



# BEAVER TALES



Canada District West  
Region 5



## C.D.W. Board

### Governor

Pat McKinney

### Governor Elect

T.B.D.

### Immediate Past Governor

Pauline Blackwell

### Past Governor Director

Norma Johnston  
Agincourt, Barrie,  
Don Mills, Halton,  
Kawartha Lakes

### Area Directors

Marlyne Van Exan  
Dundas, Midland,  
Oakville, London

### District Secretary

Cathy Dunn

### District Treasurer

Sue Gibson

### Judge Advocate

Lyle Armstrong

**People helping  
Clubs stay  
united!**

## Governor's Message



Hello fellow Civitans,

As spring is approaching it's time to start thinking of our Spring Convention which will take place May 4<sup>th</sup>. The theme for the convention is "All things Canadian."

This year's spring convention will be extra special as Mary Luck from Civitan Headquarters will be attending. Many of you know Mary from her many years of organizing and attending both Sno Do and Dance-a-Thon. Mary has been a long-time friend to many Canadian Civitans.

To date no one has put their name forward to run for any positions at our Spring Convention. We desperately need people to step forward for Governor Elect, Area Director and Past Governor Director. If no one is willing to put their name forth how is this District going to survive. If necessary, I will stay on one more year as Governor but that's it, and I hope it won't be necessary. **We need a Governor-Elect or is this the end of our DISTRICT!**

This year's board of Directors has worked very hard on the proposed by-laws. Lyle has sent the link to members of CDW to view them online and they will need to be voted on at the Spring Convention. We only have until October 18, 2024 to review, update and file our governing documents with the Ontario Government.

A special thank you to both Lyle Armstrong and Sue Gibson for their part in updating the bylaws (to conform with ONCA). The board is now working on updating the polices which hopefully will be ready for presentation in the fall. A special thank you to Board of Canada District West for all the hard work and extra time this board has put into working on both the bylaws and polices.

Stay Safe and if I don't see you before, hopefully you'll be at the Spring Convention.

Pat McKinney  
Governor 2023/24



hurry up Spring!



# THINGS TO PONDER



## Don't Forget

Send your club rosters to Civitan International as well as C.D.W. Treasurer and Communications Chair.

Please include: name, address, phone number & email address.

Please make sure for new members you include the date they joined your club so that their tenure can be recorded.

Sue Gibson: susan\_gibson@rogers.com  
Lyle Armstrong: wekndr@rogers.com

**DUE MARCH 15, 2024**

*“The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity. The fears are paper tigers. You can do anything you decide to do. You can act to change and control your life; and the procedure, the process is its own reward.” —Amelia Earhart*

If Canada District West is going to survive



to put your name forward for Governor- Elect

*“If it scares you, it might be a good thing to try.” —Seth Godin*

If Canada District West is going to survive

WE NEED YOU!



to put your name forward for Area Director or  
Past Governor Director



EVP Mark Eisinger surrounded by the staff at Civitan International Headquarters.

*You can do more than you think*

*Every single person has leadership ability. Some step up and take them. Some don't. My answer was to step up and lead. Wilma Mankiller*



**CLUB ELECTIONS**

**CLUB SECRETARIES: "LETS TRY FOR PERFECT"**

Each year there are always some mistakes in the District Directory.  
**LETS ELIMINATE THE MISTAKES!**

- 1) Please print neatly or type when you are filling out the "REPORT OF CIVITAN CLUB OFFICERS"
- 2) Have each officer verify their information.
- 3) Deadline is July 1st but the sooner the information is received by Civitan International and your Directory Editor the sooner they can begin their jobs.

Together ...



... We Can



**PLEASE REMEMBER: to send your roster list to Civitan International as well as our District Treasurer Sue Gibson by March 15.**

**“The best honour you can give to anyone  
Is to show respect for their time.”**

Why not honour someone in you club  
with either a Century Award or a Fellow  
(A tax receipt will be given to the recipient)

Contact: AWARDS TRUSTEE (CIFOC)  
Darlene Lambert  
380 Mackay St #118  
Pembroke ON K8A 1C9  
(613) 735-6069  
Email: darlenelambert377@gmail.com

# START PLANNING TO ATTEND

## The May 4th Spring Convention in Midland, ON Where we will be celebrating "ALL THINGS CANADIAN"

Those of you who plan on attending Friday evening will start off the celebration of "All Things Canadian" and this will carry over to Saturday.

Midland Civitan Club is already hard at work in their plans to make this a great convention.

Start planning to attend and brush up on your knowledge of Canada (Just saying)

Hotel: Hampton Inn by Hilton Midland ON

Phone: 705-540-9425

Room Rate: \$169.00 per night Be sure to mention Civitan to get this rate.



