



SC DISTRICT CIVITAN

Palmetto Civigram

civitan-sc.org

MARCH 2020

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2020 - 2021 OFFICERS

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A Message from Our Governor



SC District Governor, Patsy Finley

Beginnings, Middle, and Endings

I guess some of you, when you read this title, wondered just what I was going to say this time! Just like the title says, I am going to talk about the beginning, middle, and the ending of things pertaining to Civitan.

Beginning: Most of you know the story of Civitan, how it was formed in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1917. Because of that first meeting, we have now evolved into an organization of clubs that are not only in Birmingham but also extend throughout the world. We have clubs in Africa, Asia, Canada, Europe, Central America, and many other areas. At the meeting on March 17, 1917, in Birmingham, Alabama, this group of people united to build up the

community rather than to increase the business of its members. Dr. Courtney W. Shropshire was the first President of Civitan.

At this time in American history, we were at war. Quoting from the book, "The Civitan Story", As Angle-American loyalties and German submarine activities moved the United States toward the Allied cause in Europe, these Birmingham professionals handed together to promote activities that such an emergency demanded of good citizens. Linking patriotism to progressive zeal, charter member Jelks Cabaniss, a local attorney, suggested the Latin word for citizen, "Civitas," as an appropriate name for the group. Another member, however, suggested that naysayers might be irresistibly tempted to nickname members of the Club "Civic Asses," and members finally agreed upon a derivative form of "civitas," unanimously choosing "Civitan" as the name for their new organization. The Club motto followed naturally as charter member Arthur C. Crowder, Sr. suggested "Builders of Good Citizenship." ("The Civitan Story; Copyright 1992; pgs. 14-15.)

Civitan came to North Carolina and South Carolina in 1921 and 1922. The clubs in these two states were designated by Civitan International as the Carolinas District. Judge Junius G. Adams of the Asheville, North Carolina, Civitan Club was its first Governor. The Greenville Civitan Club was the first Civitan Club to be chartered in South Carolina in 1922 and they set about helping to spread the idea of Civitan throughout South Carolina.

Beginning: March 17, 1917, Civitan Founders Day.

Middle: Since 1917, there have been 100 Presidents of Civitan. South Carolina's own John Doudoukjian was the President from 1993/1994, a milestone for the South Carolina District.

Cont'd on page 2, See Governor's Message

Governor's Message, Cont'd from page 1

At the Convention in Myrtle Beach on May 25-26, 1947, the delegates approved the division of the Carolinas Civitan District. The Civitan International Board approved this action, and the South Carolina District became a separate entity with fourteen (14) clubs and a membership of six hundred thirty-nine. Charter member clubs of the new district were Charleston, Chesterfield, Columbia, Greenville, Hartsville, Loris, Marion, Mullins, Myrtle Beach, Nichols, Olanta, Pageland, St. Phillips-St. Michael, and Spartanburg. During the First ten (10) years (1947-1957), the South Carolina District increased its number of clubs to thirty-one (31) with a membership of twelve hundred (1,200).

In 2019, the Civitan International Convention was held in Greenville, SC. This was the first time the International Convention had been held in South Carolina and another huge milestone for all South Carolina Civitans.

Middle: Today, 2021, we have 16 Clubs with less than 400 members in the South Carolina District.

ENDING: One of the definitions Merriam-Webster has for ending is "something that constitutes an end, such as conclusion, death." At the beginning of this article, I said I was going to talk about things pertaining to Civitan. I am not going to talk about the ending of Civitan. I hope we never see that day, however, unless we all get out and recruit new members, that day may come. Instead, I am going to reminisce about some Civitans we have lost over the past few years due to death. I know that I will miss some people, but please, feel free to write articles about the ones I do not mention and send those articles to Linda Neely, the Civigram Editor! sent out emails to the officers of our clubs to submit names of those members of their clubs who had passed since the last publishing of the Civigram. I only received one name! This is awesome, but I know there were more! I am going to mention those that I know of who have passed within the past 3 to 4 years.

