



December, 2025

A MESSAGE FROM BCCWC PRESIDENT

It's that holiday time of year again when we begin to trim trees, sing carols (with a bit of fa, la, la, la, la), bake special goodies, light candles in windows and deck the halls with boughs of holly and lights. As we meet others throughout the day, our smiling faces and cheerful greetings help to send a buoyant message of warmth and connection which is so needed by everyone today. Through the innumerable activities undertaken by BCCWC members, the message of sharing and caring truly comes alive during this season of the year. Members confidently step forward and strive to bring comfort and cheer to those who need a bit of extra support. Whether it be serving meals at the homeless shelters, providing gifts and food for needy families, supplying food items to food pantries or sending "Cheery Notes" to residents in eldercare homes, BCCWC assuredly heralds this sincere message to our community, "May there be peace on earth and good will toward all."

Jeanne Lefebvre, President



MEMBERSHIP

BCCWC membership is at 280.

We have had 6 new members join since our last newsletter.

Please welcome: Debra Wellens, Mary Goral, Linda Rentmeester, Carol Gapinski, Francine Lutz and Sue Miller. Those interested in joining or renewing will find a form on our website www.bccwc.org or click on the link below:

<https://www.bccwc.org/app/download/769750066/2025-26+Membership+Application.pdf>

Postal Correspondence has increased due to the cost of postage. It will be \$55 to join/renew and receive your newsletter/mailings via US Mail. Email correspondence remains \$35.

If you are unable to print a form, please send your check, along with your information/interests, to:

Dianne Froelich, 3466 Peppergrass Drive, Green Bay, WI 54311.

*** If you are renewing, please highlight any changes from last year.*

Please refer to the current BCCWC Directory for additional contact information

Dianne Froelich, Linda Aschenbrenner, Cindy Dimmer, Membership Co-Directors

MEETINGS REMINDER

130 members and 6 guests attended the November general meeting at the De Pere Community Center. Our presenter was Natasha Atkinson from Laundry Love Green Bay. Her presentation was all about her wonderful organization and all they do for members of our community.

Our next meeting will be our annual Holiday Luncheon on **December 17**, at Tundra Lodge, 865 Lombardi Avenue, Green Bay.

Social - 11AM

Lunch - 12 Noon

Program - 1PM

Meeting - 1:45PM

Reservations are due by **December 3**. The entertainment will be the Ashwaubenon High School Christmas Touring Ensemble. Be prepared to be immersed in the holiday spirit!

The registration form for our **December 17** holiday luncheon at Tundra Lodge is available at:

<https://www.bccwc.org/app/download/769886359/December+Reservation+Form.pdf>

Carol Mau (227-3542) zinnia60@gmail.com, Sue Vyse (562-3273) smvyse@gmail.com,

Susan Byrne (708-860-8878) susan.byrne@cbexchange.com, Program/Social Co-Directors



COMMUNITY SERVICE

CHEERY NOTES TO SENIORS

During the month of November, residents of Emerald Bay in Hobart received 160 cheery notes and birthday cards from the BCCWC. Thank you again to our kindhearted members for making this possible.

We will again collect completed cards as well as distribute “six packs” at our next meeting on **December 17**. The more completed cards we collect, the more cheer we will spread to our area nursing home residents.



Rosie Jonas (366-2509) rjonas@new.rr.com,

Jeanette Krysiak (655-6928) jeanettekrysiak@yahoo.com, Co-Chairs

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES



Thank you all for the wonderful support again this year! The children we sponsored will truly have a special holiday because of your generosity. The gifts were delivered to the social worker who will distribute them to the families.

Kay Barlament, Judy Niesing, Mary Ortmyer, Co-Chairs

Monica Sims, Judy Niesing and Kay Barlament collected and then delivered the Christmas gifts at the November meeting. Five families with a total of 13 recipients were gifted with 78 presents and numerous gift cards.

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRIES - HOMELESS SHELTERS' MEALS



We had a wonderful sign-up this month for the shelter meals as we head into the winter months where the capacity for guests at both shelters continues to increase. We are serving a meal on Thursday, **December 4**, at the Men's Shelter on St. John Street and at the Women's Shelter in the back of the Wellspring building at 700 E. Walnut Street. At this time we **still need** the following:

Men's Shelter: 2 large hot vegetable dishes

Women's Shelter: 1 large salad with dressing

Thank you to all of you who continue to support this need in our community. If you are delivering food, please take it to the shelters between **5-5:30PM**. The guests love all the food you make and look forward to the nights our members are there.

