



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE HEARTLAND DISTRICT  
**SPECIAL  
CONVENTION  
ISSUE**

SEPTEMBER 2013

**DEEP IN THE HEART OF  
TEXAS**

**2013 District Convention was big and bright!**

*By Keith Dover, Heartland District PR Chairman*

From Bootheel to Benton...Bartlesville to Blue Bonnet...Topeka to Texas...and all points between... Civitans made the trek southward to the Great State of Texas for the 2013 Heartland District Civitan Convention in awesome Austin, Texas.

Amid 100-plus degree temperatures, the three-day annual event kicked off with the annual leadership luncheon, this year honoring Margaret Larsen, Director of Special Olympics Texas.

Larsen gave a wonderful acceptance presentation and speech and even provided humor for luncheon attendees. She also gave thanks to Civitan for all its help with Special Olympics events and activities in the State of Texas. "Our 45,000 Special Olympics Texas athletes compete year-round in 22 sports," says Larsen. "Many Civitan members volunteer with Special Olympics Texas programs across the state, including Civitan clubs in Round Rock and Grand Prairie." She also adds, "We are grateful and proud that the men and women of Civitan



care enough about people with intellectual disabilities to give of their time to help with our numerous athletic competitions held across the state throughout the year. Please know that it is my great pleasure to accept this award on behalf of more than 45,000 Special Olympics Texas athletes. Thank you."

The luncheon was held at the Philips Event Center in Austin, and everyone enjoyed a wonderful meal with the program...as well as parting gift bags with Special Olympics Texas t-shirts and other items from the Special Olympics Texas Staff. Following the luncheon,

convention goes increased their knowledge with several training seminars including Area Director Training, Club Building Team Planning, Junior Civitan Strategic Planning, as well as the Heartland District Board Meeting, which was held later Friday afternoon. *(continued on page 3)*



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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**LEADERSHIP TEAM**

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Tommy Johns	tjohns@suddenlink.net		

**2012-2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS****SEPTEMBER**

**September 24** Deadline Adds/Deletes for October Dues Billing

**September 30** Club Officer Training Should be Complete

**September 30** Area Director/Lt. Governor Year End Report Due

**OCTOBER 2013-2014 Year Begins**

**October 02** Deadline 2012-2013 Add/Deletes Due

**October 20** October Dues Billing Delinquent after this date



**HEARTLAND EXPRESS** Please e-mail articles and photos for publication to:

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or by mail to

Frank Kelley, 8628 Running River Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76131

**PUBLICATION DEADLINES**

4th Quarter OCTOBER 1st

2013-14 1st Quarter January 2nd

**Heartland District is Number One in Highest Numerical Growth for 2012-2013 with 58 Members Added**

As we turn our calendars to the last month of this Civitan year, we need you to continue energetically to motivate, to communicate, and to lead our organization to a historic membership year!

Over 3,100 new members have joined our organization in the first 11 months. Let's add 1,500 new members in September!



# DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS

## 2013 HEARTLAND DISTRICT CONVENTION

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE]

On Friday evening, Civitans enjoyed some down-home cookin' with Texas grub (AKA great southern BBQ with all the fixins)...where Heartland District's own adopted mascot; Civibear (af-



fectionately known as "Civi"), made a grand appearance at the festivities! And later after all that good food, Civitans boarded one of the Austin Ducks...a tour vehicle which took a tour of downtown Austin and beautiful Lake Austin inside an unsinkable, U.S. Coast Guard-inspected, hydra terra amphibious vehicle...75 minutes of sightseeing bliss which included the University of Texas, Historic Sixth Street, the State Capitol Building, Bob Bullock State History Museum, the Governor's Mansion, and even a dip in Lake Austin...complete with a "very loud" duck call given to everyone as a souvenir.

Saturday morning's festivities began with the annual tradition of the Parade of Banners, showcasing Civitan club banners from all the Civitan clubs in the Heartland District, followed by the annual Business Session and club awards. And to add to the excitement (or to bring about some levity to the business environment of the meeting) one of those "obnoxious" duck calls from the tour the night before helped to enhance the roll call response from the Chenal Civitan Club!