**MARY LUCK** from  
**CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL**  
is attending our May 4<sup>th</sup>  
**SPRING CONVENTION**



Registration Form for the One Day District Convention  
Saturday May 4, 2024  
Midland Curling Club  
474 King Street, Midland, ON L4R 4L3  
905 564 8500 ext 5305



Host Club: Midland Civitan Club. Theme: "Everything Canadian"

First Person  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Civitan Y/N \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Delegate Y/N \_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

District/Club Office \_\_\_\_\_ Past Governor Y/N \_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first Convention Y/N \_\_\_ JR Civitan Y/N \_\_\_ Home Club \_\_\_\_\_

Second Person  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Civitan Y/N \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Delegate Y/N \_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

District/Club Office \_\_\_\_\_ Past Governor Y/N \_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first Convention Y/N \_\_\_ JR Civitan Y/N \_\_\_ Home Club \_\_\_\_\_

Early Bird Full Registration Fee is \$ 80.00 per person available for registrations post marked up to April 15TH, 2024.

Any registration postmarked after that date the fee will increase to \$ 90.00. All registrations must be post marked no later than April 25th, 2024 to be accepted for attendance.

Registration fee includes Saturday morning light breakfast #1 (08:00 to 9:00 hours), Business Meeting coffee break, lunch (cafeteria style) and buffet banquet Saturday evening.

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

All hotel reservations must be made directly with the Hampton by Hilton, 877 King Street, Midland L4R 0B7. The hotel phone numbers is: 705-540-9425. Room Rates King Bed: \$ 169.00 + Tax per night, 2 Queen 169.00 + taxes per night , state that you are with Civitan , booking code CIL Room rate is not guaranteed after April 3, 2024.

Please make your cheque payable to: Civitan, Canadian District West  
Mail your completed registration to: Treasurer Sue Gibson  
52 Boullee St.  
London, Ont. N5Y 1T6

## BG's Positively Speaking

### Staying On Track

There will be a time when we come face to face with the day-to-day decision making that is part of our lives. A time when the course we set for our life is no longer taking us where we set out to go. Just as a ship gets pushed off course by the wind and currents, so does our life and, just like that ship, we need to make course corrections. At this point you may realize that you need to make adjustments in order to reach your chosen destination. You are wondering how to get back on track, to reset your course and end up where you want to be.

Here are a few guidelines that can help you get yourself back on track again:

- Get a pad and pen and on the left of the sheet write a list of the "Things I Want".
- Then on the right-hand side write out a list of the "Things I Do Not Want".
- Under the left "I Want" column make a list of "What I Have To Do To Get What I Want"
- Then under the "Do Not Want" column "What I have To Stop Doing To Get What I want"

Now analyze the lists, prioritize each list down to the four or five most important items of each list. Don't worry about the items that are not at the top, they should fall by the wayside as you deal with the priorities you set. The answer to keeping on track is contained within those priorities, FOCUS IN on them, ACT on them and you will soon find you are back on track. This exercise should be undertaken at least once every year, preferably twice.

## BG's Positively Speaking

### The "Glue" Of Success

If we break down the meaning of the word "success" into its simplest form, it would be "a good idea well executed." Success, however, is complex. It contains several elements that need to work together for success. These elements include persistence, a positive attitude, hard work, patience, and a willingness to fail and to change. These elements need something else, the "glue" that binds them together.

Have you ever noticed that the successful people you meet are enthusiastic? Their enthusiasm is not confined to work or their profession; it extends to everything they encounter. Could there be a connection between their enthusiasm and their success? Of course, there is! Enthusiastic people create a positive space around them, an atmosphere of success. Enthusiasm creates excitement, and people can achieve great things when they get excited. Enthusiasm is the "Glue" that makes success possible.

We are all capable of inspiring others by being enthusiastic (excited). We've all experienced or heard of the excitement at a concert, sporting event or other large gathering. "The air was filled with an electric charge" or "There was a feeling of excitement in the gathering" are often used to describe the feeling. This feeling is infectious and will spread to those around. Anyone who has attended a major event or has listened to a great speaker can certainly vouch for that.

You can learn how to excite those around you by taking some simple steps:

- Always be positive, never negative.
- Speak a little louder.
- Walk a little faster.
- Keep your head up and eyes forward.
- Enjoy life and take part in it.
- Show your enthusiasm.

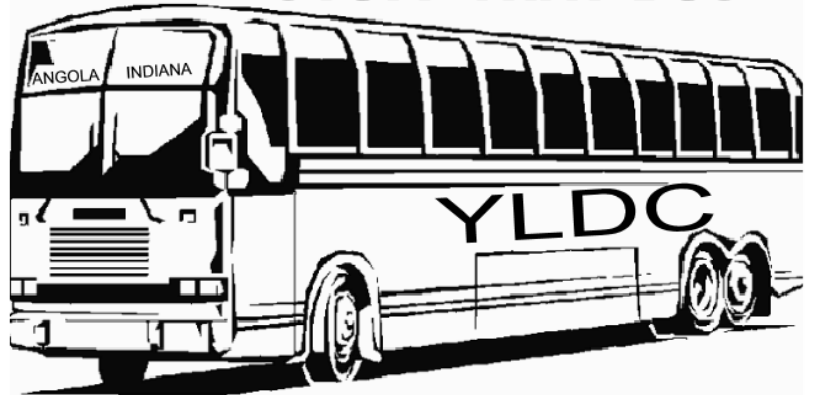
**Get 'excited' and 'success' will stick to you!**

