

This newsletter is dedicated to the hobbies and businesses of our staff. Thanks again for the response!

SPECIAL EDITION

### **William "Eddie" Cooper, Physical Plant**



On January 28, 2017, Eddie was honored for his 40 years of volunteer service with the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department. He received a Shadow Box with Badges for each of the positions he has held. He was presented Proclamations by the St Mary's County Commissioners, Maryland House of Delegates, Delegate Deb Rey and Maryland Senate, Senator Steve Waugh.

Eddie started with the department in 1967 as a firefighter. During the years 1975-1984, he served a tour of duty with the U S Army. When he returned home, he resumed his volunteer service. During his tenure, Eddie has been appointed Engineer and Safety Officer, elected to Assistant Secretary and Board of Directors for several years. He was elected Life Member in 2002. He has actively served on committees such as the Membership Committee, Building Committee, Christmas Tree Lighting Program, and the Carnival Committee along with other department activities.

Volunteering is a Cooper family tradition. Eddie has 2 sons, Brian and Bradley and 2 brothers, Phil and Joe who are all actively involved in the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department. At one time, his sister, Mary Ann was a member of the Junior Auxiliary and his mother, Bertille Cooper, a Life Member in the Auxiliary.

*Congratulations Eddie!!*

*Thank you for volunteering in our community!*



### **Thomas Fisher, Athletics and Recreation**

I have participated in triathlons for the past 11 years after many years of marathons and half marathons. I have completed triathlons of varying distances from Sprints, International, Half Ironman and Ironman Distances. My biggest accomplishment was completing Ironman Maryland in October 2015. The race consisted of a 2.4 mi swim, 112 mi bike and a 26.2 mi run. I completed the race in 13:08:31 and raised \$1500 for the Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults in the process.



I also have umpired high school and summer league baseball for the past 25 years. Right now, it mostly involves high school and recreational teams in St. Mary's, Calvert, and Charles Counties.

Please contact Tom Fisher if you are interested in participating or volunteering for the St. Mary's Historic Half Marathon & 5K on April 30, 2017. There will also be a St. Mary's Triathlon Festival on June 27, 2017. Visit [www.vtsmts.com](http://www.vtsmts.com) for event information.



**Richard Loheed, Waterfront**

Rick Loheed designs and produces CNC-cut, Laser marked marine grade plywood boat kits you can build yourself! The boats are made of British Standard 1088 Okoume, Sapele, Mahogany & epoxy with modern paints & finishes, creating a beautiful wood boat with great durability. The 'Twisted Oyster' Smith Island Crab Skiff racer, another boat to be completed this spring, and the boat pictured are featured in Outdoors Maryland episode 2902 'Crewing a Classic', viewable at <http://video.mpt.tv/video/2365895496/>. The latest design is the 'Twisted Diamondback', featuring a reverse transom reminiscent of Chesapeake Draketail workboats. The 'Diamondback' can be powered by a Thai 'Longtail' mud motor, rowed, have an inboard air cooled engine, or be fitted with electric propulsion. A design for a Chesapeake style stand up paddleboard is in the works, too!

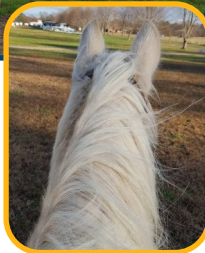
'Twisted Oyster Boatworks' can be visited online at <http://www.twistedoysterboats.com/> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TwistedOysterBoats/>.

**Lisa Smith, Office of Planning and Facilities**

I received my love of baking from both my Great-Grandmother and my Grandmother. They both allowed me to help and I watched how they created these wonderful, melt in your mouth from scratch, baking masterpieces when I was around seven years old. I have loved baking ever since. I am self taught having read magazines and books before their were computers and YouTube. I find great peace in baking and have been known to bake at 2:00 a.m. if something is bothering me. Baking helps me to think the problem through while I work through the recipe. I bake every chance I get and use my fellow co-workers sometimes as guinea pigs when I try out a recipe for the first time.



The picture above is of our first annual Christmas Parade in 2015, where I obviously dressed up in a sheep onesie, and the one on the right is my favorite view in the whole wide world.

