

THE Heartland Express

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Heartland Civitan District

2018 Heartland District Convention

AUGUST 24-26, 2018 • FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS • DOUBLETREE HOTEL

The 2018 District Convention will be in Fort Smith, Arkansas on August 24-26, 2018 at the DoubleTree Hotel. The hotel has been recently redesigned and can comfortably accommodate a convention of our size.

We tried to find a location that was a 5-1/2-hour drive or less from every club in the district. That's not possible! However, Fort Smith is less than 5-1/2 hours from every club, except the four in Area 6: Coastal Bend, Corpus Christi, Houston Clear Lake, and Heart of the Rock. We apologize to Area 6.

Based on responses from attendees at Area meetings, we will be doing a service project on Saturday morning. That project is still under development.



Hotel Discount if room booked by July 27, 2018

Your hotel room must be booked separately from your convention registration. The

deadline to book your hotel room at the convention rate is July 27, 2018--which is fast approaching! **Click below**, then click on the next box that says "Book a Room." If you wish to stay an extra night on either side of the convention, the conference rate will apply. (August 23-26). The conference rate is \$89/night (\$102.13 after tax) for a single room with either a king bed or two queen beds. If you would prefer to book your room by phone, call 479-783-1000 and tell them the event rate is "Heartland Civitan International."

RESERVE YOUR ROOM!

A convention schedule appears on page 3 in this newsletter. Depending on the length of the service project, the business session might begin before lunch. A more definitive schedule will appear in the Summer Heartland Express.

Early registration is \$80 with a special rate of \$40 for Junior Civitans, Campus Civitans, and for persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Early registration will end July 29. Registration forms have been emailed to all club presidents.



Convention schedule & registration form on page 3.

SPRING 2018

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DATES TO REMEMBER

M A Y

May 1 Deadline for International Honor Key Nominations
May 20 District Conference Call – using Zoom

J U N E

June 1 Deadline to submit Club Officers report to Civitan International
June 21-24 Junior Civitan International Convention, Tupelo, MS

J U L Y

July 8 District Conference Call – using Zoom
July 22-25 International Convention in Reno, NV – Grand Sierra Resort

A U G U S T

Aug 24-26 District Convention in Fort Smith, AR – DoubleTree Hotel



The Heartland Express is a publication of the Heartland District of Civitan International, published quarterly to communicate with the members of all the Civitan clubs in the Heartland District and to officers of Civitan International.

Articles are welcomed. If you want your club to appear in the newsletter, please send an article to Ann Livingston, alivpif01@aol.com. In a separate email, please send photos to accompany the article, preferably in jpg format.

Please send email address changes to: Mary Henthorn, mhenthorn3@sbcglobal.net. The Heartland Express is available only in a downloadable PDF version. If you know a club member who does not have email, please print the district newsletter and mail it to them or give it to them at your next club meeting. Bob Shell, Governor; David Overton, Newsletter Design; Ann Livingston, Newsletter Editor; Mary Henthorn, Distribution.

Is your club's Facebook page listed on our website?

Click here to be sure all your info is correct and if we don't have you listed, contact the webmaster here.

And if you don't have a Facebook page... get one! It's a great way to keep connected with all your fellow Civitans and show prospective members all the fun and service that is Civitan.

If you need help, contact Mary Henthorn, Heartland District PR/Virtual Communications, mhenthorn3@sbcglobal.net, 501 680-2397



CONVENTION SCHEDULE

2018 Heartland District Convention

August 24-26, 2018

Doubletree Hotel, 700 Rogers, Fort Smith, AR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24

		ROOM
1:00 pm	Registration Open	Lobby
3:00 pm	Board Meeting; District Leadership Team	Memphis
4:00 pm	Hospitality Open	Fayetteville
6:30 pm	Citizenship Dinner	Little Rock
9:00 pm	Hospitality Open	Fayetteville

