Hi Civitan Friends,

Just a note to remind you of a most important event this Centennial Year. Civitan was founded 100 years ago in Birmingham, Alabama. I would like to encourage each club to hold a Founders Day Party or Celebration on or around our 100th anniversary of March 17. Let’s CELEBRATE! I would also like to encourage your club to do a special project for those with developmental disabilities or a press release highlighting your club’s involvement in the community sometime this Centennial year.

I just received a notice from International that enough money to finish the World Headquarters’ restoration has been secured, but money to put in a maintenance account is still sought. The plans are for the work to be done by Int. Convention time in June. There are some naming opportunities still available so if your club would like to have your name on one of the doors, please talk to our own Jay Albertia. Naming opportunities begin at $1000. Thank you very much for all your efforts on behalf of the restoration!

As you know, no message from a Valley Governor is ever complete without speaking about building new clubs and/or increasing membership. If you know of a place that NEEDS a Civitan club and are willing to work on chartering a new club, PLEASE get in touch with our Club Building Team. Members are: Bruce Myers myersb@apsu.edu; Leslie Benmark benmarkcowtan@comcast.net; Jay Albertia JayPD1@bellsouth.net; Steve Teasley stvltan@gmail.com; or me sandybuckner47@gmail.com. We promise to give you support and help you with this venture.

Speaking of new clubs, many thanks to Past Governor, J. Dwight Ragsdale of the Dickson club for his work chartering Valley’s newest club, White Bluff Civitan. The club will charter as a Golden Circle club, a Centennial club and a Founders Day club, As you may recall, Dwight was instrumental in chartering a new Junior Civitan club there earlier in this year. Way to go, White Bluff for your interest in your community!

Our next Valley District Meeting will be April 14-15, 2017 in Jackson, TN at the Doubletree Inn. I realize this is Easter Weekend, but I promise to have you out by 2 p.m. Saturday so that you can hide those all important Easter eggs!

Our special guest will be Louis Stephens from International who will be showing us how to hold a successful Motivational Membership Meeting or as we Civitan oldies still call them, SEEK Meetings.

In closing, I hope to see you in Jackson. Look for the registration form later in this publication. One more thing! Don’t forget to bring dry dog or cat food to the April meeting to help our Juniors with their project.

Thanks,
Sandy

Double Your Donation to the Research Center!

Once again, the Chesapeake District’s Foundation for Children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities has generously pledged to make a matching donation in the name of ANY Civitan club or member who donates to the Civitan International Research Center! When you donate to the Civitan International Research Center through Civitans at the Helm, the Chesapeake District’s foundation will make a matching donation in your name! Your club will receive credit in Civitans at the Helm for BOTH donations, and will be recognized in the next Civitan International Annual Report. We urge you to show your support for our flagship project. For every Civitan club that donates at least $10 per member through Civitans at the Helm, the Foundation for Children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Chesapeake District, Civitan International, Inc. will submit a matching donation, up to a total of $100,000. Furthermore, for every donation by individual Civitans to the program, the Chesapeake District’s foundation will also submit a matching donation, up to a total of $100,000. Clubs who participate in this program will receive Civitans at the Helm credit for both their donation and the matching donation made in their name. Donations must be submitted by September 30, 2017, to be eligible. For more information on this program, contact Rosemary Smith, Director of Development and Administrative Services, at 1-800-CIVITAN, ext. 108, or via email at rosemarysmith@civitan.org.
NEW BOARD LED BY A PASSIONATE GOVERNOR HERE TO SERVE

2016-2017 Executive Board

Governor - Sandy Buckner, Dickson Civitan Club 1827, 1197
Governor Elect - Rose Merriwether, St. Bethlehem Civitan Club 0754
Immediate Past Governor - Steve Teasley, Owensboro Civitan Club 3657
Area 1 Director - Jack Fiefer, Cookeville Civitan Club 0994
Area 2 Director - Monae Fletcher, Nashville City Civitan Cub 43
Area 3 Director - La Donna Hamm, St. Bethlehem Civitan Club 0754
Area 4 Director - Misty Keenan, North Cheatham Civitan Club 4078
Area 5 Director - Madie Fae Davidson, Columbia Civitan Club 723
Area 6 Director - Marla Beavers, Wayne County Civitan Club 3264
Area 7 Director - Jimmy Jordan, South Jackson Civitan Club 2071
Area 8 Director - Julie Terry, East Memphis Civitan
Area 9 Director - Alice Webb, Paris 1590
Area 10 Director - Sherry E. Nash, Owensboro Civitan Club 3657

Past Governor at Large - Leslie Ann Benmark, Joelton Civitan Club 3361, 4078
Secretary - Lawanda Beasley, Bolivar Civitan Club 1952
Treasurer - Robert Hood, Owensboro Civitan Club 3657

