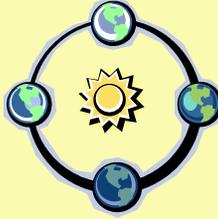


FLORIDA



SUNBEAM

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Florida District Civitans... This is What I Believe ...



Looking back at the adventures of our history as a district, I found that 1921-1922 was the first year of the Florida District! A CENTURY OF CIVITAN SERVICE to Florida communities. What a milestone! It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the centennial Governor for the Florida District Civitans. And it has been my pleasure and a joy getting to know you and your Clubs around Florida this year.

After years of working together, as the Florida (and for 18 years as Summit, Sunshine and Tropical) District, it is a bit sad that our time of identifying as FLORIDA CIVITANS is coming to an end.

BUT, our shared commitment to knowledge, service and fellowship as Civitans is NOT ending! Our Civitan clubs begin the 2022-2023 year with the same enthusiasm and excitement, planning service projects and events, sharing with friends and recruiting new members. Each Florida Civitan Club will be leading and serving in your communities. Civitans are servant leaders!

Let me share about a gifted servant leader. My husband's favorite uncle passed in July. Everyone called him Doc. He was 93. The entire town (Sunray, TX, pop 1,663) turned out for Doc's memorial service. They spoke lovingly about Doc, a man of renown.... Doc was an average man. He worked at the gas plant for 45 years; he drove the school bus AND he announced all those small town, Friday night football games! Parents and students alike LOVED Doc. He was a genuinely kind and happy man. Doc's Journey of Life as a dedicated servant, led him to become a leader in his community – a GREAT LEADER. What makes an average man a Leader?

The Making of a Great Leader is achieved through all of life's ups & downs: Joys, Heartbreaks, Privileges, Shattered dreams, Successes, Failures, Pleasures & Pains. We all have experienced these same joys and challenges in our own walks. The Goal of every Leader is to provide a Way for Others to Succeed and Reach their Full Potential; to become leaders themselves.

Doc's Leadership was built upon Authentic Integrity. That is, Who you are; demonstrated by What you do! Doc Lived Out What is Demanded of all Great Leaders; he relinquished his Platform of Leadership in order to create "Legacies". Everyone who benefited from Doc's "Un-common Leadership" are Doc's "Living Legacies"! This year, the theme of Civitan is "Champions of Service – Dreamers; Dream of a better world, where all needs are met". As we build on that dream, we will each build our Living Legacies – through the values of Civitan, through our service and our impact on those around us.

I wish all of you a beautiful fall and wonderful year of Civitan Service.

Bonnie



What's Inside

Centennial Convention Report	2—4	Awards, Junior Civitan	11
Final Convention in Pictures	4—7	Historian	12
Region Two Director Report	8—9	Growth and Retention	12
Region Leadership Council	9	Philanthropy Report	13
Governor-Elect, Chaplain's Corner, In Memorium	10	Club Beams (alphabetically)	14—22

Florida District Civitans-Centennial Convention Report ... Bonnie Ruth

This year, 2021-2022 marks 100 years of Civitan Clubs serving Florida communities. The Florida District installed Steve McIntosh, of the St Petersburg Civitan Club, as the first Governor for the 1921-1922 year! A MILESTONE OF SERVICE that all Florida Civitans can celebrate.

Thank you to the **Hometown Civitan Club** for hosting our Centennial Convention at the perfect venue, Laurel Manor, in the Villages. Many thanks to **Gay Aaron**, Florida District Time and Place Chair, for planning and coordinating a fabulous celebration for Florida Civitans.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

At the end of September, all of the bank accounts of the FL District will be closed. The funds will be distributed as follows:

JR Civitan – Balance approximately \$6,000 sent to Civitan International, to be held for use in Florida Junior Civitan Clubs;

DeVane Scholarship account – Balance approximately \$26,000 will be held by Uptown Civitan Club as custodian as per agreement between the Florida District and Uptown Civitan Boards; the Scholarship program will continue until the funding is completely used;

FL District Checking – Balance approximately \$5,500 will be donated to the CIRC, with Civitan at the Helm credit divided equally among the active Florida Civitan Clubs.

PROGRAM THEME FOR OUR CONVENTION

PHILANTHROPIST: a person who donates time, money, experience, skills or talent to help create a better world. = CIVITANS

When you ask businesses, people on the street & friends to give to Civitan what do you say? Why should people support Civitan – why should people give \$ to YOUR Civitan Club? What's the hook? Civitan clubs have local charities they support – it's good to have. We should also be aware of the programs ALL Civitans support. **Lori Clapp**, Philanthropy Ambassador, gave a review of the giving programs sponsored by Civitan International.

We viewed a video about Rhetts syndrome research at the CIRC (GO TO <https://vimeo.-com/civitaninternational> to see all the videos available from International). Clubs are encouraged to show these inspiring, informative videos at their meetings, especially orientations. Lori discussed the Civitans at the Helm program. Lana Suggs Champion, Awards Chairman, handed out the CATH award banner patches for the year. Lori also covered the Civitan Fellows giving program, President's Council and Legacy Giving. Lori will be happy to help your club with information about philanthropy; contact her at lori.clapp@verizon.net.

