



# ALABAMA CENTRAL EXPRESS



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION, ALABAMA CENTRAL DISTRICT NO. 1

Volume XXXVIII

WINTER 2018

Number 2

Judith A. Pike, Governor

Emily Hodges, Editor

## Greater St. Clair County Civitan Club Charters on December 5 in Argo.



Governor Judith Pike presents official charter to Greater St. Clair County Club President Christa Hawkins.

Congratulations and welcome to new members of the Greater St. Clair County Civitan Club. Many district past governors attended and participated in the charter program for club number 4195. ACTION Club in Birmingham was the Sponsoring Club.

Recognized club builders were Wendell Harless, Immediate Past Governor; Terry Schrimsher, MST and Master Club Builder Louis Stephens, MST.

Governor-Elect Jerry LeVert from the Brent Club attended and participated in the presentations, as did Past Governor Emily Hodges, from Tri County Club in Leeds, in welcoming the members to Civitan.

The club meets at the Crazy Horse Restaurant in Argo. This is the third notice of a new club reported to Civitan International and first for Alabama Central District for 2017-2018.

## Region One Meeting

Region One Director Barbara Holyfield encourages you to join her on

March 2-3, 2018

Registration: \$ 85.00

at the DoubleTree Inn - Decatur, Alabama

Decatur Riverfront - 1101 6th Avenue, NE  
Phone: 256-355-3150 or

<http://www.decaturriverfront.doubletree.com>

Room Rates: \$95.00 for 2 Standard Queen or Standard King, \$114 for a suite

Reserve your room using Civitan or Civitan Region One when you call.

Deadline for these rates is February 9, 2018.

Join the fellowship with Civitans from Alabama, Mississippi and Northwest Florida,

Bring door prizes (\$10 value min., please) and Silent Auction items. Proceeds of the silent auction go to Civitan at the Helm projects.





**Judith Pike**  
Governor

### *Greeting Fellow Civitans:*

Happy New Year! I am hopeful that your holidays were filled with time with friends and family and of course, lots of food. I am sure that many find the holidays to be a frantic time with too much to do. I try to spend those closing days of a year reflecting on my accomplishments but also pondering my shortcomings. With the Civitan year beginning in October, the New Year closes out the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. The good news is that the Alabama Central District has been busy with club building with the successful launches of both Civitan and Junior Civitan clubs. Sales reports for Claxton fruitcake and pecans appear to look good for the fundraising efforts of the clubs to secure funds for upcoming projects. Planning of the February Past Governor's Benefit is underway with a new venue and format. Be on the lookout for the upcoming announcement.

Unfortunately, as with many districts there are challenges with maintaining membership. The ACD is currently down which is not unusual for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter but it means that we all must be diligent in not only recruiting new members but also in maintaining our current members and clubs. If you have been successful in recruiting new members, the ACD Board would love to hear your story so that it can be shared with other clubs. If you are struggling, please let us know so that we can help.

I encourage everyone to attend the Region 1 meeting in Decatur on March 2-3, 2018. Barbara Holyfield, Region 1 Director has scheduled some dynamite speakers along with breakout sessions not to mention a field trip to make it an exciting weekend.

The ACD has a busy schedule this quarter with the Past Governor's Benefit on February 10<sup>th</sup>, our Spring meeting to be held May 5th at the 4-H Center in Columbiana and the Camp ASCAA Fun Fish Day on March 24.

Thank you for all the hard work that often goes unrecognized. Keep it up and Kindle Your Fire for Civitan.

*Judith*

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



**Crazy for Vidalia® Onions?**  
Order early from a Civitan!

Orders begin early March.  
Final count and money due to district chair by April 25.  
Delivery (at this time) planned for May 10. \ to usual drop locations.

