

# Georgia On My Mind

Georgia District Of Civitan



December 2010

Volume 1, Issue 1

## Governor's Corner by Kenny Martin

Hello Fellow Civitans,

By the time you get this newsletter, everyone will probably be trying to recover from the Holiday season. I hope everyone had a safe and joyous holiday season.

Since this is my first report since being elected Governor of the Ga. District, I've got quite a few things to report on. We had our first District meeting for the new Civitan year, in Marietta at the Hilton on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. This was a well attended meeting. We had 88 members in attendance and 29 clubs represented. We had all but 2 District officers in attendance and all but 2 Area Directors in attendance. We were also glad to have our new Region II Director, Mattie Fraser in attendance. Our host club was the Marietta Club and they did an excellent job on coordinating everything for the meeting. Many thanks goes out to Governor-Elect Louise Crapps and everyone from the Marietta Club who helped put on this event.

At our board meeting we had several updates to report on. They were as follows:

Update On Albany, Newnan and Midtown Civitan Clubs

The Albany Club's charter was picked up by Immediate Past Governor Ray Marden in September and we are in the process of going through the channels with International to get this finalized.

The Newnan Club voted to turn in their charter and disband at their last meeting in September. They have sent a letter to International to this effect.

The Midtown Club has folded according to Immediate Past Governor Ray Marden and we are in the process of handling this situation with International also.

I really hate to see these clubs fold, especially the Albany and Newnan Clubs, as these clubs were old clubs and had a lot of history.

Update on Spring District Meeting:

I have changed the Spring District Meeting date to April 16<sup>th</sup>, so as not to conflict with Easter weekend. The meeting will still be a one day meeting and will be held in Warner Robins, Ga. We have not secured a definite location yet, but the Warner Robins Club is working on it and we will be announcing that soon.



Update On 2011 District Convention

We have changed hotel locations for the 2011 District Convention. The original hotel that we had chosen was unable to provide sufficient meeting space for us. We have moved to the Hilton Savannah Desoto, 15 East Liberty St., Savannah, Ga. Jenny and I have visited this hotel and it is a very nice hotel, with plenty of meeting space, conveniently located just 5 blocks from River Street, in the Historic District, all rooms have great views and everything is in walking distance. The Civitan room rates are \$109.00 plus taxes per night. We have blocked out 60 rooms for the convention. We will have more information available at the Spring District meeting.

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## Governor's Report Continued.....

Also the board voted to change the format of the convention from a 4 day meeting to a 3 day meeting, in hopes of accommodating those of our membership who still have "to work for a living". Therefore our convention will begin on Friday, August 26th, 2011 and end on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. The board meeting will be on Friday morning with the opening session being on Friday afternoon. We will not have a past governors luncheon, but we will recognize all past governors in attendance at the Awards breakfast on Saturday morning. We will still have our auction on Friday evening and our Installation Banquet on Saturday evening. We will have much more on this at our Spring Meeting.

Although we are losing three clubs in our District, we were happy to have our newest club, the Seminole County Civitan Club President Sherry Delk and three of her members in attendance at our meeting. They have a very enthusiastic group down there and have already become a very active club in their community. Welcome to Sherry and her fellow members of the Seminole County Club. You will not find a better organization to be a part of. Also our Growth/Retention/New club Chairman, James Hudson reported that his group is working on new clubs in Claxton, Milledgeville, Cordele and Macon. We are hoping to build a new club back in the Albany area also, with the help of Grant and Janice Williams. If you know of any other areas that we might possible build a club in, please let myself or James know. The best way to reach James is at home @ 478-272-2083 ( no email yet). If you would like to help with the building of any of these clubs, please let us know also.

The board also voted to again have our annual raffle to benefit the CIRC and Camp Big Heart. The prizes this year will be MONEY. We will have a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize. Tickets will be \$10.00 each and will be handed out at the Spring Meeting. Each club selling tickets will keep 50% of the proceeds from the tickets they sell, and the District will keep 50%. We are asking that all clubs participate in this very worthwhile project. There is no up front cost to the clubs and the tickets are very easy to sell. It is a great fundraiser for the district and your club. The drawing will be at the annual District Convention. Last year the Dublin Club (my club) sold the most tickets, so we are looking for some competition this year. Thanks goes out to Connie McManus, fundraising chair, for her work on this project.

