



ALABAMA CENTRAL EXPRESS



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Summer 2017

Number 4

Wendell Harless, Governor

Emily Hodges, Editor

John Lanier Recognized As District Civitan of the Year



Shown above: 2015-2016 Governor Emily Hodges presents recognition plaque to John Lanier as District Civitan of the Year. Past Governor Dee Hutsler assisted with a short narration of Lanier's contributions to the Alabama Central District while also serving his club and international.



Celebrate 100 Years of Civitan with a limited edition commemorative coin. <http://civitan.org/centennial-coin/>
Get yours soon! Proceeds (\$15.00) from each coin goes to the Restoration Fund.



The Emerald Coast Chorus entertains with barbershop style music in Ft. Walton. Lots of toe tapping going on! Great entertainment.



Jerry LeVert Receives District Honor Key

For service to the district as Area I Director during the last two years and his diligence in promoting Civitan in his club and community, Jerry LeVert was awarded the District Honor Key by Governor Wendell Harless at the Ft. Walton District Convention. (Pictured at left)

Greetings Once Again Centennial Civitans,

This is the last time I will have the opportunity to address you through this medium. This Civitan year will end September 30 and the new year will begin October 1. Judith Pike will take over as our Governor for 2017-18. I know she will lead us into Civitan's second century with flying colors. She has great plans for our district and will do an outstanding job as our Governor. Jerry LeVert, with the Brent Civitan Club, will begin service as our Governor-Elect. I will serve as Past Governor and Foundation Liaison, so I will still be working with many of you.

The past two years, serving as your Governor-Elect and Governor, have been very rewarding and humbling for me. I have seen the dedication of so many of you to serve your communities, and I sincerely thank you for that. I have seen the dedication of your District Team doing their duties.

I want to say a special thank you to Mary Putman, who has served diligently as your District Secretary, and to Emily Hodges. I could not have served this year without them.

If you look in the dictionary under "service" you should see Emily. I know of no one who has served Civitan more than Emily. She has been Governor twice. This year, in addition to her Past Governor duties she has been head of Meetings, Newsletter and Awards and Finance Committees and been the Junior Civitan Liaison. She and Mary prepared the District Directory. The Newsletter you are reading now was prepared and edited by Emily. Emily....I, and all of the Civitans in this District can't thank you enough.

So now, let's finish our Centennial Year with a bang and recruit some new members. Let's give Judith and her Team our full support and make 2017-18 better than 2016-17.

Thank you all for your support and, as always, I am here to serve.

Wendell Harless
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**INTERNATIONALLY - ALABAMA
CENTRAL IS LEADING IN: NET GROWTH
EXISTING CLUBS! CONGRATULATIONS,
KEEP UP THOSE NUMBERS!**



**Wendell Harless
Governor**

2016 District Fruit Cake Recognitions:

Greatest Increase in Net Pounds sold: Wilsonville

Greatest Percentage Increase in Net Pounds Sold: Wilsonville

Most Pounds Sold per Member: Tri County

Clubs recognized from Claxton for participation (increase) in sales:

Irondale
Gardendale
Greater Titusville
Perimeter



2017 Price Increase from Claxton

Claxton will increase price per pound to \$2.59.

District Selling price for 2017 is \$3.70 per pound wholesale. Retail price remains at \$4.50 per pound. The 48 pound shippers will be \$3.70 per pound.

Vidalia ONIONS!

Congratulations to all who participated in this years onion project.

District wide we sold 26070 pounds, that's 2607 ten pound bags!

This represents a 235 bag increase over last year. Twenty district clubs participated.

Thank you to all those "hands on" Civitans who showed up at the drop locations to help count and distribute the onions. Pick-ups at all delivery locations went well.



Thank you for your participation!

