

ISSUE 21 October 1, 2020

# THE BELL

The Official Newsletter of Camp Sertoma of South Carolina

[www.campsertomasc.com](http://www.campsertomasc.com)



October 1, 2020

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe, but it is time to start thinking about Camp Sertoma 2021!

The reservation forms were sent to clubs today via their Camp Sertoma Representative and can be turned in at any time (with a deadline of February 1).

Leslie and her staff are already working on measures and practices to make the camp experience for our campers safe and awesome. Along with policies and procedures to assure camp is as safe as possible, new activities like an all-camp escape room experience are in the works as well.

Christine, Will, Rosie and I just got back from a week at the Outdoor Lab as our family vacation and the report is "Camp is more fun than anything in Orlando except the Incredible Hulk ride." I suppose we'll take that! (See image below)

Speaking of destructive beasts, cases of coronavirus seem to be diminishing in many areas, and Sertomans continue to serve in creative ways through this pandemic. As you'll see below, Clemson Sertoma was able to procure see-through masks for those that rely on lip-reading for communication, AND got some GREAT publicity in the process. They also got a \$500 camper sponsorship and a potential new member by holding their camper gift basket event outdoors in a very visible area. Great job, Clemson Sertoma!

In the next 2 months, our board will be working hard to develop plans to not only make camp AWESOMER, but helping clubs USE camp to promote their club growth and fund raising (as well all bounce back from this microscopic spiky sphere.



Dale



# Clemson Sertoma Club

Active, Creative, Connected, Resilient, Driven

The Clemson Sertoma Club is a growing organization of 41 members that serves proudly the Clemson and surrounding Upstate communities. The restrictions imposed by COVID-19 have not curtailed the club's fundraising and other member activities. Fundraisers at present to send children to Camp Sertoma include the club's PARTNER Program in which 25 local businesses and individuals contribute \$500 each to sponsor a child; community Christmas tree sales, a project of the club for the past nearly fifty years; and partnering with the Greater Clemson Music Festival that includes a special club event. The club now sends 25 children to Camp Sertoma. This year, with camp cancelled and at the suggestion of the camp Board of Trustees, the club prepared and distributed surprise gift bags to its campers that included fun games, toys, and educational items, a part of which were donated books illustrated and written by Kate Salley Palmer, a nationally-known cartoonist and wife of a club member. Also the club awarded two \$1000 Addison Scholarships (based on need, academics, and service) to local students to attend college. The club's Service to Mankind Award recipient for 2020, Mable Owens Clark, is an amazing person celebrated for her many years of work in raising funds to save Soapstone Baptist Church, founded in 1865 by freed slaves at Little Liberia near Pumpkintown, SC. The club meets at noon the first and third Tuesdays each month for a business meeting and program presentation, at present via ZOOM, and invites guests and prospective members to attend.



# Clemson Sertoma Club

## GOOD WORKS

Contact Lifestyle Editor Colby Herwig at [cherwig@pickensjournal.com](mailto:cherwig@pickensjournal.com) or call (864) 973-4644. Submit community news, calendar events, celebrations and obituaries to [info@pickensjournal.com](mailto:info@pickensjournal.com).

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

**TELL WILLIE**  
Well, you're not a very good brother. B5

**INSIDE**  
Clemson B3  
Pawnee B4  
Local B6

The Journal B1

## Clemson Sertoma Club making masks for hearing impaired students, teachers

BY ERIC OLIVER  
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, “quarantine” and “social distancing” were introduced into our daily vocabulary.

Mask wearing was also introduced as a way to reduce the spread of the virus. But the fact that virtually every business and restaurant now require patrons to wear masks when entering their buildings has made things more difficult for the hearing impaired and the ability to read lips and expressions. As a result, the Clemson Sertoma Club recently undertook a project in which members made specially designed masks for hearing impaired students at Pickens High School, as well as their teachers, in order to alleviate that problem.

Sertoma’s mission is to help hearing and speech impaired, and we were approached a month or so ago by Kay Henson of the school district (of Pickens County), who coordinates all the hearing and speech programs,” club member Laura Shick said. “She wanted us to help her with masks and clear panels for lip readers and we said, ‘Of course.’”

But Shick admitted that was “easier said than done.” Original plans to buy the fabric were precluded because some companies were not taking orders due to the large volume of requests. But Shick found a pattern, and fellow club member Kay Carraway recruited friends who did the sewing.

“The problem with patterns are that they’re big — they’re basically for adults,” she said. “In trying to adjust them to smaller sizes, some have been more successful than others.” Shick and six others are making the masks, which often take about an hour. Presently, the group has sewed more than 50 masks, with designs including pink flamingos, tie-dye and polka dots.