Judge Advocate - Jay Albertia MST, Clarksville Civitan Club 0076
Chaplain - Vernon Brooks, Mount Pleasant Civitan Club 3157
Sergeant at Arms - Ed Van Maren, Columbia Civitan Club 723
New Club Growth & Retention Team: Jay Albertia, MST, Leslie Benmark, Bruce Myers, PDG, Steve Teasley, PD
Special Olympics - Jerry Nass, St. Bethlehem Civitan Club 0755
Public Relations - Rose Merriwether, St. Bethlehem Civitan Club 0754
Jr. & Campus Civitan - Gena Albertia, Clarksville Civitan Club 0076
Awards - Glenda Jordan, South Jackson Civitan Club 2071
Fund Raising - Ramona Spencer, Middleton Civitan Club 3627

Civitan Throws are being sold to defray the cost of the 2017 Convention Costs. The cost is $50.00 and can be purchased at the Civitan Supply house.
WHEREAS, on March 17, 1917, Civitan was formed as an independent service organization in Birmingham, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Civitan, coined from the Latin word *civitas*, means, "citizenship"; and

WHEREAS, "Builders of Good Citizenship" became the natural motto for the civic-minded group; and

WHEREAS, Civitan encourages clubs to seek and fill needs within their communities; and

WHEREAS, Knoxville Civitans helped pioneer the health focus raising $100,000 to build a three-story hospital for indigent tuberculosis patients in 1923; and

WHEREAS, Developmental disabilities became the major organizational focus, which has led to the Civitan International Research Center at UAB in Birmingham, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Civitan International Research Center has become a world leader in developmental disability research, along with major advances in the study of autism, Down syndrome, brain tumors, epilepsy, Alzheimer's, Lewy Body Dementia, among other afflictions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 17, 2017 as

**Civitan 100th Anniversary Day**

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this second day of February, 2017.

[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State
Hello Civitans,

I attended the GE Academy in January and had a great time preparing and learning what needs to be done to make the upcoming year a success. I would like to start by reminding you of our Honor Club program and ask all club Presidents to take a look at the Honor Club application to see how much you have accomplished and what still needs to be done. The Honor Club application is your “road map” on your year long journey. Go through each section and share the application with your club members. We had 10 Honor clubs in the Valley in the previous fiscal year.

It is also time to think about filling Club and District positions for the 2017-2018 Civitan year. If you have been thinking of getting involved at the District level, send me an email to let me know what you are interested in. Serving on the District level gives one an opportunity to experience Civitan on a different level than that which is experienced in a club. It can be a great developmental opportunity and it can be a lot of fun!

Individuals interested in serving as an Area Director need to have their club send a letter of endorsement to me. And their candidacy will be announced at the upcoming spring meeting. Area directors will be elected on an at-large basis. The candidate with the largest plurality will be declared the winner.

We all have a lot of activities in front of us for the next couple of months Clergy Appreciation, Valley District Spring meeting April 14 and April 15 in Jackson, Easter, Club elections, and the International Convention in Birmingham. I look forward to reading about any of these and any other activities that your club is involved with in the next issue of the VOV.

Happy Easter
Valley District Civitan membership has declined by over 10% during the last two years and needs special attention. Last year, the District declined by 89 members (6.7%). According to the latest available membership numbers (January 31, 2017), club rolls this year have been reduced by an additional 47 members (3.8%). In the last four months, a third of Valley clubs have declined in membership and the membership of 45% of clubs was flat.

Spring is an excellent time for your club to hold a membership recruitment meeting to help build club membership. Governor Sandy Buckner, Governor-Elect Rose Merrlvether, Valley District Club Growth and Retention Team (Bruce Myers, Jay Albert, Steve Teasley and Leslie Benmark) and other Valley District leadership would love to help you plan and conduct your club’s membership recruitment meeting. Please call any of us to help.

There is some good membership news in Valley District. Two teams have been formed to build new Civitan clubs – White Bluff Civitan Club and Sumner County Civitan Club. If you have any relatives, friends or colleagues/associates in the White Bluff area who could be potential Civitan members, please contact Dwight Ragsdale or Sandy Buckner. For any potential new club members in the Hendersonville or Gallatin area, contact Leslie Benmark.

As you, hopefully, already know, the Civitan International Convention celebrating “100 Years of Service” will be held in Birmingham June 24-27, 2017. This will include several joint sessions with the Junior Civitans. Registration and special event information (Tentative Schedule of Civitan and Junior Civitan Events, Golf Benefit, Research Center Forum, President’s Council Reception et al) for the Centennial Celebration Convention is available on the Civitan website (www.civitan.org/convention). Attending the International Convention in Birmingham will provide an excellent opportunity to tour the Civitan International Research Center and the newly-renovated Civitan World Headquarters.

