



District Eight Service Bulletin

Volume 51, Issue 3

November, 2008

Together Everyone Achieves More

The Governor's Message



Fellow Altrusans,

Your District Board has just returned from Chickasha, Oklahoma, where we spent a very productive weekend handling the business of District Eight and planning for the 53rd annual conference next April. The Altrusans in Chickasha have been working hard to plan a great conference. We'll have numerous activities, including some designed to familiarize you with that area of our District. I hope lots of you are planning to attend. Past International President Linda Nichols will be our special guest.

I want to thank the District Board for all of their hard work since conference. Club visits are done and there were lots of questions asked this year. Those who visited you have been following up with answers and I will also address a few of the questions in this article. Secretary Brenda Smith was in a cast for a good deal of the summer so the directory was later getting out than she had planned. By the time the DSB is published you should have received your directory. Please check it carefully for any corrections. Email corrections to Brenda at brsmith53@cox.net. We will also be emailing a copy of the directory to the District Board, Committee Chairs and Presidents.

There were numerous questions during club visits about conference workshops and dues. Let me address workshops first. Our District Policies address our committee chairs and workshops. In addition, we must conduct training for our club presidents. We try to offer an all conference workshop for those not attending the president's workshop (last year was fundraising). For

many workshops as people would like. Cost and the availability of speakers also affect what we are able to offer at each conference. In convention years, the candidate's forum takes precedence over other conference offerings. We did hear your concerns and will make every effort to work with our committee chairs and others to make the workshops beneficial for all that attend. I hope this answers your questions.

Other questions were asked about dues and where the money goes. Altrusa International receives \$55 of your dues money while District Eight only receives \$10 per member. Most District dues are more than \$10 but to date District Eight has been able to keep dues at \$10. For that \$10, we pay travel at the rate of \$.30 per mile for the District Board to make the required club visits which is well below IRS mileage rates. We also pay travel/hotel expense for the Board to attend the Mid-Year Board meeting as well as the District Conference. The \$10 per member also assists the Governor and Governor-Elect with attendance at the International Convention every other year. Other things covered by District dues include Governor-Elect training, cash awards for the winning Mamie L. Bass and Letha H. Brown projects as well as the Governor's Distinguished Service Award. There are other things in the District budget but I have tried to give you the highlights.

Your International dues pay for the International Office space and staff and all the expenses associated with an office, travel and other expenses for International officers, expenses for International committee chairs, awards, incentives, printing, etc. International dues also cover Website and marketing expenses. The International budget is actually several pages in length and there is not space here to list everything that is included in that budget.

I hope this article has answered some of your questions. If any of you still have questions or concerns, please let me or any other Board member know and we will address those concerns at our next Board meeting.

Governor Linda

What Team Do You Play For?

I've been involved with our local Altrusa club for almost a decade now, so it seems funny to me that anyone in our community would **not** know what our club stands for, or what we do for others. We try so hard to put out press releases about our deeds and we feel that we have an impact on so many different walks of life, how could anyone not know what we do? But just a little over a week ago while performing our "Make a Difference Day" project, members of our club were asked repeatedly about the club and what we were all about. The people inquiring had never heard of our organization.

It shouldn't sound so funny to me. After all, fifteen years ago, I was the person looking at an Altrusa officer installation picture in our local paper and wondering what Altrusa members did. Why did they gather and where did they meet? Sure, I recognized the women in the picture—they were all known for being leaders in the community. But when I asked someone about the group, the person I asked said they thought it was an "invitation only" group and they didn't seem to know what they stood for.

I'm hoping that we have all made great strides in clarifying what our clubs stand for, how we impact our communities, and how our International organization impacts the world. But it never hurts to have that "elevator speech" handy. What does membership in your Altrusa club mean to you? What attracted you to the club? What does your club expect from you? What do you get out of your membership? If you haven't thought seriously about the answers to these questions, now is the time.

It was mentioned in the June 2008 District Eight Service Bulletin that there would be a contest for people interested in submitting a 30-second elevator speech to Governor Linda Smith. The entries will be judged by members of the District Board, with the winning entry published in the DSB. Not only do you stand to win a considerable prize, but you might also make it easier for others to attract new members to our clubs.

So, for the benefit of yourself and growth in our local clubs, get your creative juices flowing and send your speech to Governor, Linda K. Smith, at 1922 Foxtail Drive, Salina, KS 67401 or lksmith53@cox.net. Deadline for submission is February 1. We look forward to hearing from you.



