

The Lantern



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

Sumter, South Carolina

Volume 85- Number 1

September 2024

2024-2025 Executive Board

Your 2024-2025 Executive Board - By Caroline Rogerson



President Jenny Knopf, is a native of Turbeville, SC, married to Kell Knopf, and has two children, Jenna Lane (9) and Mac (3). She is currently employed by Sumter School District as a Speech Therapist. Jenny maintains a professional affiliation with the American Speech and Hearing Association and also serves on the Board of Directors for Liberty STEAM Charter School. She and her family are members of Alice

Drive Baptist Church, Pocalla Campus. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and running. This will be Jenny's 10th year serving with the League. During that time, she has served as the Provisional chair, The Lantern editor, Wishing Well shifts, Gift/Food Committee, Secretary and Vice President. One of Jenny's favorite placements has been serving as the Vice President. This role gave her the opportunity to observe how it takes every one of us to make this organization work.



Vice President Jessica Fralick, is a native of Sumter, SC, married to Jeffrey Fralick Jr., owner of Prestige Painting, and has two children, Mary Ellis (5) and Margaret (6 months). Jessica is currently employed as a Nurse Practitioner with Tandem Health Pediatrics. She and her family are members of Crosspoint Church. In her

free time, Jessica enjoys traveling the outdoors, gardening, reading, and spending time with friends and family. Jessica has served the League since 2018, entering her 7th year. During that time, she has served as the Provisional chair and Admissions chair, while also assisting with United Ministries. Jessica loved serving as the Provisional chair, which afforded her the opportunity to introduce a new group of ladies to the League!



Secretary Larsen Cline, is a native of Sumter, SC, married to Jake Cline and has two children, Jack (4), and Spencer (2). Larsen does Sales and Marketing for Lollibear Children's Boutique and is a member of Trinity United Methodist Church. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, reading, painting

and going to the beach. She and her husband are the '24-25 President of the Carolinian Camellia Debutante Club and this will be Larsen's seventh year serving in the SJWL. Larsen has served on the Wishing Well Food and Beverage Committee, as the Wishing Well Scheduler, the Lantern and Social Media, and as Assistant Secretary. She most enjoyed her time as the Wishing Well Scheduler, explaining that it was satisfying to take the many puzzle pieces of the league members requests and fit them into one complete schedule. Larsen also found joy in being able to send birth announcement notes to league members upon the arrival of their new bundles of joy!



Treasurer Susan A. Donohoo is from Springfield, MA, married to Deron Donohoo, and has three children, Zoe (23), Zak (20) and Ian (20). She currently works at First Citizens Bank as the Financial Services Specialist. She attends First Baptist Church and enjoys going on vacation and

spending time with her family. In addition to serving the community through the SJWL she is on the board for The Sumter Crime Stoppers. She joined the League in 2016, making this her 8th year serving the Sumter Community with SJWL. During her time she has worked at the Sumter Opera House, United Ministries Chair, Admissions Committee, Co-Business Manager and Business Manager (twice), Finance Committee Chair, Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer (twice). Susan is unable to pick just once placement as her favorite, saying that "Each one has taught me so many things about the League and myself."

The 2023-2024 May Dinner





Spirit of the League

by Lauren Locklear

I had the privilege of selecting the recipient of the 2024 Spirit of the League Award this year. This accolade is bestowed upon a member of the Sumter Community who exemplifies a selfless dedication to service, embodying the motto "Service over Self."

After careful consideration, one individual stood out to me as the perfect candidate for this honor. She serves as an inspiration to me, showcasing how I aspire to continue serving my community long after my involvement with the league comes to an end.

It was my greatest pleasure to be able to award the Spirit of the League award to Mrs. Cheryl Baker. She is a former president of the SJWL and a loyal supporter of the League. Currently, she holds the position of President at the Sumter Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, she actively participates in the Sumter Rotary, where she has served as secretary, vice president, and president. Her dedication extends to various community organizations, including the Shaw-Sumter Community Council and the Sumter County Crime Stoppers Board. Furthermore, she has served as a former Shaw Air Force Base Honorary Squadron Commander.

