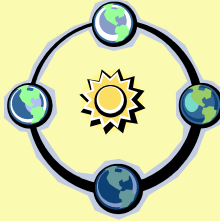


# FLORIDA



# SUNBEAM

Volume 17, Issue 3



July 2021



## Champions Corner ... Lana Suggs Champion

Hello Fabulous Florida District! Well, we're coming into the last stretch and all eyes are on the Florida District! In a few weeks, we'll be hosting the Civitan International 101st convention in the City of Jacksonville, Florida! I hope you are planning on attending the convention as we greet and welcome nearly 300 attendees to the Bold New City of the South! What an awesome opportunity to showcase our southern hospitality... Florida style! Mattie Fraser is our Host Committee Chair and doing an extraordinary job along with Lee & Darrell Conrey, Diana Flagg, Mary Jo Marjenhoff and me. If you want to know how you can help, just ask one of us.

There's much going on the next few weeks but please remember to contact Bob Kircher if you want to support him in the Annual Civitan Breakthru Golf event and Mattie Fraser and Lori Clapp for the Walk and Roll for Research event. Others may be participating in these two events but these are the only individuals who asked for our support during our last Board Meeting on June 12, 2021. The Board approved to make a \$1,000 donation (increased from the \$250 budgeted) to the Breakthru Golf event and Walk and Roll for Research teams, to be divided equally, per previous protocols. You can personally donate on line or you can send a check payable to Civitan International. All donations support the many programs at the Civitan International Research Center. Please be reminded that Voting Delegates for the International Convention will be receiving information about this new electronic process via email.

Bonnie Ruth, our GE, is making calls to fill those much-needed positions on the Florida District Board for 2021-22 so please, please consider accepting a leadership role. Also, look forward to hearing more information about our Florida Annual Convention to be held on September 10-11, 2021 at the St. Petersburg Beach House. I know many have received their vaccinations and feeling more comfortable about attending Covid-safe events but the CDC has reenacted the Mask mandate in many areas due to the new Delta variant and the renewed surge in COVID-19 cases. Northeast Florida is the state's latest hot spot so please take the necessary precautions.

Please continue to send me your Club Newsletters and invitations to your virtual and in-person meetings. I am so proud of the amazing and innovative ways we've discovered to safely stay connected and serve our communities.

We are **Champions of Service! We are Leaders!!**



Lana

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**DISTRICT OFFICERS****2020-2021****Governor:***Lana Suggs Champion***Governor-elect:***Bonnie Ruth***Immediate Past Governor:***Mattie Fraser, LST***Past Governor Director:***Nery Kircher***Area Directors:***Area 1: Kathy Hall**Area 2: Phyleshia J. O'Neal**Area 3: Patti Hebert**Area 4: Jeanne Davison**Area 5: Lisa Giuttari***Secretary:***Bonnie Ruth***Treasurer:***Gayle Kanak***Chaplain:***Bonnie Hardman***Judge Advocate:***Gay Aaron***Sergeant-at-Arms:***Robert Jackson Jr.***Committee Chairs****Awards, Nominations,***Mattie Fraser, LST***Bulletin/Newsletter***Mattie Fraser, LST***Candy/Coin Box:***Polly Forestier***Don DeVane Scholarship***Mattie Fraser, LST***Finance:***Elaine Hall***Growth & Retention****Historian and Training Coordinator:***Helen Galloway***Junior / Campus Civitan:***Penny Bonawitz***New Club Building***Wynester Sherrer***Philanthropic Liaison***Lori Clapp***Public Relations:***Jeanne Davison***Registrar:***Ramona Federico***Time & Place***Gay Aaron***Website:***Sandy Jones***FLORIDA DISTRICT CALENDAR - 2020-2021****2020**

September 30

Area Director Year End Report Due

October 1

**Deadline to submit material for *Florida Sunbeam* Newsletter**

October 1

New Civitan year begins

**October 24****World Junior Civitan Day****October 25****Junior Civitan District Meeting via Zoom. 1 to 3 p.m.**

November 7

Florida District Virtual Board Meeting (Zoom call 10 a.m.)

December 1

Honor Club/Competitive Awards applications due to International with copy to Immediate Past Governor.  
District Awards applications for Outstanding Club,**2021**

January 1

**Deadline to submit material for *Winter Sunbeam***

January 31

Postmark Deadline Shropshire Application due to International

January 31

Quality Achievement Award applications due to International

February

Clergy Appreciation Month

February

Junior Civitan International Appreciation Month

February 15

Deadline to file club 990's with **IRS, VERY IMPORTANT****Feb. 26- Mar. 1****Junior Civitan International *All In Summit, Birmingham*****March 17**

Civitan Founder's Day

**March 27****Junior Civitan District Convention, LifeSouth Blood Community Center, Gainesville, Florida, 11 a.m.—4 p.m.**

April

Civitan Awareness Month

April

**Junior Civitan Advisor Appreciation Month**

April 1

Grants and Scholarships Committee Judging

April 16

**Deadline to submit material for *Spring Sunbeam***

April 17

**Florida District Board Meeting, Virtual**

April 30

**Florida District Spring Meeting, Virtual**

Area Directors' Semi-Annual Visit with Club Presidents Due

May 1

Civitan International Honor Key Nominations Deadline

June 12

Florida District Virtual Board Meeting (Zoom call at 9 a.m.)