**Greetings Fellow Civitans!!!**

It’s almost Spring Time in the Valley and we all know that means Vidalia Onions!!! I hope all clubs are gearing up to sell onions or to host some type of fundraisers for your clubs. As Civitans, we work hard to provide projects and fundraisers for our communities, but that is what Civitan is all about. It’s about reaching out to our neighbors in our communities who need a helping hand. I love what Civitan stands for and I really enjoy helping those people in need who cannot always help themselves.

It’s an exciting time for Civitan International, celebrating 100 years! Let’s continue to do our best to make this a banner year for Civitan International as well as Valley District Civitan!

Thus far during the 2016-2017 year (October 2016 through January 2017), Valley District has remitted $6,345.22 from Candy Boxes (17 clubs reporting) and $384.70 from Coin Boxes (3 clubs reporting). This is an increase over the same time period last year. Let’s keep up the good work!!!

Even though we have logged an increase in contributions with the Candy and Coin Boxes, there are still several clubs that have not made a remittance thus far. I would like to remind clubs that signed a contract with Civitan International to participate in these two programs that we made a commitment. We need to make every effort to fulfill our commitment and promise of submitting collections no less than every three months. We must do this in order to keep our clubs in active status. And we must also remember that 75% of candy box contributions and 50% of coin box contributions support the Research Institute in Birmingham, AL. So Presidents, please urge your Candy/ Coin Box Chairpersons to do what they can to increase contributions.

As of this printing, we have not gotten the official report from Claxton Fruitcakes on the number of pounds Valley District has sold. Hopefully, I will have a report at the Spring Valley District Meeting in April.

Let us continue to work together in the Valley District to become the best District in Civitan International.

Submitted by:
Ramona Spencer
Valley District Fundraising Chair
It is Spring time! With it comes a time of cleaning after a long winter. Civitans, this is our refreshing time. Civitans should be in the business of helping those who are less fortunate. This act of kindness demonstrates what the Civitan Club stands for. We never know what one act of kindness done in Jesus name will do.

There is a perfect example of that principle in the story of Ruth in the Old Testament. Ruth lived in a strange land a foreigner, very poor. One Israelite however, showed compassion and let her glean his fields. He showed by his compassion the mercy of God. She became Boaz's bride, part of the family of God the line of ancestors that led to Jesus.

Continue your acts of kindness.

The Centennial Year has begun and I would like to encourage every club to submit an article to the VOV. Let your fellow Civitans know what your club has been working on. Fundraisers, Community Service Projects, Civitan Awareness. Fun, Fellowship, and more.

I have listed the deadline for the upcoming issues below. The earlier you can get your club articles in the better. The Club articles should include up to 150 words of text, (Word or pdf format), up to 4 photos and a photo of the author. You can email your material to me at rose.merriwether@yahoo.com or mail it to “292 Bellshire Dr. Clarksville, TN 37043

Valley District has a Facebook page feel free to post your club news on the new page. https://www.facebook.com/ValleyDistrictCivitan/

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<th>Input Deadline</th>
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<td>Sept. 28th</td>
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Don't forget to link your Kroger Reward card to Valley District. No work fundraiser for the District

Visit https://www.facebook.com/ValleyDistrictCivitan/?ref=bookmarks—Post your club news

Tag your club project photos with #Civitan100. International would like action photos of things clubs are doing in their local communities to celebrate our centennial.
Kroger rolled out a nationwide program a few years ago that lets loyalty card holders select charities to which Kroger will donate money, based on dollars they spend in stores.

Under the system, loyalty card shoppers sign up online and choose us from a list of local nonprofits that Kroger has agreed to help fund. Kroger then tracks all the card holder's purchases (excluding alcohol, tobacco and gasoline), with every dollar counting as a vote for the shopper's preferred organization. At the end of each quarter, Kroger totals up dollars spent by enrolled customers and distributes money to nonprofits proportionately.

Shoppers don’t sacrifice any in-store discounts or gas points they earn on their Kroger card; the charitable component is a separate, extra feature.

Valley District number is 65766 or you can type In Valley District and it will pull up our organization. If you need help or want some additional information give me a call. 931-647-6426

www.krogercommunityrewards.com and then choose the organization they wish to support. Valley 65766

To use the Kroger Community Rewards Program:

1. Register your Kroger Plus card online at krogercommunityrewards.com

   • Be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy (you will need the number)
   • If you do not yet have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.
   • Click on Sign In/Register
   • Click on SIGN UP TODAY in the “New Customer?” box (unless you have previously registered online).

   • Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password, agreeing to the terms and conditions

   You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email to finalize card registration.

   • Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.

2. Link your card with VALLEY

   • Log into your account at krogercommunityrewards.com
   • Click on your name to pull up the Account Summary
   • Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information

   • Enter the VALLEY number (65766) or name Valley District, select organization from list and click on enroll.
   • To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see Valley’s name listed under the Community Rewards on the Account Summary Page
Hello Fellow Civitans!

