

SMCM Staff News

Farewell , Sea Voyager!
Joanne Goldwater, Joe Urgo,
Chip Jackson, Jim McGuire
and Steve Gregory wave
goodbye to the Sea Voyager
on December 18, 2011.



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Another year has gone and we celebrate the work that we all have accomplished together. Student orientation, hurricanes, mold, boats, family weekend, Hawktoberfest, past due bills, drop add, financial aid packaging, admissions events, set up for graduation, and a thousand other large and small events over the past nine months! Wow! I could go on and on. What a wonderful body of work that, together, we accomplished.

This year, the Staff Senate was born and we are now ready to spread our wings by preparing professional development opportunities for all employees. We also want to see you involved in our work and invite you to be a part of a staff senate committee or be a staff senator! This June, we will be holding elections for senate seats in these areas: academic affairs, advancement, athletics, physical plant, student affairs, associate and academic support, plus two at-large members. Please consider becoming more involved!

As we celebrate the work that EVERYONE did this past year I can only hope that the summer brings some relief and positive reflection to all of us. It is well deserved and the work that you have done has not gone unnoticed. President Urgo and the upper administration have recognized the strength of our staff and I hope will continue to support us as we move into a new academic year.

Today, at our end of the year picnic, the waterfront will be filled of chatter talking about the events of the past year. For many of us this is a time to have some well deserved vacations with family and friends, welcome new staff members to our community, and continue to be a proud and accomplished group of staff supporting the College. On behalf of the Staff Senate, I thank you! Have a wonderful summer!



Joe Carroll Award

A 20-year member of our house-keeping staff, Joe Carroll died on July 17, 2011, at age 66. In his memory, the Joe Carroll Memorial Award was created by faculty and staff. This award recognizes non-exempt staff members who exemplify Joe's commitment to the campus community. The award was first made at Awards Convocation on April 27, 2012.

The winner of the award for 2012 is **Brenda Carter**, Caretaker I for Montgomery Hall. Congratulations!

February's BINGO event:

Proceeds of \$160
were given to
support Leah's
House



Learn What Our Talented Staff is Up To!

Did You Know ...

Dana Van Abbema completed the Donna M. Bourassa Management Institute in January 2012.

Caroline Bright gave a talk about financial aid planning for college at the Charlotte Hall branch of the St. Mary's County public library system.

Lee Capristo has been named to the board for Leadership Southern Maryland.

Rich Edgar has been named an honorary alumnus of SMCM!

Clinton Gilbert has been named chair-elect of the ACHUO-I multicultural network.

Kelly Schroeder was awarded the SGA staff service award for 2012. She also earned the Molly Mahoney Volunteer Service Award for service to the Brendan Sailing program and is the incoming president for the Leonardtown Rotary.

Time-Saving Tips from Busy Working Parents

We all need help getting through the week, so for this issue we asked working parents to share some of their favorite ways to make life less crazy.



Tip: Shower at night after the baby/kids go to sleep so you have one less thing to fit into your busy get-out-of-the-house-in-the-morning routine (which either means more sleep for you or time to do laundry or empty the dishwasher)

Tip: Use the delay feature on your washing machine and set it to wash overnight so you can throw clothes over into the dryer in the AM.

*Name: Angie Draheim
Daughter Lorelei (14 weeks)*

Tip: Make a list of meals on Sunday, and a shopping list from that. When my daughter was young, it really saved money and time to know what I would be cooking the next day.

Tip: The best tip came from my Mom when I was young (with so many applications - dishes, toys, books, laundry, etc): Don't put it down; put it away. It really helps cut down on clutter and cleaning time.

*Name: Paula Ropshaw
Daughter Cynthia is now grown*

Tip: Plan your menu at least a week in advance. That way, you can shop one day and have all the ingredients for meals at hand. This saves money, too – no emergency trips to the store where you pick up everything but what you need!

Tip: Pack all lunches (kid's and parent's) in the evening and store in the fridge to save time and chaos in the morning. Do it while you are cleaning up dinner. Leftovers make great lunches.

*Name: Kathy Lewin
Kids: Emily (13), Jayson (11)*

Tip: Find at least one day a week where you don't check email. Bring your kids to campus and take advantage of opportunities for them to meet other SMCM kids.

Tip: Have more than one babysitter.