**June 24-27****Junior Civitan International & Dance-A-Thon, Tampa, FL**

July 1

Club officer elections for 2021-22 complete

July 1

Report of Club Officers to Civitan International & Governor  
Elect TBD**Junior Civitan Club Officers Assume Duties (report due)****Deadline to submit material to *Summer Sunbeam*****July 28-31**Civitan International Convention, **Jacksonville, FL**

August 15

District Awards Applications to be received by Awards Chair,  
Mattie Fraser, Immediate Past Governor

September 10-11

Florida District Board Meeting, **St. Petersburg Beach House**  
Florida Annual Convention and Installation Banquet

September 30

Area Director's Year-End Report with Club Presidents due

October 1

**Deadline to submit material to *Fall Sunbeam*****Note change in Civitan International convention dates.****See Website for up date on meeting schedule ...**

## Governor-Elect ... Bonnie Ruth

In case you hadn't noticed – *SUMMER HAS ARRIVED!* And with summer, Civitans are preparing for the Annual Civitan International Convention. This year our Florida District is the host – very exciting. It's been over a year since most of us have seen one another in person. Most of you do not know me, and I am a believer in personal contact. So, I am looking forward to meeting as many Florida Civitans as possible. I want to hear from you - what you enjoy about Civitan and how the District can work to contribute to benefit your Club. We are still seeking to fill a few positions on the District Board for the upcoming year: Secretary, District Training Coordinator, Registrar, and Growth and Retention Chair. Involvement on the District Board is a great way to stay connected and encourage your Club members to participate in Civitan activities. Please look for me in Jacksonville to discuss how you can be an influencer in Florida Civitan!



## Immediate Past Governor ... Mattie Fraser

**AWARDS** ... Competitive district awards for the year 2020-2021 will be given at the convention on **Friday night September 10**. International banner patches from 2019-2020 will also be presented.

A reminder was sent to all club presidents about the **DEADLINE FOR ALL DISTRICT COMPETITIVE APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY ME NO LATER THAN AUGUST 15**. This will give time for an outside organization to be able to judge the applications.

**NOMINATIONS...** Nominations for open slots at the District level will be sent to all members in the Florida District after the Civitan International Convention. If the Districts are eliminated, those succeeding those currently in office will be needed for the transition period (up to one year). If the Districts are not eliminated, terms will be the same as they are now.



**JOIN US FOR THE  
FLORIDA DISTRICT CONVENTION ... SEPTEMBER 10-11  
St. Petersburg Beach House  
MORE INFORMATION TO COME FROM GOVERNOR LANA**

## Chaplain's Moment ... Bonnie Hardman

A few weeks ago I happened to be in an elementary school classroom here in Jacksonville. I would guess that it was perhaps second or third grade. Looking around the room, I saw that the teacher - talented, artistic and enthusiastic - had hung home-made posters around the room, with rules for living on them.

There was one that said **"There is no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs."** Another said **"I can learn anything, I can know anything, I can be anything."** And there was one that said **"Mistakes are proof that you are trying."**

My favorite was a series of posters called "All About Respect." As I read it, I thought that perhaps we too could benefit from what these children are learning: after all, respect seems to be very hard to come by these days, given the many divides in our society.

So here it is: **All About Respect.**

R – is for **"Recognize** that everyone is different."

E – is for **"Earn** trust through your actions."

S – is for **"Self-monitor**: THINK before you speak."

P – is for **Personal space**. Give each other a little room.

E – is for **Empathy**. And empathy means listen and connect.

C – is for **Cheer** on others. Cheer for their success."

And T – is for **Treat** everyone as an equal."

How about that. A Second-Grade class that could teach adults a thing or two about getting along with others. Best wishes to our children as they move up to the next level in their education. And a big thank you to the teachers who have guided them through this past year. Enjoy a relaxing summer.



**Join us at the 101st International Convention for**

**Florida District Hospitality  
Southern Style**

**July 28—31, 2021**

**Ballroom 1 of the**

**Hyatt Regency on the Riverfront**

**Jacksonville, Florida**

**For Friendship, Treats and Silent Auction Items**



## Time and Place ... Gay Aaron

Plans are underway for our September 10-11 convention at the St Pete Beach House in St. Petersburg.

Our special guest(s) for the weekend are President Frank Kelley and his wife, Kim.

Board meeting: Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup> 3-5 p.m.

