Message from the Editor....I apologize for not getting the Chatter issued during the past two months. February and March were not good months for me – was sick in February and big issues with my job had me consumed in March. I promise to be timelier in the future.

During the month of February, we did have a great two-meeting event to celebrate Black History Month. Our own emcee, Jim Harris, put on a great event. The first meeting Jim and Wanda Hightower enlightened us to the great works and inventions over the years. At the end of the meeting, he gave each of the attendees, facts about black history to take home and study. During the next meeting, Jim divided us into two teams to see which team “did their homework” by asking questions from his fact sheet. It was a fun but very enlightening event.

In March we did hold our semi-annual Good Neighbor Day. This time we went to Valley Nursing Home with the John Adams Junior Civitans. Together we put together 130 carnation vases and delivered them to the residents. It certainly brightened the day for each and every one of residents. This was verbalized by a daughter who was in the room where we were putting the vases together. She hugged us and said “this will make her mom and dad feel so much better”. laughter and good company.

We were going to hold a luncheon for our clergy in April but due to the very busy schedules of the clergy with Easter, it was decided that we will not hold it this spring. Plans will be put together much earlier next year to make sure we do show our appreciation for the clergy.

APRIL MEETINGS....
Due to Holy Week and the Easter week time being in the middle of the month, there will only be one meeting in April:

Friday, April 5. We will meet at the CAMC Hospitality House at noon. Mrs. Jill Upton, the Executive Director Herbert Henderson office of Minority Affairs will be our speaker.

PROJECTS:
The Cardinal District Spring meeting will be held on Saturday, April 13 in Berlin, OH. During the meeting, clubs are being asked to bring items for Easter baskets for the Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities to give to the 5 homes in their county. One home has 11 members, and the other 4 have 6 members, for a total of 35 adults. The supervisor of the board suggested filling the baskets with Easter candy, bubbles, scented markers, play-doh or clay, pinwheel, stuffed animal, DVD or music CD, Easter flowers. Basically, a variety of things that appeal to the senses...things to look at, soft to touch, different tastes, smell good. Jeanne Jarrett will be going to the district meeting and will bring the items with her. If you want to donate something yourself, please bring it to the April 5 meeting. Jeanne Jarrett will also accept your monetary donation if you can’t shop but want to help. She will gladly do the shopping!
JUNIOR CIVITAN UPDATE
Our Junior Civitans were busy in over the past months. The GW Junior Civitans held the dessert and bingo party for Brooks Manor. One thing can be said about the flexibility of young people. The key where the bingo equipment could not be found when they arrived. So instead of bingo, they played a word game where all the Juniors were acting out what the word was so the residents could guess and get a prize. In turned out the residents liked this game even better than bingo! The GW Junior Civitans also ran a “Parents Date Nite” with some staff at the Weberwood Elementary School where they held activities for 50 children to allow their parents to spend some time alone as a couple.

The JA Junior Civitans held their Pennies for Puppies campaign and collected $115 for Canine Companions. As mentioned earlier, they also worked with our club on Good Neighbor Day.

Plans in April for the Junior Civitans is to work the Easter Egg Hunt at Magic Island on April 13. This year, their help is needed as their will be a special egg hunt for children with disabilities. Their annual district convention will be held the last Saturday in April.

CARDINAL DISTRICT NEWS
The District meeting is set for April 13. The day is filled with great programs, such as making the Easter baskets, learning how to make a Brag Board, understanding the international tool kit that can help to grow and strengthen clubs. Members can still attend if even though the registration deadline has passed at a slightly higher fee.

BIRTHDAY WISHES...
We do hope Juli Noland had a great birthday on March 5 and wish her a happy and healthy year!

We also want to wish a Happy Birthday and a healthy year to Brantley Withrow who will celebrate his birthday on April 10!

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.