## ***Civitan Youth Leadership and Diversity Conference***

**WHERE:** Trine University, Angola, Indiana  
**WHEN:** July 8<sup>th</sup>- July 13<sup>th</sup>

*Details will be sent to clubs when they become available*

### **CIVITAN LETS: STUFF THAT BUS**



# It's Back

Y.L.D.C.  
2024

**TIME TO START  
PLANNING  
AND FILL THAT BUS**

### **IF YOUR CLUB IS NOT SENDING SOMEONE CONSIDER SPONSORING**

While they strive to keep the price of YLDC as affordable as it can be, some delegates require financial assistance to make conference possible. By sponsoring a delegate, you are ensuring that economic status does not keep them from having an incredible, life-changing experience that will push them to become the best leader that they can be.

### **STAFF**

**The staff are volunteers that come from across North America to deliver an incredible, life-changing experience for each delegate.**



### **Canadian District West**

Canada District West is proud that Civitan Tracy who is a high school teacher from Waterdown, Ontario is part of the staff at YLDC. Tracy is YLDC's Programming Director and has been on the staff for over 17 years.

# CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION & TICKETS

Registration Type	Includes	Price BEFORE June 15 (Early Bird Discount)	Price AFTER June 15
<b>In-Person Full Event Package</b>	All General Sessions, Educational Workshops, Voting, Welcome Reception, Closing Ceremonies & Installation Banquet	\$295.00 USD	\$320.00
<b>In-Person Convention Only</b>	All General Sessions, Educational Workshops, Voting	\$195.00 USD	\$220.00
<b>Special Event Individual Tickets</b>	Welcome Reception and/or Closing Banquet Individual Tickets	\$50.00 (Welcome) \$75.00 (Closing)	\$60.00 (Welcome) \$90.00 (Closing)
<b>Virtual Participant – Full Package</b>	All General Sessions Livestream, Elections Results, Voting	\$80.00 USD	\$90.00
<b>Virtual Participant – Partial Package</b>	First Business Session Livestream, Elections Results, Voting	\$50.00 USD	\$60.00

## 2024 TENTATIVE EVENTS & GENERAL SCHEDULE



THE 104TH ANNUAL CIVITAN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

**TOGETHER**  
*we soar.*

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO  
AUGUST 4-7, 2024



TOGETHER WE SERVE. TOGETHER WE LEARN. TOGETHER WE GROW. TOGETHER WE FELLOWSHIP. TOGETHER WE SOAR.

Sunday, August 4	Monday, August 5	Tuesday, August 6	Wednesday, August 7
Breakthru Golf Benefit	First Business Session	Philanthropy Session	Walk & Roll for Research
Opening Ceremonies	Voting	Educational Workshops	Educational Workshops
Welcome Reception	Educational Workshops	International Service Project	Closing Ceremonies & Installation Banquet
	Membership Extravaganza		

## HOTEL INFORMATION

Embassy Suites by Hilton Albuquerque  
1000 Woodward Place NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87102 US

Civitan Special Rate: \$159.00 per night\*

\*includes hot breakfast and manager's afternoon reception





# Spaghetti Pie

## Ingredients

### For Ricotta Cheese Layer

- 2/3 cup ricotta cheese
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese
- ½ teaspoon salt

### For Spaghetti Crust

- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 large egg
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 6 ounces dry gluten-free spaghetti, cooked  
(according to instructions)

### For Toppings

- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1/3 cup diced seeded green bell pepper
- ¼ pound ground chicken
- 1 cup marinara sauce
- ½ cup grated mozzarella cheese



## Directions

### To Make Ricotta Cheese Layer

-In a small bowl, combine Ricotta Cheese layer ingredients

### To Make Spaghetti Crust

-In a large bowl, combine butter, egg, Parmesan and salt. Add drained, cooled cooked spaghetti to bowl. Stir to combine. Set aside.

### To Make Toppings

-In a medium skillet over medium heat, heat olive oil 30 seconds. Add onion and bell pepper and cook 3 minutes until onion are translucent. Add chicken and stir-fry until no longer pink, about 5 minutes.