Catered Dinner and annual Awards Presentations: 6 – 8 p.m. (time approximate)

Business Meeting, Elections and Installation of Officers: Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>: 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (including Continental breakfast and lunch)

Saturday evening: St Pete Club's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. St. Pete has graciously offered to cover the cost of dinner for all Civitans and guests attending the celebration.

The cost of registration not been finalized. We are still looking at food options and prices.

Lodging: At this time, we are not having a designated hotel for the convention. We welcome suggestions from those who live in the St. Pete area.

Suggestions include **Angler's Cove** and **Holiday Villas** near the beach house have weekend rentals available. **Doubletree**, 2 miles south of the beach house is also an option. There is also a Holiday Inn Express near the Bay Pines VA healthcare where we stayed a few years ago. It is adjoining a Super Walmart and there is a Texas Roadhouse on the same property. **Airbnbs** in the area



## Candy/Coin Boxes ... Polly Forestier

Things are opening up a little after the devastating time we've had over these last many months! It may bring results if you visit your places where you have boxes to say hello to the manager and ask if they will still allow them to be visible. If they have been put under the counter, ask if they could now be in plain sight as you notice more traffic. The managers will most certainly be sympathetic to our cause of helping others and supporting our research center with the proceeds from the boxes. Make sure they are clean and full of candy in the ones that need it. I service my coin boxes about every 3-4 weeks and usually find them about half full. I carry a spare box ready to take over with coins and a dollar bill in it. Makes it much easier than having to open the box in the car, have a bag for the money, and clean the box before putting it back.

If you haven't had the opportunity to meet the manager and explain what the money goes for, please make an effort to introduce yourself and tell her/him the wonderful success of our research center. Leave a brochure for them to read. Remember to have your name and phone on the card for service or an emergency and, of course, always remember to say "thanks very much for allowing us to place the boxes on your counter."

I hope everyone had a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July and celebrated the greatness of our country. We truly are blessed to be living in America!! God bless you all and God bless America!!



## Philanthropy Report ... Lori Clapp, Liaison

***"The truth of the matter is: you can create a great legacy, and inspire others, by giving it to philanthropic organizations." ~ Michael Bloomberg***



Many, many thanks to the clubs for your significant donations this quarter to the Civitan International Research Center through Civitan International's Civitans at the Helm Program! As of July, we now have 12 clubs attaining an award level! Special kudos to Clearwater for reaching the Admiral Leve and First Coast for reaching the Commodore level. And some clubs are so very close to attaining Helmsman or the next award level! Remember at least \$10 per member on roster on October 1, 2020, will earn your club an award, banner patch and gratitude for their support of our flagship project. Unfortunately, the Chesapeake Foundation Match has already reached the maximum, donations from July on will not be matched, still this is a great time to donate to Civitan International for the Research Center (CIRC), by sponsoring Florida Civitans participating in the Break-thru Golf Benefit or Walk and Roll for Research fundraisers at the Civitan International Convention in Jacksonville. And you too can individually or as a club participate in the Walk and Roll for Research even if you don't go to Convention; you can do so VIRTUALLY. To donate, create or join at team, go to: [Convention | Civitan International](https://civitan.org/convention/) ( <https://civitan.org/convention/> ) and click on Walk and Roll for Research or Break-Thru Golf Benefit for more information, sign up or donate. We're now starting to get monthly Development reports from International so if you want the most current Civitans at the Helm information for your club, please contact me.

Please consider joining or renewing membership to the *President's Council*, especially if you're coming to the International Convention. One highlight of membership and the Convention is attending the invitation only President's Council reception. Such a fun way to see fellow Civitans who enjoy supporting the long-term viability of Civitan. It's only \$10 per month or more for higher support levels and it truly makes a difference to Civitan. Plus you get a shiny new pin and a party at Convention. Feel good at your support and have fun too....that's a win-win for everyone!

This is also a perfect time to consider recognizing a special Civitan or friend of Civitan with a *Fellow* or *Junior Fellow*. There are several types of Fellow with different funding levels. If you act quickly, you may be able to have it presented at the International Convention or at the District Convention, or at the District Convention in September in St. Petersburg. The funds from the Fellows program supports scholarships to CIRC and other related areas, so it's a perfect way to honor a dear Civitan while at the same time provide much needed scholarships.

There are many ways for you to benefit yourselves and Civitan on the website. And for those evaluating your estate plans do consider options that will help you be philanthropic while at the same time potentially reducing your tax consequences to you or your heirs. Another win-win for you, your family and Civitan. Do check out all the information on the Civitan Giving web page, [Annual Giving Programs | Civitan International](https://civitan.org/support-programs/) (<https://civitan.org/support-programs/>)

## Junior Civitan ... Niki Lockett, Junior Chair

The 2020-2021 Junior Civitan International Convention started off with a bang. Junior Civitans old and new were overjoyed to finally attend the convention, especially since Covid had stopped the convention from happening the previous year. Junior Civitans worldwide attended and came together to make important decisions on Junior Civitan rules, receive awards, dance, and complete some community service!



