



# ALABAMA CENTRAL EXPRESS



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION, ALABAMA CENTRAL DISTRICT NO. 1

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Number 4

Judith A. Pike, Governor

Emily Hodges, Editor

## Light The Way Campaign

As Civitans, we are the light in our communities. Every day, somewhere around the globe, there is a Civitan club changing lives among all the darkness of this world. Our mission is simple - to serve others who need us.

Civitan launched the "Light The Way" at the 2018 International Convention. The intent of the fund is to set up a cash reserve for the needs of tomorrow. This will be a true rainy day fund. The fundraising effort is scheduled to continue over the next three years. This program gives donors the flexibility in pledging a gift that is meaningful to them. It includes some unique features including how International will keep donors informed about how the money will be used. In addition, there is a club component to this campaign that will better connect your dedicated group of Civitans more to what's going at world headquarters and our flagship project, the Civitan International Research Center.

Light  
the Way

If you would like more information, please contact Jenny Ely at (205) 591-8910 x 109 or [jenny@civitan.org](mailto:jenny@civitan.org).



Dr. Judy Roberts receives the Montevallo Club Civitan of the Year Award from Past President Peggy Czerw. Dr. Judy is active in all aspects of club life and valuable asset to the Club.

## Civitan Liability Insurance Premium Increase January 2019 Billing

### DID YOU KNOW?

Each club is insured when named in a covered lawsuit for acts committed by members working for the Civitan Club and under its direction. Officers and members are insured when named in a covered lawsuit as a result of Civitan Club activities when they are acting on behalf of the Civitan Club.

This comprehensive policy provides coverage for lawsuits resulting from bodily injury and property damage at Civitan Club-sponsored activities. This includes, but is not limited to: concession stands, dances, banquets, parties, auctions, raffles, picnics and meetings, to name a few. Coverage also applies to official Civitan Club participation, such as participation in a community event.



**Judith Pike**  
Governor

Hello Fellow Civitans:

As we wind down the Civitan year, I have been honored to serve as your Governor. The Alabama Central District has a lot to brag about in 2018. There are 2 two new clubs with 3 clubs (and maybe more) in progress. A majority of clubs participated in the Civitans at the Helm program with many clubs reaching award levels and over 80 individuals are members of the President's Council.

For those who attended the 2018 Civitan International Convention in Reno, I think we could all agree that the location offered us some amazing scenery and some unique photo opportunities. While the convention is a great time to catch up with our fellow Civitans, there were so many great breakout sessions to help us within our Districts and Clubs. I encourage everyone to consider attending the next convention to be held July 3-6, 2019 in Greenville, South Carolina.

I would be remiss if I said that everything in Civitan is going well. With a loss of over a 1,000 members (worldwide) so far this year, coupled with excessive spending in previous years, it has left our organization a big hole to dig out of in the coming years. With that being said, we truly are blessed to have Scarlet Thompson as our Executive Vice President and Kendyl Massey as the current President. They are working diligently to right our ship and to ensure that Civitan International will be celebrating a second century of service.

So what can we do on the local level you might ask? Recruit a new member, get people involved with your club and projects, and promote Civitan. We all are very passionate about Civitan and there are some great resources available through the new Civitan website and through the Civitan vimeo channel (vimeo.com) to help you grow your clubs.

Kindle Your Fire For Civitan,

*Judith H. Pike*

(205) 807-2872

jpik62@yahoo.com



## Changes for 2018 Fruit Cake Sales

Civitan International will no longer be involved in the Claxton Fruit Cake sales. Each District Chair will coordinate with Claxton Bakery to assist clubs. Per Alabama Central District Policy, each club participating in the Fruit Cake Sales should provide to the District Fruit Cake Chair a list of stores/venues supplied by said club, to include store number and addresses. All rebate stores/vendors (Publix and Winn Dixie, etc.) should be included on this list, as District is required to compile and submit list to Claxton by October 1. Clubs are asked to send their information to District Chair Wynton Hodges prior to this date. Those not in compliance will not be included in the official list and will not receive rebates for 2018.

**Changes to the requirement of number of pounds sold to qualify for rebates—requirement will now be 500 pounds of cake** ordered direct from Claxton to receive rebate (All locations—Publix and Winn Dixie, etc require same poundage sold.) All locations must be “claimed” to the District Fruit Cake Chair.

