

HEARTLAND

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

OF THE CIVITAN HEARTLAND DISTRICT

EXPRESS

FIRST QUARTER 2015

MEET US IN ST. LOUISE!

The Civitan International Convention comes to our backyard this summer, St. Louis, Missouri and you need to register now!. This is in our backyard and every Heartland Civitan needs to be there when Debbie Bruce Juhkle is installed as our 2015-2016 International President! Can I hear a WooHoo?

St Louis is the Gateway to the West and it offers many unique attractions, historic sites, charming neighborhoods and entertainment options. Home to the Fox Theatre, the lovely Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis and beautiful Lafayette Park,

this destination has something for everyone to enjoy. From museums that celebrate art and culture to those that concentrate on the unusual, St. Louis moves to the beat of many different drummers.

Foodies will find plenty to keep them occupied – and satisfied. From downtown to West St. Louis County, there's an abundance of tasty options. Enjoy local culinary delights like gooey butter cake, toasted ravioli, thin crust pizza, and "concretes," real custard milkshakes so thick you can turn them upside-down. Head to Crown Candy Kitchen to satisfy your sweet tooth or stop by Sweetie Pies for a plate of "food with soul."

2015 CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

.....
JULY 12-15, 2015

RENAISSANCE ST. LOUIS

GRAND HOTEL

LINKS TO REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULES:

[Tentative Civitan Convention Schedule](#)

[Tentative Guest Program Schedule](#)

[Tentative Youth Program Schedule](#)

Convention registration is now open.

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2014-2015 CALENDAR

JANUARY
 Jan. 11 District Board Meeting
 Jan. 16-20 Governors-Elect Academy
 Jan. 17 Area 5 Meeting 10:00 am - Spring Creek Barbeque, 4108 South Carrier Pkwy, Grand Prairie, TX 75052
 Jan. 23-27 Junior Civitan Sno-Do
 Jan. 31 Deadline for Shropshire Scholarship applications
 Jan.31 Quality Achievement Awards application due

FEBRUARY
 All February Junior Civitan Appreciation Month
 Feb. 1-7 Clergy Appreciation Week
 Feb. 25-26 International Board of Directors Meeting, St. Louis

MARCH
 March 13-14 Junior Civitan Dance-a-Thon, Myrtle Beach, SC

APRIL
 All April Civitan Awareness Month
 April 1 Deadline for articles/ club news /submissions to Newsletter
 April 26 District Board Meeting

MAY
 May 1 Deadline for International Honor Key Nominations

JUNE
 June 1 All Club Officer Elections for 2015-2016 must be completed by June 1st
 June?? Junior Civitan International Convention
 June 24 Deadline for Adds/Deletes for July billing

JULY
 July 1 Deadline for articles/ club news /submissions to Newsletter
 July 12-15 Civitan International Convention Renaissance Grand Hotel, St. Louis, MO
 July 13 Golf Benefit

AUGUST
 Aug 27-30 Heartland District Convention-Embassy Suites, Grapevine, TX
 Aug 28 District Board Meeting (at convention prior to lunch)

SEPTEMBER
 Sept 20 Deadline for articles/ club news /submissions to Newsletter

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GET ON BOARD THE HEARTLAND EXPRESS

The *Heartland Express* is the quarterly newsletter of the Civitan Heartland District. To submit club news or other articles for publishing in the Heartland Express, contact: **Frank Kelley**, Heartland Express Editor 8628 Running River Lane, Fort Worth, Texas 76131, 727 631.9354 awacs85@gmail.com

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



Heartland Civitans,

I often speak about our Civitan DNA and the role it should play in our club development. In this issue of the Express I would like to talk about the DNA strand of Maturity. One thing a person does when they mature is to reproduce. The same is true of a Civitan Club. At some point, a Civitan Club should start reproducing itself. That reproduction

