



HOMETOWN Civitan Newsletter

December 2021

President's Corner



Happy Holidays and Happy New Year 2022 to our Hometown Sisters!

We are surely looking forward to the enjoyment this year of spending the holidays with our loved ones and friends. 'Tis the season of giving; however, we Civitans give all year.

Perhaps it's because we are in our lucky 7th year anniversary that Hometown is back in full swing this year. We are a busy well-functioning team and we prove this to our area's communities by showing them what Hometown is best known for, what Civitan's members do best, and are proud of it... just look at this newsletter!

Hometown is enjoying significant member growth due to several new member recruitments by our ladies (you know who you are). These ladies also have received important recognition rewards or their recruitment accomplishments by past International President Frank Kelly...way to go ladies! Best of all, I'm most happy to report that several of these new members had jumped immediately into our Hometown waters by taking on responsibilities of important position roles for the necessity of us being able to continue having a successfully smooth functioning club. *Thank You* so much as we really appreciate your commitments! Please note that our Board positions will be fully operational as of January, 2022. *Thanks much* to Karen Goodman who will be our President-Elect, and new member Paula Goldstein will be our new Treasurer (bio in this newsletter). Our many thanks to Laura McLaughlin (has been our temporary President-Elect) who has provided great speakers through February 2022.

Our club's upcoming agenda(s) will be full. Hometown has maintained our club function and has continued to be actively still supporting our 501(c)3's over the pandemic environment. We are repeating our major Adopt-A-Precinct fundraiser, again doing our Bunco fun money-maker, will have interesting speakers for monthly meetings, will do fun & interesting social activities, and other important projects are in the works. As always, member participation is greatly appreciated. Please refer to our wonderful website and newsletters for continued important news & information about our wonderful proud Hometown club.



Hometown's 2nd Annual President's Brunch at Mary's home on 12/14, 2021. Left to right: Penny B., Karen S., Paula G., Mary A. Karen G., Deb McCoy, Judi H.



Our new **Civitan tee shirts** have arrived. Pick yours up at the next meeting.

Member Spotlight Paula Goldstein



Paula Goldstein was born in the New York/New Jersey area. She went to Monmouth University for her Bachelor of Science degree as an elementary teacher, Keane University for her Masters of Arts degree as a reading specialist, and Nova/Southeastern University for her degree in Administration and Supervision. Paula was a teacher in New Jersey and in South Florida as well as an assistant principal. She worked as a Preschool director and began and ran a tutoring business for about 5 years. Paula co-authored two workbooks used all over the world.

The treasurer's job always seems to follow her. Paula was the working treasurer for the HOA in South Florida and the community she lived in Oxford.

If you added up all the years she has been treasurer, it is about 36 years !

Paula lives with her baby, Lyra, a Doberman. She hopes to add to her little family this spring by getting a male Doberman! She lives a very peaceful and tranquil life and hates drama!



Monthly Guest Speakers October

Hometown's October general meeting featured guest speaker Bettyann Klein, director of Center Hill Children's Mission in Center Hill, Florida. Bettyann along with help from her husband has been working with Hispanic children for some 16 years in that southern area of Sumter County. Currently she has 20 children enrolled in her after school program where she provides homework assistance, arts and crafts supplies, dinner, and transportation home in the evenings. Bettyann has devoted her life to caring for these children whom she refers to as her family. Following a question and answer session, our club was delighted to be introduced to two of her older "kids" who related a bit about their lives and aspirations. Thank you to both Noemi and Maisie for taking time away from school to be with us.

Hometown hopes to support the mission's effort with a Christmas party in December.

November

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Hometown's November meeting featured fellow Civitan Nery Kircher. Nery, a native of Cuba, related the history of her family and told us of the oppression they suffered during the Castro regime. After having spent three years in a work camp in Cuba, Nery arrived in America at 21 years of age. She continues to cherish her new found freedom.

Nery and husband Bob Kircher reside in Naples, Florida, where they are active in both the Naples and Marco Island Clubs.



December

Hometown's speaker in December was Diane Delano, executive director of the Wild Horse Rescue Center in Webster, Florida.

The focus of this 501C(3) is to rehabilitate neglected and abused horses. Diane recognizes and understands the soul of these animals. Her purpose is to give them a new life that goes beyond physical health and rehab.

Working with private agencies and the government, she rescues wild mustangs from all over the United States. Additionally, the center handles burrows, dogs, and even pigs.

