



Savannah - Chatham County
Local. Outreach. Volunteer. Educators.

L.O.V.E.
M E N T O R S

Helping
Children
Learn

www.lovementors.org

May, 2018

Message From Outgoing Chairman Karen Lindholm



Karen Lindholm
Outgoing L.O.V.E.
Board Chairman

Thank you, mentors and site directors. You are the backbone of L.O.V.E. By showing up every week, you are setting an example, building trust, relationships, self-confidence, and vocabularies. You are igniting imaginations. One day something you said or did will be a reminder and change a mentee's decision or action.

In addition to mentoring once a week L.O.V.E. has mentors on the board who, behind the scenes, keep the wheels turning. Named alphabetically:

You wouldn't be reading this newsletter without L.O.V.E.'s **Publicity Director Carol Fallon**. Carol sets the publicity calendar, writes and edits the newsletter, blast e-mails, creates posters and writes copy for *TWATL* and *Landings Journal*.

Sam Lambert, Board Secretary and Technical Liaison sends blast e-mails, keeps minutes, sends birthday cards, and jumps in whenever asked.

Dan Malachuk, Recruiting Director, is responsible for increasing number of mentors, organizing fall and spring orientation meetings and offering sage advice.

Bill Monroe, At Large Director of Camps, with the help of **Erica Flett**, (who just gave birth to twins and is taking a leave of absence) has

reorganized the camp application process. Ten dedicated mentors volunteered to be camp coordinators at their school which doubled the number of campers.

Ginny Pierce, Mentor Resources and Site Director at Low, organizes the fall and spring Book Fair, buys books and supplies and updates the training manual.

Laura Wehrle comes last (in alphabetical order) but definitely not least. Laura is L.O.V.E.'s **Treasurer and Vice Chair**. She keeps the finances, writes checks, and handles tax letters. She facilitated reorganization of the camp process, background checks and finger printing, and built a firm relationship with the Chief Academic Officer. She has been my right *and* left hand.

During my three years as chair, a strategic plan was written, L.O.V.E. was branded, an organizational team was formed, the relationship with our schools and SCCPSS administration grew stronger, the summer camp program grew by 45 percent, L.O.V.E.'s updated website and publicity kept you informed. Attendance at the fall and spring Book Fair was doubled with the help of motivational speakers. Most importantly, mentors HELPED CHILDREN LEARN and, in many ways, helped ourselves too.

It has been quite a ride.

Enjoy your summer. School starts August 3rd and L.O.V.E. will have new leadership.

Karen

Karen Lindholm
L.O.V.E. Mentors Outgoing Chair



Karen, We Thank You!

- I have had the privilege to work closely with Karen for the past three years she has served as Chairman. She is a passionate, indefatigable and visionary leader. LOVE has become so much stronger and grown so much farther than I dreamed it might back in 2015. She has been an amazing coach and cheerleader to me personally. I hold it a high honor to have learned from and collaborated with her. No one could possibly care more or be more committed to this organization's success than Karen. Karen, the honor has truly been all mine!
With deepest gratitude,
LAURA
- Karen, you have done a wonderful job of growing the L.O.V.E. program in numbers and public awareness. You have given unselfishly of your time and talents while being Co-Chair with me and then 3 years of being the sole Chairman. Your dedication to the program and the students that we reach has been special, and so are you!!!
GINNY PIERCE
- Dear Karen –
Thanks for all you have done at WF and for the Board. You have not only been a mentor to the children, but to me too! You have taught me that persistence pays off. We'll miss you on the board and we are grateful for all of the time and energy you have committed to LOVE.
Sincerely,
SAM LAMBERT
- Karen,
Thank you for teaching me and all the mentors the most important lesson of all, "Just Show Up."
CAROL FALLON
- Karen: Thank you for recruiting me to L.O.V.E. and for your leadership in building the L.O.V.E. Mentor program.
DAN MALACHUK
- Karen continued the great tradition of Fred and Nancy Lowe, who founded L.O.V.E., of always keeping one thing in mind, the children. What do we need to do to help the children?
She leaves a great legacy.
BILL MONROE

Changes In Board Structure To Support Our Growth

Three years ago, the L.O.V.E. Board established a strategic plan to provide a solid foundation to support growth:

- Achieved excellent working relationships at all ten schools
- Strengthened L.O.V.E.'s relationship with SCCPSS
- This solid foundation successfully supports growth



