**North Cobb Civitan Club**

**October – December 2016 Update**

The North Cobb Club has been busy this fall with fellowship, service and knowledge, hosting a new speaker at each meeting and enjoying fellowship after several service projects and at the annual Christmas Party, where Ugly Sweaters abounded! Below are a few of our activities this fall.

**Cranberry Drive for Thanks for Giving:**

The North Cobb, East Cobb and Marietta Civitan Clubs embarked on another season of competition, each looking to wear the Cranberry Crown for the coming year! It was a hugely successful drive, with the North Cobb Club contributing 638 cans of cranberry sauce this year. The East Cobb Club won the competition at 720 cans, with the Marietta Club making a great showing at 280 cans, for a total of 1638 cans of cranberries.

This impressive collection was donated to The Center for Family Resources’ Thanks for Giving program where a box of food was donated to each low income family, so they could prepare a Thanksgiving meal in their own homes, in addition to providing staples to carry the families through the holiday week, when the children would not be receiving breakfasts and lunches at school.

**Fruitcake Sales:**

The North Cobb Club had another fantastic year of fruitcake sales, selling 504 pounds of fruitcake. Many of the fruitcakes were purchased by club members to be given as gifts to friends, the elderly in extended care facilities and business associates.

**December Giving Luncheon:**

Our club distributed $400 checks to each of the following 5 nonprofits, all of whom had been speakers at one of our club meetings in the 2015-16 Civitan year.

* Atlanta Child Therapy
* The Chattooga Foundation
* Lekotek of Georgia
* Mostly Mutts Animal Rescue and Adoption
* The Nanny Manny Brigade

The organizations attended the luncheon, gave an overview of their mission and WHY they do what they do in the community, and graciously received our gifts of a “real” check as well as an oversized “photo op” check for each.

Additionally, Mike Linch, senior pastor of North Star Church, acted as emcee, sharing a lovely holiday message of giving, and brought a staff member who led us in two Christmas songs.   It was a joy to "give back" to these 5 non-profits who presented to our group this year and an added feature was surprising them with the checks!!!

**Nanas for Nanas:**

On December 1st, several club members visited a personal care home and delivered bananas and citrus for the residents along with goodie bags full of personal care items. We served them slices of our famous "Claxton Fruitcake" along with singing Christmas carols. We also enjoyed talking to them on a one on one basis and learning about their personal stories.

**Give Homeless Hope:**

North Cobb Civitan took on a holiday project to collect items for the chronically homeless. We collected, and donated, 6 men’s bikes to "Our Brothers Keeper Bike Program" who works in conjunction with Give Homeless Hope help to keep them supplied with bikes and also to do any repairs of the bikes the homeless bring to the weekly dinners provided. We also collected thermal underwear, gloves, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, first aid supplies and much more.

**Membership:**

We are focused on increasing membership and are proud to welcome 3 new members this new year.  Total membership is 35.

The Kennesaw Mountain Junior Club is an active club of 14 members.  One of their projects was a cookout and pumpkin decorating contest for students with special needs.

**Swing Project:**

The North Cobb and East Cobb Clubs are embarking on a new project to fundraise toward installation of a platform swing in two parks, one in North Cobb and one in East Cobb. These swings will accommodate any size wheelchair, giving those unable to participate in other park activities a great option for outdoor relaxation and fun. Fundraising has begun, park officials have been contacted and are in support of our project, and we look forward to updating you on our success soon!