There were five (5) Heartland District Area Directors elected during the business session, which included: Ann Livingston (Area 2);

Karla Fournier (Area 4); James Fogg (Area 5); Albert Cox (Area 6); and Sherry Riggs (Area 7); respectively. Norma Pew was elected as Certified Club Builder Director, and Debbie Bruce-Juhlke was elected as the Past Governor Director for the Heartland District. Steve Jackson was elected as Heartland District Governor-Elect...congratulations to all!

The business session was followed by an awards luncheon where numerous awards were given. Civi made yet another grand appearance, along with her sponsored club representative from the Chenal Club who gave her a new home with the Ranger Club (more to come on the life of Civi). Following the Business Session, more knowledge was shared in breakout sessions including a Workbook Training session provided by Civitan International Region 7 Director Frank Kelly.



On Saturday evening, the Heartland District Civitan Annual Awards Banquet was held, providing an enjoyable time for all. And even more fun and fellowship was enjoyed as Civitans were entertained with dance music provided by Lowell French and Tommy Johns afterward.

In keeping with the second doctrine of the Civitan Creed...(MY HANDS do the work of the world and reach out in service to others), the Ranger Civitan Club of Grand Prairie, Texas donated 40 pairs of adult and children's jeans as part

of this year's Heartland District Convention Community Service Project. The jeans were donated to The ARC of Greater Texas, to help support shelter clients.



"These jeans go to people who come to the shelter with little on their back," says Outgoing Governor Vivian Dail. "They are so grateful to receive this clothing...thank you to all those who donated jeans for this worthwhile community service project!"

Outgoing Governor Vivian Dail gave thanks to everyone for making her year successful as she passed the gavel to newly elected Heartland District Governor Joyce Sullivan. Following her acceptance address, Governor Sullivan introduced the 2013-14 Leadership Team...which was then installed by Past Region 7 International Director Fred Norman.

Governor Sullivan had nothing but praise for the success of this year's convention. "Awesome in Austin" pretty much says it all," she said. "Another great Heartland District Convention...special thanks to our host club and all the convention committee members for making this an event you wouldn't have wanted to miss. There were multiple options for training seminars and workshops, that it wasn't possible to leave the convention without having learned something new." She also adds, "Everyone needs to start making plans now to attend next year's convention in Northwest Arkansas. We may just have to train some of our members on how to "call the hogs!" (More photos and district awards on next page)



# DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS



**DEEP IN THE HEART OF  
TEXAS**

<b>2012-13 Heartland District Awards</b>	
<b>Award</b>	<b>Club(s)</b>
Outstanding Club - First Place Large Club	Cabot
Outstanding Club - Second Place Large Club	Bryant
Outstanding Club - First Place Small Club	Starlight
Outstanding Club - Second Place Small Club	Twin Lakes
Outstanding New Club	Wyandotte
Project of the Year - First Place	Paragould
Project of the Year - Second Place	Cabot
<b>Service to Individuals with Disabilities</b>	
Special Olympics - First Place	Little Rock
Special Olympics - First Place	Hot Springs
Service to Youth - First Place Large Club	Bryant
Service to Youth - Second Place Large Club	Little Rock
Service to Youth - First Place Small Club	Twin Lakes
Service to the Community - First Place Large Club	Hot Springs
Service to the Community - First Place Small Club	Starlight
Service to the Elderly - First Place Large Club	Wichita
Service to the Elderly - First Place Small Club	Enid
Service to the Elderly - Second Place Small Club	Hope
Service to Veterans - First Place Large Club	Ranger
Service to Veterans - Second Place Large Club	Bryant
Service to the Homeless - First Place Large Club	Cabot
Service to the Homeless - Second Place Large Club	Bryant
Service to the Homeless - First Place Small Club	Hope
Outstanding Programs - First Place Large Club	Cabot
Outstanding Programs - Second Place Large Club	Bryant
Outstanding Newsletter - First Place Large Club	Paragould
Outstanding Newsletter - Second Place Large Club	Little Rock
Outstanding Newsletter - First Place Small Club	Twin Lakes
Outstanding Newsletter - Second Place Small Club	Heart of the Rock
Outstanding Scrapbook - First Place Large Club	Bryant
Outstanding Scrapbook - Second Place Large Club	Paragould
Outstanding Scrapbook - First Place Small Club	Starlight
Outstanding Scrapbook - Second Place Small Club	Yes We Can
Outstanding Web Site	Twin Lakes
Outstanding Billboard Placement	Cabot
Outstanding Civitan Awareness - First Place Large Club	Bryant
Outstanding Civitan Awareness - Second Place Large Club	Wichita
<b>2012-13 Heartland District Individual Awards</b>	
<b>Award</b>	<b>Individual</b>
Heartland District Civitan Citizen of the Year	Dr. Margaret Larsen
Jim Berryman Award - Civitan of the Decade	Debbie Bruce-Juhlke
Civitan of the Year	Delsa Adams
New Civitan Rookie of the Year	Janice Witt
Distinguished Area Director	Linda deReign
Outstanding Club President of the Year	Jiayma Hammon
Leadership Award	Laura Chapa

