**President’s Message**

*Doreen Carnvale*

As this year comes to a close and we reflect on the events that have occurred during the year, this Officer is amazed of all we have accomplished during the past year. Anytime a call went out for help, you responded in a BIG way such as the rapid collection of items for the Afghan Refugees or the "unique way" of collecting socks for the different agencies in our area. Your willingness to help others in such creative ways has shown the true spirit and fortitude of being a "Club Woman"!

Many thanks to all those who have supported the various projects and kept the club moving forward in serving the many needs of our community both near and far. We continued with the *TEAM* mantra, *Together Everyone Achieves More*. Working as a TEAM, we were able to achieve great things! Your support in all the projects has been GREATLY APPRECIATED by this Officer!

You all have been very busy this past year, giving of your time and financial support. As the holidays draw near, please take time to share this joyous holiday season with your family and friends. You deserve it!!

***SENDING HOLIDAY WISHES TO YOU***

***AND YOUR FAMILIES***

***AND***

***WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY, HEALTHY 2022!!***



**1st Vice President**

*Carol Ward*

Our guest speaker for December is Lt. Col. Stephanie Aaron. She will be speaking about the Afghan refugees at the Joint Base. We will be giving her socks and new clothing for the project.

At our January meeting, we will have a Bag Auction. Members are asked to bring something in a bag--brown bag, red bag, birthday bag, Christmas bag, Easter bag, bread bag. Be creative. The minimum value is between $5 - $15. Please have a note on bag with the value. Money raised is for our Operations fund. The Auction will be held after our regular meeting.

**2nd Vice President**

*Joyce Schultz*

The December 13 General Meeting Hostesses are Carol, Jan, and Cheryl.

A Thank You card with two $50 gift cards will be given to Harry, Custodian at First Presbyterian Church, where our meetings are held.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS**

**Arts and Culture -** *Open Position*

*Doreen Carnvale reports:*

Thank you goes out to Doris and Stephanie Berdugo-Hernandez who have once again helped with the designing/printing of our 386 holiday notecards for the Burlington County Library Wish Tree and to Joyce for the organizing and printing of all the labels.

The deadline for participating in a cookie exchange has been extended to December 6. If interested in baking cookies to exchange, please contact Doreen by December 6 with the type of cookies you would be making. We would need six cookies per member participating.

Please start thinking of any craft, baking, painting, sewing, crocheting, or knitting project you may want to enter in Achievement Day next spring. Doreen will have entry forms for the items that are entered. Please call Doreen with questions about the entries. The information can be found on the website, and she can tell you how you can access this.

**Arts Performing**

At the end of our December meeting, we will be singing “Let There Be Peace on Earth.”



Through AARP, there is a bus trip to see the production, *David,* at Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, on Wednesday, April 27, 20221with lunch at Shady Maple. Cost is $130 pp, which includes show, lunch, and bus with all gratuities. Please contact Jan if you will be going. If we go as a group, it can be counted as a group activity. If you have never been there, it is a fascinating place to see. Husbands and other family members are also welcomed.

**Civic Engagement and Outreach**

*Joelle Wentz, Chairperson*

Our club members supported *"Wreaths Across America"* by sponsoring 18 wreaths this year. Some are being placed on Veterans’ graves in Arlington, local cemeteries, Pittsburgh cemetery, and BG William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Wrightstown, NJ. where three members and their husbands will help place wreaths on the headstones of American heroes as part of *National Wreaths Across America Day*, on Saturday, December 18, 2021. Thank you to all who made these sponsorships possible.

Thank you to the seven members and four husbands who came to the Mount Holly Veteran's Day Ceremony on November 11. A beautiful wreath was created by Miss Bee Haven Florist and donated by a club member. Gil McDonald and John Smythe dedicated the wreath on our club's behalf.

Seventy-two assorted items were donated by our club to Veteran's Haven and delivered on November 12 with ten new duffel bags donated by a generous member.

A big thank you goes out to Kim Reese and her son who gathered and donated over 150 various household items to many organizations on behalf of our club.

Afghan refugees were very grateful for the donation of 1,591 pairs of socks from our great "*Socktober*" event.

*Veterans Haven* received 244 pairs of socks and 24 new clothes hangers that a member donated.

Thank you to all members, their families, and friends for making the Civic Engagement and Outreach Program successful and worthy to say *"We love and honor our Vets"*

**Mount Holly First Presbyterian Church (Luncheon/Clothing Drive)**

*Jackie Bozarth, Chairperson*

**Seasonal** clothing for men, women & children.

Additional for Men - M, L & XL T-shirts; new M & L boxer underwear and new socks.

**Toiletries:** Tooth brushes, tooth paste, body wash, deodorant, shampoo, razors, shaving cream.

**Food:** Instant Potatoes, Preferred brand: Idaho Spuds and Idahoan Mashed Potatoes.

Donations of the items can be made every Friday at the side handicap door of the church between 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM.

Please send donation information to Jackie Bozarth, jjj409@comcast.net for reporting. Please keep track of the weight of food donations, toiletry items and list of clothing items (e.g., 3 Men's T-shirts, XL).

