



FOURTH
QUARTER
SEPTEMBER
2011

THE HEARTLAND EXPRESS

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Heartland Civitan Clubs

IN THIS ISSUE:

Heartland Convention	1
Officers & Staff	2
New Editorial Policy	2
Civitan of the Year	4
Wichita Turns 90	4
Bill Buscher Installed as Civitan International President	5
Twin Lakes Civitan Club	6
Little Rock Area Civitans at The Rep	7
Starlight Civitans Tuesdays in the Park	8
Paragould Civitans Auction	8
Bartlesville Sunfest	8
Heartland District Photos	9
Photos of International Convention in New Orleans	10

HEARTLAND DISTRICT CONVENTION A HUGE SUCCESS

By Keith Dover, Chairman, Heartland District Public Relations

The Heartland District Convention was an overwhelming success this year as Civitans from all over the Heartland District came together to learn, participate, and socialize together...making our Heartland District Civitan an even stronger organization.

Convention activities began this year on Friday afternoon at the Heartland District Leadership Luncheon as the Heartland Civitan Citizen-of-the-Year was honored. Cindi Hemm, principal of Eugene Field Elementary School in Tulsa, Oklahoma, was the recipient of this year's award (see *Citizen-of-the-Year* article on page 4).

"I feel the convention was a great success," said Governor Ken Ellis. "The attendance was fantastic, and I believe the workshops and presentations were all well received. We

raised over \$1100 for the Civitan International Research Center with our "paddle party" fundraiser, and over \$500 from the sale of insurance cards...who could ask for more?" The paddle party fundraiser was sponsored by six (6) local area Civitan Clubs: Bartlesville Uptown, Owasso, Tulsa Metro, Starlight, Broken Arrow, and Sand Springs.

Governor Ellis also added, "I want to thank the entire Leadership Team for their work this year and extend another thank you to the planning committee for the Leadership Luncheon and the Convention activities.

Continued on page 3



Civitan International Vice President of Membership-Leadership Louis Stephens (above left) congratulating Heartland District Governor Ken Ellis on a great year as well as a memorable District Convention.



Friday night's Paddle Party raised over \$1,100 for Civitan International Research Center



Sergeant-at-Arms David Eck lines up the parade of banners for the Saturday meeting

2010-2011 HEARTLAND DISTRICT OFFICERS & STAFF**HEARTLAND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Governor	Kenneth E. (Ken) Ellis	kema1981@sbcglobal.net
Governor-elect	Jo West Taylor	jojack@cablelynx.com
Area 1 Director	Kathy Eck	momeck62@gmail.com
Area 2 Director	Sharon Conley	lrl9@juno.com
Area 3 Director	Teresia Cunningham	teresia@agentsinsurance.net
Area 4 Director	Betsy Barnes	Betsy.Barnes@arkansas.gov
Area 5/6 Director	Lisa Dail	ldail@hotmail.com
Area 7 Director	David Dempsey	dempsey@cablelynx.com
Certified Club Builder Director	Jack Fournier	fournierhome@sbcglobal.net
Immediate Past Gov	Debbie Bruce-Juhlke	heartlandgovernor5@yahoo.com

HEARTLAND DISTRICT STAFF

Secretary	Jeannetta Edwards*	jedwards@daeoc.com
Treasurer	Connie Black*	heartlandtreas@sbcglobal.net
Chaplain	Ron Matthews	rmattbear@aol.com
Judge Advocate	Elwin Cabbage*	efc@martindell-law.com
Sergeant-at-Arms	Abe Davenport	
Meetings/Conventions	Harold L. Connell	brookiowa@aol.com
Public Relations	Keith Dover	kdover@spp.org
Leadership Development/ Club Education	Dale deReign	dale.dereign@cox.net
Directory	Jeanetta Edwards	jedwards@daeoc.com
Long Range Planning	Russ Cole	rd.cole@prodigy.net
Junior Civitan Chair	Vivian Dail	vdail611@gmail.com
Junior Civitan Governor	Lindsey Garland	garlandllrch@gmail.com
Campus Civitan	Dr Diane Potts	dpotts@tulsacc.edu
Training Coord.	Stewart Field	sfieldesq@aol.com
Awards	Joe Lolli	jl7707@sbcglobal.net
Fundraising	Fred Norman	fred@airetechcorp.com
Candy Coin & Candy Boxes	Harold L. Connell	brookiowa@aol.com
Club Building	Joyce Walton	jwalton@focusbank.com
Growth & Retention	Lowell French	lfrench@suddenlink.net
Presidents Council /Foundation	Debbie Bruce-Juhlke	Immediatepastgovernor@yahoo.com
Webmaster/Newsletter	David Overton	david@overtondesign.net