JUNIOR CIVITAN

Penny Bonawitz and **Niki Lockett** shared about the first and oldest Civitan program, Junior Civitan. There is a new look to the Dance-A-Thon for 2022-2023. Junior Civitan International is creating a Dance-A-Thon tool kit that can be used by any Jr Civitan club, or group of clubs, as their own fundraising event.

Junior Civitan International is also introducing a new fundraising program, Kick It Tournament. Again with a tool kit available for any club to host their own Kick It Tournament event. The All-In Summit for Jr Civitan leadership training will once again be held in person in Birmingham. FL Jr Civitan Governor, Rodrigo Velasco-Hernandez a senior at Golden Gate High School in Naples, gave a pre-recorded presentation about All-In Summit.

MEET JOANN O'TOOLE, 2022-2023 CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

During luncheon, **JoAnn O'Toole**, incoming 2022-2023 President, shared her theme for the year as *DREAMERS* of a better world where all needs are met. She presented her plans for the year, plus described the initiative to improve Civitan name recognition through an investment in marketing.

FUNDRAISING 101

In the afternoon we changed gears to talk about *HOW* Civitan Clubs raise money. The primary fundraisers for clubs range from Projects – club volunteers doing a “job” for which the Club receives payment; Events – a Club sponsored fundraiser for which members sell tickets; and Product Sales – like fruitcake and now many other products.

Judi Higbee presented the Adopt-A-Precinct project of Hometown Civitan Club. The members and friends staff a voting precinct for elections and receive payments up to \$2,200 per day per volunteer; this year they expect to raise over \$26,000.

Florida District Civitans-Centennial Convention Report ... (continued)

Lana Suggs Champion presented the Top Golf event of Uptown Civitan Club. This had been their flagship fundraiser prior to the pandemic. The need for advance planning has moved the next one to the 2022-2023 year.

Marsha Gerrard presented the Mascot Farms Pecan sales program of First Coast Civitans. Selling physical products requires coordination and market savvy, but it gets your Club's name in front of people. This product is delicious! Contact Marsha at marshagerrard@yahoo.com.

AWARDS

Lana Suggs Champion presented the awards for the 2021-2022 year. Please see the AWARDS article.

Governor **Bonnie Ruth** was presented with the District Honor Key and Civitan International Research Fellow in recognition of her service during this year of transition from District to Region organization.



Governor-Elect **Penny Bonawitz** was crowned *QUEEN OF FLORIDA DISTRICT CIVITANS* for her dedication to the Florida District.

All in all our *CENTENNIAL FLORIDA DISTRICT CONVENTION* was a wonderful ending AND beginning to our shared commitment to be Champions of Service in Florida!

Florida District Civitans ... Final Convention in Pictures



Governor Bonnie with opening ceremonies



Bonnie and Lana with Resolution

Florida District Civitans ... Final Convention in Pictures

SPEAKERS



**Marsha
Gerrard,
First
Coast**
left



**Lana S
Champion,
Uptown**
right



**Judi Higbee
Hometown**
left



**JoAnn
O'Toole
CI President-
Elect**
Right



Niki Lockett
Left



Lori Clapp
right

Florida District Civitans ... Final Convention in Pictures



DOWNTOWN WEB IN ACTION TRAVEL AWARD



FIRST COAST .. MULTIPLE AWARDS



HOMETOWN ... OUTSTANDING DISTRICT CLUB OF THE YEAR



TAMPA METRO ... GOVERNORS CHOICE & MULTIPLE AWARDS



UPTOWN CIVITAN ... MULTIPLE AWARDS

Florida District Civitans ... Final Convention in Pictures



Candy Box Awards to Uptown and Sunset
Above
Banner Patches to Clubs Who Sponsor
Junior Civitan Clubs right



CIVITANS AT THE HELM AWARDS PRESENTED BY LANA SUGGS CHAMPION



TALLAHASSEE
LEESBURG
SUNSET
TAMPA METRO
UPTOWN
HOMETOWN



MOST NEW MEMBERS ADDED-ST PETESBURG

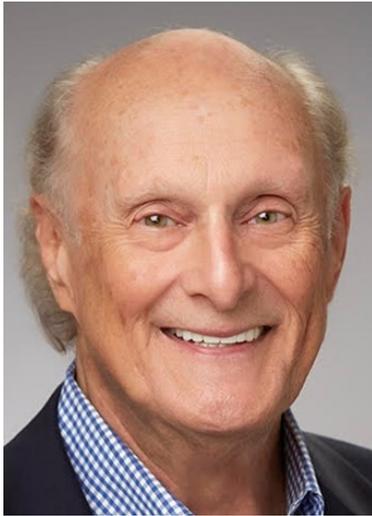
Florida District Civitans ... Final Convention in Pictures



**INITIATION
OF
CLUB
OFFICERS**



Region Two Director Report ... Bill Tolleson



My Personal THANK YOU!! Is graciously extended to you District Leaders for your contributions, devotion, and years of service to your Florida Civitan Districts and the Clubs you served. Please continue to share your expertise and continue our mission of helping people with intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

As of October 1, 2022 the Districts of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina will be the *Region 2 District*. Florida Civitans already know many members of our new *District Leadership Council*.