Greetings Fellow Civitans:

What a fantastic Centennial Celebration that Birmingham put on for the 2017 International Convention! I am so proud of the Alabama Central along with the Alabama-West Florida and North Alabama Districts for hosting such a successful event. The arduous work put forth in the planning and the numerous volunteers serving during the convention made it obvious that we are proud to be the home of Civitan. Our visitors were treated to tours of the Civitan Research Center and International Headquarters along with some uniquely southern hospitality and food.

As we return home from the ACD Convention held in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, it means that we are rapidly approaching the end the current Civitan year. There is a lot of work to get done before October 1. The District Membership has grown this year so we need to continue all the hard work put forth in recruiting and retaining members.

The 2017-2018 District Team has been installed and is hard at work to make the next year a success. Are you interested in serving the ACD? We are looking for a few more volunteers to fill open positions. If you have a couple of spare hours each month, the District is interested in providing you with a cape so that you can join your fellow superheroes. Please contact me for more information.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Alabama Central District and to serve as your Governor in 2017-2018.

Sincerely,

Judith Pike
205-807-2872
jpike62@yahoo.com



Judith Pike
Governor-Elect



Above: Governor 2017-2018 Designate Judith Pike introduces her "Kindell Your Fire for Civitan" team following the Business and Elections Session at the annual District Convention in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida in early August.

On Right: Greater Titusville President 2015-2016 Leola Smith receives Distinguished President's Key from 2015-2016 Governor Emily Hodges. The Greater Titusville Club earned recognition under the leadership of Mrs. Smith as Civitan International **Honor Club of Excellence**,



Above: Governor-Elect Judith Pike presents 2016-2017 Governor Wendell Harless the Governor's recognition plaque and Governor's Honor Key. A gift of \$250 has been made to Civitans at the Helm in honor of Governor Harless' service.





Junior Civitans ~ Lisa Abercrombie, Junior Chair

Our district has just completed another good year. We had our district convention in April and elected our new officers: Governor, Gracie Kelley; Lorelei Macfiggin, Lt. Governor; Lexi Garrett, Deputy Governor, and most recently appointed Susy Naler, Secretary. We did a Collection Selection for Children In Crisis by collecting non-perishable items - we filled up the back of a pick up!! The attendees participated in a scavenger hunt and also a game night. Governor -Elect Judith Pike joined us and installed our new officers. Overall everyone had a great time!!

I am also pleased to announced we had 7 members to attend the Junior Civitan International Convention in Birmingham in June along with our Civitan members. It was a fun filled time of games, workshops, getting to meet new Junior Civitans and catching up with old friends and also experience parts of the Civitan functions as well. Several of our Junior Civitans helped with the guided tours during the convention.

I am excited to announce that Sylacauga HS was recognized for their participation in Social Causes Awareness and Environmental Awareness Campaigns with certificates. Kudos to Lexi Garrett and Susy Naler for reciting the Junior Civitan Creed and becoming a Junior Civitan Creed Club member while at the convention. The Alabama Central Junior Civitan District presented Cambron Bice, 2016-2017 Junior Civitan International President, with a Junior Civitan Fellow. Overall we had a great time, learned new ideas, gained more knowledge about our respective offices and our great organization. We are looking forward to watching our district and clubs grow this year and experiencing *"Oh The Places We Will Go"*!

Our district ended their year with.....10 active clubs, Membership last year 323 – this year 309 (14 member loss); 3 clubs with a 10% increase in membership: JCIB, Mountain Brook HS, Sylacauga HS; We added 1 new club – Booker T Washington MS – sponsored by the Greater Titusville Civitan Club.

We are currently working on two clubs with one to be chartered before the end of September and the other one first of October – Shades Valley HS, sponsored by the ACTION Civitan Club and Pell City HS, sponsored by the Pell City Civitan Club. We also have plans in place to work on several other clubs this next year. If you know of a school that needs a Junior Civitan Club please contact me.

Our district board met in early August and started working on plans for the upcoming year. They have set their calendar and are looking forward to a great year with increase in membership and clubs! They have set the club officer and advisor training for Sept. 23rd.