### To Put Spaghetti Pie Together

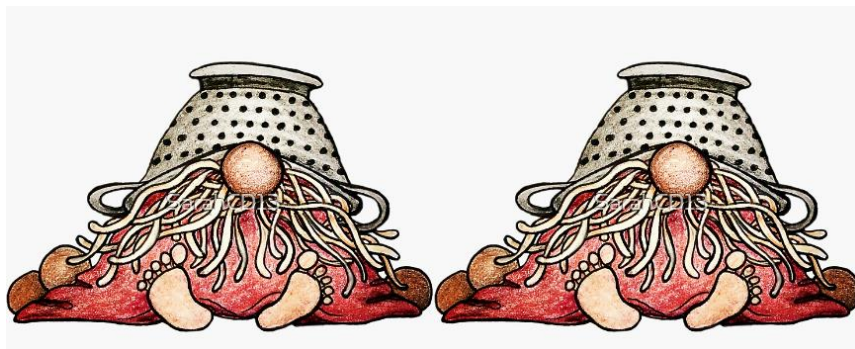
-Preheat air fryer at 350F for 3 minutes.

-Gently press spaghetti into a 7" spring form pan lightly greased with preferred cooking oil. Spread ricotta mixture evenly on top. Top with toppings mixture followed by marinara sauce.

-Place springform pan in air fryer basket. Cook 10 minutes.

-Spread mozzarella cheese evenly on top. Cook an additional 4 minutes.

Transfer pan to a cutting board and let rest 20 minutes. Once Set, release sides of springform pan. Slice and serve pie.



# Strawberry Heaven on Earth Cake! 🍓🍰

## Ingredients:

### For the Cake:

- 1 box white cake mix
- 1 small box strawberry-flavored instant gelatin mix

1 cup vegetable oil

1/2 cup milk

4 large eggs

1/2 cup sour cream

For the Cream Filling:

1 cup heavy cream

1/2 cup powdered sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

For the Strawberry Topping:

2 cups sliced fresh strawberries

1/4 cup granulated sugar



### Instructions:

- 1 Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C). Grease and flour two 9-inch round cake pans.
- 2 In a large mixing bowl, blend the cake mix, strawberry gelatin mix, vegetable oil, milk, eggs, and sour cream until well combined.
- 3 Evenly distribute the batter between the prepared cake pans, smoothing the tops.
- 4 Bake for 25-30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.
- 5 Allow the cakes to cool in the pans for 10 minutes before transferring them to a wire rack to cool completely.
- 6 For the cream filling, whip together the heavy cream, powdered sugar, and vanilla extract until stiff peaks form.
- 7 For the strawberry topping, toss the sliced strawberries with the granulated sugar. Let sit for a few minutes to macerate.
- 8 Once the cakes are completely cooled, spread the cream filling over the top of one cake layer. Place the second cake layer on top.
- 9 Arrange the macerated strawberries and their juices over the top layer of the cake.
- 10 Slice and serve your divine Strawberry Heaven on Earth Cake, a perfect blend of fluffy cake, creamy filling, and juicy strawberries. Enjoy this heavenly dessert!

Enjoy Enjoy Enjoy





## Gender Assignment?

1. **Ziploc Bags**- They are Male, because they hold everything in, but you can see right through them.
2. **Copiers**- They are Female, because once turned off, it takes a while to warm them up again. It's an effective reproductive device if the right buttons are pushed, but can wreak havoc if the wrong buttons are pushed.
3. **Tire**- Male, because it goes bald and it's often over-inflated.
4. **Hot Air Balloon**- Male, because, to get it to go anywhere, you have to light a fire under it, and of course, there's the hot air part.
5. **Sponges**- Female, because they're soft, squeezable and retain water.
6. **Web Page**- Female, because it's always getting hit on.
7. **Subway**- Male, because it uses the same old lines to pick people up.
8. **Hourglass**- Female, because over time, the weight shifts to the bottom.
9. **Hammer**- Male, because it hasn't changed much over the last 5,000 years, but it's handy to have around.
10. **Remote Control**- Female..... Ha! You thought it'd be male. But consider this-it gives a man pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't always know the right buttons to push, he keeps trying.

## One Liners

I have a few jokes about unemployed people, but none of them work.

I failed math so many times at school, I can't even count.

Blunt pencils are really pointless.

6:30 is the best time on a clock, hands down.

Two wifi engineers got married, the reception was fantastic.

The man who invented Velcro has died. RIP.

The rotation of Earth really makes my day.

I can tell when people are being judgmental just by looking at them.

It takes a lot of balls to golf the way I do.

Adam and Eve were the first on to ignore the Apple terms and conditions.

The man who invented knock-knock jokes should get a no bell prize.

Most people are shocked when they find out how bad I am as an electrician.

The man who survived both mustard gas and pepper spray is a seasoned veteran now.

My wife told me to stop impersonating a flamingo. I had to put my foot down.

How do koala bears stop a TV show? They hit the paws button.

A lie does not become truth,  
a wrong does not become  
a right, and evil does not  
become good just because  
the majority accepts it.



