



# THE CIVIC

## New Bern Civitan Club's Award Winning Newsletter



Chartered October 4, 1956

Celebrating our 68th Year

February 2024

### FEBRUARY 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Saturdays, February 3 & 10** – Peanut Sales at the Farmers Market, 8 am to 2 pm. Contact the Leonards' if you need peanuts or you can help sell.

**Friday, February 9** – NBCC Afternoon Meeting – 11:30 am at Paula's Restaurant – Speakers – Melissa Lester and Veronica Edwards from the Department of Social Services. They will be speaking about a new program designed to help children and families who are entering the DSS system. *This new program is also our Quarterly Focus.*

**Monday, February 12** – Board of Directors Meeting at Garber UMC at 1 pm, Rm. 222. Board Members – please try to attend. All members are welcome! If you have a topic, you think should be discussed by the Board, please contact a Club Officer – Dennis Pymm/President, Roy Leonard/President-elect, Maureen Comer/Secretary, Van Rice/Treasurer and ask them to put your topic on the Board Agenda.

**Monday, February 12** – RCS Shelter Dinner, 6 pm. The March Shelter Dinner will be prepared by our New Bern High School Junior Civitan Club. All spots are open for the April donations, and you may sign up at <https://signup.com/go/dUenBpr>

**Wednesday, February 14** – **Valentine's Day**

**Monday, February 19** – President's Day

**Thursday, February 22** – NBCC Evening Meeting – 5:30 pm at Paula's – Speaker - TBA

## FEBRUARY CIVITAN BIRTHDAYS

Pam	Kubik	February 7
John	Kleckner	February 8
Judy	Lopez	February 10
Amy	Willis	February 12
Mary	Saylor	February 18
Mary	Traina	February 20

## FEBRUARY CIVITAN ANNIVERSARIES

Eileen	Buscemi	February 2015
Laura	Miller-McLemore	February 2020
Roy	Leonard	February 2022
Barbara	McCue	February 2022

## 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

Vacant

### SECRETARY

Maureen Comer

### ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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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

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## REVIVING LIVES MINISTRIES

Our guest speakers on January 25 came to us from Reviving Lives Ministries (RLM) of New Bern. RLM is a long-term residential recovery program for men and women struggling with substance use disorders.

Speaking to us were Mark Devanney, the Executive Director, and Laura Oxyer, the Care Coordinator. Mark has been with RLM since 2021 when he moved here with his wife and children from upstate New York. Laura is a long-time resident of the New Bern area. She shared some of her personal journey as she has been in recovery since 2017 and has been with RLM as an employee since July 2022.

Mark and Laura outlined some of the details of the 12-step recovery program which includes wellness skills training in addition to learning how to overcome their addictions. There are currently seven male residents who will be in the program for a period lasting from six months to more than two years.

Mark and Laura were joined by Scottie Cowan, who has been at RLM for four months. Scottie shared some of his personal history that has led him to RLM.

We are grateful to RLM for providing us with volunteers in support of our Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale this year. Six residents, along with both Laura and her husband, spent many hours over several days assisting us. We are hopeful that this relationship will continue in the future.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Dennis Pymm presented a check for \$500 to RLM to further assist in their mission.

*Randy King*



### THE HEALTH OF OUR RIVERS



**Samantha (Sam) Krop, the Neuse Riverkeeper for Sound Rivers, Inc.**, although a native of Florida's Gulf Coast, is no stranger to North Carolina rivers. She spent summers at Camp Celo on the shores of the South Toe River in the Black Mountains. Sound Rivers is a nonprofit organization that guards the health of the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River basins, and watersheds that cover nearly one-quarter of North Carolina.

Sound Rivers, Inc. was created by the 2015 merger of two of the state's oldest grassroots conservation organizations, the Neuse River Foundation, established in 1980, and the Pamlico-Tar River Foundation, established in 1981. Some of you may remember that a former member, Larry Baldwin, also served as the Neuse Riverkeeper. Prior to the founding of these two organizations, people noticed a fundamental change on the two rivers. Fish and crab, so abundant in previous decades, had declined. Forests of sea grass had disappeared, seemingly overnight. Fish kills began to be a regular occurrence.

