



# THE CIVIC

## New Bern Civitan Club's Award Winning Newsletter



Chartered October 4, 1956

Celebrating our 67th Year

October 2023

### CIVITAN MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER, 2023 TO SEPTEMBER, 2024

The Club's Board of Directors has approved the following calendar for the new Civitan year – October 2023 to September 2024.

#### Afternoon Meetings – the second Friday of the month. 11:30 a.m. @ Paula's Restaurant

**2023** Oct. 13 Nov. 10 Dec. 8 – Christmas Party  
**2024** Jan. 12 Feb. 9 Mar. 8 Apr. 12 May 10 (Club picnic?)  
 June 14 July 12 Aug. 9 Sept. 13

#### Evening Meetings – the fourth Thursday of the month 5:30 p.m. at Paula's Restaurant

**2023** Oct. 26 Nov. 23 – **no meeting Thanksgiving** Dec. 28 – **no meeting Xmas wk.**  
**2024** Jan. 25 Feb. 22 Mar. 21 Apr. 25 May 23  
 June 27 July 25 Aug. 22 Sept. 26 – Installation Dinner

#### Board of Directors Meetings – second Monday of the month 1:00 p.m. at Garber UMC

**2023** Oct. 9 Nov. 13 Dec. 11 (can be cancelled)  
**2024** Jan. 8 Feb. 12 Mar. 11 Apr. 8 May 13  
 June 10 July 8 Aug. 12 Sept. 9

#### RCS Shelter Dinners – second Monday of the month 6:00 p.m.

Same as the Board of Directors' Meeting Dates – March 11 – NBHS Junior Civitans do the delivery.

Peanut Sales at Farmers Market – Every Saturday in Nov. and Dec. 2023 until sold out.

Rib Sale Fundraisers 2024 – Sat. May 25 – Memorial Day Sat. Aug. 31 – Labor Day

Howell Prom 2024 – a Friday in June 2024

Tree Lot 2023 - Dec. 1 to Dec. 5

Santa Land 2023 – Week of Dec. 11

## OCTOBER CIVITAN BIRTHDAYS

Fred	Sikes	October 04
Barbara	McCue	October 06
Janice	Snyder	October 09
Buck	Irvin	October 13
Peggy	Marcus	October 15
Dennis	Pymm	October 15
Diane	Shultz	October 24
Joe	Alcoke	October 30

## OCTOBER CIVITAN ANNIVERSARIES

Al	Mack	October 1985
Dave	McCracken	October 2001
Robert	Brock	October 2008
Norma	Judd	October 2011
Randy	King	October 2011
Bob	Husson	October 2012
Betty	Todd	October 2012
Reeshema	Walker	October 2016
Annette	Silvers	October 2022

Text

## 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

Dennis Pymm

### PRESIDENT ELECT

Roy Leonard

### VICE PRESIDENT

Cyndi Papia

### SECRETARY

Maureen Comer

### ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Eileen Buscemi

### TREASURER

Van Allen Rice

### ASSISTANT TREASURER

Amy Willis

### CHAPLAIN

Bill Baldree

### ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN

Jim Comer

### SERGEANT AT ARMS

Ken McCain & Dev Lippitt

### EDUCATION OFFICERS

Helen Shine, Maureen Comer

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Gary Todd

## DIRECTORS

### One Year

*Term Expires*

*Sept. 30, 2024*

Dev Lippitt

Renee Salvatore

Judith Lopez

Betty Todd

### Two Year

*Term Expires*

*Sept. 30, 2025*

Alan Craig

Dave Super

Ann Super

Joanne Tello

New Bern Civitan Club Web Page

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New Bern Civitan Club

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## OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Monday, October 9** – Board of Directors Meeting at Garber UMC 1 p.m. Rm. 222

**Monday, October 9** – RCS Shelter Dinner 6 p.m. If you can donate, please sign up at <https://signup.com/go/dUenBpr>

**Monday, October 9** – Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day

**Friday, October 13** – General Membership Afternoon meeting at 11:30 a.m. at Paula's Restaurant **Guest Speaker** – Alissa Andrewsbrown – HS Coordinator/Director of Craven County Senior Services