# WELCOME AUSTIN ACTION CLUB

NEW CIVITAN CLUB CHARTERED IN AUSTIN, TEXAS  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2013

A new Civitan club, Austin ACTION Club, held their Chartering ceremony on Sunday, August 11 at Pappasito's, in Austin, Texas.

Civitans from throughout the Heartland District attended the wonderful ceremony.

The new club was sponsored by the Heart of the Rock Civitan Club of Round Rock, Texas. Heartland District Field Director of New Club Development Jeannetta Edmundson, served as master of ceremonies for the Chartering program. Twenty four Charter Members were initiated by Immediate Past Governor Jo West Davis, their Charter Officers were installed by Past International Region 7



Director Fred Norman, and Norma Pew welcomed the new Austin Club Members to Civitan.

The club charter was presented to Charter President Isaiah Jones by Heartland District Governor Vivian Dail and Field Director Edmundson presented the Club's Banner to President Jones. Past Heartland Governor and Sponsoring Club President Debbie Bruce-Juhlike presented Charter Club President Jones with a \$100 check to get them started as a new club.

We welcome the Austin ACTION club to our Heartland District Civitan family and congratulate all of the charter members and officers!



# Campus Civitan

## WHERE ACTION & PASSION DEVELOP HOMETOWN HEROES

At every district event in Heartland Civitan, one hears acknowledgement that we need to draw in younger members, develop leaders, build clubs, and grow membership in existing clubs to sustain the EXCELLENT projects that are the heart of Civitan. Campus Civitan brings all these aspects.

College students are the largest growing volunteer base in the nation. With community service and service-learning encouraged at the national level in higher education, students are meeting community needs as they meet course or college requirements and are choosing to continue in their volunteerism beyond required hours. They start with action, perhaps as a class assignment, and find the passion to continue service!

There are many benefits for students as well as Civitan members at the local and district levels. Civitan provides leadership training and opportunities and has committed to enhancing leadership development. Joint relationships with students who have the desire to participate and bring fresh ideas can boost and rejuvenate senior clubs/members and increase the number of volunteers for any project. For campus clubs, joint relationships with senior clubs that can assist with resources (expertise as well as financial) for worthwhile activities gives support that many campus student organizations do not have available to them.

Building and retaining campus clubs are honor club activities, recognizing the significance of sponsoring Civitan clubs to each

campus Civitan club. Campus clubs thrive when they have a strong relationship with a sponsoring club. Having a club liaison from the sponsoring club that communicates the local and district Civitan activities lessens the encapsulation that can occur on campus and encourages student participation in the activities of Civitan.

Hosting a beginning of the semester cook-out is an excellent way to connect with students and assist in membership for the campus club, while hosting an end of the semester graduation reception or social may be an excellent way to transition students to senior clubs throughout the world as they are leaving the college environment.



Building Campus Civitan clubs at local community colleges, technical schools, and universities draws together students with the desire to serve above and beyond course requirements. Campus Civitans also gain the advantage of a local, district, and international presence through Civitan to make a difference wherever their journey may lead beyond college. If your club sponsors a Junior Civitan club, developing Campus Civitan clubs in the post-secondary institutions they will attend is critical to ensure that they continue their passion and relationship with Civitan.

