

The Lantern



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

Sumter, South Carolina

Volume 82- Number 5

February 2020

Happy Valentine's Day



League Meeting: February 17th, 7:00 PM, First Baptist Church
Mandatory Meeting/Election of Officers & Admissions Committee

Board Meeting: February 10th, 6:30 PM, Hostess: Lauren Locklear
Co-Hostess: Cheryl Landstrom

Provisionals: February 17th, Immediately following the General Meeting

Lantern: Articles due to Jenny Knopf by February 17th: Sumter Gallery of Art, Placement Council, Vice President's Report, Sustainer Representative, Community Research and Provisional Report. *PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN FEBRUARY 17th* following the meeting.

REMINDER: LEAGUE DUES WILL BE DUE BY APRIL 1.

The treasury committee will let us know the amount of the 2020-2021 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. The by-laws will be enforced. Please make sure to submit your dues in a timely manner.



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

"Love is patient, love is kind." I'm sure you know the rest. Most of us have 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 memorized. This passage reminds me of the ways I need to improve on myself. I'm not always patient with or kind to those I love. I am sometimes proud and self-seeking. I don't always trust. And, I certainly feel like giving up sometimes. However, this passage isn't about me. It is about Love. And, no matter how many times I fail, I am so grateful Love never will!

With much love, Vicki

**SJWL General Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2020**

Call to order: Vicki called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

Devotion: Tiffany Rodgers gave a devotion based on Titus 3: 4-7 and James 4: 7-10. The world is trying to sell us on the supposed perfection around us. Tiffany reminded us that sharing those imperfect parts of ourselves within confession, we are able to approach God in authenticity, and then we can be cleansed. Removing our masks in the face of God allows us to be fully who we are supposed to be.

President's Remarks, Vicki Singleton: Guest speaker Marie Broadway, Coordinator for the International Baccalaureate program at SHS spoke to us about the program. Website <http://shsib.weebly.com/> Correspondence was reviewed.

Vice President, Bronwyn McElveen: Bronwyn presented two changes to the bylaws for review at the next meeting. These are to be voted on in April.

Secretary, Beth Poag: Please monitor your absences carefully. You are allowed two absences during the year. I will be reaching out to you if you have already had two absences within the next week. Please request changes in status in writing by February 1, 2020. If you are going sustainer, please so advise me in writing by February 1, 2020. I have received three requests to go sustainer at this time. Next month's meeting is MANDATORY.

Treasurer: As of 01/11/2020, Administrative Fund Balance = \$26,004.56 Community Trust Fund Balance = \$16,077.98 Budget request forms due tonight. Prior to February 10 board meeting, the finance committee will meet at Cheryl's house at a date TBA as soon as possible (Feb 3, 4, or 5).

Assistant Secretary, Day Caughman: It is an exciting time as we consider the future leadership of the league, and we vote for upcoming offices of VP, Asst. Treasurer, and Asst. Secretary and our Admissions committee. I will send via the computer chair a list of all eligible members to run for these positions. Please carefully and prayerfully consider serving. Once the email is sent, and if necessary, please email me if you wish to remove your name from the list BEFORE voting next month.

Assistant Treasurer, Shannon Boykin: Thank you to everyone for your \$421 donations to the Salvation Army.

Admissions, Sarah Smith: Admissions committee met in December. The next meeting will be in March

Community Research, Nancy Lee Zimpleman: Sixteen grant applications were received and one placement request addition was submitted.

Computer, Ashley Melton: No report.

Wishing Well, Amy Stallings: Christmas– Thank you for all your hard work. The team just got back from Market. New items will be arriving. If any phone calls happen from vendors, please take the messages and leave them in the chairman's box. Reminder– Security button is ALWAYS there for you if you feel a need during your shift. If you are feeling uncomfortable, the security officers will also walk you to your car

Hospitality, Lillie Smith: No Report.

Lantern, Jenny Knopf: Reminder to take a picture of Crosswell Home, Little Theatre, and United Ministries teams.

Placement Council, Lisa Burke: Please reach out to Lisa if you need help with your hours. You should be halfway along in your hours by now.

Provisional Chair, Lauren Locklear: Provisional project was presented tonight. Donations will be taken March 21 from 9-12 at Aldersgate Presbyterian or during the February meeting as well. Socks, sweats, and underwear are all recommended for the self-contained classroom. All sizes from kids to adults will be accepted. Must be new. Monetary donations will also be accepted at the next meeting.