11/18/2017: Leonard Still

Member, The Civitan Club of Spartanburg

3/3/2018: Lura Boggs

SC District Governor 1993/1994 & 2011/2012,
Regional Director – 2014/ 2016

Member, Greenville Civitan Club, Mauldin Civitan Club
and Foothills Civitan Club

06/21/2018: Donald Floyd

SC District Governor 2012/2013
Member, Greenville Civitan Club

8/6/2018: Jean Aldridge

Member, Greenville Civitan Club

9/1/2018: Dona Lee Fanning

Member, (Former) West Ashley Civitan Club

10/2/2018: Robin Vreeland

Member, (Former) Myrtle Beach Civitan Club

11/12/2018: Clyde Richardson
Member, Loris Civitan Club

11/18/2018: Charles Davis
Member, Greenville Civitan Club

1/11/2019: Jim Reeves
Member, The Civitan Club of Spartanburg

4/15/2019: Wilson Springs
Member, (Former) Myrtle Beach Civitan Club

6/15/2019: Donald P. Cresswell
Member, Greenville Civitan Club

2/13/2020: Betty Bagley
Member, Chester Civitan Club

10/2/2020: Dr. Bill Rentz
SC District Governor – 2002/2003 & 2007/2008
Regional Director 2008/2010
Member, (Former) Florence Civitan Club

10/25/2020 Jim Fleck
Former SC District Junior Civitan Chair
Member, (Former) Florence Civitan Club

11/27/2020: Bobby Huguley
Member, Columbia Civitan Club

12/1/2020: Bob Jones
– Not a SC District member, but Civitan International
President, 2018/2019 and a dear friend of South Carolina
District Civitan members

12/22/2020: Windell McCrackin
Member, (Former) Myrtle Beach Civitan Club

12/30/2020: John Burger
Member, Sunrise Civitan Club

1/7/2021: Greg Whisnant
Former Member, The Civitan Club of Spartanburg

2/12/2021: Curt Ridgeway
Member of Columbia Civitan Club – See write-up
elsewhere in Civigram

2/17/2021: Tommy Sinclair
Member and President of Union Civitan Club – See
write-up elsewhere in the Civigram

Ending: We have lost many Civitans over the past few years. Some have passed away, some have moved, some have just lost interest. We cannot do anything about those who have passed away or moved, but we can do something about those who have lost interest. Make your meetings interesting. Do more projects. For your acquaintances who have not been exposed to the benefits of Civitan, invite them to your meetings. If your meetings are not in person, invite them to your Zoom meetings. If you are not using Zoom for your meetings, give me a call. The District has an account with Zoom. It is available for use by your club for regular or board meetings. Let's get the South Carolina Civitans back to the status of yesteryear - many more clubs and many more members.

In
Memory



Miles Curtis "Curt" Ridgeway

In our 91st year, Columbia Civitan Club has lost a great one. Miles Curtis "Curt" Ridgeway was a great family man and highly active member of First Baptist Church, Columbia. He was member of Jamil Shrine Temple and avid supporter of the Shiner's Hospital. Curt was also a loyal Civitan. Curt passed away on February 12, 2021.

Even after moving to Myrtle Beach, few years ago, to be closer to family, and enjoy the South Carolina Coast, Curt remained a member of Columbia Civitan Club. He became a Civitan in May 2009. Columbia Civitans always wished he stayed in Columbia. He was great person to be around and have on the Civitan team.

Curt began working at The Carolina Book Store while a student at University of South Carolina. He "never" left. He became a Partner in the Business, with Eldon "Perk" Bailey (Columbia Civitan for 22 years) until his retirement some 20 plus years ago. .

We will all miss Curt, his Good Humor, and his Faithfulness to God, Family, and Helping Others.

- Bill Tolleson

Major General (Retired) Tommy Sinclair 1947 – 2021

On a beautiful sunshine laden day in February, Tommy Sinclair was buried in the cemetery behind his church. Prior to the interment, Tommy's funeral service was held at the Union County Stadium where several hundred people came to pay their respects. Tommy's casket was covered with the American Flag, showing respect for his love of our country. He had served in the US Army and the SC National Guard.

Other organizations in which Tommy served were the Union Civitan Club, where he was a long time President, Union County School System, serving as a Teacher, Principal, and Assistant Superintendent, and Union County Supervisor. Tommy was a Shriner, a member of the Union County Masonic Lodge, currently the Chairman of the Union Community Foundation and served as Commander of the American Legion Post #22. As if he did not have enough to do, Tommy spearheaded the campaign to establish the Miracle League of Union County and served as an active Board member. He was instrumental in getting the Junior Civitan Club started at the High School in Union.