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

		ROOM
7:30 am	Breakfast	Tulsa
7:30 am	Past Governors Breakfast	Memphis
8:30 am	Service project	Fort Smith area
12:00 pm	Lunch	Memphis/Tulsa
1:00 pm	Business Meeting; Election of Officers	Little Rock
3:00 pm	Simultaneous Workshop Offerings	
	Meredith Binkley presenting about Civitan International changes/direction	Memphis
	Maximizing your Facebook presence	Tulsa
3:00 pm	Simultaneous Workshop Offerings	
	501(c)(3) vs 501(c)(4) vs Foundation – Can we give donors a tax receipt?	Tulsa
	Instagram, Snapchat, etc. – beyond Facebook: Reaching Post-Millennials	Memphis
6:00 pm	Installation Dinner	

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

		ROOM
7:30 am	Breakfast	Tulsa
8:30 am	Worship (Cecil Johnson)	Little Rock
9:00 am	Area Director training	Memphis



**REGISTRATION FORM
HEARTLAND DISTRICT CIVITAN CONVENTION**

August 24-26, 2018

Doubletree Hotel, Fort Smith, AR

Hotel reservations must be made directly with the hotel by calling 479-783-1000
When calling, ask for the Heartland Civitan International rate.
Group rate is \$102.13 per night (tax included), which includes breakfast.
Please make hotel reservations by July 27, 2018 to receive our group rate.

Name: _____ Phone Number (H/C/B): _____
 Preferred Badge Name: _____ Email Address: _____
 Street Address _____ Club Name: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____ Club Position: _____

Is this your first District Convention? Yes, No Are you a voting delegate for your club? Yes, No

I plan to volunteer at the service project on Saturday morning.

(Additional names may be listed on reverse side)

The registration fee is \$80. A reduced rate of \$40 is available for persons with intellectual or development disabilities, Campus Club members, and Junior Civitans. The registration fee includes Saturday's lunch and the Installation/Awards Banquet. The registration fee does **not** include the Friday evening Citizenship Banquet; registration for that dinner is \$25, with reduced rate of \$20.

Convention Registrations deadline is July 27, 2018. After July 27, the registration fee increases to \$96 and \$48 respectively.

Full Convention Registrations	Qty _____	Amount _____	Total _____
Reduced Convention Registrations	Qty _____	Amount _____	Total _____
Full registration for Citizenship dinner on Friday	Qty _____	Amount _____	Total _____
Reduced registration for Citizenship dinner on Friday	Qty _____	Amount _____	Total _____
Guests			
Luncheon ONLY -- \$25	Qty _____	Amount _____	Total _____
Installation/Awards Banquet ONLY -- \$35	Qty _____	Amount _____	Total _____

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED

\$

Please enclose completed form with check payable to **Heartland District of Civitan** and remit to:
Petrice McKey-Reese, PO Box 3854, Broken Arrow, OK 74013

Questions? Email Petrice McKey Reese, District Convention Planner at mckeyp@yahoo.com or call 918-219-4994

Governor's Message



We have now completed our Area meetings. I was not able to attend the Area 2 meeting because I was at the Area 5 meeting the same day. I have been impressed with the excitement about Civitan that I have seen at these Area meetings. We have heard from clubs across our district about outstanding service projects they have going on. One focus in our Area meetings was remembering to invite people in the community to serve with you in a service project. You might be amazed at the percentage of people who join

you in a service project who end up joining your club.

Governor-Elect Grace Farmer has also made four of the five Area meetings, attending Area 2 when I was at Area 5. We have been additionally blessed to have our District Virtual Communication Coordinator Mary Henthorn attend four of the five meetings as well (she was at the Area 2 meeting, not the Area 5 meeting). I hope that those who attended the meetings will begin to put in place projects that they got excited about.

My thanks to each of the Area Directors who put much time and effort into hosting such meaningful meetings.

-Bob Shell, Heartland Governor



AREA 1



AREA 2



AREA 4



AREA 5



AREA 7



AREA 7



AREA 5

GOVERNOR-ELECT'S MESSAGE



Dear Civitans
As I travel through the Heartland District it is great to see people engaged in their club and community. We are the life of Civitan and its

purpose for being. If we did not have people in leadership we would not exist. When I meet those involved I ask the question., where do you see

yourself going with this organization? We have a lot to accomplish in Civitan and we need good leaders to think beyond their local club. If you are interested in going outside the box give me a call or email me. Thank you for your time and service.

