

REPORT FOR THE SEWANEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The board would like to thank all Civic Association members for your support. The goal for this report is to help our members understand how the Civic Association works for the community by reviewing some of the Civic Association's activities.

The purpose of the SCA is to foster a well-informed, harmonious, and dynamic greater Sewanee community by providing a forum for community issues and social interaction, by managing the Sewanee Community Chest and the Sewanee Classifieds, and by sponsoring projects deemed by the membership to be beneficial to the community.

Kiki Beavers - President Ken Taylor - Vice President Millicent Foreman- Secretary Husnain Ahmad- SCA Treasurer David Michaels- Member at Large

Carl Hill - Member at Large Bentley Cook - Director of Classifieds

Carol Ingle - Community Chest Treasurer

MANAGEMENT

The board transacts business between meetings in preparation for meetings, creates standing rules and policies, creates standing and temporary committees, prepares, and submits a budget to the membership, approves routine bills, and prepares reports and recommendations to the membership.

CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMU-NITY

The SCA manages the Sewanee Classifieds, and email-based subscription service.

The SCA maintains two email accounts, one for Sewanee Civic Association, and one for the Sewanee Community Chest.

The SCA maintains a Facebook page and an Instagram account.

The SCA has a community website at sewaneecivic.org. This website is kept as a source of information and as a matter of public record for the SCA.

The SCA has a Guidestar profile. Both the SCA and the Community Chest received the Silver Transparency seal.

The Sewanee Community Chest has a Giving Matters profile with the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

ENHANCING OUR COMMUNITY

Involvement

A majority of the SCA board members are active in other roles for the community. This includes membership on the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, the Sewanee Business Alliance, the Cowan Commercial Club, Sewanee Senior Center board, St, Mark's Community Association, the Sewanee Fourth of July Planning Committee and more.

Program

The SCA offers programs membership during meetings to inform and engage the community. Programs this year included William Shealy, Director of Economic Development Initiatives at the University of the South; Jane Kelley, Executive Director, Home and Community Services with Blakeford, Inc., presented the program on LiveWell on the Mountain; and Meg Beasley and Mary O'Neill on the 150 years of historic downtown Sewanee.

PROJECTS

In 2022, the SCA formed the Treasures for the Chest initiative, a campaign to help promote community-wide service of giving time, support and donations. We had two nonfood supply drives for the CAC and one school supply drive for Sewanee Elementary school children.

We purchased brown paper bags for the CAC to use in their food ministry.

In 2022, we formed a committee to research ideas on facilitating the relocation of the Sewanee Mountain Goat trailhead from Hawkins Lane to 17 Lake O'Donnell Road. An MOU was signed with the University to turn the premises into the trailhead and as an information resource for community, students and visitors.



Community Service Award



Downtown Historic Sewanee presentation



Treasures for the Chest



Folks at Home



Reach Out and Read



SES Library Renovation

SEWANEE COMMUNITY CHEST

Whether you are a new or a long-time resident, Sewanee is a magnet that has attracted and kept us in this caring place we call home. As an unincorporated town, separate from the University, Sewanee cannot receive state and federal grants to fund projects associated with community development and sustainability. Since 1908, the Sewanee Community Chest has played that role.

In the last 10 years, the Sewanee Community Chest has raised approximately \$1.3 million for the community.

The Sewanee Community Chest drive is about sharing our gifts through organizations on the Plateau and in its surrounding valleys: the Sewanee Elementary School Parent Organization funded a renovation of the school library; the Sewanee Children's Center offers scholarships provided through Community Chest grants; Animal Harbor and MARC provide temporary shelter and find good homes for abandoned pets; the Mountain Goat Trail Alliance sponsors bicycle safety and promotion days at the Sewanee, Monteagle, and Tracy City elementary schools; Folks at Home provides pro bono services to help those community members in need; Housing Sewanee builds houses for area families; and Reach out and Read provides books to children during their wellness exams.

The Sewanee Community Chest is neighbors helping neighbors with basic needs funding for quality of life, community aid, children's programs, and those who are beyond Sewanee but still serve our entire community. Everywhere you look, your donations work to fulfill basic needs that otherwise would go unmet.

THANKS TO YOU \$105,775 was donated to fund the following organizations for 2022-23:

SES Parent Organization, \$25,525

Sewanee Children's Center, \$12,000

Sewanee Senior Center, \$12,000 Housing Sewanee, \$11,000

Sewanee Mountain Messenger, \$10,000

MARC, \$7,000

Community Action Committee, \$5,000

Folks at Home, \$5,000 Animal Harbor, \$4,000 Blue Monarch, \$4,000

Fourth of July Celebration, \$3,500

Reach Out and Read, \$2,200 Tennessee's South Cumberland Tourism Partnership, \$300

Mountain Goat Trail Alliance, \$1,500

St. Mark's Community Center, \$1.000

Arts Inside, \$500 Little Bellas, \$250

Early Literacy Ambassadors, \$1,000

The Sewanee Community Chest is the Sewanee Civic Association's main philanthropic effort.



Sewanee Children's Center



MARC and Animal Harbor



Little Bellas

A BRIEF HISTORY

The Sewanee Civic League— Women organized Sewanee's first community civic club, called the Sewanee Civic League in 1908 in order to improve municipal conditions and equipment. Through various subgroups they accomplished many projects, including underwriting the blueprints for the stone gates on the highway, circulating literature on tuberculosis, repairing the stone wall around the cemetery, and raising money to extend the term of the public school. They put Shoup Park in front of the Sewanee Inn (now Elliott Hall), cleaned up the principal views near Sewanee, and contributed money for the improvement of the University's water supply. The organization raised funds with a tearoom, a women's exchange, catering, rummage sales, book sales, a strawberry festival, recitals and other endeavors. When the organization voted to disband in 1947, they gave their fund balance of \$633.17 to the University's Five Million Dollar Campaign for the endowment of the nurses' home. The University Gates Fund went to the newly organized Woman's Club.

Sewanee Civic Association—The men began their civic connections with the Sewanee Town Meeting

group in December 1920. It was formed to provide law and order in Sewanee: "We have one of the worst towns...in regard to the violation of the law. We are here to organize and distribute money for the good of Sewanee...stop bootlegging and get a public school we are not ashamed of." This organization was broadened into the Sewanee Civitan Club. This was nationally affiliated until 1942, when it reformed as the local Sewanee Civic Association. Its primary purpose was to raise money that the town could not raise in taxes because it was unincorporated, in order to make municipal improvements. In 1926 the Civitan Club raised funds to build and maintain a new stone public school, and later to put an addition onto it. The objectives in 1938 included the completion of Alto Road and of a state highway to the Marion County line, securing the sheriff's salary, obtaining pledges for a black community center, and adding a four-year high school for Sewanee. Each year this club organizes the Sewanee Community Chest, which now raises thousands of dollars for local organizations.

From Sewanee Sesquicentennial History: The Making of the University of the South









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