The Summer is coming to an end and the beauty of Fall will be upon us!
This has certainly been a summer to remember! The rains in June brought devastation to our neighbors, the heat has almost been unbearable for all of us in this valley.

But there are always good things that come with the bad. Our annual Paula Malone Pound Sale in July raised close to $300 for the Civitan International Research Center.

At the Civitan International Convention in Norfolk, VA, our organization was motivated and challenged to Celebrate 100 Years of Service! In March 2017, Civitan will be entering its second 100 years of service!

August 13 rolled around and it was so good to see our members working together with GW Junior Civitans braving the heat early in the morning as we worked water stations and directed walkers and runners on the path. Together we all supported the great work of the Children’s Therapy Clinic helping to raise money to provide free therapy for challenged children. The Make a Miracle Run was a great way to see people working together for a cause.

And later that same day, we got to enjoy the WV Power Baseball game as we hosted 100 challenged people and their families from ARC. During the game we even worked on raising awareness about Civitan with our informational table that was well placed in the stadium. August 13 was truly an example of our club living the mission of Civitan.

We also had a first during the month of August. For 91 years, our club has traditionally held their meetings at lunch time. We broke the mold and held our Charleston Civitan Informational meeting in the evening at the South Charleston Library. It was an enjoyable evening as we got to share our thoughts about Civitan and the good our club does in our community. It was great to have guests at this meeting and we hope to see Nikki Tennis, Madelyn Miller and Susan Leffler work with us in future projects and hopefully become members of our family.

August was also the time for our Cardinal District Civitan Convention in Marietta, OH. Luster, Stella, and Jeanne represented our club as we elected our 2016-2017 Cardinal District Leaders. More about the convention under District News.

This summer we also heard about the new Ronald McDonald House and Multifest at our meetings with speakers. It is always good to hear about the exciting things going on in Charleston.

As we begin the month of September, we will once again be running a water station for the Charleston Distance 15K Run on Saturday, September 3. Details on this project are under Project Updates.

Our Civitan year will be coming to a close at the end of September and we will begin our year of Celebrating 100 Years of Service as we install our new leadership team at our Friday, October 3 luncheon meeting.

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS-NOON
Friday, September 2 – Civitan and Research Center Update
Friday, September 16 – Susan Leffler will speak to use about Literacy Volunteers
PROJECT UPDATE

Charleston Distance Run -
Saturday, September 3 is the date we will gather with our GW Junior Civitans to run the water station at the corner of Piedmont & Morris Streets. It is the same place as last year and it was really awesome to watch the runners coming down the road as they were coming into the last part of their 15K run. We can use some help so if you are available, join us at 7:30 am for this great event.

Hospice House Gardens –
Saturday, September 10 - There are flower beds around the Hospice up on the BIG hill that need some weeding. Arrangements have been made to have a weeding party at 10:00 am. This is a joint project with the JA Junior Civitans and it will be a great way to show we care for those in their last days. We want them to see only beauty not weeds. The Hospice staff is so happy to have us do this for them. In fact, they will provide gloves, equipment as well as water and snacks for the workers. Of course you can bring your own gloves but we just want you. So if you are available, we hope to see you there!

JUNIOR CIVITAN UPDATE
Our Junior Civitans wasted no time with school beginning to show they are “Rooted in Service”. Members of the GW club helped to watch the kindergarten students while their parents attended an orientation before school began. They also provided child care for our Informational meeting.

Last Friday, they came out of the woodworking literally!! 56 Junior Civitans from JA and GW showed up to work the games and food at the Holz Elementary School Carnival. The PTO was astonished at what a great job these young people did at the event.

As you have heard, Isabella Romano of the GW club is the Junior Civitan Governor. One of her goals is to build a community Junior Civitan club in the Valley. If you know of any middle school or high school students who attend other schools or are home schooled, please let her know. She is trying to get a core group together to work on chartering a club.

CARDINAL DISTRICT NEWS
As mentioned earlier, the Cardinal District Civitan Convention was held at the Lafayette Hotel in Marietta, OH. The weekend was great – starting with a night at a museum that gave the history of Marietta on Friday night.

During the meeting on Saturday, we elected our new Leadership Team and we wish Governor Cheri Tolly a year of great success for our district. She has a great team of directors to work with her this year. We also wish our newly elected Area Director, Doug Baxter, a great year too!

John Ryneanson, Executive Vice President of Civitan International was our guest speaker. He shared so much about Civitan International and gave a great visual overview of how we truly are an international organization as he spoke about each of the various areas around the world.

Governor Isabella also attended the convention and she now has several “adopted” parents! Normally the governor does speak, but her talk about what goes on at the Civitan International Research Center and why it is needed sold everyone on why we should support the efforts of Junior Civitans raising money for this great center. We should be proud of our Junior Civitans!

We received a banner patch for our great fruitcake sales this past year. Thanks Mr. Fruitcake, Brantley, for another successful year!

The convention ended with the installation dinner. The Marietta Children’s Choir blew us away with 30 minutes of singing. Their voices and excitement was unbelievable. It was a great convention!

Birthday Wishes!
August 24 – We hope Emmy Withrow had a wonderful Birthday

We wish the following members a wonderful birthday in September:
Luster Doughty – September 1
Ray McNamara – September 25

The Mission of Civitan worldwide is to build good citizenship in providing a volunteer organization of clubs dedicated to serving individual and community needs with an emphasis on helping people with developmental disabilities.