can come in the form a new Civitan Club or a new Jr. Civitan Club. I want to encourage every club that is ready, to start a Jr. Civitan Club at their local high school. The Cabot High School Jr. Civitan club has been such a blessing & joy to my home club of Cabot. The presence of our Jr. Civitan Club helps to increase Civitan awareness in our community & allows us to introduce Civitan to the younger generation. At 5 years & 9 months old, Cabot Club started the Jr. Club on the high school campus. The Jr. Club started with the minimum number of 15 members & has grown to 45 members in its second year! This Jr. Club was the Cabot Club's second attempt at a Jr. Club at the high school. What happened the first time? The club wasn't ready for that responsibility. We all know that in life, kids having kids is a bad idea. Kids aren't mature enough to handle parenthood. This Jr. Club is now thriving because our club matured since the first attempt & can now fully handle the responsibility. Every Civitan Club that starts a new club MUST understand that new club is their baby! The baby needs guidance, protection, and sometimes, discipline. The sponsoring club must stick with the new club through thick & thin, even if that new club is an adult club. Later, with the proper guidance, the new club will grow, mature & reproduce itself. That is the way the cycle works. As Governor, I will do my best to make sure that any prospective new club has mature Civitans as Club Builders.

I hope we get to the point where there is more club building from our rank & file at the club level. There is nothing wrong with District Leadership building clubs, but it is much more healthy for club building to come from the club level. Let's look at a church as an example. A church where the pastor does all of the recruiting is dysfunctional. The pastor's job is to train the church members to recruit. Any effective leader reproduces himself or herself. That way, growth occurs at an exponential rate instead of standard addition. I would rather grow by multiplication than addition any day of the week.

So, here is the question. Where can you start a new Civitan or a new Jr. Civitan Club? The Heartland District needs more clubs and Civitans who are ready to step up & reproduce. I believe you can do it!

Steve Cabot

2014-2015 Heartland District Civitan Governor

GOVERNOR-ELECT'S MESSAGE



Have you reviewed the Honor Club application recently? With the 1st quarter of the 2014-2015 Civitan year now full of successful activities and accomplishments, it would be a good time to download the Honor Club application from the Civitan International website, print it out, and start celebrating the successes of the quarter.

Each club could assign this responsibility to a lead person or perhaps a group of members to complete and then report to the club monthly or at least quarterly.

Taking reference from the Heartland District Strategic Plan 2017, each club could write this into a S.M.A.R.T. goal:

Specific: To achieve Honor Club status for _____ Civitan Club for the 2014-15 Civitan year.

Measurable: All measures are detailed in the Honor Club application.

Achievable: If clubs start immediately, plus record activities/accomplishments of the 1st quarter, it's not too late!

Realistic: Many clubs achieve Honor Club status year after year. For those clubs who do not, a review/discussion of the obstacles/roadblocks/barriers may be in order with your District Leadership Team or fellow Civitans. We are all here to help!!

Time-limited: One Civitan year, i.e. October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015.

By reporting regularly to the club, it keeps all members involved in the process and allows for celebrations along the way. Plus, it is an excellent tool for tracking activities participated in and/or events sponsored throughout the year.

Please join me in recognizing your club as an Honor Club this Civitan year!

Marcia E. Dechand

2014-2015 Heartland District Civitan Governor-Elect



**MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW
FOR THE UPCOMING
HEARTLAND DISTRICT
SPRING
GROWTH
CONFERENCE**



When: Saturday April 11, 2015 ~ 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

First Assembly of God, 4501 Burrow,
North Little Rock, AR 72116

Why: Personal Growth & Development to keep us sharp!

The material to be covered is not just for Civitan...
as it will help in other areas of life; plus,

**Civitan International
President Jay Albertia
is scheduled to speak!!!**

Registration is \$20 (with lunch
provided) and the event will
be live-streamed. Live-stream
registration is \$10 on the
honor system.

Please contact Steve Jackson

(sjackson@blrmortgage.com) if you have any ques-
tions and stay tuned for more information!



Clergy Appreciation Week



Clergy Appreciation Week is a significant event throughout North America. Held each year on the week of February 3, this event shows appreciation to the clergy of all faiths. Clergy Appreciation Week aims to promote world brotherhood and religious understanding among all people, regardless of religious persuasion. It is a time to reflect on our individual religious beliefs and to promote an understanding and acceptance of the rights of others to participate in a religion different from our own. Clergy Appreciation Week was inspired by an event which occurred during World War II.