On Saturday, February 4, 2017 our Valley District Junior Civitans met at Northeast Middle School for our winter meeting. Do you know what Dyslexia is? Do you know someone who has Dyslexia? Do you know what it feels like to have Dyslexia? Our Junior Civitan members not only learned what Dyslexia is, but they also participated in several simulation activities in order to know and understand what many of their peers experience on a day-to-day basis! It was interesting to see how each member dealt with their frustration – some asked peers to help, some sat quietly, while others closed their books and wouldn’t even attempt the activities. Needless to say…it was an eye-opening event.

Our members also participated in a pledge to end the use of the R-Word. If you aren’t sure what the R-Word is, check out this website (http://www.r-word.org/) and encourage your Juniors to participate as well.

As always, I’m super proud of our Junior members who give of themselves to improve the lives of others. We asked them to donate gently used clothes for those in need and boy, did they deliver! It’s obvious our Junior Civitan members are ROOTED IN SERVICE! #rootedinservice #juniorcivitan

HAPPY as always,
Gena Albertia
Once again, the North Cheatham Civitan Club presented a Student’s Dictionary to approximately 215 third graders at the Pleasant View Elementary, the East Cheatham Elementary and the Pleasant View Christian Schools. We believe that this is an excellent opportunity to help/support the students while getting recognition for Civitan in the community. In addition to the dictionary, the Student’s Dictionary also contains over 150 pages of supplemental information including the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Independence, brief biographies of U.S. Presidents, world maps, and information about all 50 states, countries of the world and the planets in our solar system.

Central Civitan held its pastor Appreciation dinner Feb. 20. Pastors present were front row l-r: Brian Henley Bethel Baptist Church; Greg Glover, Clarksville First Presbyterian; Jim Robbins, Grays Chapel Church of the Nazerene; David Fambrough, Memorial Baptist Church; Ben Falls, Antioch United Methodist Church; David Mackens, Lone Oak Baptist; Bob Niles, Mt. Zion UMC
Back row: Anthony Lyle, AME Church; James Greene, Slayden Emanuel Non-Denominational; Phillip Chambers, Yellow Creek Baptist; Brian Henley, Bethel Baptist Church; Geoffrey Sikes, Trenton Crossing Church of Christ
The first major project adopted by the North Cheatham Civitan Club was to sponsor a Veterans Memorial in Pleasant View to recognize and honor past, present and future veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces. This memorial park was dedicated on Veterans Day, November 2016. Over 500 persons attended this Veterans Memorial celebration to show their thanks for all who have helped to protect this country and the safety throughout the world. Major donations enabled the purchasing of benches, landscaping and the central monument which states, “All Gave Some – Some Gave All – FREEDOM IS NOT FREE”. Individuals and groups are able to purchase memorial paver bricks in honor of family members and friends.
The St. Bethlehem club is off to a good start in 2017. Pictured is Glenn Way, Donnie Johnson, Sharon Nass, and Ann Suddeath; not in the picture is Forest Suddeath. These folks served chili, cornbread, salad and cookies to about 30 to 40 people at Reconnect on January 26th. Reconnect is an organization that serves those with special needs.

Governor-Elect Rose Merrwether presented our Civitan educational program in January. She presented the inspiring story of Tommy, the young man who inspired Civitan’s participation in the International Research Center. She also sponsored Denise Skidmore, our 24th member.

Pictured is Donnie Johnson, club president, receiving his 26 year chevron from past president Sharon Nass.

Clergy Week will be held on February 28th. Approximately 10 ministers have indicated they will come.

The International Convention is fast approaching and 8 or 10 of our members are planning to attend. It’s not often that we get to celebrate with a 100 year old.

So far this fiscal year, I have received donation information from 2 Clubs and only one of those donations was for the current year (2016-2017). Please let me know if you are donating to Special Olympics so your Club can be recognized and awarded at our November meeting. I have also gone to the SOTN website and noticed that it has changed since the last time I needed to use it.

To access the website, type in "www.specialolympicstn.org". (Leave out the " marks). To contact the State Office, click on the tab that says "Contact". To contact your local Area Program, click on the tab that says "Get Involved". Enter your County where it asks for it. Click on "Submit". Scroll down to get the Local Area Program Director’s contact information. You can then use this information to send your donations directly where you want them to go and just send me a copy of your check to get proper credit for your donation.

Thanks for all you do in your communities!