Penny Daugherty
Communications Chair

GET READY - LET'S ROLL

Get Ready Altrusans -

It's time to begin preparation for the 53rd Altrusa International District Eight conference, April 23 - 25, 2009. The Chickasha Altrusans are busy making arrangements to welcome District Eight to this conference. How wonderful it would be to have all District Eight clubs represented there in Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Here are six quick "Get Ready" tips for preparing for conference:

- Get Ready - To elect delegates and alternates to represent your club. To promote District Eight attendance, incentives enticing more members to attend to recruit new members and encourage them to attend
- Get Ready - To submit award entries. All District Eight Clubs have worthy projects which need to be recognized for their valuable community service
- Get Ready - To make hotel reservations and traveling arrangements for all members who want to attend. Consider carpooling with other Altrusa clubs.
- Get Ready - To collect Silent Auction items, prepare Club Display Board, newsletter and yearbook for judging.
- Get Ready - To get re-energized and re-focused by attending exciting workshops
- Get Ready - To see Altrusa friends and have lots of fun

Altrusa conference makes it possible for members to come together with one common goal

- To share ideas and knowledge so that we can make our communities better places to live and work by providing needed community service.

GET READY ALTRUSANS - LET'S ROLL



Rebecca Wood
District Eight Director

DISTRICT AWARD OPPORTUNITIES –

It is not too early to be thinking and planning for awards at District Conference. Here is a list of possible awards as sited on page 5 of the Altrusa District Eight Policies of Board of Directors. Unless otherwise stated all application forms can be found at (www.altrusa.com). Be sure to read the eligibility criteria carefully and follow the entry preparation guidelines closely. And don't forget to take pictures for your Club Display so other clubs can experience what your service project was about. If you need help, ask your club Service Chair or your District Service Chair, Pam Doss. You will be receiving information sometime in February in the Call To Conference as to where to mail your entries.

News Letters and Yearbooks

First, second and third place awards shall be presented for newsletters and yearbooks. First place winners will automatically be retired from competition for the following year. Judging score sheets are available at (www.altrusadistricteight.org).

Mamie L. Bass Service Award and Letha H. Brown And Letha H. Brown Literacy Award

First place award and Honorable Mention awards (not to exceed 3) shall be presented for Mamie L. Bass Service Award and Letha H. Brown Literacy Awards entries. First place entries in each category will be awarded - \$100.00. The Service Chairman shall select appropriate community representatives to serve as separate judging panels for each award.

Membership awards

Membership awards for percentage of increase from April 10 to April 10, based on the Treasurer's records, shall be presented as follows:

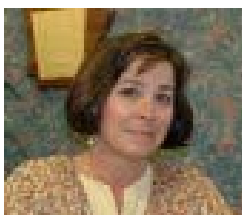
1. First, second and third place to clubs with membership under 35 on April 10.
2. First, second and third place to clubs with membership of 35 or over on April 10.

Attendance

The Club (other than host city) having the highest percentage of members with full registrations attending Conference. (Membership as of February 10).

Governors' Distinguished Service Award.

First place award only--\$100.00. Judging criteria and score sheet are available at www.altrusadistricteight.org.



Linda Wood Sharp
Director

International Foundation Giving Opportunities

As another year comes to a close we Altrusans, like everyone else, look at the things we can be grateful for. With these blessing in mind, we typically decide which groups and organizations we want to support with financial donations. As you make your list of worthy recipients, please consider giving generously to **Altrusa International Foundation**.

There are many different areas of interest you can contribute to. The Foundation currently manages funds for use by local Clubs, such as Grants Programs and Disaster Relief. Another important program sponsored by the Foundation is Club 21, a program that supports agencies that offer programs for children with HIV/AIDS. Because of the generous support of our members this program continues to become more diverse

There is also an Endowment Fund which is the Foundation's legacy to future generations. Interest income from this Fund supports numerous awards, including; ASTRA Club Service Award, Letha H. Brown Literacy Award, Nina Fay Calhoun Award and Community Leadership Award. If you prefer, you can become a Lamplighter. Lamplighters are Altrusans who contribute \$500 dollars or more the Foundation in one year. This donation can be made in the contributor's name or in honor of someone else. Finally, you may want to consider Planned Giving or Deferred Giving.

Give to one facet of Foundation or several, or simply allow the Foundation to use your donation where it can be best served. Remember, through Altrusa International Foundation, we can make a difference in our local and global community.

Gifts to Altrusa International Foundation from U.S. Citizens and companies are tax deductible.

For more information on opportunities to contribute to the Altrusa International Foundation visit their website at www.Altrusa.com/Foundation.