The Four Chaplains

On February 3, 1943, the USS Dorchester was pushing through the treacherous waters of the North Atlantic. With 905 American servicemen aboard, the Dorchester left its convoy a few hours short of its destination. A German submarine, stalking the ship undetected, took this opportunity to fire a torpedo straight toward the ship's stern. The torpedo struck amidships and exploded in the boiler room. Many on board died instantly, and some were trapped below deck. Others, jolted from their bunks half asleep, clambered to reach the decks of the stricken vessel. Taking on water rapidly, the ship began listing to starboard. Because security reasons prevented use of distress flares, escort vessels, still close enough to assist, pushed on into the darkness, unaware that the Dorchester was sinking. Overcrowded lifeboats capsized; rafts drifted away before anyone could reach them.

On deck, amid confusion and terror, Army chaplains George L. Fox, Alexander D. Goode, Clark V. Poling and John P. Washington moved about calming frightened men, directing bewildered soldiers to lifeboats, and distributing life jackets with calm precision. Soon, the supply of jackets was exhausted, yet four young soldiers, afraid and without life vests, stood waiting. Quickly the chaplains stripped off their own and forced them upon the young soldiers.

The four men of God (one Catholic, one Jewish and two Protestant) had given away their only means of saving themselves in order to save others. Men rowing away from the sinking ship in lifeboats saw the chaplains clinging to each other on the slanting deck, arms linked together and heads bowed as they prayed to the one God whom each of them loved and served. The Dorchester sank beneath the icy waters of the North Atlantic, pulling with it the four chaplains and 675 servicemen.

It is this moment which Civitans annually pause to remember, and in so doing, pause to say thank you to the clergy of their communities.

Please share your event with us: send an event report and photos to the Editor and we will run them in the Spring issue of the Express. Thanks!

New Civitan website is Now Live!

After months of hard work behind the scenes, the new Civitan website is now live! This new website is more attractive, more versatile, and an even more useful online presence for Civitan International. The website has a more attractive look, better layout, and is even smartphone-friendly.

New visitors to the website will find easy answers to basic questions about Civitan in the About Civitan section. They can now find information on our four major types of club – Civitan, Junior Civitan, Campus Civitan, and now YP Civitan – in one place, under “A Club For You.”

We know our members use the Civitan website as a crucial information hub and resource center. We also know you don't have time to sift through dozens of categories to find the manual or training form you are looking for. As such, we put all those resources in one place – the Member Resource Center. This area is the main knowledge hub for our members. Any resources you found on the old Civitan website can also be found here – everything from past issues of Civitan Magazine, to officer training manuals, to recruitment resources.

You'll also find new tools – such as the North American District Map and an updated Club Locator. In the coming months, we will be rolling out even more new features, such as online reporting for district officers, and a searchable club database! We will also unveil the new Junior Civitan website, which is still in production.

Our web address has not changed. We are at www.civitan.org, same as ever. Visitors to www.civitan.com will be redirected to the new website, as well. This will not affect any club websites, hosted documents, email accounts, or membership files in the slightest.

If you have trouble finding something on the new website, feel free to look at the site map. Or you can contact us directly, here. There will be several tweaks and small changes in the coming months as we refine and perfect our online presence.

Thank you for your patience, and for all that you do through Civitan.



Candy/Coin Report Oct.-Nov. 2014



During the first 2 months of the new Civitan year, 11 clubs have reported collections in their Coin Boxes, while 12 clubs reported collections in their Candy Boxes.

The Coin Box collections were UP by \$336.30 over the previous year with a total of \$858.28 collected during Oct. and Nov. Our Candy boxes, likewise, were UP by \$168.30 over the previous year.

Leaders in the Candy Box Project are Wichita, Muskogee, Bartlesville, and El Dorado, each with amounts exceeding \$300. Bartlesville continues to be the leader in the Coin Box Project with over \$200 reported.

The clubs that are participating in these projects are raising funds not only for our Civitan International Research Center, but for their local projects to help persons with intellectual and physical disabilities. For each dollar collected in the Candy Boxes, twenty-five cents stays with the club, while fifty cents of each dollar collected in the Coin Boxes are retained by the local club. These are two projects that require a minimal amount of money to get started—only the shipping costs of the collection boxes. If your club is not involved and would like more information, please contact the district's Candy/Coin Box Chairperson, Harold Connell at brookiowa@aol.com.