**Thursday, October 26** – General Membership Evening meeting at 5:30 pm at Paula's Restaurant **Guest Speaker** – Ruth Powers Co-Executive Director of Backpack Blessings

**Tuesday, October 31** - Halloween

*There will be only one membership meeting in November due to the Thanksgiving holiday.*

**Friday, November 10** – General Membership Afternoon meeting at 11:30 a.m. at Paula's Restaurant **Guest Speakers** – Dr. Tanya Osler and Alyssa Mergot – Craven-Pamlico Animal Services



A joint Community Project with our Club and Rotary took place on September 15th at Habitat for Humanity. Members helped build a shed and refurbish needed scaffolding. Thanks to our volunteers **Dev Lippitt, Gary Todd, Roy Leonard, Dave Super and Dennis Pymm.**



## UPDATE ON BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS



Dre Nix, Senior Vice President of Operations and Programs and Brittany Spear, Senior Director of Resource Development, visited our meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>. These women from the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Coastal Plain updated us on how our donation of eight hundred and fifty dollars would be used to help the youngsters in the program. Currently, there are three clubs in Craven County – Havelock with 207 members; JT Barber Elementary Unit with 101 members; and the New Bern Teen Center with 67 members. Ninety-six percent of these children qualify for free or reduced lunch. Sixty-five percent live in

one-parent households. Thirty-eight percent live in households with less than \$25,000 income for the year – below the poverty level.

Our donations help to cover the cost of a small membership fee to the Club for those children who cannot afford it. No child is turned away for not being able to provide the fee. The Clubs offer after school snacks and nutritious meals during their summer camp program. Transportation from local schools to the clubs is provided for those who need it. Our donations along with many community individuals and sponsors help the Clubs to fulfill its mission which is to enable young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. We are happy to help with this wonderful goal!



Dennis Pymm presented a check for the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Coastal Plain for a membership for those children who could not afford it.

### **REBUILDING LIVE – RESTORING HOPE**



**Kristy Kulberg**

Amid the 2023 Hurricane season, our guest speaker at our September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting was Kristy Kulberg, the Director of Operations and Case Management for the Craven County Disaster Recovery Alliance (CCDRA), a position she has held for over four years. Since 2016, CCDRA has been working with non-profit and faith-based organizations providing repairs and rebuilds for survivors of Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Florence.

CCDRA is a team of dedicated and highly motivated disaster-focused professionals, volunteers, donors, community leaders, clients, churches, partners active in disaster, business sponsors and donors. Many families in Craven County are still displaced or living in unrepaired homes due to disasters over the past few years. Their “Far from Finished” campaign is designed to raise awareness of the continued crisis and engage local volunteers to expedite recovery for families in need. With over 10,500 households in New Bern registered for assistance with FEMA following Florence, the need to assist families who were uninsured or underinsured is expected to go on for at least seven years. The group’s mission is to strengthen area-wide disaster coordination through information sharing, simplifying the access to available resources for individuals and families, and jointly resolving cases with unmet needs from catastrophes.

CCDRA began meeting soon after Hurricane Matthew hit eastern North Carolina in October 2016. It was formed with the help of FEMA Volunteer Agency Liaisons and a coalition comprised of representatives from corporations, churches, community non-profits, governmental agencies and concerned citizens in January 2017. One of CCDRA’s main goals is to try to ensure our community will be better prepared when a disaster happens, and seeks to better educate families, businesses, and groups and those who are eventually affected by a disaster on what to do next.

Kristy highlighted in her talk the New Hope Volunteer Village, an initiative started by the Neuse River Presbyterian Church where in their words, “out of town volunteers can lay their heads.” In this new facility, sixty volunteers can be accommodated in nine cozy bunk rooms. A large kitchen and warm showers offer comfort for volunteers from far away who have come to help our community during natural disasters.



