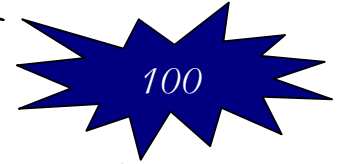




Florence

Civitan Club



2016 Alabama North Most Outstanding Newsletter

September/October 2017

Volume 5 Number 6

Regular Meetings

From noon to 1:00 p.m. every Tuesday at the First Baptist Church (use entrance across from Florence Public Library).

Upcoming Event Schedule:

9/5 No Meeting (Labor Day)

9/19 Officer Induction/Picnic

Officers

President.....Betty Hamblen

Pres Elect.....James Gray

Secretary.....Lelia Wissert

Treasurer.....Danny Hendrix

WHAT IS CIVITAN?

Civitan is a worldwide, all volunteer service organization where men and women have an organized way of approaching local community problems through service and fund raising. We emphasize serving people with developmental disabilities. Local clubs are supported by Civitan International, which was organized in 1917 and spans over 24 countries. The word CIVITAN is a coined word that comes from the Latin word "CIVITAS", which means

CITIZENSHIP

President's Message

I am writing this during the Civitan International Convention in Birmingham where hundreds of club members from all over the world are meeting to discover how to do what they do even better. They are attending workshops on new fundraising ideas, on interacting in more effective ways with those who have disabilities, and on recruiting others to help in the work of Civitan. They are taking tours of the Civitan International Research Center to see how the dollars they raise are put to work in helping the disabled. They are meeting new Civitans and old friends, exchanging ideas, laughing together, sharing information about their clubs and projects and being recharged for another year of work and giving.



The convention is always a booster shot of energy for those attending, but this centennial year celebration is special. Few organizations are able to celebrate 100 years of existence. Today I heard a Civitan member onstage in costume posing as our founder Dr. Courtney Shropshire detailing his life and his part in the beginning and growth of Civitan. As he told of community projects through the early years of club growth, I thought of all the millions of good deeds that Civitan clubs have done through those 100 years and the millions of dollars raised to help the needy in their communities. It made me proud to be part of an organization with that kind of history. I know you must feel that way, too.

While Civitan has a long history as an organization, sometimes individual clubs have quick transitions. Transitions can sometimes be difficult unless there is support, stability, and teamwork. The Florence Club has shown all three of those qualities through the last few weeks as you helped make smooth a change in leadership. When my husband's work recently took us to Wichita, Kansas, our president elect picked up the reins of leadership with the help of the other officers and members so that there was hardly a bobble in the transition. You all are to be commended for that. The Florence Club is in good hands. While I may not be physically present every week for our meetings, be assured that my heart is ever present with you.

Upcoming Speaker Assignments

- 09/05 No Meeting
- 09/12 Briana Butler
- 09/19 Picnic/Board Induction
- 09/26 Cameron Kay
- 10/03 Robert/Marsha Carter
- 10/10 Chris Dixon
- 10/17 John Ingwersen
- 10/24 Jim Elshoff
- 10/31 Halloween?

Upcoming Board Meetings

- 09/14 Noon, FPL
- 10/12 Noon, FPL

Happy Birthday!

- 09/04 Jim Elshoff
- 09/16 Jay Martin
- 09/17 Roger Tanner
- 08/14 Travis Harmon
- 10/08 James Gray
- 10/13 Laura Fuchs
- 10/29 Billy Richardson

Civitan Anniversary

- 09/01 Robert Steen (35)
- 09/01 Robert Carter (39)
- 09/30 Marsha Carter (1)
- 10/01 Jack Martin (55)
- 10/01 Jonathan McKee (2)

Funds Raised To Date

- Ornaments \$2,511.44
- Boston Butt \$2,019.87
- Civitan Cups \$1,651.00
- Donations \$ 220.00
- Vidalia Onions \$ 995.00
- BBQ Dinners \$1,346.63

- Coin Boxes \$ 604.59

Provide YOUR input!
 Call John Ingwersen at 256-757-5325 or email to jlingwersen@gmail.com.

In Memory

Joe Yates



I can say I've known Joe for more than 30 years and have worked with him on real estate closings etc. over the years as well as Civitan. I've always known Joe to be a compassionate person, one who always when I asked for help with a Civitan project he would. Joe is also the only person in our club who has served as President more than once - Julie Hamm.

Joe was one of those behind the scene people who quietly supported all Civitan projects. He very seldom missed a meeting and was always available for any job if asked. He will certainly be missed - Jack Martin.

Joe Yates was a dedicated Civitan for many years. He served as president twice and on the board numerous times. He was a well respected attorney in the community and a personal Friend. Joe will be missed at the Civitan meetings and his legal advice on many personal and business issues was always appreciated. I will miss the weekly walks to the Civitan meetings when he always asked about my family, Alabama football and other current events - Bob Carter.

Note that members who wish to contribute to Joe's UAB/International Civitan Research Center Fellow recognition may place their contribution in our cups or give directly to Danny Hendrix through the end of August.

Upcoming Meetings Not to Miss!

We have several meetings coming up with speakers you DO NOT want to miss. In fact, they promise to be so good we are inviting other clubs to visit and our own members to bring guests (and potential members) who may be interested.