Left: Junior Civitans filling up bags with school supplies

Right: A Junior Civitan spreading energy through cards

One of the first events was a service collaboration with Seniors in Service, an organization that has people ages fifty-five and older rising up to meet the needs of their community. For this project, Junior Civitans prepared bags with school supplies - notebooks, pens, highlighters, folders, and pencils. The bags were later delivered to Seniors In Service, who then dis-

tributed the bags to those in need. Junior Civitans completed this service project quickly and gleefully. After all, service is what we do best. Another event was one in which Junior Civitans wrote words of encouragement and decorated cards. Whether you think you need them or not, uplifting words go a long way.

The next big event was Dance-a-thon which everyone had been anticipating. This time Junior Civitans transitioned from beach vibes to neon lights and 80's tunes. They adorned themselves in leis, glow in the dark jewelry, and scrunchies. The whole room had been transformed as well. Everywhere you looked was a glow in the dark party. From the mini golf to the bean bag toss it was lit! Pizza was served and the vibes were totally tubular. It was five hours of fabulous fun!

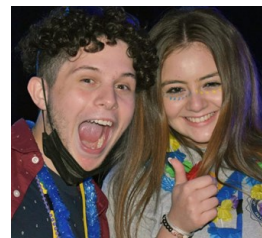
Then came the voting event in which Junior Civitans voted on specific Civitan laws, amendments, and participated in elections. It was a formal event that everyone took seriously. You could tell that your vote and voice counted, especially when voting delegates stood up to the mic and discussed their opinions and concerns on certain topics. When elections came up people quickly and quietly filled out their forms. The open positions were international director and president. Both candidates ran unopposed, yet the tension was still palpable. Then...drum roll please! Florida's very own Angelina Fentress was voted the International Director! Ms. Kyndall Herring was elected as Junior Civitan's International President! All Junior Civitans wish them luck in fulfilling their new positions. Let's go, Junior Civitans!

Finally the last big event of the convention came, the famous Civies! Every Junior Civitan came dressed to the nines and there was clear excitement in the air. For the Florida district one club in particular stood out and that was the Lake Howell Highschool Junior Civitan club! This club swept the floor with the amount of awards they won. Namely the Campus Project of the Year, Junior Civitan of the Year (Trinity Ransom), Advisor of the Year (Heather King), and Club of the Year! It was quite the momentous occasion!

All in all the convention was a blast, Junior Civitans were able to socialize and get to know each other better, all the while celebrating and contributing to our great organization! Take a look at each other Junior Civitans and stand tall, we've accomplished great things together and we will continue to.



**Report by Isabella  
Rose R. Montalvo**





## CLUB BEAMS

**Area 1 Club Happenings & Projects ... from Gainesville, Hometown, Leesburg, Sunrise and Tallahassee Civitan Clubs. Kathy Hall, Area 1 Director**

**May our country always flourish and celebrate many more years of independence...  
Happy Birthday America! Civitan Chaplain, Dr. Paul**



### GAINESVILLE CIVITAN CLUB

**Gainesville Civitan Club** ...continues to work resolutely on their only service project, Lifesouth Community Blood Centers. President Ron reports Gainesville Club continues to meet every Monday in person for lunch.

### HOMETOWN CIVITAN CLUB ... Mary Anderson

Considering our small membership, Hometown has been honored to receive several prestigious awards in recent months! We have acquired two Civitan International Awards: *Dr. Courtney Shropshire Outstanding Civitan Club of Honorable Mention* and for *Outstanding Community Service Project, Second Place* award for our Adopt-A-Precinct project in October of 2020. Also, our long time member Arlene Kaplan (our Projects Director) received a wonderful letter from Senator Rick Scott, FL during National Volunteer Week in April 2021 in recognition for her outstanding and dedicated service work with Pace Center for Girls. Our club is truly proud of Arlene and of all our membership's hard work to have acquired these honored awards in recognition of our ongoing community work accomplishments especially achieved over the many months of the Coronavirus restrictive environment. Hometown is looking forward to when we can return to servicing our charities we support. There are other goals and projects in the works. Visit our website: [Hometowncivitanclub.com](http://Hometowncivitanclub.com).



Hometown hosted a very fun breakfast celebration at a country club facility for our April 2021 meeting to honor the Wildwood's youth championship of the Wildwood Middle High School boys basketball team who won the Class 1A state title. Many of our members attended and our Laura McLaughlin was our MC for the event. She had done a fantastic job by involving the team, especially getting many of the boys to discuss their championship strategies. Laura did her homework ahead of the event by knowing about the game win and knowledge of many of the boy's statistics! Attended were coaches and their

wives and team managers. The team was overjoyed that our club honored their team's championship that morning!





