

May 2026

The Connection

Volume 49, Issue 43

BRANDERMILL



WOMAN'S CLUB

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

JO HAYDEN

Greetings beautiful Women of the Brandermill Woman's Club:

Thank you so very much for allowing me to serve as your president for the last two years! We have shared the gifts of friendship, fellowship and fun and I wouldn't have traded a minute of it for anything and I will be forever grateful for this awesome experience! It has also been a real privilege to serve alongside our other elected board members:

Jenn Inman: Program Chair Extraordinaire

Lori Hobb: Treasurer and Guard of all things Monetary

Susan Basl: Wonderful Secretary and Bell Ringer

Cyndy Ball and Karen Olson: Membership Chairs and accurate address, phone number and email collectors and badge makers

...and then there are the Chairs who planned events, organized activities, managed scholarship, brought our website and Facebook pages up to date and into the 21st century, sent out thoughtful cards, and organized and sent out our monthly Connection, planned awesome fundraisers like Bingo and Fashion Shows, and the beat goes on. It takes a village and I got to be a part of that village!

I hope to see you all at our Spring luncheon where I will have the honor of passing the gavel to Joanne Buchanan. I am so excited for her and the incoming Board! I know they will serve your club well!

Cheers!

Jo

SPRING LUNCHEON

MAY 20TH AT 11:30 AM

AMBER GROVE

16216 GENITORD, MOSELEY, VA 23120

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

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

MEMBERSHIP

CYNDY BALL & KAREN OLSON

BWC welcomed 27 new members this past year. Our total membership is 114! With all the great programs, meetings, and fun activities we enjoyed this year, the club will continue to grow.

The new members lunch was met with enthusiasm and it was a pleasure getting to know everyone a little better. Thanks to everyone who attended.

We have enjoyed our tenure as VPs of membership and are certain Michelle Scott will be an awesome VP of membership.

Questions?

Cyndy Ball: curly5000@gmail.com -or- 804-307-7227

Karen Olson: mamasitaolson@gmail.com -or- 804-517-0850

SCHOLARSHIPS

JOANNE BUCHANAN & SUSAN MORALES

Thank you to our Members and Guests who contributed to our Scholarship Fund through raffle ticket sales on April 15! We appreciate your taking the time to stop by our table. We hope that the Maker's Market vendors also had a successful morning! Our 50/50 was won by Deb Voelkel, while Jenn Inman's name was drawn to win an original Deb Voelkel bracelet! Shirley Bohn won a Tikka Masala Gift Certificate, while Jo Hayden won a Hand and Stone Gift Card. Congratulations all!

As you know, your purchase of our monthly raffle tickets is essential to building funds for our 2026 Clover Hill High School Scholarship applicant selections. We will happily announce those names in the coming weeks.

We have every hope that by the time you read this, our 2026 A Garden Bingo proved to be a happy memory for all of you. Thank you to our Scholarship Committee members who worked so

hard to make it a financial success as well as a fun afternoon! Thank you to Deb O'Dell for creating this year's Bingo flyers. A special thank you to our members and their guests who purchased tickets to attend this special event!

Brandermill Woman's Club members and guests certainly ROSE to the occasion on April 22 to ensure a successful Bingo Garden Party THYME. There is no DANDI-LYIN' about it, the Scholarship Committee is grateful for the support that was shown for the 2026 Clover Hill High School Scholarship Awards.

With over \$2,500 in prizes to give away, we were happy that we were able to call 23 rounds of Bingo, making 23 people happy winners! Thank you to June Keller's husband, Mark, for calling! At mid-game, three raffle prize winners were called and the winners were – Nancy Acuto – First Prize of one year of car washes from Flagstop Carwash, Donna Elder won the 2nd Prize of a \$54 Gift Certificate to Nothing Bundt Cake, and Karen Esteppe won the 3rd Prize of a \$50 NAPA Kitchen Gift Card!

Our Final Bingo had two lucky winners, each receiving \$50 in cash!

