



THE CIVIC

New Bern Civitan Club's Award Winning Newsletter



Chartered October 4, 1956

Celebrating our 67th Year

August 2023

INSTALLATION DINNER 2023 - SAVE THE DATE

Did you like last year's "honeymoon chicken" at the Chelsea? Did you like the carrot cake dessert? Well, If so, this year The New Bern Civitan Club Installation Dinner will be on **Thursday evening, September 28, 2023, at 5:30pm at the Chelsea restaurant.** At this dinner, we will install the Officers and Board of Directors for the Club for the 2023-2024 year which runs from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024. The dinner will be a plated dinner. Guest speakers and the price of the dinner are still being determined. As always, we will try to keep the cost of the dinner down while still maintaining a festive and special atmosphere.

At this same dinner, we will be honoring the Citizen of the Year and the Civitan of the Year. We ask that all members put this date on their calendar with hopes that many will attend to support our incoming Officers and Board members as well as our Junior Civitan Board and Officers from New Bern High School. In the past, the Chelsea has put on an outstanding dinner for us at a reasonable price. *Please do all you can to make this dinner a success.* Spouses and guests are welcome. More information will be forthcoming.

2023 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President – Dennis Pymm
President-elect – Roy Leonard
Vice President – Cyndi Papia
Secretary – Maureen Comer
Asst. Secretary – Eileen Buscemi
Treasurer – Van Rice
Asst. Treasurer – Amy Willis

Past President – Gary Todd

One Year Directors (Term Expires Sept. 30, 2024)

Dev Lippitt (replacing Cyndi Papia)
Judy Lopez
Renee Salvatore
Betty Todd

Two Year Directors (Term Expires Sept. 30, 2025)

Alan Craig
Ann Super
Dave Super
Joanne Tello

THE CIVIC

AUGUST CIVITAN BIRTHDAYS

William	Snyder	July 06
Randy	King	July 06
Jennifer	Potter	July 07
Al	Mack	July 09
Clark	Saylor	July 10
Maureen	Comer	July 20
Joan	Meutsch	July 29

AUGUST CIVITAN ANNIVERSARIES

NONE

The Civitan Creed

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

My hands do the work of the world and reach out in service to others.

My ears hear the cry of children and the call throughout the world for peace, guidance, progress and unity.

My eyes search for others to join in the fellowship and service of Civitan.

My mouth utters the call to daily duty and speaks prayers in every tongue.

My mind teaches me respect for law and the flag of my country.

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

My soul knows no fear but its own unworthiness.

My hope is for a better world through Civitan.

My motto: builders of good citizenship.

My belief: do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

My pledge: to practice the Golden Rule and to build upon it a better and nobler citizenship.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Gary Todd

PRESIDENT ELECT

Dennis Pymm

VICE PRESIDENT

Roy Leonard

SECRETARY

Maureen Comer

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Jan Snyder

TREASURER

Van Rice

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Amy Willis

CHAPLAIN

Bill Baldree

ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN

Bill Snyder

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Ken McCain & Dev Lippitt

EDUCATION OFFICERS

Bill Snyder, Helen Shine, Maureen Comer

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Jim Comer

DIRECTORS

One Year

Term Expires

Sept. 30, 2023

Mary S. Williams

Susie Bare

Eileen Buscemi

Pam Kubik

Two Year

Term Expires

Sept. 30, 2024

Betty Todd

Judy Lopez

Cyndi Papia

Renee Salvatore

New Bern Civitan Club Web Page

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AUGUST NBCC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, August 11 – NBCC Afternoon Meeting Paula's Restaurant 11:30 am. Guest Speaker Ray Cockrell from the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina and several Teens who live on campus. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. *Contact Maureen Comer before August 9 if you will be attending so she may notify Paula's of the number of members attending.*

Friday, August 11 – PreK School Supply donation drive closes. If you still have donations to be handed in, contact either Judy Lopez (jlothejudge@gmail.com) or Maureen Comer (maureencomer0720@gmail.com) and they will arrange for a pick up. Thanks to all the members who have contributed.

