

The Civic



Birthdays

William Synder – July 6

Randy King – July 6

Jennifer Potter – July 7

Al Mack – July 9

Clark Saylor – July 10

Maureen Comer – July 20

Civitan Anniversaries

None



Memorial Day Weekend Rib Fundraiser Recap

For the second consecutive time, we were considerably short of pre-orders with a week to go before the sale, but we had a last-minute rush of orders and ended up selling 152 racks, only 8 short of our goal. While our price increase (from \$20 to \$23) only partially covered the \$1.10 increase in the pork price since last Fall, we had over \$200 in donations that made up the difference. **The bottom line is that we cleared over \$1,700.**

Thanks to Peggy and Bob Marcus, Jim and Maureen Comer, Norma Judd, Dave and Ann Super, Dev Lippitt, and 2 other nonmembers for their donations to pay for 11 racks of ribs which were accompanied by potatoes prepared by Maureen and delivered to RCS by Jim.

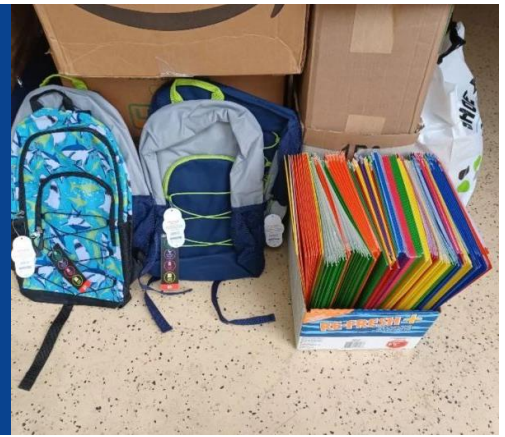
Thank you to the following members who joined me on the “Rub” team: Buck Irvin, Bob Husson, Judy Lopez, Frank Court, Roy Leonard, and Eileen Buscemi.

The “Sales” team consisted of Tim McLearn, Ben St. John, Alan Craig, Mary Traina, Judy Lopez (who helped both days), Gary Todd, Joanne Tello, Maureen Comer, and Jim Comer. Thanks to Van Rice for paying the bills and putting together the final Profit and Loss report. We also continued our delivery service to Taberna and Carolina Colours (35 combined racks delivered) under the leadership of Fred Ohsol, assisted by my wife, Ginny.

We are grateful once again to Danny and Chris Creel for conducting the cooking and to all the Members who both bought ribs themselves and helped sell them to their friends and neighbors. We are tentatively planning on holding the next event on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend.

– *Randy King*

CC PRE-K AND FAMILY LITERACY DONATIONS



By now, most of you can write or recite this article by heart, as we have been making this collection for about ten years, but we do have some recent members who may not be aware of what we are collecting and for whom we are collecting. For some, this is a refresher...for others, an education.

Those enrolled in the Craven County Pre-School and Family Literacy Program (the children we see at Santa Land) must qualify for the program by being physical or mentally disabled or delayed development, limited in English proficiency and economically disadvantaged. We will be assisting these children and families by collecting the following at our July 27th and August 11th meetings.

Spiral notebooks for the adults in the Family Literacy part of this program. They are in stores now and some are as low as 35 cents each – Walmart, Staples, Roses & others. **Folders with pockets** for the children to keep their work in or for notes to go home to parents. Walmart had them for 20 cents each last year.

Children's book bags in sizes 14 to 15 inches for 3- to 5-year-olds. No need to buy any fancy bags with Disney or other designer brand names – they become expensive. We have found a place online where we can order 24 backpacks in bulk and the backpacks will then cost about \$3.00. Most store backpacks are \$5.00 or more. If you would like to contribute money toward this purchase, you may make a check out to New Bern Civitan Club for whatever amount you want and give it to either Judy Lopez, Maureen Comer or Van Rice indicating what you want it to purchase. OR – you may buy your own and bring it to either meeting. If you cannot make either meeting, Judy Lopez or Maureen Comer will plan to pick it up from you.

Lap Blankets or Beach Towels for the children's nap times. After lunch, the children lay on floor mats and are covered by these donations. Each child has his/her own for sanitary reasons. We have recently seen lap blankets in Rose's for \$1.99 each. If you go on Wednesday, Seniors get 10% off. Sadly, many of the children's families in this program cannot even afford that.

