



Network News

For Professional and Executive Women



February 2014

Volume 31, Issue 2

ENHANCING WOMEN'S LIVES THROUGH COOPERATION, UNDERSTANDING AND GIVING

Network Luncheon 11:30 AM to 1:00PM, February 28. Register yourself and your guest today!

Special points of interest:

- Happy Birthday
March Burnette
Tana McHale
Teresa Tomlinson
Jann McMahan
- March Birthday's
Sommer Bundy
Debbie Buckner
Evelyn Tolbert
Jean Richardson
Emily Roshier

February Luncheon Guest Speaker



Silvia C. Newell, CPA

Silvia Newell is both the Managing Partner and the Tax Partner of Newell & Newell, PC, a local certified public accounting firm in Columbus, Georgia. Focusing on small to medium size businesses, as well as individuals, she brings 30 years of experience in tax, accounting, and consulting to her clients.

As their clients' trusted business advisor, Newell & Newell delivers value, transforms information into opportunities, and designs pathways that enable their clients to achieve the full potential and profitability of their business and investment opportunities.

Silvia graduated from Columbus State University with a BBA in Accounting. She is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Georgia Society of Certified Public Accountants.

She is married to Tom, who is also her partner in the firm, and they have two daughters. [Information?](#)

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Member Spotlight- Debi Johnson

Debi Johnson is the manager of Lake Pines Event Center and a representative for 88.5 The Truth, a contemporary Christian radio station. For an event to remember; Lake Pines Event Center has 4 different venues for public use. Venues include a chapel, outdoor pavilion, The Lillie House (100 year old shot gun home) and "The Barn". While Weddings are our largest customer base we also have birthdays, anniversaries, corporate events, team trainings, corporate department picnics, family reunions, Christmas parties and much more.

At 88.5 The Truth they provide contemporary Christian music to Columbus and the surrounding areas. With programs like Dr. David Jeremiah at 6:30 pm Monday – Friday, Teen advisors at 7pm on Tuesday evenings, Top 20 count down on Saturday mornings at 9am and locals at 8pm on Sunday evening. Great advertisement opportunities available.

For more information contact Debi Johnson at 931.808.9611 or www.lakepineseventcenter.com and www.885thetruth.com



From Our President



KAREN SMITH - PRESIDENT

SHOW LOVE TO OUR LOVED ONES

February is the month to show love to our loved ones and I hope all of you have a wonderful Valentine's Day and are shown much love.

Wouldn't it be great if we showed love and compassion all year, not only to our loved ones and friends but to everyone we come into contact with in our lives, daily?

Sometimes just a smile or a kind word makes a big difference to someone who may be experiencing a difficult time in their lives. A great way to make people feel welcome at our monthly membership

meetings would be to smile and greet our visitors and members. You may make a difference in someone's day!

By the time you read this newsletter, the Olympics will be in full swing. I hope all of you will join me in cheering on TEAM USA. I really enjoy watching our athletes compete against the other talented athletes around the world.

They all make the different sports look so effortless and graceful. The figure skating can be breathtaking with their jumps, fluid moves and music.

Please say a prayer for the safety of the athletes and their families and friends while they are competing in Sochi, Russia.

Happy Valentine's Day to everyone! See you at the February 28 meeting.

Karen

March Network Meeting

We would like to collect items for the Anne Elizabeth Shepard Home. Their donation list includes:

Pillows, socks, twin blankets, hygiene items such as shampoo, conditioner, sanitary pads, toothpaste, combs, brushes, deodorant, soap and lotion.

Journals (no spirals)

Playing cards, jigsaw puzzles

Art and Craft supplies: yarn, crochet needles, markers, paint by numbers, sketch books

Member News and Links

Karen Cole's children will bless her with two grandchildren. Sami and Caleb are expecting a boy in April and Matthew and Sarah are expecting in September. They have also started the adoption process and will be adopting International children, but that is most likely 2 or 3 years down the road. Congrats Karen we know you are anxious to spoil these children.

Animal arch rescue in Harris County is looking for donations of toys, food and blankets for the animals. **Evelyn Tolbert** is collecting these at the BMW dealership.

Please congratulate **Deborah Ammons** on her 20th anniversary with Robinson, Grimes & Company.

Nancy Williams has two open positions for Volunteer Services Manager and Population Health Coordinator. For information submit applications to www.yourhealthourmission.com. Nancy had knee surgery on January 17 and is now on crutches back at work.

We extend our deepest sympathy to **Cheryl Tate** and her family as they mourn the loss of her mother,

Congratulations to **Sommer Bundy** for her promotion to Lead Trainer for Synovus Learning & Development.

Membership Dues- Please contact Cheryl Tate if you have not received your invoice for 2014 Network Dues.



Jann McMahan
Newsletter Editor
706 561 9800
jcmcmahan@trisourcesolutions.com

www.networkforprofessionalwomen.com

Do You Know?

Network Member Deborah Ammons

Deborah F. Ammons, CPA is a director with the public accounting firm of Robinson, Grimes & Company, P.C., in Columbus, Georgia. She attended Columbus State University where she earned her Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in Finance in August, 1989. Deborah is a member of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and the Georgia Society of CPAs (GSCPA). Graduate of Leadership Columbus Class of 2010-2011. She has worked in Public Accounting since 1994. Her principal areas of practice are taxation, health care services, employee benefits and estate planning for individual and small business clients. Her practice has focused on individual and small business tax planning including assistance with income, gift, estate and trust planning.