Best Wishes for 2009
Holly Burgess
Foundation Liaison

The Holidays are Coming

Thanksgiving and Christmas offer some of the greatest opportunities for Altrusans to serve our communities. I challenge each Altrusan in District Eight to reach out to someone in need during the holiday season. Involve your family and friends in assisting those who are less fortunate. This year more than in those recent past, food banks are finding the cupboards barren. Meals on Wheels is struggling to provide meals to the elderly. The Salvation Army reports the number of applicants requesting help is up significantly. The number of people needing assistance in healthcare is rising. A child wants a Christmas. Whatever the needs of your community, pick something you are passionate about and get involved. Whether you choose to give money or your time or both your efforts will not go unnoticed.

It is also a time for each Altrusa club to explore taking on a new service project. During the holiday season, we all hear requests to help those who are less privileged. It is a great time to assess where your talents can be used most effectively. Altrusans are resourceful and compassionate. We always do more with less. Explore the possibilities.

As a reminder, your clubs will be receiving packets after the first of the year to apply for awards at District Eight Conference. It is a goal of mine to have more submissions for all the awards. The criteria for the Mamie L. Bass Service Award, the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award, and the Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Awards can be downloaded from the Altrusa website. I will be giving all this information to you after the first of the year. Please contact me if you have any questions. I look forward to hearing about all the wonderful service you perform.



Pam Doss
Service Chair



Congratulations to the Astra Club of Fayetteville High School, Fayetteville, Arkansas. They won the 3rd place award from Altrusa International. Astra Club Service Awards are funded by the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. The Astra Club Service awards annually recognize Astra Clubs for the service activities they conduct in their communities and schools. We are very proud of Astra Club, Fayetteville High School for receiving this prestigious International recognition.

Also, Mexico Altrusa Club has started a new Astra group. Jackie Heaston of Mexico Altrusa Club has spent time planning and starting a new Astra group. Moberly Altrusa Club is planning on starting a new Astra group in Cairo.

Tanika Wilson, Director of Membership, Altrusa International would like each Astra group to fill out Astra Member Informational Forms, Astra Club Officers Roster and Astra Club Information Form. Please send the forms to me and I will forward them to Tanika Wilson. These forms are on the Altrusa International web site. Also, please don't forget to send me a copy of your Astra yearbook.

If you do not have an Astra Club, please consider starting an Astra Club. Our Moberly Astra Club has been a real inspiration to me. The girls so enjoy their activities, they are very enthusiastic and are developing their leadership skills. If you would like information on starting a new Astra group, please contact me. It would be a privilege to assist in starting other Astra Clubs.

I would like to encourage every Astra Club to submit entries next year for awards. District Eight is blessed to have great Astra Clubs. Let's try and win all three International Awards next year!



Jeannie F. Hicks
Astra Chair
Jeannie@hickstax.com
660-651-7370 (cell)



Altrusa International, Inc.
322 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60604

"Embracing the World"

- Through
- Service
- Leadership
- Communication
- Membership



2007-2009 International President
Zaida Perez-Mendez

Embracing the word means extending our hands to hug the world, to willingly accept our purpose of serving our communities without prejudice to race, religion or ethnic differences. Love and understanding our fellow members will enrich our lives, our Clubs and Altrusa International, Inc. To promote our mission, attract new members and retain our current members to form new Clubs and ASTRA will ensure our future as an organization.

Vamos a extender nuestra manos para abrazar el mundo, para aceptar nuestros propositos de servir a nuestros propositos de servir a nuestras comunidades sin prejuicios de raza, religion o diferencias etnicas o culturales. Amor y entendimiento hacia nuestros miembros enriquecera nuestras vidas, nuestros Clubes y por ende a Altrusa Internacional, Inc. Promover nuestra mision, traer nuevos miembros mientras retenemos nuestra membrasia formar nuevos Clubes y nuevos ASTRA nos asegura el futuro de nuestra organizacion.

Mark your calendars and start saving to attend the upcoming Altrusa conferences and conventions:

2009 District Conference Chickasha, OK

2009 Convention Indianapolis, IN

NEW ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE PASSWORD

I guess we all received a letter from Altrusa International alerting us to changes in the password protocol. I'll paraphrase what I think the letter was trying to tell me and see if this helps. I look at the tiny print and my eyes and brain begin to wobble so it takes a bit of effort to glean out the message.

Benefits:

1. Each Altrusa member now has their own password that is needed to look at newsletters from other Clubs. (Club officers have access to other sites)
2. Each member can now access their own data to correct addresses, phone numbers or any other data they feel needs correction.
3. Each member can indicate their preference for receiving Altrusa International mailings by either email or surface mail.