Jerry Nass, Valley District Special Olympics Chair
There has hardly been time since the last article to have an opportunity to do anything, and that is the case with Paris Civitan. It has been fairly rather quiet in our area as far as projects go. Paris and Henry County have a Radio auction every year in January and February for 7 weeks that raises money to support our community. That auction is in full swing now and doing great. Our club, along with a couple other organizations, were assigned a day to supply the items to be auctioned off, and collectively we did great raising right at $5000 for the day. We like to participate in this event because it reminds us of Civitan's aims to support our community and our neighbors by doing good things where they are needed.

You will know that I wrote an article for the Paris club's 55th anniversary, because when I sent a copy of it to our Governor Sandy she copied many of you on it. I was a little embarrassed, yet flattered that she did that, but if it prompted anyone else to do a write up I will be proud. She is correct if we don't toot our own horn, no one else will, this is the time to do it too, with Civitan celebrating our 100th year of service to our communities and nation. That's quite a feat.

We will be starting our Vidalia onion sale the first of March, and hope to make it another banner year. Unfortunately health issues are still plaguing many of our members or families which may handicap our progress, but we will do our best, what more can be ask of us? I do encourage any clubs that aren't selling Vidalia Onions to get on this bandwagon, it is the easiest and best fundraiser ever.

Sponsored by the Murray Club, it was chartered on Feb. 6, 1962, at the former Avalon Restaurant, with 28 local businessmen and has out-lived the parent club by many years.

Though the club started as an all-male group, it invited ladies to join in 1973 and has been a successful group since.

The South Nashville Civitan Club has lost a faithful & dedicated member this week. James "Jim" Oliver, 89 years old, but as active as any 50 year old has gone on to glory. He is survived by his faithful & loving wife, Nancy who is also an active member of our club. Jim & Nancy always sat at the table next to mine at our meetings at IHOP and were always delightful. We sometimes rode together to our meetings since we all lived in Nolensville which is about 10 miles away.

Jim served as Treasurer for many years in the club, keeping us aware of our funds for needed projects and our need to keep current on our dues. Jim came by his duties naturally having served as a supervisor at Genesco most of his working years. Jim served his country in the U.S. Army as a very young man beginning when he was only 17 years old. We will miss Jim for he was always there and super supportive in all we did.

He and Nancy served our lunch and drinks on the hottest day of last summer when we built a wheelchair ramp. We tip our hats to a dear friend and active Civitan, Jim Oliver.

Submitted by Jimmy Jobe
It’s the beginning of a new year with new and repetitive club projects. Be watching and thinking of someone in your club who deserves recognition for outstanding service. As in previous articles that have been submitted I would like to remind you that all the information concerning the requirements for the many awards available are on the Valley District webpage at the following link:

http://www.valleydistrictcivitan.com/district-awards

I am copying the information off the above website for those of you who might not have a computer or do not use a computer.

As worded on the website http://www.valleydistrictcivitan.com/district-awards

Club Awards continued: Section II:

Bulletin/Newsletters and scrapbooks must be delivered to the Awards Chair by 7:00 p.m. on Friday night of the District Convention. Banner patches will be presented to the winners.

Club Scrapbook (Clubs with Fewer than 30 Members) (Clubs with 30 or More Members)
The scrapbook MUST display the club’s activities during the current Civitan year (September of the prior year may be included, if a club so desires). It should serve as the club’s history for the year and may be presented in any scrapbook form (binders from Civitan International are not required). Contents should include documentation of the club’s involvement on the local, district, and international levels. Items to be considered are depiction of the year’s international theme, attractiveness, organization, presentation of contents, identification of activities and pictures, etc. (A sample score sheet is attached).

Scrapbook Scoring Sheet

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<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Depicts club activities during current year</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Quality of organization</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Identifies participation in local, district, and international</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Documents and pictures identified</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Attractiveness, neat, crisp appearance</td>
<td>15</td>
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Bulletin/Newsletter Scoring Sheet

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<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Minimum of 12 bulletins (one per month) (to qualify must present Oct thru July)</td>
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<td>2. Submitted in booklet form (A MUST)</td>
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<td>3. Communicates</td>
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<td>A. Keeps members informed about club events/activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Emphasizes the good things the club is accomplishing</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Attractiveness</td>
<td>20</td>
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Someone commented last year that scrapbooking is just telling a story. It’s the beginning of your club year starting October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017 with club events containing the information as shown highlighted above. Each scrapbook is unique to the people who are compiling the information with pictures and any other scrapbook materials. I cannot tell you that one is picked over the other because of any one thing other than the requirements to win were submitted correctly and were considered superior to the others entered. There are 5 people who use the above score sheets individually and discreetly to guarantee all is fair in judging. The sheets are then totaled and the winner is thereby selected.

If you have any questions or need any help please contact me @ 731-422-2208, if I am not home leave a message. I will call you back and try to help you anyway I can. You can also contact me at gjordans@eplus.net.
The Blankenship Home is nearing completion, the date set for the family to move in is March. Thanks to James Stanfield for overseeing the building project. The house has been a joint effort of several organizations and individuals who gave of their time and donations. The goal was to provide a home for the family of volunteer firefighter Chris Blankenship who was killed when a tree fell on him as he was responding to a fire.