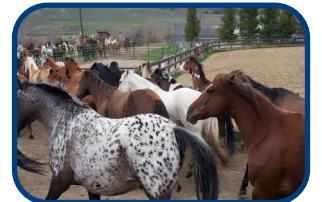


**Jackie Wright, Office of Advancement**

I have been horse riding since I was 7 years old. I took lessons for the first few years, then was lucky enough to get my own pony 'Shamba' when I was 13. I took a 15 - 20 year hiatus, but 6 years ago I met my new best friend whose husband had given up horse riding, so basically gave me his horse 'Dillon'. Such a gift! He's only two miles from my house with my best friend and her horse, and we get up to all kinds of adventures. If I ever suddenly go missing from my office in the afternoon and the sun's out, you know where I'll be.

We have been a couple of times to the C Lazy U ranch in Colorado. It's a 5 star dude ranch, pure luxury! When we go, there is a clinic there with a famous trainer called Julie Goodnight. We are there for 4 days, with approx 6 hours riding each day. There are 4 sessions a day which are trail riding, clinic, cow wrangling and obstacles. The wranglers bring you your horse at the beginning of the ride, and take them away at the end. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are all catered and food is amazing. The horse in the trail ride picture is Missy, we had an amazing bond by the end of the trip.

Another highlight of the ranch is the 'Jingle'. This is when all the horses (around 150 - 200) are brought in and taken out to the pasture at the beginning and the end of the day. The wranglers ride out with them, and the sights and sound are truly wonderful. The picture to the right shows Missy on her way out for the night. I have this picture on my office wall for a bit of escapism.



**Michael Dunn, Title IX Coordinator**

Our family was inspired to try growing oysters after having a great time at the Oyster Festival last fall. We worked with the good folks at Shore Thing Shellfish (including SMCM alums) and dropped our "oyster oasis" at my mother-in-law's house in Hollywood. The oysters should be ready for eating this fall. Here's a photo of my son Barrow and daughter Alice with our oysters. In addition to the oysters, I started teaching myself guitar over winter break and am now rocking out to classics such as "Jingle Bells."

### **Anya Patterson, Office of Residence Life**

My name is Anya Patterson and I am the Assistant Director of Residence Life. I started here at St. Mary's in October of 2016 but I have been working in higher education since I was hired as an RA at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas way back in 2001. Though higher ed and residence life is truly in my blood, that is not my only passion. Medical issues in my childhood and a passion for being active caused me to seek out a way to do all within my power to seek out health and fitness as a hobby. This hobby became a passion and my virtual coaching business was born. As a Beachbody coach, I was able to lose 92lbs and help those who have worked with me lose weight, drop inches, get off of daily medications, feel stronger, and live healthy and fulfilling lives! For those who met with the success they were seeking and also wanted to pay it forward, I lend them guidance and training to do what I do and build a business coaching.



If you are looking for a change in your lifestyle, support & motivation, a way to earn from home, or something to secure your financial future, this may just be the option for you. No gimmicks, no hassles, no nonsense, just products that have been tested and a coach like me to show you it can be done. When you are ready to change your life, I'll be ready to show you how!

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### **Cindy Dale, Athletics and Recreation**

I've been a paper crafter for 20+ years and joined Fun Stampers Journey as a coach two years ago. Since joining I've been promoted to Senior Manager. I attended their first leadership conference in Las Vegas in January and was totally inspired by everything I learned. I even conquered my fear of heights by getting on the Highroller which was a special treat from the company for all Journey Coaches. I love sharing the art of papercrafting and it's truly amazing to see

how a handmade card or gift made from the heart can brighten up someone's day!" [www.funstampersjourney.com/cindydale](http://www.funstampersjourney.com/cindydale).



Tupperware



### **Linda Ward, Office of Information Technology**

Tupperware, it is what most people call any plastic container in their home. I had been to a Tupperware party before when I was first married, Ellen Corson who worked in Natural Science and Math sold Tupperware and not only did I know her from work but I was best friends with her daughter.

Years went by and I never gave Tupperware a thought until our dear Jeanie was fighting for her life and Katherine Stone had a Tupperware fundraiser for her. That started me on the road to becoming a Tupperholic! I went to the Fundraiser and booked my first party, I love the products so I continued to go to parties and book parties. The consultant tried several times to get me to sign up and become a consultant but I kept saying no. That is, until I had a party and Emily Carter and Katherine Stone were both there and once again, the consultant asked me to join her team. Both Emily and Katherine can be rather convincing so I agreed. That was 8 months ago and I have enjoyed selling Tupperware and meeting new people ever since. Most Tupperware products are backed by a lifetime guarantee, They are BPA free and they are amazing at extending the life of your food! What makes it even better is I get to hang out with great people, make money and have fun doing it. If you would like to hear more about Tupperware, book a party or would simply like to see a catalog, give me a call (x3354) or email me (llward@smmc.edu). I would love the opportunity to tell you why Tupperware is so awesome!

