Happy Holidays are Here!
Our first holiday of Thanksgiving is already behind us but we have the month of December to look forward to the many holiday events.

We held our “outing” meeting on November 15 at the Mountain Mission. It was very interesting to see how they process all the food and other donations that are given to them. The non-food items are put up for sale in their store to help raise money for this great program that provides help for those in need.

A few of us gathered in the cold with our JA and GW Junior Civitans to help with the Light the Way 5K run for the Children’s Therapy Clinic. A run at night is quite different than a run during the day! But it was fun to see how all the runners dressed up in Christmas attire – even the dogs that ran with some of their runners were lit up!

We finished off November with the preparation and serving of the Thanksgiving celebration meal for the 65 residents of Brooks Manor.

There were so many of the residents that attended the meal and it was good to hear them laugh and enjoy the home cooked meal we made for them. Thanks to our GW Junior Civitans for helping with the cooking and serving. We are certainly thankful for our Junior Civitans to help us with our projects.

MEETINGS...
We will be holding one meeting in December - our annual Christmas Luncheon and Gift stealing exchange on Friday, December 13 at Patty & Bill’s Condo. Remember to bring a wrapped gift so we can have lots of fun during this luncheon.

We will return to almost regular meetings in January (I say almost regular since we are never sure what Mother Nature will do on our meeting dates).

PROJECTS:
Here’s the latest on upcoming projects:

Love Light Tree Day at the Mall will be Monday, December 9 to support Hospice. The times are 2 hour work shifts. Most time slots have been filled and Hospice will help out on the times we can’t be there.

Carol at Hospice – the date for our caroling has been finalized. It will be Sunday, December 15. This will be a joint project with our JA Junior Civitans. We will meet at the Hubbard Hospice House up on the hill in eastern Charleston. Caroling will begin at 2pm. We will be finished in about a hour.

Fruitcake – the cakes are in the stores but the fruitcake keeper, Luster Doughty has some cases in case you need to purchase some cake. If you do, just contact Luster!

JUNIOR CIVITAN UPDATE
Our Junior Civitans certainly helped us with our projects in November. They will also be busy helping Secret Santa with their distribution week. December is a tough month for the GW Junior Civitans since it is the end of the semester with finals in store. The JA Junior Civitans are making a tree in their school to get donations for the Kanawha Animal Shelter. Just like an angel tree has
gifts for children, this will have needs of the shelter, such as paper towels, treats, toys, etc. They will also be caroling with us at Hospice House. Both clubs are going to do their own secret santa among themselves and find out who was their secret santa at a holiday celebration the last week of school.

**BIRTHDAY WISHES...**
Our birthday wishes for a year of health and happiness go to the following people whose birthdays fall in the month of December:

Bill Frame – December 20
Jim Harris – December 21

**Christmas Greetings to All....**
It is that time of year we are thankful for our family and friends and want to celebrate these special holidays with those we love. I am thankful for all you do for the good of our community. I hope the upcoming Christmas Holidays will be a time of happiness, good food, good times with families and a healthy time for all of you! Remember, this holiday is about a special person who came to give of himself. I hope we continue as Civitans to give our time and efforts for others as we enter the 2020 Year.

Happy New Year! Our third decade of this century will be ringing in. Let’s hope this coming year is filled with health and happiness for all!

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.