Another handicap ramp being built by the very capable men in the club.

The work of building a new club at White Bluff, TN begins. Club builders are J. Dwight Ragsdale, Sandy Buckner, Jan Ford, Sam Johnson and Phil Buckner.
The Columbia Civitan and Mt. Pleasant Civitan Clubs jointly hosted Clergy Night for clergy from Maury County Thursday, February 2, 2017, at the NHC on Walnut Lane. The nursing home prepared a delicious meal while the students from Special Olympics presented a very interesting program.

Emily Marshall

There were fourteen members of the clergy from Maury County that attended Clergy Night.

Shannon Neff, Director of Special Olympics for Maury County, brought Daniel, Trey, and Hallie to speak about their experiences in Special Olympics. Daniel will be going to Austria this summer, 2017, to represent Tennessee in the Special Olympic games.

Past International President Jay Albertla surprised our President Sheila Hopkins with a visit to our Clergy Night.

COLUMBIA CIVITAN

Middleton Civitan Club Celebrates Clergy Appreciation Week

Submitted by
Ramona Spencer

Pictured left to right; sitting – Jazsmín Hines; Janet Hines; Doreen Dyess, and Missionary Baljmaa Tillman; standing – Pastor Nathan Gibbs, Minister Sammle Blake, Minister Jesse Hines, Luke Dyess, Pastor Blaline Dyess and Missionary Mitchell Tillman

Middleton Civitan Club celebrated Clergy throughout the Middleton Community with a dinner held in honor of Clergy Appreciation Week on Monday, February 13, 2017. The meal consisted of baked ham, green beans, hash brown casserole, potato salad, rolls, assorted desserts, tea and lemonade. The program included a segment entitled, *"Why We Celebrate"*, presented by Ramona Spencer, Club Treasurer.

There were 16 members and 8 guests in attendance. The speaker for the occasion was Pastor Blalene Dyess, who is Pastor of the Liberty Baptist Church in Middleton, TN. Pastor Dyess spoke from Genesis 1:27; Luke 10:27 and I John. He spoke about how we are created in the image of God. And how we need to give of our creativity and time. He also described how the words in the Civitan Creed reference a higher duty. He spoke on how Civitans do God’s work by giving of themselves for others.
Newest wheelchair ramp built by Dickson Civitan

Past Governor J. Dwight Ragsdale signs up Dr. John Primm as the first member of the new White Bluff Civitan Club, being sponsored by Dickson Civitan. White Bluff Civitan charters March 17, 2017 as a Centennial club, Founders Day club, and Golden Circle club.

Developmental Services Valentine Party

Happy Valentine's Day
Valley District Foundation

The Valley District Foundation is a non-profit corporation that seeks to encourage and recognize good citizenship; to develop understanding of basic human freedoms; to provide scholarships in higher education, vocational training, and special education; and to support work in health fields with special emphasis on service to citizens who are mentally and/or physically challenged.

The Foundation awards grants to community agencies and Civitan clubs in the district for joint projects that benefit the community. The Foundation also awards several scholarships including the Charlie Baker Scholarship, the JF Burney Scholarship, and the Leroy Parks Scholarship. The Charlie Baker scholarship may be awarded to a student meeting the criteria who is enrolled at any college or university in the District. The JF Burney Scholarship must be awarded to a student attending Austin Peay State University. The Leroy Parks Scholarship must be awarded to a student with disabilities who is attending Austin Peay State University.

The application form for grants as well as the application forms for the Baker and Burney scholarships may be found on the Valley District website. (http://www.valleymdistrictcivitan.com/grants-and-scholarships)

The application for the Parks scholarship may be found on the Austin Peay State University website.

Grants and scholarships are awarded on an annual basis. Both grant and scholarship applications must be received by the Foundation (not postmarked) by March 1, 2017.
# Tentative Schedule of Events

2017 Civitan International Centennial Celebration Convention
Combined Event with Civitan and Junior Civitan Conventions running Concurrently

## Thursday, June 22
**Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Golf Registration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Friday, June 23
**Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Golf Benefit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ross Bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Saturday, June 24
**Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Board Luncheon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening</td>
<td>Opening Ceremonies Combined Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Following</td>
<td>Welcome Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Junior Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Registration Set Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOURS: UAB Civitan International Research Center and Civitan World Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Opening Ceremonies Combined Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junior Civitan Dance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Sunday, June 25
**Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Convention Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>First Business Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening</td>
<td>Joint Activity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Junior Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Convention Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meet the Candidates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joint Activity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Monday, June 26
**Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Convention Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>TOURS: CIRC and WHQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening</td>
<td>President's Council Social</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Junior Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOURS: CIRC and WHQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business Session &amp; Philanthropy Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Free Afternoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOURS: CIRC and WHQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Closing Installation Banquet and Awards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Tuesday, June 27
**Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Elections Session and Extravaganza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Convention Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening</td>
<td>Closing Banquet and Installation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Junior Civitan Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Departures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2017 Centennial Celebration Convention • June 24-27

www.civitan.org/convention

- Birmingham is home to the nation’s oldest baseball park, Rickwood Field, which opened in 1910 and hosted baseball greats such as Jackie Robinson, Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Lorenzo “Piper” Davis, Willie Mays and “Shoeless” Joe Jackson.