**10 lbs for \$10**

\* 3 winners to be selected on 7/7/17



I think that this year's Claxton Fruit Cake sales can, when all is said and done, be named a "success." We began with some outside vendor issues, hopefully the solutions to these left all our clubs in good shape. Thank you to all those with these issues for working with us to cover the excess cakes. Hopefully in seasons to come we can get the jump on this "interference." So that we can adjust "sales" numbers for cakes transferred between clubs, please let me know how many cases your club sold to another club. Totals from Civitan International will be a while coming out to know if we had an overall increase in pounds sold.

**Greetings, Civitan Friends,**

We were reminded in the Governor’s article in our last publication of the Civitan Creed. The Creed is something we should not only read or recite at our meetings but strive every day to live up to and share with others. This, along with our International Mission Statement, gives substance to being a member of Civitan. They also can be inviting or enticing tools to those considering becoming a member. Remember, one person can make a difference, but in numbers, we can change the world.

*“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:14-16)* Therefore, inform everyone who Civitan is and what Civitan stands for, whether by mouth, actions or social media.

I want to thank each of you for your continued confidence and support in me as Alabama Central District’s 2017-2018 Governor-Elect. As with the governor, I, too, am available for each member and club should you need me.

Respectfully,

**Jerry LeVert**  
205-310-4356  
jcl07@mindspring.com



**Jerry LeVert**  
Governor-Elect



**Montevallo Civitans Support Wreaths Across America . . .**



Montevallo Civitans again donated toward the purchase of wreaths laid at the Alabama National Cemetery and participated in the Wreaths Across America Program. Laying of the wreaths was December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Wreaths were laid at the grave of every fallen soldier. With about 5000 wreaths covering the cemetery it is a fitting tribute to those who gave it all. In January the

wreaths must be removed. The call went out for volunteers to assist the Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery whose mission it is to maintain tributes to these fallen heroes. Montevallo Civitans responded. On January 12, some of our members joined in the clean-up as all the wreaths were removed from the graves. More than 60 people joined in this effort from many segments of the community. Montevallo Civitans are so happy to be a very small part of this heroic effort.



**ABOVE:** Montevallo Civitans assisting with removal of wreaths from Ala. National Cemetery.

**Wilsonville:** The Club had a very profitable and fun Christmas Bazaar and looking forward to next year. We had a Christmas Party and invited Dr. Stephen and Mrs. Christy Kearley, Assistant Principals of Wilsonville Elementary and Elvin Hill Elementary respectively. We presented a check for \$400 to WES from our Pancake Supper fundraiser. After our dinner, we played some rounds of Christmas Bingo and Pictionary! January 25<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate our 71st anniversary with dinner at Bernie's in Columbiana. We've also had a successful year also with our fruitcake sales.



**Above left:** President Julia Phelps presents WES Principal Kearley with donation check, proceeds from their pancakes supper. Right: Display of goodies for sale at the bazaar.





## Junior Civitans ~ Lisa Abercrombie, Junior Chair

### Junior Civitan Major Emphasis Project

Junior Civitan Governor Gracie Kelley to attend annual Junior Civitan **Update and SnoDo Event** in Barrie, ON, Canada - thanks to all of you who donated to her effort. Governor Kelley worked diligently with in her family and community to raise in excess of \$500 in non-Civitan money, to achieve "**Round Tuit**" status. Many Civitan and Junior Civitan clubs throughout the district answered Gracie's call for support in reaching her personal goal for the event. To date her total is more than \$ 2300, with donations still to be recorded. Gracie...*Rev your engine!*



District Representative Lorelei Macfiggen is reaching out to Civitans and friends to reach her goal for the 2018 **Dance-athon** in Myrtle Beach, S.C. on March 9-12. Lorelei will join dozens of Junior Civitans from across the U.S. and Canada to "dance for a cure" benefitting the second major emphasis fundraiser by the Junior Civitan organization, benefitting the Civitan International Research Center at UAB in Birmingham. Currently, Macfiggen is waiting on clubs response and action to her recent request mailed to each Civitan Club President. Individuals are welcome to make a tax deductible donation to benefit our flagship project. Go to her facebook page or [www.juniorcivitan.org](http://www.juniorcivitan.org) to donate on line, **deadline February 7 for her minimum.** Donations can be mailed to Civitan International, P.O. Box 130744, Birmingham, AL 35213-0744 (Attn. Bobby Farley). Mailed donations should be noted "for Lorelei Macfiggen")



A busy Fall had many clubs completing service projects from ringing the bell for Salvation Army, collecting can foods, coats, and many other projects.