You know the prices on these items continue to go up every year so buying these supplies has become even more of a hardship to the families. We can assure you that ALL your donations go to deserving kids and families. And, just so you know, the "Stuff the Bus" initiative for Craven County Schools does not cover this Pre-School Program as it is intended for Grades K-12, not for Pre-K.

As always, if you do not want to shop, Judy Lopez or Maureen Comer will shop for you with your donation. Thank you for your generosity.

Something to be proud of: Last summer, we donated for the kids 144 lap blankets, 186 backpacks, 320 folders and 55 spiral notebooks. WOW!

A SPECIAL AWARD FOR A SPECIAL MEMBER

The Club honored member, Robert Brock, with a special plaque at our June afternoon meeting. Robert recently stepped down as the editor of our CIVIC Newsletter after many years of distinguished service in putting our informative and award-winning, monthly communication together for distribution to our members.

Robert joined our Civitan Club in 2008 and shortly after took over the duties of editor from Tom Mundie who moved away from the area. He had a stellar career in the education field and is a New Bern native. Robert graduated from New Bern High School and was even a Junior Civitan member while he was there. Public service has been a life-long value of his.

Our new editor, Cyndi Papia, is also our website, web expert. Cyndi said she will try hard to equal and keep the superior standard set by Robert. The “look” of the Newsletter may be different, but the beneficial information contained in it will continue to be meant to inform and educate our members.

Kudos and thank you to Robert for his years of service and dedication to this project. We hope your plaque will remind you of all your friends in this Club who respect you and value your friendship



NEW MEMBER INDUCTION



We were proud to induct a new member to our club at our June afternoon meeting. Former Chesapeake District Governor and New Bern Civitan member, Bill Snyder, swore in Christopher Klemmer who was sponsored by his friend, Nathan Silvers. Chris has the honor of being our youngest member! We thank Nathan for recruiting Chris to our Club.

Speaking of recruiting new members...please remember that we have a professional membership presentation that may be given at any time to any group who might be interested in learning more about us OR joining our Club and helping to fulfill our mission.

If you know of such a group, please contact one of our Recruitment chairs – Eileen Buscemi or Mary Traina. New members are the life's blood of any Civitan Club. It assists us in helping those in our community who need assistance. Help us to spread the good word of Civitan!

UPDATE ON CRAVEN LITERACY COUNCIL

Two representatives of the Craven Literacy Council, Barb Krcmar and Debbie Murray, updated us at our June 27th meeting about new things happening in their organization. Ten of their students this year passed the US citizenship test with the help of tutors like our member Randy King (AKA "Pi" Man). Moen is helping to support some of their classes for their own employees. A "Read with Your Kids" program has been instituted. Four "tutor" workshops had been held in the last year. A "conversational" English workshop is being offered - called "Let's Talk." Craven Literacy is also working with local Head Start programs to aid children in need of help. Volunteers are always needed. Our contribution of \$200 will support these initiatives. A fundraiser will be held on July 12 from 5 pm to 8 pm at the Ghent Sandwich Shop for Literacy Council.



Pictured are Barbara Krcmar receiving the Club's donation check from President Dennis Pymm.

INTERFAITH REFUGEE MINISTRY



Susan Husson, Executive Director of the Interfaith Refugee Ministry in New Bern, and a member of our Club, spoke at our meeting on June 14.

The Ministry is dedicated to helping refugees rebuild their lives in eastern North Carolina. Their task is to help refugees with the necessities when they first arrive in New Bern and the surrounding areas. They assist with housing, food, clothing, employment, learning English, and cultural orientation. Their goal is to help refugees become self-reliant.

Susan reported that since its start, the Ministry has helped approximately two thousand refugees. Each year brings more legal immigrants to our area from all around the world. They are always looking for household items and furniture to aid these newcomers as they start life over in our country.

Our Club congratulates Susan and her staff for their work. We are confident the Club's donation of \$500 will help in their mission.

CATCHING UP ON THE CRAVEN WOMEN'S SHELTER

Amanda Delgado, Executive Director of the Craven Women's Shelter, had some big news – their headquarters has moved from Glenburnie Road to Trent Road. Soon, their Clothes Boutique on Neuse Blvd. will move right next door. The Shelter still provides an all-inclusive range of services to members of the community who are affected by domestic and family violence, sexual abuse, stalking, cyber-stalking, and harassment. They continue to be available 24/7/365 with their crisis hotline. Our Club donation of \$750 helps to make a difference.