- Sloss Furnaces produced iron for nearly 90 years during the early days of the city’s emerging as an industrial giant. Today it is a city-operated museum and recognized as a National Historic Landmark, the only facility of its kind being preserved anywhere in the world.

- Country singing legend and Alabama native Hank Williams spent the last night of his life at Birmingham’s Redmont Hotel before leaving for a New Year’s Day performance January 1, 1953.

- The Alabama Theatre is one of only a handful of 1920s movie palaces still in operation. The “Mighty Wurlitzer” pipe organ still rises from beneath the theater floor for live accompaniment to silent movie screenings and other events.

- The Iondale Café is a home-style cafeteria with strong Hollywood ties. The café was the inspiration for author and actress Fannie Flagg’s successful novel Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café and hit movie with half that name.

Sheraton Birmingham Downtown Special Civitan Guest Room Rates: $115 single/double/triple/quad

Book your room online via www.civitan.org/convention

next June for Civitan’s Centennial Celebration!
Ask Us - 24/7

by W. John Rynearson, Executive Vice President

This is the time of year when club leadership changes. All club officers should be settling into their elected or appointed positions with our club geographical training and online training academies complete. However, we know there’s always some unaddressed questions.

If you have a question, it’s good to know where to go for quick answer. One way is to call 1-800-CIVITAN and dial the individual’s name and telephone number extensions that are included in the margins of this article. However, telephones are generally only answered during business hours, so you’ll have to sometimes leave a message once you navigated through the automated directory.

Fortunately, you can leave a message any time of the day and someone will get back to you. We are also easily accessible through email and those addresses are also provided for you.

Another way to get answers at Civitan is through www.civitan.org. If you have not visited the website recently you will be pleasantly surprised at the material available at your fingertips. You can check-out the upcoming convention, register, and even book your hotel for our Centennial Celebration next June. You can download all Civitan published literature, and even order all your supply items online.

Many Civitans like to visit other clubs. On our website you will find a club locator with information about times and locations throughout Civitan.

You are a valued member of Civitan and we appreciate your questions as well as your comments. Please feel free to reach out to us for assistance and know that we appreciate you and your service to the community.

Honor Key (International)
Mary Luck

Insurance (Club Liability)
Laura Sappington
Keith Sheffield

International Club Information
John Rynearson

Invitations
(Rational Officers)
Rosemary Smith

IRS Numbers
(Clubs and Districts)
Keith Sheffield
Rosemary Smith

Junior Civitan
Lauren Dover

Legacy Society
Keith Sheffield

Membership Growth
and Leadership
Louis Stephens
Bonita Bigbee

Membership Longevity Awards
Beth Towns

Membership Records
Beth Towns

Planned Giving
Keith Sheffield

Policies (International)
Rosemary Smith

President’s Council
Rosemary Smith
Keith Sheffield

Public Relations
Terry Schrimsher

Research Center
Terry Schrimsher

Scholarships
Lauren Dover

Supply House
City Paper, Ext. 102
www.civitan.org/supplies
Glenn Thomas

Training—Geographical Sessions
Stacy Sabo

Travel Information
(District Officers)
Stacy Sabo

Travel Requests for
International Officers
Rosemary Smith

Youth Programs
Lauren Dover

YP Clubs
Lauren Dover

VIP Program
Stacy Sabo

Website Questions
www.civitan.org
Terry Schrimsher

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Accounts (Club and District)
Laura Sappington
Yvonne Weldon