Sam is Sound Rivers' advocate for the health of the Neuse and its many tributaries, from Durham to Havelock. She came to Sound Rivers from Oregon, where she served as the coalition's coordinator for the Forest Waters Coalition. Prior to that, she graduated from the University of Central Florida with degrees in literature and philosophy; obtained a master's degree in education from the University of Oregon and taught undergraduate and graduate level courses at Oregon, including her own course, Ecojustice.

Sound Rivers and Sam work with concerned citizens and volunteers to monitor and protect our watersheds, preserving the health and beauty of the river basins, and the well-being of the communities that rely on them. The goal is to commit to environmental justice and equity for all people in our watersheds. All communities should have access to enjoyment of the natural world and should have a powerful voice in decisions that may affect their environment and strength.

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### **THE HEALTH OF OUR RIVERS**

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Sam tries to accomplish this by wearing “many hats.” She is a river advocate. She is a scientist and researcher. She investigates problems and concerns about the rivers. She is an educator – trying to enlighten the public about what they can do to help. She is a lobbyist - advocating for wholesome rivers. She tries to safeguard against further pollution of the rivers and the land. She is a protector of wildlife. She collaborates with communities to help them realize the recreational opportunities that our waters offer them. Her energy and enthusiasm are contagious. We are lucky to have her working on our behalf so we many continue to appreciate the benefits of living here. We are grateful for her efforts for us.

If you want more information about Sound Rivers or if you are interested in volunteering with them, check out their website at [www.soundrivers.org](http://www.soundrivers.org)



Sam Krop is presented a can of peanuts from president Dennis Pymm for her presentation to the club



Helen Shine recruits Sam Krop to become a Civitan Member

## THE CIVIC

### THE KNOTS PRAYER

President Dennis Pymm shared this prayer at our Board meeting in January. We thought it was worth repeating for everyone to hear (see).

*Please untie the knots in my mind,  
my heart and my life.*

*Remove the have nots,  
the can nots, and the do nots  
that I have in my mind.  
Erase the will nots,  
may nots,  
might nots that may find  
a home in my heart.*

*Release me from the could nots,  
would nots and  
should nots that obstruct my life.*

*And most of all,  
Dear God,  
I ask that you remove from my mind,  
my heart and my life all of the "am nots"  
that I have allowed to hold me back,  
especially the thought that  
I am not good enough.*

**Amen.**



### SHARE THE LOVE



We will continue to collect Valentine cards and notes for the veterans living at the Kinston Veterans' facility. You may bring your cards and notes to the first meeting of the Club on Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. In addition, if you would like to bring some Valentine's Day treats for the Vets – candy, cookies – we will collect them at the Snyders' neighbor, Doug Foster, will deliver them to the home.

The cards/notes should not be sealed. Sign your first name and identify yourself as a member of the New Bern Civitan Club. All cards and donations are greatly appreciated

## HEARTFELT THANK YOUS

*You all know that we support many and several types of charities in the New Bern/Craven County area through our yearly giving budget. Most often we receive thank you notes of gratitude that we don't always get to share with our membership. Below is a sampling of recent notes sent to us for our donations:*

**The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina:** I would like to take a moment and thank you for your support. Your gift provided three thousand meals! That is a huge blessing. Thank you so much for helping families in need. Because of you, a child, senior, and family will have a hot meal and peace of mind. I am sending every one of you many blessings and kind wishes. ***Candice Parker, Director***

**Boys and Girls Clubs of the Coastal Plains:** Civitan Club of New Bern's donation assists in providing opportunities to those young people who need us most. Our goal at BGCCP is to ensure that every kid has the opportunity to learn and grow in a safe environment. Serving over 3,000 members in seventeen clubs across seven counties, our programming focuses on academic growth, character development and healthy living. It is only with the support of generous donors like NBCC that we can provide these opportunities to our deserving youth. We are grateful for all you do to support the great future for our kids! ***Will Chriscoe, Chief Development Officer***