There is district workday and board meeting scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup> at the Ronald McDonald House. We will take any pop tabs and help clean and organize around the house.

On January 26<sup>th</sup> Gracie Kelley, Governor and I will be flying to the annual Sno Do – Governor's Update in Barrie, Ontario, Canada. Thanks to all your help she has great news....to date she has raised \$2350.00. She has also raised over \$500 in outside Civitan money to qualify for a Round Tuit Award. Things were made a little easier this year to donate on line, a great time saver!

March 10<sup>th</sup> marks the date that Lorelei Macfiggen will dance 12 hours at the Dance A Thon event in Myrtle Beach, SC. Letters and emails have gone out to all club presidents and the district board and team asking to help Lorelei make her minimum of \$1500 by February 7<sup>th</sup>. Currently she has raised \$750. She is still needs our help to qualify and also help her in collecting at least \$500 in outside Civitan money to earn a Round Tuit Award. Thank you to everyone and clubs who have made a donation to date.

The Alabama Central District Junior Civitan is at the half way mark of their year. We have been working hard to achieve our goals and end this year on a positive note. We have already chartered one new club, Pell City HS Girls Junior Civitan, and we have two others in the works and in hope to charter soon. As of the Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> report here is where we stand: we have 10 clubs - 5 have paid their dues: ACMS, Auburn HS, BRHS, MBHS, Sylacauga HS; 2 clubs with a 10% increase – Alexander City MS and Sylacauga HS - Congratulations!; 4 clubs not paid dues – Booker T Washington MS, Gardendale HS, JCIB, JVMS. We currently have 261 members.

Our next big event will be our District Convention in April. We have already started making plans and working on details for a fun filled weekend. We are pleased that Governor Elect, Jerry Levert will be attending and install our new District Governor and Team. Note a date change to April 20-21.

Overall our district is hanging in there and working hard to make this a successful year and our clubs are as well with service projects and fundraisers. Our Junior Civitans greatly appreciate the continued support of the Alabama Central District clubs and individuals. We are looking forward to seeing "**Oh The Places You'll Go In Junior Civitan**" with all our clubs!!



### Junior Civitan Leaders for 2017-2018

Governor: Gracie Kelley

Deputy Governor: Lexi Garrett

Lt. Governor: Lorelei Macfiggen

Secretary: Susy Naler

## Club News

**Hoover:** The Hoover Club held a successful project on Saturday January 13 with a pancake breakfast in conjunction with the ARC of Shelby County. Thanks to the Pelham Applebee's and The University of Montevallo for providing volunteers. The club has also recruited 2 new members. The club is working hard to schedule more projects and be more involved in the community.

**Montevallo:** In December club members came together for the annual Christmas party at the Mitchell Center. They provided refreshments, fun and shared with singing. The clients and staff enjoyed the festive spirit, as did the club members! Everyone enjoyed the annual Christmas Luncheon at Timberline Golf Club. On January 15 everyone came together at host Peggy Czerw's home for the annual "game" night get-together. What a great time sharing and playing fun board games, the food wasn't bad either! Currently members are asked to collect paper towels for Wildlife Center, on Feb 5th will join for dinner at local restaurant. Feb. 19 will be the club observance of the Clergy Appreciation Dinner and Valentine's Day at 5:30 pm. with Lasagna meal.