During Tommy's funeral, the soloist got up to sing the selection "On Eagle's Wings". A hush came over the crowd as the music started. The soloist sang perhaps 10 words of the song when out of the woods soared a beautiful eagle with a massive wingspan. A faint gasp could be heard from the audience as we watched the eagle fly all around the field of the stadium. Finally, the bird flew up, over the trees and out of sight. Was this a planned occurrence or was it Tommy trying to get in just one more meeting of like minds? We will never know for sure, but I would like to think that it was Tommy!

- Patsy Finley

2020 - 2021 CALENDAR

Note: Some dates may be subject to change.

MARCH

- 14 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20 Spring Begins
- 21 World Downs Syndrome Day

APRIL

Civitan Awareness Month

- 1 World Autism Day
- 2 Last day for Civigram submissions
- 4 Easter
- 22 Earth Day

MAY

- 1 Junior Civitan State Convention
- 9 Mother's Day
- 15 Spring District Meeting
- 25 Junior Civitan Dance-a-Thon
- 31 Memorial Day

JUNE

- 15 Areas 5 & 6 Submissions for Civigram
- 20 Father's Day
- 20 Summer Begins
- 24 -26 Junior Civitan International Convention (Tampa, Florida)

JULY

- 28-30 International Convention (Jacksonville, Florida)
- 4 Independence Day

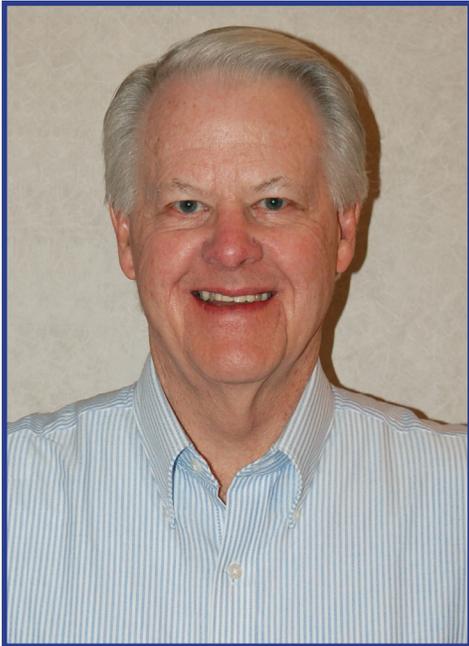
AUGUST

- 1 District Awards Applications Deadline

SEPTEMBER

- Club Officers Installation
- 6 Labor Day
- 10-12 SC District Convention

"The Chaplain's Corner"



Jim Seeley, Co-Chaplain

Last week a wonderful friend of mine who teaches a large Bible study for women at my church gave me one of the best books I have ever received entitled "Live a Praying Life" by Jennifer Kennedy Dean. A sub-title on the cover of the book is "Open Your Life to God's Power and Provision". It has become the basis for my prayer and study time each morning during 2021, and I have twenty-five pages to the end. I suggest it to you all. Remember that our Civitan Creed says that we speak prayers in every language. Do you speak prayers daily?

Last Sunday, which was February 28, I went to the church for the first time since COVID started. My wife and I have been watching several preachers on television each Sunday: Jentezen Franklin of Gainesville, Georgia; David Jeremiah of El Cajon, California; Charles Stanley of Atlanta Georgia; Robert Jeffress of Dallas, Texas; and our local First Baptist preacher in Spartanburg Don Wilton; and then our own church service on our laptop live stream Westminster Presbyterian pastored by Steve Wise. The problem now that we are going back to our churches, we are going to miss all the others we have been watching unless we can find them online on our laptops.

Now the point of all this is that with getting back to normal after COVID we will all be readjusting our spiritual lives. My prayer for you is that you will find renewed spiritual and prayer lives as we fulfil our motto of helping people.