### **Bonnie Kangas, *Library***

#### About Bonnie and the Bees, LLC

Bonnie thinks bees are the embodiment of benevolence. To her, they are divine. She is not alone in her belief. Bees have been considered holy for eons. Because bees magically produce the “golden nectar”, honey, all ancient societies revered them as sacred. They represent unity, diligence and purity. One look through a jar of honey illustrates why.

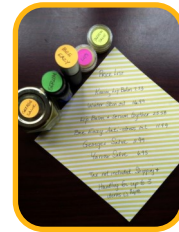
Bee colonies work together as if they are one body; sharing, defending and promoting the colony wellness, as well as supporting the lives of most other species on the planet. They quietly devote their lives to each other while pollinating over a third of all the foods consumed by humans—and innumerable other creatures on Earth. They are, quite simply, indispensable to plant ecology.

Bees also produce propolis, a powerful immune enhancer: naturally antibiotic, antiviral, anti-fungal and anti-inflammatory used by the ancients for treating wounds. Still today, propolis is used in the treatment of herpes simplex and is being studied for cancer treatment supplementation. Beeswax, yet another product of the bees, is the best choice for nurturing human skin. It has the special ability which allows the skin to ‘breath’ while protecting it from environmental irritants and toxins. Beeswax contains Vitamin A which promotes cell regeneration, helping to stave off aging.

But bees seem to have lost their holy value. Many of us have lost our knowledge and appreciation for the importance of bees for our survival and for our offspring. Bees have become endangered with whole colonies dying overnight. They are threatened by agricultural chemicals and modified foods. These perils create a need for us to step up and help the bees survive—and in doing so, save ourselves.

Bonnie is devoted to doing just that. She created a home for them and, hopefully, a measure of safety for them to thrive in the face of the risks bees face. Bonnie will be greatly rewarded by the bees. The ever-abundant bees will provide her with their three products: propolis, wax and honey. And they will pollinate her vineyard, fruit trees and vegetable garden for free. Bonnie has joined herself to the company of bees.

Bonnie and the Bees, LLC will share the wealth by creating and providing friends and neighbors with clean, natural, healthy skin products, made using the purest ingredients they can find. Wish us luck!



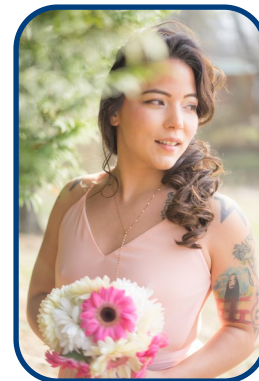
### **Morgan Smith, *Anne Arundel Hall***

Morgan Tracy Photography, was born as a passion project. In high school & college, I studied photography and have continued pursuing it in my adult years as a creative outlet. Over the years, my passion has turned into service that specializes in unique portraits & weddings.

My email for photography is [morgantracyphotography@gmail.com](mailto:morgantracyphotography@gmail.com) and my website is [www.morgantracy.com](http://www.morgantracy.com)



**MORGAN TRACY**  
← photography →



### **Brian Evans, *Office of Information Technology***

My wife started selling Scentsy in 2005. After her sudden passing last year, I took over as an Independent Consultant for Scentsy. What is Scentsy? Scentsy is a direct selling company and international leader in home and personal fragrance, offering stylish, innovative and customizable products designed to Warm the Heart, Enliven the Senses and Inspire the Soul. Scentsy products are sold by a network of Scentsy Consultants in 11 countries. What does Scentsy Sell? The Scentsy Diffuser instantly fills the air with world-class fragrant all-natural and essential Scentsy Oils, while Scentsy’s flagship product line of scented, wax Scentsy Bars heated in handcrafted warmers provides a safe, personal alternative to traditional candles. Additional product lines include on-the-go fragrances, laundry care, inventive cleaning solutions and luxurious personal care products for women, men and kids – all featuring exclusive Scentsy fragrance. My website is <https://somd.scentsy.us> and my Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/SafeScentsSOMD/>.