Kristy brought disaster preparedness kits and distributed them to our members present at the meeting. You can learn more about this organization and the services that they offer by going to their website at [www.cravendra.org](http://www.cravendra.org) We thank Kristy, CCDRA and its volunteers for all that they do in our community.

**Dennis Pymm Presents a can of peanuts to Kristy Kulberg for her presentation**

## CIVITANS OF THE YEAR 2022-23

We are doubly blessed this year to honor two Club members as **Civitan of the Year – Eileen Buscemi and Mary Traina**. They have served as co-chairs of our Membership Committee. The original committee formulated over two years ago, chaired by Jim Comer, sought to find ways to help increase membership for our club by reaching out to our community. When the original committee's report was issued, Jim asked Mary Traina and Eileen Buscemi to co-chair the newly formed Membership Committee and these two women took off to accomplish that task.

Eileen and Mary created –

A power point presentation to share with other groups the essence of Civitan.

A script to be used with the presentation.

New brochures and business cards.

Signs and Posters to be used at Civitan sponsored events.

Training for Civitans to present to groups.

A mechanism to contact other groups for this presentation.

And much, much more.

It is impossible to count the endless days and hours that Mary and Eileen put into this initiative, and they are still working to fine tune the process.

Mary joined the Club in 2019 and has been active in many projects including the Rib Sales and Santa Land. Everyone enjoys seeing “Elf” Mary in costume. Eileen joined the Club in 2015 and has chaired the Pasta Dinner Fundraiser and has overseen Operation - Keep Warm – collecting scarves, hats, and mittens for Santa Land kids. They both volunteer for many other Club projects.

Unfortunately, Mary could not be present at the Banquet to receive her award in person. She will be given her award when she returns from her travels. Eileen was surprised to receive her award which was presented to her by “big brother” Jim Comer. She thanked the audience for the “privilege” of being a member of the Club and she wished that she had joined a group like this earlier in her life as the rewards of giving to others is never ending.

We thank both our Civitans of the Year for 2022-23 for their leadership, dedication, and service to our Club and to our community. Congratulations on a job well-done!



Eileen Buscemi receives her Civitan of the Year Award from Jim Comer.

## VOLT CENTER LEADERS HONORED AS CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

Club members had the opportunity this year to visit the Volt Vocational Center supported by Craven Community College in New Bern. Prior to that, Director Charles Wethington, addressed our group at a meeting sharing information about this facility. The Volt Center is a workforce development training center that offers hands-on learning in various trades. Established in 2015, it is a testament to Craven County's dedication to creating an economically thriving future. Programs offered include construction, electrical, HVAC, plumbing, masonry, small business operations, law enforcement, welding, cooking, bartending and more. We are fortunate to have such a recognized facility in our area. It is an asset to our population.

The gentlemen most responsible for the daily operations of the Volt were honored as our Citizens of the Year for 2022-2023. They are Eddie Foster, Dean of the Volt Center and Jeff Schulze, Director of the Trade Program at the Volt Center.

**Eddie Foster** joined the Craven County Community College family in 2012 as the Director of Campus Safety and Director of Customized Training, Workforce Development. He has over 22 years of experience in education and works to improve the student experience at the Volt Center by preparing his students for the work field. Eddie is a role model to countless students. As the Dean, he works with students from all walks of life and diverse backgrounds. Often Eddie can be observed taking students for a tour of the Volt. During those tours, you can see students light up from the conversation as Eddie explains the training and employment opportunities in the area.

**Jeff Schulze** joined the Craven Community College family in 2013 as Coordinator of Business, Industry and Technology. He has over 30 years of experience in retail management, manufacturing, small business software development, and high school education as a Future Business Leaders of America Coordinator, business and computer programming instructor. He is the recipient of Craven Community College's coveted Staff Excellence Award for 2018-2019. In 2019, he was promoted to Director of Trade Programs, where he is also acting NCCER ATEF Director and oversees the instructional delivery of construction trades classes at the Volt Center, and works closely with Dean Eddie Foster, in administering all operations of Customized Training and the needs of both students and industry partners that have relied on Craven Community College and The Volt Center for their training needs.

