



# Florence

# Civitan Club

2016 Alabama North Most Outstanding Newsletter



July/August 2018

Volume 6 Number 5

## President's Message

### What America Means to Me

In the American holiday calendar, no day is more significant than the Fourth of July, in which we celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. That Declaration proclaimed to the world our separation from Great Britain and our emergence as a new sovereign nation, as we state in the pledge to our flag, "under God, with liberty and justice for all."



The Declaration stated unequivocally: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed."

Those few words sum up the divine source of our unalienable rights and our philosophy of government. Nothing quite so revolutionary had been proclaimed anywhere by any people. But those beliefs had to be affirmed by a long, bloody war, which was finally won. The result has been this shining light on a hill, the United States of America, the freest, most creative, productive, and richest nation in the history of mankind.

In my lifetime I have traveled to many countries. I have enjoyed the visit. I have appreciated their customs and culture. But none match the liberties, freedom and values of America. I am proud to be an American. Yes, with all of its problems and challenges. America is my home. I would rather be at home and work out the problems and challenges we have than to travel abroad to any other nation.

I stand with Lee Greenwood in the song - God Bless The USA. "And I'm proud to be an American Where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died who gave that right to me. And I'd gladly stand up next to you. And defend Her still today. 'Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land. God Bless the U.S.A."

*James Gray*

#### 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:

September – Picnic and Officer Installation

#### Officers

President.....James Gray  
Pres Elect.....Jim Harris  
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 com-munity 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

*Upcoming Speaker Assignments*

07/03/2018	July 4 Holiday
07/10/2018	Danny Hendrix
07/17/2018	Jay Martin
07/24/2018	John Ingwersen
07/31/2018	Jack Martin
08/07/2018	Tyler Martin
08/14/2018	Deanna Sledge
08/21/2018	Robert Steen
08/28/2018	Louise Tanner

*Upcoming Board Meetings*

07/12	Noon, FPL
08/09	Noon, FPL

*Happy Birthday!*

7/07	Danny Hendrix
7/20	Kyle Friauf
7/26	Julie Hamm
7/31	Jack Martini
8/21	Arlene Wisdom
8/24	Lelia Wissert

*Civitan Anniversary*

7/01	Chris Dixon (17)
7/01	Blake Edwards (34)
7/01	Judy Jackson (15)
7/01	Mike Johnson (34)
8/01	Tyler Martin (11)
8/01	Arlene Wisdom (29)

*Funds Raised Last Year / This YTD*

Ornaments	\$2,511	\$1,953
Boston Butt	\$2,019	\$ 790
Civitan Cups	\$1,651	\$ 393
Donations	\$ 220	\$
V Onions	\$ 995	\$
BBQ Dinner	\$1,346	\$ 0
Coin Boxes	\$ --	\$ 213

*Provide YOUR input!*

# Seek Meeting Success!

**By Deanna Sledge**

On June 19<sup>th</sup>, we had our semiannual Seek meeting. Even though there was a conflicting outside event, we had 5 visitors and Rhoda P provided a delicious meal. Our president, James Gray, showed a video explaining what our Research Center does and spoke about what Civitan is all about. Danny Hendrix and Jack Martin briefly explained what Civitan means to them and how they got started with the club. We then enjoyed a few songs sung beautifully by First Baptist Church's Associate Pastor, Scott Underwood. Kevin Johnson, Pastor of First



Baptist Church, expressed the importance of being involved in our local community. He is definitely a good cheerleader for our club and its efforts. We had a few visitors express interest in joining our club. We will reach out to those individuals and welcome them back at a later meeting. Our first Seek meeting next year will be sometime in the fall, therefore, we have enough time to get details worked out and to get the word out for more visitors to attend.



# Scope 310 Civitan - On the Move!

**By John Ingwersen**





Our Scope 310 Civitan Club was on the move – literally! Thirteen members of the club participated in the State Special Olympics giving their take on this great experience. Faced with poor and rather wet weather they still competed and brought home numerous medals. In the May meeting each member told of his/her experience and expressed the hope that many more would participate in the event next year. The photo above is of those members who shared

their experiences at our State Special Olympics.

In the June meeting members enjoyed a patriotic sing-a-long with Alyssa Ashley of Tusculum Civitan Club playing guitar and singing lead.



The club also continued to work in their new gardens with support from Master Gardeners. They now have two raised bed gardens which they tend - see the photo below left.



Want to help? We need ideas for programs and your help in getting them. The programs are generally about 20 – 30 minutes and take place on the last Thursday of every month at noon. If you have some ideas, please let John Ingwesen know.

## RTJ in October

By Deanna Sledge

Ever heard of “killing 2 birds with 1 stone?” Well, if not, it could be defined as “accomplishing two tasks with only one effort.” And that’s what my goal is hosting a golf tournament in October. With this golf tournament, I hope to achieve 2 goals: creating public awareness and increasing



contributions to our local organizations. The more publicity we have, the more people we will reach. The more people we reach, the more members we may gain. The more members we gain, the more we can do for our local community.

I have created a budget for this tournament based on what it would take to increase our contribution amounts from \$350 to \$1,000 per organization. I have budgeted revenues of \$12,200 and expenses of \$3,900 which total a net profit of \$8,300. If we divide that equally between the organizations, we will have over \$1,100 to disperse to each organization!!

