



HOMETOWN Civitan Newsletter

June 2021

President's Corner



Dear Civitan Sisters, we have arrived in the Summer season. The pandemic has been finally subsiding and with vaccinations, those pesky masks are done, yay! Still, our club is proud to continue to be very active in participating in our communities and also for our members to enjoy fun social activities as well thanks to Lana Rosenberg, our Social Director. At a few of our monthly meetings, we've hosted some fun and interesting guests like the Wildwood Middle High School's boy's Basketball team and Wildwood's Mayor Ed Wolf with his City Manager Jason McHugh as this newsletter will show! As the Civitan International Convention 20-21 in Jacksonville will be at the end of July, Hometown and those of us who will be attending (in-person or virtually) are looking forward to our club receiving our two prestigious awards: Shropshire Award of Honorable Mention and for second place, Outstanding Community Service Project for Adopt-A-Precinct in October 2020. Of course, presentation photos will become available...stay tuned!

Hometown has once again thankfully acquired several new members giving us a strong total of 34! If we are to gain just 3 more members by the end of September, Laura says we will have a 10% increase which would be outstanding...let's see if we can achieve this goal! I am happy to announce that Hometown has thankfully formed a much needed Fundraising Committee who will be working on projects to keep in-house funding flowing for the club. Of course, anyone wanting to help is welcome. Did you know that Hometown is in the process of forming a Junior Civitan with the Middle High School by Betty Rohan, Laura McLaughlin, and Sharlene Floam? This will become another gold star for our fabulous club! Finally, our club is hoping it will be very soon that we will be able to return to the importance of servicing our 501C3 charities who have been the most impacted by being closed through the pandemic environment.

*** Please note that Hometown will NOT be meeting in August. Have a great summer!

Mary

Karen Chebek delivered more of our member-collected "TON" of aluminum pop tabs for our Ronald McDonald House Charity.

Thanks Karen!



WOW, WOW, WOW!

Congratulations to our Arlene for receiving this extraordinary surprise and much deserved recognition by Senator Rick Scott!! Her dedicated work for PACE has been recognized and awarded! How truly proud is our club to have Arlene and to have witnessed first hand all she has done for PACE. Thank You so much to Arlene for her years of service to PACE!

Another homerun for Hometown thanks to Arlene.

Member Spotlight

Karen Goodman

Hello, a little bit about me, Hometown Civitan's treasurer.



I was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, the eldest of three girls. I attended University of Michigan but didn't graduate college until I was 45 years old, having left after my junior year to raise two children. Enjoying college as an adult, I continued and got my Masters in Public Health.

For 25 years, I was the President of a Consortium of 7 hospitals in the greater Hartford area. We were the Human Resources for over 600 medical and surgical residents who trained in the Hartford area. It was a wonderful career.

I retired in 2011 and moved to the Villages with my partner, Joel Caplin. We moved down here with friends from up north and are enjoying our retirement years.

Joel and I play golf, card games with friends and have traveled all over the world.

I play mahjong, canasta and take art lessons along with occasional classes thru the Villages. Joel and I have 4 children and 5 grandchildren between us. Four are in college (mine) and one 16 month old baby. (Joel's). We recently added a golden doodle puppy to our family.

My first husband belonged to Civitans but women were not invited to join. So, when Betty told me about the club, I was thrilled that I join an organization that was involved in improving our surrounding communities and I love spending time with all my Civitan friends.



Club Notes

July Monthly Guest Speaker

SPCA Animal Welfare

"I checked with the SPCA director about current needs. At this time pet food is well stocked. The SPCA is focusing on the Hope Fund for this year. Their goal is to raise \$39,000 to provide lifesaving medical care for animals with critical needs. Examples are cash donations: gas cards for their vans and gift cards for prizes. Their website is: <http://yhsspca.org/>, click on DONATE.

Social Committee Suggests.....

The Social Committee will post a monthly suggestion for a trip members can take on their own. This month is Bountiful Farms in Okahumpka, FL.

Ladies Day Out on 5/22/21!!!

What a great day to lunch outside. Six Hometown Civitan Ladies and 2 friends, prospective Hometown members, spent a delightful time at Bountiful Bistro. Company was great and setting was lovely.

Thanks to all of you who send me the great photos that help make this newsletter possible! I really appreciate it!

-Diane



Given very short notice, but yet an honored invitation, Hometown was invited to attend Wildwood Middle High School's Future Farmers of America Awards Banquet. As many will remember, Hometown purchased a lamb at the Sumter County Fair in March raised by Daisy Vargas from that school, and Daisy is a member of FFA.

Wildwood Basketball

The team breakfast was a fun event for all involved. From the boys, to the coaches and their wives, all were very appreciative of the recognition and the RINGS!



The Daily Sun - Villager Backstory- Betty Rohan -

Two Civitans made the paper recently. First Judi Higbee, now Betty Rohan. There was a very complimentary article about Betty in the Daily Sun on Wednesday June 30. It mentions what a resilient person she is. She juggled children, a travel agency and a daughter who went on to be an actress then to the entertainment business.

She's one tough cookie! One of Her most recent accomplishments was to start the Hometown Civitans here n the Villages in 2015.



Social Committee

The Hometown Civitan Social Committee is happy to resume organizing events now that things are returning to normal again. We would like some information to help guide us in future planning.

1. Do you enjoy participating in social activities?
2. How often would you attend an activity? Every month, every other month, quarterly, less?
3. How far from The Villages would you travel for an activity?

We welcome any suggestions and look forward to your responses. The amount of future social activities depends on the level of participation as many venues require a minimum amount. We understand that during the past year this has been very low due to Covid, but we are asking for your input as we move forward in better times.

Thanks,

Lana and Doris Please RSVP to lanasr11@gmail.com.

From Beth Towns Civitan International

As we progress in our second century of service, Civitan's have been the catalysts for positive change in communities around the world. I have always felt we were home to some of the most sincere and dedicated volunteers anywhere, but each year the nominations received for the international award competition remind me of the sheer scope of our impact on the communities in which we serve.

I am delighted to officially inform you that your members' efforts during the 2019-2020 year have earned the Hometown Civitan Club the following international honor:

Dr. Courtney W. Shropshire Outstanding Civitan Club – Honorable Mention

Outstanding Community Service Project – Second Place

International award honorees will be recognized during our upcoming Civitan International Convention in Jacksonville this July. Please contact me (btowns@civitan.org) with information regarding who will be accepting your award(s).

Civitan's are the people who make things happen. Our members are the people who get things done. It is evident that clubs and districts not only accomplished tremendous service in their communities but excelled in this endeavor.

Congratulations to you and your members on this outstanding achievement!



Judi Higbee in the Daily Sun As Someone we should know.

We are Thankful She's a Civitan

Our very own Judi Higbee appeared in the Daily Sun Local news section on Wednesday June 16th. Not to steal thunder from her member spotlight, she was a donut dolly during the Vietnam War. She's had an interesting life starting from Detroit, MI to Vietnam to playing the organ at church in DongBaThin, to radio Djaying there also. Now she's doing her musical thing here in the Villages, and we are lucky to have her as a Civitan



Inspirational Thoughts from Tori

