

The Lantern



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

Sumter, South Carolina

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May 2020

Congratulations to our New Sustaining Members!



Sarah Eaves Smith



Vicki Kirby Singleton



Valerie Page James



Kelly Goldstein Mills



Nancy Lee Garner Zimpleman



Whitney Anderson Dunlap



Lisa Stanley Andrews

The following ladies have served the Sumter community through the Sumter Junior Welfare League in many capacities for the past ten years. We thank them for their service, hard work, and dedication.

Whitney Dunlap has served in various placements throughout her ten years in the League. Her placements have included: Puppets, Puppets Chair, Placement Council, Wishing Well Co-Chair, and Chairman of Wishing Well. In addition, she served on the board for two years. Whitney most enjoyed her time as Wishing Well Chairman: “There were so many times I would see people [in the store] that looked like they were about to cry and then something they would see, or if I just talked to them they would cheer up and go out smiling and laughing.”

Whitney is not sure what she’ll do with all of her free time just yet. She is excited to see what God will bring her way. As a word of advice for the Provisional class, she recommends you enjoy it while it lasts and “remember, it’s volunteer work, so have fun, and do what you are able to do!”

Whitney’s most memorable and hilarious moment in the League is when she rang someone up for a hundred thousand dollars on a one dollar purchase. Needless to say, she did not collect!

Nancy Lee Zimpleman is also about to complete her final year as an active member of the Sumter Junior Welfare League. The placements Nancy Lee has fulfilled during her years in SJWL were: Crosswell Home for Children, Lantern Editor, Computer Chair, Sumter United Ministries Part A and B, and Community Research Chair. She has enjoyed all of her placements, but Crosswell Home and United Ministries were her favorites. She explains, “Meeting people in hard circumstances and yet being able to help, love and encourage them was where I felt we were doing the most good.”

Nancy Lee will use her newfound “free time” to continue focusing on her marketing business, raising her family, and volunteering. She asks Provisionals to remember as they go out to serve that God has blessed them each with special gifts and talents. She says, “You will be surprised how quickly the time goes and how much you enjoy it. And remember it’s an honor to be here as a gift back to our community.”

Sarah Smith has volunteered in many areas throughout the past 10 years. Her placements have included: Wishing Well (extra shifts), Sumter Gallery of Art Chair, Sumter Opera House, Secretary, and Admissions Chair. Sarah has appreciated all of her placements and is truly grateful for the wide range of opportunities she has had to serve Sumter and learn more about the different organizations that work to enrich and support our community.

Sarah plans to use her extra time with her three boys and look for other ways to serve her community. She may even squeeze in a little more time for reading! She recommends that Provisionals challenge themselves to try new things and to strongly consider opportunities to serve on the Board, explaining “there’s no better way to fully understand the many ways our league serves the Sumter Community – your hours of service are just one way!”

She will never forget when she got to bring her son to her placement at the Sumter Gallery of Art’s “Wild, Wild West Art Camp.” She explains, “I loved serving as a volunteer with the other children, and it was a sweet memory to share that experience with my son as a camper!”

Kelly Mills is also about to complete her final year as an active member of the Sumter Junior Welfare League. Her placements include: Wishing Well Inventory, Wishing Well Schedules, and Lantern Editor for two years. Her favorite placement was working at the Wishing Well. She found it really interesting to learn the ins and outs of the Wishing Well as it serves as the hub of the League and it gave her a greater appreciation for how important the Wishing Well is to maintain the services we provide in Sumter.

In her free time, Kelly expects she’ll be spending more time with her kids and hopes to take on cooking. She would love to give her family more adventurous dinners. She advises Provisionals not to worry about the ten year commitment, explaining “It flies by. Everything works out, and it will be a very fulfilling experience. I will never forget any of the fabulous friends I made during these ten years or seeing all of the hard work that the Sumter Junior Welfare League does for our community. It has been a wonderful ten years. I will miss it.”

Lisa Andrews has volunteered in many areas throughout the past 10 years. Her placements have included: Wishing Well Shifts, Wishing Well Gifts, Camp Scamp, Camp Scamp Chair, Provisional Co-Chair, Provisional Chair, Sumter County Museum Puppets, Lantern Co-Editor, Lantern Editor, and Hospitality. Lisa most enjoyed her first year in the League. She says, "As a new Sumterite, I enjoyed learning about our town and the numerous opportunities available for us to serve others. I also met some amazing women who I am fortunate to call friends."

In her free time, Lisa expects a lot of it will be taken up by her three boys and looks forward to focusing more on family, church, and friends. She hopes to also pursue hobbies like cooking, kayaking, and running. She recommends that Provisionals never lose sight of why they said yes to their invitation to join the League. She explains, "A lot will happen in the next ten years. Some seasons will be joyful and some will be downright tough. Life is about perspective. Seek to find the positive in every circumstance. You may never fully know the impact that you have on someone you are serving at the Wishing Well or through your placement. God has placed you in this organization for a reason. Identify the gifts He has given you and be willing to use them to serve others."

Valerie James has volunteered in many areas throughout the past 10 years. Her placements have included: Maizie's Place, Get Real About Violence Chairman, Placement Council, Crosswell Home for Children, Provisional Co-Chairman, Provisional Chairman, Admissions, Assistant Secretary, Secretary, Vice President, President, and Sumter Gallery of Art. She has most enjoyed her placement Get Real About Violence & serving as President. She explains, "Both placements pushed me way outside of my comfort zone. GRAV gave me the chance to make an immediate impact on children in the community. As President, I'll never forget the opportunity I had to be a Tuomey Fellow with Prisma."