Contact either of us if you have any questions.

Mary Kay Paulson (301-221-6327 cell) mkpaulson@aol.com,
Jan Clark (265-5744 cell) janetclark71@yahoo.com, Co-Chairs

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRIES – WELLSPRING



Kathy DeBroux and Cathy Green collecting the Wellspring donations.

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who contributed to the clothing collection on November 19 for the guests at WELLSPRING! It was an overwhelming success - the bags just kept coming and filled both our vehicles to the brim! Generous members donated more than 70 bags of much needed winter items, including jackets, gloves, socks, boots, hats, long underwear and more. The Wellspring staff was overjoyed and so grateful for the abundance of items donated and for the continued generosity and support of our members. All of your contributions have made such a difference in their lives! Their holidays will be a little brighter, thanks to your generosity.



Wellspring Staff

Kathy DeBroux (660-7921) kmdebroux@gmail.com,

Cathy Green (676-4665) cgreen1171@gmail.com, Co-chairs

HOUSE OF HOPE



On Tuesday, November 18, Kathy De Broux spread happiness and joy to the residents in House of Hope! The cake, ice cream and table decorations were provided for the monthly birthday celebration. Two children enjoyed being honored by the other 3 children and 20 adults.

This monthly celebration is one of the many acts of kindness our members provide.

Dianne Smith heartsafire98@gmail.com,

Rose Jensen rmemer@aol.com, Co-Chairs

HSHS ST. VINCENT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - CHILD LIFE DEPARTMENT



Many smiles were shared when the staff at Child Life distributed the Halloween "Trick or Treat" goodie bags and buckets. Our upcoming projects include the **December 1** decorating of the small lighted Christmas trees.

This year, we have St. Nick books and gift bags ready to be delivered with the little decorated Christmas trees. The bright Christmas bows added such a cheerful touch to the books.

Special thanks to everyone who contributed to these wonderful projects. You are an amazing group of very kind, talented and generous women!

December is always a very busy month but we want to take a minute to express our gratitude and wish you and your loved ones "Happy Holidays and many blessings in the New Year."

Kathy Aicher (265-5094) kaicher@new.rr.com, Sue Vyse (562-3273) smvyse@gmail.com,

Carol De Grand (680-5470) cjdeggrand@gmail.com, Co-Chairs

BUILDING QUILTS FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Thanks to all of the quilters and BCCWC for your support of this project! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mary Schrickel (609-4651) mary_habitat@hotmail.com,

Gina Reinardy (664-6501) ginareinardy@gmail.com, Co-Chairs

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ONE STITCH AT A TIME

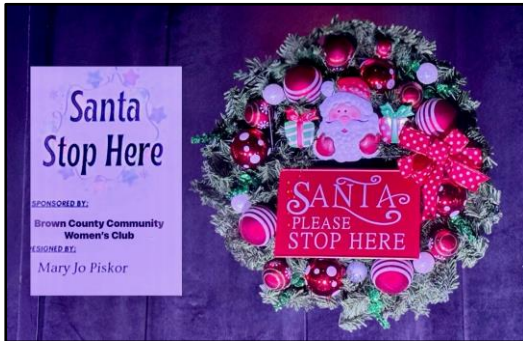


Since it is getting colder, it is time to put those knitting needles and crochet hooks to work. Next blanket collection will be in the spring so there is a lot of time to finish a project. The children at House of Hope and the women at Wellspring will appreciate your work! Baby blankets, twin bed size blankets, afghans and throws are needed. Thank you in advance.

Any questions contact:

Pat Hearnden (217-3824), Jean Allgeyer (639-2980), Co-Chairs

RIBBON OF HOPE



Holiday wreaths are displayed in the windows of the former Younkers building on North Washington St. There are 67 wreaths on display, with 12 of them being created by talented and creative ladies of BCCWC. All of the wreaths will be delivered to families dealing with cancer by Ribbon of Hope. Check them out – the wreaths will be there until early December.