Membership Development Chair:	Faye Evans
Membership Engagement Chair:	Bonnie Ruth
Junior Civitan Advisor:	Penny Bonawitz
Philanthropy Ambassador:	Lori Clapp
Marketing and Communications Chair:	Steve Doudoukjian
Planning and Procedures Chair:	Lana Suggs Champion

Each Leadership Council Member (LCM) presented an application, nominated by the Nominating Committee, voted into office by CI BOD. All have unique qualifications for their respective positions and capabilities to lead the *Region 2 District* to attain the overall ten percent (10%) Growth Goals for 2022-2023. Each LCM can appoint co-chairs to his/her team.

Emphases will be on Membership, Money, and Marketing. We can accomplish these goals as we all Think Growth, Talk Growth, and Do Growth (TTD Growth). We will need all Florida Civitans to develop a Growth Mindset.

Effective communication is essential to TDD Growth; A strong sense of belonging is a key to feeling better and living longer. Knowing what's happening and being challenged in your areas of interest and /or expertise increases your sense of purpose and belonging.

Focus Recruiting Efforts in two areas:

- 1. Retiring Baby Boomers...have time and money. Find out where Boomers hang out. Go there and set up shop. Boomers bring new Ideas, Projects. Incentivize with Projects.**
- 2. New Family Plan coming in October. Family can belong for a "family price" or to a Family Club. Give families the opportunity to belong. Incentivize with Plan. Most of us can effectively recruit people up to twenty years younger than we are.**

Let us, each one of us, relax a few minutes and answer to yourself these four questions: Please, do take time to answer with thoughtfulness and honesty. 1. Why did you join Civitan? 2. Why did you stay in Civitan? 3. What do you think about YOU? 4. How do you see what you do as Civitan?

Some things won't change. We are still an association of Clubs. You BELONG! Our Creed remains the same. Mission remains the same. Tenants of Fellowship, Knowledge, and Service remain the same.

Rich Civitan Heritage. When Dr. Courtney Shropshire, and associates, founded Civitan in 1917, the focus was as "community boosters," sidewalks, streetlights, War Bonds, etc.

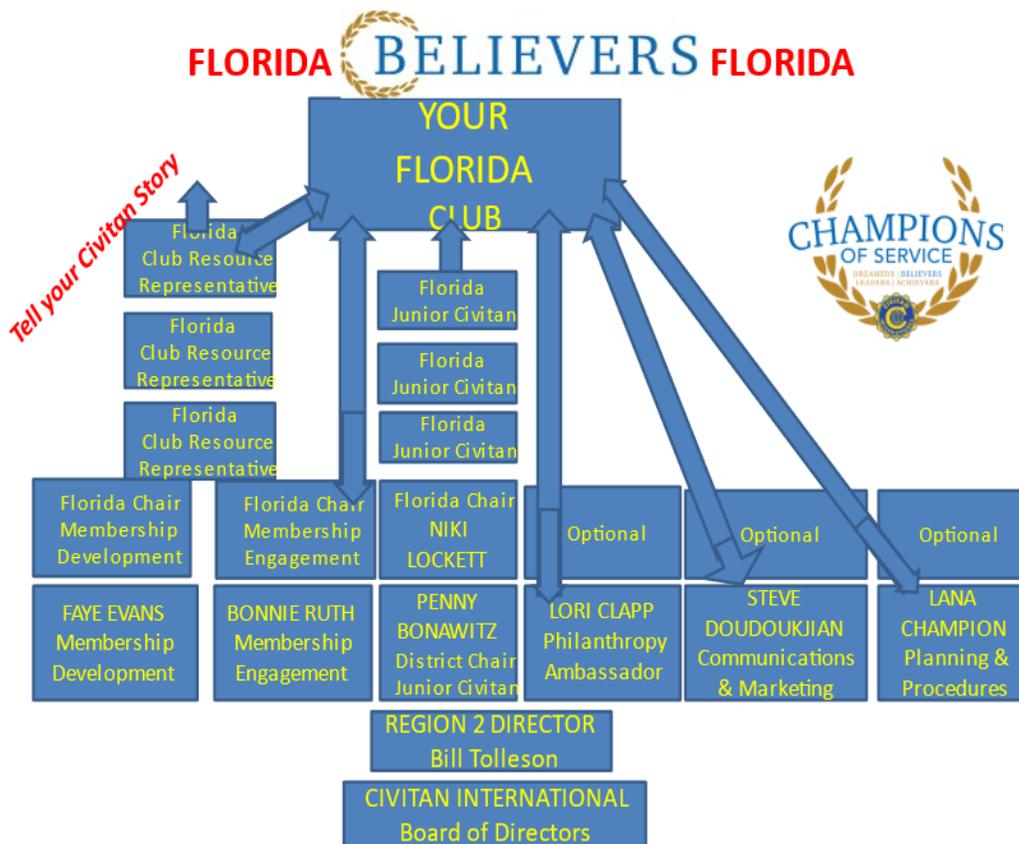
In the 1930s, International Presidents like Frederick Lykes lead the Boy Scouts, YMCA, Junior Civitan, and other organizations to assist the less fortunate, orphanages, homeless, hungry.