Associate Members
Stacy Sabo

Awards
Mary Luck

Board Meetings,
International
Rosemary Smith

Bylaws
Keith Sheffield
Rosemary Smith

Campus Civitan
Lauren Dover

Candy Box Project
Rosemary Smith

Civilian Magazine
Terry Schrimsher

Civilian at the Helm
Rosemary Smith

Clergy Week
Terry Schrimsher

Club Liability Insurance
Laura Sappington
Keith Sheffield

Club Assistance
Louis Stephens

Club Building
Louis Stephens
Bonita Bigbee

Club Rosters
Beth Towns

Coin Box
Rosemary Smith

Convention (Junior)
Lauren Dover

Convention (Adult)
Mary Luck

Dues (Junior or Campus)
Lauren Dover

Dues (Adult)
Yvonne Weldon

Estate Planning
Keith Sheffield

Fellows
Rosemary Smith

Foundation
Keith Sheffield
Rosemary Smith

Fruitcake
Glenn Thomas
Keith Sheffield

Golf Benefit
Rosemary Smith
Glenn Thomas
Keith Sheffield

Growth and Leadership
Louis Stephens
Bonita Bigbee

Stacy Sabo, ext. 120
stacy@civitan.org

Laura Sappington, ext. 107
lsappington@civitan.org

Terry Schrimsher, ext. 134
terry@civitan.org

Mary Luck, ext. 121
maryluck@civitan.org

Rosemary Smith, ext. 108
rosemarysmith@civitan.org

Keith Sheffield, ext. 105
sheffield@civitan.org

Louis Stephens, ext. 119
lstephens@civitan.org

Glenn Thomas, ext. 104
glenn@ civitan.org

Beth Towns, ext. 111
beth@civitan.org

Yvonne Weldon, ext. 112
yweldon@civitan.org
When Civitans sponsor new members in their clubs... we'll reward them with six awe-some levels of awards incentives. We want every member to sponsor his/her first new member this year and receive a Centennial 1st Sponsor Pin! This is the only year we will present this themed Centennial logo pin. Plus each Civitan that sponsors a new member(s) may have a chance to win in our drawing for hotel rooms and registration fee to our 2017 Homecoming International Convention in Birmingham.
District Meeting Registration Form

Registration Form
Valley District Spring Meeting April 14-15, 2017
Jackson Doubletree Inn
1770 Hwy. 45 By-Pass
Jackson, TN 38305
(731) 664-6900

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________

_________________________ ____________
Club: ____________________________________________ Office Held: __________________________

Name(s) of Guest(s) __________________________

Meeting registration must be made by Friday, April 7 or there will be a $5 Late Fee.

Make checks payable to: VALLEY DISTRICT CIVITAN.
Mail your registration to: LaWanda Beasley, 427 N. Lauderdale St.; Bolivar, TN 38008.

Make Hotel Reservations by calling the Doubletree Hotel at 731-664-6900 by March 22 to receive the Civitan rate of $95 + tax. Mention Civitan

All Members Must Register

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Members</th>
<th>Number of Guests</th>
<th>Total $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration *</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30/Member</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20/Member or Guest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Amount Enclosed $ ____________

Friday Night Activities
Registration: 5:30 – 7:00 PM
Hospitality Room: 5:30 – 7:00 pm
Entertainment: 7:00 – 8:00 PM
District Board Meeting: 8:10-9 PM

Saturday Activities
Past Governors/International Guests Breakfast: 7:00 – 8:00 AM
Registration: 8:00 – 9:00 AM
Foundation Trustees Meeting: 8:00 – 9:00 AM
Club Presidents/Pres-Elect/Area Director Meeting: 8:15 – 8:45 AM
Business Meeting: 9:00 – 11:45 AM
Lunch: 12 N
Valley District Civitan - Voice of the Valley
VOLUME 65 ISSUE 1

Governor
Sandy Buckner

Governor Elect
Rose Merrwether

Immediate Past Governor
Steve Teasley

Past Governor at Large
Leslie Ann Benmark

Secretary
Lavanda Beasley

Treasurer
Robert Hood

Judge Advocate
Jay Albertja MST

Chaplain
Vernon Brooks

Sergeant at Arms
Ed Van Maren

New Club Growth & Retention Team
Jay Albertja MST, Leslie Benmark, PDG,
Bruce Myers, PDG, Steve Teasley, PDG

Special Olympics
Jerry Nass

Public Relations
Rose Merrwether

Jr. & Campus Civitan
Gena Albertja

Awards
Glenda Jordan

Fund Raising
Ramona Spencer

Valley District Foundation Trustees
Vernon Brooks (2019)
Sam White, PDG (2019)
Yvonne van der Touw, (2017)
Pat Waggoner (2019)
Tim Campbell (2019)
Dosssett Foster, PDG (2017)

EX-OFFICIO
Steve Teasley

International Foundation Board Liaison
Jay Albertja, PDG

Area 1 - Jack Feiber (2018)
Area 2 - Monae Fletcher (2018)
Area 3 - La Donna Hamm (2018)
Area 4 - Marty Keenan (2017)
Area 5 - Madie Davison (2017)
Area 6 - Marla Beavers (2017)
Area 7 - Jimmy Jordan (2018)
Area 8 - Julie Terry (2018)
Area 9 - Alice Webb (2017)
Area 10 - Sherry Nash (2017)

SAPR DISTRICT
MEETING
APRIL 14-15, 2017