“That’s challenging to make because you can’t use fabric as fabric,” Shick said, adding that clear plastic and elastic, along with fabric, are among the items needed to make the masks. “So, there’s been a bit of



Duane Woodright and his daughter Emma wear masks recently made by the Clemson Sertoma Club. Duane’s wife, Nona, was one of the seamstresses.



Clemson Sertoma Club member Laura Shick sews one of the more than 50 masks made for hearing impaired students and their teachers at Pickens High School, a number of whom have been summer participants at Camp Sertoma through the years.

**‘We’re excited about it because it’s a way to show that Sertoma does something besides camp. Everybody knows us for camp, but the mission is to help hearing and speech impaired. Getting out in the community is what it’s all about.’**

**Laura Shick**  
Clemson Sertoma Club member

a learning curve. It has to come over the top of the nose down to about the middle of the chin because it has to be big enough to where they open their mouth for an expression.”

Carraway, a retired Pickens County teacher, said the group donated 200 K&M masks to Pickens High School but found that masks with a clear space were most needed. Eventually, masks with clear inserts were found, made and set for delivery at the school Tuesday.

“I just felt, as did others in the Sertoma Club, that this was a service we could provide for the hearing impaired students in Pickens County,” Carraway said. “We hope they will increase the ability of teachers to communicate with kids during this time. We’re just thankful and happy to support the children of Pickens County, especially those that have this challenge.”

“That’s our mission, to support the hearing impaired. We’re trying to help and support as much as we can. A lot



Clemson Sertoma Club members, from left, Kaya Carraway, Laura Shick and Kay Henson, coordinator of the hearing and speech programs for the School District of Pickens County, are pictured following the presentation of masks Tuesday at Pickens High School.

of the children we’re providing masks for attend Camp Sertoma in the summer, so this

is definitely allowing us to support them. This is just one more way that we can support

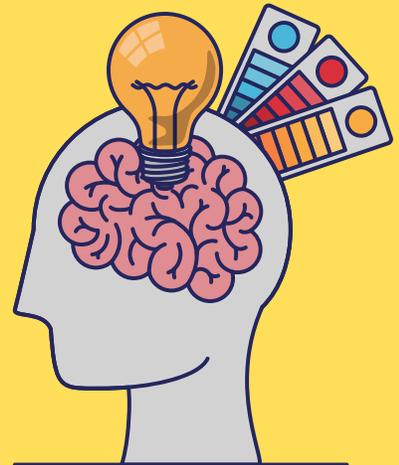
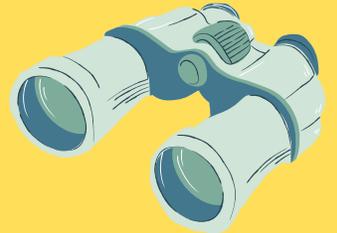
the children and their teachers and help make life just a little bit better for them.”

Because there aren’t as many students as originally thought, Shick said more than one mask will be distributed to each student. Shick added that the club also hopes to eventually sew masks for other schools in Pickens County, as well as those in surrounding counties.

“We’re excited about it because it’s a way to show that Sertoma does something besides camp,” Shick said. “Everybody knows us for camp, but the mission is to help hearing and speech impaired. Getting out in the community is what it’s all about.”

Shick said that while the project was fun, it was also a learning opportunity for the club. But she added, “I think we’re getting a little more adept at making these things.”

For more information on the masks project, contact Shick at [ls1ck80@gmail.com](mailto:ls1ck80@gmail.com).



Two of the masks made by Clemson Sertoma Club members for hearing impaired students and their teachers.



## CONVENTION WRAP-UP!

Well, we're starting to settle back in from our convention on Saturday, and frankly, we're thrilled at all of the comments we've been getting back. Thank you to the 275 or so of you who registered, and the over 200 of you who were able to join us! We had some fantastic sessions, which we'll be sharing very soon, so be on the lookout in Insider and in Members' Corner on Facebook! In the meantime, there are a few things I shared that I'd like to highlight for you: First, I want to talk National membership. As you know, the Board created a new category of membership last year—National Membership. People can now join Sertoma as a National Member (i.e., not a member of a club), and when clubs disband, members have the option of remaining a member of Sertoma through this level. As a result, we had over 9,000 life members fall into this category who were not recognized as members of Sertoma to this point. We're working through that list to determine who's still engaged and with us, so expect to see that number change over the next few months. We've also had increasing questions from Life Members on how they can continue to contribute to the operational expenses of Sertoma. The Board approved a program that will allow members to do just that, so look for that in the coming months. I want to be sure to talk with you about our National Service Project. Between now and May 2021, we're asking clubs to join us in purchasing a Portable Looping System for a hospital or clinic in their area, to be presented during Better Speech & Hearing Month 2021. These systems are available for under \$300, and are available to purchase now. Consider joining us in our efforts... imagine the publicity we can get for Sertoma in announcing that we've donated 300 Portable Looping systems! You can find out more about this project here. And of course, I want to be sure everyone knows about a program we're really excited about—the COVID-19 Club Grants. If your club has had to cancel a fundraiser due to COVID-19, we're here to help. These grants are intended to replace up to \$2,000 of lost fundraising revenue, and will be awarded until the \$250,000 allocated by the Board has been exhausted. Learn more and apply here. I'm so proud of the job that our staff, our Board, and all of you have done this year in your service to mankind. And thanks again for joining us last Saturday!! Be sure to register for and attend your Regional Convention... you can find the schedule here!