We are now ready to embark on the second phase of our strategic vision. In 2018-2019 we will:

- Enhance our new mentor experience
- Develop a mentor buddy system
- Improve the training and education resources available

The duties of Board members have increased over the past three years. As an all-volunteer organization, we thrive best when we can attract a variety of leaders who bring the expertise of their “pre-Savannah/pre-retirement” lives. Creativity remains highest when each Board role is focused and manageable as a volunteer hobby. We want leadership positions to be attractive and fun! We hope many of you will consider joining us in leading these efforts. We will be shifting from a traditional Chairmanship to an Executive Committee structure. The Committee will oversee the Board Operations. We will have Committee Co-Chairs and teams to help with the leadership efforts so all of us can stay fresh and mentor the children, which is our collective primary passion.



We are seeking two people to Co-Chair the Camp Program and one more Training Committee Co-Chair for next year. If you would like more information about the positions, contact Laura Wehrle.

Summer Camp Is Almost Here



Thanks to L.O.V.E. scholarships, we have registered over 100 children at 6 camps. Fifty of the campers will go to The Frank Callen Boys and Girls Club, 25 to the Cultural Center ART camp and 10 to the 11 day sleep over camp on Tybee Island. Many thanks to the hard working mentors in each school who facilitated the program.

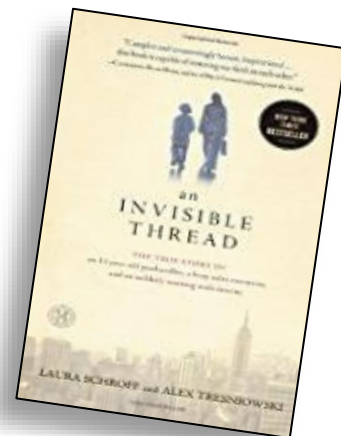
Mentor Matters

Our mentor team is growing

Thanks to the efforts of Dan Malachuk, our Recruiting Director, we have increased our team of mentors from 127 to 167 this year. There will be an information and orientation session for new mentors September 10.

Summer Reading Suggestion

For an interesting summer read, try a true life story of how a mentor changed a young boy's life in *An Invisible Thread* by Laura Scroff.



School Starts August 2

The start date for mentors is targeted for mid-September. Schools need time to assess student needs in order to pair them with mentors.

Let your Site Director know if you will return for the 2018-2019 school year and if you wish to follow your current students. We are working with the Board of Education to allow mentors who fulfilled Beacon Program requirements last year to continue to work this year under that approval. We will confirm the exact arrangements.



Here is the link to the 2018-2019 Savannah Chatham school calendar:
http://internet.savannah.chatham.k12.ga.us/Documents/Calendars/18-19_SCCPS_CALEDAR.pdf



L.O.V.E. believes that improving a child's education is the foundation for improving quality of life. Classroom teachers have little opportunity to work one-on-one with students. L.O.V.E. provides this benefit to students.

L.O.V.E. Leadership Team

The ultimate goal of L.O.V.E. MENTORS is to work in partnership with Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools to improve education and support the dreams of Savannah's children.

L.O.V.E. Leadership Team for 2017-2018

School Liaison-SCCPS	Laura Wehrle, Officer
Mentor Recruiting and Assimilation	Dan Malachuk, Officer
Reporting Secretary	Sam Lambert, Officer
Mentor Resources and Training	Ginny Pierce
Treasurer	Kevin Dutton
Publicity and Events	Carol Fallon
Camp Program	to be filled
Director Emeritus	Karen Lindholm
At Large	Bill Monroe

Schools

At the current time, L.O.V.E. Mentors serves 10 Title I schools in the SCCPS.

SCHOOLS

L.O.V.E. SITE DIRECTOR

Andrea B. Williams	Nancy Boyd
East Broad	Pat Cox
Gadsden	Jan Smart
Gould	Kathy Vaile
Haven	Holly Kenreich
Hodge	Barb Stuck
Isle of Hope	Betsy Hines
Low	Ginny Pierce
Pulaski	Ginny Donaldson
Windsor Forest	Karen Lindholm

Thank You For
Helping Children Learn



We Are On Facebook!



ur new Facebook page is up and running.

Take a look and give us a LIKE!

<https://www.facebook.com/Love-Mentors-Savannah-490586461310160/>