# A New Day Dawning

Hosanna  
Choir



Herman den Hollander  
| Director |



Ryan Vandenberg  
| Organist |



Naomi Noorduyn  
| Pianist |



Andre Knevel  
| Organist |



Mattaniah Christian  
Male Choir



Scott Harrison  
Brass & Percussion Ensemble

FirstOntario Concert Hall  
1 Summers Lane, Hamilton, Ontario

Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets available for \$25 and \$35 each

Call: (905) 628 1211

Email: [orders@hosanna-choir.org](mailto:orders@hosanna-choir.org)

Online: [www.hosanna-choir.org](http://www.hosanna-choir.org)

Find us on Facebook & Instagram: **Hosanna Choir Dundas**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**LIVE**  
ENTERTAINMENT



*A familiar face, first  
in the front row.*

Bruce Davey is  
Part of the  
Mattaniah  
Christian Male  
Choir.



*Third from right is  
Bruce Davey*



**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!** **TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!** **TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!** **TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!**



## Clearing a Space for Change

*We hold onto material objects because we think they make us feel secure when in reality they are cluttering our lives.*

In life, we tend to have an easier time acquiring possessions than we do getting rid of them. Just as we harbor emotional baggage that is difficult to let go of, our lives can tend to be filled with material objects that we may feel compelled to hold on to. Most people are not conscious of how much they own and how many of their possessions are no longer adding value to their life. They fiercely hold on to material objects because this makes them feel secure or comfortable. While it's true that the ownership of "stuff" can make you feel good for a while, it seldom satisfies the deep inner longings that nearly everyone has for fulfillment and satisfaction. It is only when we are ready to let go of our baggage and be vulnerable that it becomes possible to recognize the emotional hold that our possessions can have on us.

It's not uncommon to hold on to material objects because we are attached to them or fear the empty spaces that will remain if we get rid of them. Giving away the souvenirs from a beloved voyage may feel like we are erasing the memory of that time in our life. We may also worry that our loved ones will feel hurt if we don't keep the gifts they've given us. It's easy to convince ourselves that unused possessions might come in handy someday or that parting with them will cause you emotional pain. However, when your personal space is filled with objects, there is no room for anything new to enter and stay in your life. Your collection of belongings may "protect" you from the uncertainties of an unknown future while keeping you stuck in the past. Holding on to unnecessary possessions often goes hand in hand with holding on to pain, anger, and resentment, and letting go of your material possessions may help you release emotional baggage.

When you make a conscious decision to fill your personal space with only the objects that you need or that bring you joy, your energy level will soar. Clearing your personal space can lead to mental clarity and an improved memory. As you learn to have a more practical and temporary relationship with objects, positive changes will happen, and you'll have space to create the life that you desire.





## Doing for Others

*In doing service for others, we often find answers to our own questions and solutions to our own problems.*

When we feel bad, often our first instinct is to isolate ourselves and focus on what's upsetting us. Sometimes we really do need some downtime, but many times the best way to get out of the blues quickly is to turn our attention to other people. In being of service to others, paradoxically, we often find answers to our own questions and solutions to our own problems. We also end up feeling more connected to the people around us, as well as empowered by the experience of helping someone.

When we reach out to people we can help, we confirm that we are not alone in our need for support and inspiration, and we also remind ourselves that we are powerful and capable in certain ways. Even as our own problems or moods get the better of us sometimes, there is always someone else who can use our particular gifts and energy to help them out. They, in turn, remind us that we are not the only people in the world with difficulties or issues. We all struggle with the problems of life, and we all feel overwhelmed from time to time, but we can almost always find solace in service.

In the most ideal situation, the person we are helping sheds light on our own dilemma, sometimes with a direct piece of advice, and sometimes without saying anything at all. Sometimes just the act of getting our minds out of the obsessive mode of trying to figure out what to do about our own life does the trick. Many great inventors and artists have found that the inspiration they need to get to the next level in their work comes not when they're working but when they're walking around the block or doing dishes. We do ourselves and everyone else a great service when we take a break from our sorrows and extend ourselves to someone in need.



**Canadian District West Junior Civitan**  
Tracy Beck, Chairperson



With only two remaining clubs, we haven't been doing anything as a Junior Civitan district this year but both of our clubs remain very active.

For Remembrance Day, the **Halton Junior Civitan Club** wrote postcards to veterans, as part of the post Postcards for Peace initiative. In December, they participated in the shoebox project where they collected and donated 15 shoeboxes full of supplies to help women who are impacted by homelessness. They recently volunteered at Kerr Street Mission and hosted an after school program for the kids with crafts and games.



For Remembrance Day, the **Dundas Junior Civitan Club** baked and distributed cookies and hot chocolate to those who attended the community ceremony. For the holidays, they volunteered at the Free Christmas Store, made dinner at Mark Preece House, assembled gift bags for teens in the Transitional Housing Program and ran crafts at the Down Syndrome Association party. Once a month, members get together with the teens of DSAH for a teen hangout- games, movies, crafts and pizza, they have so much fun together.



WE ARE SO  
*Proud*  
OF YOU

SO SO  
SO SO  
SO SO  
PROUD  
OF YOU!

