

# The Civic



## Birthdays

Bob Husson - June 4  
 Roy Leonard - June 6  
 Joanne Tello - June 10  
 Randy Beltz - June 15  
 Robert Brock - June 17  
 Betty Todd - June 17  
 Kenneth McCain - June 27

## Civitan Anniversaries

Tom Braaten - 20 Yrs  
 Kenneth McCain - 20 Yrs  
 John Klecker - 14 Yrs  
 Karen Crump - 13 Yrs  
 Susan Husson - 12 Yrs  
 Lovay Singleton - 10 Yrs  
 Pam Kubik - 6 Yrs  
 Charles Gilliken - 5 Yrs



## Memorial Day Weekend Rib Fundraiser

Despite a slow start on our pre-orders, we ended up cooking and selling 152 racks – only 8 fewer than our usual quantity. Jim Comer delivered 11 racks to RCS, accompanied by potatoes prepared by Maureen.

Thanks to the 17 Civitan members who volunteered their time. The pictures below show our full “Rub Team” plus 3 members of our early “Sauce Team” (Tim McLear, Ben St. John, and Allen Craig shown).

I will give full recognition to the complete team, together with the financial results, in next month’s

CIVIC. – *Randy King*



# THE CERAMIC PIG



Dennis Pymm, Judy Lopez, and I were privileged to deliver a truckload of goodies (the “Waccamaw Bundle”) to the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina in April. We were there on “Civitan Day” with members of 15 or so other clubs. We had a wonderful tour of the campus and were impressed with what we heard about what is going on there.



During the luncheon presentation, Tom Lamont, the Director of Community Engagement, conducted an “Altar Call” where he collected donations from the clubs that were present. He had a ceramic “piggy bank” that he used to collect the donations. He said he had no idea where this came from but that it had been used over a period of years as a money collection vehicle.

Attending this meeting was Gary Faircloth, the long-time Director of the B&G Homes who retired a few years ago, immediately said “I know where this came from – **the New Bern Civitan Club.**” We followed up with him after lunch and he told the story. He said that one of our long-term members, Rich Daniels, had made this piggy bank and had personally donated it to the Home. As many of us recall, Rich was a very involved member (who led the wreath-making operation out of his garage for many years) who also made pottery as a side hobby.

Gary went on to say, “Not only have I long considered the New Bern Civitan Club to be our most faithful contributing club among all the Civitan Clubs, I consider it to be the Number One club among all the civic organizations who support us.”

He recalled many of our members by name, including Jim and Maureen Comer, Joe and Norma Judd, Kris Rudzig, Rich Daniels, and Henry Martin. We can all be proud of our history with this fine organization that continues to this day.

A picture of Gary Faircloth with the now famous Ceramic Pig is shown above.

*Randy King*

# PICNIC FUN

Another successful and enjoyable Club picnic was held on May 10 at Lawson Creek Park Pavilion. Renee Salvatore and Susie Bare AGAIN hosted this event with the help of their supportive spouses, Frank, and Curtis.

Fat Fellas of Havelock provided food – BBQ pork, chicken, beans, cole slaw, potato salad, hush puppies, rolls, and iced tea. Renee and Judy Lopez provided desserts.

A special treat this year was Van Rice's band, Biscuits N Gravy, which provided lively entertainment – with many members dancing and singing to their music. We had over thirty attendees at this event. Thanks to all who took part and showed up to have a fun time!



# THE BOYS AND GIRLS HOMES RUBBER DUCK EAST RACE



Get into the fun by buying a raffle ticket to enter the Boys and Girls Homes Rubber Duck East Race which will be held on September 6 from 4-5 pm at Jungle Rapids in Wilmington, NC.

Tickets are \$10 each and that entitles you to one rubber duck to be entered in the race. **Tickets are available from Dennis Pymm.**

First prize is \$500; Second prize is \$250; Third prize is \$150; and the Lame Duck Fourth Prize is \$100. All profits from this race help the children and the programs at the B&GHNC. You need not be present to win. Come on...buy a ticket...it's for a worthy cause!