**Education and Libraries -** *Open Position; Doreen Carnvale reports:*

Several members expressed an interest in participating in the *Grandpals Pen Pal Program* through the Mount Laurel School System. We have seven members who have received letters and are writing back to their pen pals from the third-grade class.

On November 28, four members and one guest met for the first book club discussion of *The Nightingale* at Doreen's house. Everyone enjoyed the book and will be making plans for other books to read in the future. If you are interested in joining the reading of the next book, please contact Doreen.



**Environment**

*Arline Dederick, Chairperson*

**Trex Challenge**

Even though we now have received two Trex benches, we are working towards earning our third bench and the collection of another 500 lbs. of plastic bags. Arline has been getting bags left on her porch just about every day.



**Health and Wellness**

*Arline Dederick, Chairperson*

**Exercise**

Before the December General Meeting, please let Arline know how many miles you walked in November.

**Samuel Miller Senior Center**

Elaine H. delivered 30 sweet breads to Samuel Miller for Thanksgiving along with cute turkey candy favors. Many thanks to all the wonderful members who have volunteered to donate items for the Christmas stockings in December. Many have already been delivered to Elaine and all items have been accounted for. Much appreciation for your generosity toward our dear friends at Samuel Miller. You will certainly make their Christmas merry and bright!

**Soles for Souls**

In November, 40 pairs of shoes were brought to *Soles 4 Souls*.



**Virtua Health and Rehabilitation Center**

Jeanne reported that she will be making up Christmas stockings for our “Bingo Buddies.” If anyone is interested in contributing, it would be most welcome! Also, she will be dropping off December’s bingo prizes at the beginning of the month!

**APPOINTED COMMITTEES/**

**SUBCOMMITTEES**

**Advocates for Children**

*Carol Ward, Chairperson*

- At our December meeting, there will be a one-time collection for *UNICEF,* or you may send a check to Karen Davis or use Venmo.

- Continuing with the collection of gifts for Generations and Pinelands at the Wish Tree in the County Library. Tags are being taken.

- *Socktober* was a success. A total of 1,591 pairs of socks were collected through the library donations, two Girl Scout Troops, VFW, and personal donations.

Distribution of socks went to several agencies:

Providence House has an abundance of socks, so their socks will be added to the Afghan Refugees numbers.

-Generations received 152 pairs children’s socks

-Pinelands received 150 pairs children’s socks

- Afghan Refugees received 547 pairs socks for women and children

- 1st Presbyterian Church - 373 pairs for men, women, and children

-Veteran’s Haven - 244 pairs for men and women

-Helping Hands Ministry- 135 pair for men

Thank you to everyone who helped!

**Domestic Violence Awareness**

Bette Kirby, Chairperson

This chairperson received an email from Barbara at *Providence House*, and they are asking for donations of food items to be donated for the month of December. The items will allow the mothers to provide lunches and breakfasts during the Christmas Holiday since other food services are not available. Requested items include Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Tuna, Cereal, Soup



If you would like to donate any of these items, please bring to the December General Meeting. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**Fundraising**

*Carol Ward, Chairperson*

*Scrip* - This is usually one of our big internal fundraisers that does not cost you anything other than the gift cards you are purchasing. Before you go out to purchase gift cards at other merchants, please consider buying them through Woman's League since we earn a certain percentage of the sales for our Operations account. Carol has provided you with the list (attached), including the smaller denominations for $5 and $10 gift cards, which are only available at Christmas.

The last Scrip order before Christmas will be placed on December 6. Please send your money to Karen Davis and order to Carol Ward. Attached to this newsletter are listing of all stores and a list of $5 and $10 cards, only available at Christmas Time.

*Bake Sale* at the Mount Holly VFW on Saturday November 27. Bake Sale proceeds will be divided among Pinelands for Happy Birthday Bags, Virtua Bingo prizes, and Saint Vincent de Paul Food Bank.

\* Wish Tree collection of gift cards and gifts for six charities has been set up in Burlington County Library. Stop by and see our beautiful tree. Wish Tree gift delivery to organizations will be provided by:

Mosaic Early Learning Center (Lumberton) – Karen Besko

Generations – Jeanne

Pinelands – Bonnie

Department of Children & Family Services – Joelle

Oaks Integrated – TBD

Operation MHPD – Doreen



\* *Fire and Ice Festival* in Mount Holly on Saturday, January 29 - We will have a Bake Sale and Cupcake/ Gingerbread House Contest. Signup sheets for bakers and

volunteers to work the baked goods tables and contest tables will be available at the December General Meeting. Tables will be set up at the Rowan College @ Burlington County, Mount Holly Campus on High Street.

\* A profit of $153.74 was raised from the *Terri Lynn* nuts and candy orders.

**Legislation**

Arline Dederick, Chairperson

At the next General Meeting, there will be a clipboard with a petition to the Governor requesting that NJ women prisoners no longer endure abuse at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility or any other New Jersey correctional institute. Please sign the petition at the next General Meeting.

**Special State Project 2020-2022 – Operation Chillout**

*Joelle Wentz, Chairperson*

*Bette Kirby, Co-Chairperson*

Thank you to all members who made it possible to have a successful *Rada Cutlery* fundraiser with a profit of $129.60.

