



# ALABAMA CENTRAL EXPRESS



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Wendell Harless, Governor

Emily Hodges, Editor



## Birmingham Civitan Club Celebrates Centennial Birthday at CIRC

On March 9, 2017, members of the Birmingham Civitan Club and numerous members of Civitan's Alabama Central District gathered at the Civitan International Research Center to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Club. Civitan's "Mother Club" as it is referred to was chartered in March 1917 by a few business men in Birmingham, Alabama and soon, the group formed an international service club organization, Civitan international. Today, Civitan has approximately 40,000 members worldwide in over 40 countries!

The affair was marked by a presentation of the history of Civitan. This was followed by a talk by Dr. Alan Percy about the Top 5 discoveries by CIRC over the past 19 years. Finally, the Club President, Alan Hand was presented a proclamation from the Governor of the State of Alabama, Robert Bentley, recognizing the Clubs long history of community service and commending them for their perseverance. The event was covered by Local TV and news media.



Club President Alan Hand and other Birmingham Club members display the proclamation from Alabama Governor Robert Bentley celebrating the 100th birthday of the "Mother Club" of Civitan International.

## *Welcoming the World to Birmingham*



## Civitan Centennial Celebration in Birmingham

**June 24 – 27**

**Sheraton Birmingham  
Downtown Hotel  
Birmingham, Alabama**

**Join Civitans from around the world in celebrating our 100 years of service to our communities. Be a part of the gathering of Civitans and Junior Civitans to make this a fantastic celebration!**

**Register by May 1st to avoid late penalty.  
Volunteers needed for Host Committee duties.  
Sign up early for the best committees.**

**Visit [www.civitan.org](http://www.civitan.org) form registration information and forms. Sign-up at the Spring District meeting for the committee of your choice. Everyone needed to make this a convention to remember—hosted by the 'Home District' of Civitan.**

**Greetings Centennial Civitans.**

Greetings Centennial Civitans. We are at the half way point of the 2016-17 Civitan year and we are full speed ahead for the next six months.

The Past Governor’s Benefit Reception for the Civitan International Research Center was held February 4 to honor Emily Hodges. There was a nice crowd, a good program and lots of money was raised for the Research Center. “Thank you” to all who participated.

The Civitan International 100<sup>th</sup> birthday was March 17. CBS Channel 42 in Birmingham did a real nice two minute video on the Birmingham Civitan Club 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. See it on Facebook (Alabama Central District Civitans).

The Alabama Central District Spring Meeting is Saturday, May 20 at The Club, high atop Red Mountain in Birmingham. We have a great program and special guest lined up. Please send your registration by May 1<sup>st</sup> (see registration form later in this newsletter).

The highlight of our year will be the Civitan International Convention in Birmingham, June 24-27. If you haven’t registered already I certainly hope you will do so and be a part of the celebration. Thanks to those of you who have volunteered to help with the convention. We still need many more volunteers. If you want to help, and haven’t volunteered yet, please get in touch with me.

Our District Convention will be August 11-12, 2017 at the Ramada Plaza Beach Resort in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. What a way to “wind down”, or “wind up”, depending on your mood, at the end of a great Civitan Centennial Celebration year (see registration form later in this newsletter).

With all the celebrations, meetings and conventions we still need to keep focused on growing our membership. New members are the lifeline to our progress. Progress is essential to our ability to serve our communities. So far this Civitan year, 18 (62%) of our clubs have a net gain of +1 or more members. Congratulations to Vestavia Hills with a net gain of +10 members. They have earned \$100 in Civi-Bucks. There are five more clubs in our District that are five or fewer new members from earning theirs.

As always, I am here to serve you. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of service

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**Wendell Harless**  
Governor



**District Convention 2017**

Governor Harless invites you to join him for a weekend at the beach. We will return to a long time favorite place...the Ramada Plaza Beach Resort Hotel in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida on August 11-13, 2017.

Registration cost will be \$120.00 per delegate. Room block will be held no later than **July 10, 2017, reserve early.**

**Plan NOW...SAVE THE DATE...Join us in Ft. Walton!**



**Country Western Friday Night**

**ONIONS!**

**Onion Sales began March 1st!**

Final orders with payment are due by April 28 to chair.

Delivery planned on or about May 11 to same locations as last year.

Price is \$10 per ten pound bag.



**Sale Ends April 28**

**Let's have great sales!**

