Keep up the  
Smiley Face  
Good Work



**Don Mills Civitan  
Dinner Dance and Silent Auction**

This amazing annual event is the club's primary fundraiser and a great opportunity to have some fun and meet people in the community. After a couple of years away we hope to be back this spring in a big way!

*Save the date!*

**Friday April 19th, 2024**

Don Mills Civitan is run entirely by volunteers, so 100% of the money raised goes to support worthy local causes.



**Cost: \$95 Includes Dinner, Open Bar, Dancing, Silent Auction and the time of your life!**

**Donate Items for the Auction**

If you are interested in donating an item to the auction your support is greatly appreciated! Each item should be accompanied by a completed info sheet to describe the item and its approximate value and identify the donor. Contact any one of the club members below to arrange drop or coordination.

**Kevin O'Donnell 416-894-4027**

**Peter MacInnis 416-391-3700**

**Jeff Simpson 416-716-4181**





# Dundas Civitan Club - #3212 President Kelsey George Gaudet

(Alley Cats Special Olympic Bowling Christmas party)



**Area Director Marlyne Van Exan joins members of the Dundas Civitan Club Celebrating the Christmas Season.**



### Civitan "Shout Out"

The New Year often prompts a review of what has passed, things that should be remembered and often, celebrated.

The Dundas District Civitan Club wishes to offer, on behalf of its members, a big THANK YOU to all who donated to our Closet Cleanout Clothing and Fabric Drive and purchased Claxton Christmas Cakes.

Donations go directly to enhance the lives of individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities in our community through attendance at the Dundas Learning Centre Day Program (DLC), Special Olympics sports and other activities of social inclusion.

Our next Clothing Drive will be held on APRIL 6, 2024 at University Plaza, from 9 am until noon.

Stay tuned and start 'packing'! Follow us on Facebook and Happy New Year!

All the very best for 2024.

Dundas Civitan Club  
Martha Fox



*Continued next page*

We recently had the pleasure of inducting four new members into our club. In February, Area Director Marlyne Van Exan joined our president Kelsey Gaudet in conducting their installation. We extend a warm welcome to new Civitans Jean, Melanie and husband Fred, and Marcie.

Back in November, Dean Gagnon, producer and host of the program “Inclusive Radio”, reached out to our club. His show airs weekly on Mohawk College’s campus radio station FM 101.5. As the name suggests, the program promotes inclusiveness, and provides an opportunity for non-profit groups and organizations in the community to become known.

Mr. Gagnon had seen our advertisement for last November’s Cloth Drive in the publication “Coffee News”. In January, he invited Civitan Tom Tustian onto his show to talk about the club and its work in a taped interview. He has also expressed interest in the Dundas Learning Center.

Speaking of cloth drives, we will be hosting another Closet Cleanout on Saturday April 6 from 9am to 12 am, at the University Plaza parking lot located at Osler Drive in Dundas. Bring your used clothing and textiles in clear plastic bags. Proceeds from the event will help support our projects.

Marlyne Van Exan, (Canadian District West Civitan Area Director) and Kelsey Gaudet (Dundas District President) inducted new members at last night’s meeting. Welcome Fred, Melanie and Marcie!



# Halton Civitan Club - #3526 President Marlyne Van Exan

## Christmas Dinner

Members of the Halton Civitan Club enjoyed time to connect and celebrate over Christmas. Our annual potluck dinner was delicious. Besides our club members, we had the pleasure of hosting our Governor Pat McKinny, Civitan Norma and former Civitan Dawn. It was so nice spending time together.



Brenda and Marlyne



Margaret, Norma, Cathy



Pat, Linda

*Good Friends, Good Food, Good Times.*



## Purse Project

After the Christmas party our club we filled 50 purses with essentials like shampoos, toothbrushes, hand cream, socks, pads of paper, soaps, pens and more. These purses were donated to the Halton Women's Centre for distribution to women in need. We'd like to thank Civitan Denise for all of her efforts organizing this project.



## Support for the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre

In recent months, The Halton Civitan Club has noticed an increase need amongst those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity in our community. We have decided to make regular donations of food and essential items in order to support individuals in need. In December we made our second large donation of goods. The organizers of the Centre are very grateful for our ongoing support. Thank you to Civitan Brenda for bringing this very worthy cause to our attention and for spearheading this project.

## Toy Donation

When donating to the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre, we noticed that many young families use the services provided. As it was near Christmas time, our club decided we'd purchase toys for the children, rather than buying gifts for each other. We compiled a substantial amount of toys for children of all ages. Civitan Brenda delivered the toys and reported that the organizers were thrilled. We feel very lucky to be able to support families in this way.



## Kindness Bags

In February, the Halton Civitan completed its third Kindness Bags project. We filled 50 bags with items such as hand cream, lens cleaner, toothpaste, playing cards, pens, pads of paper, emery boards, and toothbrushes. We also purchased several dozen pairs of Posie non-slip socks. These bags will be donated to the Oakville Hospital to be distributed to patients in the Long-Term Care Unit at the Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.

