



FLASHES

October
2022
First
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
Vacancy

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

Positive Community Relations & Equal Opportunity

At the November 21st meeting, we suspended the program meeting temporarily to clarify and explain the meal policy for the club meetings. After the vote, and the standing rule was established, Dr. Yvonne Duckett from the **Greenville County Human Relations Commission** spoke to our club about the opportunities and services available in Greenville County to address many housing and job-related issues. In 1972, the SC General Assembly created the commission and in 1984, the regional Greenville County Commission was established. In 2001 the commission received HUD Housing Counseling Agency certification. The work focuses on providing equal opportunity for all Greenville County residents through financial and housing counseling. Whether it is addressing the homeless situation, landlord/tenant remediation or foreclosure prevention, the commission is using education to inform and empower individuals and families to have access to affordable housing. The commission staff managed eight COVID relief funds during the pandemic, and while monies were available for those in need, funds had to be returned due to potential clients not motivated to fill out the paperwork. The Commission, through the Financial Empowerment Center, is able to provide free one-on-one professional financial counseling. The staff has counseled 2,029 clients, provided 6,631 financial sessions, helping clients save over \$951,712, with a total amount of debt reduced \$3,004,881 for those clients. The commission also helps develop housing in rural areas through USDA loans that have a much lower interest rate than traditional financial institutions. The commission has a lot to offer the Greenville community to invest in the individual citizen and afford them equal opportunity in housing.



To learn more, click on this icon:



Special thanks to Cheryl Bailey, contributor to this article.

Meals at the POINSETT CLUB for 2022-23

- If a meal is prepared for you and you do not attend, you will need to cover the cost of the meal (\$20). If you attend a meeting without being on the list for a meal, you will need to pay the late charge (\$3).
- Please contact Steve Johnson by email: gunney25@gmail.com or Cell: 864.642.8604 by **10 AM on the Wednesday before a Monday meeting** to make sure you are on the right list and can avoid having to pay any fees.
- While a policy in the past, this is now a standing rule voted on by the membership.

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

Service Projects

Ongoing:

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

October

November thru December

- Salvation Army: Red Kettle (Jesse Bowens)

December

- Civitan House- Ridge Road Christmas (Connie Burgess)
- Ridgeview House Christmas (Rhonda Bowling)

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)

October-December

- Fruit Cake Sales (Sam Bennett)



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

Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive

Dec. 3rd -24th at the Old Pottery Barn on Laurens Road
Electronic Sign ups are through the Salvation Army website. [Click HERE](#) and use Group Code **GVLCivitan**. Contact Jesse Bowens at 864-420-1985 to sign up or verify your timeslot. We need more members to participate so the service project does not land on a few individuals and become a burden. **Specifically, the 5 PM-7 PM slot on Dec. 10 and Dec. 17 need to be covered.**

- Timeslots: 11 AM-1 PM, 1 PM-3 PM, 3 PM-5 PM, and 5 PM- 7 PM
- Saturdays are: Dec. 3, Dec. 10 (WHHS Jr. Civitans), Dec. 17 and Dec. 24 (11-2 PM)



Christmas at Ridgeview!

The party with the residents at Ridgeview House will be at 2:30 PM on Friday, December 9th. If you need to do something to get your heart in the right place, or you just want to be a part of a beautiful time- come join us at the Ridgeview House.

The committee will bring the gift bags and we need you to bring the cheer!

Ridgeview Community Care Home
217 Chandler Rd, Greer, SC 29651

Projects Where You can be a Champion of Service

Ongoing

- Ronald McDonald House-Pull Tab Collection: Heyward Johnston, Chair
- Junior Civitans at Wade Hampton HS: Gale Garner, Chair
- Ridgeview Birthday Parties: Monthly, Rhonda Bowling, Chair
- Candy Box Collection: Anne Lavelly, Chair

1st Quarter (October thru December) **IMPACT AREA: Education & Employment**

- Claxton Fruit Cake Sales in Ingles Stores: October thru December, Sam Bennett, Chair
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing: November thru December, Jessie Bowens, Chair
- Civitan House on Ridge Road Christmas Party: December, Connie Burgess, Chair
- Ridgeview Christmas Party: December, Rhonda Bowling, Chair



CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL IMPACT AREAS
EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT
for those with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

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.

December Birthdays

Annie Mumbauer
Dec. 1

Julia Burdette
Dec. 4

Cheryl Bailey
Dec. 5

Chantia Battle
Dec. 12

Jessie Bowens
Dec. 20

Anna Smith
Dec. 21

December Anniversaries

Sean Dogan
12/19/2011

Anne Lavelly
12/29/2011

LaBarbara
Sampson
12/7/2015

Elizabeth Scott
12/21/2017



DREAMERS

Fees and Fundraiser Reminder

- Quarterly Dues should be paid by the first of **October**, January, April, & July. Please take care of this in a timely manner.
- At each regular meeting we have a 50/50 Raffle, a Greeting Card Sale, and a Magazine Sale as club fundraisers! Helps us be Champions of Service.



Meals at the POINSETT CLUB for 2022-23

For Membership Meetings, let Steve know if you are bringing a GUEST!

- 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 strength and solace from grief, illness, or medical procedures. In your heart and mind, please keep the following members close:

Rachel Drake Gale Garner Mary Lou Lewis



Christmas Was Meant for Children

This is our theme for **the Annual Christmas Party** to be held Monday, December 19 at 6:30 PM, at the Poinsett Club. The committee decided on the **Greenville Children's Hospital** as the service project. Each member is encouraged to bring an inexpensive, unwrapped gift for a boy or girl, ages 1 through 12, to brighten the day for children who will be spending Christmas in the hospital.

Rhonda Bowling will be delivering the gifts on December 20th.

A sign up sheet will be available at the program meeting. The cost for a guest is \$35 and payment should be made by the December 5th meeting or before the party.

Upcoming Meetings

- December 5- **Membership Meeting** Invite a friend or colleague to see the good the Greenville Civitans do. Think Grow, Talk Grow, Do Grow
- December 19- Christmas Social at 6:30 PM, Poinsette Club
- January 6- (Friday, due to New Years) *Business Meeting.* Closed due to Voting
- January 20- (Friday, due to MLK Day) **Membership Meeting** Invite a friend or colleague to see the good the Greenville Civitans do.
- February 6- **Clergy Appreciation Day**, make sure to invite your pastor or clergy

Embolden Items are Service Projects or Seek Meetings, and Italicized items are closed meetings. If bringing a guest, please inform Steve the Wednesday before the meeting!

The simplest way to bring balance to your thoughts and emotions is unwavering commitment towards something.
-Sadhguru (Jagadish Vasudev)