REGION DIRECTOR & FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Region 7 Director	Fred Norman	fred@airetechcorp.com
Field Director	C.W. Miller	step Ahead@suddenlink.net

* Non-voting ex-officio members of the Heartland District Board

** Voting Members of the Heartland District Board of Directors

**REMEMBER,
ON SEPTEMBER 30th:**

All club officers should have completed training (contact Stacy Sabo at stacy@civitan.org)

And Area Directors' year-end reports are due

**New
Editorial
Policy**

Up until now most of the content of the newsletter comes from culling through submission of club's newsletters. However, this means that your humble editor arbitrarily picks which story he thinks would be a good item for our little gazette.

On at least one occasion, that choice was questioned, or something that maybe should have been published was overlooked.

Starting with the next issue (see deadlines below) items will only be included in the *Heartland*

Express if separately submitted or specified by a member of your club or area director.

The editor will no longer automatically include an item from your club just because you have submitted a newsletter months ago; your club activities will not be published unless specifically requested, (unless needed as "filler").

Also, we would like to give credit to where credit is due, so please include the name and title, if any, of the person who wrote the article and the photographer, and, if possible captions with names of those appearing in the photos.

Thank you.

The Editor

**HEARTLAND
EXPRESS**

is the newsletter for the Heartland District of Civitan International. It is published quarterly for sharing news, activities, events and other items of interest for all the Civitan Clubs of the Heartland District. It is also hoped that it may serve as a tool for showing non-Civitan

and prospective members what it is to be a Civitan. Past issues are also available for download online in PDF format at <http://www.civitan.org/~heartland/newsletter.html> Please e-mail articles and photos for publication to David Overton, david@overtondesign.net or by mail* to David Overton, 3616 Regent Drive, Dallas, Texas 75229

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

First Quarter Issue January 15, 2012

Second Quarter Issue March 15, 2012

Third and Fourth Quarter TBD

*Regrettably photos submitted by mail cannot be returned, so please be sure to send duplicates. No negatives, please.

DISTRICT CONVENTION

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Everyone in the District should be appreciative of the great job several members have done this year. Among them, Harold Connell, our Meeting Coordinator, for his unbelievable accomplishments getting the Spring Meeting and the District Convention organized and to run smoothly. Also, I would like to thank Keith Dover, our Public Relations Chairman, for his great work on the State Governors' Civitan Awareness Proclamation Initiative, the design of the District coins and printed agendas for the convention, and all the news releases he has done and assisted with this year."

Governor Ellis also notes that although the District Civitan Year is over, there is still time left for us to achieve greatness as a District before the actual Civitan Year is done. "With the help so far from all the members of our Heartland District, we are on right on track to earn the Quality Achievement District Distinction again this year...all the hard work will pay off in the near future if we keep our momentum going! Therefore, I challenge every member of the Heartland District once again for "just one (1)" new member being sponsored before the end of the Civitan year. With everyone's help, we will have an increase in membership and can then prove that the Heartland District will lead the rest of the districts in membership increases."

Photos by Keith Dover and Dr. Tim Juhlke

More photos on page 9



INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Award	Name	Club
District New Leader of the Year	Jannetta Edwards	Bootheel Ladies
Outstanding Club President	Aunean Rainwater	Searcy
Civitan of the Year	Connie Black	Hot Springs
Jim Berryman Civitan of the Decade	C.W. Miller	Hot Springs
Special Governor's Recognition	Keith Dover	Little Rock