It was brought to the board's attention that our Jr. Civitan Clubs are in need of some help in leadership from our Senior clubs. There has been little or no interaction from our Jr. clubs with International Jr. clubs or with each other for some time now. Connie McManus has agreed to chair a committee to work on getting our Jr. clubs back on track. Several of our members have agreed to help with this important matter. If you would like to help, you can contact Connie at [constancemcmanus@yahoo.com](mailto:constancemcmanus@yahoo.com). Thanks again Connie for agreeing to chair this very important committee. Some members have expressed concerns about the way our news-

letter is being distributed. We are currently mailing copies to all club presidents for them to hand out at club meetings. It has been brought to our attention that some club presidents are not handing them out at meetings. I am asking all club presidents to please see that this is done. This is the most economical way for the district to handle this. It is too much to ask of our newsletter editor (Ginny Herring), to have to edit the newsletter, have them printed, print out labels, affix a label to each newsletter (1000+), and then mail them out. She is like the rest of us a volunteer, who also works two jobs. So we are asking again that all club presidents see that ALL of your members get a copy of the newsletter. The newsletter is also available on our website—[www.georgiacivitan.org](http://www.georgiacivitan.org). Thanks Ginny for your work on the newsletter.

Area directories were handed out at the district meeting also. Each club president and all district officers should have received one. Every effort was made to have the correct information about your club in the directory. If you find an error, please let me know. If your club did not receive a directory, also let me know. Thanks to Linda Lane for putting the directory together and to George Chandler for having them printed. All of the info in the directory is also available on our website. We are also in the process of updating our website. Please check your clubs information on the website. If anything is incorrect please notify Chester Cupp, our webmaster and he will get it corrected for you. Thanks to Chester for handling this for us.

We began our Civitan year with 41 active clubs, 1046 members and 10 Golden Circle Clubs. As of 11/30/10 our membership had dropped to 1037. Lets work to have as many Honor clubs as possible this Civitan year. All you have got to have is a plus one in membership at the end of the Civitan year. If we do that we would have an increase of 41 members in the District at the end of the year. As of 11/30/10 the Warner Robins Club led in membership with 52, Dublin was second with 49 and Marietta was third with 45. We have had nine clubs add new members so far this Civitan year.

On a sad note we have lost a couple of members due to death this Civitan year. Please be sure and let our Benevolence Committee—Ralph and Shari Dorminy—know of any sickness or deaths in your club, so they can send a card from the District to the member or their families. Their email address is [www.rnsdor@hotmail.com](mailto:www.rnsdor@hotmail.com). Again I would like to thank everyone who attended the Marietta meeting. We had some very good reports from all of the clubs in attendance. You are to be commended for the work you are doing in your communities. Please continue to support your local club and invite someone to attend a meeting with you. Be sure and mark your calendar for the district meeting in Warner Robins and lets have another good turnout. Also please keep me informed as to what is going on in your clubs and include me on your newsletter list.

I apologize for the lengthy report, but as I stated in the beginning I had a lot to report on. Remember to Support Your Club and continue to Pay It Forward.

I AM PROUD TO BE A CIVITAN

*Kenny Martin*

*Your Georgia District*

*Governor*

## Chaplain's Corner

We as Civitans start a new year, all of us have great dreams of doing for others that have needs. Some of us let those great dreams die, but others nourish and protect them: through bad days until they bring them to be true. A ray of light and feelings of joy come to those Civitans who have made their dreams come true. The ones that had the needs or dreams that we as Civitans often times have made come true also received a ray of light and hope. God answers all dreams through prayer (yes, no, or until later) so I encourage each of you to keep your dreams in your prayers and watch for the wonders God will bless Civitan with this coming year.

My prayer is that God will bless each one of you this coming year with good health and all of your worldly needs. Please feel free to contact me any-time that you know of someone that needs prayer.