GIVE A KID A BOOK



On Wednesday, October 29, the downtown Central Branch Brown County Library welcomed guests to the kick-off of the annual Give a Kid a Book campaign. This year, the campaign spokesperson is Bre LeFleur, wife of Packer coach Matt LeFleur. The event highlighted the need for books for children. More than 11,000 books will be distributed in mid-December to more than 5,800 kids. BCCWC has granted a Community Award to the GAKAB campaign for many years. This year that Community Award was for \$1500.

Submitted by Meg Deem

BCCWC member Meg Deem and Friends of the Brown County Library Board President Matt Kolpien celebrate the kick-off to the 37th annual Give a Kid a Book campaign.

FUNDRAISING

Putting your final touches on your holiday decor? The December luncheon will feature a raffle of a beautiful hand-painted picture that will surely find a special place in your home. As always, 6 tickets for \$5, and all proceeds go toward our Community Awards.

Sue Protzman, Darlene Rohm, Sue Burich, Fundraising Co-Directors



CARD AND GAME DAY



*"Spooktacular" highlights
from the Card and Game Day
fundraiser at Riverside.*



Expecting a wickedly good time, 194 members and guests gathered at the Riverside Ballroom on October 29 for BCCWC's Fall Card & Game Day Fundraiser. The raffle basket table was adorned with pumpkins, bats and eerie black sticks, with "light-up pillows" drawing attention. Attendees rose to the occasion - costumes included the Queen of Sheba, a court jester, an Expo Dry Marker (job-related for a nurse) and a coven of witches! The Yum Yum Shoppe offered an array of fall treats, including pumpkin breads, Halloween treats for trick-or-treating and goodies from Uncle Mike's Bake Shop.

Following a hearty lunch, the games began. Bridge, Hand-and-Foot, Mah Jongg, Dominos and 5 Crowns were just a few of the activities going on throughout the afternoon. The party wrapped up around 3 o'clock, with the announcement of the winners of the many games and raffle prizes.



Mark your calendars now for **Spring Card & Game Day - April 29** at Riverside Ballroom. The event will be celebrating the Kentucky Derby, which will take place just a few days later. Start planning your Derby hat now. Hope to see you there!

Sue Protzman, Sue Burich, Nancy Noles, Co-Chairs

MAH JONGG FUNDRAISER



Buy your 2026 Mah Jongg card through the BCCWC and help raise money to be used toward our Community Awards. Regular cards cost \$14; large print cards cost \$15. BCCWC will receive \$6 for each card ordered. The card will be mailed to your home and you will also receive the National Mah Jongg League annual newsletter. The form for ordering the cards is available at www.BCCWC.org under the Fundraising tab, or you may call/email Linda Aschenbrenner. Last year, 110 cards were sold through BCCWC and we hope to increase that number this year! If you ordered a card last year, we already have your address. You can write a check payable to BCCWC and note on the memo line how many cards you want. If you prefer paying with cash, please put the cash in an envelope with a note stating your name and how many cards you want and **hand it to Linda Aschenbrenner**. (*PLEASE do not turn in a stack of cash with a sticky note. Everything needs to be clear so there will be no mistakes.*) The deadline for orders is **January 24, 2026**. Ask your Mah Jongg friends to buy their cards through BCCWC as well. Order form:

<https://www.bccwc.org/app/download/769879797/2026+MahJongg+card+order+form.pdf>

Linda Aschenbrenner (991-9961) linda.asch2747@gmail.com, Chair

FELLOWSHIP

Upcoming Events! Sign up and join in some fun.

Sign up at the monthly meeting OR with the contact person listed for the event.

(Use your directory for contact phone numbers or email addresses.)

"Dinner Dames" Coordinated by Sue Sinclair. Meet at 5PM

Date (Last Thursday of Month)	Restaurant	Contact
Dec 18* (reservations due 12/14)	Legacy Hotel (Green Bay)	Mary Schuster
Jan. 29 (reservations due by 1/25)	Rivers Bend (Howard)	Mary Schneider
Feb. 26 (reservations due by 2/22)	Lorelei Inn (Green Bay)	Sue Sinclair
Mar. 26 (reservations due by 3/22)	St Brendan's Inn (Green Bay)	Carol Simpson
Apr. 30 (reservations due by 4/23)	Union Hotel (De Pere)	Marla Lee
May 28 (reservations due by 5/26)	The Drift Inn (Green Bay)	Elaine Gerhold
June 25 (reservations due 6/21)	Chives Restaurant (Suamico)	Elaine Gerhold
July 30 (reservations due 7/26)	El Sarape East (Bellevue)	Terry Jeffers
Aug 27 (reservations due 8/23)	Rustique Pizzeria (Suamico)	Sue Protzman