To begin:

Access the Altrusa International Website,
(www.altrusa.com)

1. Click on LOGIN (located on the first line under the logo)
2. I started with "Forgot Your Password? Don't Have One? Fill in your email address
3. Your password will be sent to your email address, open and write it down your password number
4. Start over with steps 1 and 2
5. This time fill in your email address and in the second box type your password number.
6. Select "My Profile"
7. When you are in your membership file you can change anything that is not correct and change your password to something easy for you to remember.
8. That's it!

Have fun looking around at anything that interests you.
The Editor

In case you haven't read about this Scam!!!

Dear Altrusans:

There is an e-mail going around to all members asking them to send money to Malaysia to help Altrusa International, Inc. President Zaida Perez-Mendez return home. **THIS E-MAIL IS NOT FROM HER!!!!!!** We have spoken to President Zaida and she is fine and is at home in Puerto Rico. **DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY!!!!!!** If you have any questions, please contact Regina Baras, Executive Director at 312-427-4410 or at baras@altrusa.com.

Sincerely,
-Altrusa International, Inc. -

DATE: October 21, 2008

TO: International Board of Directors, Past International Presidents, Past District Governors, District Officers, Altrusa Club Presidents

FROM: Scottie Harrell, Chair, Altrusa International Nominating Committee

SUBJECT: Recommendations for 2009-2011 International Board Candidates

1. ALTRUSANS TO BE SLATED:

The names of the Altrusans who are eligible and willing to be slated for election to the International Board of Directors for the 2009-2011 Biennium are listed on Page 5. The election will be held at the 2009 Altrusa International Convention in Indianapolis , Indiana , in August, 2008.

2. BOARD STRUCTURE CHANGES:

A listing of the substantial changes approved at the 2007 Altrusa International Convention in Orlando , Florida appears at the end of this memorandum. The Delegates voted and approved changes to the Board Structure which will impact the elections at the 2009 Altrusa International Convention in Indianapolis , Indiana . Below are listed three of the changes:

A. The number of Directors changed from seven (7) to four (4).

B. The four (4) Directors will be elected at the International Convention at the same time that Officers are elected.

C. The Treasurer may be from the same District as another elected Officer or Director or as the Immediate Past International President.

Please read about these changes on the attachment. If you have any questions regarding the Board structure, please contact me.

3. SLATE OF CANDIDATES TO BE PREPARED:

According to Altrusa International Bylaws, Article X, Section 3. Composition, (c), (iv): **The Nominating Committee prepares a slate of two (2) candidates for each office, according to the policies adopted by the Board of Directors.** This year, the Nominating Committee was unable to identify sufficient candidates with interest in running for the number of available Board positions to slate two candidates for each position. Please feel free to recommend other eligible members for Board positions to the Nominating Committee; however, you must receive permission from that individual prior to submitting their name and indicate the office in which they are interested.

A. Anyone from District Fourteen and District Three are eligible to run for the Treasurer's position only. The current International President, Zaida Perez-Mendez (District Fourteen), will be Immediate Past President and the current International President-Elect, Donna C. Johnson (District three), will be International President.

Please refer to International Bylaws, Article XI: Officers and Directors, Section 1, Elected Officers (j): **No two members of the Board of Directors shall be from the same District during any term, except the Treasurer may be from the same District as another elected Officer or Director or as the Immediate Past International President.**

B. If an eligible member is named as a nominee and is from the same District as another individual appearing on the Nominating Committee's slate, the eligible member may only be nominated for the same office as the slated nominee from the same District, with the exception of the office of Treasurer. In other words, two nominees from the same District will be running against each other for the same office except for the office of Treasurer. This applies to both nominees on the Nominating Committee's slate and from the floor of the Delegate Assembly.

4. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:

The International Nominating Committee will be pleased to receive your comments on the candidates for the International Board of Directors. Your comments on any of these potential candidates' qualifications and special strengths will be carefully considered by the Nominating Committee when they prepare the slate for election. Please send your letter(s) of recommendation on any potential candidate(s) to the Nominating Committee in care of the Executive Assistant, Nancy L. Chase, at the International Office in Chicago , Illinois or by e-mail to chase@altrusa.com no later than **November 7, 2008.**

Copies of all letters received will be forwarded to all members of the Nominating Committee by Nancy as they are received in Chicago .

BOARD STRUCTURE CHANGES APPROVED AT THE 2007 ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

At the 2007 Altrusa International Convention in Orlando , Florida , the Delegates voted and approved changes to the Board Structure which will impact the elections at the 2009 Altrusa International Convention in Indianapolis , Indiana .

