

March | 2024

## Upcoming Events

- **March chapter mtg (JB elections!):** Thursday, March 7, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Fugett M.S., West Chester
- **April chapter mtg:** Thursday, April 4, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Fugett M.S., West Chester
- **May chapter mtg:** Thursday, May 2, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Fugett M.S., West Chester
- **End-of-year potluck picnic:** Sunday, June 2, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., East Goshen Park, West Chester PA

(See our full calendar [here.](#))



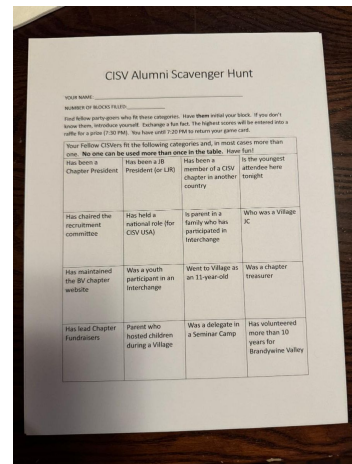
We are now on Instagram!

<https://www.instagram>

## Another Successful Adult/Alumni Social Event!

On February 23, we had our second annual BV adult/alumni social event. Open to parents/guardians of current and past JB, JB alumni, former leaders and staff, and anyone who's a friend of BV, these events are intended to help our BV community stay connected with each other and involved in our chapter.

We gathered at Barnaby's in West Chester for an evening of fun, food, and tasty beverages. (In fact, we were all so busy having a great time that we totally neglected to take a group photo!) Although we didn't do any energizers, we *did* have an activity: a great scavenger hunt!. (Take a look at the questions. Would *you* be able to fill in all those spots?)



Thanks to the attendees for their continued support for our chapter! And thanks, too, to Janet Reynolds for organizing the entire event (and putting together the fun scavenger hunt!).

**Don't miss the next opportunity for BV adults and alumni to spend time together: everyone is invited to attend our end-of-year potluck picnic on June 2. Mark your calendars now!**

## February Mosaic Project

In our ongoing Mosaic with the West Chester Food Cupboard, on Saturday, February 23, we had a brief tour of the facility for those who had not previously attended a WCFC Mosaic and we then got to work! We bagged shipments of produce such as apples, oranges, onions, clementines, and potatoes from the Chester County Food Bank; transferred bagged rice into storage; and restocked the pantry shelves.



—report by Evelyn M, JB Mosaic chair

[m.com/cisvbrandywinevalley](https://www.facebook.com/cisvbrandywinevalley)

Connect with us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/CISVBV>

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### JB recruitment campaign

Anyone who brings a new person to a JB meeting or event will get a prize! (Just let Marsha know!)

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### CISV is a volunteer-driven organization.

Without the involvement of our chapter families and friends, CISV travel programs, chapter meetings, and other activities would not be possible.

**If CISV is important to your family, please consider getting involved in our chapter!**

We are always in need of volunteers (no contribution is too small!), so **contact us** to find out how you can help!

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**CISV Thrifted** is our JB-led effort to raise funds for program scholarships. Check out our gently used and vintage CISV merch from around the world!



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## Recruitment Help Needed



We've had a great year for recruitment: our travel programs are nearly full (see below), our hosted program is fully staffed, and we have welcomed some new families into the chapter. Thanks to everyone who

has helped us get the word out about CISV!

**But we can't stop now: we are always looking for ways to grow and strengthen our chapter membership!**

If you'd like to help our recruitment committee with our outreach efforts, let us know. No contribution is too small—we can work with whatever availability you have.

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## Looking for One More Village Delegate!

**We have one spot left in our Village program!** We already have three terrific delegates and one experienced leader. If you know anyone who's interested in this life-changing opportunity (see the flyer below), please send them our way.

**VILLAGE: MEXICO (GUADALAJARA), 7/5 to 8/1**  
**(Must turn 11 on or in the 12 months before 8/31)**



# Village

Must turn 11 on or in the  
12 months before August 31

Guadalajara, Mexico 7/5-8/1



BV is hosting two programs this summer, and we'll soon be reaching out to our members to ask for your help. Mark your calendars now!

- Passport Village day camp, 6/17 to 6/21, Exton
- Youth Meeting, 6/22 to 7/6, Chester Springs area



At this camp, kids from 12 different countries will spend 4 weeks living together and having lots of fun, learning about each other, building friendships, and helping make the world a more peaceful place!

If this sounds like something you'd like to do, contact us today for more information!

[brandywine-recruitment@cisvusa.org](mailto:brandywine-recruitment@cisvusa.org)



## Member Profile: Courtney Stoll

Last winter I came across a post on social media about CISV and information about Youth Meeting. As a social studies teacher, this immediately piqued my interest. I shared the opportunity with my then-11-year-old son, and we checked out the first meeting. Since then, we have been hooked!

After attending meetings for a few months, I jumped at the chance to be a host family for a delegation arriving early for the Youth Meeting that BV hosted last summer. After this amazing experience, I was interested in contributing more to CISV. Recently, I was asked to be BV's Youth Meeting planner and I have enjoyed this new role in CISV as we prepare to host this program in summer 2024.



What I like best about CISV is its mission, which aligns closely with my values: "CISV educates and inspires action for a more just and peaceful world. CISV was founded in the belief that peace is possible through building friendship and mutual understanding, starting with children."

I also love that CISV offers chances for the whole family to get involved and join thousands locally and around the world in the

same goal. My son and I look forward to the monthly meetings, my husband loves hearing the discussions that come from our son's experiences, and my daughter can't wait to get started. As a parent, it's important to me that my children feel that they belong and can be good citizens. CISV helps them achieve both of those goals. Through volunteer opportunities (such as Mosaic events), building friendships, social events, and travel programs, we truly feel that we are part of something so much bigger.

My suggestion to all parents/guardians is to attend a meeting even if you are interested in just learning more. Both the adults and young adults are incredibly welcoming. CISVers are proud of who they are and are always willing to share more about the organization and follow a prospective family's lead.

CISV has a rich history and global connections. If you are interested in learning more, I highly encourage you to reach out or explore the plethora of information about the origin, programs, and what we do.

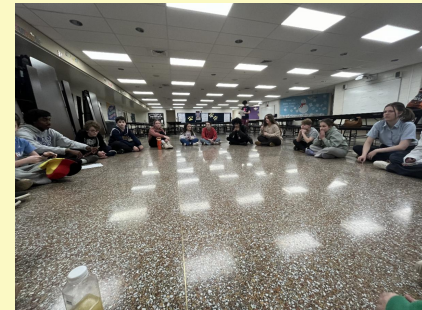
## Junior Branch (JB) Report

At the last meeting we started off by doing a couple of energizers. Once we finished with the business part of the meeting, we moved into the activity, which was about different forms of propaganda.

The board made a fake board game in which participants had to complete tasks to advance. The different board members represented different form of propaganda. (For example: Ella bribed people, whereas Langston yelled at them.) In the debrief we discussed how we see propaganda in today's society.

—report by Katie M., JB board secretary

For JB-specific news and updates, be sure to follow [the BV JB account on Instagram!](#)





*CISV is a worldwide, nonreligious, nonpolitical, nonprofit organization that enables participants age 10+ to build global friendships through local chapter meetings and international and domestic camps.*



**CISV USA**  
Brandywine Valley  
Building global friendship

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