## Ian Anderson House Donations

The Halton Civitan Club has continued to support Ian Anderson House by making monthly donations of essential items. Members continue to bring their donations to our monthly meetings. We'd like to thank Civitan Linda for delivering the items to Ian Anderson House each month.

## Condolences for Doug Guthrie

The Halton Civitan Club would like to offer their condolences to the family of Doug Guthrie, who passed away February 1, after a long stay in the hospital. Doug was a long-time member of Civitan. He chaired the Bingo, Farmer's Market and Cake projects within his Club. He also sat on many other committees and received a Club Honour Key for his dedicated service. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

# London Middlesex Civitan Club - #2383 President Darrell Blackwell

## Happy spring everyone!

It has been a pretty busy couple of months for the London club. The club had a great turn out to the Christmas dance this time with about one hundred clients coming out for pizza and get a candy cane from Santa and his helper.

The club held their tacky Christmas gift exchange while having dinner out at Bernies Bar and Grill in London with almost all the members coming out for the fun.

The club also held their valentines dance for Community Living London on February the 3rd where we had just over one hundred clients come out for donuts and dancing, it was a great evening.



Over 100 dancers were served 12 dozen donuts, pop and coffee. Eight spot dancers were given prizes, and many romantic songs were played by DJ Jay.



The London club is looking forward to the spring convention and we hope to have a group of members heading up to Midland where we know it will be a great time for all of us. It will be nice to see everyone once again for fellowship.

# Midland Civitan Club - #1959 President Mike Tinney

Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 the Midland Civitan Club provided breakfast and lunch at the Midland Curling Club where playoffs were held to see who would move on to the Tankard Provincial Curling Championship. **Congrats** to the two winning Midland teams and coaches Norma and Carroll. The winning team were off to Tillsonburg to compete in January.

On Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup> the Midland Civitan Club and volunteers who worked the Santa Parade got together at Stackers Pancake House for breakfast. President Mike thanked everyone for their part in making this year's event so successful. President Mike and Governor Pat also installed and welcomed Garry into the Midland Civitan Club.

The Midland Civitan Club made donations to the Penetanguishene Legion for \$2,000 towards their new roof campaign as well as donating \$500 to eleven (11) charities for Christmas needs.

On Sunday January 7, the Southwest Tankard qualifier for the Ontario Special Olympics was held at the Tillsonburg Curling Club. Our Midland team played and just came short of their goal coming in second place. The Midland Civitan Club donated \$1500.00 for the team to participate in this event

Governor Pat and President Elect Norma reinstate former member Marg Haskill into the Midland Civitan Club at the January 25, 2024 meeting and hopefully we have another new member on board for the February meeting.

Providing lunch on December 2, 2024



Installing new member Garry



Reinstating member



Continued on next page

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Seasonal weather returned just in time for the 76<sup>th</sup> Winterama Parade which is held in Penetanguishene on Saturday February 17, 2024. This year the theme was Superheroes. Midland Civitan members marched behind Chuffy wearing their Civitan vests. Several Superheroes were in the railway cars that Chuffy was pulling.



Plans are well underway for the Spring May 4<sup>th</sup> convention. This year the theme for the May 4<sup>th</sup> Spring convention is “ALL THINGS CANADIAN” so be sure to brush up on your knowledge of Canada as I’m sure there will be some Canadian Trivia.



The Midland Civitan Club hopes you all plan on attending the May 4<sup>th</sup> Spring Convention here in Midland, ON.

friends  
food &   
fellowship

are part of the agenda!

# Obituaries

## **Daniel "Danny" Gentry Jackson**

**March 12, 1951 – January 7, 2024**

Daniel "Danny" Gentry Jackson, age 72 Thompson's Station passed away January 7, 2024. He was born in Nashville, TN to the late F.D. Jackson and Matalene Gentry Jackson. Danny served in the U.S. Army National Guard as well as Coast Guard Reserve. He retired from Metro Government where he spent many years. He was a long-time member of Hillsboro Church of Christ. Danny was a past international president for Civitan International where he made many lifelong connections and memories. Jackson was a member of Civitan International for almost 40 years and was a member of the Green Hills Civitan Club. His Civitan legacy includes serving on the Civitan International Board of Directors in 2004-2006, various club positions and International committees and charging members to "Meet the Challenge" during his presidential term to grow our organization. He was also an enthusiast for Civitan philanthropic efforts, especially the BreakThru Golf Benefit to promote fundraising for the Civitan International Research Center.

Danny is survived by his wife Corine B. Jackson daughter Carrie Jackson (James) Young; granddaughter Alana Ruth Young; sister Pamela J. (Don) Phelan; sister-in-law Lenora B. (Edward) Zahler; brother-in-law John (Linda) Byerley; many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews. A funeral service was held at 11AM Thursday, January 11, 2024 at Williamson Memorial Funeral Home.