Delineated below are the substantial changes:

1. **The number of Directors changed from seven (7) to four (4).** The Board of Directors consists of nine members, five (5) Officers and four (4) Directors. [See 2007-2009 Altrusa International Bylaws and Policies, Article XI: Officers and Directors, Section 1. Elected Officers, (a)]

2. **The Four (4) Directors will be elected at the International Convention at the same time that Officers are elected.** [See 2007-2009 Altrusa International Bylaws and Policies, Article XI: Officers and Directors, Section 2. Election, (a)]

3. **For election to the Board of Directors, an individual must meet eligibility requirements not only at the time of nomination but also at the time of election.** [See 2007-2009 Altrusa International Bylaws

and Policies, Article XI: Officers and Directors, Section 1. Elected Officers, (f), Eligibility Requirements]

4. **Nomination Eligibility requires an individual to be an active member in good standing. "In good standing" means all applicable dues, fees and late charges, if any, owed by a member to International, to the member's District, if any and to the member's Club must be paid in full.** [See 2007-2009 Altrusa International Bylaws and Policies, Article XI: Officers and Directors, Section 1. Elected Officers, (f), Eligibility Requirements]

5. **The Treasurer may be from the same District as another elected Officer or Director or as the Immediate Past International President. No other individuals running for elected position can be from the same District as another.** [See 2007-2009 Altrusa International Bylaws and Policies, Article XI: Officers and Directors, Section 1. Elected, (i); Policy 45: Nominating Committee, (a) International Nominating Committee, (xiv)]

2007 -2009 Altrusa International, Inc. Bylaws And Policies

Article XI: Officers and Directors, Section 1. Elected Officers:

(a) The elected Officers of International shall be a President, President-Elect, Vice President and Treasurer. In addition, there shall be four Directors elected as provided in these Bylaws.

(f) Eligibility Requirements. In order to be eligible for election to the Board of Directors, members must be, at the time of nomination and election:

- (i) Active members in good standing and
- (ii) A Past District Governor, who has completed serving a full term as District Governor (more than one half (1/2) of a two-year term).

The International Board of Directors shall remove, from the slate the name of any candidate not meeting the eligibility requirements and shall direct the Nominating Committee to replace immediately such individual with that of a willing and eligible candidate.

"In good standing" means all applicable dues, fees and late charges, if any, owed by a member to International, to the member's District, if any, and to the member's Club must be paid in full.

Officers must remain in good standing throughout their term of office.

(i) No two members of the Board of Directors shall be from the same District during any term, except the Treasurer may be from the same District as another elected Officer or Director or as the Immediate Past International President.

Article XI: Officers and Directors, Section 2. Election:

(a) The President-Elect, Vice President, Treasurer and Directors shall be elected by ballot at the Convention except as provided in subsection (b) following.

Policy 45: Nominating Committee, (a) International Nominating Committee

(vi) Eligibility Requirements. In order to be eligible for election to International Office, members must be, at the time of nomination and election,

- (aa) Active members in good standing and
- (bb) Past District Governor, who has completed serving a full term as District Governor (more than one-half (1/2) of a two-year term).

The International Board of Directors shall remove, from the slate the name of any candidate not meeting the eligibility requirements and shall direct the Nominating Committee to replace immediately such individual with that of a willing and eligible candidate.

"In good standing" means all applicable dues, fees and late charges, if any, owed by a member to International, to the member's District, if any, and to the member's Club must be paid in full.

Officers must remain in good standing throughout their term of office.

(xiv) Nominations may be made from the floor of the Delegate Assembly. If a nominee from the floor is from the same District as another person appearing on the Nominating Committee's slate, the nominee from the floor may only be nominated for the same office as the slated nominee from the same District, with the exception of the office of Treasurer. Nominee(s) from the floor for the office of Treasurer may be from the same District as nominees for other elected offices or as the Immediate Past President.

ALTRUSANS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE AND WILLING TO BE SLATED FOR INTERNATIONAL OFFICE FOR THE 2007-2009 BIENNIUM

Under the name of each person are her District, her Altrusa Club affiliation and the International Office(s) that she is willing to be slated for (in order of preference). Please send letter(s) of recommendation for potential candidates to the Nominating Committee in care of the Executive Assistant, Nancy L. Chase, at the International Office or e-mail chase@altrusa.com by **November 7, 2008.**

DONA GARRETSON
District Ten
Grand Junction , CO
(1) President-Elect

TERRI HOUSTON
District One
Carver, MA
(1) Director
(2) Treasurer

KATHY JACKSON
District Five
Cincinnati , OH
(1) Vice President
(2) President-Elect

ILONA KERBY
District Twelve
Longview , WA
(1) Vice President
(2) Director

DORIS K. KOWALSKI
District Six
Galesburg , IL
(1) Vice President
(2) Director

CHRIS MOUTER
District Fifteen
Nelson , New Zealand
(1) Director

CAROLYN RASH
District Nine
Garland , TX
(1) Vice President
(2) President-Elect

CINDY SCHAD
District Three
Ocala , FL
(1) Treasurer

SILVIA D. SILVERMAN
District Two
Silver Springs , MD
(1) Director
(2) Vice President

PATRICIA A. YOUNG
District Eleven
Tucson , AZ
(1) Director

Marilynn Bell has moved!