- Jim Seeley

2020-2021 DISTRICT CHAIRS

Growth and Retention - Bill Tolleson
civitansc@gmail.com

New Club Building Chair - Misty Konow
somethingabout misty@gmail.com

Social Media Chair/Webmaster - Steve Doudoukjian
gamekox@yahoo.com

Philanthropy Liaison – Steve Doudoukjian
gamekox@yahoo.com

Junior Civitan Chair - Betsy Nunnery
b3nunn@aol.com

Junior Civitan Co-Chair - Richard Gay
wg1313@outlook.com

Campus Civitan Chair – Doug McKenzie
dwmckenzie98@yahoo.com

Judge Advocate - David Simpson
davidsimpson@hotmail.com

Training Chair - Mike Taylor
pmttee@sc.rr.com

Awards Chair- Katie Lockman
lockman.katherine@yahoo.com

Awards Co-Chair - Beth Doudoukjian
bethaliced@gmail.com

Special Olympics - Bryan Bobo
bryanbobo@charter.net

Scholarships and Grants - Leila Long
llong@mlong.us

Candy and Coin Box Chair - LaBarbara Sampson
lpsampson@charter.net

Fruitcake Chair - Mike Taylor
pmttee@sc.rr.com

PIGS Representative – Gary Finley
wgfinley1@gmail.com

Co-Chaplain - James (Jim) Seeley
jwseeley@bellsouth.net

Mauldin Civitan Club

Clergy Appreciation Day

The Mauldin Civitan Club honored the Mauldin area clergy in our annual observance of Clergy Appreciation Day. We invited Rev. Courtney Adams from Israel Metropolitan CME Church to speak at our February meeting on Zoom and presented him a plaque for his service to the community. He brought an inspirational message to our group.

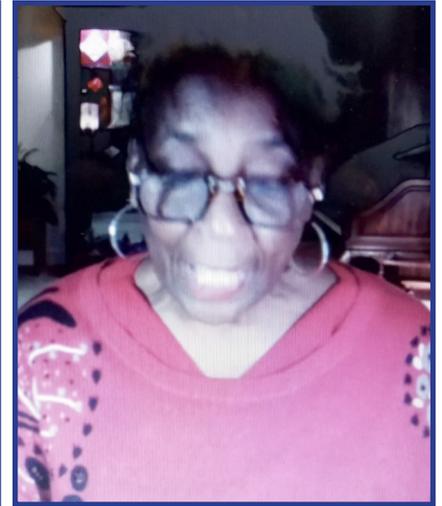
Russell Boyd did a wonderful job sharing the history of Clergy Day, and Jannie Hill gave a powerful Tribute to Clergy.

Pastor Brian Underwood from St. John United Methodist Church in Greenville and Rev. Jerusha Drummond and Rev. William Drummond from Reedy River Missionary Baptist Church in Mauldin were our guests for the meeting. We are proud to say that we had sixteen of our Mauldin Civitans in attendance.

- Suzi Knebusch



Rev. Courtney Adams



Jannie Hill



Gift presented to Rev. Courtney Adams, Clergy Appreciation Day guest speaker



Civitan Mission Statement

The worldwide mission of Civitan International is to build good citizenship by providing a volunteer organization of clubs dedicated to serving individual and community needs, with an emphasis on helping people with developmental disabilities.

Certain Other Valuable Interesting Demonstrations

Why this title? Without being too obvious, I was trying to tie our Civitan Meetings to COVID! I know this is a bad example but think about this – a demonstration is a practical exhibition and explanation of how something works or is performed. When we have speakers at meetings, what do they do? They demonstrate what they do or what non-profits they work with do! In this article, I want to tell you about several meetings I have either been to or observed via Zoom lately that contain Certain Other Valuable Interesting Demonstrations.

Several months ago, a local author, Dr. Kirk Neely, came to The Civitan Club of Spartanburg meeting via Zoom and gave us a synopsis of his new book, “December Light 1916”. This book takes place in, can you guess? Yes, 1916, in Georgetown County, South Carolina. I am neither sure if this book is fiction nor if it is completely non-fiction, but either way, it will be an interesting book to read! Dr. Neely is a wonderful storyteller also. He presented this same Club with the reading in one of his Christmas themed books several years ago at our (in-person) Christmas meeting. If you would like to have Dr. Neely as a speaker at your Club Meeting via Zoom, contact either me or Katie Lockman (Lockman.katherine@yahoo.com), the coordinator for meeting speakers for The Civitan Club of Spartanburg. We will give you information on how to contact Dr. Neely.

This past Christmas, Katie Lockman again got a fabulous speaker for our program. Alison Hughey a music therapist, played the guitar and sang beautiful Christmas music, via Zoom! According to Alison’s Facebook page, she says she uses music to enrich lives, connect community and reach goals. She also says she is passionate about the power of music to connect, soothe and transform lives! Alison did a great job of getting us all into the Christmas mood!

Last Thursday night, Katie came through again! Carlos Agudelo, Artistic Director for Ballet Spartanburg, Center for Dance Education, spoke about programs in which he is involved at the Center. He states that the more we move, the better we will feel and the better our minds will work! Carlos directs many different programs at the Center. Interestingly, he helps with dance programs for people with Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, and other neurological deficits. Some of these people cannot walk, but they can move their arms and hands. Carlos gives them scarves to use as they work their muscles while dancing to the rhythm of the beat.