*Grace Farmer, Governor-Elect
Heartland District
918-440-4405
grace1956@aol.com*

PROPOSED CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL BYLAW AMENDMENT

If you are attending the International Convention in Reno and are a voting delegate, please read the information below!

The Board of Civitan International is proposing to make a change to Article IV, Section 4.02 of the By-Laws—Composition and Term of Board of Directors. They are proposing that elected International Directors would serve a three-year term. Currently, the term of office is two years. The board believes this change would protect the organization in a greater way and force accountability to ensure Civitan's future.

If ratified by the membership at the International Convention in Reno in July 2018, this change would go into effect over a three-year period.

- One of the current directors from Region Three, Five, Six or Seven (all new in their term) would automatically serve an additional year. A computer program used during the board meeting randomly chose that director to come from Region Three.
- At the 2018 Reno convention, Directors elected for Regions One, Two and Eight would understand their term would be for three years. Directors elected for Region Four and the European Director would understand their term would be for two years.
- At the 2019 Greenville convention, Directors elected for Regions 5, 6, and 7 would understand their term would be three years.
- At the 2020 convention, the final Directors would shift to the three-year term, which would be those from Region 4 and Europe.

Civitan Awards



As the 2017-2018 Civitan year is already half over, it's time to start thinking about the Heartland

District Awards that will be presented during the annual District Convention in August.

All clubs should apply for at least one award as you've performed great service and projects to your community & education and communication to your club this year.

Submit an awards nomination form, located online at the following link : <http://civitan.org/heartland/awards.html> and include documentation to support your nomination.

There are several awards for your club to apply. Feel free to submit applications for several awards!

- Project of the Year
- Service to Persons with Intellectual/Developmental or Physical Disabilities
- Service to Youth
- Service to the Community
- Service to the Elderly
- Service to Veterans
- Service to Homeless
- Outstanding Club Speakers and Programs
- Outstanding Club Bulletin/Newsletter

- Outstanding Club Scrapbook
- Outstanding Club Web Site
- Outstanding Billboard Placement

Any Heartland District Civitan can nominate a deserving candidate for the following awards:

- District Civitan of the Year
- Jim Berryman Civitan of the Decade
- District New Member of the Year
- District Honor Key
- Area Directors, the Governor-Elect and/or the Governor can nominate for the Most Outstanding Club President Award and The Club of the Year.
- The Host Club of the District Convention and/or the Governor can nominate for the District Citizen of the Year.
- The Governor-Elect and Governor can nominate for the Distinguished Area Director(s).

All awards applications must be postmarked by July 15, 2018 and sent to Cheryl Ford at 2700 Kingston Drive, Bartlesville OK 74006. If you plan to bring your club's scrapbook and/or newsletter to the District Convention for judging, please notify Cheryl of that by July 15, 2018.

Congratulations Are in Order

Congratulations to the following clubs in the Heartland District who have a membership increase through the first half of the 2017-18 Civitan year. They are on their way to Honor Club!

Enid (6)
 Happy Trails (6; achieved Golden Circle)
 Hope (4)
 Abilities Unlimited (2)
 Civitan Orchids (1)
 Hutchinson (1)
 Twin Lakes (1)
 West Little Rock (1)

Congratulations are also due to two clubs who earned banner patches for exemplary management of the Candy Box program in 2016-17.

Wichita – Gold Recognition
 El Dorado – Bronze Recognition

Through April 9, 2018, the following clubs have achieved the indicated status for Civitans at the Helm.

Wichita – Admiral of the Fleet
 Metro Tulsa – Captain
 Bartlesville – Navigator
 Little Rock – Navigator
 Civitan Orchids – Helmsman
 Houston Clear Lake – Helmsman
 Hutchinson – Helmsman
 Jonesboro – Helmsman
 Paragould – Helmsman
 Starlight – Helmsman
 West Little Rock – Helmsman

CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH



Clockwise, from left: Hope (AR) Civitan Club, Coastal Bend (Kingsville, TX) Civitan Club, and Ranger (Grand



Prairie, TX) Civitan Club shared their celebrations of Clergy Appreciation Month in February.