**West Jefferson:** West Jefferson completed its most successful Christmas family drive since the first one in 2012, providing clothes, toys and food for about 100 indigent families in their area. Applications are distributed to local schools, collected and vetted by members, and distribution of needed items is made from the location where they maintain merchandise during the year. Members make purchases, inventory supplies, and ready items all year in preparation for this annual event. If there is a need during the year, such as a home fire, etc., the club freely donates anything they can as requested. Photos with Santa project is also a favorite in the community. Santa is set up at Adamsville's Senior Center to make photos; a free copy of each photo is donated by Brooklere Pharmacy. There is a separate day for the seniors to have their own Christmas party, which includes photos with jolly old Saint Nick.

The weekend before Easter, The Easter Bunny will arrive at the Senior Center for pictures. The club provides refreshments, takes the photo, and Brooklere's once again donates a free copy of each photo.

**Sylacauga:** In December they collected Little Debbie cakes for the local CARE House Christmas meals, worked with the Sylacauga City School Foundation and bussed tables at their breakfast with Santa fundraiser. They hosted the South Talladega County ARC Christmas lunch, providing the clients a meal, gifts, and presented them with \$1000. The club also partnered with the 1st Presbyterian ladies and held a special needs children's Christmas party.

**Birmingham:** The Club completed a successful Pecan Fund Raiser this Fall, and provided a luncheon meal for clients at First Light, a facility/shelter for homeless women and children. Several members and friends came together to decorate a beautiful Christmas tree at the Sparks Center which displayed many handmade ornaments. Twinkling lights lit up the lobby of Research Center highlighting a beautifully lighted tree.



**Left:** Birmingham members Mary Putman, Hannah Slamen and her mother, Joanie and Mike Brown and Dee Hutsler. Many of the ornaments were made and donated by Civitans.

**Right:** Birmingham members Joanie and Mike Brown (center), John Rynearson (right) and Laurie Rapier made the CIRC lobby a lighted wonderland!



**Pell City:** Welcoming Spring with Special Stars Prom on March 17 at the Pell City Civic Center from 6-9 p.m. They will hold their annual Steak Dinner and \$10,000 Giveaway on April 21, Get your tickets to this fun event early - you count be a big winner! Preparing for Vidalia Onion Sale and possible fishing tournament in May.

**Alabama Central District Membership (12/31/17)**

Club	# Membership
ACTION*	49
Alpha I (Selma)	15
Auburn	27
Birmingham	18
Brent	22
Center Point	15
Crestwood	6
Irondale	9
Fairfield	16
Gardendale	23
Greater St. Clair Co.	23
Greater Titusville*	43
Hoover	8
Montevallo	22
Northport	14
Opelika	7
Pell City	17
Perimeter	11
Phenix City	14
Research*	33
Selma	12
Sylacauga	21
Tri-County	10
Trussville	7
Tuscaloosa	28
Tuskegee	20
Vestavia*	38
West Jefferson	11
Westside	11
Wilsonville	17
Associate Members	21
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>588</b>
<b>Total Active Clubs:</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Golden Circle Clubs*</b>	<b>4</b>



**Club News - continued**

**Birmingham:** Several members decorated a Christmas tree at the Sparks Center and in the lobby of the Civitan Research Center.

**Center Point:** Enjoyed holiday covered dish and dirty Santa swap in December, celebrating their successful pecan and Claxton fruit cake sale. Proudly supports Junior Civitan Sno Do and Dance-athon and Youth Seminar sponsorship. Recently added two new members, and currently collecting supplies for the veterans' home on Springville Road, an ongoing project.

**Tri County:** Participated in the Leeds Outreach Earl Street Christmas for Children, sponsoring a child's Christmas gifts. Had a tremendous fruit cake selling season, sold pecans. Preparing to sponsor at least one student to Youth Leadership Forum at Harding. Joined Center Point Civitans for dirty Santa at their Christmas dinner in December.

