



District Eight Service Bulletin

Volume 50, No. 3

November 2006

Governor Peggy Hughes 2006-2008

Connect to Build Altrusa's Future

THIS IS THE SEASON TO CELEBRATE SUCCESSSES AND BUILD BONDS.....

Take time to notice, appreciate and recommit to Altrusa

from Governor Peggy Hughes

We are half way through an Altrusa year which makes this a good time to reflect, look back on accomplishments and evaluate our Altrusa work. Taking time to reflect can give us valuable insight into where we have been and where we want to continue to go.

As Altrusans we spend the year working toward common project goals to build a better future for the communities where we live, one "service" step at a time. This is a wonderful morale builder. But what can build even greater morale and an even stronger club is to stop and **notice** another Altrusan's achievements and contributions, however small.

Altrusans need to do "service" to one another as well as to their communities. To notice is to seek out, observe, perceive, and pay respectful attention in an interested favorable way. We pay others a great compliment when we notice and mention their good deeds.

What can we do to **show more appreciation** to our members? Here's a mid Altrusa year assignment. Take the time to celebrate someone in your club every day this month and beyond. Honor them, help them to refresh, renew and recommit to their Altrusa membership.

Why not sit down right now and write a note, send a quick email, make a phone call just to say, "You know, that was a good thing you did, I noticed and I wanted to let you know I appreciate you. You enrich my life and I see that you enrich the lives of others around you. I am glad I know you."

Positive words create and build further commitment. When we know what we do is appreciated, we become more focused and will work to continually go forward and improve. We know Altrusa members want to be part of something with purpose and feel a sense of accomplishment. Let's make a vow to begin working to develop our own and other members' skills, to use

**Governor
Peggy Hughes**



Altrusa Fact

Watch for the District Eight Website to be updated over the next few months. We welcome your ideas and suggestions.
email:
pah@southwind.net

members' time and talents more effectively while encouraging and honoring the diversity of those members. When this is achieved, then the "AHA" Altrusa moments we so often need in the chaos of our lives are created.

Then let's, stop and **recommit** to our **own** Altrusa membership. When we recommit, we expand the dimensions of our membership and richly enhance it for others as well. An easy way to reflect on the positives from our Altrusa membership for our personal and professional lives, for our club members and for our communities is to answer these questions based on Joy Golliver's "Ignite The Community Spirit." Add your own thoughts to this list and create that 30 second elevator speech you have been meaning to prepare.

1. What has my Altrusa membership done for me?
 - Better balances my life
 - Increases my involvement in the community
 - Increases contacts
 - Enhances my image
 - Markets my skills
 - Increases my knowledge
 - Teaches me more efficient planning skills
 - Helps me obtain a career promotion or advancement
2. What can I give?
 - Financial experience
 - Planning experience

- Team building knowledge
- Computer skills
- Photography ability
- Fund development knowledge
- Event coordinator experience
- Communication abilities
- Teaching ability
- Human resource development
- Friendliness
- Good coaching/mentoring skills
- Eagerness to work for the common good

Ask yourself, what am I doing to make my club and Altrusa a stronger, healthier organization? What more could we do to be efficient problem solvers and step up to the Altrusa challenges we face? We know from experience that when we focus on improving, things improve. We just need to take that first step.

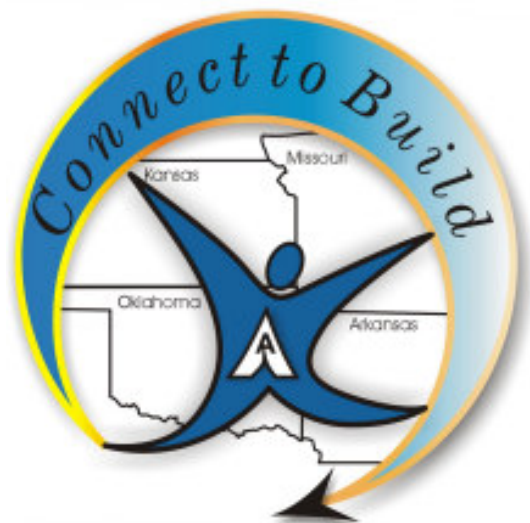
Make it a goal, don't sit back, promise yourself to get more involved this next year. We can all make excuses but in the end do we feel better for it? I don't. I feel better when I have made a series of small sacrifices. I have regretted *not* taking initiative, I have never regretted when I have. Notice, then show appreciation to others around you. Andrew Carnegie said "No man becomes rich unless he enriches others." As we move toward the New Year, strive to be someone others can depend on and then go **brag** on someone. You'll be glad you did.