**Note: If you're trying to find a link, you will NOT be able to click "here" here. Just go to [www.sertoma.org](http://www.sertoma.org) to reach all the above links.**

Don't miss it!!!



✓ Camp Sertoma Golf Tournament  
October 19, Woodside Plantation, Aiken, SC

✓ Camp Sertoma of SC Board of Directors  
Meeting. December 5, Columbia, SC

Contact Dale for more information

# What can you do now to make sure Camp Sertoma 2021 (and beyond) is the best it can be? I'm glad you asked....

- Connect with your club, seek out new members (even now) (we can't have Camp Sertoma without thriving Sertoma clubs)
- Consider increasing your campers sent by 1-2 for next year (we have lost 1-2 clubs per year in South Carolina for several years...that decreases the number of campers sponsored)
- Connect with campers from this year and keep their contact information for next year (most have already registered)
- Turn in your 2021 reservation form as early as October 1.
- Read and distribute THE BELL to your club (for helpful updates and reminders of why we work so hard)
- Make sure you get your new officers' information to Rick Vandiver (esteemed co-chairman) every year
- Have more than one person in your club involved in camp
- ENJOY your club, ENJOY your campers, get your whole family involved in Sertoma and ENJOY serving together

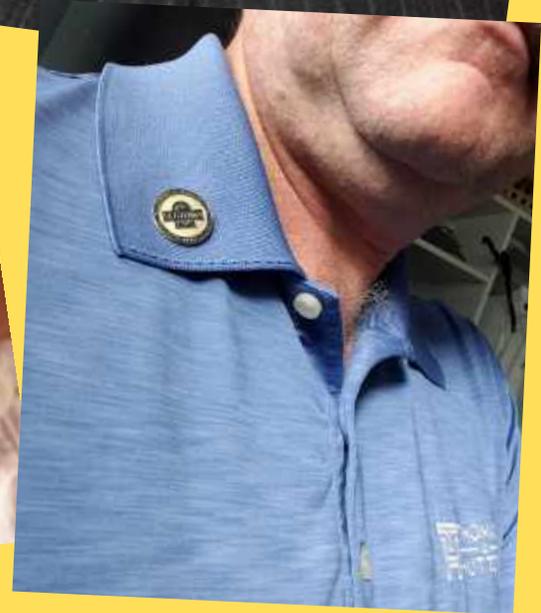


## TIMELINE for Camp Sertoma 2021

- October 1—CAMPER RESERVATION FORM\* sent to clubs
- February 1—Camper Reservation Form due
- March 1—Club week assignments for camp released
- March 1—online REGISTRATION\* open
- June 1—target for completing online registration by this date



May we Sertomans serve this year with the same character traits our campers showed last year.



**Wear a Sertoma  
pin proudly on  
the first of  
every month  
and when folks  
ask about it, tell  
them about  
Camp Sertoma!**

**PROUD  
TO BE A  
SERTOMAN**

## SOUTH CAROLINA SERTOMA CLUBS BY COUNTY AND AREA

This map shows the Sertoma clubs in each S.C. County. The chart at the bottom left shows the "Camp Sertoma Area."

[Download PDF >](#)



## CAMP SERTOMA OF S.C.

*The Statewide Project of South Carolina Sertoma Clubs*

## Welcome To The Camp Representative Page

In this section we will have information directly related to the responsibilities of Sertoma Club Camp Sertoma Representative. We will also try to have some helpful information about the camp, the application process, some of the staff you will be working with and much more.

# our awesome website...

# www.campsertomasc.com

- Photo Gallery
- Videos from Camp
- Coming Events
- Map of Clubs in SC
- Contact Us
- Meet the Board
- Activity Pages
- Latest News
- Members Corner
- Camper Eligibility
- The Bell
- Club Events
- Fundraisers
- What to Bring
- When's Camp?



## CAMP SERTOMA VIDEOS



*This is a short visit to Camp Sertoma of S.C. We Hope you will enjoy seeing what we consider one of the most beautiful places on the planet.*

account to access your profile, any private pages you've granted access to.

[Sign in](#)

## COMING EVENTS



**Sporting Events and Fundraisers**

*Sertomans raise money for charitable activities in a wide variety of ways. We want to support them with their info here.*

## PHOTO GALLERY



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