

# HEART OF WEST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



April, 2015



**New HOTW Club Charter:** Twisted Stitchers. Chartered February 11, 2015. The club has 34 members so far! The recognized club builders of this new Golden Circle club include Ann McCarty, Teresa Wakeman and Governor, Claudia Allen. Claudia McCoy is the current President. Claudia says, "10% yarn, 90% love!" One of the first projects: Hats! Fifty hats over the first couple of months.

Pictured from left: Ann McCarty, Teresa Wakeman, Marie, Jana, Tamara, Claudia McCoy and Claudia Allen.



Sun City Youngtown Special Activities Center and the Sun City Civitan Club

## District Clubs

Bannock  
Pocatello, Idaho

Civitan Car Club  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Civitan Club on the Greens  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Cresta Loma Golf & Civitan  
Tucson, Arizona

Diverse City  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Friends  
Pocatello, Idaho

Hearts & Hands  
Idaho Falls, Idaho

Helena  
Montana

Henderson  
Nevada

Idaho Falls  
Idaho

Las Vegas  
Nevada

London Bridge  
Lake Havasu City, Arizona

Lovely Ladies  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Metro Phoenix, Inc  
Arizona

Phoenix Bird  
Arizona

Roadrunner, Inc.  
Tucson, Arizona

Sun Cities  
Arizona

The Old Pueblo  
Tucson, Arizona

The Phil Schlesinger  
Tucson, Arizona

Twisted Stitchers  
Pocatello, Idaho

## The Gallery



Kevin and Teresa Wakeman, Riley Glascock, Ann McCarty, Jade Von Schrlitz and Governor, Claudia Allen at Cresta Loma Golf in Carl Mangelsdorf's backyard in Tucson.



Governor, Claudia Allen, Highland Junior Civitan (Pocatello) and area director, Jade Von Schrlitz and Pocatello Junior Civitan Riley Glascock, newly elected Junior Governor.



Lana Turner Homes fundraising dinner in Phoenix

## Officers

**Governor**  
Claudia Allen

**Governor-Elect**  
Ann McCarty

**Immediate Past Governor**  
Bob Everhart

**Elected Past Governor**  
Deborah Maddox

### Directors:

Area 1 –  
Area 2 – Maggie Adams  
Area 3 – Elaine DeFelice  
Area 4 – Mark Kemp  
Area 5 – Alicia Tauscher  
Area 6 – Roger Smart

**Treasurer**  
John Maddox

**Secretary**  
Jennifer Dawson

**Jr Civitan**  
Teresa Wakeman

**Newsletter**  
Connie Doerr

**Webmaster**  
Shayne Spude

**Judge Advocate**  
Don Bergen

**Candy/Coin Box**  
Kevin Wakeman

**Fruitcake Sales**  
Deborah Maddox

## Governor's Message: Claudia Allen

Hello fellow HOTW members!!

I apologize for the delay in getting this quarter's newsletter out. Your Governor has been traveling a lot these last two months as you will see by all the pictures in this newsletter. I am having so much fun meeting new people, seeing all the exciting ways you are all making a difference in your communities and getting and sharing ideas.

I was in Phoenix in February planning our awesome District Convention that will take place August 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites. I am attaching a picture of the hotel, it is beautiful and only \$79 per night double occupancy! They have free breakfast and it is not some boring continental, it is a full made to order menu. Here is the best part, they have a free cocktail hour every night from 5:30 to 7:30!! I told them they were going to go broke with our group. There is a free shuttle from the airport and also a shuttle that will take us to the baseball game Friday night, which will be our fundraiser. The registration is attached with all of the prices. **THE BEST PART IS THAT OUR ILLUSTRIOUS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT, JAY ALBERTIA AND HIS WONDERFUL FAMILY WILL BE JOINING US!!** So please start making plans to be there. Teresa Wakeman will be conducting President and President Elect training so that will save your clubs a lot of money. Nothing like killing two birds with one stone! The training portion can also be found on the registration.



While on that trip I also visited the new Civitan House and saw what great things they are doing every day with their clients. It fills me with pride to see our mission carried out by such awesome people. I also had the opportunity to attend the Lana Turner Homes Italian dinner fundraiser and tour their new home office which was under construction. God Bless Max McQueen and all the hard work and dedication he puts in for the residents.

