

September 2025

# The Connection

Volume 49, Issue 35

BRANDERMILL



WOMAN'S CLUB

## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

JO HAYDEN

### *Greetings beautiful Women of the Brandermill Woman's Club:*

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer of sunshine and good times! I, for one, am looking forward to the cooler days of fall and all the activities and fun associated with our awesome club! Your board has been busy over the last little while, planning our fall and spring agenda of activities!

Our September meeting will be held at Brandermill Church on Wednesday, September 17th, 2025, at 10:30 am; meetings are typically held the third Wednesday of each month, so mark your calendars! You are welcome to enter the church no earlier than 10:00 am to visit with friends, buy raffle tickets, enjoy a snack and sign up for Daytripper events and Activities. Remember to bring your checkbooks to the meeting! I would encourage you to go ahead and mail your membership dues of \$35.00 in advance of the meeting; it will sure save you time and energy! The mailing address remains the same: BWC, PO Box 1615, Midlothian, VA 23113.

Please also mark your calendars for our Fall Fashion Show, to be held on October 29th at Brandermill Country Club at noon! Marie Repp is our event chair!

Our first 'Lunch after the Meeting' will be held at Tikka Masala in the Waterford Shopping Center; I dined there recently and the food was delicious. Our own Indian Food Connoisseur, Deb Odell, will give you a snippet of her experience at our meeting! We will also begin announcing in the Connection 'Lunch after the Meeting' plans for the next meeting! Selections will most likely come from restaurants that have supported us!

There is much to share, but I am not writing a book! I will mention that Susan Morales is chairing our Search Committee for BWC officers for next year, beginning June, 2026! If you have an interest in a position, please feel free to chat with that board member about her position and then, indicate your interest for consideration to Susan. Because our terms are two years, all positions will need to be filled. Serving is fun and fulfilling and leads to wonderful friendships and greater love for our club!

See you soon, and Cheers!,

*Jo*

Jo.hayden.hayden@gmail.com / 804-763-9162

**Brandermill Woman's Club / PO Box 1615 / Midlothian, VA 23113**

### **Lunch after September Meeting:**

We'll start our year with an epicurean adventure! **Tikka Masala**, the new Indian restaurant in the space previously occupied by 21 Spoons, is our exotic destination! If you've never tried Indian food, or if you think it's "all curry" or "too spicy," **please join us** to help you discover the yumminess of an authentic Indian menu! Deb will present an overview of Indian cuisine at the meeting, as well as menu options that are mild and delicious!

*Deb*

## MEETING REMINDERS:

**MEETINGS BEGIN AT 10:30;**  
**NO ADMITTANCE BEFORE 10:00**

**BRING YOUR CHECKBOOK TO ALL MEETINGS!**  
You may want to sign up for Daytrippers outings (pay when you sign up) or other activities.

**PLEASE DON'T PARK IN THE FIRST TWO ROWS**  
(directly in front of the church);  
those rows are for preschool pickups.

## MEETING:

BRANDERMILL CHURCH  
4500 MILLRIDGE PARKWAY  
MIDLOTHIAN, VA 23112

[BRANDERMILLWOMANSClub.COM](http://BRANDERMILLWOMANSClub.COM)

## SCHEDULE FOR 2025-2026:

Sept 17  
Oct 15  
Nov 19  
Dec 17 (Luncheon)  
Jan 21  
Feb 18  
March 18  
April 15  
May 20 (Luncheon)

# MEMBERSHIP

## CYNDY BALL & KAREN OLSON

We will need to have our slate this winter, vote in April and install new

Officers at our May luncheon. Don't worry - current incumbents will ensure your smooth transition into the role. If you would like to learn more about any of the responsibilities please check with a committee member or any member of the Board. Thank you for considering.

Questions?

Cyndy Ball: [curly5000@gmail.com](mailto:curly5000@gmail.com) -or- 804-307-7227

Karen Olson: [mamasitaolson@gmail.com](mailto:mamasitaolson@gmail.com) -or- 804-517-0850

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## JOANNE BUCHANAN & SUSAN MORALES

The BWC scholarship committee is ready for another successful year. We award 2 or 3 scholarships to rising seniors from Clover Hill high school. You will see us every meeting at the scholarship table selling 50/50 raffle tickets to fund the scholarships. They are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.00. We always have some great prizes in addition to the cash winnings.

These are the members of the scholarship committee:

*Joanne Buchanan - co chair*

*Susan Morales - co chair*

*Michelle Scott*

*Millie Campbell*

*Nancy Acuto*

*Diann Ashton*

*Carole Keiter*

*Donna Elder*

Questions?