## CLUB BEAMS

### HOMETOWN CIVITAN CLUB ... Continued

For our June 2021 meeting, we invited Wildwood's Mayor Ed Wolf and his City Manager Jason McHugh about the future plans of the much-needed revitalization of downtown Wildwood. The mayor is very familiar with Civitan! We were very excited and interest-



ed to find out what may be brewing for downtown Wildwood's facelift. There were a lot of curious questions asked by our members of the two men who had a lot of interesting information to offer. Pictured are a few of us who attended the Wildwood Downtown Master Plan Community Meeting on June 22nd.



Here was our first annual social gathering of our Hometown's Presidents over Hometown's six years. As you can see, it was done around the holiday season. The plan is for this to become an annual tradition in celebration for the thankful appreciation and recognition of our club's women members' service as Hometown's Presidents.



A fun and pleasant social outing was planned in May 2021 by Lana Rosenberg who is our Social Director. This is the second time that a few of us ladies went for an outdoor luncheon and shopping trip to the Bountiful Bistro restaurant & market in Okahumpka, FL. As you can see, dining is done under the humongous tree that provided much needed shade on that hot day. We highly recommend you try it!



A few members spent the day visiting the Howie Mansion in Howie In The Hills, FL

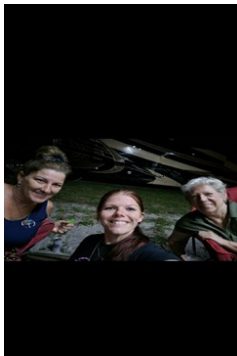


## CLUB BEAMS

### LEESBURG CIVITAN CLUB ... Kathy Hall

**Leesburg Civitan Club** continues its monthly Zoom meetings & we're gearing up for our first meeting since the Pandemic next month! We're also planning our Welcome & Recruitment Community Project & tagging onto area community events. We had another successful Facebook Pampered Chef virtual fundraiser as this is an ongoing project for our club. We will have 3 members attending Civitan International Convention in Jacksonville. We decided to join in the T-shirt craze & get our very own for our club. Bright, vivid colors to handout during our reopening face x face meeting in July!

Ladies Camping trip to Bradenton roughing it in Deb's camper! Great time! Fellowship & lots of fun!



### SUNRISE CIVITAN CLUB

**Sunrise Civitan Club** is an adult day program that is based out of closed facilities due to Covid 19 since March 2020 and only just reopened recently to Sunrise Arc clients only, so we still do not have all our community members to even hold a meeting. We're planning a cookie & punch party to deliver the 100 beautiful multi-colored T-shirts with Sunrise Civitan logo to celebrate their 5 years which was in March 2020! As soon as all the clients are back we will have a reboot to welcome all members & newcomers to the Sunrise Civitan Club! Celebration will be the first order of business & we can hardly wait!!!

### TALLAHASSEE CIVITAN CLUB

**Tallahassee Civitan Club** President Richard Hamilton reports that the Tallahassee Club resumed lunch meetings on the first and third Thursday of each month. They have changed venues due to service and now meet at Carrabba's. They will be electing new leadership for the coming year at their next meeting. This is great news as this is a major turnaround from this time last year!!! Tallahassee is trying to link with the local Down's Syndrome Association to offer sponsored swim lessons to young adults with a local instructor. They have no other projects scheduled for the summer. One member is planning to attend Civitan International Convention.

## CLUB BEAMS

**Area 2 Club Happenings & Projects ... from Downtown Web in Action, First Coast, Pine Castle, Uptown. Area 2 Director Phyleshia Jones O'Neal**

### DOWNTOWN WEB IN ACTION CIVITAN CLUB ... Phyleshia O'Neal

Downtown Web in Action Civitan lead by Wynester Sherrer, is continuing to have a fantastic year. The **2020-21 Goals remain, Building Membership** (each one gets one) **and Service to others.**

Monthly meeting has hosted a variety of guest speakers and fun activities for members via Zoom. The April Zoom meeting featured Trinity Rescue Mission. Concerns regarding the increased number of clients needing services was the main topic for this meeting. The club held a virtual fundraiser during the meeting raising \$250 to be donated to the mission to assist with the needs of our growing homeless population.

The May meeting featured Jean Nester, founder of the Haiti Mission. Clothing items are currently being collected, with special emphasis on adult and children socks. See a club member if you wish to make a sock donation. The club donated \$300 to the Haiti Mission in addition to the clothing and socks that will be delivered to the mission by the end of June. A donation of \$300 was also given to Best Buddies, for Cancer Research. Best Buddies conducted the March Zoom meeting.

Club members are continuing to focus on providing aid to First Responders during this pandemic each month. Goodies Baskets were made and filled with lots of love, snacks, and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) items. Baskets were distributed in April and May to faculty and staff members at Jean Ribault and William M. Raines High Schools, to show appreciation for their services to our students during Teacher's Appreciation Month and standing on the front lines during this pandemic. Additional baskets are being created to show appreciation to our first responders for their service and servant heart during these perilous times. Proceeds from the first annual "Auntie Tangie's Tea Party", will be used to continue this project.