Marilynn recently moved to a cottage at Arkanshire. Here's is her new contact information:

Marilynn Bell
5000 Arkanshire Circle #419
Springdale, AR 72764
(h) 479-756-6556
(e) mbell@arkansas.net

The following is taken from the President's Handbook. This article points to all the problems related to retention and expectations of new members.

REMEMBER ME?

I'm the one you asked to become a member.
I'm the one who paid dues to become a member, and stood in front of all of you and promised to be a good member.

I'm the one who has come to every meeting since that time, but no one paid any attention to me. I tried several times to be friendly to some other members, but they all had their "buddies" to talk with and sit next to. I sat down along with some unfamiliar faces several times, but they didn't pay much attention to me. I hoped very much that somebody would ask me to take charge of the last fund-raising project, but no one asked. I wanted very much to do the job, but no one saw my hand when I volunteered.

I missed my first meeting since becoming a member when my husband was sick. I could not make it, but no one asked me at the next meeting where I was. Gosh, I guess it didn't matter very much to the others whether I was there or not.

The next meeting I decided to stay home and watch a good program on TV. The following meeting, I attended. No one asked where I was the week before. You might say I am a nice person, love my family, hold a responsible job, and serve my community. You know who else I am? I'm the one who never came back.

It amuses me when I think back on how the president and several members were discussing why the club was losing members. It amuses me that they spent so much time looking for new members when I was there all the time. All they needed to do was to make me feel wanted, needed and welcome.

I'm the one who never came back.

Originally in the Altrusa Scanner, Fostoria, Ohio.

Bootheel Altrusan

Altrusa International, Inc. of Poplar Bluff

Marty Warner, Editor

Look Out VAC, Here We Come!

Altrusans took advantage of their regularly scheduled business meeting to apply their skills to writing lists for "Santa Claus." Every Altrusan attending the business meeting (and one guest, **Susan Felten**) spent time connecting with those employed families who are eligible to receive Christmas gifts from the community through the Voluntary Action Center.

A brief business meeting was held while participants ate a boxed lunch and we received instructions from "Julia," the Christmas Family coordinator for VAC

What a rewarding experience! Every family came to the table with sincere needs and thankfulness for being a part of this program. And every Altrusan serving felt real empathy and understanding towards these families who are struggling to maintain their independence.

From 5:45 until 8:30, working in shifts, Altrusans processed eighty "wish lists," for the families. The restrictions require that the parents can not ask for gifts for themselves, but they can ask for household goods. For the most part, it seemed that pots and pans, sheets, towels, cleaning supplies and laundry baskets were the most wanted items. For the children, there were many requests for underwear, coats, hats, gloves, shoes, jeans and pajamas. Of course, there were requests for books and toys for the children and gift cards

for the teenagers, but every parent seemed to want to clothe and house their children properly before all other requests. Altrusan Nancy Chapman took advantage of being "in the know," by calling VAC the next day and asking to adopt one of the single parents she met that evening who had struck a personal chord in Nancy's heart.

What a wonderful way to be an Altrusan!

Although the evening was somewhat hectic, and holding a business session was not "wildly" successful, the opportunity to help VAC and to work together as Altrusans more than made up for any inconvenience of the evening.

In addition, of course, we will be adopting one of those families as part of our service plan. It just might be someone that we had the opportunity to meet!

By Jeanne Dzurick

VAC's unique programs are designed to address unmet needs in our community, giving low-income people the opportunity to gain independence, overcome crisis, meet their basic needs, and improve their quality of life. VAC also provides volunteer information, training, and recognition, encouraging our community to respond to social problems and community issues.