On behalf of our District Board and Team, Mrs. Hodges, and myself we would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to each of you, the Alabama Central Civitan District, and the Alabama Central District Junior Civitan Clubs for supporting and encouraging us during the past year. You make us want to strive for more and do more for our district. and this great organization. **THANK YOU!**

Congratulations to 2017 Junior Fellow Recipients

Lisa Abercrombie - by Alabama
Central District and Alabama Central
Junior Civitan District

Cambron Bice - by Alabama Central
Junior Civitan District

Junior Civitan Leaders for 2017-2018

Governor: Gracie Kelley

Deputy Governor: Lexi Garrett

Lt. Governor: Lorilei MacFiggin

Secretary: Susy Naler



Governor Gracie Kelley and Lt. Governor Lorilei MacFiggin presented appreciation certificates to Civitan Clubs for the support of projects and their international events at the ACD Ft. Walton Convention.

Club News

Research: Continues frequent “SciCafe” gatherings at John’s City Diner - a gathering of “geeks” sharing interesting current topics on scientific topics. Most recent was the timely topic on the solar eclipse.

Wilsonville: Preparing for the 11th Annual Christmas Bazaar! Saturday December 2, 9-2. Bake sale, glitter stamps, homemade crafts and clothing, toys and special Christmas items!

Montevallo: Civitans Provide Ice Cream Social for Mitchell Center Patients . . .

What could be more fun than ice cream on an August Day! Everyone loves ice cream, including all the patients and staff at the Mitchell Center in Calera, AL. The Mitchell Center is a day-time outpatient facility that is a part of the Chilton-Shelby Mental Health Center. They focus on evaluation, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of mental, emotional, and behavioral health issues. Counseling services are provided to improve emotional and mental health. All twenty patients are adults. The staff provides arts, crafts, and activities that teach as well as satisfy individuals’ needs. Montevallo Civitans look forward to this party as much as the patients. The expressions on their faces tell the story! We appreciate our time with them. Thanks to Bethany Higginbotham, Director of the Mitchell Center and to member Sylviane Price for purchasing the treats.



Gardendale: With the assistance of the ACTION Club built a wheelchair ramp for an Alzheimer's patient, Mr. Tim. Another successful build and grateful beneficiary. Great job!

ACTION: Continues with successful wheelchair ramps: members along with the help of Patrick, Al and Edward from the **Perimeter Civitan Club** built a wheelchair ramp for a very special lady, Mrs. Bell Ferguson of Hueytown, who is 93 years young! (Picture below). Also held awesome project at their July 26 meeting, members school supplies for underprivileged kids from crayons to glue sticks and also teacher supplies. We also had Paige Hanscom, the youth we sponsored for the Youth Leadership Forum in Searcy, AR speak about what she learned while there.

Birmingham: In early August hosted Presiding Circuit Judge Joseph Boohacker for an inspirational talk on the Middle East and its relevance to current events! During recent project, members fed 150 men at the Jimmie Hale Mission and made cobbler and ice cream for dessert. They wish to thank to everyone who helped. Club has welcomed new members to reach total membership of 18.



Alabama Central District Membership (09/01/17)

Club	# Membership
ACTION*	62
Alpha I (Selma)	18
Auburn*	30
Birmingham	22
Brent	24
Center Point	20
Crestwood	10
Irondale	10
Fairfield	16
Gardendale	23
Greater Titusville*	59
Hoover	8
Montevallo	23
Northport	14
Opelika	9
Pell City	19
Perimeter	13
Phenix City	14
Research*	33
Selma	11
Sylacauga*	25
Tri-County	10
Trussville	7
Tuscaloosa*	40
Tuskegee	20
Vestavia*	43
West Jefferson	14
Westside	11
Wilsonville	20
Associate Members	20
Total Members	648
Total Active Clubs:	29
Golden Circle Clubs*	6



Centennial Convention News! - Dee Hutsler

Many thanks to all those who volunteered to serve during the Centennial Convention in June. All the work began with setting up the Host hospitality room, stuffing goodies bags, working during the convention and greeting our "guests." Special thanks to all who provided door prizes and all those very special silent auction items. Our tour guides were a hit! Thanks to those who gave their time to accompany our out of town Civitans on the tours and worked long hours to give them a great experience. Our silent auction was composed of 23 very special baskets and items, and raised \$2445.00 for Civitans at the Helm.