The District board approved at the July meeting that we **keep the 2018 selling price to stores/venues at \$3.70 per pound.** In light of Claxton's purchase price increase of \$0.05 per pound. There will also be a small increase to the 49-pound shipper units. Still no change in wholesale price to stores/venues; Retail price will to individuals is still at \$4.50 per one pound. Contact Chair Wynton Hodges at 205-908-6003 or [CivitanLeeds@aol.com](mailto:CivitanLeeds@aol.com)





**Greetings, Civitan Friends,**

This is an exciting time of the year. Summer is in full swing and the new fiscal year is in sight. Along with it comes a flurry of activity, including the International Convention in Reno, Nevada, the Officers Leadership Certification Workshop in Birmingham, Civitan ACD Convention at Lake Guntersville, AL and each club preparing for the 2018-2019 installation of officers, just to name a few. There's not enough room in this publication to mention all the activities among the clubs within the District changing lives and making a difference in our communities. I encourage you to continue to let the Civitan light shine in your community through social media and club activities.

Just a reminder, the Officers Leadership Certification Workshop (President and President-Elect) in Birmingham is September 8. Even though you may have attended a workshop in the past, if it has been over two (2) years, you must certify again. The same goes for the Secretary and Treasurer, but they can certify on-line. One other bit of housekeeping - if your club has not submitted their "Report of Club Officers" for the 2018-2019 year, please do so ASAP even if your officers remain the same.

I want to thank all of you for your hard work, dedication and the confidence you have in me. I am truly proud to be a Civitan and a member of this great District. Together, and by the grace of God, we can change our communities, District and the World for the better. Lastly, I am humbled to be your Governor-Elect and, as always, I'm only a phone call, text or email away.

Respectfully,

*Jerry LeVert*

(205) 310-4356

jlevert@adssecurity.com



**Jerry LeVert**  
**Governor-Elect**



## 2018-2019 Regional Officer Training

Believe it or not we are more than halfway through the Civitan year! That means it is almost time for new officers. As your club prepares to vote in new officers make sure to keep in mind that those officers need to complete officer training. The schedule is set for the summer - check out the dates below:

August 25 - Lansing, MI

August 25 - Nashville, TN

August 25 - Orlando, FL

Sept 8 - Charlotte, NC

**Sept 8 - Birmingham, AL**

Sept 8 - Chattanooga, TN

If you have questions contact Stacy Sabo, [stacy@civitan.org](mailto:stacy@civitan.org)



2018 Camp ASCCA Basket auction successful at Spring meeting held at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana. Donations were direct to the Camp. *Shown above left:* Governor Judith Pike presenting check for district donation of \$600 towards t-shirts for the Fun Fish Event to Event Coordinator Cory McMillan. *On the right:* Director Peggy Czerw and Cory McMillan during the Basket Auction.



## Junior Civitans ~ *Lisa Abercrombie, Junior Chair*

The 2017-2018 Junior Civitan has just ended but not before we held our district convention and attended the Junior Civitan International Convention.



AL Central Governor-Elect with newly installed 2018-2019 District Officers at Ft. Walton Convention.



"Elvis" and the girls.

### Junior Civitan Leaders for 2018-2019

Governor: Lexi Garrett

Deputy Governor: Madison Moncrief

PR Coordinator: Blair Dunn

Secretary: Vacant

In April the Alabama Central District Junior Civitans took to the sunny beaches of Fort Walton Beach, FL for the district convention. This was a time we celebrated and acknowledged the clubs accomplishments and gave a full review of the status of our district. During the convention our attendees did a collection selection of paper products for Fresh Start for Adults and Children. They also participated in a scavenger hunt, movie night, and dance competitions on the last night following the installation dinner. We were honored to have Governor Elect Jerry LeVert and his wife Bonnie with us during this time. Mr. LeVert installed our newly elected district officers; Lexi Garrett, Governor, Madison Moncrief, Deputy Governor, and Blair Dunn, PRC. It was a wonderful weekend filled with lots of knowledge, excitement, and sun.