CANDY DISTRIBUTION ISSUE

There has been a distribution issue at Sam's, but we have been assured by their corporate office that the problem has been addressed. A new supplier, Daily Chef, will be providing the starlight mints (in the same 7-pound package) and the product should be in stock at all locations within 7-10 days. **The new item number for the mints is #436730.** If you have a problem with your local Sam's Club, this information should provide all they need to ensure that your Civitan Candy Box Project mint supply is on-hand for purchase. Please let Rosemary at International know if you have any further questions in this regard.

IRS Filing Requirements for Local Clubs

Civitan clubs, as tax exempt organizations, must annually file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax, or Form 990-EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax, or (beginning in the 2007-08 Civitan fiscal year) the newly created Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required To File Form 990 or 990-EZ. For additional information, please follow this link: <http://civitan.org/member-resource-center/club-leadership-administration/irs-filing-information/>.



JUNIOR CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL FUNDRAISERS

Junior Civitan Sno-Do: January 23-27, 2015

Sno-Do (pronounced "snow dough") is a cross-country snowmobile fundraiser held each



February in Ontario, Canada. Proceeds go on to benefit the Civitan International Research Center. Click here to find out more about this exciting event!

To donate NOW, click the link HERE. If you are donating for a Junior Civitan, be sure enter their name by clicking the link labeled, "Enter Junior Civitan's name here."

Junior Civitan Dance-a-thon:

March 6-9, 2015, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina



Since 1974, Dance-a-thon has been one of Junior Civitan's top annual fundraising events. Any Junior Civitan who raises enough support can participate in the 12-hour dance marathon to raise funds for the Civitan International Research Center. Click here to find out more about Dance-a-thon!

To donate for Dance-a-thon, click the link HERE. If you are donating for a Junior Civitan, be sure enter their name by clicking the link labeled, "Enter Junior Civitan's name here."

April is Civitan Appreciation & Jr Civitan Advisor Appreciation month!

April is just around the corner, which for Junior Civitans around the world means it is time to thank those patient, encouraging and motivated folks who are the cornerstone of our entire organization. Yes, I mean our advisors and Civitans!

Without advisors and Civitans, we wouldn't even have any clubs. We also wouldn't have the support or ideas that they, with far superior wisdom, can provide! This year, make sure you and your club take some time to thank your advisors and your sponsoring Civitan Club! You can do anything, like making a nice card with notes from club members, cooking a delicious dinner or giving them their favorite candy and a gift card. Some clubs even go the extra mile by washing cars, delivering breakfast and creating cool artwork! Make it your mission to do something to let these adults know how much you value them! They put forth so much effort and time, and they should be recognized! Who better to honor them than the kids they have grown to love?



UAB Civitan International Research Center

By Caitlyn Delgado, International Jr Civitan Director

The UAB Civitan International Research Center is the culmination of over 50 years of Civitans helping those challenged by developmental disabilities. The Civitan International Foundation awarded a grant of up to one million dollars a year for 20 years to The University of Alabama at Birmingham for the creation of the UAB Civitan International Research Center, the first institution of its kind in the United States to be solely dedicated to research of developmental disabilities. This generous act by Civitans all over the world created a tremendous source of human, financial, and technical work to focus on the research and treatment of developmental disabilities.

Through interdisciplinary research, clinical services, and community programs, the UAB Civitan International Research Center improves the

lives of people at risk for or affected by developmental disabilities. The Center conducts research on the development of the central nervous system, with special emphasis on developmental disabilities. The Civitan-Sparks Clinics retain the same focus, but serves the developmentally disabled through various therapies and special needs programs. Because the Civitan International Research Center is a Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Research, Education and Service, it also provides training for professionals to become leaders in the field of developmental disability studies.



JUNIOR FELLOWS PROGRAM

Has anyone ever helped you along the way to becoming a better Junior Civitan or Civitan? Has someone in the community supported your Club's programs and events? How about you show them the ultimate appreciation and make them a Junior Fellow.