CLUB COMPETITIVE AWARDS

Award	Club
Outstanding Awareness Project, Large Club	Heart of the Rock
Outstanding Awareness Project, Small Club	Bryant
Outstanding Club Programs, Small Club	Wichita
Outstanding Club Newsletter, Large Club	Little Rock
Outstanding Club Newsletter, Small Club	Muskogee
Outstanding Club Scrapbook, Large Club	Heart of the Rock
Outstanding Club Scrapbook, Small Club	Bryant
Outstanding Club Web Site, Large Club	Little Rock
Outstanding Club Web Site, Small Club	Corpus Christi
Outstanding Community Service Project, Large Club	North Little Rock
Outstanding Community Service Project, Small Club	People First
Outstanding Service to People with Disabilities, Large Club	Hot Springs
Outstanding Service to People with Disabilities, Small Club	Jefferson County
Service to the Elderly, Small Club	Starlight
Service to Veterans, Small Club	Yes We Can
Outstanding Service to Youth, Large Club	Hutchinson
Project of the Year, Large Club	Little Rock
Project of the Year, Small Club	Bryant
Club of the Year, Large Club (Tie)	Little Rock
Club of the Year, Large Club (Tie)	Topeka

Citizen of the Year

By Keith Dover, Heartland District Public Relations Chairman



Heartland District Governor Ken Ellis (above left) presents Cindi Hemm with the 2011 Heartland District Civitan Citizen of the Year Award.

Heartland District Civitan is pleased to announce Cindi Hemm, principal of Eugene Field Elementary School in Tulsa, as the 2011 recipient of the Heartland District Civitan Citizen of the Year. Hemm received the award at this year's Heartland District Civitan Leadership Luncheon.

The worldwide mission of Civitan International is to build good citizenship by providing a volunteer organization of clubs dedicated to serving individual and community needs with an emphasis on helping people with developmental disabilities.

In keeping with these ideals, the Heartland District Civitan Citizen of the Year Award is given annually to an outstanding citizen or organization that best demonstrates the desire to make a significant contribution to the quality of life in their community, state, or nation. This includes involvement in any of a variety of community activities to include charity, youth, educational, patriotic, religious, or other like activity. This award may reflect current contributions or those made over a specific period of time.

Selection for the Heartland District Civitan Citizen of the Year Award is made by a special awards committee appointed by the Heartland District Civitan Governor, and is awarded annually at the Heartland District Civitan Leadership Luncheon.

Eugene Field Elementary School in Tulsa was built in 1922 and was "falling apart" when Hemm arrived in 2003. Located in a high-crime, high-poverty neighborhood, the school was surrounded by three housing projects and "looked more like a prison than a place of learning," Hemm said. Of the 170 students who attended the school, 95 percent had parents who had not graduated from high school, and 75 percent had a parent who was incarcerated. Hemm began re-inventing the school by creating a "culture of kindness and caring" and replaced half the teaching staff with those who shared her vision for putting students first. Under Hemm's leadership, the school implemented a year-round schedule; instituted school uniforms, which were donated by sponsors; and became a member of the A+ Schools network to infuse art and humanities into the curriculum. Hemm reached out to parents and the community, increasing community sponsors from three to 30. Eugene Field students now participate in school-based mentoring programs and more than 26 after-school program offerings, ranging from scouting and sports to music and cooking. The school also piloted a Global Gardens program to teach science through organic gardening and provide healthy produce to the community. Under Hemm's direction, student attendance has grown from 170 to 430, and academic scores have risen from the lowest in Tulsa to some of the highest in the district. Former Tulsa Mayor Kathy Taylor praised Hemm as a "best-in-class" leader. "She took the concept of community school and embraced it with open arms with a vision to make sure each of her kids had what they needed to learn, all day, every day."

In keeping with the ideals of Civitan by helping to build good citizenship through her accomplishments, Cindi has brought credit upon herself, her school, and her community. Congratulations again to Cindi Hemm, principal of Eugene Field Elementary School in Tulsa, as the 2011 recipient of the Heartland District Civitan Citizen of the Year.

North Little Rock Civitan Club Named Outstanding New Club

The North Little Rock Civitan Club, located in the heart of the Heartland District, hit the ground running after their charter ceremony in July 2009! At this year's international convention, they were recognized with the Outstanding New Club award, for all their hard work during the 2009-2010 Civitan year. Barely two years old, this club is moving full steam ahead – here is a sampling of the community service projects that won them this great honor.