In June three of our Junior Civitans, Lexi Garrett, Madison Moncrief, Susy Naler, and myself hit the road to Tupelo, MS for the 2018 Junior Civitan International Convention. Our attendees participated in workshops, team building exercises, as well as seeing old friends and making new ones. They even got to rock with "Elvis"! They learned many different things to help their clubs and to bring great ideas to the district. Our district sponsored corn hole during the Carnival for adults and children with disabilities. It was a fun filled couple of days and our Juniors learned a lot and also participated in electing the new Junior Civitan International President and Board. Thanks to the Mississippi North District for a wonderful weekend!!

Our year ended on a pretty good note. We had 9 active clubs. We built one new club and lost one club. We started the year with a membership of 309 and ended the year with 301 – down 8 members. Overall our district held its own. We greatly appreciate all the hard work and dedication from the clubs, district, and Civitans that helped make this a good year.

July 1<sup>st</sup> starts a new year, so the district board will be holding its first board meeting and district officer training on July 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be making plans for the upcoming year and getting dates set for events and projects. The district will be seeking to fill several positions on our district board once school starts. We will be adding one special new member, "Burt," to our district so be on the lookout for pictures, excitement, and words of encouragement to the clubs.

So, as we gear up for the 2018-2019 year the district will be working on building new clubs, improve communication through email, social media, newsletter, and working on maintaining our membership in existing clubs but also increasing the membership so we will have more hands to do the work of Junior Civitan. Thank you to the Alabama Central District, Governor Judith Pike, and the District Board and Team, Civitan members, Junior Civitans and Advisors for supporting our Junior Civitans and this great program. We will be the shining the "Stars of Service!"

Respectfully.

*Lisa*



**Hoover:** The club is busy selling Vidalia Onions and serving as interview coaches for the ARC of Shelby County. We have recently added 2 new members from the business community and we are actively seeking new members. The club meets at the First Watch in Riverchase on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 11:30 to 1:00 PM. Please join them for lunch.

**Montevallo:** Eight members attended the ACD Spring Meeting at the 4-H Camp in Columbiana and provided a basket for the Camp ASCCA Auction. The Annual Hot Dog Cookout and Recruitment Picnic was held in May. At that event, the Servant's Heart Award was presented to Bethany Higginbotham from the Mitchell Center, Shelby-Chilton Mental Health Center. The MCC Civitan Citizen of the Year Award was presented to member Dr. Judy Rogers. Many thanks to leaders of ACD that attended, including Emily and Wynton Hodges, Judith Pike, Jerry and Bonnie LeVert. In June, MCC celebrated summer birthdays at The Birthday Bash; we had lots of fun and it was a good time to line up committee members for the coming year.

**Phenix City:** Successful Vidalia Onion sale, have plans for a dance in September for Happy Valey Adult Day Care group. Have planned their Fall membership recruitment meeting. Six members are registered and plan to attend the Guntersville Convention in September.

**Auburn:** Held a membership meeting in May and gained twom new members. Display the American flags throughout the city on Memorial Day and Independence Day. Members enjoyed fellowship lunch in June and July meeting. On July 14th members volunteered at "Freeze Off," a homemade ice cream competition. This was a fund raiser for a playground for children with special challenges. Several are scheduled to volunteer at Camp ASCCA on July 22 to help with camper check-in.

**Irondale:** Sponsored one student to NYL Forum at Harding and hosted her for lunch at their regular meeting. Club has changed meeting day from Monday to Tuesday of the second week in the month, still 11:30 am at Irondale Café. Working on project to provide back to school supplies to Irondale Community School.

**Pell City:** Annual Poker Run planned for August 4th out of Pier 59/. Will offer a \$1000 prize!. Sponsored one student to NYL Forum at Harding. In June.

**Center Point:** In May they presented special needs classes in four schools with "wish list" items provided by these teachers. A huge collection! Held a Community Picnic on July 14 at the Civitan Park and provided food and games. Have collected paper products for the Veterans Home. Sponsored two students to the National Youth Leadership Forum in Searcy, Ark.

**Crestwood:** Several members worked with the Neighborhood USA Conference in May, hosting tours of historical areas and dinner at Girl's Inc.

**Tri County:** Sponsored student to NYL Forum at Harding in June, two members attended as chaperones. Has good onion sales. Plans to help with the Back Packs for Kids program this year. Planning fal pecan sale and Claxton fruit cake sale. Two attended Reno Convention and then on to Guntersville in September.