In her free time, Valerie wants to spend more time with her family and friends. She plans to paint more and take painting classes. She also wants to find more volunteer opportunities with the elderly and the Tuomey Foundation. Valerie recommends that members use their time in the League to touch someone else's life. She explains, "The League offers you the opportunity to serve, grow, and love while benefiting the Sumter community. Your contribution can make a difference in the lives of so many, if you just put forth the effort. Remember that everyone's best looks different, so only worry about your part. God will cover the rest."

Valerie will never forget the time when she was being trained to work at the Wishing Well and someone stole all of the candy bars right out from under her nose! Most importantly, Valerie will never forget meeting her fellow Provisionals. She was excited and anxious, but 10 years later she is just honored to have served with such wonderful women!

Vicki Singleton is also about to complete her final year as an active member of the Sumter Junior Welfare League. Her placements include: The Lantern Editor; Camp Scamp Chair; Admissions Chair; Placement Chair; Community Research Chair; Sumter Opera House; Vice President; President. Her favorite placement was Camp Scamp: "The children were so happy to see me every day. They wanted to learn, have fun, and be loved, and they gave me all of those things, as well."

In her free time, Vicki hopes to play the piano, read, and start golf lessons again! Vicki wants Provisionals to enjoy their time in the league. She says, "Hang in there no matter how long or tiring it may seem. You will receive too many blessings to count! And the time will fly!"

Vicki will never forget when her Provisional class refreshed the girls room at the Greenway Runaway Shelter. She explains, "It was a lot of work, but it was fun getting to know my class and so rewarding when we were done. And, we had the best Provisional Chair in Dibble Parker."

Article by Ann-Frances Brown

Congratulations to our Newest Active Members



Left to Right: Carolyn Hodge, Jill Horton, Lisa Pinto, Madison Cox, Monique Brunson, Mandy Baibak, Kate Price, Rebekah Killen, Brenley Davis, Jennifer Reimer, Brittany Huckeba, Abbye Price and Lori Berger



A Note from the President



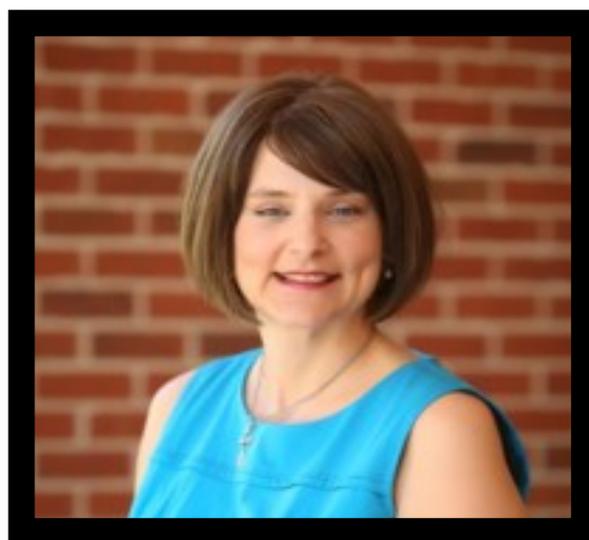
I had hoped for an exciting last year in the League. I did not count on a global pandemic interrupting the last half of the service year, including shutting down The Wishing Well. This wonderful organization is stronger than a pandemic. April saw us voting on important matters of business online! We got it done! Thank you all for your understanding and patience as we have made adjustments to our normal way of operating. I'd like to especially thank this year's incredible Board for your support and encouragement through unprecedented events. You did not hesitate when tough decisions needed to be made! We truly worked together as a team this year to get things done well. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the League this year! I look forward to seeing everyone at our celebration on August 3.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13



The Sumter Junior Welfare League Board used Zoom in order to conduct the April Board Meeting. The meeting was, while different, very productive! The Board continues to work hard to uphold the purpose and values of the League.

Community Research By Nancy Lee Zimpleman



It has been a pleasure to serve as Community Research Chair. It is an honor to serve the league by being the steward of the grant funding. I have been able to meet and learn so much about all the organizations in our community through the over 40 grant applications we received this year. Our community is so blessed with amazing organizations that care for a myriad of causes and share their talents with so many. When you are stocking shelves or selling sandwiches in the Wishing Well, remember it is about so much more. This year \$16,000 was able to be returned to the community in the form of these grants. Thank you to everyone in the League for all your hard work to make these grants possible through your shifts and other duties in the Wishing Well. We are able to make a great difference in many lives in Sumter because of your dedication.

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

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Project Update:

SUMTER JUNIOR WELFARE LEAGUE
PROVISIONAL CLASS NEEDS YOUR
HELP!

SPECIAL NEEDS CLASSROOM CLOTHING DRIVE

We need sweatpants, underwear, and
socks from kids sizes to adult 4X.

***If you have donations or would
like to donate, please email
MCox37@my.gcu.edu***

May Dinner Update

With the health and safety of our members in mind, the Sumter Junior Welfare League has tentatively rescheduled the May Dinner for Monday, August 3rd. Social hour will begin at 6:15 p.m. and the dinner will begin at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to honoring our new sustaining members!

**Please send your payment of \$35.00 by 7/17/2020 to
Cheryl Landstrom, 20 Wildberry Lane, Sumter, 29154*

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