

Quarterly Newsletter



WOMEN'S CLUB OF BRICK TOWNSHIP

PO BOX 4288, BRICK, NJ 08723

WWW.WOMENSCLUBOFBRICK.ORG

January 2025



Wreaths Across America: December 14, 2024

The Women's Club of Brick successfully sponsored a Wreaths Across America (WAA) ceremony at the Kettle Creek Cemetery on Birch Drive in Brick on December 14th for the second year in a row. The Club President, Cheryl Dyer, stated that as a result of the support that we received from the community at our fundraising events, "This year the Club covered the cost of all the wreaths needed for the veterans." The Club took on this worthy cause because it is consistent with our mission to enhance the quality of life within our community and transform public interests and concerns into meaningful projects and programs. We work with and support other nonprofits and local businesses to achieve our goals. Working with Wreaths Across America on this national ceremony has been both enlightening and rewarding.

A total of 20 people participated this year, including representatives from Boy Scout Troop 38.

The weather was sunny, but a bit chilly this year, the wreaths from Maine were beautiful, and the ceremony/wreath laying was quite moving. The Honorable Mayor Lisa Crate joined us for the ceremony and stated that "She had not previously visited this historic cemetery – and was very happy to participate in this meaningful event." She indicated that she was appreciative of the Women's Club for sponsoring this cemetery – which means that now every cemetery in Brick participates in the annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony.

Additional photos and information about the event are on page 2.

*Susan Connell,
Project Chair*

Articles in this newsletter include:

Holiday 50/50
Results

Santa at Town
Square!

Support for
Hygiene
Insecurity

Environmental
Impact
Branding WC

Upcoming
Events

Education
Initiatives



The Women's Club of Brick Township is a proud member of the NJSFWC Shore District.



Wreaths Across America (cont'd)

The ceremony included:

- An overview of Wreaths Across America and its mission to Remember the Fallen, Honor those who serve and their families, and Teach the next generation the value of freedom.
- A brief history of the cemetery which dates back to 1753 according to Stephen Kuber, president of the Kettle Creek Cemetery Association and Barry Houman, Treasurer of the Association.
- Instructions for properly laying the wreaths on veterans' graves.
- Bagpipe music played by Jane Collins while participants laid wreaths on twenty-four veteran's graves. Those honored included six from the Civil War, three from WWI, eight from WWII, four from the Korean Conflict and three from the Vietnam War.

If family members of veterans interred in the Kettle Creek cemetery would like to share information about their loved one or would like to sponsor and/or lay a wreath next year we would love to hear from you.



Holiday 50/50 Results

Our members worked hard to sell Holiday 50/50 Raffle tickets to benefit our scholarship fund. Pictured above are Mary Kay Seifert (left) and Alison Carrabba (right) at Icarus Brewery. Icarus allowed us to sell tickets at their Yule-a-Palooza event. In total we sold 263 tickets! While this fell a little short of our goal of 350 tickets it still added \$2,630.00 to our scholarship fund and a lucky ticket holder was notified after the drawing on December 14th that he won \$2,630.00. Alison alone sold over 50 tickets! Thank you to all club members who sold tickets!



Santa Came!

Santa came to Town Square for our community Christmas Party! Santa is pictured with our Girl Scout helpers. These awesome young ladies helped children in attendance with crafts, a candy cane scavenger hunt and some reindeer games. There were several vendors in attendance for the adults to do some last minute holiday shopping and enjoy refreshments provided by Merry Makers catering. The venue was Town Square at the Jersey Shore, a wonderful facility for adult day care and a great partner for organizations like us in the community!



Supporting Hygiene Insecurity

At our December meeting, our member, Debbie Trainor (pictured left) was joined by Stacey Wiener to discuss their organizations, Each Stitch Counts and S.A.C.K. Supporting a Community with Kindness respectively. Both Debbie and Stacey became aware of hygiene needs that are not met by food banks. Stacey's program focuses on producing knitted, crocheted or sewn soap sacks that are donated to the food pantries with bars of soap. Debbie's program focuses on knitted or crocheted dish cloths and dish soap



bottles that are also donated to food pantries.

Following their presentations, members of the Women's Club helped assemble 125 bottles of dish detergent with dish cloths and dish cloth dresses - pattern designed by Debbie- to be gifted to residents of Brick through the Meals on Wheels program. Pictured above are Connie Grant, April Corvase, Maria Hoffman and Eileen Siefi working together to assemble the dish detergent and dish cloths.

Do you knit or crochet? You can help these great initiatives!