In the early 1950s, Harold Leonhart, assembled retired Dr. "Strop" and the McNulty family into the Baltimore Civitan Club. This association produced growth in the FCIDD (Chesapeake Foundation) enhancement of The ARC of the United States (current name) and several other organizations that assist people with I/DD. This led to our mission emphasis on people with I/DD, and the creation and establishment of the Civitan International Research Center.

We are on the way to 10% net growth Membership Growth and Junior Civitan Membership Growth, 10% net Philanthropic Growth (Money), and hearing talk about Civitan in more places (Marketing) all happening...IT'S EXCITING TO BE CIVITAN!

Region Two Director Report ... (Continued)

Thank You for being Civitan! Thank You for being Active Participants in your Communities!



REGION LEADERSHIP COUNCIL ... Lana Suggs Champion

Next year - a week from now, we will join our fellow Civitans in Georgia and South Carolina as the Region 2 Team. The region structure is comprised of a Leadership Council, led by Bill Tolleson, Region 2 Director. The members of the Council are tasked with being the resources for the 1480 members of the 65 clubs in Region 2. This new leadership approach is designed to deliver service to the Clubs – to help our clubs serve their communities, market their Civitan Clubs and recruit new members. The 6 members of the Regional Leadership Council are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR - | FAYE EVANS (GA) |
| MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT CHAIR - | BONNIE RUTH |
| JR CIVITAN CHAIR - | PENNY BONAWITZ |
| PHILANTHROPY AMBASSADOR - | LORI CLAPP |
| MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS - | STEVE DOUDOUKJIAN (SC) |
| PLANNING & PROCEDURES CHAIR - | LANA SUGGS CHAMPION |

We will be reaching out to you to get your input on what you want, what works and what doesn't, and what can help you be successful to lead and serve your community as you develop new projects, raise funds, and recruit new members.

GOVERNOR-ELECT ... Penny Bonawitz

As Governor-Elect for the year 2021-2022, it makes me the Governor that never was for 2022-2023 but I am ok with that. I have had quite a year diving deep into Civitan. Through all the Governor-Elect training this year, we covered all the inner workings of Civitan, a lot of which I knew through my experiences with Junior Civitan, but some I did not and it was very interesting. I met some wonderful people in my Gov-Elect class and most of us are excited for a new experience in the years ahead.

At our last call, we all shared our favorite memory, mostly being able to meet each other in person at the convention, and what we were looking forward to in the future. On that note, I am looking forward to working with new people and getting some new ideas and energy for the Junior Civitan program. We have already started the year off strong.

It is bittersweet this ending of the Florida District but I know we will all still get together in our Florida area and at the Regional meeting to come and I look forward to that and so much more. Remember, it's all about the service and making the world a better place.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER ... Norm Bungard



We begin changing at birth and never stop. Mentally, emotionally, spiritually and physically. Behavior scientists declare that we either grow or regress. Stagnation is unknown. Every day is different as well as every minute; infinitesimally. The Holy Scriptures speak to us about change. Civitan embraces all religions that promote peace and goodwill.

A favorite piece of music is THE FOUR SEASONS by Vivaldi. I know of no music that fits so perfectly, audibly especially violins, You may agree.

Seasons change and so it may be viewed metaphorically, linking it with life itself.

How do you view change?

Do you resist change? Do you embrace change? Do you simply accept change? A relevant scriptural that fits is in Ecclesiastes. There is a time for all seasons. I was privileged to attend a Sunday School lesson of Jimmy Carter's at Maranatha Baptist Church and he dwelt on that passage. He declared that there are 28 different "a time for" entries.

It has been a year of change for Civitan International, some of it painful. All in keeping with the Mission

In Memorium ... Bonnie Ruth

This year Florida District lost 5 valuable members who were dedicated to the causes of Civitan:

Marilyn Terborg, Charter member Heart of Florida Civitan Club

Robert Dietz, Lake Eola Civitan Club

Richard Fuller, Clearwater Civitan Club

Ron Meier, Clearwater Civitan Club

Fred Novo-Mesky, Clearwater Civitan Club

Both Robert and Fred and their families were honored with special recognition at this year's Civitan Int'l Convention.