The WHRC relies on volunteers and donations to bring these treasured animals back to health and happiness.

Centerville Children's Mission Christmas Party

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Congratulations to Judi Higbee who was selected as our Member of the year, for her contributions as secretary and website manager. We appreciate all she does for the club.

www.HometownCivitanClub.com
Website Updates

There is a slider on the home page linked to a new video with music - "The Year in Review 2020-21". Also on the Video Channel, you will enjoy watching 'General Meetings are...!' Two news articles have been added regarding Pace and this year's charitable grants. They are "In the News". Photos have been added to the "Gallery" for the 10/15 Tea and Visit to Center Hill Children's Mission. All meetings and activities are shown on the "Events Calendar". The "New Member Resources" page is for everyone!

An award application for Best Club Website in 2020-21 has been submitted to Civitan International.

Social Committee

We will be visiting Marion Therapeutic Riding Association on January 11, 2022. We have arranged to have lunch before our tour at a nearby cafe- Scrambles. Lunch- 12:30-1 pm
Tour 2:30

RSVP name/tour for the tour only or name/lunch/tour to Lana.

Thanks,

Doris and Lana



Tori's Inspirational Selection for the Quarter

ABC's of Friendship

Always be honest.
Be there when they need you.
Cheer them on.
Don't look for their faults.
Every chance you get, call!
Forgive them.
Get together often.
Have faith in them.
Include them.
Just listen.
Know their dreams.
Love them unconditionally.
Make them feel special.
Never forget them.
Offer to help.
Praise them honestly.
Quietly disagree.
Rescue them often.
Say you're sorry.
Talk frequently.
Use good judgement.
Vote for them!
Wish them good luck!
X-ray yourself first.
Your words count.
Zip your mouth when necessary.

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Local news

Local Organization Needs Items to Help Girls in Need

Pace Center for Girls is looking for products and money to help local young women in need.

By **ANDREA DAVIS**
Daily Sun Senior writer

After hearing a story about a girl whose mother was too busy grocery shopping to go to her graduation, Betty Rohan made plans to reach out to the girl to congratulate her.

Little did she know that by reaching out to this girl, her life would change and she would become more involved with girls in a similar position.

“My heart went out to her and others in her situation said Rohan of the Village of Collier. “As a member of Hometown Civitan, I was already familiar with the work Pace Center for Girls did. I wanted to do more to help though, so I got involved and became a board member for the nonprofit.”

Pace Center for Girls opened in Marion County in 2001, and since that time has served more than 1000 girls, helping up to 100 girls yearly. The group provides at-risk girls academic and counseling services. The center is open from 8 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday at 328 NE 1st Ave, Suite 500, in Ocala and is currently looking for donations of feminine hygiene products, hair accessories and monetary donations to help pay for computers, food and personal protective equipment. To learn more about the center and their needs visit pacecenter.org/locations/marion.

“All the girls we work with at the center are wonderful”, said Rohan. “we keep in constant communication with the girls and help them succeed in their goals”. Pace is a safe and supportive academic and wrap around social services model for girls ages 11-17, helping girls overcome challenges and prepare for their future, Rohan said.

Carole Savage, executive director for the MARION County Pace center, said all the donations they receive help gives the girls a confidence boost. “We especially need feminine hygiene products as most of the girls we help are overcoming challenges like poverty and

cannot otherwise afford them,” she said. In addition to supplying these girls with essential items, we help girls who are struggling and who have experienced some form of trauma, to get their grades back on track, learn in a safe and supportive environment, get along better with friends and family and plan for a productive future.”

Savage said the work they do at the centers is important because the center also helps provide social, emotional and mental health counseling.

“Some of these girls feel like they are abandoned, especially when their parents are unable to celebrate important accomplishments,” she said. Rohan said each girl reminds her of a sister, child or niece in need.

“We consider them our girls, both while they are at the center an even throughout their life,” she said. We like to stay in touch with them, but they really need help”



October

Lana Rosenberg 10/1

Betty Rohan 10/4

Claire Gore 10/7

Beth Halstead 10/7

Sharlene Floam 10/7

Eve Fletcher 10/13

December

Carol Broos 12/6

Arlene Kaplan 12/8

Deb McCoy 12/22

Laura McLaughlin 12/26

Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 4

The Oaks Restaurant
at the Continental CC

On rte 44 between Morse and Buena Vista

(Park around the back)

8:45 am

\$10.00 cash or Check
(payable to Hometown Civitans)