

Minutes - HOMETOWN CIVITAN CLUB MEETING

November 7, 2023 10:30 a.m. Evans Prairie Restaurant

OPENING:

Meeting called to order at 10:35. Judi Higbee led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Civitan Creed. Welcome everyone. Passed the Happy Box, collecting \$18.

18 Members attended and the guest speaker.

PROGRAM:

Honoring Veterans Day, Judi asked for a show of hands of who had served in the military or had family members serve. Then she explained about Civilian Veterans, primarily those who worked with the American Red Cross and the ongoing ARC Service to the Armed Forces. She thanked everyone for their generous donations then introduced Bing Johnson from Operation Shoebox.

Bing shared the history of Operation Shoe Box and showed us some of the items they sell to raise funds, and the items that are sent to the troops in a ditty bag. How can we help?

- Play Bingo the first Monday of every month (they are sold out through next April!)
- Volunteer at Lake Miona Recreation Center on the other Mondays and buy items there.
- Write letters that are included in the ditty bags.
- Sew ditty bags, knit helmet liners.
- Make Para cord bracelets, cross-stitch angels, collect golf balls – new/used for “Need a ball, Take a ball”.
- Financial donations, especially needed for postage.
- Donate to or shop at their thrift store and furniture store in Belleview which is the home base of the organization.
- Operationshoebox.com

BUSINESS MEETING

1. Dues for the new fiscal year are due today. Please give your check to treasurer Ilene. Current membership is 33, we are expecting three others to transfer from the Leesburg club.
2. Installation of Officers was performed by our International Director for Region 2 Bill Tolleson at the Fall Meeting at Laurel Manor on October 21st. President Judi Higbee, President-Elect Betty Rohan, Secretary Kay Dando and Treasurer Ilene Hyams received officer training certification from Civitan International at the meeting as well. Rich Killion from Beacon College was the speaker. Bill Tolleson presented Rich with a check from the CI Region 2 for \$1,000.
3. Presentation of officer pins to Margie Brower – Member Correspondence Sub-Committee Chair, Diane Seymour – Newsletter Committee Chair, Kris Tygrett – Steward and Sergeant at Arms.

4. Beacon College Parents Weekend, five members of our Civitan club helped on Friday evening and Saturday. Beacon appreciated our support.
5. Giving Club Showcase – Sharlene shared our participation with 50 other clubs, we spoke with many people, recruited several speakers but no new members were recruited.
6. December 5th Club Meeting will include the Adoption of updated bylaws followed by holiday party. Lana explained that we will request donations for Kids Central Inc. instead of trading gifts with each other. The children are either in foster care or recently adopted. Items we can bring:
 - a. Gift Card to Walmart
 - b. PJ's for sizes 2T up to 14/16
 - c. Books for all children's ages
 - d. Lana will send out more information
7. Penny and Mary have completed decorating the tree we are donating to the Special Olympics Festival of Trees at Waterfront Inn. They will be on display from November 21 through Auction Night on Tuesday, December 12. Planning for a social to view the trees and have lunch at Amelia's restaurant is underway.
8. Karen Chlebek asked everyone to collect pull-tabs and bring them to the February meeting – in support of Ronald McDonald House.
9. Next Board Meeting is November 15 at the Fruitland Park Library.
10. There is NO CLUB MEETING IN JANUARY.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 with lunch following.

Respectfully submitted by Kay Dando, Secretary.

www.HometownCivitanClub.org - Every event/meeting is listed under Take Part - Events Calendar. Check out the pictures of the Region 2 Fall Meeting.