AWARDS ... Lana Suggs Champion

DOWNTOWN WEB IN ACTION CIVITAN CLUB

ATTENDANCE AWARD WINNER
TRAVEL AWARD WINNER

FIRST COAST CIVITAN CLUB

1st PLACE- SMALL CLUB:
OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS
OUTSTANDING YOUTH PROJECT
OUTSTANDING CLUB BULLETIN

2nd PLACE-SMALL CLUB:
OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO I/DD
OUTSTANDING YOUTH PROJECT

3rd PLACE- SMALL CLUB:
OUTSTANDING SINGLE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO I/DD

HOMETOWN CIVITAN CLUB

OUTSTANDING DISTRICT
CLUB OF THE YEAR
WINNER

ST PETERSBURG CIVITAN CLUB

MOST MEMBERS ADDED IN 2021 – 2022

SUNSET CIVITAN CLUB

OUTSTANDING INCLUSIVE CLUB WINNER
INTERNATIONAL RUNNER UP IMPACT AREA
GRANT

TAMPA METRO CIVITAN CLUB

GOVERNOR'S CHOICE AWARD WINNER
1st PLACE- SMALL CLUB;
OUTSTANDING SINGLE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO I/DD

MARCO ISLAND CIVITAN CLUB

2nd PLACE- SMALL CLUB:
OUTSTANDING SINGLE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

NAPLES CIVITAN CLUB

OUTSTANDING JR/SR JOINT PROJECT WINNER
2nd PLACE- SMALL CLUB:
OUTSTANDING CLUB BULLETIN

UPTOWN CIVITAN CLUB

1st PLACE- LARGE CLUB:
OUTSTANDING SINGLE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO I/DD
OUTSTANDING CLUB BULLETIN
2nd PLACE- LARGE CLUB:
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO I/DD

CANDY/COIN BOX AWARDS

UPTOWN CIVITAN CLUB
SUNSET CIVITAN CLUB

SPECIAL AWARD

GOVERNOR-ELECT PENNY BONAWITZ
QUEEN OF FLORIDA DISTRICT CIVITANS!

JUNIOR CIVITAN ... Penny Bonawitz

There is a lot that has changed as Junior Civitan. First of all there is now a REGION TWO DISTRICT which is made up of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida (the Eastern time zone part of Florida). We are now one big DISTRICT instead of three. I am the Chair for the new REGION TWO DISTRICT. My adult team consists of Richard Gay and Betsy Nunnery, of SC, Ginny Herring of GA, and Niki Lockett, of FL. We are all working together to make Junior Civitan bigger and better and to make our new district the best it can be.

The next thing to tell you is that there are **NO DISTRICT DUES** anymore! The only dues are the annual \$12 per student to Junior Civitan International!

We also now have a **LEADERSHIP COUNCIL** comprised of the Governors from all three former districts and they are now Directors (but for this year only can keep the title of Governor as well if they wish) and five teams of Chairpersons working on different aspects of Junior Civitan in our new REGION TWO DISTRICT.

Historian ... Bob Kircher

Civitan Highlights from the Roaring Twenties

In 1921, Civitan hosted its first convention in Birmingham, Alabama. Civitan boasted thirty clubs throughout the southeast, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Texas, and Oklahoma. The 1921 Civitan Convention sought a creed incorporating the Golden Rule.

During the 1920s, Civitan followed a national pattern of dramatic growth within service clubs. By 1921 Civitan employed five paid field representatives and was proud of the newly created 200 members club in New York. In 1922 there were almost 4000 members and by 1925 154 clubs.

1928 marked the beginning of Junior Civitan where a Junior Club was formed in a school in Portland, Maine by schoolteacher Margaret McKenney. She wanted the club to promote good citizenship and patriotism among the students.

1928 was also the onset of an informed association of women in Civitan in St. Petersburg, Florida. A group calling itself, "Ladies of Civitan" formed to advance the sociability of the men's club and help with club projects. Such "social feminism" activities, taken in association with husbands' interests, was a standard feature of the developing women's movements in America.

Civitan ended their first decade with a gala that celebrated the organization's unique purposes and impressive membership. They called the event "Light's Golden Jubilee" and focused the festivities around one of their most famous members, Fort Myers Florida Civitan Thomas Edison and his incandescent lamp invention.

There was a good reason for Civitan to celebrate. During the twenties, Civitan became firmly established. While never attaining the size of Kiwanis, Rotary and Lions, Civitan became an integral part of thousands of lives and numerous communities.*



Growth and Retention ... Wynester Sherrer

Growth and Retention—New Club Building

As we close out one era of our awesome Florida District Civitans to embark upon another phase, let's recommit to our commitment to recruit members and remember the reason why we joined. At the past Civitan International Convention, someone said, "We are all better together. No one person can whistle a symphony because it takes a whole orchestra to play it." Civitan is an amazing organization with opportunities to get others involved. Let's continue to recruit, build, and grow.