Sustainer Representative, Mary Kolb: No report.

New Business: Elections reminder next month. Above and Beyond: Keonna Porter and Tiffany Rodgers. Next Board meeting Monday, February 10. Lauren Locklear will host at 702 Fawn Circle with Cheryl Landstrom providing refreshments. Next General meeting will be Monday, February 17, FBC at 7:00 pm.

Old Business: Door prize for the WW was awarded to Lisa Burke. Wishing Well Shifts- Please make sure you are only using 4 paid workers in one year.

Adjournment: Vicki adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Congratulations to

- ◇ Larsen Cline on the birth of her son
- ◇ Abbye Price on the birth of her daughter

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.

MAR 21 | 9 -12 | ALDRSGATE UMC
Drop off your donations at the drive through!

Sumter United Ministries By Jennifer Miller

The SJWL is proud to have two different groups volunteering with the Sumter United Ministries, SUM. Placement A, chaired by Jennifer Miller, volunteers with SUM's Crisis Relief Services, particularly serving as Intakers. As an intaker we meet with the SUM clients in need as a result of a recent crisis. The initial step is to explain SUM's mission and what assistance is available to clients. Next we discuss what crisis the client is currently experiencing followed by going over their income and expenditures. We offer suggestions on their expenditures that may help them with their budgets in the future and then we work on what assistance SUM may be able to offer the client. Assistance that is provided is vouchers to assist with their rent, kerosene, natural propane, electric or water bills. Our initial review with the client and recommendations are processed by SUM for a decision on the services to be provided. Most importantly we offer words of encouragement to the SUM clients that are going through financial challenges. The ladies serving in Placement A this year are Philissa Edge and Cindy Dimitriadis. It is a blessing to be able to use each of our unique gifts and talents to make a difference for those in need.



United Ministries Placement B, chaired by Melissa Timmons, has a total of 5 members: Jessica Fralick, Stacy Montgomery, Ashley Redick, Deanna Smith, and Jennifer Smith. This placement has multiple volunteer opportunities throughout the year. We kicked off the year with Gear Up for Learning by helping sort donated school supplies for Sumter School District. We helped set up for Oktoberfest, served fries at the Sumter County Fair, and cut out countless Christmas tree angels. We also write numerous thank you notes for all the donations that Sumter United Ministries receives. Every volunteer opportunity that we provide to SUM allows their small staff and resources to be devoted to other operational tasks. The small amount of time we devote to volunteering is making a difference in the lives of others within Sumter County.



Sumter Little Theatre

By Marissa Deakin

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: Marissa Deakin (Chair), Hillary Griffin, Courtney Moore, Jenny Thigpen, Amy Jones and Caroline Motley. 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
P.O. Box 626
Sumter, South Carolina 29151

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Crosswell Children's Home

By Brittony Aycock

Crosswell Children's Home is a placement that one will be rewarded many times over. This placement requires someone who loves children and in return will be loved by the children. I have been truly blessed to work along side Whitney Moss, Leah French, and Mollie Oswald. Each of these ladies bring different selfless traits to share with these children.

As of now, we have celebrated numerous birthday parties each month, a pool and ice cream social that took place in June, and an ornament decorating Christmas party. Our year will wind up with an end of the year skating party in April. This placement has been a wonderful, eye opening experience. It will definitely open your eyes to show you just how fortunate we all are. The opportunity one has to work this placement will leave a positive impact on the children's lives for many years to come.

When I was given the opportunity to chair Crosswell Children's Home, I was a bit hesitant and wanted to say, "I'm not sure I can do that one". I'm glad I took the challenge and accepted the role to chair. What you get out of this placement is absolutely rewarding and I would do it again if given the opportunity.

The most important thing to do in this placement is giving of your time, support, love, and care. You build great relationships with children that appreciate all that you are willing to give. I encourage everyone in the League to make sure that Crosswell Children's Home is one of your placements.



The Lantern Staff:

**Editor—Jenny Knopf, (843)373-8103,
jennylaurenstephens@gmail.com**
**Co-Editor—Anne-Frances Brown,
(864) 706-0338, Stoddard.af@gmail.com**
www.sumterjuniorleague.org

The Sumter Junior Welfare League extends sympathy to Kathy Lowder on the death of her husband. Mr. Lowder passed away on February 3rd, 2019.