PRESIDENT-ELECT MESSAGE



Hello Fellow Civitans,

It is an honor and privilege to be serving as your Civitan International President-Elect. I have had the opportunity to meet so many amazing people during my journey and look forward to meeting many more.

This is an exciting time to be a Civitan. We are moving into our second century of service to our communities and the world. We have so many opportunities to reach out our hand in service, there are so many needs that we can help. We have new leadership leading our organization. I would encourage you to reach out to the staff at Civitan International headquarters. They are there to help you.

It is hard to believe we are halfway through the Civitan year. If you have not sponsored a new member, now is the time to look for that person who you feel would be an asset to your club and our organization. Have you shared your "WHY" with that person? Everyone has a why they joined Civitan and there are those that are searching to give back to their community. If your club has not held a recruitment meeting, I would encourage you to consider doing so. A great way to get people involved is to invite them to a service project that your club is doing. People like to get involved.

I hope you are making plans to attend our International Convention July 22-25 in Reno. It will be an exciting time for everyone. I look forward to meeting many of you there.

Bob Jones
 2017-18 Civitan International
 President-Elect



Putt your money where your mouth is. Support the Breakthru Golf Tournament!

The 25th Annual Breakthru Golf Benefit is being held at the Somerset Golf & Country Club in Reno, Nevada on July 23, during our 2018 Civitan International Convention July 22-25. Funds raised help support our Civitan International Research Center. This is our biggest fundraising event to help us raise money for our commitment to the CIRC.

Any contributions made by Civitan clubs or individual Civitans gives clubs credit towards their Civitans at the Helm program.

Each golfer who plays will pay a \$150 fee and must raise at least \$1,500 for the CIRC. In this way, the golfers are paying for their green fees, cart and food, and the cost to play is not coming out of the monies raised.

At this time, we are aware of the following Civitans who plan to play in the Breakthru Golf Tournament: Bill Buscher (Topeka Club) Harold Connell (Wichita Club), Don Schultz (Topeka Club), and Scott Farmer (Bartlesville Club). All of the golfers would appreciate your support. If you have not supported one of the golfers in the past, please consider supporting Scott Farmer who will be playing in his

first Breakthru Golf Tournament.

Your tax-deductible checks should be made payable to Civitan International. Below is a form you can use for your contribution. You may mail your check to the addresses indicated below (for specific golfers), or you can mail it directly to Civitan International.

DONATIONS NEED TO BE RECEIVED BY JULY 1.

All of the golfers thank you very much for your support.

Bill Buscher
3619 SW Spring Creek Ct
Topeka, KS 66614-3970

Harold Connell
6202 E 12th St N
Wichita, KS 67208-2617

Don Schultz
3546 NW 45th Ct
Topeka, KS 66618-2639

Scott Farmer
c/o Bartlesville Civitan Club
PO Box 1294
Bartlesville, OK 74003

BREAKTHRU GOLF BENEFIT

I will sponsor _____ in the 25th Annual Civitan Breakthru Golf Benefit.

Contributor's Name: _____

City, State, Zip: _____


Email Address: _____

This is a Civitan contribution by individual or club.

This is a non-Civitan contribution by individual or business.

Please credit the _____ Civitan Club for Civitans at the Helm.

Mail donation slip with payment enclosed. Checks should be made payable to Civitan International, If not mailing to an individual golfer, please mail to: Civitan International, ATTM: Golf, One Civitan Place, Birmingham, AL 35213



Donation Amount:

\$

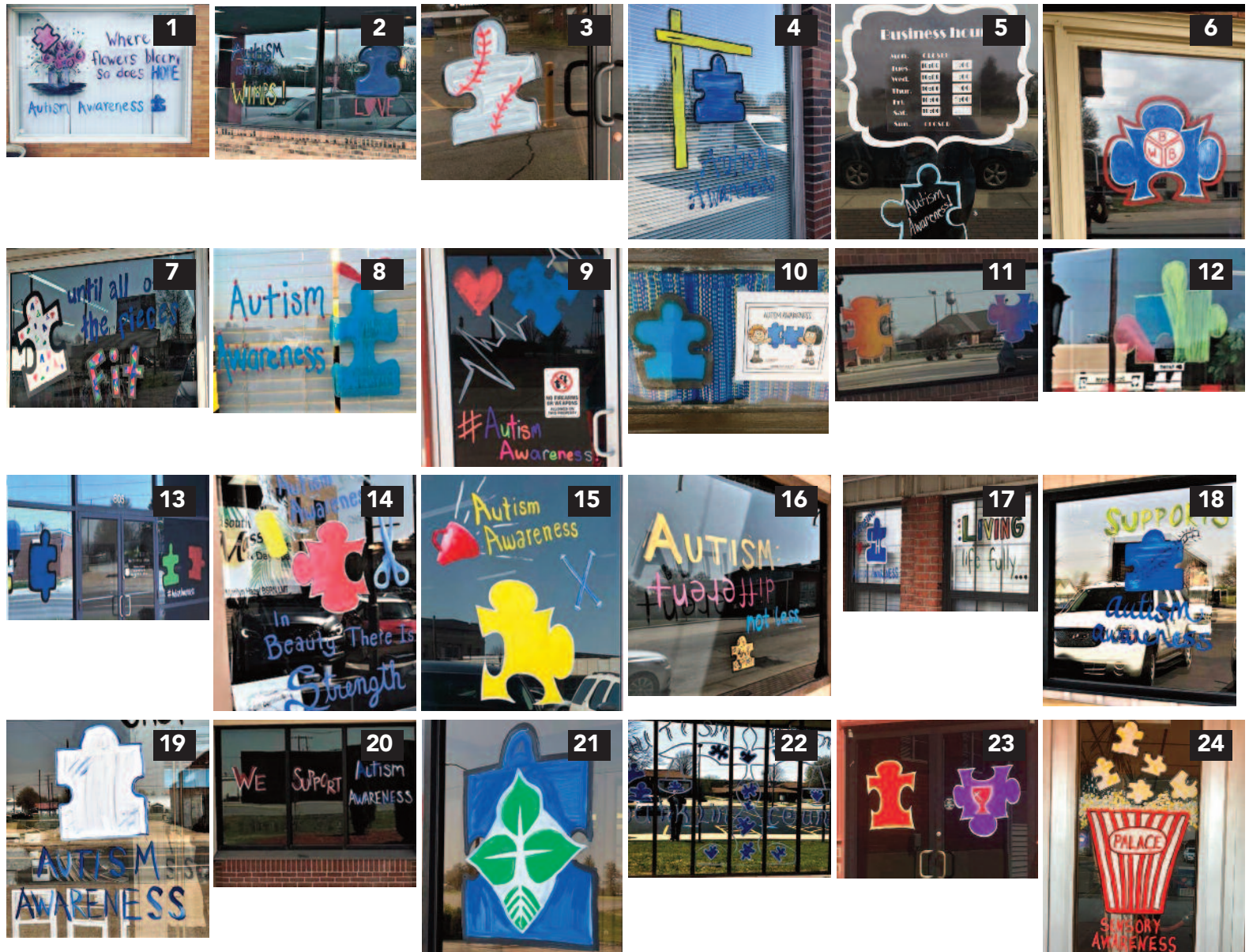


The Kennett (MO) Civitan Club took "April is Autism Awareness Month" very seriously and got the whole community involved. They contacted local businesses and asked them to help put the pieces together. They also posted a Facebook challenge, "Challenging all Businesses!!! We wanna see your puzzles!!! Let's light our town up with themed puzzle pieces on our community's store fronts."

The 24 pictures on this page do not indicate the businesses associated with these pictures; however, each picture is from a different business in Kennett, MO. (Note: most of the original pictures had the name of the business in the picture.) The first Civitan who correctly identifies all of the businesses shown in these pictures will win a \$25 gift certificate to the Civitan Supply House. (Members of the Kennett Civitan Club are ineligible to enter.) Please email your entries to Bob Shell at bobshell1951@gmail.com. Contest ends May 19.