Philanthropy Report ... Lori Clapp, Ambassador

Philanthropy is not about the money. It's about using whatever resources you have at your fingertips and applying them to improving the world. – Melinda Gates



Thank you to everyone for giving so much of your time and resources to your communities as well as to the Civitan International Research Center (CIRC) and other Civitan Giving programs, either as individuals or through your clubs. We truly do help improve the world...through Civitan!

Hot off the Presses: I just received the Civitans at the Helm (CATH) report through Sept. 9. In case you weren't aware, this is the program Civitan International uses to track our gifts to CIRC. Our donations are sent to International rather than CIRC so they are able to recognize the clubs for their contributions to our Flagship Project. Congratulations Florida District! Besides our Challenge Clubs of Sunrise and Pine Castle, all but three clubs have attained the Helmsman Award level or higher, and this is before we receive any matching grants from the foundation at the Chesapeake district.

Special gratitude to Clearwater Civitan for far surpassing the highest award of Admiral of the Fleet, and to Orlando, St. Petersburg and Tampa Metro clubs for reaching Admiral level. Many clubs are less than \$110 away from reaching Helmsman or the next higher award level: Downtown WEB, First Coast, Frontier, Gainesville, Leesburg, Marco Island, Tallahassee and Treasure Coast! **So get your final 2021-2022 donations in by Sept 30**, making sure you include your club name to get credit for CATH, then get the recognition and thanks you so deserve! (Contact me if you'd like to know where your clubs stands)

As you prepare your budgets for the 2022-2023 Civitan year, be sure to include contributions to CIRC via CATH, All In Summit, Golf Benefit, Walk & Roll, etc. Remember the matching grant is applied on a "first donated/first matched" basis. So the sooner you make the donations, the better chance you'll have to get the match.

There are many other ways you can help CIRC and Civitan International, as well as yourself. If you have a special Civitan, Junior Civitan or friend you want to honor next year, consider budgeting to award that person with one of the Civitan Fellow designations, and at the same time provide scholarships or help CIRC or Civitan International long term needs. As an individual donor, you could also join the President's Council or join the Legacy Society by adding Civitan International (for CIRC or other International needs) to your estate plans or as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA and save income tax.

Go to the Civitan Website Giving Programs in Member Resources or directly to <https://civitan.org/support-programs/> to learn about the many ways you can help improve the world through Civitan Philanthropy. Feel free to contact me with any questions, at lori.clapp@verizon.net

CLUB BEAMS

CLEARWATER ... Mattie Fraser

My heart goes out to this 70 year old Civitan Club that lost three of their longtime, outstanding members this year. All of them will be missed for their smiling faces, their dedication to their community, and to the ideals of their club and Civitan.

Richard Fuller, who had been serving as the club's president this year

Ron Meier, husband Sue Meier and longtime member

Fred Novo-Mesky, a member of over 50 years who brought the idea to annually recognize the police with an award, something they are still doing.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of these members and with all Clearwater Civitans.

Congratulations to **Sue Meier** who has been a member of this club for 35 years this month.

DOWNTOWN WEB IN ACTION ...Phyleshia O'Neal

The Downtown Web in Action Civitan Club ended this year by attending the last official Florida District Fall Meeting held at the Villages in Ocala on Saturday September 10, 2022. We were honored to have Governor Bonnie Ruth, perform our 2022-2023 installation of officers and directors as her last official duty in this position. Wynester Sherrer will assume the role of President, Ramona Federico, Immediate Past President, Genevie Sherrer, Secretary, Rita McGruder, Treasurer (not pictured), Robert Jackson, Chaplin, (not pictured), Laverne Comer, Sergeant-at-Arms, (not pictured) Phyleshia Jackson-O'Neal and Erica Jones, Directors.



FIRST COAST ... Sharon Dundon

Helping a family get back to school ... With families struggling with the cost of back-to-school this time of year, FCC helped a single mother with four children with their school supplies to relieve the stress and financial burden while helping the children have a fun and exciting time heading back to school. Lee and Darrell Conrey along with Karen Riska obtained a list of the needed items and headed out shopping. Backpacks and supplies were found and delivered to the family and they were very appreciative. A 1st grade boy, a 4th grade girl, a 6th grade boy, and 8th grade boy will have a positive experience as they start the new school year. It is always a blessing to lend a helping hand to those in need.

1st Grade Boy 4th Grade Girl 6th Grade Boy 8th Grade Boy



Back to school breakfast for teachers and staff at Alden ... On August 8th, FCC sponsored a continental breakfast for the Alden Road Exceptional Student Center teachers and staff. The teachers at Alden are dedicated, compassionate and work hard to help their students. We wanted to show our appreciation for them by offering a little boost to start their school year off. Everyone was appreciative and expressed their thanks, as breakfast was served. Special thanks to Lee and Darrell Conrey and Karen Riska for shopping and serving the breakfast to the teachers and staff.