## DONATIONS DELIVERED TO BOYS AND GIRLS HOMES OF NC

May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Boys and Girls Homes of NC at Lake Waccamaw was Civitan Cottage Day. Many NBCC members made monetary or gift donations to celebrate the day. Items included supplies for new foster children as they enter the program and baby items directly for the Civitan Cottage that houses teenage mothers and their babies.



Pictured are President Dennis Pymm and Judy Lopez in front of Dennis' truck which is filled with donations from our Club. Randy King (not pictured) also went with them on May 4<sup>th</sup> to deliver the donations and tour the facility.

## PICNIC/GAME DAY – A GREAT SUCCESS



A picnic and game day for residents of Monarch and RHA Health Services was held on May 2nd at Lawson Creek Park. Betty and Gary Todd chaired the event and with the help of many club members about one hundred facility residents and their aides were treated to corn hole and bocci ball games provided by Craven County Recreation Services for Special Olympics. Assistance was also provided by students from Epiphany Academy. Hot dogs and trimmings rounded out the picnic.

Many of the residents enjoyed being outdoors on a beautiful Spring Day. For many years, the Club had been providing this lunch along with a Fishing Derby. Participants were provided bamboo fishing poles by the Club, and they fished in the creek with the assistance of our members.

Over the years, it has become harder to obtain a fishing permit from the city. They were requesting the names of the participants and due to privacy laws, we could not provide them. That's when the idea of a picnic and game day came to be. From what we could see...it was an immense success.

In addition to the hot dogs that some participants could eat – others were on a special diet – Club members provided chili, mashed potatoes, beans, chips and for dessert – two different banana puddings and home-made cookies. Since it was also a beautiful Spring Day, the participants enjoyed the warmth and sunshine – even if they were unable to join in the games due to their various disabilities.

Thank you to all the member volunteers who cooked, served, assisted in the games, set up or cleaned up. It was again a Club effort to enhance the lives of our developmentally disabled friends!

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS FIELD DAY 2024



The Special Athletes were ready. The weather was perfect. The crowd was excited. The volunteers were anxious to help. The 2024 Special Olympics Field Day was underway on May 16<sup>th</sup> at Havelock High School. Five NBCC members were present to assist and enjoy the enthusiasm of the day – Dennis Pymm, Roy Leonard, Mary Traina, Judy Lopez, and Maureen Comer. It would be nearly impossible to capture the emotion and impression of the day – except through pictures – and here are some to enjoy!

**“LET ME WIN. BUT IF I CANNOT WIN, LET ME BE BRAVE IN THE ATTEMPT.”**



# SLATE OF OFFICERS 2024

**President:** Roy Leonard

**President-Elect:** ?

**Board Members for Two-Year Term** (October 2024 to September 2026):

?  
?  
?  
?

**For our Club to continue as a certified Civitan Club with International, we MUST have members to fill the above positions...or our Club DIES. No one wants to see that happen.**

President Dennis Pymm and President-elect Roy Leonard will be asking for your help to volunteer for these slots.

Please be receptive to the idea when asked. We can't do anything without your support!

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## NBCC CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2024

**Monday, June 10** – Board of Directors Meeting at Garber UC at 1 pm., Rm. 222

**Monday, June 10** – RCS Shelter Dinner, 6 pm

**Friday, June 14** – *Flag Day*

**Friday, June 14** – NBCC Afternoon Meeting at Paula's Restaurant – 11:30 am – **Speaker:** Kevin Roberts, President New Barn Area Chamber of Commerce. In addition, we will be having speakers from some of our local charities who will update us on the events of their organizations – RCS (tentative), Interfaith Refugee Ministry.

**Sunday, June 16** – *Father's Day*

**Thursday, June 20** – *First Day of Summer*

**Thursday, June 27** – NBCC Evening Meeting at Paula's Restaurant – 5:30 pm – **Speaker:** Doug Foster who will discuss the Kinston Veterans Home. *(Please bring any cards or notes you wish to be taken to our Veterans at this facility.)*

Update on the events of our charities - Craven Literacy Council, and the Coastal Women's Shelter.