Looking Ahead on the Calendar

DECEMBER: CELEBRATE & ENJOY

ALTRUSA EVENTS

- HALF YEAR DUES BEGIN
DECEMBER 1ST
- PLAN A RECRUITMENT EVENT FOR JANUARY
- CAMPAIGN FOR APRIL 27-28TH
COLUMBIA, MO CONFERENCE
ATTENDANCE
- REMIND MEMBERS: CONFERENCE
DELEGATES/ALTERNATES ELECTION
IN 60 DAYS
- CLUB OFFICERS/COMMITTEE
CHAIRS: UPDATE INFO TO CLUB
ACTIVITY REPORT



Altrusa Fact

*Have you had
a club member
move or
change email
address?
Let Shanna
know by
email at
herbertsoukup
@sbglobal.net.
Be sure to
include your
club's name
and the
mover's
complete
contact
information.*

JANUARY: ELECT AND RECRUIT

- HAVE A RECRUITMENT EVENT/ADD
AN ALTRUSAN MONTH
- ELECT CLUB'S NOMINATING
COMMITTEE
- CAMPAIGN FOR CONFERENCE:
PROMOTE DISTRICT'S ATTENDANCE
INCENTIVES
- PREPARE TO ELECT CONFERENCE
DELEGATES/ALTERNATES
- IF CLUB HAS A FOUNDATION:
ANNUAL REPORT DUE BY JAN 15TH
- DISTRIBUTE AWARDS FOLDER FROM
INTERNATIONAL TO COMMITTEE
CHAIRS
- NOTIFY DISTRICT OF ANY
MEMBER'S CHANGE IN NAME,
ADDRESS, EMAIL
- IDEA: CREATE A CLUB FUNDRAISER
(INTERNAL BUDGET) TO SUPPORT
CLUB MEMBER'S CONFERENCE
ATTENDANCE.

FEBRUARY: CONFERENCE ORIENTS MEMBERS FOR YOU

- PROMOTE DISTRICT'S CONFERENCE
ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES
- ELECT CLUB'S DELEGATES/
ALTERNATES FOR CONFERENCE
- NOMINATING COMMITTEE:
PRESENT SLATE (ELECTION IN 30
DAYS)
- WATCH FOR THE MAILED "CALL TO

CONFERENCE" ISSUE DISTRICT
SERVICE BULLETIN (DSB)

- DSB SHOWS AWARD/COMPETITION
DEADLINES (**MARCH 19, 2007**)
- REVIEW ASTRA CLUB SERVICE
AWARD INFORMATION WITH ASTRA
CLUB OFFICERS

MARCH: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- 10 DAYS AFTER ELECTION: SEND
ROSTER TO DISTRICT SECRETARY &
INTRN'L
- PRESIDENT-ELECT: APPOINT YOUR
COMMITTEE CHAIRS
- CAMPAIGN FOR CONFERENCE
ATTENDANCE
- PLAN FOR CONFERENCE-SILENT
AUCTION, CLUB DISPLAY
- SEND IN DISTRICT AWARD ENTRIES
(**MARCH 19, 2007**)
- SUBMIT NEWSLETTERS/YEARBOOK
FOR DISTRICT COMPETITION
(**MARCH 19, 2007**)
- PRESIDENT-ELECT: READ
PRESIDENT'S HANDBOOK, APPOINT
CHAIRS, PLAN YOUR YEAR
- INTERNATIONAL GRANT REQUESTS
DUE BY **MARCH 15, 2007**
- CONTINUE WORK ON CLUB
ACTIVITY REPORT DUE BY **MAY 31,
2007**
- HALF YEAR DUES ENDS MARCH
31ST.

Conference is in the Air!

by Pamela Nunnelly

Black, pink, yellow, green, orange, red, blue, and white swirl of flowing, sheer, loose fitting, semi-fitted, and tailored garments. Can you see it?

The click, CLICK, tap, Tap, shuffle, shuffle of feet moving swiftly down the hall. Can you hear it?

And the smell of lavender, vanilla, grapefruit, and cherry blossom. Can you smell it?

The feel of a hundred women who have come together in spring is as exciting as the first chirping blue jay, the first sprig of green on your lawn, and the budding yellow daffodil pushing through the cold ground. This is the picture of the Altrusa District Eight Conference held annually in April.

Don't you want to experience this phenomenon?

ALTRUSANS in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, Governor Peggy Hughes wants you to **CONNECT TO CONFERENCE!**

- Connecting to conference will fortify your relationship with Altrusa International, District Eight, other clubs, AND individual club members.



- Connecting to conference will provide you with opportunities to share and broaden your leadership skills.
- Connecting to conference will expand your knowledge of Altrusa; its values and principles.
- Connecting to conference will energize your mind, body and spirit with many, **MANY** fun tools!

Can you see yourself at Conference April 26-28, 2006 in Columbia, Missouri?

Get excited, inspired...for conference is all about YOU!!

Altrusa Fact

Mamie L Bass's monument has been placed at her gravesite at the historical Crown Hill Cemetery Indianapolis, IN. Attend the 2009 International Convention in Indianapolis IN, birthplace of Altrusa's first National President.

