



Mauldin Civitan Club

P.O Box 1068
Mauldin, SC 29662

Vol. 1

May 16, 2017

Issue 17

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NEXT MEETING

Mauldin Cultural Center
May 18, 2017 @ 6:00pm

Dues

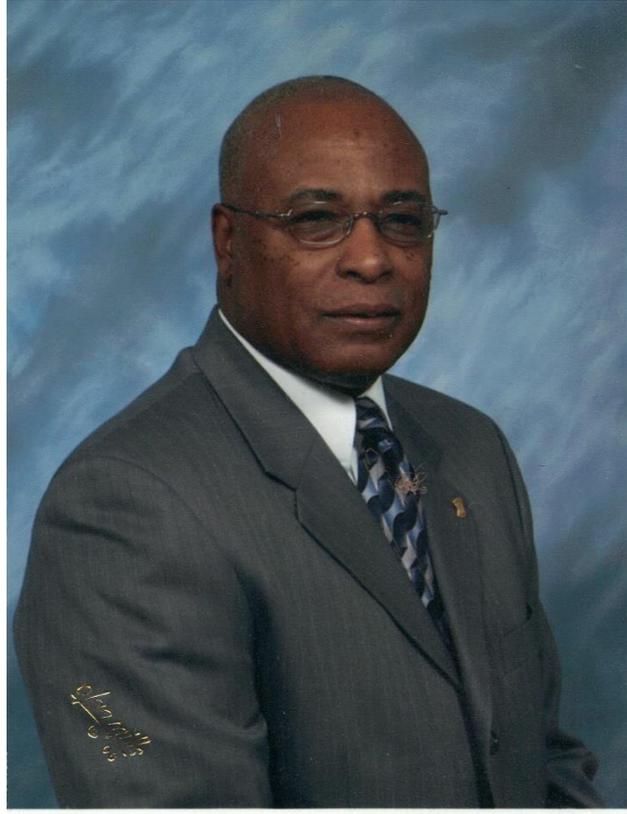
Membership Dues for
April, May, June may
be mailed to:

P.O Box 1068
Mauldin, SC 29662

South Carolina District Meeting @ Our Savior Luther Church, West Columbia, SC May 13, 2017



Mauldin Civitan members that attended were: *Sharon Thomas, Jimmy DuRante, Barbara Angle, Allen Chavis, Anna Smith, Lara Boggs and Belita Broadus*



President's Message

Our next meeting is a recruitment meeting. I hope you will do your very best to invite a guest to attend. I know some of you may be uncomfortable talking about Civitan. I wanted to reprint information from one of our brochure on how you can promote Civitan.

"What is Civitan? The first step in preparation to Talk Civitan is to develop a quick description about Civitan. Below are three sample elevator speeches to help you develop one for yourself. Basically, it is your response if you get in an elevator on the first floor and someone looks at your lapel pin and asks "What is Civitan?" Civitan is a community service organization made up of clubs. Each club operates locally with volunteer members giving their time to make their community a better place to live. Our club offers members the opportunity to make a difference. You should join our ranks. I would be glad to take you to our club's next meeting or better yet our next project. Civitan is a club of volunteers meeting local needs in the

community. Our club works with youth, senior citizens, and people with developmental disabilities. Our next meeting is Thursday. You should attend and learn more about how we impact our community. Our speaker is . . . Civitan is a way to improve the lives of others in our community while we enrich our own lives. We are volunteers meeting local community needs. We are most known for our work that helps people with developmental disabilities. Our club meets next week. I would like you to visit as my guest.”

Please take the time to put the above guidelines for promoting our practice.

I am extremely proud of each of you for the outstanding work we are doing in the community. Special thanks is giving to each of you who took the time to give or walk with March Dimes. As we celebrate our first year a club together. Let us all remain true to our Civitan Creed.

Yours in Civitan,

Jimmy DuRante

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.



South Carolina District



Quality Achievement Award 2015-2016

Congratulations! Thank You! Thank You!!

YOU, and YOU, and YOU, Civitans of South Carolina, earned Civitan International Quality Achievement Award. YOU excelled in criteria of Honor Club, Membership, and Foundation Donations.

8 of 17 clubs made *Honor Club*:
Chester, Columbia, Dutch Fork, Greenville, Hilton Head, Myrtle Beach, Sunrise, and Walterboro.



Greenville and Myrtle Beach were further recognized as *Honor Club of Distinction*; Walterboro achieved *Gold Circle status* and earned *Honor Club of Excellence*.

10 of 17 clubs represented at 2016 International Convention.

You Built 3 New Clubs: Lancaster Civitan Club, Mauldin Civitan Club, and Myrtle Beach Middle School Junior Civitan Club.

Existing Club Growth approached 4%. Overall Net Growth was 12.2%.

You earned *Navigator level* in *Civitans at the Helm*.



South Carolina District 2015-2016 Civitan International Award Honorees



1st Place, *Outstanding District Website*, Steve Doudoukjian, Webmaster

1st Place *Outstanding New Club*, Hilton Head, Mark Yarbrough, President, Beth Doudoukjian, President-elect

3rd Place *Outstanding Awareness Project*, Greater Charleston, Virginia Moore, President

Honorable Mention, *Dr. Courtney W. Stropshire Outstanding Club Award*, Greenville, Belita Broadus, President



Save the Dates

JUNE / [Red Shoe Society Plane Pull](#): Saturday, June 3rd at the Greenville Downtown Airport. Details below!