In March I traveled to Lake Havasu with my awesome chauffeur and partner in crime, Deborah Maddox. We made a pit stop at SCYSAC and I got to visit and dance with their members. This is Sun City's main project and what an honor to meet the awesome club and their fearless leader, Arlene Wilcox. They embrace what Civitans are all about!! Once we reached Lake Havasu we helped the Bergens and the Strains set up for the Special Olympics and then spent a very rewarding day helping out with the Special Olympics. It was heartwarming to see the enthusiasm and the smiles on the participants from 3 regions. I want to give a big shout out to Jane and Brian Strain who put me up in their beautiful home without ever having met me. I am trying very hard to convince them to adopt me! Don and Chris Bergen graciously put Deborah up and we really appreciate their hospitality because we knew they had been running ragged all week preparing for the games. The whole London Bridge Club comes out in full force, not to mention the city firefighters and police officers, to help with this great event. It brought tears to my eyes to see so many people give so unselfishly of their time and efforts.

Teresa and Kevin Wakeman, Ann McCarty, and juniors Riley Glascock and Jade Von Schrlitz and I traveled to Tucson last week for the HOTW Junior Convention. Riley, who is Ann's granddaughter, was voted as Governor for this year and we are so proud of her! Jade did a great job updating everyone on our area. Both of these girls will make great adult Civitan leaders someday. We participated in a service project called Ben's Bells Projects and their main theme is to be kind to everyone you meet. They make wind chimes out of ceramics and bells and hide them all over the city for people to find. We got to paint ceramic "coins" for them to hide, it was great fun and thanks to Theresa Cisler for organizing a great convention and service project. We then met up with Sharon Hessoun and Dotty Woody and Kathy and Shayne Spude and went for a great dinner and fellowship. Kathy took us up to Carl's "Cresta Loma Golf Course" and we had great fun hitting balls and the girls loved the turtles.

I cannot say enough great things about John and Deborah Maddox's hospitality. They put me up every time I am in the Phoenix area and they also put Ann, Riley, Jade and me up last weekend. They took us to an awesome Diamondback vs. Rockies game and let us treat their home like their own. I feel like one of the family and feel more at home in their house than my own house!! Thanks again both of you for all you do. There are not enough meals in the world I can fix you guys to make up for it.

As you can see, it has been a crazy, fun filled few months. I still have a few clubs to visit so if you have an event coming up, please let me know, I would love to be there. Don't forget International Convention is July 12-15 in St. Louis. I was there in February for Governor update and you will not be disappointed with the venue or the great things we have planned for you.

I saved the best for last. I chartered a new club in February with help from my awesome club builders, Ann McCarty and Teresa Wakeman. We are a knitting and crocheting club called "The Twisted Stitchers" and we are busy making things for the needy in our community. We currently have 34 members in our club and growing. Think about starting one in your community. We put out a plea for people to donate yarn and so far we have over 10 large bins of yarn donated and many needles. In a strange twist (no pun intended) our first charter president is also named Claudia! Makes for some funny moments in our club.

I **challenge** each and every one of you to invite a friend to a meeting in the next couple of months. You know how important Civitan is to your own life so let's share that happiness with others. Let's make this the greatest District! In closing I would like to say thank you to each and every one of you that do so much for our communities and our organization and for trusting me to be your leader. You will all be blessed many times over, I promise. *Claudia Allen*

**London Bridge** – Lake Havasu City, Arizona: Winterfest included fishing contests. Prizes, gathered by club members, were distributed. March Happenings included a garage sale and Special Olympics. Plans are in the works for the 17th annual 100 degree day contest. Tickets will be sold. WOW! London Bridge's 25th Anniversary!! They are going to have a celebration dinner.



**Idaho Falls** — May through September you can find the Idaho Falls Civitans at Alive After Five summer fund raiser. Weekly sponsors, food vendors, live music and a variety of cold beverages are served by the Civitans. All proceeds benefit the Idaho Falls Community through Civitan Projects. Every Wednesday, May 27-September 9, 2015. Downtown Idaho Falls Civitan Plaza.



**Bannock Civitans** — Coming up: Portneuf Valley Environmental Fair for Civitan Awareness, Recruitment luncheon, Community Urban Obstacle event, Revive @ 5. Bannock Civitans pass the "Friendship Basket". The items in the basket are from a member sharing a bit about themselves. The basket is then given to a new member who gets to keep the contents but must present that basket at the next business meeting with items about them. It is a fun way to learn about new members and even "old" members. Pictured: Long time member Kevin Wakeman receiving the basket from new member Kristen Berger.



**Youth Seminar** — It is a 5 day conference (June 8, 2015) sponsored by Adult and Junior Civitan Clubs of the Intermountain States which emphasizes team building and leadership in an exciting, fun, and meaningful format. This is an opportunity for high school students to learn more about topics relevant to today's youth through interactive discussion groups led by professionals. Youth Seminar is held on the beautiful campus of Idaho State University (ISU) in Pocatello, Idaho. Attendees stay in Turner Hall.