Georgia District Civitan

Chaplain

*Emory Hatcher*



## Area 9 Report by Melba Daniel

Area 9 Report

Melba Daniel, Area 9 Director

Clubs: Cook County, Magnolia, Pelham, Savannah, Valdosta

All officers in Area 9 have been certified as being trained with the exception of Savannah.

Cook County Civitan Club started the year off with Bingo, which is a monthly activity at the Nursing Home in Adel. They participated in the downtown Halloween Festival where kids dressed in their costumes came and played games, won prizes and all for free. A Thanksgiving meal was given to a needy family for their Thanksgiving dinner. Members donated fruit for fruit baskets which were prepared for each resident at the Nursing Home. The weekend of Thanksgiving, members began to build a float for their participation in the local Christmas Parade. In December, a Christmas party is scheduled for the club members and their families. Had one recruitment meeting with no gain, but will continue to focus on growth in the club. They have already had several very good speakers at their meetings. A Boston Butt fundraiser is planned for the Christmas holidays. They are holding their meetings at the I-Hop restaurant in Adel. Five members from the Cook County Club attended the District Meeting in Marietta. This club continues to be a vibrant and active club with dedicated members.

The Magnolia Civitan Club did not have any members present at the Fall District Meeting due to the fact that they were working their biggest fundraiser of the year, their Turkey, Boston Butt & Turkey Breast Sale. This has been and continues to be a very profitable fundraiser for them. During December, one of the members is "Santa" and has his picture made with children with the proceeds going to their Civitan club. Members donate can soup and fruit, oatmeal cookies, crackers, etc., as Bingo prizes for the residents at the Senior Center. A Christmas Party is planned for December 18<sup>th</sup>, at

very discouraged because of the lack of members and able bodies to carry out their projects.

## Area 9 Report Continued...

which time, members donate to the Toy Drive for needy children. The Magnolia Club has very active members which allows them to be a strong and vital asset to their area.

**Pelham Civitan Club** is a strong, dedicated club with great attendance at the club meetings. They continue to stay busy with building wheelchair ramps, 2 already this year. Members brought canned goods and staples for Thanksgiving Food Baskets for five to six needy families. They are busy with Fruitcake Sales and are now taking orders for their big Christmas Ham & Boston Butt Sale. For awareness, they are purchasing four Civitan signs from George Chandler. A Christmas Party for the members and their families is scheduled for December 20<sup>th</sup>. They continue to work on increasing their membership and two members attended the Fall District Meeting in Marietta.

The **Savannah Civitan Club** has an acting President which was the same one as last year, a President-Elect, Treasurer & Billing Clerk (same one) They now meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month and at different locations. They show 10 members on the Civitan International roster but only about 5, at the most, show up for the meetings. They still sponsor the Golf tournament as a fundraiser. They donate to Georgia Regional, which is a facility for children from abused homes and families.

**Valdosta Civitan Club** is working with fruitcake this year as a fundraiser and members sold fruitcakes at a bazaar in downtown Valdosta on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. They continue to participate with the Salvation Army with the ringing of the bells on the second Saturday in December at Wal-Mart. They will be making a monetary donation for Christmas gifts for underprivileged children. Their next meeting is scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup>. They have 10 members with only 4 attending the meetings. A Recruitment Meeting is scheduled for January and depending on the outcome, a decision will be made whether or not to turn in the charter of the Valdosta Civitan Club. The leadership is

## Hawkinsville Civitan Club

One of the Club's most profitable fundraiser is the Annual Smoked Turkey Sale. Members begin to sell the turkeys at the beginning of the month, the order is placed and the rest is left up for the members to complete the job. On Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the members met at the local fire department where the grills are located, to clean the turkeys and ice them down overnight and on Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 a.m., the cooking process begins. Once the grills reach the temperature of 250 degrees, the turkeys were placed on the grill for approximately five hours. Around noon, the turkeys were removed from the grill, wrapped in aluminum foil and returned to the grill. They were smoked for an additional two hours, removed from the grill and transported to the social hall at the First Baptist Church. Our customers were met with the aroma of these delicious turkeys filling the room as they stopped by to pick up their delicious, succulent bird.. Eighty-four turkeys were smoked. Three needy families each received one of the smoked turkeys along with a box of food that completed a Thanksgiving meal. Members of the club donated all of the food items and the Club supplied the cooked turkey. From this fundraiser, a lot of people in the community were benefited because of the profit that we returned to those in need. Tired but satisfied members went home with a thought of Thanksgiving and a "Pay It Forward" attitude!