I have also been involved with Volunteer Fire and EMS in St. Mary's County for 20 years. I joined Second District Vol. Fire Department and Rescue Squad (Valley Lee) in 1997. I started with the Fire Department and moved over to the Rescue Squad. I am currently a member of the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad and the St. Mary's County Advanced Life Support Unit. I previously was also a member of the Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad. I was a Maryland Licensed Emergency Medical Technician for 12 years but now spend my duty shifts as a driver. On average, I volunteer about 48 - 72 hours of duty a month.



**Marsha Wilcox, Office of Financial Aid**

Everyone has some kind of hobby, interest, or favorite past time and I must say that picking and re-purposing old stuff is all of the above to me. I always say, "I'm Blessed" and in this case I am so fortunate to have my daughter, Rashelle (a SMCM Alum), have the same love and appreciation for vintage finds as I do. Our eyes light up at the site of an old barn we can pick through, a vintage store, or flea market. It's easy to forget all your worries and just go picking through old stuff and see what unique finds you come across. Creating a vision of where it could go in a home or thinking what a little bit of paint and some sanding could do is a thrill. I love thrift and Good Will stores; you can find the coolest things to re-purpose for cheap. My BFF's, Dana Cullison (Retired SMCM employee) and Debbie Adkins (SMCM employee) are my fellow pickers. Our love has turned into a little side business and we have done a handful of vintage shows, which is definitely a family effort. My mom is always there with us; she is our PR person and gets the people looking and talking- she is gifted that way. My son, Joshua (SMCM employee), does all the heavy lifting and unloading (hiding) stuff in my new "She Shed", which my husband, Chris has had moved in so I have room to create and store things. My daughter, "my manager," who spends the endless hours staging and selling at each show has created and manages our Facebook page. Check it out! "Our Family Ties" on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/DIYfamilyties/> You can contact me at: [mlwilcox@smcm.edu](mailto:mlwilcox@smcm.edu) or 301.904.2678



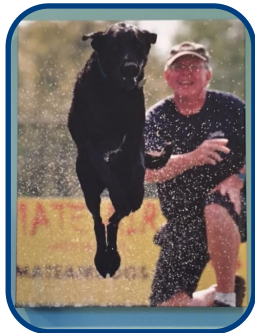
**Karen Cozzens, Office of Information Technology**

In 2006, my mid-life crisis hit right on time, so I went out and purchased myself a Harley Davidson Sportster 883. I love every minute that I am in the wind. My all time favorite ride was when my husband and I went out to Las Vegas a couple of years ago. We rented bikes and rode through Nevada and rode into California's Death Valley. AMAZING VIEWS – I would recommend this trip to anyone. My bucket list item is riding through the Florida Keys.



**Raymond Raley, Campus Store**

My 3 black labs and I compete in the sport of dock jumping. Dock jumping is where you measure the distance your dog jumps into the water off of the dock. The dock is 40 feet and the dog has to sit at the back end while you, the handler, walk to the front end and call the dog. While the dog is running you toss a toy off the end of the dock and the dog jumps to get it. To give you an idea of how far these dogs can jump, the average dog jumps about 3-5 feet while these competitive dogs can jump between 20 and 30 feet. We have a large event in May, in the middle of the city of Richmond with over 300 dogs competing. If anyone is interested in learning more about this exciting sport, please contact me. Any dog, any size, any breed can compete since there are different levels for all breeds. You can also Google [www.ultimateairdogs.com](http://www.ultimateairdogs.com) to learn more.



**Catherine Robinson, Business Office**

I fell in love with fabric and sewing in my 9th grade Home-Ec class. I made clothes for myself, my sisters, and others for many years. Later I made and donated clothes for babies and children just because I enjoyed the process and product. About 10 years ago, I came across the Pax River Quilters Guild and started quilting...the perfect opportunity to indulge my love and personal collection of fabric. I share my love of sewing with my mom, as well as ideas, fabrics, and supplies. Although she lives in Texas, our visits always seem to involve sewing in some form. I make lots of baby/kids quilts, novelty pillow cases, table toppers/runners, cassette carriers, and small projects just for fun. I also make large quilts but I like the immediate gratification of smaller projects.