The first is Willie Ruff. Willie is a co-founder of the Handy Festival, a well known musician himself, and has just retired from Yale as a professor and researcher of music. He has co-created the PBS documentary "A Conjoining of Ancient Song", which focuses on a rapidly vanishing form of congregational singing that is shared by Scottish,

African Americans, and Native Americans - even here in the Shoals. He has a place on Wikipedia - look him up for a LOT more information. He will be speaking on September 26.



The second is Tim Ezell, Division Chief for Marshall Space Flight Center's Space System Department. The title of his talk is *Muscle Shoals, Marshall Space Flight Center and Mars*. Through his talk, he wants to connect the Shoals which is home to many folks who work at Redstone along with a diverse collage of stuff which has found a home there over the last century. From the music industry to high tech industries including Reynolds, Ford, TVA, Dams, Hydroelectric Plants, Nuclear Plants, Rockets, Helicopters, Moon Shots, etc., there is a mystery to many

and, while there are incredibly complex disciplines involved, it's mixed with a lot of just innate human creativity. Some of the old timers at Marshall grew up on farms playing basketball and called some of what they did in the 60's during the Saturn Project "tractor ingenuity" - perhaps modest but with some truth sprinkled in. He will be speaking on October 17.

Make sure you don't miss these special very presentations. Make guest reservations at least one week in advance. Meals are \$10.00 for guests.

Officers & Board for 2017 - 2018

- James Gray – President
- James Harris - Vice President
- Lelia Wissert – Secretary
- Danny Hendrix – Treasurer
- Julie Hamm – Board member
- Chris Dixon – Board member
- John Ingwersen – Board member
- Deanna Sledge – Board member
- Robert Steen – Board Member

Our Annual Picnic and Induction for officers and Board is shielded for September 19 at Jack Martin's home. Directions to be provided.

Book Nook

Read an exceptional book lately? Share it with the rest of us - write a short book review for our newsletter.

If you are looking for a good book to finish off the summer, I have one for you which is the best I have read in the last five or ten years. I'm sure you have heard about Pearl Harbor from day one in about every iteration possible. But how much have you heard about what was happening in the Phillipines other than McCarthu's well known "I shall return". *Indestructible* by John R. Bruning (available at Sam's and Books-A-Million) tells the true story of an American living with his family in the Phillipines at the time Pearl Harbor is bombed. He was a retired Navy flyer and a

co-founder of Phillippe Airlines. As Pearl Harbor was bombed, he and his family faced the prospect not just of bombing but invasion and were well aware of the atrocities committed by Japanese troops in China. The lives of his family in Japanese occupied Manila and his significant contributions to winning the war in the Western Pacific are told in gripping fashion. This is their true story - but don't plan to read this over a very long period of time. You will find this is not a book you lay aside easily.

Blast From The Past

The following came from one of our newsletters - take a guess which one and see how close you are (answer at bottom).

GOOD TO KNOW

From RealAge (<http://www.realage.com>) comes the following advice on how to care for our brains and lesson the odds of contracting the heart breaking disease, Alzheimer's.

1. Eat more salads, fish, and fruit. Eat less butter, ice cream, and red meat. And don't just say, "Yeah, okay, tomorrow." DO it!
2. Fit in 30 minutes of brisk walking daily – no matter what. Combine walking with a healthy diet and you'll cut chances of Type 2 Diabetes – which presages Alzheimer's in many individuals.
3. Do. Not. Smoke. And do not go near people who do.
4. Drink coffee. Three to five small cups per day could lower your risk.
5. Know when to say no to alcohol. One drink per day for women, two for men MAY help protect your brain and heart. BUT, once even mild cognitive problems occur, even a few drinks per week can double dementia risk.
6. Pop our favorite supplement. People who take 900 milligrams a day of DHA for just six months see their brain become as much as 3 years younger.

More information on the website – also find out your "Real Age".

(From October 2011 Newsletter)

Support Big Brothers/Big Sisters

By Gina Mashburn

Editor's Note: We provide financial support to Big Brothers/Big Sisters. We have invited each of the charities we support to provide an article for our newsletter.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Shoals is embarking on a new initiative called "Bigs with Badges!" We are actively recruiting police officers from local city jurisdictions plus sheriff's deputies from 3 counties to



serve as volunteer mentors to our unmatched Littles. The officers will have the option to choose Community Based or School Based mentoring. We plan to target children on our waiting list as well as in our service delivery area who have a negative connotation of law enforcement officials; have close relatives who are or have been incarcerated; or have been adjudicated themselves.

Lauderdale County Sheriff, Rick Singleton, is a former Big Brother with our program. He states that he absolutely supports the concept of law enforcement officers becoming role models to our Littles. Colbert County Sheriff, Frank Williamson, has served as a Celebrity Waiter during one of our fundraising events and when approached about this project, he stated that BBBS is a worthy cause and that Bigs with Badges is a great idea! He hopes it will help children have a better sense of well being by knowing they have a friend who is a police officer. The overall goal of the project is to improve community relations between our local police and at-risk children while providing these children with the positive role models that they need and want.

Sponsorship opportunities for the project are available and needed. For more information, please contact, Gina Mashburn 256-248-1931 ext. 129.

Fun Facts

Civitan Fun Facts: On May 25, 1923 the 100th charter was presented to the Geneva Civitan Club, making Switzerland the first non-English speaking Civitan country! And, on May 26, 1975, the Nippon Civitan Club was chartered in Tokyo, Japan as Civitan's first club in Asia!