Autism Awareness Month

Be the first to identify all the Kennett, Missouri businesses in these photos and win a \$25 Civitan Supply House Gift Certificate



KENNETT CIVITAN BUDDIES BASEBALL

The Kennett (MO) Civitan Club started a Civitan Buddy Baseball League this year. The Buddy Baseball League allows boys and girls with special needs to play baseball by pairing them up with "buddies." The "buddies" help their players as needed, whether it be pointing to where the ball should be thrown or helping them run bases. The club allowed students in 6th grade or above to serve as "buddies." The season just completed, having run on Saturday mornings from March 3 to April 14.



LAWRENCE ACTION COMES TO THE TABLE

Club member Morgan Schroeder of the Lawrence (KS) ACTION Civitan Club proposed a service project to help the O'Connell Youth Ranch get needed items for their residence. The accompanying picture shows what club members pulled together to help meet those needs.



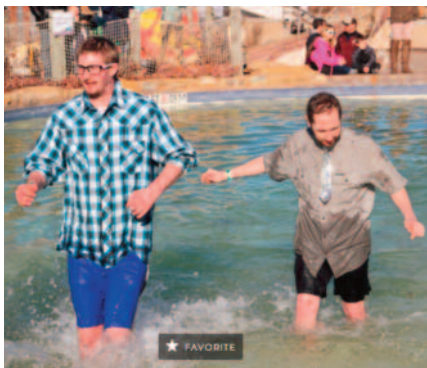
JONESBORO SORTING IT OUT



On March 28, members of the Jonesboro (AR) Club met at the Human Development Center to sort t-shirts for Easter.

EX-MEN FREEZIN' FOR A REASON

On January 27, the KC Ex-Men (Kansas City, KS) participated in the Polar Plunge at Schlitterbahn and boy, was it cold! They raised \$655.00!



CABOT EASTER EGG HUNT

On March 24, Cabot (AR) Civitan Club had their annual Easter Egg Hunt for children with special needs and their families.

PARAGOULD BOOK DRIVE

The Paragould (AR) Club collected new and gently-used books for special needs students in Greene County. Drop off sites for the books were at three area banks. After collecting the books, club members put them in book bags and distributed them to classes the week of March 26, so they could be read over the Easter weekend.

Paragould Civitan Book Drive

We are collecting **New or Gently used** children's books to place in **Book Bags** to **GIVE** to Special Needs students in Greene County!

Please have your donations by **March 16th**!

THANK YOU!

ORCHIDS BUDDING

The Civitan Orchids (Kansas City, KS) are starting 2018 off with a bang. In January they participated in the Special Olympic Polar Plunge raising more than \$1,600.00, and they visited a nursing home where they handed out magazines they had collected for the residents. They celebrated Clergy Appreciation in February by showcasing some of the talents of our Orchids to the clergy who attended. Twelve Orchids attended the Area 1 meeting on Feb. 24th in Kansas City, and had a great time networking with other Civitans. In March, they started their fundraising season with Sporting KC soccer by working a concession stand. They expect to work 16 games to raise funds to help with sending Orchids to the District Convention in Ft. Smith, Arkansas. They also stuffed 7,000 Easter eggs with candy for the 4th Annual Community-Wide Easter Egg Hunt held on March 31st.



ENID FLAG PROJECT

As we learned at the Area 7 meeting, each year, the Enid (OK) Civitan Club and the Hutchinson (KS) Civitan Club raise money from a Flag Project. According to their Facebook page, the El Dorado (AR) Club participates in the Flag Project with the Boy Scouts. If you would like to learn more about the Flag Project, click on the link below. The Enid Television Network invited the Enid Civitan Club to be on Community Talk and tell about their flag project and about how the money raised from it has been used in the community. Their talk encompasses the first ten minutes of this video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8w7b6mk4GI&feature=youtu.be>

Civitan Photos Now Online

District and International convention photos now online at civitan.org/heartland/civitan-photo-albums.html

BARTLESVILLE PADDLE PARTY FUND-RAISER

On April 14, the Bartlesville (OK) Club held its annual paddle party fundraiser. A paddle party is a fun combination of an auction and a game of chance. Cost is \$5.00 per paddle. Participants also bring a roll of quarters and bid on the items they like by putting a quarter into a container on their table. After placing your quarter, you raise your paddle. A number is drawn from a bin—much like bingo. If the



number drawn is for your paddle, you win the item for a quarter. If the number drawn was for a paddle where the owner did not ante up for that item, it starts over...with more quarters being

wagered. After three draws with no winner, the item is auctioned in the traditional way.