# Douglas Guthrie

December 3, 1938 - February 1, 2024



It is with the heaviest of hearts that we announce the passing of beloved husband, father, grandfather and friend, Douglas Guthrie.

Doug passed away peacefully on February 1st at the age of 85.

He will be sadly missed by his wife of 60 years, Jeannine (nee Prévost), his daughter Joanne (Chris), son Steven (Angela) and his grandchildren, Caitlin, Justin, Noah and Jacob.

Doug was pre-deceased by his siblings Jane, Allan and Bobby - and his parents Cecilia and Theodore. Doug was born in Toronto and grew up on the family farm in Port Credit, Mississauga. Life in those days was rural as Mississauga slowly became a larger town and then a city. Stories of mischief with the Guthrie boys and their sister, Jane, were commonplace whenever everyone got together. And of course, with each retelling of a story, events somehow became larger and more elaborate.

In high school Doug attended Gordon Graydon in Mineola and enjoyed school sports, most notably basketball under respected coach, Nick Volpe. Doug credited Coach Volpe many times over the years as not only a mentor but instilling in him a work ethic that would serve Doug well throughout his life.

Following high school Doug attended Ryerson University for engineering. And from there a lifelong career at Interautomation as a systems analyst for large-scale diagnostic equipment on automobile engines.

One of the many projects that Doug worked on saw him travel to Senneterre, a small logging town in Northern Quebec. Doug made the trip to Senneterre many times and it was during one of these work trips that a young waitress in the local restaurant caught his eye. She spoke no English and Doug spoke no French. And even with the language barrier they soon shared a language common to all - Love. The young lady from Senneterre became his wife and for the next 60 years, Jeannine was the light and love of Doug's life.

With Doug's career now firmly in place, the newly growing Guthrie family settled first in Aurora and then to Oakville where Doug and Jeannine raised Joanne and her younger brother, Steven.

Doug enjoyed the simple life and the camaraderie of friends and family. The bungalow on Langdale Cres was home. He enjoyed basketball with the guys at the local public school every Tuesday, backyard bbq's with the neighbours, a Friday night at the local pub for wings and billiards. Well known for those that visited the Guthrie household was Doug's signature cocktail: the Caesar! Still asked for today!

Every summer Doug and Jeannine would take the kids and drive back to Senneterre to enjoy time with Jeannine's family. And with Jeannine now speaking English, she happily served as translator for the

Guthrie and Prévost families over endless games of euchre where Doug was considered a brother - not the brother-in-law.

Back at home the rest of the summer belonged to Doug tending his rose garden and nurtured every year with love and attention. Over time he added tomatoes to his gardening expertise. A simple man with a simple life who liked nothing more than a home cooked meal and a good glass of red wine.

Long-time neighbour and friend Wayne Van Exan encouraged Doug to join the Civitan Club of Oakville, an international volunteer service club with local chapters dedicated to serving people within their communities from purchasing mobility equipment for disabilities, people with special needs and many other worthy initiatives.

For the next 33 Doug years served on a number of Civitan committees as well as a term of Club president. He participated in weekly bingos, the annual fishing derby, golf tournaments and other events.

But perhaps Doug's proudest achievement was, with the help of fellow Civitan members, running the Oakville Civitan Farmer's Market. Beginning at the old Hopedale Mall and continuing today at Dorval Crossing in Oakville, Doug was deeply respected by every vendor as being kind, fair and compassionate.

As we bid farewell to Doug, words that have been spoken by all who knew him can be encapsulated in one phrase; **"Doug was the kindest man I have ever met in my life."**

Doug, you are once again with your brothers and sister. We can only imagine what mischief the four of you are getting into in the grace and peace of Heaven.

**Rest easy, Doug. You are so loved and missed by us all.**

You Don't Just Lose Someone Once —  
You lose them over and over,  
sometimes many times a day.  
When the loss, momentarily forgotten,  
creeps up,  
and attacks you from behind.  
Fresh waves of grief as the realisation hits home,  
they are gone.  
Again.  
You don't just lose someone once,  
you lose them every time you open your eyes to a new dawn,  
and as you awaken,  
so does your memory,  
so does the jolting bolt of lightning that rips into your heart,  
they are gone.  
Again.

Losing someone is a journey,  
not a one-off.  
There is no end to the loss,  
there is only a learned skill on how to stay  
afloat,  
when it washes over.  
Be kind to those who are sailing this stormy sea,  
they have a journey ahead of them,  
and a daily shock to the system each time they  
realise,  
they are gone,  
Again.  
You don't just lose someone once,  
you lose them every day,  
for a lifetime.



# Save the Date



THE EAST WILL BE HOSTING A CONVENTION

For all CIVITANS

IT WILL TAKE PLACE EITHER: SEPTEMBER 13-14  
SEPTEMBER 20-21



Pat McKinney [jmckinney01@rogers.com](mailto:jmckinney01@rogers.com)