**Research:** Weather caused plans their first SCI cafe of the new year to be delayed. Watch for reschedule soon. This month's talk will be about Citizen Science. Ansel Payne and Andy Coleman of Birmingham Audubon start the new year by telling how non-scientists can help with professional science research projects like the Urban Turtle Project and Chimney Swift Site Monitoring. Things kick off at 6:00, with trivia-maestro Alia Carter and a chance to order some of John's delicious food, then the Audubon starts their talk at 6:30. As always, it's totally free.

**Gardendale:** Readying for a busy Spring, in May they are planning their **Torch Run** through Gardendale and feeding the local police officers; Boston Butt sale on June 29-July 3.

**Phenix City:** Sold Claxton fruit cakes again this year. Members provided Christmas presents for the participants of Happy Valley Adult Day Care Center and assisted Santa in the distribution of the gifts. Plans are in the works for a dance at te Center later in the Spring.



**Above:** Santa and Phenix City Civitan elves delivering presents to Happy Valley Adult Day Care Center

**Left:** Governor-elect and Mrs. Jerry LeVert visited the Phenix City Civitan Club.

**Camp ASCCA Fun Fish and Civitan Workday**

**March 24, 2017 - 8:00 a.m.**

**Lunch by reservation, Event t-shirt \$10 by pre-order in February respond to this email: [wehodes@aol.com](mailto:wehodes@aol.com) to order by March 1.**

# N F F

2018

## National Leadership Forum

at Harding University  
June 3 - 8, 2018

Plan now for your club to send delegates to the Youth Leadership Forum. Cost per student will be **\$325**, which includes registration cost to Harding, chartered bus transportation, sleeping accommodations in dorm setting, meals and program materials. If your club or you as an individual wish to sponsor a student and have no contacts, we will assist in recruiting a student to represent your club. Registration forms due to District Chairs Wynton and Emily Hodges by **April 20**.

### Annual Past Governor's CIRC Benefit



**Save the Date:**  
Saturday evening,  
**February 10, 2018**  
Time: 4:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Civitan International  
Neuroimaging Lab at  
UAB Highlands Hospital Center  
1201 11th Ave, South  
Birmingham, AL 35205

### \* Donations accepted to Civitans at the Helm.

Our evening will be in honor Immediate Past Governor Wendell Harless and hosted by the Research Civitans and others. **Tours** will be provided 4-5p.m. **Program** from 5-6 p.m. and Jazz Social 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. RSVP to [wehodes@aol.com](mailto:wehodes@aol.com).

Plan to drop by and hear several of our research scientists speak and enjoy an evening with Civitan friends in support of the Civitan Research Center. The UAB Jazz Group expected to entertain.

### 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 Second ACD Board Meeting-Hoover-10am
- 10 Winter ACD **Express** deadline
- 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**

#### March - Vidalia Onion sales begin

- 2-3 Region One Meeting, Decatur
- 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
- 20-21 ACD Junior Convention- Ft. Walton
- 25 Vidalia Onion Orders and Money DUE

#### 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 FALL ACD **Express** deadline
- 14 Fourth ACD Board Meeting/ Awards Hoover—10am
- 22-25 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 - Lake Guntersville State Park

**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 County)*  
 Area VI Director..... Wilfred Fitts  
*(ACTION, Birmingham, Fairfield, Greater Titusville, West Jefferson)*

**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 and Wynton Hodges

**New District Web Site address will be effective soon.**  
 Our NEW address will be: [accdivitan.org](http://accdivitan.org)

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:  
 Editor  
 Alabama Central Express  
 1041 Melissa Circle  
 Leeds, Alabama 35094-2732



Cute artwork borrowed from AWF District! Good Message to all.