As a member of First Baptist Church, she has taught Sunday School and served her church in numerous roles. She has over 30 years of experience in the hospitality industry and is the General Manager of the Hyatt downtown hotel. She exemplifies a team player by proficiently carrying out every responsibility the hotel demands.

When not engaged in volunteer work, she cherishes quality time spent with her husband, Mike, her son, Austin, and her daughter-in-law, Emily. She embodies the true essence of a civic-minded individual, consistently placing the needs of others before her own. Thank you, Cheryl, for being such a wonderful role model to all of us! You are a shining example of how we all strive to serve our community!

Lauren Locklear, outgoing president May 2024



A Note from the President

by Jenny Knopf



Ladies of the SJWL, welcome back!

This year we celebrate NINETY amazing years of the Sumter Junior Welfare League's existence. Wow! What an amazing opportunity to be part of an organization that has been a blessing to our community, faithfully and consistently, for almost nine decades! I am thankful that ninety years ago a group of twelve women saw various needs in Sumter and took steps in faith to meet those needs. For ninety years, women in this community have committed to being the hands and feet of Jesus through various placements, gift shop shifts, and much more. What we're doing today may look a little different, but the heart of the work is the same as it was in 1934. In 1948, what we know as "Puppets" was born. Then, in 1954, the Tuomey Hospital Canteen, now our gift shop, came into being. The Wishing Well has continued to grow and become more and more successful as every year passes. The Wishing Well has allowed us to give back in a big way for all of these years! The gift shop committee has been hard at work attending market and

stocking the store with food, clothes and other fun items. We are so grateful to Prisma Tuomey for their continued generosity in allowing us to utilize their beautiful space.

We are welcoming 13 ladies in the newest provisional class, including 1 transfer. This is a wonderful group and they all bring unique talents and gifts to the SJWL. Plans are underway for the much anticipated October Tea as well as the Deck the Doors fundraiser. Much fun ahead! The Sumter Junior Welfare League and the Wishing Well social media pages will keep you up to date on all League news. Be sure to follow along on Instagram and Facebook!

In conclusion, as we begin this League year, remember to reflect on your "why." Why do you choose the League? Thanks for being a part of history! Ninety years from now, a letter similar to this one will be written about each of you and the fruits of your labor so many years ago! I am honored to be your President, here's to 90 years! With Love, Jenny Knopf

The Lantern Staff:

Editor: Caroline Rogerson: rccubbage@gmail.com: 803-323-7368
Co-Editor: Morganne Anderson: morgtindal@gmail.com ; 803-968-9785

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

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SUMTER, SC
PERMIT NO. 25

The Wishing Well

As a reminder, our hours are Monday through Friday from 9 AM - 8 PM and Saturday from 9AM - 3 PM. Thanks to everyone for making a great effort to remember your shifts and being on time. We have wonderful things coming in weekly, so don't forget to follow us on Instagram and Facebook!

Welcome, Provisionals!

Jennifer Skinner
Amelia Abercrombie
McLean Marie Achziger
Allyson Lynch
Erin LeeAnn Cummings
Mollie Williams

Erica Davis
Lauren McCracken
Heather Dubose
Darlene Sparks
Ansley Smoak McFaddin
Allison Eady
Sarah Scott

Thank you, Lee Ann Bostic, for hosting our 2024-2025 Provisional Class for their first Sumter Junior Welfare League meeting! This orientation served as a wonderful kick off for our new members to meet one another, the board, and learn about the rich history of the League. We are BEYOND excited to be welcoming 13 new Provisional Members!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

General League Meeting:

September 16, 2024 at First Baptist Church at 7 PM

Board Meeting:

September 9, 2024 at 6:30 pm (location TBD)

Provisional Meeting:

September 16, 2024 at First Baptist Church (following the General League Meeting)

October Tea:

October 21, 2024 (location TBD)

Contact Information:

Send any updates for contact information including email, address, phone, or name changes to Larsen Cline at sjwlsecretary@gmail.com