Monday, August 14 – Board of Directors Meeting at Garber UMC at 1 pm in Room 222. Officers and New and Old Board Members are invited to attend.

Monday, August 14 – RCS Shelter Dinner Delivery 6 pm. Items still needed for this dinner. If you can help, please sign up at <https://signup.com/go/dUenBpr>

Thursday, August 24 – NBCC Evening Meeting Paula's Restaurant 5:30 pm. Guest Speaker – TBA *Contact Maureen Comer Before August 22 if you will be attending so she may notify Paula's of the number of members attending.*

PRE-K SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE CONTINUES

Thank you to all who have bought supplies or given donations for the Craven County PreK and Family Literacy Program Drive for 2023. You have been very generous...as always. The Drive will continue to the Friday, August 11th meeting. We will be accepting donations until then. You may bring your supplies to the meeting or if you cannot make the meeting, Judy Lopez or Maureen Comer can meet you to pick them up.

Just as a reminder, we need lap blankets or beach towels, small backpacks (15"), one subject spiral notebooks and pocketed folders. Again, all you've done is greatly appreciated!

MEET OUR NEW VICE PRESIDENT – CYNDI PAPIA



From the moment Cyndi Papia joined the New Bern Civitan Club in April 2022, she hit the ground running with a “what can I do to help attitude.” If any person or project for the Club needs help – Cyndi is there. How did she get here to New Bern? Here’s a little bit about our Vice President for the 2023-24 Civitan year.

Cyndi is from Massachusetts. Talk to her for about five minutes and you’ll pick up “the accent.” She attended school in four different states. Why New Bern? She says, “I read a few things about the city and packed up one day, and two days later, I headed down here.” This happened in June 2018.

She came with her mother who has unfortunately since passed away. Cyndi was her primary care giver.

In her spare time – when she has any – she likes to do gardening and volunteering. For Civitan, she has helped with Rib Sales, RCS Shelter Dinner meals, Christmas Angels for DSS, Peanut Sales, Santa Land Elf, and made donations to the Waccamaw Bundle and Stuff the Bus. She has been a Board of Director since 2022. Outside of Civitan, Cyndi has worked on the New Bern Mardi Gras Committee from 2018 to present, the Ghent Neighborhood Association, the Wall that Heals volunteer, Juneteenth volunteer, Beary Hoppy Easter Volunteer, and a Beary Merry Christmas volunteer. In addition, she is a Website Specialist for our Civitan website and others throughout New Bern. She often helps a local puppeteer present shows for children throughout our community.

Cyndi lives in the Ghent neighborhood and is Mama to Ariel - a rescue cat. She often helps friends by watching their cats while they are away. When asked why she joined Civitan, she said, “I wanted to be more involved in the community in ‘service’ with a great group of people like our Civitan members.” As Vice President, it is her hope to be able to perhaps get the word out more about our wonderful club.

One of Cyndi’s duties as Vice President will be to schedule speakers for our Club meetings. If you have any suggestions, please let her know. Thank you, Cyndi, for all you have done in a very short time for our Club. We look forward to your tenure as Vice President and wish you the best of luck!

“The dearest thing in life to me is the inspiration which urges me on to give the best that is in me to the ‘builders of good citizenship,’ and makes of it a labor of love.”

Dr. Courtney W. Shropshire, Founder of Civitan International

REFLECTIONS ON THE PAST

Beginning with one local club in 1917, a group of business leaders in Birmingham, Alabama formed a global organization based on the empowering message of fellowship, knowledge, and service to others. Within a decade of that first meeting, more than one hundred Civitan clubs were formed.

Civitans worldwide share a servant’s heart – a compassion for neighbors and strangers alike. Civitan rosters have contained the names of five US Presidents, astronauts, industrialists, and inventors – leaders who changed the world in a very real sense. Club rosters also include the names of many thousands of individuals who have impacted lives in ways just as profound. That means ALL of YOU, Fellow Civitans!

Through two world wars, the Great Depression, and the Civil Rights Movement, Civitan members led the way for society. Civitan was the first service organization to integrate – in the 1940s in the South – marking one of many milestones in the organization’s history.