Thanks also to our fellow Civitans in the Alabama North and Alabama-West Florida Districts for sharing the hosting for the Centennial Celebration. Let's have another great 100 years!



Club News - continued

Center Point: On August 21 members were pleased to present Robin King of the Department of Human Resources with 15 backpacks loaded with back to school supplies for children in the foster care program.



Center Point members gather to present backpacks to DHR representative.

Pell City: Club held it's 2017 Poker Run on Logan Martin Lake on August 5, 2017 at Lakeside Landing Marina. Club members volunteered on Host Committee for International Convention in June. Members attended the Ft. Walton convention.

Tri County: Members assisted at the 2017 National Leadership Form as chaperones with the Alabama West Florida group. Volunteered on Host Committee for International Convention. Attended the district convention in Ft. Walton. Preparing for annual pecan sale, ordering begins in September and October.

Brent: Club had a very successful Boston butt sale on Memorial Day. Members assisted at the International Convention with Host Committee functions. Attended the Ft. Walton Convention in August. Will have annual raffle/drawing at their Christmas dinner on December 12 - great prizes!

Northport: Recently completed addition to their building to include a cover for their new smoker/cooker. Held two successful "cooks" - in April and on July 4th. Next cooking fundraiser will be Labor Day weekend.

Alpha I: Recently recognized member Doris Holland for her 35 years in Civitan. Held a membership dinner on August 14. Will hold installation of 2017-2018 officers on September 11.

Selma Club: Regretfully reports the loss of President-Elect Bruce Henderson to cancer. Observed their 70th anniversary, rescheduled their celebration for later date. Preparing for Kozy Dog fundraiser at County Fair in early October. Plans joint stew cooking fundraiser with Sabre House (a home for battered women) during October. Will Hold officer installation in September.

Westside - Tuscaloosa: Club has had numerous members with health issues. Had representation at the district convention in Ft. Walton.

International Convention Honors—Birmingham, AL



Junior Civitans enjoy talking with CI President Duane Capps



Suzy and Lexi dress-up in costume for the Junior Civitan theme Dance.



Lisa Abercrombie receives Junior Civitan Fellow, shown with Alabama Central Junior Civitans attending the International Convention .



Cambron Bice receives Junior Civitan Fellow, shown with Alabama Central Junior Civitans attending the International Convention and Junior Chair Lisa Abercrombie.

CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL	
CHANGELSON	72
BALCHER	75
PHATHIES	76
STARKEN	68
STARKEN	76
RECKHOFF	72
BRUSCHER	77
DAVIS	70
SWANHAM	71
BRONKINSON	74
GLASGEN	
SHADSHAW	
STROVINE	

Annual Golf Benefit considered a success
78 golfers participated and raised \$289,565.14 (to date) for Civitans at the Helm.

Alabama Central Civitan District 2017-2018 Proposed Calendar

October 2017

- 1 New Civitan Year begins
- 7 First ACD Board Meeting—Hoover - 10am
- 7 Deadline ACD Express for Fall edition
- 28 World Junior Civitan Day—proposed joint meeting Jr/Sr

November 2017

- 1 Junior Civitan Dues deadline to CI
- 5 Time change BACK
- 15 Deadline for Club Officer Training Certification

December 2017

- 1 International Honor Club Applications for 2016-2017 due to CI
- 20 Sno Do donation minimum due to attend event.
- 31 ACD District Awards Nominations DUE to Past Governor