Those who help Civitan (all of the various groups) by giving their time, support and advice; do it for the good of the organization, not for recognition. That does not mean those special people don't appreciate being recognized, though! If you know a Junior Civitan member or advisor that embodies our organization's commitment to service, honor them by presenting them with a Junior Fellow. They will receive a beautifully engraved plaque recognizing their hard work and dedication! This is the ultimate way to show your appreciation! Donating \$300 or \$600 in the name of the recipient is a great goal for your club or district to achieve during the year. Don't forget, you can always work together with your sponsoring club to raise the money. All funds donated through the Junior Fellows Program go toward the Shropshire Scholarship fund for fellow Junior Civitans. This is a great way to not only recognize someone who has improved Junior Civitan, but also to help fellow members! I hope that this year your club or district will consider honoring someone special with a Junior Fellow!

CIRC RESEARCH CENTER REPORT A New Chance for Treatment

Birmingham, AL - Researchers in the laboratory of Civitan International Director Dr. Harold Sontheimer have released a study on the migration of glioma cells (a type of tumor) and how that affects neural connections. These findings were published in the June 19 issue of Nature Communications. They give insight into the behavior of these cancer cells. More importantly, they reveal a potential treatment opportunity for glioblastoma, a devastating form of brain cancer.

Malignant gliomas - tumors that arise in the grey matter of the brain - are highly invasive, and frequently kill patients within a year of diagnosis. They proliferate by attaching themselves to blood vessels of the brain, and access nutrients in the blood. Gliomas migrate along these vessels and dislodge astrocytic end-feet. These cells are critical for blood flow regulation, healthy neural connections, and maintaining connections between the cells that form blood vessels.

Those connections are an essential part of the blood-brain barrier, a highly selective barrier that separates the brain from the bloodstream. The Sontheimer team found that when gliomas dislodge those astrocytic end-feet, the blood-brain barrier is compromised. This causes leakage from blood vessels, and can result in severe damage to the brain. This can be a very serious problem. However, the Sontheimer team also found that it could also open up avenues for treating these deadly tumors.

Chemotherapy is currently the standard of care for brain tumor patients. However, chemotherapy has limited effectiveness in fighting cancer. More effective treatments have not been found yet. This is due to the difficulty in penetrating the blood-brain barrier with treatment drugs. Chemotherapy drugs are delivered through an IV, and must travel through the bloodstream to attack cancer cells - this is much easier for illnesses like lung cancer. With glioma and brain cancer, though, penetrating the blood-brain barrier is more difficult. Such has been the long-standing belief of the medical community.

The findings of the Sontheimer team suggest that chemotherapy drugs can, in fact, reach the brain tissue through a weakened blood-brain barrier, when it has been damaged by gliomas. These findings open up new possibilities to treating brain cancer, and are being shared with the cancer research community around the world.

In order to study the effect of glioma cells, researchers needed to observe these cells over time. This was made possible through the CIRC's new, multi-photon in-vivo imaging facility. Researchers in Dr. Sontheimer's lab were able to observe and record real-time images of gliomas. This new, state-of-the-art imaging facility is housed at the Civitan International Research Center, and was made possible through the direct support of Junior Civitan and Civitan International.

Bryant Civitan Club

Bryant Civitan Club delivered over 100 packages to the Methodist Health Home here in Little Rock on Dec 17th. There were gifts for the Arkansas Cares facility which houses mothers with substance abuse problems and allows them to have their children with them. There also children at the facility ranging from under 1 to 17, all are provided with a gift.

Paragould Civitan Club



On Monday, December 15th, Paragould Civitan, Paragould High School Junior Civitan, and Greene County Tech Junior Civitan accompanied by Santa, Mrs. Claus and their two elves visited Greene Acres Nursing Home delivering Christmas cards, soft peppermints, and Fruitcakes. We weren't allowed to take pictures but we had lots of fun and Santa even got asked for a kiss right in front of Mrs. Claus. He

was smart; he politely declined

Paragould Civitan took part in the 1st Annual Shop with a Cop event on December 13th. Foster children were paired with officers in an attempt to instill in the children that the police are there to help them. Each child had \$100 gift card to spend donated by local civic organizations, businesses and individuals. Santa with cookies and juice was on hand at Walmart for the kids to enjoy.