In May, Katie has scheduled a late month visit to the

Charles Lea Center in Spartanburg where we will enjoy a box lunch provided by the Center and then tour the hydroponic greenhouse where we will see where vegetables are grown. SimpLea, the Charles Lea Center’s hydroponic greenhouse, employs four people with disabilities. Throughout the pandemic, SimpLea has been able to keep growing its chemical free lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber, and herbs which are sold to stores and restaurants in Spartanburg County.

I recently experienced that recording of the Clergy Appreciation Meeting from the Mauldin Civitan Club. Several of the local clergy from the Mauldin/Greenville area were present. The minister of the Israel Metropolitan Church, Pastor Courtney L. Adams, presented a short, but very inspirational talk to the Civitans. I thoroughly enjoyed listening to this message. Incidentally, the minister is a Civitan (++!) Also presented was a recording of the singing of a beautiful song, however, I did not catch the name of the artist.

These are but just a few of the Certain Other Valuable Interesting Demonstrations that have been brought to these Civitan Clubs because of the COVID precautions needed now. Would we have been presented with these same presentations had COVID not been in the picture? Maybe, or maybe not! But we were able to enjoy each of these by using Zoom. I will be honest with you – I am not a huge fan of having meetings via Zoom, but it sure beats not meeting at all. I need to see my friends and Zoom provides me with this ability. Do I want to continue with Zoom much longer? Absolutely NOT! However, because we can enjoy these great meetings from the comfort of our homes, or in a hotel room hundreds of miles away, I have to say that Zoom is not so bad!

If your Club has had Certain Other Valuable Interesting Demonstrations, please send either me or Linda Neely (lindafneely@aol.com), Palmetto Civigram Editor, information about the meetings and we will try to get them published in the next newsletter.

Remember, the District has a Zoom account that can be used by any Club for meetings. All you have to do is to contact me with information about dates and times you need to use the account. This is on a first-come- first served basis. At the present time, there is only one Club that uses the account on a regular basis, so the possibility of it being available for your Club when you need it is high! There is no cost for use of the account. Please send me an email If you would like more information on using the account.

- Patsy Finley

From Our Governor Elect



Richard Gay, Governor Elect

“You need someone there to steady you, to put their faith in you so you can be extraordinary.” These are the words of voice over from a television program from Australia. In the scene, a student is walking on a balanced beam, putting one foot in front of the other and trying to steady himself with his arms. These words apply to us as Civitan in two ways. First, like the teacher in the clip, we are the ones who have to believe in our fellow members to let them know they are capable of greatness—we have to see past their own doubts and, yes, their faults, to see the light that shines within them. We need to be the spark that gets the fire started and then keeps it blazing within them.

And second, these words apply to us because our own leaders—presidents, governors, club and district officers have to believe in us and let us know that the work we do is noticed and is important. I have often heard that one job of leaders is to put out the little fires—I disagree—our jobs are to light fires, to ignite passions within our club members, to make them see the fires that burn deep within all of us for service to our communities and nation. Being a member of a Civitan club is not just showing up for a meeting or project, doing a perfunctory job, and then going home and waiting for someone to tell us when the next meeting or project is. It is challenging ourselves to work to improve and change and grow by examining our roles as Civitans. Are we just members,