## Officers

**President:** Dennis Pymm

**President-Elect:** Roy Leonard

**Vice President:** —

**Secretary:** Maureen Comer  
**Assistant Secretary:** Eileen Buscemi

**Treasurer:** Van Allen Rice  
**Assistant Treasurer:** Amy Willis

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** Ken McCain & Dev Lippitt

**Education Officers:** Helen Shine & Maureen Comer

**Chaplain:** Bill Baldree

**Assistant Chaplain:** Jim Comer

## Board Members

	Term Expires
Judith Lopez	2024
Renee Salvatore	2024
Betty Todd	2024
Dev Lippitt	2024
Alan Craig	2025
Dave Super	2025
Ann Super	2025
Joanne Tello	2025

Webmaster & Social Media:  
Cyndi Papia

**25 + 25 = > 50**



We were privileged to honor two New Bern Civitan Club members at our May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting who have been with the Club for twenty-five years...each!

Mary Shine Williams became involved even more than twenty-five years ago. She became a participant in Civitan International at an early age with her dad, Jimmy Shine, who served as President of this club in 1978-79. She participated in many NBCC activities and began attending Civitan International Conventions in 1992 in Birmingham and continued in Nashville, Toronto, New Orleans, Bahamas Cruise, Jacksonville in 2001 (with her three-year-old daughter, Katy), Ottawa, Greensboro, St. Louis, Norfolk, and Greenville, SC. At many of these conventions, she assisted Sam – the staff member in charge of activities, with many children’s activities. A teacher herself, Mary has always held out her hand in service to Civitan and has undertaken many services in the last five years and continues to support many projects – too numerous to mention. And, of course, she is also the daughter of our own Helen Shine who some think has been a Civitan FOREVER!

Frank Court was invited into the New Bern Civitan Club by Tom Mundie and within three months he was “drafted” into becoming the Club’s secretary for three years. In the 2003-2004 Civitan year, Frank was our Club President. Along with his late wife, Ann, they participated in many, many fundraisers, and projects over the year. But to most of us, Frank will always be our “Peanut” man. He was the chairperson of this fundraiser for more years than he can count. He has served on our Board of Directors, and he is not averse to getting his hands dirty – as evidenced by his recent participation in the BBQ rib rub. Whatever the mission or project, Frank has always been supportive and a mentor to many new members. Recently, he provided the “penny jar” – a fun event which also led to a donation to the foster childcare program.

For those of you who need a translation of the headline above – 25 years plus 25 years equals MORE THAN 50 years as these two wonderful members have done more than their share to boost the impact of our Club in our community.

Thank you and congratulations to both Mary and Frank. May you have many more years of service to our Club and community. You give us all something to aspire to!



# WALK WITH A DOC



Dr. Debbie Milkowski, a pulmonologist, spoke with us about the New Bern “Walk with a Doc” program at our meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. She has a medical degree from the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth University. Her specialty was in Pulmonary/Critical Care/Sleep Medicine. Dr. Deb has spent most of her career treating people for chronic illnesses that are largely preventable through lifestyle modification. After seeing all this, she decided to begin a program that teaches the benefits of a healthy, plant-based lifestyle to her community. In addition, she serves as the lead physician for the Walk with a Doc, New Bern, NC chapter which was launched in 2022.

Walk with a Doc is an international nonprofit organization started in Columbus, Ohio, in 2005. Its founder, Dr. Sabgir, invited one hundred patients and community members to go for a walk with him in a local park. Since that successful day, the movement has spread around the globe and now hundreds of communities are enjoying the countless benefits of walking with a healthcare provider on an ongoing basis.

People of all ages, fitness levels, and backgrounds are welcome to these free, ongoing events. After a brief health discussion from a healthcare provider, participants will spend the rest of the time enjoying a healthy walk at their own pace. They are encouraged to ask health questions and socialize with others in a fun, relaxed setting. Walking is one of the single-most important things we can do for our health as it helps the heart, brain, bones, lungs, muscles, joints, and even helps prevent cancer and other chronic diseases.

The local chapter meets at Creekside Park at 9 am on the third Saturday of each month. Walk with a Doc events are free and open to the public. After the brief medical presentation, participants go for a group walk. The walk is 1.5 miles in total. People are welcome to walk all of it or part of it. People of all ages and fitness levels are welcome.

More information is available at [WalkWithADoc.org](https://WalkWithADoc.org) or social media: @walkwithadoc

Thank you to Dr. Deb for sharing her expertise and sharing the three Es of Walk with a Doc – Educate, Exercise and Empower.