HOMETOWN ... Mary Anderson

Hometown ... Our hard working ladies of Hometown have had a very productive and rewarded year. This is proven because along with receiving our two Civitan International awards at the San Antonio, TX., annual convention in July, we were just very surprised, **honored**, and most **proud** to be named the Florida District Club of the Year at the FL. District's final convention that was held this month in The Villages, FL., where our club is located. Truly closing out a banner year for us!! Hometown is currently involved in our massive Adopt-A-Precinct volunteer project for this year's 2022 Primary Elections. The earned total fund raised provides us grant money for the distribution of our annually awarded 501(c)3 deserving charities. This month's submission depicts the many ways we serve our 3 communities as well as how we incorporated enjoyable activities for our membership.



Hometown—Outstanding District Club of the Year

Hometown members attending the convention

Mary Anderson with Centerpieces for the Convention

The Grants Committee met to discuss agencies to receive funding to help their programs. Pictured below left is the group discussing the awards. The picture below right shows the representatives of those agencies selected.

Congratulations to Hometown Civitan and to those selected for the funding.



MARCO ISLAND ... Nery Kircher

The Club began this last quarter of the Civitan year by recognizing two members, Mick Milner and Marc Kircher for taking their only day off to volunteer at the Camp Able Civitan Pizza Party in July. Pictured with Mick are Club Director Bob Hoch, Chaplain Barbara Santini, President Nery Kircher, and Secretary/Treasurer Bob Kircher.



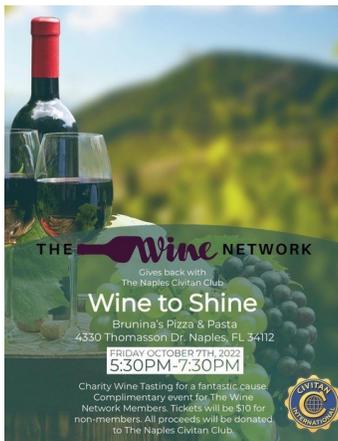
Then in August, they collected school supplies for their local YMCA pre-school and after school programs.

In September, a new member joined the club, Dr. Ingrid Arguelles, Social Studies teacher at Lely High School. She is going to be the Advisor of the Junior Civitan Club at this educational center. They continued collecting change for their Civitan Coin Box and Supplies for Soldiers projects.



NAPLES ... Nery Kircher

During the last quarter of this Civitan year, members collected school supplies for their local YMCA's educational programs. They are also collecting supplies for their Supplies for Soldiers project, to be delivered in November.



President Lisa is organizing the Wine to Shine charity wine taste to benefit the Club. Everybody is welcome to attend but need to make a reservation.

The Naples club has had for many years two very active Junior Civitan Clubs at Golden Gate and Naples High School and a selected graduating Junior Civitan from each school receives a \$1,000 scholarship.

A new Advisor has joined our club, Michelle Estock, who is going to be guiding and working with the Juniors at Golden Gate High School. Also, we are happy to inform that Past International President Polly Forestier is transferring to the Naples Civitan Club. Welcome to the Club Michelle and Polly!!!

We had to say goodbye to our dear Club Chaplain, Rose Coppola, who moved to Largo in Florida to be near her family. Thank you, Rose, for all your dedication and volunteer work.

PARC CIVITAN CLUB ... Nery Kircher

PARC Club is official! Official chartering on August 24, 2022



ST. PETERSBURG ... Jan Ward

Some of our events this quarter...
Civitan Volunteers at Special Olympics Swim meets in Clearwater and St. Petersburg.



St. Petersburg Civitan's annual Fish-A-Thon



We had a 4th of July Party with a watermelon eating contest and Fireworks galore!



We also had a Labor Day social with great food, fun and entertainment.



SUNSET ... Phyllis LaVigna

Our President, Elissa Thomas, kind of deserted us after we came in second place in the Grant scholarship program. To make a long story short, Sunset Civitan has not had a meeting since the one in June in which Bonnie attended and Elissa did not show up. Patti Hebert has taken over again and doing a phenomenal job with exciting members and new fundraisers.

God help Sunset Civitan with the transition as we become a Region!



TAMPA METRO ... Lori Clapp

Tampa Metro's last quarter has been quite active with Special Olympics and we were very happy to be joined by St. Petersburg Civitans and other friends at each competition. On July 30, we managed awards the very active Hillsborough and Pinellas County Swimming competition in Clearwater. August 6 was the Area 5 Bowling Competition in Seminole. Not only did we manage awards, but one family member coached a very large team from Brandon, including two of his sons, an athlete and a unified partner. And on a very hot August 28, we had two separate awards teams handling awards at the Area 5 Swimming Competition, for Short Course and Long Course events.



We are preparing for 3 more Special Olympics events , Sept. 24 Tampa Bay Fall Classic at Shorecrest Prep School in St. Petersburg, Oct. 2 Tampa Bay Golf at Cove Cay Golf Course in Clearwater, and Oct. 8 Area Fall Classic at Cypress Creek High School in Wesley Chapel, at which we may need five separate awards teams. Anyone is welcome to join us.