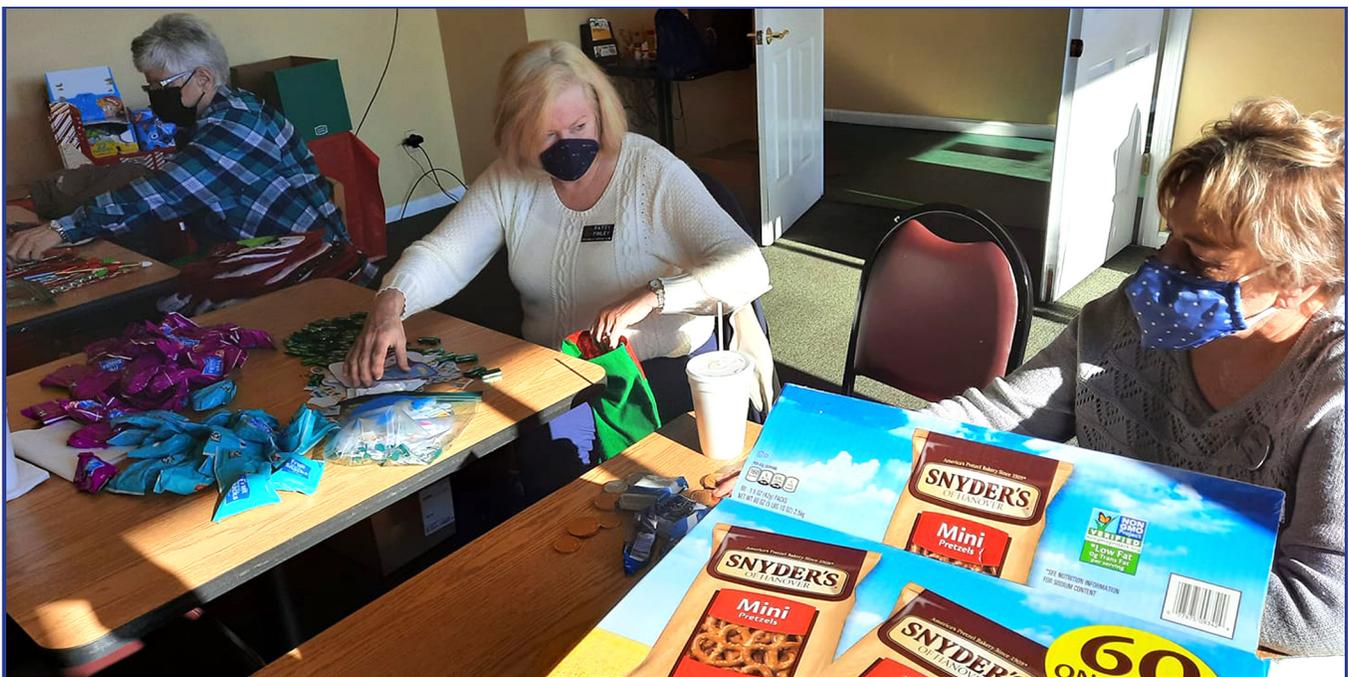
or are we the catalysts, the sparks, who challenge ourselves and other members to spread the idea of service and the message of Civitan to others in our communities?

Probably all of us can think of at least one person who ignited a passion in us to serve our fellow man—someone who dedicated his or her life to make our world a better place through unselfish service. And most likely this person is someone who first asked us to attend a Civitan meeting or project. Take a moment and think about this person, and ask yourself, “Am I living up to his or her legacy?” The person who helped ignite the passion for service in me was Ed S. Jones who started the Junior Civitan program in South Carolina. He truly loved Civitan and Junior Civitan and worked with both organizations until his death in 2007. His love for both organizations burned so bright that everyone who met him knew immediately that serving others made him so happy that he wanted to share this joy with others.

As members of Civitan we give, we share, we help whenever and wherever we can, and yes, we are not going to get rich or become famous from what we do, and in the end, the emotions that come from helping others are important—they are what we gain from giving. Because of what we do in this organization, it is important that we reach out to others to join Civitan, and it is important that clubs work with schools in their communities to form Junior Civitan clubs so that we can get young people involved in serving their schools and communities. In the end we need to remember that who we are and what we do is important. We change lives. We light fires.

Across the District: Civitans in Action

Foothills Civitan Club Filling 100 Christmas Stockings for the young patient/clients at The Care Center. Youngsters with disabilities come to The Care Center for physical and speech therapy.



Becky Clark, Patsy Finley & Julie Waters

Honea Path Civitan Club

Honea Path Civitans recently helped the Dogwood Garden Club clean up Dogwood Park in Honea Path. It was a lot of hard work, and the park is looking much better. And we had articles featured in both the Lakelands Connector and the Anderson Independent Mail newspapers!

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indexjournal.com



NEXT UP

Effective teacher professional development can be found at EdCamp Laurens 55

Garden Club and Civitans spruce up Dogwood Park

Feb 11, 2019



Civitan Jim Jones, left, and Grady Kay doing some serious hedge trimming and waste removal.

Columbia Civitan Club



Happy Birthday to Timothy Simpkins. Timothy is one our adopted Babcock men. We celebrate all 20 birthdays each year.

Since COVID, we work through a Staff person to deliver the presents and balloons to the resident.