**Josh Allen, Office of Information Technology**

I'm beginning my second year of beekeeping after overwintering a single hive and I plan to have 3-4 hives this season. July will be an exciting month as it will be the first time I should be able to extract honey from my initial hive. The past year has been a learning experience filled with books, online resources, a beekeeping course, equipment purchases/assembly, bee installation, and syrup feeding. Beekeeping is a lot of work but it is rewarding to see your bees thriving. <http://www.elmbrookapiary.com>



## St. Mary's by the Numbers



**283** the number of "Kindness Matters!" tiny buttons handed out to staff during "Random Acts of Kindness" week in February. More may surface in our community soon.

**350** the number of delicious sugar shortbread cookies that Lisa Smith baked for Valentine's Day.



**8** the number of years SMCM has hosted an Annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life event. This year it was held on February 25th-26th.

**17** the number of teams that participated

**170** the number of registered participants

**4,780** the number of dollars raised by the top fundraising team, Psyched for Life, which included 9 staff and faculty members (Aileen Bailey, Anne Marie Brady, Karen Cozzens, Renee Dennison, Angie Draheim [team captain], James Mantell, Kelly Muldoon, Scott Mirabile, and Jennifer Tickle).

**14,970** the number of dollars raised by the event overall.



### Chris Burch, Office of Information Technology

I started back-country backpacking in Shenandoah National Park last spring. I have had the pleasure of camping and hiking all my life, but my camping was restricted to campgrounds and the associated heavy gear that car camping affords: gas stoves, cast iron pans, large tent, etc. After a joyous 35 mile, 3 day hike in the Smokeys with my father-in-law, I fell in love with walking the ridgeline knowing everything I needed was on my back. After that experience, I geared up and headed out for more. I find the simplicity of carrying my essentials, along with the solitude of the trail, to provide a meditative space for reflection. There have been times when driving out to Shenandoah, I have stopped on the side of the road to respond to email or texts, but once I throw the pack on and cross the wilderness line, it is all Zen from there. I am looking forward to the coming Spring. I hope to see you on the trail.

### Angie Draheim, Department of Psychology

My interest in baking and cake decorating all stems from my mother. She always made delicious, decorated birthday cakes for my siblings and I as we were growing up. We never got to pick or know the theme of our parties (generally small family ones), but she always created something (usually based off of a cute invitation or wrapping paper she found) that we absolutely loved upon the big reveal. Even into adulthood she has created cakes for us on occasion; one time I told her, "Don't go to the trouble, mom, I'd be happy with just a big chocolate chip cookie." Yep, she made me two 10" round cakes that looked like chocolate chip-cookies. :)

I got into decorating myself when I moved out of the house and got married; I got a set of decorating tools as a wedding gift and have been putting them to good use ever since. Some cakes and cupcakes I've created just as an act of kindness but others have been commissioned by colleagues and friends alike. The hardest part is actually pricing cakes; a lot of hours can go into one project (which I tend to work on after work or on the weekends) but I know the limits of what I'd want to spend on a cake so I try to keep it reasonable with factors including complexity and size/number of servings. The extra money on occasion is nice, of course, but it's really a labor of love. I enjoy making people smile and the challenge of coming up with new designs (I've never made the same cake twice). While admittedly it can be stressful sometimes, I see it as baking therapy. I've been involving my five-year-old daughter in baking and decorating since before she was two, so hopefully I will pass on the hobby.



It's hard to pick a favorite of all the ones I've done (some with my sister who is also talented in this area), but I think my top two are the Catbus cake (based on a character in the film *My Neighbor Totoro*) I created for my sister's 27<sup>th</sup> birthday a number of years ago and the *Alice in Wonderland* theme cake I just recently created for my daughter's 5<sup>th</sup> very unmerry birthday tea party.



### Cara Mia Cakes

Make any occasion even sweeter!

Baby Showers, Birthdays, Bridal Showers, Christenings, Holiday Celebrations, Luau...

Whatever the event, we'll work with your theme/colors to create something truly memorable!

Angie Draheim: 301-536-3546

Cara Miskolczi: 240-925-1508

caramiacakes.somd@gmail.com

## Let Us Hear From You!

Email your suggestions, questions, or concerns to [mkgrube@smcm.edu](mailto:mkgrube@smcm.edu)

OR [complete the anonymous feedback form](#) available on our website ([www.smcm.edu/staff](http://www.smcm.edu/staff)).