These are your future Civitans and our future hometown heroes!

Consider including a goal for 2013-14 to build a Campus Civitan club. There are many club building materials available through Civitan International and on the website: [www.civitan.org](http://www.civitan.org).

As District Campus Chair, Dr. Diane Potts is available to speak to your club, consult with local campus club builders, and support your club's efforts to reach that goal.

Dr Potts' contact info is :

**918-740-6039 or [dpotts4dsp@gmail.com](mailto:dpotts4dsp@gmail.com)**

On the afternoon of Aug. 30, 2013, Virginia Frances Patterson Miller, passed away in El Dorado, Arkansas at the age of 66. Virginia was born in Camden, on Sept. 12, 1946, to Norma Virginia Bishop and Thomas Judson Patterson Jr. She grew up in El Dorado and graduated from El Dorado High School in 1964. Virginia attended Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia where she graduated in 1968 with a B.A. in Business Education and a teaching certification in English. She followed this with 30 post-graduate hours in English at the University of Arkansas between 1969 and 1973.

Virginia spent the next 16 years teaching school, serving on the El Dorado School Board and pursuing other professional interests. She was the executive director of the Oil Belt Chapter of March of Dimes from 1979 until 1982, the director of Information services in the office of Secretary of State, Paul Revere from 1982 until 1984 and the executive director of the Arkansas Sesquicentennial Commission from 1984-1985. Next she tried her hand at real estate. After earning her real estate broker's license, she also taught real estate. In fact, she was instrumental in getting her brother, Tommy, started in real estate and he attended her classes.

Virginia decided to extend her education and attended Northeast Louisiana University in Monroe where she completed her M.A. in Marriage and Family Counseling in 1989. She was licensed in Arkansas as a professional counselor and a marriage and family therapist and was a national certified counselor. Virginia worked in many settings as a therapist.

Most recently, she retired in 2012 after nine years as counselor at the Jessville School District. She was in private practice at Counseling Connections in Hot Springs at the time of her death. Virginia's husband, C.W. said her favorite saying was, "Good isn't good enough. It has to be perfect. It has to be per-

## VIRGINIA F.P. MILLER



*September 12, 1946-August 30, 2013*

fect." True to her philosophy, Virginia was honored many times throughout the life. Some highlights include: Outstanding Student Award at Northeast Louisiana University (1989), Who's Who Among American Teachers (2000), Arkansas Middle School Counselor of the Year (2006), and National Middle School Counselor of the Year (2007).

Virginia was an active member of many organizations including the Arkansas School Counselor's Association, American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, Arkansas Counseling Association, Arkansas School Counselors Association (she was president from 2007-2009), Arkansas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and she was a charter

member of the Hot Springs Civitan Club.

Her long-time friend, Nickol Tompkins summarized Virginia's career best when she said "Virginia's life's journey was spent in pursuit of self-understanding and self-acceptance and she dedicated her best years helping others to do the same." Virginia filled many roles in her life – teacher, counselor, wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt, friend, adviser, church member, club member, volunteer – and she excelled in them all but none delighted her more than the role of grandmother to her precious Morgan.

Virginia is survived by her beloved husband, C.W. Miller, of Hot Springs Village; her son, Jon Fouse, his wife, Erin, and granddaughter Morgan Fouse, of Costa Mesa, Calif.; stepson, Adrian Garcia, of Chicago; brother, Thomas (Tommy) Judson Patterson III and his wife, Kay, of El Dorado; brother-in-law, Jerry Miller, of Hot Springs Village; numerous nieces, great-nieces and nephews and many friends and clients. Virginia's son Jon requests, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The American Liver Foundation at <http://www.liverfoundation.org> or a local children's hospital of your choice. My mother and my family would consider that the greatest way to honor her memory.

*Virginia's husband, C.W. said her favorite saying was, "Good isn't good enough. It has to be perfect." True to her philosophy, Virginia was honored many times throughout her life.*