**Sylacauga:** The club built a ramp this spring. They held their annual yard sale, raising \$1300 and awarded two \$500 scholarships to H.S. seniors. They assisted with the Autism walk and the ARC Sunshine Project. Future project plans are to help with Main St Urgent Care at their Bark in the Park activity coming up in August.

**Greater Titusville:** June meeting had a very informative presentation by Mr. J.W. Carpenter of The Birmingham Education Foundation, program was an overview of their program which strives to ensure more students graduate from Birmingham City Schools ready for college, career and life in general. Thanks to the several resourceful GTCC Club members who did an awesome job preparing and serving dinner to residents of the Ronald McDonald House last month! At the July 11 meeting, members gathered at the Golden Flake Snack Foods facility meeting room and enjoyed lunch and tours with their hosts. This annual event brings the members back to the place their club was organized at charter- always great fun! July service project is with the Youth Serve Leadership Camp, members will don their favorite Civitan T-shirt and serve a pizza and salad lunch at Avondale Methodist Church. Members continue to collect for the Coin Box Project and Pop Tabs for Booker T. Washington Junior Civitans the Ronald McDonald House.



## Alabama Central District Membership (07/01/18)

Club	# Membership
ACTION*	47
Alpha I (Selma)	15
Auburn	27
Birmingham	21
Brent	22
Center Point	12
Crestwood	6
Irondale	7
Fairfield	14
Gardendale	23
Greater St. Clair Co.	21
Greater Titusville*	46
Hearts of Horizons*	31
Hoover	10
Montevallo	21
Northport	15
Opelika	7
Pell City	16
Perimeter	10
Phenix City	13
Research*	34
Selma	11
Sylacauga	21
Tri-County	10
Tuscaloosa	26
Tuskegee	20
Vestavia*	42
West Jefferson	11
Westside	15
Wilsonville	12
Associate Members	18
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>605</b>
<b>Total Active Clubs:</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Golden Circle Clubs*</b>	<b>5</b>



## Club News - continued

**ACTION:** On June 23rd, Action Civitan Club held its annual Putt for a Cause tournament. The 9 Hole contest takes place at local bars and restaurants with about half the proceeds going to the Exceptional Foundation. The Exceptional Foundation is an activity center for adults with special needs. This year, the event was held in the Avondale community and participants walked from one restaurant or bar to the next. The winner of this year's tournament was a team led by Governor Judith Pike and included Past Gov. Director Dee Hutsler and guests Chris Hood and Virginia Miller. Over the past six years, Action has donated over \$15,000 to the Exceptional Foundation.



## NLF 2018 National Leadership Forum Harding University June 3 - 8, 2018



# 2018 Alabama Central District Convention



Lake Guntersville State Park  
1155 Lodge Drive  
Guntersville, Alabama 35976

**September 15-16, 2018**

**Registration Cost: \$100**

(All Civitan members, late and on-site registrations)

Non-Civitan Guests: \$100 (pre-registration only)

**Deadline for registration: Friday, August 31, 2018**

*(No refunds on cancellations after this date, as food must be guaranteed with hotel)*

Room Reservations and Rates:

Bluff Side (2 Queens): \$121.00 - Parking Lot Side (One Queen): \$104.00

(Rate is per night - add taxes and 3.5% resort fee; up two (2) adults per room; additional persons per room add \$10 per person, maximum four (4) persons per room.) Check-in begins at 4:00 p.m. Room block available for Friday and Saturday nights.

For reservations call: 256-505-6631, Code: Alabama Central Civitan District, group code 7535  
for our Civitan rate, or go online [www.alapark.com/lakeguntersville](http://www.alapark.com/lakeguntersville)

**Deadline for room reservations at these rates is August 14, 2018.**

## Preliminary Agenda Overview: (Tentative)

Saturday -9/15 a.m.: Registration - 9:00-10:00 a.m. Outside Camellia Room; Awards and Business (Camellia)- 10:00 am-Noon; Lunch Program (Camellia) - 12:30-2:00 p.m. Installation Dinner/Entertainment (Camellia) - 6:30 p.m - til. Hospitality Room will be open when meeting not in session.