**Interfaith Refugee Ministry:** Interfaith Refugee Ministry gratefully acknowledges your donation. We appreciate your gift very much and plan to use it to help some of our newest arrivals with needed items such as household furnishings, cleaning supplies and personal hygiene items. ***Susan Husson, Executive Director***

**Craven County Partners in Education:** Because of your generous gift to PIE for our Stuff the Bus program, good things are happening in Craven County Schools. When you make a gift, you become a partner...and each year we have seen the positive difference our partnerships make in Craven County classrooms. Your donations go toward – classroom grants and specific needs of individual classrooms. Thank you for your commitment and support in our efforts to benefit our educators and students at the Craven County Schools. ***Darlene Brown, Executive Director***

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## HEARTFELT THANK YOUS

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**Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina:** Thank you for your generous gift to the Boys and Girls Homes of NC. Your gift truly provides wonderful opportunities for very deserving children with your assistance, we are providing an environment of care that promotes health, healing, and hope. Boys and Girls Homes are a safe haven for our children, a place where they can build trusting relationships with caring staff. Our children and staff are grateful for your friendship and support. I pray that God will bless you for being such a blessing to our children. For the love of all who enter our doors, **Marc Murphy, President/CEO**

**Alzheimer's Association:** Thank you for your support of the Alzheimer's Association. Your gift allows us to continue in our mission to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research to enhance care and support for all affected and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Your contribution is greatly appreciated by all of us. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your continued support. **Lisa Roberts, Executive Director Eastern NC Chapter**

This one is a special favorite – **Stephanie Light, from Craven County Schools Pre-K and Family Literacy Program**, wrote and asked us to let her know approximately how many volunteer hours it took for our Club to put together Santa Land every year. She was doing this for a state "Smart Start" report that she was compiling. After receiving our information, she wrote back, "For our Smart Start report, the rate of \$30.58/hour is used to calculate a dollar amount of volunteer hours. Santa Land is well over **\$20,000!** Thank you!

*Is this a great Club, or what!!!*



## HONORING DETECTIVE JARED WOODY

Our Police Department Community Award for 2023 was presented to Detective Jared Woody at a ceremony on January 18<sup>th</sup> at Police Headquarters in New Bern. Prior to coming to the New Bern Department, Detective Woody was a Teaching Assistant at Havelock High School. He worked with youth at the In-School Suspension program and coached swimming and soccer. He has a degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice.

Jared is an active member in the agency. While still a patrol officer, he requested to be an evidence technician and continued to develop his skills to eventually submit his intent for the Forensic Evidence Unit, crime scene detective position. With his thirst for learning, he is now studying to master latent fingerprint collection and examination. He has also been a participant in the Annual Boots versus Badges softball games. He will soon manage this annual program which brings together police and fire for a worthy cause.

In addition, Detective Woody is a member of the department's first Chess Club (Noble Knights). He continues to take his love of sports into the community by making disc golf part of the Special Olympics. He has taken the initiative to organize rounds of disc golf to help raise money for the Special Olympics. He is a member of the Liberty Christian Church of Havelock. There, he plays drums while his wife plays other musical instruments at services. Both are now deacons of this church.

Chief Patrick Gallagher commented at the ceremony that, "It is amazing the things this officer continues to do. He is a tremendous asset not only to this agency but the community. He truly possesses the values that are set forth by the Civitan Creed and Mission Statement."

Thank you AGAIN to Helen Shine for organizing this presentation. Thank you to President Dennis Pymm for attending the ceremony. Most of all, congratulations to Detective Jared Woody for making a difference in our community. We are proud to recognize his achievements by receiving the 2023 NBCC Community Award for the New Bern Police Department.



Community Awards Chair Helen Shine (at Podium) announces the Police Department Community Award for 2023 as Chief of Police, Patrick Gallagher (center) and recipient Detective Jared Woody (right) look on.



- Community Awards Chair, Helen Shine (l.) presents the Police Department Award to Detective Jared Woody, (r.)