Network Officers and Board Members

Karen Smith President for Network is the Corporate Secretary at Columbus Regional Health and reports to Chuck Stark, President and CEO of the System. She has worked for Columbus Regional for 21 years. Beginning with The Medical Center in the early 1980s for approximately five years. Karen has two sons and a daughter and three grandchildren. She is a Sunday School teacher at North Phenix Baptist Church in Phenix City and teaches Vacation Bible School every summer. Karen is a founding Board member and past two term President for the Georgia Society of Healthcare Executive Assistants, which is a society of the Georgia Hospital Association. Karen enjoys reading, the beach, dancing and football.

Emily Rosher Secretary for Network is the owner of Silver Service, a senior move management and estate liquidation company. She started the company part time in 2010 and began fulltime in 2013. She is certified as a senior move manager, senior advisor and estate liquidator. Before Silver Service, she worked in the dental field with Dr. Joe Miller for 17 years and Dr. Terry Wilkey for 13 years. Emily has been married to Greg for 30 years and has three grown daughters whom she is very proud of. When Emily is not working, she volunteers for the auxiliary for Hope Harbour, the Salvation Army, the Circles program at Open Door, Columbus Hospice and the parish council at St. Anne Catholic Church.

For 35 years, **Cheryl Tate Treasurer of Network** has worked for the Columbus Consolidated Government Information Technology Department. After beginning her career as a Mainframe programmer and being promoted to her current position of Technical Operations Manager, she hopes to become Director of the Department when the current director (who happens to be her husband of 29 years) retires in July.

Cheryl and Charles have 3 grown children and a son in law who all work for TSYS and the 'baby' is a sophomore at the University of South Carolina. They have 3 grand children, 2 year older twins plus a 5 month old surprise blessing! They are active at First Baptist Church where they are co-directors of their Sunday School class. Cheryl is a member of the Deacon Board and Finance Committee, sings in the choir, and works with Children's choir. Charles is the Director of the TV Ministry, so you can see Cheryl often if you watch the 11:00 service on Sunday Mornings! Cheryl has been a member of Network since 2011.

Mary Stewart Web Administrator for Network is an IT Manager at TSYS. She has worked at CB&T and later TSYS for 37 years and has watched the company grow from a little over 100 team members to over 8000 world-wide. Mary and her husband Gene have two grown sons and a precious daughter-in-law. Matthew and Mary Leavitt live in Memphis and Jacob lives in Atlanta. Mary and Gene enjoy ballroom dancing and are members and officers of the Mr and Mrs Club. Mary is on the auxiliary board for Hope Harbour, delivers meals on wheels monthly and is a Sunday School teacher at Morningside Baptist.

Laura Brooker Partners in Community Chair for Network is a Stylist and Owner along with her husband Ryan Brooker of Bright, a boutique Kerastase Salon in the Midtown area. Laura and Ryan enjoy walking their two King Charles Spaniels Emma and Lucy, biking, running and playing tennis in their off time, and are involved with their church

First Baptist. Laura has been in the beauty industry for 13 years and is very passionate about her craft. Laura and her staff are certified in the Look Good Feel Better program through the American Cancer Society. Laura also serves on the Young Professionals Board at Large which empowers young talent to shape the future of the Greater Columbus area.

Tana McHale Membership Chairperson for Network is the Customer Service Manager for the Pratt & Whitney Columbus Engine Center and has worked for Pratt & Whitney for 17 years. Tana and her husband Kevin have 4 dogs and both enjoy golfing, gardening, and spending time with friends and family. Tana is very active in the community, including involvement with United Way, Hope Harbour, Relay for Life, and MidTown, Inc.

Cheryl Myers Vice President of Network is the Executive Director of Community & College Relations with Columbus Technical College. Cheryl has been with the college since 2006. In her role as Executive Director, she is responsible for all internal and external communications, building and enforcing a strong brand, and ensuring the college is presented in a positive light in the community. Prior to working at Columbus Technical College, Cheryl was a local TV news reporter/anchor known as "Cheryl Morgan." She is a graduate of Georgia State University and has called Columbus home since 1994. Cheryl is married to Frank Myers and they have one daughter, Emiline.

Cathy Phillips Awards Chair for Network is a Business Development Manager with Buffalo Rock Pepsi. She is responsible for managing the fountain and coffee business segment. She and her husband Bennie have two daughters and two grandsons. She enjoys golf, reading and decorating. Cathy is the past chair for The Literacy Alliance. She has served as treasurer, and secretary for Network. For the past ten years she has volunteered for United Way serving as a loaned executive, allocations committee member and her company campaign chair.

Mary Heisey—Special Events Chair for Network. is the second generation owner of Ruth Ann's Restaurant. Since 2006 she has carried on the traditions of Southern cooking started by her mother. Before entering the restaurant business Mary had a career as a records analyst for a world wide aircraft leasing company. Mary spent a year volunteering in Appalachia for the corporation for national service before moving to Columbus to join her mother, Ruth Ann. She recently completed her certification in Project Management. Mary enjoys volunteering at her 13 year old son's school. She and her staff participate in fund raising for The March of Dimes. She and her fiancé, Greg are expecting a daughter in May.

Jann McMahan Newsletter Editor for Network has been VP of Client Development with TriSource Solutions, an ISO and credit card processor for 7 years. Previously she was employed with TSYS in Client Training, Documentation and Conversions for 18 years and also worked for CB&T for 6 years. Jann and Harry, her husband have two cats, Snickers and Wiggles. Jann enjoys cooking, shopping and spending time with her two nephews, Ben and Matthew. She has served as Membership Chair for Network.

Pat Whipple, Past President of Network