AUGUST / One Night One Shirt: Friday, August 18th at the Greenville Drive

Stay tuned for this year's shirt design and details on how to get involved.

Happy Birthday!

Rodney Neely

May 9

5/18, Our guest speaker, **Mr. Shannon Piller**, will speak on the topic below:



Human trafficking arrives in Greenville

Greenville County sheriff's deputy and human trafficking investigator Shannon Piller said human trafficking has arrived in Greenville, and it "comes in so many different forms."

Greenville County had five cases last year where suspects were charged for human trafficking, Piller said, and he is actively investigating other cases. Based on that number, human trafficking may not appear to be a big problem in Greenville, but many cases are either misidentified as something else or go unreported, he said.

“I think there’s a significant amount of victims in Greenville, and the challenge is identifying them,” Piller said. Educating the public and law enforcement to know what to look for is important, he said.

Tricia Ravenhorst, a lawyer and victim advocate with South Carolina Victim Assistant Network (SCVAN), said she is often asked, “What is trafficking? What does it look like?”

State and national experts say human trafficking can be forced labor or sex trafficking. According to the U.S. State Department, signs of human trafficking victimization can include: someone living with an employer, multiple people in a cramped space, the inability to speak to an individual alone, scripted or rehearsed answers, or someone who appears submissive or fearful.

“If you don’t have a victim who will cooperate, it is very difficult to bring a conviction.”

Greenville County sheriff’s deputy and human trafficking investigator Shannon Piller

Ravenhorst said several years ago she didn’t have any human trafficking cases, but she now receives calls weekly about possible trafficking incidences. Part of her job is educating law enforcement on what to look for in human trafficking cases, she said.

Greenville law enforcement is tackling the crime proactively before it grows, Piller said. He compared it to gangs and meth labs that weren’t seen as major problems when they started cropping up but are now serious concerns in the area. A major hub of human trafficking, especially in the Southeast, is nearby in Atlanta, he said.

When charging a human trafficker, Piller said the victim’s willingness to testify becomes crucial. “If you don’t have a victim who will cooperate, it is very difficult to bring a conviction,” he said.

Many times trafficking victims won’t testify because they believe the trafficker loves them, they depend on him or her for financial support, or they fear criminal charges against themselves.

One common misconception about trafficking victims is that they are always female. “I wish we would start acknowledging the fact that boys are the victims of sex trafficking,” he said.

Community efforts

The recent push to stop human trafficking nationwide is driven largely by community grassroots efforts to educate the public of the reality of the problem, Ravenhorst said. “At first those people were dismissed as crazy,” but now the public is much more aware, she said.

**Human
Trafficking
Hotline**

1-888-373-7888

Human trafficking:
the act of recruiting,
harboring, transporting,
providing or obtaining a
person for compelled labor
or commercial sex acts through
the use of force, fraud or coercion.

Source: U.S. State Department

Mallory Charette,
co-founder of
Operation
Freedom

Awareness, said in
an email, “[A]fter
speaking face-to-
face with hundreds
of individuals in
the community, we
have realized a
larger percentage
of this community
does not know the
signs, and does not
know how to
report it.”

Piller said people should call 911, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-3737-888, or 23-CRIME if they suspect the crime. “I would just stress that they call someone and don’t ignore even a small clue or suspicion.”

The creation of the state’s Human Trafficking Task Force in 2012 by the Attorney General’s Office greatly aided community groups in connecting with each other and educating the public, said Leslie Christ, executive director of Hopewood Haven, a shelter for women trafficking victims. She said fundraising and outreach “efforts are starting to work together largely because of the task force.”

Christ said she is now more easily able to connect with organizations looking for shelter for victims.

Stephanie Johnson, founder of Switch, said seven out of nine of the victims her group has worked with are currently being trafficked or were trafficked as a child. Trafficking is common at strip clubs, where pimps will drop off women and tell them to make a certain commission, she said. If the women don’t make enough money, many times the pimps physically abuse them.

Switch representatives go on regular outreaches to befriend victims and help them out of the trafficking industry, Johnson said. Part of that outreach involves talking to men and youth about how watching pornography or going to strip clubs helps fuel the sex trafficking industry.

Johnson said one the most rewarding parts of the outreach she does was seeing one the oldest victims that the group has helped attend college to study to work in the medical field. “The Lord is doing something mighty and has a lot of things in the works,” she said.

More information on human trafficking and outreach:

polarisproject.org

switchsc.org

ofamission.com

hopewoodhaven.com

Save the Date

July 23-26, 2018

*Mauldin Civitan Club Sponsors Bus Trip to
Hampton, Norfolk, Virginia Beach Virginia*

**\$550 person (\$50 nonrefundable deposit
to secure spot by December 1, 2017)**

\$500 balance due by April 2, 2018

Trip Includes:

- 1. Round Trip chartered bus**
- 2. (3) nights Hampton Embassy Suites Hotel accommodations (2 double beds per room)**
- 3. (3) buffet breakfasts Hampton Embassy Suites Hotel**
- 4. (3) Managers Reception Hampton Embassy Suites Hotel (includes hors d'oeuvre, 2 alcoholic beverages)**
- 5. Captain Georges Restaurant**
- 6. Spirit of Norfolk dinner cruise**
- 7. Nassau/Langley Museum**
- 8. Virginia Beach/Shopping**

Please contact Sharon Thomas Cell: 757-620-6068

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