



HOMETOWN Civitan Newsletter

January 2024

President's Corner

'Tis the season for giving. At the end of the calendar year our giving is all about collecting toys, filling gift boxes, replenishing food banks, dropping a dollar or two in the Salvation Army's bell ringer's red pot, tipping the paper boy and the mail carrier and the house cleaners, extra for the restaurant wait staff and tip jars. We are so blessed to personally have extra to help the workers and less fortunate outside of our Villages bubble. So many ways to give back – some of us like to shop and contribute to a specific wish list, some of us like to give of our time and help a group of girls organize their 'gift store' and have a valentine's party, some of us like to show we care with hands-on assistance in a classroom, some of us can't physically attend an event but we get personal satisfaction by supporting with a monetary donation. We women of Hometown Civitan Club are united in our commitment to the mission of supporting the special needs community, but we are so diverse as to how we prefer to participate that it ends up being a mixture of individual contributions in addition to a larger club activity. If you have a particular interest in volunteering for Special Olympics or Best Buddies, I would urge you to take the initiative and make that phone call/text/email to learn when and how you can give the hands-on support that is so needed. It is also through those personal contacts with other organizations that we learn of groups that our whole club can serve and support. We would love to hear about your volunteer experience. We would love to hear your ideas for a particular activity that you would like to take part in. Let's make this a year of Showing That We Care.

Sumter County Special Olympics – Charlotte Rahm carrahm@hotmail.com

BestBuddiesTheVillages@gmail.com

Our Moment Café – Dick Boyden dboyden@ourmomentcafe.org

Even though I am traveling during January, I am always reachable through email. Happy New Year, Everyone!

Judi

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A NIGHT TO SHINE

Monthly Guest Speaker 2 October

Speakers Brenda Barton, Kristy Sullivan and Lindy Deverax Of Best Buddies and her buddy Melissa Janicke spoke about Night to Shine a prom like affair sponsored by the Tim Tebow foundation . Melissa modeled her prom gown and spoke of her enjoyment in the event. They have plenty of volunteers, but could use some monetary donations.



Judi Higbee, Kay Dando, Deb McCoy, Doris Field, Sharlene Floam, Laura McLaughlin, Ilene Hyams, and Betty Rohan attended the Regional Civitan Meeting held at Laurel Manor Recreation Center



November

Bing Johnson of Operation Shoebox spoke with the group in November. He listed numerous

ways for volunteers to help from stuffing envelopes, writing letters, sewing ditty bags, donating money and so much more. They are in session on Mondays at Lake Miona

December

December's Meeting At Panera in Lake Sumter featured Kids Central in Wildwood, a non profit agency that coordinates a community based system of care for abused, neglected and abandoned children. We donated Pajamas and books.

Social Committee Suggests.....

Lana is planning a trip to the **Villages Grown**- Details to follow....

Mark Your Calendars! **BUNCO PARTY**

Our Hometown Civitan BUNCO Party will be on Friday, March 8, 2024 at the Eisenhower Center. Doors will open at 5:30 pm and games will begin at pm. We'll finish up around 8:30 pm. Tickets are \$15 each.

Prize money will be awarded for 5 categories:

Most Wins Most Losses Most Buncos Most Baby Buncos Most Snake Eyes

(Won't know amount until we know how many tickets we sell.)

We will also sell 50/50 tickets for a drawing.

Light refreshments and soft drinks will be served.

I am hoping all Hometown Civitan members will support this event by selling tickets to their friends and neighbors too.

Thanks! Karen





Sharlene Floam and Cindy Brown attended the Giving Showcase



Betty Rohan, Kris Tygrett, Sharlene Floam and Kay Dando of Hometown Civitans attended the Giving Club Showcase



Sharlene Floam and Arlene Kaplan display the books, back packs, school supplies that were donated by Evelyn and Arthur for Center Hill children.



Mary Anderson of Civitans is also a member of Prime Time Twirlers. They have preformed at numerous events and now will be performing at the MS Senior Universe Pageant in Las Vegas.



I've always wondered if songbirds get mad at hummingbirds for not knowing the words.

My thanks to Kay Dando and Sharlene Floam for providing excellent photos .

Next Meeting.... February 6, Evans Prairie CC



January

- 19 Karen Schwering
- 21- Karen Goodman
- 21 Margie Brower

February

- 3 Judith Galuardi
- 13 Kay Dando
- 23- Ilene Hyams
- 23 Penny Badolato

March

- 10 Kris Tygrett