In receiving the award, Eddie and Jeff thanked our membership for its continued support of the Volt Center. Both are very proud of the Center's success rate in training and helping to find jobs for the unemployed and the underemployed. It is evident that they are the right men for these jobs!

We are pleased to honor these community leaders with our Citizens of the Year Award and thank them for their dedication to New Bern and Craven County. Cheers for jobs well done!





## SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL INSTALLATION BANQUET



Over fifty people attended the Club's sixty-seventh annual New Bern Civitan Club Installation Banquet on September 28, 2023, at the Chelsea Restaurant. Many old friends attended and some new ones. The "honeymoon chicken" was a hit for the second year in a row. Six New Bern High School Junior Civitan Club members attended as well as their advisor, Laura Miller-McLemore, and the new High School Principal Dr. Darryl Thomas. Our last Civitan East District Governor, Stephanie Crosby, was our keynote speaker and swore in the Junior and Senior officers and the Boards of Directors.

**Outgoing President, Gary Todd, was the Master of Ceremony** and he thanked the Club for their support and assistance throughout the year. Incoming President, Dennis Pymm, told the audience that we all had a job to do during the next Civitan year and highlighted some of his goals. The new President-elect, Roy Leonard, and Vice President, Cyndi Papia, listened and learned as they soon will be taking over the reins of the Club.

There were two Civitans of the Year – Eileen Buscemi and Mary Traina – who were honored for their work in forwarding the new Membership Committee and presentations. Volt Center Dean, Eddie Foster, and Volt Center Director of Trade Programs, Jeff Schulze were our Citizens of the Year. Chaplain Bill Baldree did our invocation and honored Joe Judd in an "In Memorial" session. Sergeant at Arms, Dev Lippitt, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and closed with the Civitan Creed.

Another Civitan year has passed, and many have been honored. Our work is done for this year. Our "new" year begins October first. What new challenges and triumphs do we face in the 2023-2024 Civitan year? Whatever they are, Club members are ready and willing to face them and continue to be one of the driving forces in our community.

***HAPPY NEW YEAR FELLOW CIVITANS!***



Past District Governor Stephanie Crosby installed The Officers of Both the NB Civitan Club and the Jr. Civitan Club



Incoming President, Dennis Pymm, presented an Appreciation Award to Outgoing President Gary Todd for his excellent service to the club for the past year



## THE CIVIC





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## **“FOR THE LOVE OF KIDS” 2023**

The “For Love of Kids” award is not given every year by our Club. It is reserved for special people who have gone beyond in their efforts to help children in need. The award is a fellowship that our Club donates to at the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina. The money is used to help the Homes provide for their children in any way necessary to enhance their lives or living conditions.

The recipients of this year’s “Love” award went to Norma and Joe Judd. They were to be honored at this year’s Installation Banquet. As you know, Joe passed before the banquet and Norma went to Tennessee (Joe’s birthplace) for a celebration of his life with family there. Fortunately, the award was presented to them at their home by President, Gary Todd, and Past President, Jim Comer, soon after Joe was transferred from the Nursing Facility to Hospice care at home. He was alert and aware of this award and Norma was grateful that they were recognized for this honor by the Club.

A remembrance and recognition of Joe and Norma were a highlight of the Banquet. Gary Todd and Jim Comer spoke of their dedication to the Club. Norma wrote a thank you for the award that was read to the audience. Chaplain Bill Baldree led a memorial prayer for Joe and a moment of silence in his honor was observed.

Joe joined our Club in 2008. From the beginning he was active and a cheerleader for every project that was sponsored. In 2011, he became Club President and led the Club with dignity and honor. After that, he took over the role of Club Treasurer for many years. Norma joined our Club in 2011. She was a Board of Directors member and served three terms ( yes THREE) as President. They served as Peanut Co-chairs with Frank Court for many years and led the Salvation Army Bell Ringing initiative at Christmas. They attended and supported all Club activities that they were able. They donated to every project the Club sponsored – especially those that supported children like Santa Land and the Waccamaw Bundle. Behind the scenes, they often bought Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets for the families in the “More at Four” program. They both embodied the spirit of what it means to be a CIVITAN.

