



FLASHES

February
2022
2nd Edition
Edition

* www.greenvillecivitan.org * Facebook: "Greenville Civitan Club of SC" * Twitter: @GSCCivitan *

2021– 2022 Officers CLUB

President:
Charlotte Walker

President-Elect:
Lavon Moore

Secretary:
Jessie Bowens

Treasurer:
Linda F. Neely

Assistant Treasurer:
Jenny Johnson

Board of Directors:
Judy Graham
Debbie Johnston
Violeta Irby
Anne Lavelly

Chaplain:
Deborah Pearson

Sergeant-At-Arms:
Steve Johnson

CHARITIES

President:
Sam Bennett

President Elect:
Charlotte Walker

Secretary:
Debbie Johnston

Treasurer:
Linda Neely

Board of Directors:
Rhonda Bowling
Heyward Johnston
Annie Mumbauer
Ruth Richburg
LaBarbara Sampson



Flashes Editor: Anne B. Lavelly

Civitan Flashes is published the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month.

Hon. Merl Code from REEM challenges us

On February 25, *Hon.* Merl F. Code, spoke about the Greenville Racial Equity + Economic Mobility Commission, also known as REEM. *Hon.* Code is part of the leadership and Co-Chair of REEM. With the Racial Equity Index that was commissioned by the United Way, glaring disparities within our community were made evident. REEM convened in 2020 around matters of racial inequities, social justice and disparities in key areas that negatively impact the Black community in Greenville County. What started as a six-month program has since grown into five subcommittees each charged with recommending two or three tangible action-based sustainable strategies to address issues within those five committees: wealth & income, health & wellness, education, criminal justice, and community-wide learning. By collecting data and using that data leadership in our county can initiate programs to ensure that all persons in Greenville County have access to the resources and a viable path out of poverty and to economic stability and growth. *Hon.* Code challenges our club to become better educated in what the status is for the citizens in Greenville County and how we can get involved for the betterment of all. Two very important websites are the Greenville County Racial Equity Index (<https://www.unitedwaygc.org/rei/>) and the REEMGVL website (<https://www.reemgvl.org/>) If you cannot reach these websites through the links in this article, please copy and paste the website address in your browser to access these items.



Merl F. Code, Guest Speaker poses with Ruth Richburg and Club President, Charlotte Walker



Merl Code poses with Program Chair, Lavon Moore

Coming to the club as a motion from the Board: The club is to vote to accept two candidates for membership: Rev. Bryon L. Battle and Chantia Battle. Both individuals have submitted the appropriate application items to be considered for membership into the Greenville Civitan Club.

Meetings are held on the First and Third Mondays of each month at 1:00 PM, unless otherwise stated and announced.

The Poinsett Club
807 E. Washington Street
Greenville, SC 29601

Mailing Address:
Greenville Civitan Club
P. O. Box 16493
Greenville, SC 29606

Service Projects

Ongoing:

- Ronald McDonald House- Pull Tabs (Heyward Johnston)
- Junior Civitans at WHHS (Gale Garner)
- Ridgeview Birthday Parties (Betty Shurley)

April

- Special Olympics (Sam Bennett)
- Servant's Heart Awards (Ruth Richburg)
- March of Dimes Walk-A-Thon (Heyward Johnson)

May

- High School Citizenship Banquet (Violeita Irby)

More information on service and fundraising projects can be found by contacting the member listed in parenthesis.

Fundraising Projects

Ongoing:

- 50/50 Raffle- each meeting (Jenny Johnson)
- Card Sales- each meeting (Debbie Johnston)
- Candy Box Collection (Anne Lavelly)

March

- Silent Auction, March 21 (Judy Graham)



In each edition of the Flashes, you will be able to find out where you can serve others and fellowship with Civitan friends.

Projects where You are a Champion of Service

Servant's Heart Awards- Friday, April 22

March of Dimes Event- Friday, April 29 at Cleveland Park from 4:30 to 8:30 PM. This is a change from their traditional walk-a-thon. Specific details coming soon.