# THE MEANING OF MEMORIAL DAY



First, let's make this distinction, both Veterans Day and Memorial Day honor the U.S. military community, but the two holidays serve different purposes, and their origins are rooted in two different wars.

Celebrated every November 11, Veterans Day honors ALL who have served in the U.S. military. It is on November 11 – the day World War I ended in 1918. It was originally known as Armistice Day, but it wasn't until 1938 that Congress recognized it as an official federal holiday.

Memorial Day specifically honors those who have died in U.S. military service. It was originally created to honor soldiers who fought in the Civil War but was later expanded to include those who died in all wars. It was originally called Decoration Day as it was the day people decorated the graves of soldiers who died in the Civil War. It is celebrated on the last Monday in May.

With that distinction, Marie and Roy Leonard shared their thoughts about what that day means to them. They are a Gold Star family which means they are the immediate family members of a fallen service member who died while serving in a time of conflict. For them, it means remembering the sacrifice of their son-in-law, Sgt. Charles Strong, USMC, who was tragically killed by an Afghan soldier in Herat Province, Afghanistan on September 15, 2014. Marie related her personal remembrances of what she called this mind-numbing loss. While in shock, she also had to comfort her daughter who was seven months pregnant at the time of Charles' death. Her baby girl never got to meet her father, but family members share memories of her dad with her.

Marie described the journey to Dover, Delaware to accept her son-in-law's body and the love and respect paid to him during this time. People lined the streets with American flags in honor of this fallen hero. Charles is buried at Quantico, Virginia, where very few military personnel are put to rest. Today, Marie's daughter is a family of five, but they continue to remember and honor Charles' ultimate sacrifice.

Memorial Day is NOT just a day off to picnic and eat hot dogs. Memorial Day honors those who paid in life and blood. For her family and many others, it is a special day of remembrance and to acknowledge Sgt. Strong and the many thousands who died serving this country.

We thank the Leonards for sharing their thoughts, feelings, photos, and memories of their personal hero, Charles Strong. Take a moment to think about this and reflect.

# CIVIC 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.

# COOL FACTS ABOUT JUNE



June is a month of extremes. If you live in the northern hemisphere, then it's a time when summer is really starting to get into full swing. If you live in the southern hemisphere though, then it's a time when winter starts to set in. But wherever you live, here are some *cool facts* about June.

- June used to be called “sera monath” by the Anglo-Saxons, which translates into “dry month.”
- June used to be the fourth month of the year. In 46 BC, Julius Caesar created the Julian calendar by adding two more months to the year, which made June the sixth month.
- No other month in the year begins on the same day of the week as June.
- The first day of summer in the northern hemisphere is June 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The period from the middle of May to the middle of June was considered by ancient Romans to be an ill-omened time for marriage. The story goes that Ovid, a Roman poet, consulted with the high priestess of Jupiter and asked when a suitable time for his daughter's wedding would be. The high priestess decreed that he should wait until after June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Contrary to Roman beliefs about the best and worst times to get married, June is now considered one of the absolute best months.
- June has three birthstones – alexandrite, moonstone, and pearl. Most popular is the pearl. Pearl is said to represent purity and faith.
- The birth flowers in June are honeysuckle and rose. Both flowers are symbols of all things relating to love, desire, generosity, and affection. If you are born in June, there's a good chance you will be a hopeless romantic.
- June has its own beetle named after it. The June bug is normally only found within the months of May and June in the US.
- Several countries celebrate their flag days during the month of June. Sweden celebrates its flag day on June 6<sup>th</sup>, the US celebrates theirs on June 14<sup>th</sup>, and Denmark celebrates theirs on June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- “Juneteenth” is a federal holiday celebrated on June 19<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the ending of slavery.
- June has some month-long observances around the world. In the US, June is Great Outdoor Month, National Oceans Month, and Pride month. In England, June is National Smile Month.
- If you are born in June, then you're one of two star signs. Before June 20<sup>th</sup> – you are a Gemini; after June 21<sup>st</sup> you have the Cancer star sign. Geminis are passionate, adaptable, and smart. Cancers are believed to be loyal friends with great emotional depth.