Pictured are Amanda Delgado receiving our donation from President Dennis Pymm.

NEW BERN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Our main speaker at our June afternoon meeting was Kevin Robers, President, and CEO of the New Bern Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber serves to positively cultivate economic stability for the local community by partnering with local businesses to promote and engage its members, so they are positioned not only to succeed, but thrive. It has been serving the New Bern community since 1899 - celebrating its 125th anniversary this year. Kevin is a graduate of Pamlico County High School and holds a BA in Business and Economics from NC State University.

After introducing what the Chamber does, Kevin asked our members if they had any questions he might be able to answer, and we had many including...

Upcoming events

The River Raft Race on the Neuse – recently reinstated – June 22

The Havelock bypass – scheduled to be completed in November, 2024

The James City road work – to be completed June, 2025; third section 2028

Highway 43 – development over the next three years

The future of the New Bern Mall – the Mayor is working on recruiting businesses

Military housing in Havelock – continues to grow

The Pepsi Museum – downtown – perhaps the Wells Fargo building? No announcement yet.

Social Districting downtown – could have been managed better?

The New Bern Southpaws – City worked hard to bring this team into town

We learned a lot from Kevin with this question-and-answer format. The Chamber is working diligently to help New Bern grow and prosper, but not grow so much to lose the feeling of community. Thank you for visiting us!

SLATE OF OFFICERS 10/1/24 – 9/30/25

President: Roy Leonard
President-Elect: Dennis Pymm
Treasurer: Van Allen Rice
Asst. Treasurer: Amy Willis
Secretary: Maureen Comer
Asst. Secretary: Eileen Buscemi
Board of Directors:

One Year – Term Expires 9/30/25: Alan Craig, Ann Super, Dave Super, Joanne Tello

Two Year – Term Expires 9/30/26: Eileen Buscemi, Mary Dougherty, Buck Irvin, Clark Saylor



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

NBCC EVENTS CALENDAR

Thursday, July 4 – Independence Day

Monday, July 8 – Board Meeting – CANCELLED – next Board Meeting – August 12

Monday July 8 – RCS Shelter Dinner 6 pm

Friday, July 12 – NBCC Afternoon Meeting at Paula's Restaurant 11:30 am. Speaker: Alice Nelson – NB Graphic Information Manager – "Update on Building Projects." *If you will be attending, please contact Maureen Comer by Wednesday, July 10, so she may call in a count to the restaurant.*

Thursday, July 25 – NBCC Evening Meeting at Paula's Restaurant 5:30 pm. Speaker: Kim Briele – Board President of Realize U252 – a long-term addiction facility in New Bern. *If you will be attending, please contact Maureen Comer by Tuesday, July 23, so she may call in a count to the restaurant.*

We will be collecting items for the Pre-K program at the meetings on July 12 and 25.

RCS DONATION



Krishanda Jones, Interim Executive Director of Religious Community Services in New Bern attended our meeting on June 14th to update us on new things happening with their facility and programs. Her first comment was to thank our Club for its continuing monetary support, our Shelter “Christmas Party” with gifts and our monthly Shelter dinner project.

Last year, the Shelter provided a total of 14,074 nights of shelter to 180 individuals. This breaks down as follows: the main shelter at 5,840 nights; Veteran’s Wing at 1,228 nights, and Family Shelter at 7,006 nights. They are expanding the Shelter facilities into another building where they can accommodate female veterans. This is a work in progress. RCS is committed to breaking the cycle of homelessness and helping individuals and families build stable, fulfilling lives.

RCS stays dedicated to addressing the critical issue of food insecurity in North Carolina. Their Community Kitchen provides healthy and nutritious meals to those in need 365 days a year. Last year, between the RCS Community Kitchen, Food Pantry and Operation Outpost programs, they supplied 113,520 servings of food to the community. This has made a real impact for many in New Bern. Also, last year, their Food Pantry filled a total of 33,746 emergency food orders.

Ms. Jones reminded our group of their upcoming Gala on August 24. More details are on their website. So, with this update, we have learned where our Club’s donation to them this year might be spent. We are proud of our \$2,500 contribution to RCS and congratulate them for “reaching out in service to others.”

WE DON'T KNOW THEM ALL, BUT WE OWE THEM ALL



The above article title opened Doug Foster's presentation on June 27. Doug is no stranger to our Club having once been our President. He is currently the liaison from the Elks Club of New Bern to the North Carolina Veterans Home in Kinston. For almost a year, our Club has been sending cards and notes to our veterans at this facility. This effort is about to be formalized with Committee Chair, Jan Snyder. She will be reaching out to other members for ideas and aid.