*You're Invited*

*Past Governor's Benefit  
Honoring Wendell Harless*

*Saturday, February 10, 2017*

*4:00pm-7:30pm*

*Civitan International Neuroimaging Lab  
UAB Highlands Hospital  
1201 11th Ave. S  
Birmingham, AL 35205*

*Order of Events*

*Welcome*

*4:00pm-5:00pm*

*Tours Neuroimaging Lab*

*5:00pm- 6:00pm*

*Program and Awards*

*6pm- 7:30pm*

*Jazz Social*

*\*Donations accepted for  
Civitan's at the Helm*



**Spring District Meeting  
and Camp ASCCA Basket Auction**



**Save the date!**

**Join fellow Civitans on:  
Saturday, May 5, 2018  
at the Alabama 4-H Center near  
Columbiana, Alabama**

**Registration: \$33.00 by April 1  
(includes lunch)**

**Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.**

Room accommodations are available on limited basis at lodge on campus. (\$80 + 11% tax, must reserve by April 4th)

Make meeting reservations with:  
Meeting Coordinator, 1041 Melissa Circle,  
Leeds, AL 35094





*Our Membership Specialist Megan Mindel* shares thoughts on membership.

(591-8910 Ext. 114; or email her at [megan@civitan.org](mailto:megan@civitan.org))

### **“THE IMPORTANCE OF "PAINTING A PICTURE"”**

I know that membership growth and retention is everyone’s least favorite thing to talk about, but we have to. It is the only way for us to grow as an organization. With that, I want to bring a new idea to the table.

Studies have shown that in this day and age people do not want to give their time, money, and effort to service groups. They want to devote themselves to a cause. If people don’t want to join service groups how do we recruit them you ask? We sell the cause! Our job as Civitan recruiters is to “paint a picture” of what Civitan’s cause is, why it matters, and why potential new members should be a part of the movement.

Civitan is unique compared to other service organizations. Civitan clubs can create immediate and long-term change through their work. Your individual clubs have instantaneous positive impacts on your communities through projects like food and clothing drives, holding events for organizations that support people with disabilities, or volunteering at community-wide events. However, you also have the ability to be a key player in research that will change the world. By supporting Civitan’s flagship project, the Civitan International Research Center, through fundraising efforts, you are helping the scientists who work there get one step closer to finding cures and treatments for a variety of intellectual and developmental disabilities and cognitive disorders including Autism, Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, Epilepsy, and PTSD.

As we enter the new year I want you all to think about why you joined Civitan. It probably wasn't because of something that happened at a meeting or a social. It was because you believed in the cause. Now think about the reason you continue to be a Civitan. Again, it probably isn't because of anything that happens during your club meetings or socials. If I had to guess, it is because there is a service project your club does that pulls at your heart strings every single time you do it. It is the project that brings a smile to your face even on your worst day.

Remember that moment. Learn how to tell other people about it. That is how you will recruit new members. “Paint a picture” of what makes Civitan special and why you chose this cause. DATES TO REMEMBER: January 1, 2018 - Billing sent out, January 20, 2018 - Get your dues paid, they will be considered delinquent after today! January 20-22, 2018 - Governor's Elect training (Birmingham, AL), January 26-30, 2018 - Junior Civitan International Sno-do (Barrie, Ontario, Canada), February 4-10, 2018 - Clergy Appreciation Week February 2018 - Junior Civitan International Appreciation Month, July 22 - 25, 2018.

**CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** - Reno, Nevada - July 22 through July 25 - Grand Sierra Resort



The Biggest Little City in the World isn’t little any more. Reno is the regional capital of an enormous area of western Nevada and the eastern Sierra near the California border. The city boasts first-rate hotels, golf courses, attractions and casinos. The changing face of Reno-Tahoe is on display as the area has become a popular destination for families.

Reno is a vibrant, progressive community, the region’s center for culture, with something for everyone: 24-hour fun, top name entertainment, elaborate shows, museums, performing arts, beautiful parks, shopping, the Truckee River in the heart of the city, incomparable

beauty of the surrounding high desert, and the grandeur of the nearby Sierra Nevada mountains. And with an average of 300 days of sunshine per year, the weather may be warm but without humidity. Join the Golf Benefit or Putt Putt Tournament