CIVITAN CLUB OF TOPEKA'S WILLIAM D. "BILL" BUSCHER INSTALLED AS 2011-2012 CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

By DAVID H. FISHER, JR., CIVITAN CLUB OF TOPEKA PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN



On July 9, 2011 Bill Buscher was installed as President of Civitan International in New Orleans Louisiana. In addition to Bill, ten Civitan Club of Topeka members attended the convention to support Bill: Jim Beck, Patty Bottorff, Bill Buscher, Marcia Dechand, Sharon Dodd, Steve Dodd, Carolyn Edwards, Tim Edwards, Dave Fisher, Jan Howard, and Don Schultz. Spouses who also attended were Carol Beck, Sharon Buscher, and Pat Schultz.

The convention was held at the Sheraton and was well planned. All Topekans enjoyed New Orleans and its many historic attractions. Highlights of the convention were the Opening Ceremonies at 6:30 PM on July 6, a Mississippi River Boat Cruise at 6:00 PM on July 7, the election of next year's International President starting at 8:30 AM on July 8, and the Installation Banquet at 6:00 PM later on July 8. The highlight of the evening was the address given by Bill Buscher. Bill's

2011-2012 slogan is "ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH SERVICE"

The Wwichita Club was also recognized as the 4th leading club in Coin Box collections for the year.

Civitan's were entertained throughout the convention with a Tribute to Jazz, a sand artist, comedian Murray Conque, the Waylon Thibodeaux Band, and Dueling Pianos. In addition many of the Topeka Civitan's participated in a Second Line Parade through the streets of New Orleans. The Storyville Stoppers band led the parade with Civitan International President Gay Aaron and Bill and Sharon Buscher leading the Civitan's.

The convention was full of excellent workshops and special activities along with information on next year's convention in Estonia.

As would expect many of the Topeka Civitan's enjoyed people watching on Bourbon Street. It was an exciting and fun filled convention full of the interesting attractions of New Orleans.



2011-2012 Int'l President Bill Buscher with 2011-2012 Magnolia District Governor Carroll Russell.



Topeka Civitan's display their New Orleans memorabilia. Are the Tattoos Real?



Topeka President, Sharon Dodd is helping her husband, Steve, enjoy yet another desert

WICHITA CIVITAN CLUB TURNS 90!

Wichita Civitans Celebrate Their Club's 90th Anniversary

By Harold O'Connell, 2011-2012 President, Wichita Civitan Club
 Members, families and friends of the Civitan Club of Wichita held its 90th Awards and Installation Dinner on September 28th at the Tallgrass Country Club in Wichita. Out going Club President Carolyn Bridges (*top row left*) walked the club through its history by portraying various Women in Civitan through the decades. Bill Buscher, Civitan International's 90th President, installed Harold Connell (*middle row right*) as the club's 2011-12 president along with the other club officers. Larry White (*bottom row left*) was named as Civitan of the Year, while Janis and Steve Cox were named as Citizens of the Year (*bottom row right*). Members were provided dinner music by Donal Chandler, a member of The Arc of Sedgwick County's Pride Performers.



**CONGRATULATIONS,
 WICHITA
 CIVITANS!**

TWIN LAKES CIVITAN CLUB CELEBRATES THE BEGINNING

By Crystal Hickman, Secretary and Publicity/PR/Newsletter Committee Chair, Twin Lakes Civitan



The Twin Lakes Civitan Club is beginning its first year of community service.

The new club in the Heartland District, Charter Number 3978, was officially chartered on July 28, 2011 and the charter banquet was held August 12, 2011. The mayor, Dave Osman, spoke and welcomed the great organization and local chartered club to the city of Mountain Home. Norma Pew, on behalf of Teresia Cunningham, Area 3 Director, performed the initiation of charter members and installation of charter officers. Ken Ellis, Heartland District Governor, presented the charter to the Twin Lakes Civitan President, Leguatia Foster, and also spoke to welcome the new club to Civitan.

This bright new club would like to thank their guests and the Civitan representatives for the warm welcome and words of encouragement. Also, thank you to the Paragould Club builders for sponsoring

the charter of a new club successfully. The Club Builders are Kassie Phillips, Blake Phillips, and Certified Club Builders Angie Huffine and Joyce Walton, MST. Their first club President is LeQuita Foster, MST.