In the 1940s, Civitans in Baltimore were inspired by the story of Tommy McNulty, a young man born with Down syndrome, and began raising money and awareness for special educators in the area. In 1952, Dr. Shropshire, then living in Baltimore, befriended the McNulty family and began to advocate for Civitan to provide more support for teaches. As a result, Civitan unanimously adopted service to individuals with I/DD as its primary focus in 1956.

In 1974, Civitan became the first major service club organization to admit women to full membership. Another milestone for service organizations was recorded in 1989 when Polly Mooney became the first female leader of a major service organization when she was elected to serve as the International President of Civitan for 1990-91.

Since 1992, Civitan has sponsored the Civitan International Research Center, a cutting-edge facility focused on finding cures and developing treatments for issues such as autism, Rett Syndrome, Down Syndrome, and many other brain-related disorders. Today, Civitan International is the only service organization dedicated to serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We share a proud history with Civitan members in the past. As we move forward, let’s look ahead for Civitan members to achieve further milestones helping others in the years to come – both *locally* and internationally. We DO make a difference in our community!

REMEMBER ME

"Remember Me" is one of the slogans that the Alzheimer's Association uses to bring their message across to others. At our July 14th's meeting, Rob Paine, Community Educator for the Alzheimer's Association of Eastern North Carolina addressed our group. Rob lives in Carolina Colours and is a huge fan of our rib sales. He also serves as Communications Director for the New Bern Newcomers Club and as a spokesperson for the New Bern Breakfast Rotary Club. He has had a very successful career in photojournalism. He has won dozens of awards for both his journalism and photography work and currently runs his own freelance business. His website is www.iseebeauthallaround.com Check out his incredible photos.

The Alzheimer's Association of Eastern North Carolina leads the way to end Alzheimer's and all other forms of dementia by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support. In Rob's care, he became a volunteer with the Association following a family member's ongoing battle with dementia. Recently, the FDA has approved the use of the drug, Leqembi, while not a cure, changes the underlying course of the disease. Leqembi can give people in the early stages of Alzheimer's more time to maintain their independence and do the things they love.

Currently, an estimated 50 million worldwide are living with dementia, including 5 million Americans. Barring any more developments in prevention or treatment methods, this number is projected to reach nearly 14 million by 2050. The disease also affects the 16 million Americans who provide unpaid care for people living with the disease. More than 80 percent of care provided at home is delivered by family members, friends, or other unpaid caregivers.

Scientists know that Alzheimer's involves the failure of nerve cells, it's still unknown why it happens. However, they have identified certain risk factors that increase the likelihood of developing the disease. Factors include age, genetics, and family history. Additionally, women live longer than men, making them more likely to develop Alzheimer's. Yet, longevity and lower death rates can only partially explain this difference. Researchers are exploring how genetic differences may impact disease risk.

There are warning signs to this disease. They are listed on the Alzheimer website www.alz.org/10signs Early detection matters. If you or someone you care about is experiencing any of the 10 Warning signs, please see a doctor to find the cause. We thank Rob for his informative presentation.



Roy Leonard (l.), presents Rob Paine, Volunteer Spokesman for the Alzheimer's Association of Eastern North Carolina a donation from the Club and our famous HUBS peanuts as a thank you to Rob for speaking at our meeting.



THANK YOU NOTE FROM THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

July 14, 2023

Dear Roy,

On behalf of myself and the Alzheimer's Association, I want to thank you and your club again for the opportunity to speak with your membership today and for your club's generous donation to the association.

It all is truly appreciated and accepted with a great amount of gratitude.

Thanks to community groups like yours, the Alzheimer's Association can continue to spread awareness of this disease, offer help and support to those affect by it and raise funds for further research that will lead to a cure.

I want to also thank everyone who was there today for their hospitality and warm greetings. I enjoyed talking with you and so many of your members who shared the experiences of their families' battles with dementia.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to help. I look forward to speaking to your group again.

Thanks so much.

