



Mothers & More™
THE NETWORK FOR SEQUENCING WOMEN

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Winter 2008

Southside Richmond - Chapter 102

Mothers & More is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of mothers through support, education and advocacy. We address mothers' needs as individuals and members of society, and promote the value of all the work mothers do.

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a great 2007 and an even better 2008! Our chapter has been through quite a few changes over the past few months. Shannon ended her term as Co-Leader with the birth of her second son! Congratulations, Shannon! Thanks for all you did for us during your time as Co-Leader! Lisa Puster planned to continue to lead the group, along with Sara Neihouse, but unfortunately, due to some personal issues, Lisa had to step down as Co-Leader. Luckily, a new member (and neighbor of Lisa and Sara) Heather Turner, agreed to co-lead our chapter with Sara. Thanks to both of them for stepping up to keep our chapter alive and well!

Enthusiasm within our chapter seems to be at an all-time high! We've had several new members join and have also filled several board positions within the group. Thank you to Pamela Kannan, who agreed to be our new Publicity Coordinator! We now have someone to publicize and advertise Mothers and More in local print publications and mother-friendly online websites. The wonderful newsletter you are currently reading, has been made possible by Michelle Peatross, who graciously volunteered to be our Newsletter Editor. Faith Grubbs offered to be our new Website (and flier) Coordinator. She has updated our chapter website with current upcoming events and up-to-date information

about our group. You can check the new and improved website at: mamsouthside.tripod.com. Faith has also revamped the Mothers and More chapter fliers, which are handed out to prospective members. The revised website and new fliers both look fabulous! If you are interested in getting more involved in Mothers and More, the following positions need you: Membership & Loop Coordinator; Small Playgroup Coordinator; and Sunshine Coordinator. See one of the Co-Leaders or other board members for more information on these positions.

Our chapter is in the middle of the Winter Membership Drive. We hosted an open house event at Chick-fil-a on Hull Street recently and handed out Mom Survival Kits and information about Mothers and More. We talked to quite a few prospective members and hope some of them will join Chapter 102! We are also planning to hold a couple more open house events this winter to try to increase our membership in 2008! If you know any moms who could use some fun, friendship and support, please invite them out to the next Mothers and More event. Being a mom is a hard job and it's easier if you don't have to do it alone! We look forward to seeing you all in 2008!

Board Positions

Co-Leaders: Heather Turner/Sara Neihouse	Membership Coordinator: Andrea Culver	Welcoming Coordinator: OPEN	Treasurer: Kim Pham
Mom & Tot Coordinator: Heather Allen	Newsletter Editor: Michelle Peatross	Sunshine Coordinator: Michelle Peatross	Publicity: Pamela Kannan
Website Coordinator: Faith Grubbs	Book Club Coordinator: Ceci Rice	Craft Club Coordinator: Kim Pham	Social Coordinator: Lisa Puster
Seasoned Moms Coordinator: OPEN	Outreach Coordinator: <u>OPEN</u>		

Website for Local Chapter:
<http://mamsouthside.tripod.com>

Website for Nationals:
www.mothersandmore.org

~MEETINGS~

7:00 pm at the Cafe Caturra (Midlothian Turnpike Location)*

*unless otherwise noted!

Beginning in January 2008, meetings will be held at Cafe Caturra (on Midlothian Turnpike in the Village of Midlothian, next to Rita's). We will be meeting at 7:00 instead of 7:30 since Cafe Caturra closes at 9:00. Starting in March, the meetings will be on Tuesdays to avoid the Thursday night restaurant crowd.

RSVP for meetings to: Sara Neihouse at sneihouse@yahoo.com or 379-3247

Thursday February 7, 2008
Birthday Party Budgeting and Ideas

We hope you can come share ideas with us about great birthday parties you might have hosted or been to, and how you budgeted and financially planned for those great events. All are welcome to come out and have fun!

Tuesday, March 4, 2008
Hobbies

Do you have a hobby that you absolutely love? Or are you ready to try something new? Bring examples of your favorite hobbies and be prepared to answer questions or show off your skills!

Tuesday, April 8, 2008
Vacation Ideas

It's never too early to start planning that next vacation! Whether it be long or short, near or far away, all of us are always looking for great vacation ideas. Join us to share in this discussion!

We want you!

We want you to come out and join in!

Why are you not coming to meetings? Are they at a bad time or do you not like the topics?

What about other events? Let us know! Our group is only as good as we make it! Get

involved, enjoy yourself, and come and see us!

Mom's Night Out

RSVP to Lisa Puster at lisapuster@verizon.net

Feb 21 at 7:30 pm – Bottom's Up Pizza, Shockoe Bottom

March 20 at 7:30 pm - The Cheesecake Factory at Short Pump Town Center

April 25 at 7:30 pm – An evening in Carytown
Nacho Mamas and Movie at Byrd Theatre

Craft Club

(formerly known as Crop Club!)

Whether it's scrapbooking, stamping, cross-stitching or whatever – Craft Club is for you! We meet every other month and it's a great night to get together and mingle, eat, & scrapbook or work on any other craft that you may enjoy! We always tend to make excuses for why our favorite hobbies never get done. Well....these nights are made especially for you! It gives you a chance to get out of the house and get together with those people who have your same interests and actually try to get something accomplished (or maybe not ☺). Join us for our next meeting on **Saturday, March 8** at Kim Pham's home. New members are ALWAYS welcome & encouraged to come!

Kim Pham 739-3003 or dkcpham@earthlink.net
Craft Club Coordinator

CALLING ALL READERS: Join the Book Club!

