

HOMETOWN Civitan Newsletter

October 2022

President's Corner Mary Anderson



Welcome Fall and to our returning part-time members. We are looking forward to your returning smiling faces to our monthly meetings and for your returning participation. We hope you had a wonderful summer! For those of us here, we've had a very hot, stormy, and rainy summer. Many of our members had a great summer here too and who also enjoyed traveling, for family and friend visits.

If you've kept up with our Hometown Club news happenings (always refer to our website), we've continued to do the best at what we are known for in the three communities we serve. We've hosted some new interesting speakers and participated in fun social activities. In August, many of us worked beside neighbors and friends doing Adopt-A-Precinct serving our voters. Many voters thanked us and were appreciative of the smooth process they experienced. Our next wave of service will continue in October/November. At September's meeting, we distributed our annual grants (provided by AAP) to 7 selected of our deserving charities who were truly so appreciative to be recipients of their grants.

Hometown has **HUGE NEWS!** This year has proven to be our lucky 7th and *best year* by being so surprised and honored to receive the "Florida District Civitan Club of the Year" award at the lastly held Florida District Convention in September in The Villages, our club location!! Civitan clubs are to be structured from Districts into Regions. Our club also received two additional awards in July at the Civitan International Convention in San Antonio, Texas. Our Hometown club is so thankful and grateful that we're closing as a banner year in our deserved recognition of our hard work....way to go Hometown!

Our October meeting will feature the installation of our new incoming Board for the 2022-2023 year. Bonnie Ruth (will be former FL. District Governor) is scheduled to be our guest for the installation ceremony of their appointed Board positions in service to our club and members.

Surely, we give them our best and a great coming year. Of course, our membership of ladies needs to be the "wind beneath their wings". Please come to attend this meeting and to show your support for the new Board, to help celebrate our many victories this year, and the kick-off of our new coming year!

Lastly, as outgoing President having served the last two years, it was a pleasure to be of service at the helm of the club. It was a rewarding experience of a big responsibility. I learned a lot and became aware of the much needed job of being involved in service to our many charities Hometown serves and importantly our charities that are most appreciative of what we do. I couldn't have done my job without the endless support from the Board crew, and of course, you the members who also contributed so much with your help and talents to make Hometown #1! Thank you so much to everyone and may God bless you all!

Yours in Civitan,
Mary





Member Spotlight

Ilene Hyams

Ilene started our conversation by saying she has multiple personalities, but that we only got to see one!



She grew up in CT. Went to school in CT. Met her husband in CT, but married him in New York. She worked as a medical technologist/bacteriologist. Her first job was at Hartford Hospital- the hospital where she was born. She met her husband, moved to New York and worked at NYU. Their first son was born in New York.

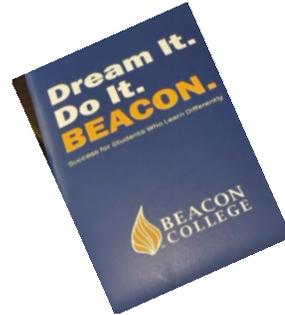
After her husband completed his training, they moved to Miami. He was in the military and served in Viet Nam.

Her son was also in the military for 24 years as a marine and was deployed five times. Both boys are grown now.

After retirement they stayed in Miami for a few years. They came to the Villages because her brother is here. They've been here for 5 years. She's always been active in her community, working elections and environmental issues. She was attracted to Civitans because she knew and respected existing members.



Monthly Guest Speaker



August Meeting's speaker was Keri Jo Pannella -Director of development at Beacon College in Leesburg. Beacon is unique as it provides an accredited education to neurodivergent students. Beacon is ranked #10 by US News and World Reports Regional College South rankings.



Please meet Tammy France—Hometown Civitan's newest best friend, and an angel who arrived at our doorstep during the primary election.

Because we had a vacancy in our roster, the Supervisor of Elections office hired Tammy to fill that position. Not only was she a tremendous asset to our team, but she donated most of her earnings back to Hometown. And additionally, she plans to work all 12 days of the general election with us, again donating her earnings.

Civitans in the News



Karen Schwering, Judi Higbee and Arlene Kaplan at Sumter County Building discussed the Adopt a Precinct Program



Beth Halstead, Dana Buss, Mary Anderson, Diane Seymour and Kay Dando spoke with photographer George Horsford regarding the Adopt a Precinct Program



Laura McLaughlin serves as our Team Leader.



Laura McLaughlin, Betty Rohan and Deb McCoy spoke with the Sun regarding the Grants we give and how we earn the money for them.

2022 Grants Awards

A total of \$12,375 was distributed to the following 501c'3s



2022 Grant Recipients

Center Hill Bettyann Klein



Voices for Children of North Central Florida, Inc
Sue Carpenter and Jeff Cohen



Rebecca Randal
Hand in Hand Lake County



Jenna Rovira-Marion
Therapeutic Riding Association



Carole Savage
Pace Center



Sumter County School Board-
Exceptional Student Education Dept
Kathrine Dustin and Sally Moss



Patriot Service Dogs Sandy Laing
& Michael Appelbaum and Darcy

Laurel Manor Recreation Center



Photos from The Florida District Convention held Here at Laurel Manor Rec Center on September 10, 2022. Thanks to John Higbee for the photos.

Ten of Florida's 18 clubs were in attendance. Representing our club were Mary, Arlene, Lana, Deb, Judi and Sharlene. Mary made the table centerpieces which were given as door prizes – Judi won for our table and will bring it to the board meeting on the 20th. Judi is shown making her presentation on Adopt-A-Precinct that was very well received. And, Sharlene sold 7 necklaces at \$10 each!

Lana's Social Committee

Hi Ladies.

We had a wonderful lunch and tour at Ruth House on Wednesday.

HOMETOWN Civitan Newsletter
By Dseymour612@comcast.net

Thanks to all who contributed photos and articles

**Next Meeting October 4
10:45 am
Evans Prairie CC
Incoming Board Members**



OCTOBER

- 10/1 Lana Rosenberg
- 10/4 Betty Rohan
- 10/7 Sharlene Floam
- 10/7 Claire Gore
- 10/7 Beth Halstead
- 10/22 Jackie Harris

DECEMBER

- 12/8 Arlene Kaplan
- 12/22 Deb McCoy
- 12/22 Marilyn Laurent
- 12/26 Laura McLaughlin

