



# FLASHES

February  
2023  
Edition

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

## 2022– 2023 Officers CLUB

**President:**  
Lavon Moore

**President-Elect:**  
Jessie Bowens

**Secretary:**  
Cheryl A. Bailey

**Treasurer:**  
Linda F. Neely

**Assistant Treasurer:**  
Jenny Johnson

**Board of Directors:**  
Sean Dogan  
Anne Lavelly  
Anna Smith  
Heyward Johnston

**Service Project Director:**  
Sean Dogan

**Chaplain:**  
Deborah Pearson

**Sergeant-At-Arms:**  
Steve Johnson

## CHARITIES

**President:**  
Charlotte Walker

**President Elect:**  
Lavon Moore

**Secretary:**  
Leda Young

**Treasurer:**  
Linda Neely

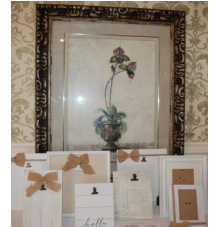
**Board of Directors:**  
Rhonda Bowling  
Belita Broadus  
Debbie Johnston  
Annie Mumbauer  
Dot Ray



Flashes Editor: Anne B. Lavelly

## Silent Auction– a fundraiser to shout

At the March 6th meeting, the club's focus turned to fundraising. Thanks to Gale Garner and Judy Graham, items were collected from the club members to be put into the annual silent auction. The meeting was kept short so that the bidding wars could commence. From houseware, to Christmas décor, to accessories, the frenzy to get one's name down and outbid the competition was evident. One particular peach ensemble drew quite a bit of attention and sneaky tactics were used to dampen the fervent bidding. And one particular Dot Ray confectionary concoction would have rivaled any high end back shop in town. When the final bell rang, and bidding was closed, there were a few teeth gnashing– but the club was the beneficiary with **\$1,234.50** raised in less than one hour. Thanks to all the club members who donated items, raised the bids on items, and be a part of the club fundraiser.



## Ronald McDonald House recognized as Health and Wellness Impact Area

At the March 20th meeting, Heyward Johnson introduced the club to Marti Spencer, the CEO, Executive Director of the Greenville's Ronald McDonald House. Mrs. Spencer has been with Ronald McDonald House for over 18 years, starting as a volunteer with the suggestion of her son and under the leadership of Frank Lander. In 2016 the facility underwent a 3.5 million dollar expansion with no mortgage. The house serves all of the Upstate and is set on opening a satellite site in Anderson, NC. The center remained open during COVID, serving over 2,000 families, 147 nights stay and over 300 hours of volunteer work. They have saved families over \$500,00 in lodging and meals while providing a respite for the families during a draining time in a family's life. Referrals for families to use the facilities are made by medical professionals and social workers. If the center cannot provide assistance, they have other outsourced referral connections. The house provides playground areas and socialization areas and has 24 suites with each room having its own bathroom. Club President, Lavon Moore and Heyward Johnson presented Marti Spencer the Club 45 Impact Award to the Greenville Ronald McDonald House



- Cheryl Bailey, Article Contributor

## Upcoming Service Projects/Meetings

- **Monday, April 17 at 1:00 PM, Civitan Awareness & Servant's Heart Awards Banquet**
- **Monday, May 1 at 6:30 PM, Citizenship Awards Banquet**

More information is available on page 2

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** (Rhonda Bowling)

### April

- **Servant's Heart Award** (Ruth Richburg)
- **March of Dimes** (Heyward Johnston)

### May

- **Citizenship Banquet** (Violeta Irby)
- **Miracle League Cookout** (Anne Lavelly)

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

Sean Dogan is our Service Project Director.

## Fundraising Projects

### Ongoing- each meeting:

- **50/50 Raffle** (Jenny Johnson)
- **Card Sales** (Debbie Johnston)
- **Magazine Sales** (Rachel Drake)
- **Candy Boxes** (Anne Lavelly)

### January-March:

- **Silent Auction** (Members only)



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

**Civitan Awareness Month**– throughout the month of April take any opportunity to share the story of Civitan and the impact it has in the community and in your life. More information will be shared on how you can get the word out about Civitan and the Champions of Service.

**Servant's Heart Awards**– **Monday, April 17** Three individuals from Greenville County who work with Individuals with Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities will be recognized at our second meeting of April.

**March of Dimes "March for Babies"**– **Friday, April 28** at Unity Park from 4:30 (check-in and set up) to 8:30 PM. More details to follow.

