

# Civitan Chatter



Charleston Civitan Club, P.O. Box 5428, Charleston, WV 25361

CHARTERED NOVEMBER 24, 1924

April 2020

**President** Jeanne Jarrett

**President Elect** Terry Hodge

**Treasurer** Bill Frame

**Secretary** Patty Frame

**Directors** Stella Doughty, Kathy McKinley

Home Club of International Presidents

Belford Roberts 1975-1976 (Deceased)

Bill Rogers 1983-1984 (Deceased)

## Someone needs to talk to the Lion!

As I was preparing this edition of the Chatter, I always look at what was written the month before. It is eerie what I wrote as if I had a foresight:

*We now look forward to meetings and projects in March, hopefully things will go smoothly and we won't get delayed by Mother Nature but you never know with her – you know they say March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb.*

The month of March is supposed to come in like a lion and go out as a lamb. March 2020 may have come in as a lion, but the lion grew bigger and bigger and the month went out as a huge lion that was destroying so many lives in our country and around the world. This lion is called COVID-19.

We started out the month with our first meeting (and turned out to be our last physical meeting for who knows how long!). Rod Blackstone was our speaker and talked about the minor league baseball situation. He raised our energy about attending games and how we can,

as a community service club, even have a game where we can raise awareness about Civitans. But who knows when that will be able to happen this year.

Then the COVID-19 took control of our lives. To remain safe from this horrible disease, we have all had to stay in our homes and limit going out in public. It has been tough for both families with multiple family members as well as those that are living alone. Although this is not easy for many to do, think of the community service we are providing to all in our communities as well as ourselves. This is the hardest project we have had to do in our lives but together with everyone taking part in social distancing, we are all fighting to stop this virus from attacking more people.

Speaking of fighting, we are all so grateful for the men and women of the medical teams who are going to work each day to care for others at the risk of infecting themselves. In addition to the medical teams, there are so many in our

community that are also on the front lines working to help others. They include our police, fire, EMTs, transit workers, janitorial teams, grocery teams, food workers and all those who go to work to help others each day with the service they provide. In addition, we must be grateful for our food provided by farmers and food industry team and for the truckers who don't stop driving the precious cargo they carry to every town in the USA.

Reflecting what is going on in every town in the USA and the world, we can look at this and see the great volunteerism and caring for others that is coming out of this pandemic. Even families are getting to know each other better, doing things together instead of running around dropping kids at the many activities that have controlled their lives. Heck I think this is even affecting the wildlife. I am looking out my window and for the second day in a row, I have a group of about 7 deer that are frolicking in the woods behind my house. They are sticking together as a family and having fun together.

We must look at this situation and how it has destroyed so many lives but don't dwell on that; rather reflect on the good that is going on and how we can learn from these days on what we can appreciate in our precious lives.

Together we must stay strong, be safe, and do our share to social distance so someday, life will be more free again – not back to the normal we were since my hope is that in the future, we will all be better people as a result of this nasty “lion called Covid 19” that we will hopefully send away.

Sorry for the length of this editorial but it helped me to share my thoughts with you. One last editorial comment...get outside when the sun is shining...Vitamin D that we get from the sun helps our immunity systems get stronger!

Miss you all!  
Jeanne

Now, for the rest of the story! Charleston Civitans haven't stopped. If you recall, our theme is Champions of Service with an emphasis on Achievers for this year. We, the Charleston Civitans are active even from our homes....

#### **MEETINGS...**

We held our first Zoom club meeting on April 3. It was good to see those who were able to join this meeting. We need to stay in touch during these trying times. During the meeting we shared some projects that we can do from home which are explained in the projects section.

Our next meeting is going to Friday, April 17 at noon. It will be a zoom meeting and I hope to see you all. Remember, even if you don't have internet, you can join by phone. The invite will be issued in an e-mail. We are going to concentrate on Civitan Awareness month by hopefully showing a video on the great work of the Civitan International Research Center which we support – heck we are going to make ourselves more aware of the good we do.

#### **PROJECTS:**

##### **RONALD McDONALD HOUSE**

Don't forget to save those can tabs from all the cans we are going through these days. Once we can get together again, bring them and we can donate them to the Ronald McDonald House to help them pay their bills.

##### **SEND NOTES TO THOSE IN NURSING HOMES**

The residents of Oakridge Nursing Home are not allowed visitors. So please send a card, note, letter to them to help brighten their loneliness. The activity director will get them and by putting “Civitan” on the back, she will know these are to be given to residents. The address is:

Oakridge Nursing Home  
1000 Association Way  
Charleston, WV 25311  
Attn: Charlene Keisfer

##### **PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT**

While we are in homes, we should all try to recycle cans, plastic paper and food boxes, if possible. We should also save fuel for electricity by turning off lights that are not

needed. Look around and see what else you can do in your homes to help our environment!

#### **SAY THANKS TO THE CAMC TEAMS**

We actually completed this project this week. The teams at the hospital need to get support from everyone. We all agreed that we would purchase a meal for one of the teams. This week we were assigned a team of 11 workers at CAMC and lunch from Honey Baked Ham was delivered to them. They were so excited to receive this token of gratitude. It was done very safely. The order was called in, and the food was put in my trunk by the store. It was driven to Memorial Hospital where the supervisor took it out of the trunk. It brought tears to my eyes when he thanked our club for remembering them.

#### **JUNIOR CIVITAN UPDATE**

Although the clubs haven't been able to meet in school, they are holding zoom meetings and will be doing some of the projects we are doing.

The Cardinal District Junior Civitan convention was also held as a zoom meeting. Once again, we should be proud of our JA and GW Junior Civitans. JA received Campus Project of the Year for their Awareness project. Arianna Deel, the president received Club Officer of the Year. GW received Community Service Project of the Year for their fund-raiser held for the victims in Australia fires where they made key chains and gave them out to those donating to their cause. They also received Club of the year, putting on 20 projects up

to March with over 300 manhours involved. Nilaya Kanuri of GW received Junior Civitan of the Year.

### **DISTRICT NEWS**

The Spring Cardinal District meeting was canceled in Coshocton, Ohio on Saturday, April 18. BUT again Civitans don't stop and the district meeting will be a zoom meeting on Saturday, April 18. It will begin at 10:00 am and end by noon. An invite will be forwarded to each of you via e-mail. This is a great chance to see as many Charleston Civitans as possible to take part in this District Meeting. There is no cost to you, you don't have to

travel hours to get their but you can take advantage of it attending from your own homes. Civitan International President Patsy Perkal will be joining us for this district meeting and will be sharing what is going on with international. We will also hear about what is going on in the clubs in our district. So, mark your calendars and plan on attending!!!!

### **BIRTHDAY WISHES...**

Today, April 10, is the birthday of Brantley Withrow. We all wish you

a year of health, happiness and great memories.

### **HAPPY EASTER!**

While we can't be with our extended families this Easter, hope you all have a good day with those you are with at this time. Attend your faith services in the safety of your own homes and give thanks for the health and happiness that each of us have in our lives. We also wish all our friends of the Jewish faith, a good Passover this week.

**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.**

