

# The Lantern



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

Sumter, South Carolina

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February 2025



## Sumter Little Theatre

by Stefanie Durham



The Sumter Junior Welfare League's Sumter Little Theatre Placement serves year around. There are usually six productions, with the first starting in May. Each show covers two weekends. This placement requires members to be able to volunteer during production times. Productions typically run Thursday to Saturday evenings and a matinee on Sunday. Volunteers work concessions and usher guests to their seats. Most shows will require an hour of volunteer time and have the benefit of allowing you to watch the performance for free. Placement members - Stefanie Durham (chair), Katie LeBlanc, Dixie Durant and Tiffany Rogers

Upcoming shows:

**Brighton Beach Memoirs**  
March 6th—16th, 2025

**Mood 14 - A Cabaret Event**  
April 12, 2025

**Dream Girls**  
May 1st—11th, 2025

For tickets, visit  
[www.sumterlittletheatre.com](http://www.sumterlittletheatre.com)

## Welfare and Emergency Aid

By Whitney Brown

Each year, we have the privilege of passing the Salvation Army kettle at our November general meeting. This year, thanks to the generosity of League members, we collected \$365 for the Salvation Army. We appreciate the support shown by our members in providing funds to those who are less fortunate in Sumter and the surrounding areas.

The Welfare and Emergency Aid Committee, consisting of two members, Vice President-Jessica Fralick and Assistant Treasurer-Whitney Brown, will meet in February. This committee works with nurses in the Sumter School District to provide funds to purchase necessities for needy students in the district. The school nurses make purchases at their discretion for students who need clothing, shoes, and school supplies. The budget this year is \$1,000 for this cause. The committee has an additional \$500 to assist with crisis relief in Sumter County.



**Two by Two**  
by Mollie McMillan

The Two by Two placement consists of the DuRant Children's Center and The Advocacy Pregnancy and Parenting Center. The purpose of our placement is to provide assistance to these wonderful organizations in Sumter. I currently serve on this placement with my co-chair, Brittany Huckeba, Madison Cox, and Katherine Schwartz. We work well together to divide up our time and talents to best serve these two organizations. We have assisted The Advocacy Pregnancy and Parenting Center this league year by writing thank you notes and preparing for a lemonade social. We plan to prepare casseroles for new mothers this spring. We are helping the Durant Children's Center by brightening the experience of the children that visit the center. We do this by hanging a seasonal bulletin board display in their waiting room and making a seasonal treat bag for the children to take with them after their visit. We also helped with their big Christmas gift sponsorship and family event in December. We look forward to helping these organizations this semester. It brings us joy to know that the work we do through this placement helps encourage children and parents right here in our Sumter community.



**Crosswell Children's Home**  
By Savannah Davis



Crosswell Children's home offers a volunteer opportunity with Sumter Junior Welfare League that exceeds beyond just completing hours during your placement. This year, the Sumter Junior Welfare League has assembled a remarkable group of women who are dedicated to making a difference at Crosswell. With enthusiasm and compassion, we embrace the chance to support our local children's home and the children in several different ways. Our responsibilities extend from organizing joyful birthday parties to orchestrating memorable seasonal events. In July, we marked the end of summer with an ice cream social, giving the kids a chance to enjoy the final days before school began. On December 4, we each brought a unique ornament craft to share at our Christmas party before dinner. Each ornament was then hung on the tree in the dining room, adding a personal touch to the holiday decor. Coming up this spring, we look forward to hosting a skating party with all the children before Spring Break. Each interaction is a privilege, allowing us to forge meaningful connections with every child and share moments of laughter and companionship that brighten each of our days.



**Sumter Gallery of Art**  
by Marissa Deakin



The Sumter Art Gallery is a year-round placement where League members volunteer their time helping kids in art classes or participating in scheduled artist events. The first opportunity allows members to volunteer during the summer right after receiving this placement and consists of 7 weeks of various weeklong summer art camps. In the past, kids have enjoyed Fun in the Mud, Youth Pottery, Creative Spaces, painting classes and more! The summer art camps allow youth the opportunity to work with a variety of mediums such as painting, clay pottery, sculpture and more. Classes are arranged for age groups 4-7, and 8 & up. League members spend time

assisting the art class instructors and youth that attend camp. The next opportunity involves the Second Saturday of each month where the Art Gallery hosts art classes for youth from 9am to noon and those interested are encouraged to sign up online as classes book up fast! During the holidays, members can assist with the Sumter Artist Guild Holiday Market held in December and it is amazing to see all the creative talent in the Sumter community. Last, members can attend gallery openings and artist talks throughout the entire year, which involves food preparation, set up, serving beverages, and interacting with a variety of local artists. The gallery openings are usually on Thursday evenings and such a fun, social event!

## **November General Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Minutes by: Larsen Cline, Secretary

Date: 11/18/2024

Phone: 803-847-8929

Location: First Baptist Church

Email: sjwsecretary@gmail.com

Time: 7:00 PM

### **Call to order**

Jenny Knopf calls the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

### **Devotion**

Given by Mollie Oswald

Devotion given from New Morning Mercies; our life is in careful control by God. When we feel out of control, we need to remember that He is in control of everything.

### **President's Remarks:** Jenny Knopf

Motion to approve September and October 2024 Board Meeting minutes.

First: Anna James Second: Larsen Cline

### **Vice President:** Jessica Fralick

By-law change suggestions to Jessica.

### **Secretary:** Larsen Cline

Please make sure you sign in inside the guest book.

Directories are available at the front and are now being sent electronically each month with The Lantern. Please send any address, number, or name changes to sjwsecretary@gmail.com. Be sure to track your absences—we are allowed two.