We mourn Joe’s passing, but we are grateful that we knew him. We pledge our support to Norma to help in any way we can and know that she will continue to be a great NBCC Civitan member. Our grateful appreciation goes to you, both!

### **SIGN UP TO SELL PEANUTS!**

Starting in November, the Club will start selling peanuts at the Farmer's Market every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. until they are all sold out. This is a MAJOR fundraiser for the Club. This year, we have new Peanut Chair-people – Marie and Roy Leonard. We are delighted that they have taken over this mission. Our gratitude goes out to the former chairs – Frank Court and the Judds for their many years of service in this area.

The Leonards will be sending out more information in the weeks to come. How can YOU help? First, buy peanuts yourself – they are delicious and make great gifts at the holiday season. Second, sell peanuts to your neighbors, family, and friends. Third, get the word out that peanuts will be for sale every Saturday in November and possibly December at the downtown Farmer's Market. Finally, volunteer to help sell peanuts at the Farmer's Market.

A sign-up list will go out soon. Until then, contact the Leonards – Roy – [roy\\_leonard@hotmail.com](mailto:roy_leonard@hotmail.com) and let them know what dates and times you are available on Saturdays to help. Sign-ups are in intervals of 2 to 3 hours. Contact them NOW or when you see the sign-ups published. Your help is needed and appreciated!



### TRICK OR TREAT???

What happened to the badly behaved witch at school? She was ex-spelled.  
Why do witches fly on broomsticks? Because vacuum cleaners are too heavy.  
What do witches put on their bagels? Scream cheese.  
What do you call two witches in a haunted house? Broommates.  
What do you call a witch that lives on the beach? A sand-witch.  
Why didn't the skeleton dance at the party? He had no body to dance with.  
How did the skeleton know it was going to rain? He could feel it in his bones.  
What do skeletons say before eating? Bone appetite.  
Why did the skeleton quit playing football? His heart was not in it.  
Why did the skeleton climb a tree? A dog was after his bones.  
Why didn't the skeleton use a towel after showering? He was bone dry.  
How do zombies serve their country? (*This one's for you, Gen. Braaten!*) In the Marine Corpse.  
Who won the Zombie War? No one – it was a dead tie.  
What is a zombie's favorite language? Latin, because it's a dead language.  
What shampoo do zombies use? Head and Shoulders.  
What is a zombie sleepover called? A mass grave.  
Why did the zombie stop eating breakfast? He did not want to be a cereal killer.  
What did the zombie say to his date? I love a woman with brains!  
What do you get when you drop a pumpkin? Squash.  
Where do pumpkins hold meetings? In the gourdroom.  
What did the pumpkin say to the carver? Cut it out.  
Why was the jack-o-lantern so forgetful? Because he's empty-headed.  
Who helped the pumpkin cross the road? The crossing gourd.  
What is a pumpkin's favorite movie? "Pulp Fiction".  
What kind of lock does Dracula have on his door? A dead bolt lock.  
Why did the vampire need mouthwash? He had bat breath.  
How do vampires flirt? They bat their eyes.  
What is a vampire's favorite drink? A bloody Mary.  
What is a vampire's favorite song? "Another One Bites the Dust".  
Why did the vampire become an actor? He wanted a part he could really sink his teeth into.  
Did you hear about the werewolf party? It was a howling success.  
What do mummies listen to on Halloween? Wrap music.  
What kind of coffee do mummies drink? De-coffin-ated.  
Where do monsters go for a hike? Death Valley.  
Why was the mummy sent to jail? He ran a pyramid scheme.  
What is a monster's favorite snack food? Ghoul scout cookies.  
How do ghosts stay fit? They keep up with regular exorcise.  
Where do baby ghosts go while their parents work? Day-scare.  
Knock, knock. Who's there? Boo. Boo who? Don't cry, it's almost **HALLOWEEN!**