First Timer's Conference Incentive More Generous

There will be a \$25.00 discount for any first time District Eight member who attends the 2007 Conference (with the exception of the Host club).

New this year, there will be NO LIMIT on the number of First Timer's a club can send at this great discounted price.

The Columbia, MO April 26-27th \$100 Conference registration fee includes a gift from the Host Club, two lunches, and a Banquet dinner. In ad-

dition, the Missouri clubs will provide a free Continental Breakfast Friday and Saturday mornings.

"This is exciting news for Altrusa clubs that want to encourage any member, but especially new or nearly new members to attend next year's Columbia, MO Conference" said Governor Peggy Hughes.

Look for more details in the February 2007 issue of the District Service Bulletin.

Altrusa Fact

District names are always fully spelled out (i.e. District One); never use the arabic number (i.e. District 1)

GENTLE REMINDER

Help us help you: Please remember to tell your club treasure if any of your personal information changes. She in turn will send the changes to District Eight's Treasurer Linda Wood Sharp and to Altrusa's Chicago International Office. Notifying her of your name, address, and/or email change insures that you will continue to receive your Altrusa mailings timely. An added bonus is that it saves time and money when the "Call to Conference" issue of the District Service Bulletin is mailed next February.

Altrusa Accent on the UN

by Martha Smither, Hot Springs Village, Arkansas

The UN was formed shortly after World War II. One of its branches, the Economic and Social Council, was set up to promote “higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development; solutions of international economic, social, health & related problems; and universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all - without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.”

The UN Charter provided the Council with a support network on non-governmental organizations called NGO's. In 1946, Altrusa became the first international service club for executive and professional women to have an official observer appointed to the UN.

Incidentally, she was a Captain in WWII and was the commanding officer of the first complete unit of WACS to arrive at Eisenhower's North African headquarters.

In 1978, Altrusa received NGO status during the term of Hilda Moar who was said to have been a walking advertisement for Altrusa at the UN.

Interestingly, another Altrusan at the UN during that period was Eleanor Roosevelt. She had joined Altrusa soon after the New York City Chapter was formed in 1927.

At the UN, she served as Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights and was one of the drafters of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Since Hilda Moar, there have been five successive Altrusa representatives

ending with Margaret Stadler, currently in place. The representatives have generally been sourced from the New York City Chapters.



Every 2 years, the Altrusa International Board appoints representatives to attend meetings and briefings, conducted for the non-governmental organizations by the UN Dept. of Public Information, on subjects relating solely to global economic and social concerns.

Also, these representatives can and do serve on the many NGO committees formed to further the improvement of the human condition, worldwide - chiefly on the Status of Women, UNICEF and UNIFEM (the UN Development fund for women).

Altrusa Fact

The Dedication Ceremony and “Unveiling” of the Mamie L Bass Monument was Saturday November 4th, 2006 at Gothic Chapel Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, IN

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

by Jane Hart, Chair, International Nominating Committee

The names of the Altrusans who are eligible and willing-to-be –stated for election as International Officers for the 2007-2009 Biennium are listed below. The election will be held at the Orlando, Florida International Convention in July, 2007. 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 a sufficient number of candidates with interest in running for officer positions to slate two candidates for each International Office. Please feel free to recommend other eligible members for office 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.

Please note the following:

~ Anyone from District Nine and District Fourteen is not eligible to run for office. The current International President, Linda Nichols (District Nine), will be Immediate Past President and the current International President-Elect, Zaida Perez-Mendez (District Fourteen), will be International President. Please refer to Inter-

national Bylaws, Article XI: Officers (h) *No two elected officers shall be from the same District during any term.*

~ 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. In other words, two nominees from the same District will be running against each other for the same office. This applies to both nominees on the Nominating Committee's slate and from the floor of the Delegate Assembly.

The International Nominating Committee will be pleased to receive your comments on the candidates for International Office. Your comments on any of these potential candidates' qualifications and special strengths will be carefully considered by the Committee when we prepare the slate for election for 2007-2009. Please send your letter(s) of recommendation on any potential candidate(s) to the Nominating Committee in care of the Executive Director, Regina A. Baras, at the International Office in Chicago, Illinois by December 22, 2006. Letters of recommendation may also be e-mailed to the Nominating Committee in care of the International Office at: baras@altrusa.com. Copies of all letters received will be forwarded to

Altrusa Fact

"A leader's Job is to duplicate oneself: Leaders developing leaders who develop leaders." - Carol McCall

Altrusa Fact

Altrusa History is Altruism in Action: The first big fundraiser reported (1922) was the Altrusa Club of Topeka, Kansas' carnival mask dance. Altrusa rented the city auditorium, invited the entire town, at 75 cents a ticket, and held a street parade preceding it with cars from other civic clubs. The Altrusa Tradition

all members of the Nominating Committee by the Executive Director as they are received.