***The Third Thursday instead of the last Thursday due to holidays.**

“Lunch Bunch Ladies” Coordinated by Marla Lee. Meet at 11:30AM

Date (first Thursday of Month)	Restaurant/Location	Contact
Dec. 4 (reservations due by 11/29)	Plae Bistro (Bellevue)	Mary Jo Piskor
Jan. 15*(reservations due by 1/11)	Generations Bistro (Allouez)	Marla Lee
Feb. 5 (reservations due by 2/1)	Café Con Crema (Green Bay)	Rose Jensen
Mar. 5 (reservations due by 2/27)	bleu (Ledgeview)	Karen Coppersmith
Apr. 2 (reservations due by 3/29)	El Sarape East (Bellevue)	Brenda Johnson
May 7 (reservations due by 5/3)	Longhorn Steakhouse (Green Bay)	Mary Jo Piskor
June 4 (reservations due by 5/31)	Cheesesteak Rebellion (Green Bay)	Kathy Eisenschink

***Third Thursday of the month due to holiday and Bunco.**

Shop The Block in Shawano

We were small in number but large in fun! Five members traveled to Shawano to enjoy unique shops and a tasty lunch.

IKEA and Bay Shore Bus Trip—canceled due to low numbers.

Make a Snowflake/Suncatcher

Join us at N.E.W. Beads and Jewelry for a class where you will make a small and a large snowflake/suncatcher. The contact is Marla Lee.

Wednesday, **December 3**, 1PM-3PM

Location: N.E.W. Beads and Jewelry, 2069 Central Court, Suite 44, Green Bay (near aBravo)

Cost: \$20 +tax, payable at the class

You can bring a snack and water or soda.



Cookie Decorating Class—Full If you are interested in being on a waitlist, contact Mary Jo Piskor.

Mary Jo Piskor will be teaching how to decorate Christmas-themed cookies with royal icing. You will decorate between 8-10 cookies each. Tuesday, **December 9**, 9AM-11AM

Location: 731 Savoie Court, Allouez (near Village Grille)

Cost: \$20 fee is a fundraiser for BCCWC. Make checks payable to BCCWC.

Please bring a cookie sheet or tray to carry your creations home.

Mah Jongg Lessons—8 members have signed up so far!

Join the Mah Jongg craze! Learn to play in 3 sessions that will be held at the De Pere Community Center on the lower level. Sue Sinclair will lead the lessons as you become familiar with the tile game that will intrigue and challenge you.

Wednesday, **January 7, 14, and 28**, 1PM-3:30pm

De Pere Community Center, 600 Grant Street, De Pere (Lower level)

No cost

Paul’s Pantry Tour—It’ll Warm Your Heart

As a recipient of BCCWC funds, we have arranged a tour of this facility to learn more about the services provided, and success realized by the food pantry. The goal of Paul’s Pantry is to provide enough food every week so that recipients are assured of nutritious meals. After the tour, we may participate in a volunteer activity that will involve breaking down bulk-food donations into family-sized portions. We provided this tour last year, and we have been requested to do it again. Join us if you can. Rita Wurzer is the contact.

Paul's Pantry Tour (cont.)

Tuesday, **January 13**, 8:45AM

Paul's Pantry, 1520 Leo Frigo Drive, Green Bay

No cost (The experience is priceless.)

Bingo! Free Beverages!

Join us for one, or all, of the AM Express Sessions. Contact is Lynn Arnesen.

Fridays: January 16 and April 17

10AM – 12:30PM

\$21 for basic packet. Extra games are available for purchase.

Irene Moore Activity Center (IMAC) 2100 Airport Drive



Mark Your Calendar:

These events are also planned for the coming year. Detailed information will be in the January newsletter and at the January meeting.

Funeral Home Presentation, Tuesday, February 10, 1:00—Proko-Wall Funeral Home

Line Dancing Lessons, Wednesday, February 25—Great North Commons, 789 Armed Forces Dr.