January 2018

- 6 Winter ACD Express deadline
- 6 Second ACD Board Meeting—Hoover—10am
- 20 Junior Civitans --Ronald McDonald House
- 20 Dance-a-thon Donations Due
- 20-23 Governor-Elect Academy
- 26-30 Junior Civitan Sno-Do & Gov'nors Update
- 31 Shropshire Scholarship Applications Due
- 31 District Quality Achievement Application Due

February - Junior Civitan International - Civitan Appreciation Month

- 4-10 Clergy Appreciation Week
- 4 Past Governor's CIRC Benefit, CIRC
- 7 Final Junior Civitan Dance-a-thon donations due to CI to attend
- 10 Past Governor's Benefit at CIRC
- 15 Form 990/e-file postcard for 2014-2015 year due to IRS
- Region One Meeting TBD

March - Vidalia Onion sales begin

- 8-10 Governor's Update, Birmingham, AL
- 9-12 Junior Civitan International Dance-a-thon,
- 24 Camp ASCCA Fun Fish Day and Clean-Up
- 24 Third Junior Civitan Board Meeting - Camp ASCCA

April - Civitan Awareness month

- 7 Spring ACD Express deadline
- 7 Third ACD Board Meeting—Hoover—10am
- 20 Deadline registration NYL Forum at Harding
- 25 Vidalia Onion Orders and Money DUE
- 27-29 ACD Junior Convention—Ft. Walton

May

- 5 Spring District Meeting and Camp ASCCA Basket auction, 4H Center- Columbiana
- 10 Vidalia Onions delivered (Tentative)

June

- 3-8 Youth Leadership Forum, Harding Univ.
- 21-24 Junior Civitan International Convention, Tupelo, MS

July

- 6 Summer ACD Express deadline
- 14 Fourth ACD Board Meeting/ Awards Hoover—10am
- 21-25 CI Convention and Golf Benefit - Reno/ Tahoe

August

- 14 Deadline room reservation District Conv.
- 26 Regional President/President-Elect Training, Birmingham, AL

September

- 5 Convention Registration
- 14-15 District Convention - Chattanooga, TN proposed.

All dates are current as proposed on publication date.

District Convention—Ft. Walton Beach, Florida

Opening Program and Awards Program

WESTERN ROUND-UP



2015 - 2016 Honor Recognitions

International Honor Clubs: ACTION, Phenix City
International Honor Club of Excellence: Greater Titusville
Distinguished Club Presidents: Owen Burns, ACTION;
 Karla Broadnax, Phenix City; Leola Smith, Greater Titusville

District Honor Clubs: Birmingham, Greater Titusville,
 Montevallo, Phenix City, Sylacauga
Outstanding Club of the Year: Greater Titusville

Outstanding Newsletter of the Year: Sylacauga
Second Place: Montevallo



Governor Harless and Governor-Elect Pike recognize first-timers, guests and past governors during opening session.

2015 - 2016 Growth Awards

Greater Percentage Increase:
Clubs (25 - 39 members): Brent
Clubs (>40 members): Greater Titusville

Greater than 15% Increase Overall/Greatest Numerical: Greater Titusville

Congrats to Greater Titusville on earning the 2015 -2016 International Growth recognition for **Most Numerical Increase (net new members)** in membership. Presentations were made during the International Convention in June.



2015-2016
 International Honor Clubs and
 Honor Club of Excellence



2015-2016
 President's of Distinction
 received "Key" plaques from
 International President Debbie
 Juhlke. Shown here club repre-
 sentatives accepting the awards.