(Continued page 20)

TAMPA METRO ... (Continued)

Seven members attended the Florida District Convention – one of the largest showing from our club in quite a while. Three of our members made presentations: Penny Bonawitz and Niki Lockett discussed Junior Civitan activities and fundraisers; Lori Clapp encouraged clubs to participate in Civitan International's Philanthropic efforts. She also was privileged to present the Florida District Honor Key to Governor Bonnie Ruth. *We especially loved the resolution for and presentation to the first, last and only Queen of Florida Civitan, Penny Bonawitz.*



Our club was pleased to receive two first place awards for our efforts with Special Olympics and Neighbor to Neighbor Christmas program. But we were totally surprised, thrilled and humbled by being presented with this year's Governor's Choice Award by Governor Bonnie! A great time was had by all of us!!

UPTOWN ... Maureen Baiocco

Our Uptown Civitan meetings have been very well-attended as we continue to **learn** from our dynamic and varied guest speakers. We have warmly welcomed Dr. Lucy Chen, VP of Advocacy and Community Engagement, sharing the Cathedral Arts Projects enriching the lives of children and their families. Uptowners were blessed by Rev. Beth Tjoflat as we commemorated Clergy Appreciation. In May, on the local Jacksonville front, Dr. Wayne Wood, Riverside historian and author, inspired us with the story of local artist Charles Adrian Pillars and his untold story.

Uptown also celebrated our 39th Civitan-niversary on May 24 with special guests, former Junior Civitans, Jacqueline and Jalynn Small, and our Florida District Governor, Bonnie Ruth. Everyone enjoyed a sweet treat Bundlet cake to celebrate!



Other speakers and organizations were; Jackie Per-rault, from Jacksonville *Women's Business Center*, Scott Hetzinger, Dr. Sharpe, and Dr. Miller, from *Lend an Ear*, Amanda Mahan and Fred Richards, from *Operation New Hope*, Staci Ellison, from *Dolores Barr Weaver Policy Center*.

Membership.....Uptown had an elegant and well-attended New Member Recruitment Social at the Tower hosted by Joyce DeVillez and Barbara Drake. We added four new members, and looking forward for more to join us.

UPTOWN CIVITAN CLUB ... (continued)

Education.....Our Education Manager, Jean Smith, has met with our new members to acquaint them with our various committees, policies, and procedures, reinforcing there is something offered for everyone. (Right)

So many choices; from social, fundraising, volunteering, preparation for receptions, to appeal to all our individual preferences and time.

Our **Volunteer** activities included meal preparation for the Ronald McDonald House for 81 people including children and parents, Cummer Museum and Gardens **Arts4All** program for students with developmental differences, hosting Beaches Fine Arts Concert, Fonkoze, and PACE graduation receptions, knitting and crocheting baby caps and lap blankets, participating in Pine Castle Civitan, canned goods drive for DESC and a wonderful gift card initiative for Seamark Ranch.



Invitations.....Uptown has been invited to field trips, tours and lunch at Seamark Ranch, Pine Castle, and the Morris Center to learn more about their future goals and missions.

Junior Civitan..... Uptowners are very proud of our Junior Civitan Clubs. This year we have awarded \$7,000.00 in scholarships to those young people to further their higher education. These Junior Civitans are the epitome of all we represent in Civitan.

Social and FundraisingOur social activities included gathering for morning Chitchat Coffee meetings, an elegant Holiday Open House at Nan Flood's, Thanksgiving and Valentine's baked goods sales, Bingo evening, and High Tea Party and Jewelry exchange hosted at Mattie Fraser's beautiful home with delicious cuisine. It has been a year filled with camaraderie, learning, and volunteering to make an impact on our Jacksonville community.

Gratitude ...Uptown is fortunate to have so many members who do so much in the community to make a difference. Pictured here are the officers and committee chairs on my Board who helped lead the Uptown Civitan Club this year.



This leadership resulted in a number of awards at the District Convention but, more important, made a huge difference to many in our community.





The Florida Sunbeam

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FLORIDA DISTRICT WEB SITE ... www.FloridaCivitan.com

Civitan Creed

I AM CIVITAN: as old as life, as young as the rainbow, as endless as time.

MY HANDS do the work of the world and reach out in service to others.

MY EARS hear the cry of children and the call throughout the world for peace, guidance, progress, and unity.

MY EYES search for others to join in the fellowship and service of Civitan.

MY MOUTH utters the call to daily duty and speaks prayers in every tongue.

MY MIND teaches me respect for law and the flag of my country.

MY HEART beats for every friend, bleeds for every injury to humanity, and throbs with joy at every triumph of truth.

MY SOUL knows no fear but its own unworthiness.

MY HOPE is for a better world through Civitan.

MY MOTTO: builders of good citizenship.

MY BELIEF: do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

MY PLEDGE: to practice the Golden Rule and to build upon it a better and nobler citizenship.