Argenta Civitan Club

Argenta Civitan Club busy in many ways for the Pulaski County community. On Veterans Day we cooked and served meals for 60 homeless vets at St. Francis House in Little Rock. On the second Saturday in December we honored our vets by placing Christmas wreaths at the State Veterans Cemetery in NLR. We are especially proud that we helped the Hot Springs Civitan Club distribute the headbands created by our club members and friends at Special Olympics Bowling in Little Rock. A "Tastefully Simple" sampling party introduced our newest fundraising project and we also enjoyed an Out of the Box way to serve Claxton fruitcake (think pork tenderloin stuffed with fruitcake). Contact Fred Norman, President, and he will forward you the recipe.

Argenta Civitan Club members also assisted members of the People First Civitan Club and the Southwest Little Rock Civitan Club annual Christmas project. Many Heartland District Civitan members also helped out on this project by contributing toilet articles that were stuffed into white bags that were decorated by club members and delivered to homeless women at Our House in Little Rock. This is one of the most heartwarming projects we have the privilege of assisting with. Imagine if you will 30 people with developmental disabilities who are giddy with excitement because they are helping people who are less fortunate than they are. Thanks to everyone who helped out by donating toilet articles from their stays at hotels. We would also ask you to keep this project in mind and save toilet articles for this worthy endeavor.

Topeka Civitan Club

The Topeka Civitans volunteered at the gate entrance to Winter Wonderland - a two mile drive through light display - at Lake Shawnee the evening of December 9th. Winter Wonderland is the largest annual fundraiser for TARC, Inc., a non-profit organization in Topeka which serves persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Volunteers counted vehicles, collected admission donations, distributed brochures, directed traffic and sold "razzle dazzle" glasses.

Metro Tulsa Civitan Club



Metro Tulsa Civitan members provided gifts for Tulsa Gateway residents. Gateway provides residences and other opportunities for adults with intellectual disabilities. This is one of our favorite parts of the Christmas season.



Cabot Civitan Club



Our Jr. Civitans from Cabot High School working with senior citizens at Graham's Foster Home for the Elderly. We are so proud of our Jr. Club & their faculty sponsor, Dr. Martha Marshall. They are all doing a great job this year!



The Cabot Civitans purchased a wheelchair for American Legion Post 71 in Cabot. It is an honor for us to help veterans!



Civitan ORCHIDS

Our Jr. Civitans from Cabot High School working with senior citizens at Graham's Foster Home for the Elderly. We are so proud of our Jr. Club & their faculty sponsor, Dr. Martha Marshall. They are all doing a great job this year!

The Civitan Orchids turned one-year old on October 10, 2014. What a fantastic and exciting year. This special needs ladies club, along with a small band of mentors has set the bar high, excelling in so many areas and having so much fun along the way. We did at least one service project each month, did a lot of fundraising and increased our membership. We ended our whirlwind year with a bang – the First Annual Orchid Masquerade Ball. We just completed our Toys for Tots distribution event, distributing more than 700 toys to 450 disadvantaged children. Our goal is to be International New Club of the Year for this 2014-2015 year, so we have lots of projects in the works, to include a nursing home visit in January, clergy appreciation night in February, selling Civitan coffee in March, an Easter Egg Hunt with 4,000 eggs waiting to be found in April, several food drives and numerous Special Olympic activities that the ladies all participate in throughout the year. The Second Annual Orchid Masquerade Ball is already set for October 23, 2015. The Orchids will continue to grow and bloom, shining bright and inspiring others by showing unselfish resolve by not letting their disabilities define them. Oh, and you will be seeing a whole gaggle of us at the International meeting in St. Louis!! We have lots of Orchid flowers to shower upon our fellow Civitans – the ladies are especially excited about meeting Civitans from other countries.



Boothill Ladies

The Spirit of Giving! To Hays employees, residents of Caruthersville & surrounding towns, you gave abundantly today to the Salvation Army. The Bootheel Ladies Civitan Club appreciate you helping us - to help someone else. You are a hometown hero. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas!