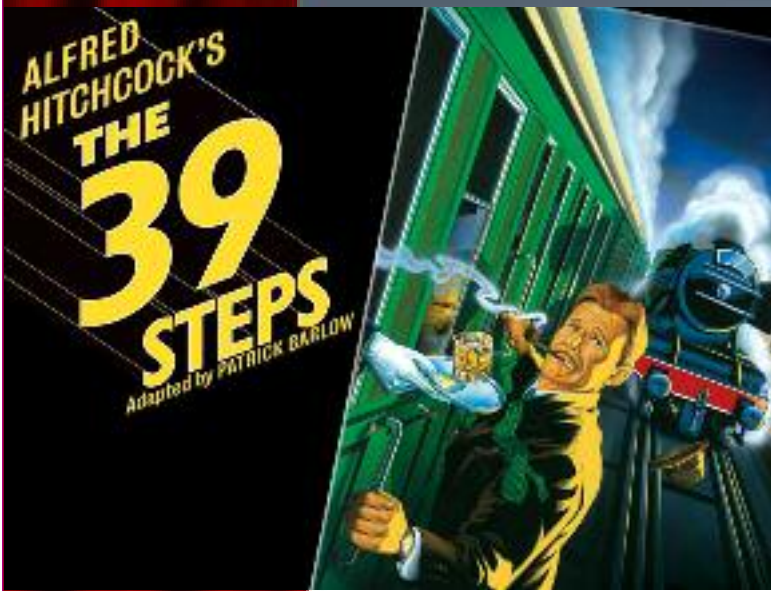
The Twin Lakes Civitan club is ready to make a difference by building good citizenship.



CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT:
 Governor Ken Ellis with some of the charter members. • Secretary Crystal Hickman speaking on behalf of congratulation and donation letters • Newly-installed officers • Norma Pew with member initiation • Some of the charter members



Twin Lakes Civitan Club
 Post Office Box 1613
 Mountain Home, Arkansas 72653
 Email: crittergsa@gmail.com



CIVITAN NIGHT AT THE REP

By Fred S. Norman—
Photos by Keith Dover

Several clubs in the central Arkansas area and members of the Heartland District worked together with the Arkansas Repertory Theatre to host an entertaining fundraising event on Tuesday, June the 14th. Fred Norman, chair person of the event, organized the preparation and service of delicious appetizers for the ticket holders.

The Theatre offered the play "39 Steps," a witty and thrilling mystery of spies and fugitives, written by John Buchan and Charles Bennet and popularized by Alfred Hitchcock in his 1935 film of the same name. The play was adapted for the stage by Patrick Barlow and very well received by all and

talked about favorably during intermission. We enjoyed seeing each other and welcoming one of our newest clubs, Maumelle Civitan Club, into our family as they also helped host the evening. Silent auction items were available in the lobby offered by the various clubs. Greatest distance traveled was the Hot Springs Civitan Club.

The event was promoted in a live on-air segment of "Daybreak" on KATV-7 and well-attended. They hope to do another event like this in the future.



Lemons Pay Off for Starlight Civitans in Tuesdays in the Park

Starlight Civitans used lemons, water, sugar and hot summer days for a recipe for fundraising. They made \$248.28 selling popcorn and lemonade over four Tuesdays in June. Thanks to everyone for their help! Following the last Tuesday they went out to celebrate afterwards. (Possibly to drink something besides lemonade.)



Paragould Civitans go where the auction is!

The Paragould Civitan Club's 22nd Annual Auction was a big success this year. Over 200 businesses participate with donations and services. There were over 50 volunteers that helped both nights during the auction.

This is their club's biggest fundraiser and it takes a lot of time from their volunteers to make it a success. And a success it was— they raised over \$12,000. Be sure to let the businesses know we appreciated them. Thank you everyone who had a part in making it such a success.



Bartlesville SunFest

On June 3-5 Bartlesville Civitans participated in Oklahoma's biggest outdoor picnic, SunFest. Now in its 29th year, the annual arts and entertainment festival includes food and refreshments, games for all ages and an eye-popping car show. Below are some pix of just a few of the Civitans who lent a hand.



HEARTLAND DISTRICT CONVENTION

PHOTOS BY KEITH DOVER

For more photos visit [www.http://www.civitan.org/heartland/photoalbums.html](http://www.civitan.org/heartland/photoalbums.html)



HEARTLANDERS KICKIN' IT IN THE **Big Easy!**

*"All goin' crazy,
while jammin'
and havin' fun!"*



Have any photos from the 2011 Civitan International Convention in New Orleans? Share 'em with your fellow Civitans! Send to David Overton at david@overtondesign.net for inclusion on our website!