From Consequences, Altrusa of Columbia, MO
What a way to show the Christmas Spirit

Altrusa District Eight New Members as of Sept. 6, 2008

Bentonville/Bella Vista

Sue McLaughlin
51 Highland Parkway
Bella Vista, AR 72715 (Aug)

Bobbie Platt
23 Parkridge Dr.
Bella Vista, AR 72715 (April 15)

Columbia

Vicky Burns
2205 Garden Dr
Columbia, MO 65202

Dexter

Wendy Chen
13717 Co Rd 642
Dexter, MO 63841 (April 16)

Teresa Neeley
PO Box 531
Dexter, MO 63841 (June)

Louise Page
1207 Redwood
Dexter, MO 63841 (June)

Sarah Jones
10512 Chapparal Park
Dexter, MO 63841 (June)

Grace Long
%Winchester Place
PO Box 760 Bernie, MO 63822 (April 16)

Emporia

Sandy Kramer
1517 Washington St.
Emporia, KS 66801 (June)

Fayetteville (2 reinstating)

Marion Purvis
1606 North Forest Heights
Fayetteville, AR 72703

Debra Wilson
10465 S. Highway 265
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Fort Smith

Stacy Brooks
11 Vista Hill Blvd.
Van Buren, AR 72956

Tonya Sneed
9923 Holland Road
Charleston, AR 72933

Greater Kansas City

Pat Parr
10183 W. 96th Terr.
Overland Park, KS 66212

Jonesboro

Teresa Runkel
4308 Eastbrook
Jonesboro, AR 72404 (June)

Lawrence

Sammie Messick
631 Ohio
Lawrence, KS 66044 (June)

Kristin Scott
2800 Wakarusa Dr., Apt. T1
Lawrence, KS 66047 (June)

Little Rock (2 reinstating)

Jennifer Rogers
204 Chalamont Lane
Little Rock, AR 72223

Kimberly Sanders
#3 White Fir Cove
Little Rock, AR 72212

Mexico

Beverly Borgeson
13875 Audrain Road 819
Mexico, MO 65265 (Aug)

Christy Graham
1712 Springdale Court
Mexico, MO 65265 (Aug)

Kelly Kuda
17772 Audrain Road 751
Martinsburg, MO 65264 (June)

Lise Landis
11906 Audrain Road 945
Thompson, MO 65285 (June)

Stephanie Norris
923 E. Love
Mexico, MO 65265 (May)

Dee Ragsdale
612 N. Olive
Mexico, MO 65265 (July)

Moberly

Susan Hall
PO Box 173
Moberly, MO 65270

Terry Strickland
1117 Bradford Circle
Moberly, MO 65270

Poplar Bluff

Barb Thompson
1110 North 11th Street
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

Rogers

Dana Metzger
707 Rochelle Court
Rogers, AR 72758

Sharon Rothrock
906 S. 13th St.
Rogers, AR 72758

Springdale

Pam Boykin
105 Necessary Dr.
Rogers, AR 72758

West Memphis

Mary Davis
814 Arlington
West Memphis, AR 72301

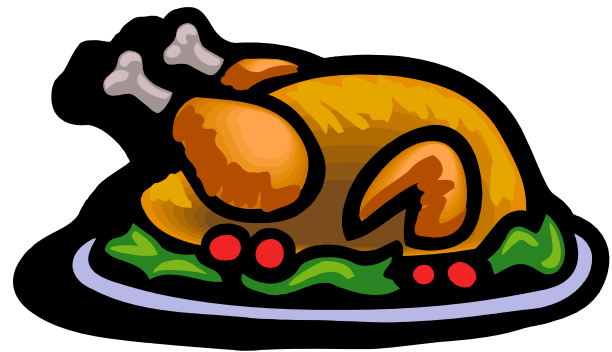
Donna Glass
503 Brentwood
West Memphis, AR 72301 **(reinstatement)**

Karen Summers
920 Rosewood
West Memphis, AR 72301

Governor:
Linda Smith
1922 Foxtail
Salina, KS 67401

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Note from the Editor: When submitting articles for the District Bulletin, please send them in word format and level 2003. I cannot open the latest word on my computer. Or you can cut and paste directly into your email Marne Close



I hope each of you and your families have a very Happy Thanksgiving and the Merriest of Holidays.



Altrusa International of Little Rock, Arkansas Contributes to Arkansas CARES on Make A Difference Day –2008



For seventeen years, Altrusa International, Inc. of Little Rock has supported Arkansas CARES through its financial and service contributions. In fact, Altrusa was the first community group to support Arkansas CARES. Altrusans have donated talent such as sewing window valences for the residential cottages, creating a client library in collaboration with then-UAMS Chancellor Harry Ward, and routinely reading to children in the Arkansas CARES Child Care Center. Other examples of service include hosting Halloween and Easter parties, making Easter baskets for children, donating school supplies and hygiene kits, and obtaining funding for a Mother-Child reading program with Literacy Action of Central Arkansas.