2015 - 2016 District Growth Awards

2015 - 2016 Civitans at the Helm Recognitions

Admiral: Auburn
 Gardendale
Commodore: Center Point
 Fairfield
Captain: Birmingham
 Montevallo
 Northport
 Tri County
Navigator: Alexander City
 Irondale
 Greater Titusville
 Opelika
 Phenix City
 Sylacauga
 Wilsonville
Helmsman: ACTION B'ham
 Brent
 Selma



2015 - 2016 District Honor Clubs: Birming-
 ham, Phenix City and Greaser Titusville (not
 shown: Montevallo and Sylacauga)



Civitans at the Helm -
 Helmsman



Civitans at the Helm -
 Commodores





ACTION: Mikayla Carden

NLF

2017

National Leadership Forum



Center Point: Preston Hill



Phenix City: Marie Slayton (Chaperone) and Raphael Hudson



L to R: Gardendale (Cherish Cline), Center Point (Davalyn Walker), Tri County (Haley Chambers), Irondale (Kaitlyn Nickell)



Perimeter: Samamtha Graves

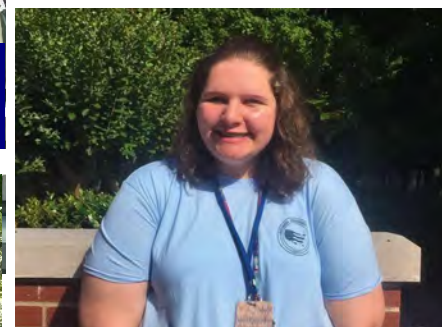


Greater Titusville: Ayala Seaborn



Front L to R: Gracie Phillips (Pell City), Melody Etheridge (Birmingham and Crestwood), Paige Hanscom (ACTION)

Back L to R: Brodie Holliday (Pell City), Clayton Nagel (Sylacauga), Anna Pepper (Sylacauga)



Wilsonville: Joci Smith



Montevallo: Sylvianne Price (Chaperone) and Trudie Benson



Brent: Tegan Jackson, Joshua Mayes, Trinity Edwards

Our 2017 delegation consisted of twenty-four student delegates and five adult chaperones (not shown: Dennis and Beverly Murphy and Brian James.) Sixteen clubs sponsored these delegates. Thank you to all for making this experience possible for our youth.



Selma: Peyton Granthum, Peyton Harvill, Will Lyons, Micah Pitts

National Youth Leadership Forum 2018 will be held **June 3 - 8** at Harding University - our 61st year!

Student sponsor fee will be **\$325 per student in 2018.**

RECRUIT EARLY - REGISTRATIONS DUE BY APRIL 20.

District Officers 2016-2017

Governor..... Wendell Harless
 Governor-Elect..... Judith Pike
 Immediate Past Governor.....Emily Hodges
 Secretary.....Mary Putman
 Treasurer.....Edward Thomas
 Past Governor Director Lisa Abercrombie

Area Directors

Area I Director.....Jerry LeVert
(Alpha I, Brent, Northport, Tuscaloosa, Westside, Selma)
 Area II Director.....Dimple Davis
(Auburn, Opelika, Phenix City, Tuskegee)
 Area III Director.....Donna Harper
(Montevallo, Sylacauga, Wilsonville)
 Area IV Director.....Richard Coley
(Gardendale, Hoover, Perimeter, Research, Vestavia)
 Area V Director.....Lisa Phillips
(Center Point, Crestwood, Irondale, Pell City, Tri-County, Trussville)
 Area VI Director.....Wilfred Fitts
(ACTION, Birmingham, Fairfield, Greater Titusville, West Jefferson)

**District Committee and Project Chairs**

Growth & Development.....John Lanier
 Newsletter Editor..... Emily Hodges
 Webmaster..... Donna Harper
 Fruit Cake/Vidalia Onions..... Wynton Hodges
 Junior Civitan/Campus Civitan..... Lisa Abercrombie
 Meetings.....Emily Hodges
 Youth Leadership Forum..... Beverly & Dennis Murphy
 Foundation Liaison.....Mike Brown
 Judge Advocate..... Brian Dix
 Policies.....Mary Putman
 Awards & Finance.....Emily Hodges
 Social Media Tony Ledbetter
 Junior Civitan Liaison.....Emily Hodges

The *Alabama Central Express* is published 4 times a year and mailed to over 600 Civitans in the Alabama Central District to keep them informed of Civitan activities in their district and region. To have information about your club or activity included in this newsletter, contact:

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