Some of our trained medical members have continued to assist and volunteered with the distribution of the Covid 19 vaccination.

#### **Ongoing Fundraisers:**

Decorative/Custom Door wreaths for all occasions are still available for sale as an ongoing fundraiser.



*Be somebody who makes  
EVERYBODY feel  
like SOMEBODY!!!*





## CLUB BEAMS

### FIRST COAST CIVITAN CLUB ... Sharon Dundon

Talk about fun! We had a Critter Caravan for the students at Alden Road Exceptional Student Center and an appreciation luncheon for the teachers and staff on July 9. It was a sunny day filled with lots of smiles and giggles. It's fun to be able to attend the event in person again with the students at Alden. We always come away feeling blessed.

There were donkeys, chickens, bunnies, goats and sheep, oh my!! and a special treat for the students with three princesses. We were fortunate to have three lovely young volunteers from the Princess Project in Kennewick, Georgia this year (75% of the funds raised by their appearances goes to the Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research). Ariel from "The Little Mermaid" (Kayla Conrey) along with Elsa (Jana Wren) and Anna (Caroline Bailey) from "Frozen" appeared for the students. They interacted with the students in conversation, posed for photos and then read stories to some of the students.

The teachers and staff are so compassionate and dedicated to the students at Alden and work tirelessly (which is physically and emotionally challenging). The teachers were thrilled for the students enrolled in summer school to have this opportunity. They were very appreciative of the lunch we prepared; grilled hot dogs, coleslaw, baked beans, fresh fruit and lots of yummy brownies.



The Jacksonville STARZS (Stampin' Up! Demonstrators and FCC members) also held a charity event for **BEAM** (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry, a non-profit) via Zoom by offering five card set ups and instructions to their guest. The funds raised will help supplement the two food pantries that service our Jacksonville Beaches community. Prior to the event, FCC members held a food drive for BEAM and delivered a carload of non-perishable food items to help replenish supplies. The pandemic created an increase in their services and need for food.



### PINE CASTLE CIVITAN CLUB ... Ellen Rubens

Thanks to Elaine Hall, Uptown facilitated monthly **Pine Castle Civitan Club meetings** (Pine Castle serves adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities). A limited number of volunteers could participate in person. Gift bags and hands-on projects have been provided for the club members, while stories and songs were facilitated and enjoyed virtually at the same time via zoom presentations. Monthly themes included: **April**- Easter and Mother's Day, **May**- Memorial Day, and in **June** a Triple Birthday!!! We celebrated the individual club member birthdays that were missed during the pandemic and the June birthdays, the Pine Castle Club's 32<sup>nd</sup> Birthday, and the nation's birthday on July 4<sup>th</sup>. In person meetings will begin again on July 22. Masks and social distancing will be observed.

# CLUB BEAMS

## UPTOWN CIVITAN CLUB ... Ellen Rubens

Uptowners have continued to demonstrate determination and resilience in maintaining their commitment to promote Knowledge, Fellowship and Community Service throughout April, May, and June.

We have continued to enjoy a rigorous and diversified program twice a month, thanks to Maureen Baiocco and members of her much-involved Program Committee. The meetings continued to be presented on Zoom until we were able to transition back to our in-person meetings in June. Jacksonville's SEE International; Jacksonville's International Gift of Sight with Dr. Jeffrey H. Levenson; Angels for Allison- The Allison Brundick Haramis Foundation with Liz Nottingham, Executive Director; White Harvest Farms along with Mallory Schott, Manager; Birthday Celebration of Uptown Civitan's 38 Years Strong; Women's Giving Alliance with Mary Pietan; Civil Discourse with Reverend R. Gregg Kaufman

We are delighted to announce that our in-person lunchtime meetings have resumed in June! The beautiful **Garden Club of Jacksonville** is our new venue. Our lunches are being delivered by a local caterer and this has given members the opportunity to step up as valued hostesses and helpers, as if they were welcoming everyone into their own homes. It's been such a joy to come together again for lunch and learning,

Thanks to some very dedicated volunteers, Sharon Kantor, Linda Weinstein and Sherri Dotson, Uptown's devotion to feeding breakfast to the needy once a month at the **Clara White Mission** has never faltered throughout the pandemic restrictions.

Three outstanding students from Sandalwood High School were awarded **Past President Scholarships**, under the direction of Past President Diana Flagg and her committee: **Jalynn Small (\$1,500)**, **Jaden Williams (\$1,000)**, and **Isaiah Sherles (\$1,000)**. Each of the three students earned their High School Diploma in addition to their Associate Degree from FSCJ (Florida State College in Jacksonville). These students are all a testament to their parents, teachers, and our own Lana Suggs Champion, who was their Junior Civitan Liaison.

Uptown recognized the extraordinary efforts of school personnel during the Covid Pandemic by sponsoring a Teacher and Staff Appreciation event at two of the schools who are affiliated with our Junior Civitan Program: Sandalwood High and North Florida School for Special Education. 325 snack bags were distributed in all to the dedicated Teacher and Staff members during the first week in May. Our Junior Civitans helped distribute the bags.