Babcock houses people with permanent intellectual/developmental disabilities. Some are able to hold jobs. Other require 24 hour care. We like interacting with our "adopted" residents. We are looking forward to intermingling with the residents again...Hopefully in the near future.

Across the District: Civitans in Action

Spartanburg Civitan Club

Club members volunteered to sort coats for children before disbursement by Winter Warmth Mission in Spartanburg.



Patsy Finley



Gary Finley

— Up Front and Personal about COVID —

In case you have been way-back in a cave or something somewhat similar for the past year, I am going to let you in on a secret! The world has been in a pandemic catastrophe! Things are getting better now (said while crossing my fingers, eyes, toes, alright, you get the message!), but we still must be careful. The oldsters, like me, have the opportunity to get the vaccines which provide immunity. On their web page about the COVID vaccines, the Center for Disease Control states:

Getting vaccinated is one of many steps you can take to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Protection from COVID-19 is critically important because for some people, it can cause severe illness or death.

Stopping a pandemic requires using all the tools available. Vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. Other steps, like masks and social distancing, help reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus or spreading it to others. Together, COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC's recommendations "to protect yourself and others" will offer the best protection from COVID-19.

Protect yourself and others:

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. You can take steps to slow the spread.

- *Stay at least 6 feet away from others, whenever possible. This is very important in preventing the spread of COVID-19.*
- *Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others. This helps reduce the risk of spread both by close contact and by airborne transmission.*
- *Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.*
- *Avoid crowded indoor spaces and ensure indoor spaces are properly ventilated by bringing in outdoor air as much as possible. In general, being outdoors and in spaces with good ventilation reduces the risk of exposure to infectious respiratory droplets.*
- *Stay home and isolate from others when sick.*
- *Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and take other steps to stop the spread at home.*

Pandemics can be stressful, especially when you are staying away from others. During this time, it's important to maintain social connections and care for your mental health.

I am closely watching the COVID projections for the future. Today, articles and news reports said that numbers were declining. That is AWESOME! I am hoping that, by May 15, the day of our next District meeting, we will be able to meet in person. Please do all you can to help bring numbers down so we can do that.

In the meantime, let's look back at the last sentence from the CDC : *During this time, it's important to maintain social connections and care for your mental health.* That is a mighty statement, and an especially important one! What are social connections? Emails, phone calls, and the long-lost art of handwriting letters! Keep up with your family, your neighbors, your friends, and your brothers and sisters in Civitan. Think of things you can do to cheer each other up. Start a chain letter, send it to someone in your club and instruct them to write a few words about how they are doing or write about something amusing and to send it on to another fellow Civitan. Keep this going until it makes a full circle. Your members will get excited about this! Get out of your house and take a walk. Ladies, this can be in a mall using mask and social distancing precautions! Men, this could be in a sporting store or hardware store using the same precautions! Doing these things will help to strengthen your mental health!

A funny, cute, and real story: I was in a certain (unnamed) store one day after the pandemic started when my Granddaughter (then, age 11) called me on my cell phone. After talking for a while with her, I could hear my Grandson talking in the background. My Granddaughter said that he wanted to speak with me! When he got on the phone, one of the first things he said was, "Mimi, I hear that you are in a store!" I answered "Yes, I am!" He said, "Mimi, are you staying 6 feet away from everyone?" I commented that I was certainly trying to! Then that sweet, precious, best Grandson in the world said, "Mimi, drop whatever you are doing right now and go straight to the place where they have brooms!" Now, even though this was the smartest little 8-year old child in the universe, and I am not altogether dumb - he had me! I promptly asked why I needed to go to where the brooms were! Out of the mouth of babes, he said, "Mimi, you have to protect yourself! If you get a broom and hold it out in front of you when you are standing still or walking, then no one can get too close to you. That has to be at least 6 feet of broom stick and arm!" Whew! I thought he was going to say something about getting on the broom and riding out of there! Lol! Don't you just love those Grands! Yes, that helped my mental status!

Be safe and take care of yourself! If all else fails, get a broom!

- Patsy Finley

SC District Virtual Meeting Attendees January 9, 2021



Apologies are given to those whose images were not captured.

A Hybrid Convention

The International Convention will be held July 28-31, 2021. (take note of new dates).