Tired of reading Thomas the Tank Engine and Curious George stories? Dust off those brain cells and join us for our next book club meeting. We will be discussing Icarus Girl by Helen Oyeyemi on Tuesday, April 1 at 7:30 pm at Michelle Peatross' home. Barnes and Noble provides this book synopsis:

Jessamy "Jess" Harrison is eight years old. Sensitive, whimsical, possessed of an extraordinary and powerful imagination, she spends hours writing haiku, reading Shakespeare, or simply hiding in the dark warmth of the airing cupboard. As the child of an English father and a Nigerian mother, Jess just can't shake off the feeling of being alone wherever she goes, and the other kids in her class are wary of her tendency to succumb to terrified fits of screaming. Believing that a change from her English environment might be the perfect antidote to Jess's alarming mood swings, her parents whisk her off to Nigeria for the first time where she meets her mother's family—including her formidable grandfather.

Jess's adjustment to Nigeria is only beginning when she encounters Titiola, or TillyTilly, a ragged little girl her own age. To Jess, it seems that, at last, she has found someone who will understand her. But gradually, TillyTilly's visits become more disturbing, making Jess start to realize that she doesn't know who TillyTilly is at all.

Lyrical, haunting, and compelling, *The Icarus Girl* draws on Nigerian mythology to present a strikingly original variation on a classic literary theme: the existence of "doubles," both real and spiritual, who play havoc with our perceptions and our lives. A story of twins and ghosts, of a little girl growing up between cultures and colors, this book heralds the arrival of a remarkable new talent.

Please RSVP to Michelle at mjpeat@yahoo.com.

~MOM AND TOT EVENTS~

Heather Allen is our Mom and Tot coordinator. Please RSVP to her for the following events: khallenfamily@peoplepc.com

Jan 25th – Breakfast at Shoney's on Hull Street (Courthouse Rd. intersection) - 8:30 a.m. Come join us for a special weekend breakfast during the week. \$4.99 breakfast buffet specials for the moms.

Feb 5th – Club Mom at Chesterfield Towne Center – 9:30 -11 a.m. Join us for free breakfast and some indoor fun! Meet at the food court front tables.

Feb 13th – Valentine's Day Party at the Clover Hill Library from 12 – 2 p.m. Join us for some fun making valentines and eating valentine treats.

March 4th - Club Mom at Chesterfield Towne Center – 9:30 -11 a.m. Join us for free breakfast and the Richmond Jazz Society "Make Music with Me" band! Meet at

the food court front tables.

March 19th – Easter Egg Hunt from 12 – 2 pm. Heather Turner will be hosting us for some egg hunting fun with the kids!

March 24th - Maymont Park. Come early and enjoy either Pond Hop, Scavenger Hunt, or diggin for Dino. Then we'll meet up for a picnic lunch at noon around the nature center. Please note that you will need to pre-register if you would like to attend or have your child attend the special programs. Here's a description of the programs:

POND HOP - 9:45am & 11am at the Nature Center. Parents and their pollywogs will play games, make a craft, and visit some of Maymont's pond pals. For ages 3-5; children must be accompanied by an adult. \$8 for one parent and child pair/\$6 for members.

SCAVENGER HUNT: HISTORY IS EVERYWHERE – 10am at the Maymont House Museum. Enjoy an exciting morning exploring the grounds and gardens at Maymont with clues to lead you on a history scavenger hunt.

\$5 per person.

DIGGING FOR DINOS -, 10am & 11am at the Nature Center. How big was a T-rex tooth? Did cavemen and dinosaurs exist at the same time? Children ages 5-9 learn the answers as they explore the world of dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures. Playing the part of a paleontologist, kids will dig through sand to find fossils and learn what these artifacts can tell us of an earlier time. \$8 per child/\$6 for members.

April 1st – Club Mom at Chesterfield Towne Center – 9:30 -11 a.m. Join us for free breakfast and Jonathan Austin, a professional juggler! Meet at the food court front tables.

April 18th – Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens – 12:00 p.m. until whenever. Come spend the afternoon in the children's garden and enjoy the beautiful spring blooms! Bring a bag lunch or grab a quick bite at the kid friendly cafe.

Seasoned Moms Group

This little subgroup of moms is geared towards those who have kids already in/about to enter elementary school. There are so many issues that involve children in this age group--potty training was easy! The position of Seasoned Moms Coordinator is currently empty and needs to be filled. Contact Sara Neihouse at sneihouse@yahoo.com if you are interested in helping out.

~UPDATES AND MORE~

Expecting? New Baby at home?

Or maybe you just need meals because of a death in the family, long term hospitalization, or something else. Let the Sunshine Club help! Contact Michelle Peatross or mjpeat@yahoo.com (or have someone do it for you!) to arrange for meals to be delivered.

Welcome to our chapter!!

Dana Gates
Heather Turner
Anne Wooten

Happy Birthday to you!



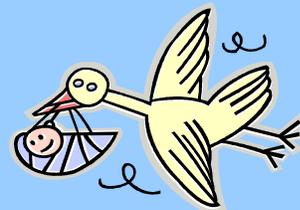
Shari Vincent 1/28

AmyLea Murphy 3/3

Ceci Rice 2/27

New Arrivals

Jonathon Michael Saweikis
was born on January 11th.
Congratulations Shannon!



Open Positions

We need your help!

Welcoming Coordinator (immediately)

Outreach Coordinator (immediately)

Membership Coordinator (beginning in April)

As you can see we still have open board positions right now and definitely need some members to help out! Our chapter is only as strong and active as our members make it so please, if you feel like you might have any interest in holding a board position, contact Shannon for more information. Some of the positions take more time and energy than others so no matter how much (or little!) time you feel like you may (or may not!) have to give, please consider serving. Serving on the board can be very rewarding: You get your direct input on chapter activities, it's a great resume builder for those of us taking time out from the work place but are thinking about returning someday, and it's a great way to meet lots of other members!