice President, Gretchen Meyers and the Assistant Treasurer, Susan McGregor. Each year the league establishes an account at K-Mart to be used by the public school nurses in Sumter School District to purchase necessities for needy students. This year we were able to fund the account with \$1400, which was greatly appreciated and needed by the schools.

In addition, the Committee has a fund of \$500 that can be given to groups addressing crisis situations in the County. This year the Committee gave the crisis funds to Millwood Elementary School's Flood Relief Fund to assist the families who were impacted by the Flood in October.

The Committee also collects donations for the Salvation Army by passing around the kettle at our November General meeting. This year our members donated \$515.38 for this very worthy organization. The Salvation Army assists over 700 Sumter County families during the Holiday and winter season.

Thank you members for your continued support which allows the League to help underprivileged families in Sumter County!



**United Ministries**  
**By Beth Poag**

Sumter United Ministries is hopping!!!

From Gear Up for Learning for back to school supplies for needy children to the Lighthouse Grill during the fair, from massive flood relief for our community to Thanksgiving boxes, From Angel Tree to Tuesday night medical clinics, Sumter United Ministries has never been more in touch with the needs of the Sumter community, and never more mobilized to help. The Lighthouse Grill was suddenly suspended due to the flooding we all experienced in different ways, but with the help of churches and community leaders, many flood buckets, financial assistance, and hands on building has occurred to help get the Sumter community back on track. The opportunities for the League to serve continue to be available with intake appointments, and the Tuesday night medical clinic is so well received and popular. I feel we have been blessed by this placement more this year than ever before!!



**Get Real about Violence**  
**Katie McLeod– Chair**  
**Shelley Stokes**

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Non-Profit  
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