Since we weren't able to sell the BBQ plates this year, we need to make up those funds and why not go ahead and blow that amount out of the water?!?! I hope you all will get on board with me and sell some sponsorships as well as finding teams to play. Our golf expenses were quoted based on 40 players (10 teams). I have already 8 teams committed to play and we need 2 more teams to meet the minimum number of teams required. I have the presenting sponsor (\$2,500) and a birdie sponsor (\$1,000) already confirmed as well. The tournament will be held at Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail on Friday, October 12, 2018 with a shot gun start at 8:30 a.m. The entry fee of \$500 per team will include cart, green fees, breakfast, lunch, 1 drink ticket, and a goody bag. I will advertise on FaceBook, in the mayor's newsletter, in the courier journal, and hopefully the TimesDaily. I am including the registration and sponsorship forms in the newsletter (See last two pages – also attached to email with this newsletter in pdf). But the forms are also available on our newly updated website [florencecivitan.org](http://florencecivitan.org). If I need to email the forms to anyone, please contact me at [dsledge@bibank.com](mailto:dsledge@bibank.com). I truly hope every member will participate in this project. Together we can all make a difference!

## **Civitan Facts\***

⊕ Civitan International is an association of volunteer service clubs, with more than 40,000 total members across North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia.

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

⊕ Civitans help people in their communities through hands-on service projects, outreach programs, and fundraisers for local charitable causes. Civitan has a history of partnership with other organizations, and gave crucial early support to Radio Free Europe, the Boy Scouts of America, Special Olympics, and ARC.

⊕ Famous Civitans include Thomas Edison, President John F. Kennedy, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, astronaut James Irwin, President William Clinton (a Junior Civitan), professional athlete Bo Jackson, racecar driver Richard Petty, and more.

\* From the *Civitan Fact Sheet*

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Life is ten percent what you make it ...  
and ninety percent how you take it.

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## 2018 International Civitan Convention Coming Soon!

The Biggest Little City in the World isn't little any more. Reno is the regional capital of an enormous area of western Nevada and the eastern Sierra near the California border. The city boasts first-rate hotels, golf courses, attractions and casinos. The changing face of Reno-Tahoe is on display as the area has become a popular destination for families.

Reno is a vibrant, progressive community, the region's center for



culture, with something for everyone: 24-hour fun, top name entertainment, elaborate shows, museums, performing arts, beautiful parks, shopping, the Truckee River in the heart of the city, incomparable beauty of the surrounding high desert, and the grandeur of the nearby Sierra Nevada mountains. And with an average of 300 days of sunshine per year, the weather may be warm but without humidity.

Civitan are gathering in the “Biggest Little City in the World” in July 2018. Sign up now!

For more information and to sign up, go to the International Civitan/Convention website at:

<https://civitan.org/convention/convention-2/>

# FLORENCE CIVITAN CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT



Friday, October 12, 2018

Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at The Shoals



The Florence Civitan Club provides monetary support to these local organizations: United Cerebral Palsy, SafePlace, One Place of the Shoals, Shoals Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Scope 310, Room in the Inn, Sidney's Safe Foundation, The Healing Place, & the Local Veterans Association. All proceeds will be donated.

Please make checks payable to:  
 Florence Civitan Club  
 and return form to:  
 PO Box 2211  
 Florence, AL 35630  
 All donations are tax deductible

- Eagle (Presenting) Sponsor \$2,500  
 Company banner & signage displayed at tournament  
 2 complimentary teams  
 2 hole sponsorship  
 Logo/name displayed on social media, newsletter, golf carts, & printed on scorecards  
 Opportunity to speak at awards ceremony
- Birdie Sponsor \$1,000  
 Company signage displayed at tournament & social media  
 1 complimentary team  
 1 hole sponsorship
- Par Sponsor \$500  
 Company signage displayed at tournament & social media
- Hole Sponsor \$150  
 Company signage displayed at one course hole.



Florence Civitan Club  
 Golf Tournament  
 PO Box 2211  
 Florence, AL 35630

Please send logos or questions to:  
 Deanna Sledge 256.710.5497  
 dsledge@bibank.com

Business Name _____	Sponsor:	Price
Contact Name _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle	\$2,500
Address _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Birdie	\$1,000
Contact Phone Number _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Par	\$500
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hole	\$150

Method of Payment  
 Bill Me  
 Check      Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Florence Civitan Club**  
**GOLF TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION FORM**  
 October 12, 2018 - Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at the Shoals



Friday, October 12, 2018. Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail

- Registration: 8 am
- Shotgun Start: 8:30 am
- Entry Fee includes: Cart, green fees, 1 beverage ticket, breakfast, lunch, & goody bag
  - 4 man scramble: \$500 per team
    - Activities: Hole-in-one  
Closest to the Pin

Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>

Questions, please contact Deanna Sledge @ [dsledge@vibank.com](mailto:dsledge@vibank.com) or 256.710.5497

Please enclose entry fee and return form to:  
 Florence Civitan Club  
 Golf Tournament  
 PO Box 2211  
 Florence, AL 35630  
 Please register by October 5, 2018

<b>PLAYER 1</b>	
Name	Phone Number
Email Address	
<b>PLAYER 2</b>	
Name	Phone Number
Email Address	
<b>PLAYER 3</b>	
Name	Phone Number
Email Address	
<b>PLAYER 4</b>	
Name	Phone Number
Email Address	