Civitan Club of Wichita

Our club members have been quite active during the first quarter: Four members attended the Area I meeting held in Topeka in October. We rang bells on 4 different days for the Salvation Army in December. We assisted The Arc of Sedgwick County (the site of our 2013 District-wide meeting) during one rather cool evening by collecting donations from drivers while they viewed the ARC's annual Christmas Light Display. We staff a bingo concession stand once every four weeks. We had a float in the Veterans Day Parade. We conducted the first of our two fresh fruit sales. We made Civitan Coffee and Claxton Fruitcake available to our members and friends. We have added a new member, Lora Neal, to our roster.

We have had a series of informative programs at our club meetings. We held a Christmas Party where we exchanged white elephant gifts.

Plans are now being made for the second quarter, including a chili feed as a fundraiser for one of our Area Special Olympic Teams. We have obtained a speaker for our Clergy Day Program. We will also hold a second fresh fruit sale.

Ranger Civitan Club of Grand Prairie

Ranger Civitans volunteered at Prairie Lights, a drive through Christmas Lights. Here are some photos that we took while having fun at the event on December 6th. As an added opportunity, Ranger Civitans have also helped out with the Chamber's Photos with Santa. This was our first time to help with the Chamber's Santa project and everyone had a great time!



Holiday Season busy for West Little Rock Club



It is finally time to take a breath! We have made spaghetti, made fruitcake cookies, gone shopping, wrapped presents and last had a party with Santa.

The West Little Rock Club has an ongoing project for the Deaf School in Little Rock, AR. Our party this year, we bought presents for 27 children that would not have a Christmas without our club. It was a huge success this year!!!! This is why we are Civitans. We found time to sell fruitcake cookie baskets and also take things to Our House (a shelter in Little Rock). Looking forward to 2015.



Hutchinson Civitan Club Flag Project

Approximately 6-7 years ago, The Hutchinson club invited a member from the Enid Club to visit with us and talk about their flag project. After listening to this presentation, the Hutchinson club decided we could take on something similar and probably put out 50 flags. This consisted of purchasing poles and flags, and sleeves to insert the flags into in the ground. Then the club got busy and started "selling" the flags to individuals in



the Hutchinson community. The cost was \$30 per year for 6 flag postings. The club would put the sleeve in the ground when it was sold. Then on 6 major holidays, club members would insert the flag in the ground about sunrise and return at sunset to take the flag down. The holidays are: Memorial Day, Flag Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Columbus Day and Veterans' Day. If there was inclement weather on a flag posting day during the year, an alternate date was chosen to replace the date it was not possible to fly the flag. The Hutchinson News got wind of the project and it made the front page of the paper...helping to increase sales!

From that small beginning, the project grew over the years and in 2014 we posted 436 flags in and around Hutchinson, KS. This includes the Kansas State Fairgrounds which has an awesome display of 10 flags on either side of the corner of Main St. There are also a number of businesses around town that take part in this project.

The flags and supplies are purchased and put together by 2 club members. A 3rd member drills the holes and puts in all the sleeves. A large number of club members take part in putting out the flags and others help in other aspects of the project. This year, for the first time, we did increase the cost to \$36 for the year and that has not slowed down sales at all!

Dallas Town North Civitan Club

The Dallas Town Northerners celebrated the season with their annual holiday banquet. The venue for this year's yuletide festivities was the lovely dining room of the CC Young Center, located by White Rock Lake in northeast Dallas. After a little camaraderie and enjoying some holiday spirits, they settled down to a sumptuous meal, followed by the infamous white elephant gift exchange, presided over by a special guest from the North Pole. There was the usual good-natured stealing of presents back and forth, but the authorities were never notified and no one was charged.

(Photograph by Jim Stinson)



Mark Your Calendars and Save the Date:

AUGUST 28-30, 2015
**2015 Heartland
District Civitan
Convention**

**Embassy Suite Outdoor World
2401 Bass Pro Drive, Grapevine, Texas**

Conveniently located between Dallas and Fort Worth, this all-suite Grapevine hotel is two miles from DFW International Airport. For the outdoorsman, the hotel is conveniently attached to Bass Pro Shops. For the wine connoisseur, the city of Grapevine features a wealth of wineries offering the best of Texas-grown wines. Other area attractions include: AT&T Stadium (formerly Cowboys Stadium—tours available), Grapevine Historical Downtown Area, Grapevine Mills Mall, Sea Life Aquarium, Fort Worth Zoo.



Watch your email and the Heartland website for more info coming soon!