Uptown's knitting and crocheting projects are ongoing. The UF Pediatric Dept. in Jax, Southbrook Healthcare, River Garden, and Clara White are some of the agencies that have benefited from these projects throughout the year.

Linda Weinstein hosted a dinner and knitting party at her home on June 14.





## CLUB BEAMS

### UPTOWN CIVITAN CLUB ... Continued

A very well attended and successful Membership Recruitment Social was held at the Cummer Gallery in May, thanks to Membership Chair Joyce DeVillez. One joined that night and two since then.

Once again, Uptown Civitan helped sponsor **Pace Center for Girls in Jacksonville's graduation activities**. We are so proud of this organization's accomplishments and of course of all the young women who met their goals of high school graduation.



### Area 3 Club Happenings & Projects ... From Citrus, Frontier, Orlando and Sunset. Area 3 Director Patti Hebert

#### CITRUS CIVITAN CLUB...

The Citrus Club held its first in-person meeting in over a year in June. They are working with Quest to plan a Beach Bash. Quest is a facility for those with I/DD. The Citrus Club has been working with them for many years.



#### FRONTIER CIVITAN CLUB ...

No report at this time.

#### ORLANDO CIVITAN CLUB ...

No in-person meetings are being held; all communications are by telephone. Sandy Sanders says they are looking forward to November when fruit cakes comes. This is their major fundraiser. Many members donated items to local thrift stores.

#### SUNSET CIVITAN CLUB ...

This club has met for Board meetings and hopes to have an in-person meeting the first part of August. Citizenship awards were delivered to only one local elementary school due to COVID restrictions. We held a going away party for one of our dear and most valued members, Mary Kay Pyles, who has sold her home and moved back to Ohio to be near family. She will truly be missed but plans to retain her membership in our club.



## CLUB BEAMS

### Area 4 Club Happenings & Projects ... From Clearwater, St. Petersburg, Tampa Metro Area 4 Director Richard Fuller

#### CLEARWATER CIVITAN CLUB ... Sue Meier

Our own retired NYPD man Fred Novo-Mesky was responsible for beginning our annual Law Week program fifty years ago. Clearwater Police Chief Slaughter selects the officer to be honored based on his police work and community service. In the first photo, Chief Slaughter is on the left; Officer Brian Hoxie is holding the plaque we presented. The right hand photo is Officer Hoxie with his two immediate supervisors. In the past, many fellow officers have attended as well as most Clearwater Club members- an AM meeting with pas-try provided by Civitans. But in the scaled down Covid times, it was a smaller group gathering in the afternoon which worked best for all schedules.

We are always impressed by the officer chosen, and this year especially, there were several Civitan connections to Officer Hoxie. He is chaplain for his FOP Union so I told him about the Four Chaplains and Civitan's Clergy Week. He was also a guest speaker at the church that originated the Homeless Empowerment Program that we have supported for many years. For four years he has been emcee and DJ for the local Tim Tebow Foundation Night to Shine dance for special needs.

His current police duties are serving on the Community Problem Response Team, developing strong neighborhood ties with police and citizens. It was great that Fred could be there to meet the Officer, and recall our long history with Clearwater Police. It is one way our club can show "respect for law" and support our local police.



## CLUB BEAMS

### ST. PETERSBURG CIVITAN CLUB ... Jan Ward

Our St. Petersburg Civitan club kicked off the quarter with the celebration of our 100th Anniversary for members at the Civitan Beach House on April 11th. We are planning a more formal celebration on Saturday, September 11, as the closing banquet of the FL District Convention. We are looking forward to hosting the members from the FL District Clubs at the Civitan Beach House.



The Mayor of St Petersburg, Rick Kriesman, presented representatives of the Club with a proclamation recognizing April 12th as St Petersburg Civitan Centennial Day.



In conjunction with our 100 year anniversary, we have introduced a fundraiser called "That's My Brick". We are offering an engraved brick for \$100, that will be prominently displayed at our Beach House.

Members also held a fundraiser over the Memorial Day weekend, offering parking to beachgoers and raised \$875.



On May 26th, a local newspaper reporter interviewed (Bonnie Ruth, Pete Meydag, Norm Bungard, Lauren Heckert, MaryAnn Fisher and myself) for a story about our club and our 100th Anniversary. It appeared in our beach newspaper on June 10. Here is the link to the article, [Civitan Beach House gets historic recognition](#).

We are looking forward to seeing fellow Civitans at the International Convention in Jacksonville next month.