Tip: Get up early and hang on to your hat because it is a wild ride!!

*Name: Carrie Patterson
Kids: Xander (9) Giorgia (5)*



Tip: Cook everything in double or even triple batches so that you can enjoy easy leftovers and freezer meals...and more time with your family!

Tip: When cutting fresh fruit from the store, put some of it directly into small containers that can be used for school lunches.

Name: Dana Van Abbema
Kids: Avery (5), Macy (2)



Tip: Put a roast in the crock pot in the morning; at lunch time throw in veggies.

Name: Susan Sullivan
Kid: Alexis (15 with hope to make 16)



Tip: Let your kids get dirty! They'll learn a lot by exploring in the dirt and mud and they're going to grow out of those new clothes in a few months anyway.

Name: Lee Capristo
Kids: Calvin (11) and Joey (11)

Tip: Please remember that your "job" is to be their parent, not their friend. They have enough friends. They need parents to provide guidance, challenge and support, and structure (a.k.a. rules, accountability, responsibility). Once they are grown up, the relationship changes and you can become "adult friends" (which is great!). All three of our kids have told us how much they appreciated the parenting that we provided when they were younger.

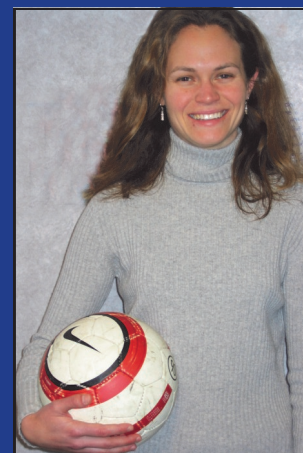
Tip: Try to avoid over-scheduling your kids. They need to learn how to manage their time effectively and efficiently. They also need to learn how to manage their free time and they need time to decompress/de-stress.

Name: Joanne Goldwater
Kids: Brandon (26), Justin (22), Ryan (20)



**Thanks,
Brienne! We
Feel Great!**

"Friday Fitness" launched in January with Brienne Weaver '00 as the trainer. During the semester, as many as 20 staff and faculty participated in the program. Thanks, Brienne, for showing us how NOT to fall off the treadmill, and for inspiring us along the way to fitness!



Good luck to Brienne as she heads to NCAA Division III Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, where she'll be head women's soccer coach.

Let Us Hear From You!

Email your suggestion, question, concern to staffsenate@smcm.edu

St. Mary's by the Numbers:

1,000

Number of visitors to campus on April 13's New Student Day. Thanks to all for welcoming these visitors, who will soon become the Class of 2016!

944

Number of pounds of food collected by students, staff, and faculty for the Southern Maryland Food Bank in March.

20

Number of students who came out to eat free pizza and hear seniors' tales of successful application to grad school.

5

Number of years that students have worked on a house build during spring break in Meriwether County, Georgia through Habitat for Humanity.

Staff Senate Committees

Professional Development

Dana Van Abbema (chair), Bob Brown, Brianne Weaver

Elections

Derek Young (chair), Cheryl Colson, Adam Werblow

Communications

Lee Capristo (chair), Rich Edgar, Paula Ropshaw, Dana Van Abbema, Lisa Youngborg

Awards & Recognition

Clinton Gilbert (chair), Lee Capristo, Kelly Smolinsky, Gail Wood

Bylaws

Dana Van Abbema (chair), Bob Brown, Elizabeth Clune-Kneuer, Cheryl Colson, Derek Young

Social Connections

Cheryl Colson (chair), Rachel Brooks, Dana Cullison, Sandy Robbins, Kelly Smolinsky, Marsha Wilcox

Finance

Irene Olnick (chair), Lucy Myers, Adam Werblow

Staff Senate Mission Statement

St. Mary's College of Maryland is committed to developing and recognizing the contributions of the full range of its professionals as they work toward achieving the college's mission. The St. Mary's College of Maryland staff senate shall be the official representative body of the college staff. The senate offers a voice for all staff, endeavors to enhance the day-to-day work environment, and promotes a sense of community and respect across campus by fostering open communication with the college president, senior administration, faculty, students and the board of trustees.



Paula Gets Pranked!

Students almost got the best of Paula Ropshaw on April 9 when they wrapped her entire workspace in aluminum foil, with a note to say "Happy Birthday, you've been pranked!"