

Civitan Chatter



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

CHARTERED NOVEMBER 24, 1924

February 2021

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)

THE FIRST MONTH OF 2021 IS ALREADY HISTORY!

It is hard to believe that Valentine's Day has already passed along with the month of January. 2021 is certainly turning out to be another very interesting year. COVID is still around but the good news is that the vaccinations are happening. I know a couple of you have had your vaccinations and I hope the rest of you that are in the 65 and over bracket will be getting them soon. We need to give credit to West Virginia government as we are one of the best states in getting the vaccines out, we now have a very easy way to register to get a vaccine without having to spend hours on a phone trying to call for an appointment. The big thing is that we must all be patient – it will take time to get everyone vaccinated since we must wait on the vaccine coming in. And even when we get it, we must still wear our masks and follow the guidelines since those that received the shot may not get sick from the virus but could be a carrier and infect others who may not have received the shots yet.

MEETINGS...

It was good to see many of you at the second January meeting since it was a critical one to discuss the future for Civitan International.

We must continue to hold our club meetings on Zoom since it still is not possible for us to meet in person. During the January meeting, the club members decided to only meet once per month. Therefore there was no meeting on the first Friday in February. Instead, it makes more sense to set the meeting date for the 3rd Friday – this way we can avoid holidays that seem to happen at beginnings of months.

Our next club meeting will be this Friday, February 19, at noon via Zoom. An invitation will be coming out later this week.

FRUITCAKE SALES

The 2020 fruitcake sales were a sell-out! Although we were worried that sales would be down this year due to COVID, we actually sold all 50 cases! The last 4 boxes in stock went to Drug Emporium and were sold out before the

holidays! Since this is our only fund-raiser, it is good to see that COVID didn't infect our sales!

THANKS TO THE MEDICAL TEAMS

The pandemic has been around for almost a year now. When it first happened, there were many people saying thanks to the hardworking medical teams – putting up signs, lights in the windows, sending lunches, etc. The pandemic is still here but the thanks have dwindled but these teams haven't dwindled in their efforts! As a way to say thanks to them, the club will be sending boxes of healthy snack to the various teams in the hospitals. In addition, the George Washington and John Adams Junior Civitans are preparing individual thank you notes that will be given to the teams as well.

JUNIOR CIVITAN UPDATE

Our GW & JA Junior Civitans are reaching out to help others despite the virus! In January, the John Adams members made Valentine's Day cards for the vets who are patients at the VA Hospital in Huntington. The George

Washington members were putting together Valentine's Day boxes for the nursing home. As noted in the previous article, both clubs are working on thank you notes for the members of the medical teams at our local hospitals. So far, they have completed approximately 600 cards!!

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

During the pandemic, there are many organizations that provide services to those in need in our area that are suffering. Since we can't do hands-on projects at this time, the board is thinking that we can begin making donations to those organizations to help them out and in turn we are helping our community. We are in good shape financially and want to give back to our community. We have already heard from some of the members with suggestions of organizations. They include: Habitat for Humanity, Hope for Appalachia, The Gabriel Project, Secret Santa, Hospice, Crossroads Pregnancy Care Center, and Goodwill. In addition, to support our two Junior Civitan clubs and the Civitan

International Research Center. We would like to make sure we have our list together so the board can review our finances and how we can help each of the organizations. If you have another organization that you would like our club to support, please send an e-mail to Jeanne Jarrett jarrett104@aol.com. Please do this by the end of February so the board can review in March during the board meeting.

DISTRICT NEWS

As we discussed at the January meeting, International is proposing a change to the by-laws that will be voted on at the next convention. They see the decline in membership and clubs, along with issues with districts and that changes need to be made to revitalize and keep the organization healthy. The proposal is to eliminate the districts and instead have clubs in regions. It is felt this will be better for the organization as well as save money, etc. Attached to this newsletter e-mail, I am forwarding you so further information on this topic. We can

discuss questions, issues at our upcoming meetings.

BIRTHDAY WISHES...

There are a couple months at the beginning of each year where we do not have any members celebrating birthdays. The first birthday of the year is March 5 when Julia Noland celebrates her birthday. Best wishes for a great birthday!

THINKING OF YOU...

Our prayers and support go out to all our members. Keep Debbie Hodge in your prayers as she continues her treatments. Luster Doughty's hip replacement was supposed to be February 16 but due to other medical issues, the surgery is on hold until it clears up. Please keep Luster in your prayers as this surgery continues to face obstacles that get in the way.

Luster and Debbie, please know that you have your Civitan family there for you to help in whatever way we can.

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.