**High School Citizenship Banquet: Monday, May 1** at 6:30 PM at the Poinsett Club

*From Violeta Irby, Citizenship Banquet Chair:*

*Please remember that our **Citizenship Banquet will be held on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. at the Poinsett Club.** The committee is in the process of planning the program for the evening. A sign-up sheet was circulating at our last meeting where you could indicate if you plan to attend this event. Also, there is a charge of \$35 per guest. If you are planning to bring a guest, please give your check in the amount of \$35 to Ethel Bennett on Monday, April 3. The check should be made payable to The Greenville Civitan Club. In the memo section, please place your guest's name. If you did not have an opportunity to sign-up for the banquet at our last meeting, please make sure you sign-up at our next meeting on Monday, April 3. It will be the final sign-up. We are hoping that you are planning to attend this wonderful event!*

**Miracle League Picnic**– Tentatively set for **Saturday, May 27th**: At the Mauldin Sunset Park

**Special Olympics, Area 4 Games**– **Wednesday, March 29** at Furman University. Set up began at 8:30 AM and we were ready with the Basketball Toss when the crowds arrived a little past 10:15. We had just enough prizes (only six visors and four kneeling pads were left) when we closed down the booth. Thanks to all who were able to come out and made our Olympic Town booth a great success! give out prizes to the athletes. Pictures will be made available on our Facebook page and can be viewed in the link below.

**Pictures taken at all our functions can be found here: Greenville Civitans Picture Gallery**

Want to see your picture in the Flashes? Send them to [annelavelly@gmail.com](mailto: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

in April

LaBarbara Sampson  
April 6th

Linda Neely  
April 7th

Charlotte Walker  
April 16th

## April

### Anniversaries

Rachel Drake 1990

Ruth Richburg 2009

Julia Burdette 2009

Frankie Sloan 2007

Ann Thompson 2007

Violeita Irby 2018

Dr. Byron Battle  
2022

Chantia Battle 2022



- 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.

## 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 grief, illness, or medical procedures. In your thoughts and prayers, please be mindful of:

Rachel Drake    Violeita Irby

Rachel asked that we continue selling magazines. Rachel Drake has returned and well wishes can be sent to: Rachel Drake, The Gardens at Eastside, Apt B10  
275 Commonwealth Drive, Greenville, SC 29615. Calls accepted at 864-430-0917

## Upcoming Meetings

April 3-            *Election and Charities Voting*

April 17-        **Servant's Heart/ Civitan Awareness/ Membership** meeting

May 1-            **Civitan High School Citizenship Banquet**

**Embolden Items are Service Projects, and Italicized items are closed meetings.**

## Officer Elections and Grant Approvals

### **Slate of Club Officers**

(from the Nominating Committee)

President Jessie Bowers

President-Elect Sean Dogan

Treasurer Linda Neely

Assistant Treasurer Jenny Johnson

Secretary Cheryl Bailey

### Vote for 4 Board of Directors

Heyward Johnston

Gale Garner

Annie Mumbaure

Dr. Brian Battle

LaBarbara Sampson

### **Slate for Charities Board**

(from the Nominating Committee)

President Lavon Moore

President Elect Jessie Bowers

Treasurer Linda Neely

### Vote for 5 Board of Directors

Debbie Johnston

Rhonda Bowling

Sonya Dawson

Dorothy Ray

Ethel Bennett

Judy Graham

Charlotte Walker

Leda Young

Belita Broadus

The Civitan Charities Board recommends awarding the following Grants which need to be voted on by Civitan Club members at the April 3, 2023 meeting.

### **Civitan Charities Trust Account Grants:**

\*\*Habitat for Humanity of Greenville County - \$10,000 Affordable home construction and sustainable home ownership on Sturtevant Street.

\*\*Mauldin Miracle League - \$4,000 To provide financial assistance covering registration fees for children/young adults with physical developmental challenges who want to play baseball.

\*\*Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Carolina - \$8,760 Provide daily meals to an average of 36 families staying at the Ronald McDonald House.

\*\*South Carolina Children's Theatre - \$3,000 Provide underserved children opportunities to experience the theatre arts.

\*\*UpCountry History Museum - \$1,500 Fund museum admissions and program costs for adults and children with learning or developmental disabilities.

\*\*Upstate Carolina Adaptive Golf - \$10,000 Support to deliver adaptive golf therapy to 1000+ participants who are veterans and individuals with disabilities in Greenville.

\*\*YMCA of Greenville - \$ 10,000 Provide financial assistance for weekly program fees for After School program participants.

### **Civitan Club local Charities bank account funds:**

\*\*March of Dimes, Inc. - \$2,500 Provide meals to families and staff at the local NICU unit.



# DREAMERS