Joanne Buchanan: [jokayjul18@gmail.com](mailto:jokayjul18@gmail.com) or 757-615-7195

Susan Morales: [talltxrose@gmail.com](mailto:talltxrose@gmail.com) -or- 410-599-6343

# PROGRAMS

## JENN INMAN

Our monthly programs this year will begin with our General Meeting on September 17th.

We'll have the opportunity to see old friends and make new ones as we play Friendship Bingo, sign up for some of the many Activities and Daytrips offered. Please bring a friend to join us this year. We want to continue to grow our club.

In October we will hear about How to Avoid Caregiver Crisis - Resources for Caregivers with Bill Humphries. We all may know someone who is a caregiver or may be a caregiver for someone. This program will include many resources for assistance.

**2nd Annual Fashion Show** on October 29 at 12 noon. The event will take place at the Brandermill Country Club. For purchasing tickets for this event please call or text Jenn Inman at 804-833-7002, tickets are \$40 per person.

A Buffet lunch will be served along with non-alcoholic drinks. Wine or our signature drink Mojito will be an extra charge.

At our September 17th meeting tickets will be available for sale. Fashions will be provided by Penelope and modeled by our Beautiful Members.

All attendees will also receive a 20% coupon, courtesy of Penelope.

Questions?

Jenn Inman: [jennifersellsrva@gmail.com](mailto:jennifersellsrva@gmail.com)

-or-804-833- 7002

## ***From the nominating committee:***

This message is for all new members and not so new members. We need to fill a full slate of board positions for the 2026-2028 term. **Open board positions include:**

***President, VP Programs, Treasurer, VP Membership, Secretary.***

Please consider getting engaged with our wonderful club. To nominate yourself or another member, please reach out to a member of the committee:

*Susan Morales - Chair*

*Michelle Scott*

*Kathy Gilchrist*

*Joanne Buchanan*

*Marie Repp*

# ACTIVITIES

## DIANE MASTERS

Come out for the September 17th meeting to sign up for many of the BWC Activities. There's something to do about 15 days out of the month. You can be as busy and involved as you'd like to be. Our activities include 2 book clubs (Bookies), Bowling, Bunco, Daytrippers, Dominoes, Fun Bridge, Hand & Foot, Hand KNEE and Foot, Mahjong, NEW this year Marbles, Movie Critics and Rummikub. Please see the attached Activities Page for dates, times and contact information for the person organizing each activity. Contact Diane Masters with any questions.

Questions?

Diane Masters: [mastersdiane@hotmail.com](mailto:mastersdiane@hotmail.com) -or- 646-228-7383

# DAYTRIPPERS

## YVONNE RICCIARDELLI

**September 30, 2025 | Tuesday at 10:45AM**

### **The Virginia State Capitol Tour**



The Capitol was designed in 1785 by Thomas Jefferson. The General Assembly occupied the Capitol in 1788. The Virginia legislature voted to move the capital from Williamsburg to Richmond. Until a permanent Capitol structure could be built, the Virginia General Assembly met in two wood-framed buildings at the corner of what is now 14th Street and Cary Street. These buildings were demolished before 1811, and a plaque now marks the site of these buildings.

*Limo will pick us up at Chuy's and return for a convenient and enjoyable lunch..*

**October 14th & 16th | 10:00 am - 12:30 PM**

### **Chesterfield Ghost Tour**

Join us on an eerie journey through the streets of Chesterfield, where history and the supernatural

intertwine. This tour will guide us to some of the area's most historic sites, each boasting well-documented paranormal activity and captivating ghost stories. We'll begin at the historic Courthouse Green, a pivotal location where colonial troops once trained. From there, we'll delve into the eerie past of charming homes and popular restaurants in Midlothian, each with its own ghostly associations.

**Cost: \$8**

**November 19, 2025 | 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

### **Swift Creek Play House**

**"It's a Wonderful Life"**



The play *It's a Wonderful life* is a 1946 American Christmas fantasy drama!

"It's a Wonderful Life" is primarily set in the 1940s, specifically around the time of World War II and the immediate post-war period. The film's events span from the early 1920s to the late 1940s, showcasing George Bailey's life from childhood through adulthood.

**Cost: \$35**

**December 9, 2025 | 4:45 PM - 8 PM**

### **Holiday Tacky Light Tour**



Back by popular demand!!!

Holiday Tacky Light Tour around Richmond! (This side of the River!) We'll be riding in style on a big bus with the Richmond Limo Company, enjoying the view from up high!! More details to be announced.

Questions?