Special Olympics- To Be Determined

Silent Auction: Gather your items now!

The Silent Auction is March 21 and we need each club member to offer items to be auctioned. While you can check your closets and share gifts that you never used, don't forget your favorite merchants!! Let them know that the donation is to raise money for a non-profit organization. It never hurts to ask and we might have some very lovely items that will get some hot bids! The Silent Auction committee has a goal of raising \$1,000. That means every club member needs to donate enough items to raise \$25. Let's make this happen! Any small items may be given to Judy Graham, committee chairperson, or you may bring the items to the meeting on March 21.

Mark your calendars now! As part of Civitan Awareness Month, Ruth Richburg has asked Councilwoman Liz Seman to make a proclamation at the Greenville County Council meeting on **Tuesday, April 5th**. All club members are welcome to attend and be part of this lovely recognition. Please be at the **County Council Chambers**, 301 University Ridge, Greenville, SC by **5:35 PM**, wear your Civitan pin and nametag and wear blue and yellow (optional) so that our group may stand out during this special event.



Not all superheroes wear capes!



The greatest angst of any writer or editor is the omission of a key fact. Too often it occurs when creating a list of names; and somehow, it seems to be the one who should be recognized first. In the first edition of the February Flashes, an enormous omission occurred. I used my observation of a committee meeting, the use of an old committee roster, and the program from Clergy Day to create my list of Clergy Day committee members. And in the process, I omitted Linda Neely's name.

Linda is always in the background but a light should be shown on her. She crafted the beautiful program, took pictures of the event and was integral in carrying off a fabulous service project and should be recognized for her talents she shares with the club. (In fact the reason why she wasn't sitting with the Clergy Day committee in my observation, was her attention was on a Treasurer issue at the time.) Linda, you truly are a Champion of Service and a leader by example. Thank you for ALL you do for our Club! -Anne Lavelly

Want to see your picture in the Flashes? Send them to annelavelly@gmail.com and look for them here!

Civitan Mission Statement

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

Member Birthdays

Larry Blackmon
March 14



- Quarterly Dues should be paid by the first of October, January, April, & July.
- At each regular meeting we have a 50/50 Raffle, a Greeting Card Sale, and a Magazine Sale as club fundraisers! Every little bit helps us be Champions of Service.

Meals at the POINSETT CLUB

- Please let **Steve Johnson** know the **Wednesday before** each meeting if you will be changing your normal schedule (if you do not normally attend and plan to attend, or if you normally attend and will be absent).
- Steve Johnson contact information: gunney25@gmail.com or Cell: 864.642.8604

Mindful of Those in our Club

MY HEART beats for every friend, bleeds for every injury to humanity, and throbs with joy at every triumph of truth.

We have club members needing time for strength and solace from illness or medical procedures. In your thoughts and prayers, please be mindful of:

Mary Lou Lewis LaBarbara Sampson Sharon Thomas

If the club needs to be aware of a member's situation, please send notifications to annelavelly@gmail.com or 864.449.2568

Well wishes can be sent to:
LaBarbara Sampson, Rm 104 W
Patewood Post Acute Center
2 Griffith Rd.
Greenville, SC 29607

March Anniversaries

Connie Burgess
3/15/2012

Linda Neely
3/15/ 2012

Sonya Dawson
3/10/2014

Upcoming Meetings

March 7– Program Meeting, Sarah McAlpine, Job Coach for ClemsonLIFE

March 21– Silent Auction

April 4- Business Meeting and Elections (Please, no guests or visitors)

Friday, April 22 (due to Easter Monday)- Servant's Heart Award Banquet & Civitan Awareness Month/ Membership Meeting

May 2– High School Citizenship Banquet

District and International Events

Saturday, May 14– *Spring District Meeting* in Columbia, SC

July 4-7- *The International Convention* in San Antonio, TX (Deadline for in-person registration is May 16)

Inspiration from our Civitan Creed

I am Civitan: as old as life, as young as the rainbow, as endless as time.



BELIEVERS

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain." -Dolly Parton