I speak for everyone on the Scholarship Committee when I say that it was a privilege to ready this event for the club and the community! We cleared \$1,470.58 after expenses were paid out for the venue, refreshments, and a small amount for Bingo supplies and décor. We are also indebted to the BWC Board for their support of this 3rd Bingo since 2024 for which we worked as a team to fine-tune it in many ways. Our goal was realized and appreciated as we reviewed the applications of 13 uniquely worthy scholarship applicants. Those names will be announced at the May Luncheon.

Questions?

Joanne Buchanan: jokayjul18@gmail.com or 757-615-7195
Susan Morales: talltxrose@gmail.com -or- 410-599-6343

PROGRAMS

JENN INMAN

Our May event will be our Spring Luncheon at Amber Grove. Join us May 20th at 11:30. Let's keep the GARDEN PARTY theme going! Feel free to wear your favorite hat and garden party finery. Our new officers will be sworn in after the luncheon. The lovely buffet lunch will include crab cakes, vegan lasagne and pork tenderloin rolls with a mango chutney.

Tickets are \$45 and can be purchased by May 10th by sending a check to our PO Box. Please put Luncheon in the memo section. We hope to see you there! Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Jenn Inman 804.833.7002.

Here's the address for Amber Grove :16216 Genito Rd, Moseley, VA 23120

Questions?

Jenn Inman: jennifersellsrva@gmail.com -or- 804-833- 7002

BWC ANNIVERSARY

Hello, members of the Brandermill Woman's Club. The 50th anniversary committee has been researching fundraising platforms to ensure financial stability for a BWC nonprofit 50th anniversary celebration. Date TBD. The fundraising event will serve our mission and involve our community. We are planning a fabulous Jubilee celebration and we want YOU to partake in the festivities too! The BWC anniversary month is February, 2027. Date TBD. Have a wonderful summer.

Contact Lori Hobbs, Jo Hayden, or Pam Messner if you have interest in serving on the committee.

Questions?

Lori Hobbs: lorihobbs23117@gmail.com -or- 804-201-0000

Pam Messner: pwm516@verizon.net -or- 804-512-5811

Jo Hayden: johayden.hayden@gmail.com -or- 804-763-9162

RECIPE OF THE MONTH



Pork Chops with Crouton Stuffing

courtesy of Penny Gilliland

Ingredients

- 8 pork chops, cut ½ inch thick
- 1 c. chopped celery
- ½ c. chopped onion
- 4 Tbsp. butter or margarine
- 2 c. water
- 1 c. chicken noodle soup
- 1 tsp. rubbed sage
- 4 c. plain croutons

Instructions

1. Brown pork chops in skillet, seasoned with salt and pepper. Remove chops.
2. In large skillet, cook celery and onion in butter or margarine until tender but not brown.
3. Add water, soup and sage. Simmer 5 minutes, then add croutons; stir until moistened.
4. Turn into large baking dish and top with browned chops. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes. Serves 6-8.
5. Garnish , and enjoy!

BWC Executive Board 2026 / 2027

President: Joanne Buchanan
VP of Programs: Carole Stearns
VP of Membership: Michelle Scott and Diane Bridge
Treasurer: Nancy Acuto
Secretary: Donna Elder
President Emerita: Jo Hayden

Appointed Positions 2026 / 2027

Activities: Diane Masters
Publicity: Open Position
Connection: Erin Melton
Email: Open Position
Parliamentarian: Open Position
Scholarship: Open Position
Hospitality: Mary Ann Owens
Sunshine: Marie Repp
Website: Caroline Zong
Community Outreach: Michelle Scott
Ways & Means: Jenn Inman
Historian: Open Position

*Executive Board positions pending induction May 20, 2026

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1. Bonnie Davies 5/4
2. Diane Bridge 5/9
3. Cyndy Ball 5/19
4. Lee Kingery 5/29

The Sunshine Committee wishes you a Happy Birthday. If we have not acknowledged your birthday, please advise Cyndy Ball or Marie Repp.

Questions?

Cyndy Ball: curly5000@gmail.com -or- 804-307-7227

Marie Repp: 804.263.8649 -or- geraldrepp8704@comcast.net

WEBSITE

CAROLINE ZONG

Hello ladies! Can each person that is hosting an activity please take pictures and email them to me at: zong.caroline@gmail.com

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!

Questions?

Caroline Zong: 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.