### **Treasurer:** Susan Donohoo

Budget requests are being sent out tonight to the board.

Administrative account balance is \$13,783.94, Community Trust account balance is \$25,434.84 and Fundraiser account balance is \$9,190.55.

### **Assistant Secretary:** Brenley Davis

One condolence note and two birth notes were sent out.

### **Assistant Treasurer:** Whitney Brown

Salvation Army Kettle was passed.

### **Admissions:** Anna James

Admissions packets are due tonight. Admissions committee meeting will take place on 12/16/2024.

### **Community Research:** Hillary Griffin

Grant applications going out 11/19/24 and are due January 1, 2025.

### **Communications:** Morganne Anderson

No report.

### **Fundraiser:** Lauren Pritchard

Deck the Doors is 12/7/2024. T-shirt and sweatshirt orders will be there.

### **Wishing Well:** Jackie Hicks

We had a great & successful open house. Provisionals will meet after general meeting at WW.

### **Hospitality:** Stacy Montgomery

No report.

### **Placement Council:** Mollie Oswald

Keep working on your hours!

### **Provisional Chairman:** Kelley Bostic for Mary Kathryn Hulme

Provisionals are going to Wishing Well after general meeting to learn process to start shifts.

### **Sustainer Representative:** Susan Hilton

The October Tea was beautiful and sustainers had a blast. Thank you for a wonderful afternoon.

### **New Business**

Above and Beyond for Larsen Cline [re-writing the directory], Mollie McMillan [working WW and CC machine went down—ran the square app on her personal phone to keep things rolling], Caroline Rogerson [always being on top of The Lantern and making the Communications Team great], Ariel Floyd [thank you for making our Communications Team feel complete]

### **Old Business**

None

### **Adjournment**

Jenny adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.

## **January General Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Minutes by: Larsen Cline, Secretary

Date: 1/13/2025

Phone: 803-847-8929

Location: First Baptist Church

Email: sjwlsecretary@gmail.com

Time: 7:00 PM

### **Call to order**

Jenny Knopf calls the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

### **Devotion**

Given by Lauren Pritchard

Devotion given about starting the New Year by making lists, resolutions and goals to become closer to God & spending the same amount of time with Him as we do our other relationships. As we “limp” into the New Year, leaning on Philippians 4: 6-7, “don’t worry about anything, instead pray about everything...experiencing God’s peace.” No matter the million things we are, morning by morning, He is faithful. Our worth is tied to Him, resting in his peace.

### **Special Speaker:** Valerie Fulwood

“Needing a hand up, not a hand out” Volunteer Coordinator from Habitat for Humanity discussed the need for volunteers to help build homes. Sumter Habitat for Humanity has built 130 homes, starting in 1987. They currently need volunteers to assist in building homes in order to make the homes more affordable. Recipients of these homes are required to help build their own homes, volunteering 300 “sweat” hours. Volunteer building days are on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8 am—3:30 pm.

### **President’s Remarks:** Jenny Knopf

Motion to approve November 2024 minutes.

First: Anna James Second: Larsen Cline

### **Vice President:** Jessica Fralick

Voting next month on by-law changes

### **Secretary:** Larsen Cline

Sustainer letters and change of status letters are due February 1. Ensure you signed in for January and September meetings. Please send any address, number, or name changes to sjwlsecretary@gmail.com. Be sure to track your absences—we are allowed two.

### **Treasurer:** Susan Donohoo

Administrative account balance is \$12,358.28 and

Community Trust account balance is \$29,030.78.

### **Assistant Secretary:** Brenley Davis

Eligibility lists for the 24/25 board members are now available and were provided at the meeting. If you want to be removed from the list please let Brenley know. February general meeting is mandatory, members will be voting on new board members on this date. Three condolence notes and two birth notes were sent out.

### **Assistant Treasurer:** Whitney Brown

Thank you for those who donated to the Salvation Army Kettle at the November meeting—\$365 was collected.

### **Admissions:** Anna James

Admissions will meet in March and will vote on the new provisional class.

### **Community Research:** Hillary Griffin

Community Research will meet February 24 at 6 pm to review grants.

### **Communications:** Morganne Anderson

Provisionals, join the SJWL Active Members group on Facebook.

### **Fundraiser:** Lauren Pritchard

No report

### **Wishing Well:** Jackie Hicks

Christmas sales were great! Please make sure you are restocking. If you have a change in phone number, please update it in the directory at the Wishing Well so you will still receive WW reminders.

### **Hospitality:** Stacy Montgomery

May Dinner planning is underway!

### **Placement Council:** Mollie Oswald

Reach out to placement chair if you need help with your hours.

### **Provisional Chairman:** Kelley Bostic for Mary Kathryn Hulme

Provisional project is supporting Young Life through a raffle basket that raised \$1800.

### **Sustainer Representative:** Susan Hilton

No report

### **New Business**

Above and Beyond for Morganne Anderson; comes in early and stays late to help support Wishing Well

### **Old Business**

None

### **Adjournment**

Jenny adjourned the meeting at 7:31 pm.

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

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## Celebrating 90 Years of Service!



Past Sumter Junior Welfare League Presidents gathered for the 75th League Year in 2010.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**General League Meeting:**  
February 24th at 7:00 PM  
First Baptist Church  
**\*Mandatory Meeting\***

**Board Meeting:**  
February 3rd at 6:30 PM

**Provisionals:**  
February 24th following the General Meeting  
First Baptist Church

**Contact Information**  
Send any updates for contact information including  
email, address, phone, or name changes to Larsen  
Cline at [sjwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:sjwsecretary@gmail.com)