Paintin' Pottery, Tuesday, March 3, De Pere, cost varies depending on project

Mulva Center Tour, Friday, March 20, tour at 10:30 then lunch at Savour, De Pere

Brewery Bingo at Zambaldi's, Thursday, April 9, 6:00-8:00, Free

Medical Examiner's Office presentation, Tuesday, April 21, Lunch at noon, presentation at 1:00, Village Grille

Shilcox Alpaca Farm Visit, Tuesday, May 12, 10:00, 5118 Heritage Rd., De Pere, Free

Mini Golf Outing, Wednesday, May 27, 10:30, Duck Creek Golf Center, \$8

Sign-up sheets are on the Fellowship table at the monthly meetings OR get in touch with the contact for the event. (Contact information is in the BCCWC Directory.)

Standing Activities:

- **Brown County Bunco** is led by Carey Lheureux. They play on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Village Grille.
- **Book Club** is coordinated by Joan Zittlow and Paula Fineout. It meets the first Monday of the month. The location will change each month so you should either refer to the Book Club section in the newsletter OR contact Paula or Joan for the month's location.
- **Mah Jongg** is held at the De Pere Community Center, on the lower level, on the first, second, and fourth Wednesday of the month, between 1PM-3:30PM and at the Ashwaubenon Community Center at the same time and days.
- **Egg Cartons**. Please continue to bring your extra egg cartons to the Fellowship table at the monthly meeting. They will be delivered to Paul's Pantry by a member. Each carton saves them 34 cents. In November we collected 100+ cartons!

Mary Jo Piskor (217-4343) savoie731@aol.com, Sue Sinclair (737-2461) upnative1979@yahoo.com,

Rita Wurzer (655-8894) jwurzer6@new.rr.com, Fellowship Co-Directors

BOOK CLUB

Please join us on Monday, **December 1** from 11:30AM to 2PM at Cedar and Sage Grill House, 2040 Airport Dr., where we will review our December book and also enjoy a Christmas luncheon! Our December book selection

is *The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride* by Joe Siple. This book is a heartwarming “coming-of-old-age” story that explores themes of friendship, hope and finding meaning in life.

Book Summary:



With all his family and friends gone, except an estranged grandson, retired Major League ballplayer Murray McBride is looking for a reason to live. He finds it in Jason Cashman, a spirited 10-year-old boy with a terminal heart defect and a list of five things he wants to do before he dies. Murray is determined to help Jason fulfill his dreams. Together, they race against the limited time each has left, ticking off Jason’s wishes one by one. Along the way, Murray remembers what it’s like to be young, and Jason fights for the opportunity to grow old. But when tragedy strikes, their worlds are turned upside-down, and an unexpected gift is the only thing that can make Jason’s final wish come true.

Our meeting on **January 5** will find us reading *The Champagne Letters* by Kat MacIntosh. We will be meeting at the Kress Family Branch in De Pere, Room A.

Let us know if you have any questions or suggestions. Send Paula an email if you would like to be on the “official” email list. Members may bring friends, neighbors or family members. You may attend regularly or whenever time permits.

Joan Zittlow (857-7749) joanzittlow@gmail.com,

Paula Fineout (360-3144) paulafineout@icloud.com, Co-Chairs

COMMUNICATIONS

Since the 2025-26 membership directory was printed in late July, there have been many changes. Some of those changes are new members (welcome!) and some of those changes have been changes in email and/or phone numbers. A list of those changes is included with this newsletter. If you are getting this newsletter by U.S. mail, a print copy is included. If you are getting this newsletter via email, the list was attached to the email you got from Lizz Jayne telling you that the newsletter was posted on the website. Please print it and include it in your directory.

2025 PHOTO DIRECTORY

The photo directory will be distributed at the holiday luncheon on December 17. If you are picking up a directory for someone else, you will be asked to sign for it. The photo directories will not be mailed, so if you don't get yours then, contact Margaret Georgia to make arrangements to get your book. Reminder that **no extra books were ordered, so the only photo books available are those that were pre-ordered.**



Margaret Georgia mageorgia53@gmail.com, Photo Directory Editor

Yours in fellowship, fun and community good works,

Kathy Szymanski and Margaret Georgia, Co-Editors

BCCWC Communications Team

Brown County Community Women’s Club, Inc. www.bccwc.org

The Communications Team wishes you a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. As we count our blessings at Christmas, we count all of our BCCWC friends high on the list!

Nancy Daniels
Lynda Drews
Margaret Georgia
Lizz Jayne
Chris Rosera
Kathy Szymanski