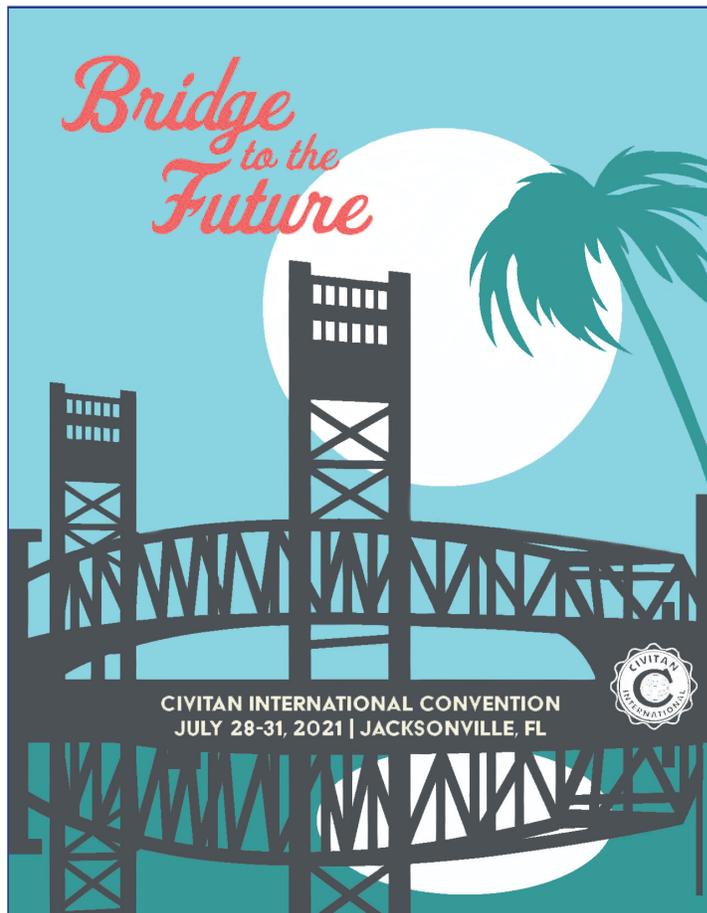
Due to the ongoing pandemic restrictions going on across the world, the Civitan International Board of Directors voted to give a "one-time" exemption to the Civitan International Bylaws to allow for a hybrid convention for 2021. There will be two options for members to attend: in-person in Jacksonville or virtually through their personal computer/device.

The in-person experience will be very similar to past conventions, except with COVID-19 preventive measures in place. International elections and voting business will take place with in-person registrants taking part in the certification process and placing their votes. Aligned events like the President's Council donor reception, the Civitan International Annual Breakthru Golf Benefit, and the Welcome Party will take place, face to face.

The virtual participation experience will include online admittance into the First Business Session, the Elections Business Session and Membership Extravaganza. It also includes the opportunity to vote in International Elections and governance documents proposals, if applicable. A registration fee of \$50.00 in US currency will be assessed for this opportunity.

Election software will be used for the online voting process. Certification will still take place, and measures are being taken to ensure voting is secure and compliant to the bylaws and policies that are in existence under typical circumstances. Any voting delegate participating in this year's online process will need to have access to e-mail to participate. There is no exceptions for those who do not have email addresses and internet capabilities.

More information will be coming soon regarding the details of the process, particularly with the virtual participation and online voting. Please monitor your email and CI's website for any news related to the convention. You may also join the Facebook group set up within the Civitan International



Facebook page for the convention for the latest updates. Please ensure your contact information (email and phone numbers) is updated at world headquarters and that your club is taking the necessary steps to be in good standing to take part in this unique year for voting.

To find more information, including a comprehensive FAQ, date change information, hotel information, participation packages and pricing, philanthropy events, and registration forms, visit www.civitan.org/convention. If you have any questions, please contact growth@civitan.org.

Excerpted in part from the email "Civitan International Convention" dated March 9, 2021

South Carolina District Civitan Spring Meeting
Saturday, May 15, 2021

Our Savior Lutheran Church
1500 Sunset Blvd.
West Columbia, SC 29169

900 AM - 2:30 PM - Lunch at noon

Board of Directors Meeting Immediately Afterwards

Name _____

Club _____

Registration fee included _____

Club to pay for registration _____

(A confirmation note from Club President or Secretary is required.)

Registration prior to meeting - \$25.00

Registration on day of meeting - \$35.00

Mail form and Registration fee to:

Mike Taylor, SC District Treasurer

139 Lincoln Inn Road

Columbia, SC 29212

no later than Saturday, May 1, 2021.