Altrusan contributions to Arkansas CARES do not stop with hands-on service. Fundraising efforts such as the annual art auction have resulted in financial contributions. Over the years, the Altrusa Club's service to Arkansas CARES has been recognized by through Altrusa District awards. In 2007, the Little Rock Club won the District Eight President's Award for its years-long service and commitment to Arkansas CARES.

The promotion of literacy is a special focus of Altrusa. As a "Make A Difference Day" contribution on October 25, 2008, Little Rock Altrusans will donate adult and children's books to be distributed to clients during the Arkansas CARES Family Fun Day Halloween Carnival. The books will be distributed through a "book walk" activity patterned after the traditional cake walk. A special presentation of a Children's Dictionary will be made in honor and memory of Little Rock Altrusan Emeritus, Willie Oates. Further, it will be announced that the Little Rock Altrusa Foundation and Club has voted to donate \$2,350 to Arkansas CARES this year to purchase graduation incentive gift certificates for mothers completing the residential program so they can purchase needed items as they transition from treatment to community living. Club members also plan to support an Easter party in 2009 for children and families.

The first Altrusa Club was organized in 1917 in Nashville, Tennessee to be a coordinating force for the leadership, thinking, and talents of women in business and the professions. In 1935, the organization went international. In 1962, Altrusa International Foundation was established as a charitable corporation committed to the service goals and objectives of Altrusa. As a "builder of women", the Little Rock Club was founded in 1930. Altrusa International, Inc. of Little Rock, Arkansas Foundation was incorporated in 1992.

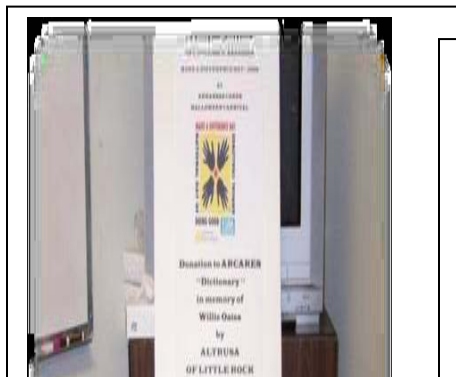
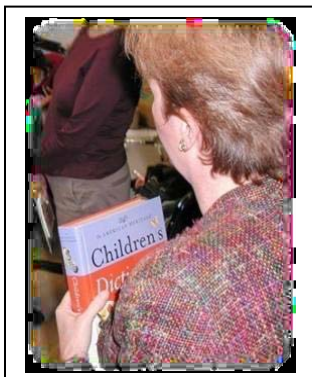
Methodist Family Health is grateful for the long-term commitment of Altrusans of Little Rock to Arkansas CARES and the families served. To us, they "make a difference" more than this one special day!

Submitted by Cindy Crone





This was a Family Fun Day activity where fathers and other family members were invited to join mothers and children in residence at Arkansas CARES for family fun! We had a Book Walk for the children and families to pick out a book which our Altrusans donated. We also staffed a "Pin the nose on the Jack-o-Lantern" activity. There were other booths/activities/face painting, etc. We helped with these activities from setup to cleanup. Altrusa of Little Rock made a SPECIAL PRESENTATION to Arkansas CARES of the Children's Dictionary donation in memory of Willie Oates



Sad news from New Zealand:

Sent: Monday, November 17, 2008
8:40 PM

Subject: Some very sad news re
Margaret Inch

_Dear everyone .. I have just been informed of the sudden death of Margret Inch this morning of a heart attack.. I still haven't come to grips with this my self as I have only just heard . I will be calling Doug tonight.

Regina please notify the Districts &
Past International Presidents
I will be in touch when more
information comes to hand
In Altrusa

Chris

Chris Mouter

Governor

District Fifteen

DD: 03 546 1841 (work)

Home 03 545 0159

Cell Phone 027 2460108

PO Box 662

Nelson 7040

New Zealand

mailto: chris.mouter@nmhs.govt.nz

"Raising the Bar for Altrusa"

Chickasha, Oklahoma District Eight Conference Site April, 2009



Altrusans of Chickasha, Oklahoma are looking forward to welcoming all District Eight Altrusans and guests to their community in April 2009. With winter fast approaching, doesn't this view of Shannon Springs Park warm your heart? Don't you wish you could be there NOW? Well, you will have to wait until April, attend the District Eight Conference and see what all the buzz is about in Chickasha!

Meetings will be held at The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, commonly referred to as USAO. Your District Board members attended their mid-year planning session in Chickasha, toured the facility, and received a marvelous meal (our preview for the Banquet) at the University. Mark you calendars NOW to attend District Eight's Conference - **April 24—26, 2009**

From Sue Hart, First Vice Governor