*Charles Raf-  
faldt & Emory  
Hatcher.....*

*Hot!!!!*



## North Cobb Civitan Club by Penny Warren

### NORTH COBB CIVITAN RAFFLE

The North Cobb Civitan Club began doing a raffle at every meeting. We bought a deck of cards and placed the joker in the stack. Each week we sell \$1 raffle tickets and we select two winners to come to the front to “pick a card”. If they pick the JOKER, they win half the pot of money. Our pot of money is now up to over \$400 because no one has selected the joker so ultimately now everyone is coming to the meetings on a regular basis and it has produced a lot of excitement and anticipation for our members. Guests also get in on the fun and one recently bought \$20 worth of tickets. The other portion of the winning money will go to fund a special project for our club.

The raffle has proven to be fun, a good money maker for the club and a way to entice members to come on a regular basis.

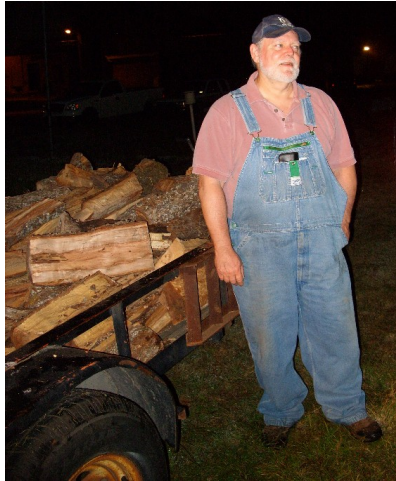
### *Penny E. Warren*

Secretary

678-331-3952



*James Miller cleaning turkeys.*



*Ronnie Lane delivering wood.*

## Elected Past Governor Director

The 2010-2011 Civitan theme “PAYING IT FORWARD”. Hopefully will encourage all of us in Georgia District to do just that not only through Civitan, but in our everyday lives. An excellent way to demonstrate this year's theme is to recruit new members into our great organization. We as Civitans need to be determined to insure that we are not the best kept secret out there. Talk Civitan, live Civitan and recruit for Civitan, Spread the word and let us all get behind Governor Kenny and the Georgia District and Civitan International and make this 2010-2011 Civitan year the best ever.

As 2010 draws to an end, I wish for all of you to have a safe and joyful Christmas and Happy New Year and that 2011 will bring much happiness and success to all. In the words of a great Civitan, “IT IS GREAT TO BE A CIVITAN”.

### *Grant Williams*

## Americus Civitan Club

The Americus Club started the 2010-2011 year off very busy. The first weekend of October the club had the annual Andersonville Fair food booth fund raiser which was a two day event, very successful and member participation was great. Fun and fellowship was enjoyed as well as a lot of hard but rewarding work. October 26-31, the club had their week long food booth at the Albany Exchange Club Fair. Needless to say numerous hours were contributed by the members in order to make this week long event possible. The Americus Club provided meals for two local families at Thanksgiving and will have a similar project at Christmas. We will also be assisting the Salvation Army with Bell Ringing at Christmas. We have reported one new member to International with another prospect in the works. The Americus Civitan hopes all of our fellow Civitans have a SAFE, HAPPY holiday season and may we all remember the Reason for the Season.

### *Grant Williams*

*“Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.”*

*Calvin Coolidge*

*“Unless we make Christmas an occasion to share our blessings, all the snow in Alaska won't make it 'white.'”*

*Bing Crosby*

## Cook County Civitan Club



“Winter Wonderland” was the theme for Cook County’s annual Christmas Parade. The Cook County Civitan Club got out there with their civic spirit and went to work creating a lighted, whimsical world to show the community how much they love them. Stuffed animals were thrown to the children of all ages. The club won Best Use of Theme, Best Construction and Craftmanship and Overall Best Float.