SPPD Officer Jamie Lowry was the Civitan annual Police awardee in the ceremony held at the SPPD HQ. Shown with her is Chief Anthony Holloway and Officer Lowry's partner and family and several colleagues as well as fellow Civitan members. Norm Bungard was privileged to offer the invocation





## CLUB BEAMS

### TAMPA METRO CIVITAN CLUB ... Lori Clapp

Tampa Metro continues to meet virtually on the first and third Mondays of the month. Despite the many changes implemented because of the pandemic, this club has done some in-person volunteering. During this quarter, they screened everyone coming for Buddy Baseball games, a recreational league which pairs children with special needs with a buddy. At this game, they connected with the Pirates, the team they co-sponsored this season, all wearing shirts with the Tampa Metro logo.



They also managed all awards for the Special Olympics Area Summer Games at 5 separate awards areas (Tampa Metro is in charge of awards for all Special Olympics events held in Pinellas, Hillsborough and Pasco counties); and distributed shirts and packets to participants in the mostly virtual Gasparilla Distance Classic, along with Robinson High Noble Junior Civitans. This effort also served as a fundraiser for the club and the Juniors.



They were grateful to have signs with Tampa Metro Civitan logos displayed at Buddy Baseball and Special Olympics events, especially during April, Civitan Awareness Month. Next quarter they will be managing awards at several other Special Olympics events including Stand-up Paddle Board, Bowling in Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties on the same day (!), County and Area Swimming, and Fall Classic including flag football, softball, power lifting and gymnastics.



Tampa Metro looks forward to partnering with St. Pete and Clearwater Civitans at events in Pinellas County.



## CLUB BEAMS

### Area 5 Club Happenings & Projects ... From Marco Island, Naples, Treasure Coast, Area 5 Director Lisa Giuttari

#### MARCO ISLAND CIVITAN CLUB ... Nery Kircher

During this quarter, an ad was placed at the local Chamber to promote Civitan and recruit members. A new member joined in April.

Some members made a donation to the Guadalupe Center and they participated in the Naples Civitan Club Baby Shower to benefit children from the Friends of Foster Children Forever program and its director spoke to the group.



Items were collected for the Naples club's Supplies for Soldiers project and the CI Coin Box program. Many of the members went back up north during the summer.



Bob and Nery Kircher attended the memorial services for Victor Forestier, a dedicated Civitan and husband of Polly Forestier in Stuart, Florida, joining other Civitans from around the District.

#### NAPLES CIVITAN CLUB ... Nery Kircher

Sadly, two members passed away during this quarter, Jackie Giuttari and Bill Pearson. We welcomed back support member Don Retallick. Members donated to the club's Supplies for Soldiers' program. A monetary donation and baby items were donated to the Friends of Foster Children Forever Program at our annual Civitan Baby Shower dinner which was held May 17, where its director was the speaker.

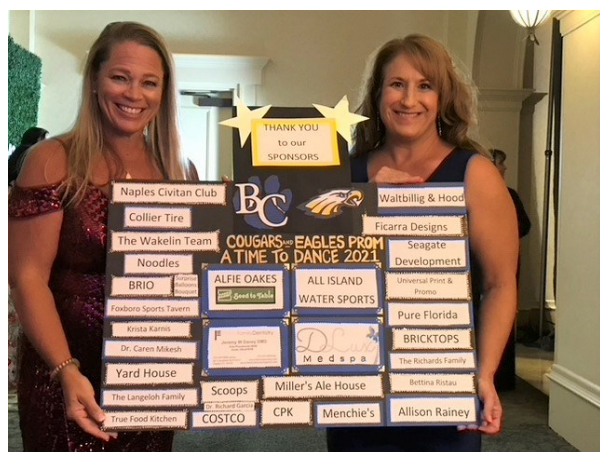


## CLUB BEAMS

### NAPLES CIVITAN CLUB ... Continued

Two scholarships of \$1,000 each were given to a recipient from the Junior Civitan Clubs at Naples High School and one at Golden Gate High School.

Also, a donation was made and two members from our club volunteered at the Prom Night Party of the Naples and Barron Collier High Schools.



Some of our members donated items to the Immokalee Guadalupe Center where they, in turn, donate and/or sell items in their store to raise funds for the farming families in Immokalee. Our club continues to participate in the Civitan International Coin Box program.

### TREASURE COAST CIVITAN CLUB ... Jeanne Dillon/Polly Forestier

The club does not meet June or July so our last meeting was May 27 but that was a good one for us! Two of our long- lost members were there for fun and fellowship. We discussed and reviewed the agenda for the international convention. Susan Gazella and Polly will represent the club in Jacksonville. We are donating a basket for the silent auction and bags of "goodies" for the hospitality suite. We sent Civitan International \$150 for Civitans at the Helm and supported our golfer, Bob Kircher. Polly was speaker and did an update on the research center and its activities. Summer activities will be helping Salvation Army with their food for the needy program.



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## The Florida Sunbeam

Mattie Fraser  
13110 Ebbtide Court  
Jacksonville, FL 32225  
E-mail: mandsfraser@yahoo.com



FLORIDA DISTRICT WEB SITE ... [www.floridacivitan.org](http://www.floridacivitan.org)

## 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.