The Home's website says, "It is an honor and a privilege to provide high quality care to our nation's veterans." Doug filled us in with more details. The cards and letters we have been sending have been well received. The residents enjoy getting mail. Some have no visitors as their families and friends are gone. The facility has four wings that can house one hundred vets. One of the wings is a dedicated memory unit. The rooms are of a substantial size with private bathrooms. Each wing has a dedicated recreation room and a dining hall. The Home has five women, but most residents are male.

The Elks Club has "adopted" this facility and they provide many "extras" for these vets. The Elks sponsor a monthly competitive bingo game with prizes. They stock their "canteen." They provide money to shop for items in the canteen. They take residents out to lunch occasionally. Doug has personally organized an antique Car Show once a year. They do occasional ice cream socials. All sponsored activities are meant to enrich the life of these American heroes.

We look forward to helping and enriching these activities as our new project moves forward. Anyone interested in helping Jan Snyder should contact her at JanSny60@gmail.com. Thanks to Doug for updating us on this local Veterans Home. It was good to see him, and Sharyn, and we look forward to seeing both again!



Pictured are our "tall men" Doug Foster and Dennis Pymm presenting our "traditional" peanuts!

PLANNING AHEAD



Friday, August 23 – Officer and Board of Directors informal meeting at 3 pm at the home of Eileen Buscemi. All officers, 2023-24 Board Members, and 2024-25 Board Members invited and their spouses/significant others.

Saturday, August 31 – Labor Day Rib Sale

Friday, September 13 – NBCC Afternoon Meeting 11:30 am – Business Meeting – Update and review of the past year. For the 2024-25 Civitan Calendar year, we will be having a Business Meeting at the last evening meeting of each quarter.

Thursday, September 26 – NBCC Installation Dinner at the Chelsea 6 pm; Keynote Speaker – Tom Braaten. Officers and Board Members will be sworn in by Past President – Jim Comer.

Friday, November 29 – Tree Lot Open

Friday, December 13 – NBCC Christmas Party at Paula's Restaurant

On Flag Day, June 14th, NBCC members Dennis Pymm and Bill Snyder visited the Kinston Veterans Home to present American flags that Dennis had made with a group of Boy Scouts. Bill Snyder, a veteran, enjoyed talking with several of the Vet residents.



Pictured (l.to r.) the Activity Director of the Home; Dennis Pymm – Club President; Doug Foster - liaison from the Elks Club to the Home (and former Civitan President); and Bill Snyder. Civitan member.

COOL FACTS ABOUT JULY



July was named after the famous Roman general Julius Caesar by the Roman senate; as it was the month he was born in. Rejoice – the year is halfway over!

- The world's first bikini was unveiled in the famous Piscine Molitor swimming pool in Paris on July 5, 1946, modeled by showgirl Micheline Bernardini.
- On July 4, 1776, the 13 American colonies declared their independence from the British monarchy. The 4th of July, formally known as Independence Day, has been a federal holiday since 1870 in the United States of America.
- July has some pretty delicious month-long observances! In the US, there are three that stand out – It's National Watermelon Month, National Hot Dog Month, and National Ice Cream Month. Yum!
- There are two star signs which fall in the month of July. If you're born before July 22nd, then your star sign is Cancer. If you're born after this day, from July 23rd onward, then you're a Leo. Those born under the sign of Cancer are said to be loyal friends with great emotional depth, and those born under the sign of Leo are said to be very proud people who display great leadership.
- Louis Bleriot became the first man to fly an aircraft from one country to another successfully on July 25, 1909. He took off from the coast of France and landed across the channel near Dover, England.
- July has two birth flowers – the water lily and the larkspur. The water lily is a symbol of a pure heart, while the larkspur (especially its white form) represents the lightness of the heart.
- The birthstone of July is the ruby, considered by many to be the king of gems and is the second hardest natural gemstone. At one point in time, it was considered to protect warriors on the field of battle if it was embedded in their armor. Nowadays, as a birthstone, it's said to protect against evil and symbolizes love, passion, energy, and success.
- July was an important time for the space race of the '60s. The first crewed mission to the Moon, the Apollo 11 Mission, launched on July 16, 1969. Four days later, on July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong made history by taking the first step on the Moon while declaring, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

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.