Sincerely, Rob

Rob Paine, Volunteer Community Educator

The Alzheimer's Association of Eastern North Carolina

AUTISM INFORMATION FOR NEW BERN



Deborah Kania, President of Autismazing.org, shared information about her nonprofit organization at the Thursday evening Club meeting at Paula's Pizza.

Autimazing is a nonprofit organization with the mission of improving education and workplace opportunities for young adults with autism. It was co-founded in 2016 by Deborah, whose son Dylan is autistic. It is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation with a mission to improve higher education, employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for autistic youth and young adults, 13-30 years of age, through financial support, programs and other initiatives.

Autismazing's purposes are to:

- Increase public awareness of the talents and strengths possessed by autistic youth and adults
- To advocate on behalf of autistic persons who may not have ability to do so
- To provide support to autistic persons in their pursuit of higher education, careers, or entrepreneurship
- To educate and support autistic adults in pursuing lifelong independence

The organization has a web site at Autismazing.org with detailed information on how it can help. It also has a facebook page.



Dennis Pymm presents Deborah Kania with a Can of peanuts in appreciation for her presentation.

A THANK YOU FROM RCS

The Executive Director of RCS, Zeb Hough, attended our July 14th meeting to receive our Club's donation of \$2500 to support the works of RCS in New Bern. Zeb, who has been the Director of RCS for three years, said "Coming to your meetings is like coming home. You support us in so many ways. All of us at RCS continue to be grateful for your assistance."

Zeb did share news with us of an upcoming event for RCS on August 19th – their First Annual Gala Fundraiser – An Evening in Old Hollywood. This will be a night to remember forever with guests in theme while walking a red carpet inside to the beautiful waterfront venue of Maola. A cocktail hour will guide you through a whirlwind of glamour and incredible silent auction items while RCS's very own Krishanda Jones serenades you. Dinner and drinks will be handcrafted for your enjoyment as well as a 16-piece band Contra-Band with guest singer Von Lewis for you to dance the night away. ALL proceeds from this event goes to Religious Community Services – an organization that addresses the basic needs of struggling people by providing food, clothing, and shelter to those who need it most in our community.

Want to know more? Go to their website at www.rcsnewbern.com It is always good to see and hear from Zeb about all the wonderful accomplishments of this organization.



Roy Leonard presents a check and a can of peanuts to Zeb Hough .

NOTHING FUNNY ABOUT AUGUST

There isn't much obviously funny about August, as it's the last breath of summer, the hottest time of the year, and the precursor to back-to-school. By the way, August 16 is National Joke Day. Here are some *attempts* at August humor.

Is today really August? Or are Julying to me?

My childhood crush and I are finally getting married this year! Me in August, and her in November.

Julius Caesar was famously killed on the Ides of March, but he wasn't expecting the attack until August 2. His final words embodied his dismay over the scheduling confusion: "8/2, Brute...?"

My wife and I just had a daughter and named her JuneJulyAugust. We call her Summer for short.

Sorry the only responses to your August birthday party invitation are out-of-office replies.

What makes August so hot? The sun.

What do you call a sheep that loves to tan in August? A sunbaaaher!

What did August say to July? "You're hot, but I'm hotter!"

What do you get when you cross August with a beagle? The dog days of summer.

What do you call a snow cone that loves August? A melt-in-your-mouth delicacy!

Why do melons have fancy weddings in August? Because they cantaloupe.

How do you make a tissue dance in August? Put a little "boogie" in it.

Why did the computer go on vacation in August? It needed some "Ctrl + Alt + Deheat" time.

What did the beach say to August? "Long time, no sea."

What do you call a pirate who loves the month of August? Aaarrrrr-gust!

What do you call a pig taking a vacation in August? A "hammock" enthusiast!

What do you call a sunburned snowman in August? A puddle!

Why did the tomato turn red in August? It saw the salad dressing!

What did the corn say to August? "You're a-maize-ing!"

Why did the sun go to therapy in August? It was feeling a bit overexposed.

Told you...there isn't much *funny* about August. Do you believe me now?