Yvonne Ricciardelli: [ym.ricci@gmail.com](mailto:ym.ricci@gmail.com) -or- 804-239-5161

## BWC Executive Board 2025 / 2026

**President:** Jo Hayden

**VP of Programs:** Jenn Inman

**VP of Membership:** Cyndy Ball  
and Karen Olson

**Treasurer:** Lori Hobbs

**Secretary:** Susan Basl

**President Emerita:** Deb O'Dell

## Appointed Positions 2025 / 2026

**Activities:** Diane Masters

**Publicity:** Janet Russell

**Connection:** Erin Melton

**Email:** HELP Wanted!

**Parliamentarian:** Susan Basl

**Scholarship:** Joanne Buchanan  
and Susan Morales

**Hospitality:** Mary Ann Owens

**Sunshine:** Marie Repp

**Website:** Caroline Zong

**Community Outreach:** Michelle  
Scott

**Ways & Means:** Marty Laughon

## WEBSITE

### CAROLINE ZONG

Hello ladies! I am Caroline Zong, the Brandermill Woman's Club new website "guru." This is my second year with the club. I have truly enjoyed all of the various activities and friendships that I have made thus far! This has definitely filled my retirement days with something to look forward to. We will continue to use our current wonderful website, only making a few minor changes. We'd like to showcase all of our many activities with more pictures. Can each person that is hosting an activity please take pictures in September and email them to me at: [zong.caroline@gmail.com](mailto:zong.caroline@gmail.com)

Dominoes, Bunco, Book Clubs, Cards, Bowling, Rummikub, Mahjong, Movie Critics (Day Trippers, please continue keeping us updated with your pictures too!).

For those of you who are on the Executive Board and Appointed Positions, please take a head shot photo and send that to me. Adding you to the website will be a helpful reference for everyone.

Did you know that the club has a Facebook page? Brandermill Woman's Club. Be sure to "follow" us and see the monthly pictures that are posted of all the fun activities!

I look forward to meeting more of you this year!

Questions?

Caroline Zong: [zong.caroline@gmail.com](mailto:zong.caroline@gmail.com)

**OUR CLUB WEBSITE IS OFFICIALLY UP AND  
RUNNING! CHECK IT OUT AT**  
<https://brandermillwomansclub.com>

**MISSION...** Our mission is to encourage friendships, social activities, and solidarity in our community. We promote a common interest in civic, cultural, educational and social welfare of the community.

## ATTACHMENTS

ACTIVITIES

<b>BWC ACTIVITY GROUPS</b>		<b>CHAIR: DIANE MASTERS (646-228-7383 / mastersdiane@hotmail.com)</b>				
<b>GROUP</b>	<b>DAYS</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>CHAIR</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
<b>BOOKIES 1</b>	3rd Fri	10:00 am	Woodlake United Methodist Church	Beverly Carlson Anita Elmore	804-739-2539	carlsonew@gmail.com
<b>BOOKIES 2</b>	3rd Tues	TBA	TBA	Mary Guarneri	443-803-3456	Mtg1250@gmail.com
<b>BOWLING</b>	4th Fri	11:00 am	Uptown Alley	Diane Masters	646-228-7383	mastersdiane@hotmail.com
<b>BUNCO</b>	3rd Wed	6:30 pm	Diane's house	Diane Masters	646-228-7383	mastersdiane@hotmail.com
<b>DAYTRIPPERS</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	Yvonne Ricciardelli	804-239-5161	ym.ricci@gmail.com
<b>DOMINOES 1</b>	2nd Tues	12:30 pm	Danielle's Home	Danielle Jimerson	804-314-9331	Daniellejimerson42@gmail.com
<b>FUN BRIDGE</b>	2nd & 4th Wed	12:30 pm	Brandermill CC	Diane Masters	646-228-7383	mastersdiane@hotmail.com
<b>HAND &amp; FOOT</b>	2nd & 4th Mon	1:00 pm	Marilyn's home	Marilyn Schlim	804-277-5010	<a href="mailto:marilynschlim@gmail.com">marilynschlim@gmail.com</a>
<b>Hand KNEE &amp; Foot</b>	1st Tues	12:30 pm	Susan's home	Susan Basl	781-572-2523	Srbasl31@gmail.com
<b>MAHJONGG</b>	1st Thurs & 3rd Tues	12:30 pm	Diane's home & BCC	Diane Masters	646-228-7383	mastersdiane@hotmail.com
<b>MARBLES</b>	3rd Thurs	12:30 pm	Diane's home	Diane Masters	646-228-7383	mastersdiane@hotmail.com
<b>MOVIE CRITICS</b>	4th Tues	TBA	TBA	Yvonne Ricciardelli	804-239-5161	ym.ricci@gmail.com
<b>RUMMIKUB</b>	2nd Fri	12:30 pm	Marty's Home	Marty Laughon	804-349-5612	melaughon@aol.com