For more information:

[http://www.orgsites.com/id/bannockcivitans/\\_pgg7.php3](http://www.orgsites.com/id/bannockcivitans/_pgg7.php3)

## Share Your Story... by Mark Eisinger

Over the past 25 + years as a member of Civitan, I have shared my story about why I am a member of Civitan to many members and potential members. I was a banker at the time and I went into a store to pick up refreshments for a bank skybox at the University of Nevada Las Vegas Thomas & Mack Stadium. On my list were various items. One was trash bags. The proprietor said "We have Civitan trash bags!". I responded, what is Civitan? (yes, I mispronounced it). He explained that the trash bags were a fundraiser for the Las Vegas Civitan Club, a brand new service club in the valley that helps individuals with disabilities. I was in shock and almost in tears. You see, my family has been affected by these disabilities for years.

My younger sister was labeled a "slow learner" in school and went to special education classes. Later in life, she lived in a group home, then an apartment with a roommate and eventually married, has a house with a mortgage and a good job at a retirement home. I also have a nephew that had a collapsed lung when he was born and had to be flown by helicopter to a larger hospital. The lack of oxygen caused his disabilities. He is a Special Olympic Gold Medalist and has a good job!

This began a passionate quest to tell people about a great organization that few knew about. I have worked tirelessly over the years to let people know about the organization, the research center and the local people and organizations we serve.

What about your club? How often do you share with friends and families your testimony about your membership and ask

them to join you in your quest to improve your community and the lives of people with disabilities and the less fortunate? You can call it Pay It Forward or Acts of Kindness, but I call it a strong group of like-minded individuals who, together as a club, can do much more as a team for the communities than we can do individually. Make the effort this year to identify others with which you can share your experiences. Then do it!

When I was International President of Civitan, we called it Civitan Rocks Our World! Our Heart of the West Civitan Clubs and Members Rock their communities and make a huge difference. More rockin' members will make even a greater difference! Go ahead, do it! I dare you!

By the way, get even more passionate, go to St. Louis for the Civitan International Convention! It will truly be a great experience and pretty close to home!

Mark Eisinger is a past Governor of the Arizona Southern Nevada Civitan District (now part of Heart of the West). He has recruited 150 members, organized 10 Civitan Clubs and represented Civitan International as President from 2009-2010. Mark may be contacted at [civimark@gmail.com](mailto:civimark@gmail.com).



**Sharon Hessoun: International Director, Region 8**

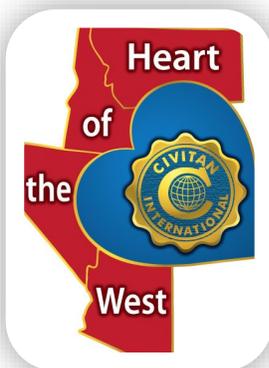


**Greetings, Heart of the West Civitans!** I hope that you are all having a Civitan Happy Year. Congratulations to the Twisted Stitchers Club in Idaho on their chartering! Other club-building efforts are underway, so stay tuned for the announcement of more clubs in Heart of the West.

I hope that you are planning to attend International Convention in St. Louis. Our International Board meeting was held there in February and I can tell you that the facilities are very nice. Renovations are still in progress but will be completed by the time we arrive in July. Online registration is open. Cost increases on May 1<sup>st</sup>, so get your registration in before that if you can. You'll notice that you have some choices this time, too. You can pay one registration cost that includes the Welcome Party and the Installation Banquet or a lower cost and choose what you'd like to attend for an additional cost. Meet Me in St. Louis!

There will be one piece of legislation before the delegates at International Convention. It is a ByLaws change regarding the election of International Directors. How many of the members of the International Board do you know much about? The Board makes decisions that

affect ALL Civitans. Delegates have been voting for International President Elect every year and their own International Director from their Region every other year. This change will allow every delegate to be informed about every candidate, from every region, and cast their vote. Since they are making decisions that affect you, you will now have the opportunity to choose the members who will be making those decisions. Directors will continue to be elected on a regional basis, every two years. The only change is the opportunity to get to know each of the people that will be sitting on the Board and vote for the best qualified candidate. There has been some concern voiced that this will mean Directors at Large with a disproportionate number coming from the Southeast. No change is being made in where Directors come from. They must live in the Region they are being elected to represent. If you have any questions about this legislation, please feel free to contact me at [shessoun@gmail.com](mailto:shessoun@gmail.com) or call me at 520-722-7517. *Sharon Hessoun*



**2015 HOTW Civitan Convention:**

**PHOENIX**

**August 7-9, 2015**

<http://www.orgsites.com/id/bannockcivitans/pgg3.php3>



**2015 Civitan International Convention: July 12-15, 2015**

<http://civitan.org/convention/convention/>

Share your Civitan happenings for the next newsletter. Email Connie at:

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