Note: There will NOT be a program or dinner on Friday **Saturday Program highlights:** 2017-2018 District officer elections; Area Director training with Governor-Elect, 2018-2019, Club Presidents meeting with Governor-Elect and installation at banquet; proposed workshops. Team meeting and orientation with 2018-2019 Governor designate. There will be a Silent Auction (for CIRC); door prizes (each person please bring one of \$10 min. value), hospitality and most of all FELLOWSHIP!

\*\*\*\*\*

Registration Deadline - August 31, 2018

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# Civitans Attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$100.00 per person      Guests/Non-Civitans \_\_\_\_\_ @ 100.00 per person

Send registration by August 31, 2018, with checks made to: *Alabama Central Civitan District*

Mail to: E Hodges, Meetings Coordinator, 1041 Melissa Circle, Leeds, AL 35094

If you have questions, please send email to: [CivitanLeeds@aol.com](mailto:CivitanLeeds@aol.com)







2018 Junior Civitan International Convention hosted by Mississippi North District—Welcome to Tupelo - birthplace of Elvis !



*special Project Game Night for our Special Friends and Guests*



*Special Helpers getting Hugs!*



*Anyone for "Corn Hole?"*



*Governor Lexie and Madison  
"Taking Care of Business!"*



Theme emphasis for 2018-2019, honoring service to all our community partners and friends.



*Governor Lexi Garrett installed  
with other Governors and  
International Board at closing  
banquet*



## District Officers 2017-2018

Governor.....	Judith Pike
Governor-Elect.....	Jerry LeVert
Immediate Past Governor.....	Wendell Harless
Secretary.....	Mary Putman
Treasurer.....	Edward Thomas
Past Governor Director .....	K. Dee Hutsler

## Area Directors

Area I Director.....	Albert D. Wilson (Alpha I, Brent, Northport, Tuscaloosa, Westside, Selma)
Area II Director.....	Dimple Davis (Auburn, Opelika, Phenix City, Tuskegee)
Area III Director.....	Peggy Czerw (Montevallo, Sylacauga, Wilsonville)
Area IV Director.....	Richard Coley (Gardendale, Hoover, Perimeter, Research, Vestavia)
Area V Director.....	Mary Anne Pike (Center Point, Crestwood, Irondale, Pell City, Tri-County, Greater St. Clair Co.)
Area VI Director.....	Wilfred Fitts (ACTION, Birmingham, Fairfield, Greater Titusville, West Jefferson, Hearts of Horizons)

## District Committee and Project Chairs

Growth & Development.....	Area Directors
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.....	Wynton and Emily Hodges
Foundation Liaison.....	Wendell Harless
Judge Advocate/Policies.....	Mary Putman
Awards & Finance.....	Wendell Harless
PR/Social Media .....	Tony Ledbetter
Junior Civitan Liaison.....	Emily Hodges

ALABAMA CENTRAL DISTRICT PRESENTS

The ART of Giving  
**CHARITY AUCTION**

**Mystery At the Museum**

SATURDAY - OCTOBER 6TH

SOCIAL HOUR 4-5PM | AUCTION 5-7PM  
CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH  
1719 6TH AVE SOUTH

Tickets \$15  
Mail Checks to 1719 6th AVE S Room 252  
Birmingham AL 35294

Honoring Past Governor  
Judith Pike

HOSTED BY RESEARCH CIVITAN CLUB

**SAVE THE DATE!** Our 2018 Past Governor's Benefit will be held in conjunction with the Research Civitan Club Charity Auction on October 6, 2018. Donations in honor of Governor Judith Pike will be handled as usual - there will be a donation jar. Registrations should be mailed to Tiffany Alexander at the address above by October 1. You may contact Emily Hodges, 205-999-2118, if you have questions.

## Club News - Continued

**Perimeter** - Perimeter sponsored a student for the Youth Leadership Conference in Arkansas. We conducted a "Christmas in July" Canned Food Drive at Piggly Wiggly in July with three buggies of food that were delivered to the Ronald McDonald House for families that stay there while their children are in the hospital. We sold 82 bags of Vidalia Onions in the district project, assisted during baseball games of the Exceptional Foundation's spring tournament. Recent speakers to our club's members have included our Governor Judith Pike, The Cahaba Riverkeeper organization and Ruffner Mountain nature Preserve.



Montevallo Past President Peggy Czerw presenting the Servant's Heart Award to Bethany Higginbotham from the Mitchell Center, Shelby-Chilton Mental Health Center.