The club will also be participating in the House of Grace, helping serve meals, providing for a family at Christmas and providing gifts for the local nursing home and the local special education classes in the school system.

Cook County Civitan would like to wish everyone a safe, happy and Blessed Christmas this year. We also hope you will share the joy and love of Jesus Christ as well as that of Civitan and...Pay It Forward!!!



## Benevolence Committee

Benevolence Committee Report

December 4, 2010

We are happy to report that we haven't had any deaths in our district that we have been notified of.

Please clubs, we have a great project here that if a member in your club dies

that he or she will have a \$ 25.00 dollar donation sent to Civitan International Research Center in their name on behalf of the Georgia District. This is our way to remember those who have given their time to such a worthy cause as Civitan. The family is sent a card from the District telling of the donation and CIRC will also send them a card telling of the donation in their loved one's name. We also send cards to members who have lost a loved one to let them know we care. We have sent two cards for those who have lost a family member.

If you have a member who has passed away please send email [rnsdor@hotmail](mailto:rnsdor@hotmail) or phone us at 229 782-5040 and Ralph or Shari will call you back and get the information needed for sending the donation. (Name, address and club they were member's of).

We also send out cards for those who are facing surgeries or illness. Since August we have sent out 18 get well cards.

We have also sent sympathy cards to members who have lost loved ones. This will let members know that we do care and send our thoughts and prayers to them and their families.

Thank you to those of you who do send us information. We are proud of this project and just need your help in making it such a success.

Submitted by,

***Ralph & Shari Dorminey***

Benevolence Committee

## Dublin Civitan Club

We just recently spent the day & #8220; Ringing the Bells & 8221; for our local branch of the Salvation Army. While putting in 23 volunteer hours, our kettle managed to raise close to \$900 in a single day. Even though we had fun in the process this was a humbling experience in itself. As we were donating our time, it was heartwarming to see all the kids freely put their coins in to help total strangers in need. Even though we were "ringing the bells", all who donated money were performing a true from of & #8220; Paying it Forward &#8221;. They were anonymously donating to help others, knowing they would never be recognized for their efforts but instead trusting the Dublin Civitan volunteers and the Salvation Army to take their donations and & @8220; Pay it Forward &#8221; to help other families in need throughout the year!



***We would like to wish all the personnel in the armed forces a very Merry and safe Christmas. We also wish all of their loved ones a very special Christmas in Christ.***



## Georgia District

Kenny Martin—Governor  
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**We're on the web**  
[www.georgiacivitan.org](http://www.georgiacivitan.org)

● Pass it forward with  
Georgia Civitan!!

*To pay it forward is to do a good deed with no thought whatsoever of repayment. When you see someone in need, and you want to do something nice for them. It can be as big or small as you want. It's instinctive, random acts of kindness. When someone receives unexpected help, they usually want to pay you back somehow. Now, we can just say, "That's all right. The next time YOU see someone in need, just pay it forward."*

**CIVITAN**

**Service-Knowledge-Fellowship**

## Editor's Corner.....

In the Christmas season, it is a time for reflecting and giving. Let's reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and the true Christmas Story. This Christmas season pick up your Bible and re-read the Christmas Story as told by the disciples. It will bring you back to what Christmas is all about. And in reflecting, it will show you how to be kind and loving and giving to each other and not to get caught up in the busyness of the Christmas season. When you have done this, you will be truly ready to **"Pay It Forward"** in Civitan.

I pray that everyone has a safe, fruitful and very Merry Christmas this year.



## 2010-2011 Officers

Kenny Martin—Governor  
Louise Crapps-Governor Elect  
Linda Lane-Secretary  
Treasurer-Mary Coon  
Immediate Past Governor -  
Ray Marden  
Past Governor Director -  
Grant Williams  
Judge Advocate-Wayne Howell  
Chaplain-Emory Hatcher  
Sergeant-at-Arms-Gene Lastinger  
Sergeant-at-Arms-Bruce Birth