## VALENTINE TRIVIA

How much do you know about Valentine's Day? Test your knowledge on the following:

1. In Roman mythology, Cupid is the son of whom?
2. In Roman mythology, with whom does Cupid fall in love?
3. What Valentine candy was created on machinery meant to make lozenges?
4. In the Victorian era, mean spirited Valentine cards were called "\_\_\_Valentines."
5. From where was the oldest known Valentine's Day card sent?
6. About how many roses are sent on Valentine's Day each year?
7. Who invented the first Valentine's Day candy box?
8. A single red rose surrounded by baby's breath is called what by florists?
9. What do yellow roses signify?
10. William Shakespeare mentions Valentine's Day in which of his plays?
11. What brain chemical is known as the "cuddle" or "love hormone"?
12. When was February 14 first declared as Valentine's Day?
13. In what country is Valentine's Day known as "Friend's Day"?
14. Besides Valentine's Day, for which holiday are the most flowers sent?
15. How many people typically buy Valentines for their pets?
16. What state produces most of America's red roses?
17. What notorious gangster organized the St. Valentine's Day massacre?
18. What emperor ordered St. Valentine's execution?
19. Women purchase what percentage of all Valentines sold?
20. What percentage of coupled-up men don't make plans for Valentine's Day?
21. About how many Valentine's Day cards are exchanged every year?
22. What fruit is known as the "love apple"?
23. What is the Guinness World Record for the longest marriage ever recorded?
24. How much money do Americans spend on Valentine Day's chocolate every year?
25. On average, how many marriage proposals are there in the U.S. on Valentine's Day?

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## THE CIVIC

**ANSWERS TO VALENTINE TRIVIA:** 1. Venus 2. Psyche 3. Sweethearts 4. Vinegar 5. Prison 6. Fifty million 7. Richard Cadbury 8. A signature rose 9. Friendship 10. Hamlet 11. Oxytocin 12. 1537 13. Finland 14. Mother's Day 15. Nine million 16. California 17. Al Capone 18. Claudius II 19. 85% 20. 64% 21. One billion 22. tomato 23. 86 years, 290 days 24. 1.1 billion 25. 220,000

### **SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER**



A Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser is being planned for some time in March. The Club has had this fundraiser before, but it has not been done since before COVID. Eileen Buscemi, chairperson, has contacted the RHEMS Firehouse where previous dinners were held for a date, and she is waiting to hear. When she knows, we will share the information with the Club.

In the meantime, please be thinking about how YOU can help. She will need the following:

Members to help make the meatballs

A set up crew

A clean-up crews

Servers

Dessert makers

Members to assist in getting donations

**AND MORE!**

Once the details have been finalized, a sign-up sheet like our computer signups for the RCS Dinners and the Tree Lot will be available. In the past, this fundraiser has brought in over one thousand dollars for the Club's Charity budget. It is a one-night event. This is truly an all-hands-on deck effort. Please be generous with your time.



# THE CIVIC

## Subject: For Those Who Don't Know Everything!!!!

A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.  
A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.  
A crocodile cannot stick out its tongue.  
A dragonfly has a life span of 24 hours.  
A goldfish has a memory span of 3 seconds.  
A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.  
A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.  
A snail can sleep for 3 years.  
Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.  
All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5 bill.  
Almonds are a member of the peach family.  
An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.  
Babies are born without kneecaps, they don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age!  
Butterflies taste with their feet.  
Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds. Dogs only have about 10.  
"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".  
February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.  
In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.  
If the population of China walked past you in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.  
If you are an average American, in your whole life you will spend an average of 6 months waiting at red lights.  
It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.  
Leonardo DaVinci invented scissors.  
Maine is the only state whose name is just one syllable.  
No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.  
Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.  
Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.  
Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.  
"Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand and "lollipop" with your right.  
The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.  
The cruise liner, QE2, moves only 6 inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.  
The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.  
The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet.  
The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.  
The words 'racecar,' 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes)  
There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.  
There are more chickens than people in the world.  
There are only 4 words in the English language which end in "dous": tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous  
There are 2 words in the English language that have all 5 vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."  
There's no Betty Rubble in the Flintstones Chewables Vitamins.  
TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.  
Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.  
Women blink nearly twice as much as men.  
Your stomach produces a new layer of mucus every 2 weeks; otherwise it would digest itself.

NOW YOU KNOW EVERYTHING