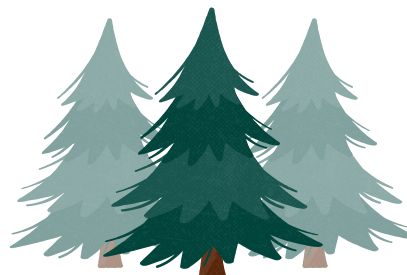
www.eachstitchcounts.org
www.soapsacks.com



Reuse and Recycle

This is what 1,684 pounds of clothing, shoes, and other items looks like! A huge thank you to the Brick Community for helping us with this clothing drive.

As part of our commitment to the environment, the WC of Brick, participates in Beach Sweeps, recycles sneakers, clothing, shoes, and other items to keep them out of the landfills and to provide gently used items to people who need them.



We're Branded!

The insignia of the Women's Club of Brick for the past eighty-eight years has been the pine tree and we've decided to start using it! Our new logo appears on this newsletter, on our business cards, and on our social media pages. Hopefully, it will become recognizable to members in the community. In an effort to become more known throughout the community, we also recently joined the Brick Township Chamber of Commerce as a non-profit and we've enjoyed networking with other members!

Upcoming Events



Day of Service

January 20, 2025

For the 2025 Day of Service, the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs will be supporting the efforts of the Center for Family Services.

One of their goals is to provide newborn and essential items to parents and to teach them skills necessary to care for their newborns. Items needed include: diapers of all sizes, burp cloths, formula, onesies, educational and developmental toys, new board books (Spanish language a plus), baby wipes, pajamas, bottles and bottle cleaners, teething rings, blankets and care packages for Moms.

In addition, there are teens and young adults who are currently couch-surfing or living on the streets and are in need of a safe place to live. We will help prepare backpack care kits - new, sturdy backpacks filled with essential items to be distributed along with hotline information and resources for support, including transportation to safe housing and emergency shelter. Essential items to fill the back packs include: wet wipes, small bottles of Dawn dish soap, first aid kits, nail clippers, warm socks, toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant, flashlight, a comb or brush and a lightweight sleeping bag.

A third area of need is for victims of domestic violence. Welcome Baskets with cleaning supplies assist women who are relocating into new housing. Supplies needed include dish soap, cleaning supplies, pots and pans, silverware, towels, sponges, bedding, and dishes.

We will be using club funds raised at the craft fair and other fundraising events to purchase items for these worthy causes. Donations are also welcome! Please contact us if you have items or money to donate. We now accept Venmo @WCofBrick. Just indicate Donation-day of service! Physical donations must be received by 1/15/25. Email us for pick-up!

Blood Drive

February is Heart Month! Please consider donating blood. There are two convenient locations through the New York Blood Center in our area: Pine Grove Day Camp on 2/6 from 12:30-6:30 and the Women's Club of Point Pleasant on 2/18 from 12:30-6:30. Visit www.donate.nybc.org to make an appointment.

Comedy Night!

Our third annual comedy night will be held on April 10, 2025 at Uncle Vinnie's Comedy Club in Point Pleasant. The evening will feature two comedians and a delicious three-course dinner. Tickets will be on sale in February. Uncle Vinnie's is a BYOB. Tickets are \$55.00 per person and payment options will be cash or Venmo. Plan now for a fun night out!





Empowering the Next Generation of Women!

Each year, the Women's Club of Brick Township sponsors two students who are completing their junior year in high school to attend the Girl's Career Institute (GCI). The education committee of the WC works collaboratively with the school counselors at Brick Township High School and Brick Memorial High School to select the delegates. Delegates are selected on the basis of interest, community service and participation in school activities.

Girls' Career Institute (GCI) offers a "mini college and career exploration experience" at Douglass Residential College on the campus of Rutgers University. Delegates experience a sample of college life by living in a dorm, eating in a cafeteria, and attending lectures and workshops during the week of June 1-June 4.

The girls learn about career choices from volunteer professional speakers and how to network with other delegates from all over the state of New Jersey. Participants may take part in a variety of service projects, Zumba and mindfulness sessions, swimming, GCI Chorus, Talent Night, the "I am Unique" Style Showcase, and an Art exhibit. Many establish lasting friendships with one another. If you know of a junior girl who might be interested, please have her speak to her guidance counselor.

The WC of Brick will once again provide three \$1,000.00 scholarships to Brick senior girls. The application will be active on our website on February 1st.

Thank you for reading!

**WOMEN'S CLUB OF BRICK
TOWNSHIP**

WOMENSClubOFBRICK@GMAIL.COM

www.womensclubofbrick.org

PO Box 4288
Brick, NJ 08723



Please visit our FB **PAGE** (Women's Club of Brick)
and Instagram (@wcofbrick)