The club had 38 paddle items and eight live auction items, including a week's stay at Grand Crowne Resort in Branson, MO. Total raised at the party was \$1,560.

FORT SMITH CLUB JOINS WITH NIGHT TO SHINE AND THE ARC FOR VALENTINE'S



In the month of February, the Fort Smith (AR) Club helped with dances for persons with special needs. The first was with Tim Tebow's Night to Shine, held at WestArk Church of Christ on February 9; the second was at ARC for the River Valley on February 17.



BARTLESVILLE SERVANT'S HEART AWARDS



Bartlesville Civitan Club had their 1st Annual Servant's Heart Awards dinner April 19. Nominated for the Civitan Servant's Heart Awards were Cathy Bananno, the staff of Paths to Independence, Cassy Marlar, and Cheryl Clinkenbeard. All were nominated for their exemplary leadership, dedication and outstanding service in the field of Intellectual or developmental disabilities. Paths to Independence

(PTI) is a school for students with autism. Cathy Bananno is an employee of PTI and was nominated separately as well as part of the staff. Cassy Marlar teaches a special needs class at Bartlesville High School.

The winner of this year's 1st Annual Servant's Heart Award was Cheryl Clinkenbeard. Cheryl works at Bartlesville Senior Citizen Apartments and Torrey Place Apartments as Service Coordinator. Torrey Place is a Section 811 Supportive Housing property for Persons with Disabilities. Cheryl also recently received the Employee of the Year Award from the Leading Age Oklahoma Conference.



TOPEKA DOORSTEP



On February 28, the Topeka (KS) Civitan Club helped out with Doorstep's 15th Annual Operation Soup Line. Since 1966, Doorstep has helped families and individuals in need with food and clothing, prescriptions and dental assistance, utility and rent assistance, transportation assistance, and referral and advocacy services.



BLUEBONNET PULLS TOGETHER



The Bluebonnet (Irving, TX) Civitan Club participates in a fire truck pull each year to raise money for Special Olympics. The cost is \$350.00 per team. Participants receive t-shirts and are allowed two pulls. The police and fire departments are on hand to talk to the kids and participants. It really puts the "fun" in fund-raiser!

BLUEBONNET SERVES POLICE AND SENIOR CITIZENS

In March, the Bluebonnet (Irving, TX) Civitan Club held their annual Duncanville Police Banquet. They also had an Easter Basket Party for the senior citizens at the Ennis Brookdale center.



RIVER PARK SPONSORS MAUMELLE CHRISTMAS PARADE



The River Park Civitan Club took the initiative to start a Christmas Parade in their city of Maumelle, AR. This was the first Christmas Parade in Maumelle and they have learned much about how to make it even better in future years.



2018 CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

July 22 - July 25, 2018
Grand Sierra Resort • Reno, NV

Don't miss this fabulous convention in the high desert of Nevada, in the shadow of the magnificent Sierra Nevada mountains.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!](#)

RENO

THE BIGGEST LITTLE CITY IN THE WORLD

HEARTLAND DISTRICT OF CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL INTERNATIONAL 2017-2018 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

DISTRICT INCOME	
Club Dues	\$ 23,268
Area Meeting Registration Fees	\$ 2,400
District Convention	\$ 13,152
DISTRICT EXPENSES	
Admin-postage, printing, misc.	\$ 500
Communication-Board Meetings	\$ 4,295
Dist. Officer Training/Representation	\$ 4,250
District Growth & Expansion	\$ 2,250
Awards & Recognition	\$ 1,900
Travel	\$ 5,541
Area Meetings	\$ 1,031
Area Meetings Travel	\$ 1,113
District Convention	\$ 15,081
Junior Club Support/Expenses	\$ 2,000
Campus Club Support/Expenses	\$ 2,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 38,820
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 39,960
NET	(\$ (1,140))
Compensation from Branson convention site	\$ 2,300