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

Under the name of each person is her District, her Altrusa Club affiliation and the International Office(s) that she is willing to be slated for (in order of preference).

MARY A. BURFORD
District Six
Muncie, Indiana
(1) Vice President

KATHY JACKSON
District Five
Cincinnati, Ohio
(1) Vice President
(2) Treasurer

MARGARET H. CANNON
District Three
Caldwell County, North Carolina
(1) Treasurer

DONNA C. JOHNSON
District Three
Gainesville, Florida
(1) President-Elect

DONA M. GARRETSON
District Ten
Grand Junction, Colorado
(1) Vice President

Project Liability Insurance

It is time for Holiday Home Tours, Breakfasts with Santa, Santa's Workshops and other Altrusa Holiday project events.

The facility that your club is using for the service or fund-raising project you are planning has requested a Certificate of Insurance. You are wondering "What's that?" and "Where do I get one?"

One of the benefits of Altrusa membership, supported by our dues, is liability insurance for our projects. A Certificate of Insurance verifies that Altrusa International carries liability insurance for club events. The carrier is Group Administration Agency, Inc. To obtain a copy of a Certificate of Insurance, contact Group Administration at 800-621-1666.

Club 21

The name **Club 21** was chosen to emphasize the Foundation's commitment to being involved in a major international health concern into the 21st century. **Club 21** contributors are a part of a "club," with a membership and their own pin. Through an annual contribution of \$21 (US) or more, you can become a part of this effort to support children infected with HIV and AIDS.

Congratulations to Four District Eight Clubs!

Each of these clubs has been recognized as a 2005-2006

Distinguished Club

- **Altrusa International, Inc. of Stillwater, Oklahoma,**
- **Altrusa International, Inc. of Sikeston, Missouri,**
- **Altrusa International, Inc. of Hot Springs Village, Arkansas**
- **Altrusa International, Inc. of Fayetteville, Arkansas.**

Thanks to these clubs for “**Getting on Board**” and “**Connecting to Build**” Altrusa’s future.

Have you wondered **how** your club can become a Distinguished Club?

· Use the Club Activity Report in the President’s Handbook to plan your club year in the categories of: Service, Membership, Programming, Leadership, Communications and Foundation

· Email or complete a written report to your club’s President and/or Officers as projects, fundraisers and other club activities are completed throughout the year.

· Send the Club Activity Report to the International Office 332 S

Michigan Ave. Suite 1123 Chicago, IL 60604 by **May 31, 2007**

(Completed by the President with the help of the Board, and/or Committee Chairs)

What happens next?

· The International Membership Development Team reviews the Club Activity Reports

· Winning clubs are selected based on the scored information in the reports in the various categories listed above.

· If selected your club receives a congratulatory letter from the International President, and

· A Distinguished Club Banner Patch Award

· You can display your club Banner Patch with pride at all Altrusa functions.

If selected as a Distinguished Club, it indicates your club has worked hard to be a credit to Altrusa and the local community.

Start your friendly Altrusa competitive juices flowing and work toward this as a worthy club goal.

Let’s double the number of District Eight Distinguished Clubs next year in 2007.

Altrusa Fact

Re early Altrusa conventions: “The air fairly cracked with creativity as enthusiastic lady tycoons discussed what to do to make things better in.....the world.” The Altrusa Tradition

Letha H. Brown Literacy and Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Awards

by Kathy A. Surratt-States

Letha H. Brown Literacy Award

The Letha H. Brown Literacy Award was adopted by the International Board of Directors to honor Past International President Letha H. Brown for her work in establishing literacy as a major activity of Altrusa. Literacy projects nominated for the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award are judged every year at District Conferences and first place winners from each District are entered in the competition at the International level. Every Altrusa Club is eligible to submit one literacy project per year of the biennium that was:

- Conducted within the twelve month period before the date of submission of entries, or
- Completed on or before date of submission of entries, or
- Clubs with ongoing projects may submit the major activities conducted during the twelve month period before the date of submission of entries

Remember that projects that are primarily fundraisers or generate funds are ineligible for submission. Similarly, a project submitted for the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award is ineligible to be submitted for the Mamie L. Bass Award during the same biennium.

All entries for the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award must:

- Be typed
- Have a cover page with
 - The name of the project
 - "Nomination for Letha H. Brown Literacy Award"
 - Date
 - Club name and address
 - District

The first page of all entries must include a completed entry form followed by a narrative of the project not exceeding 500 words. The narrative must:

- Describe the process used to select the literacy project
- Describe the activities and actions used to complete the project
- Describe methods used to measure the effectiveness of the project and results achieved

Club entries in District Eight for the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award must be **postmarked no later than March 19, 2007** and mailed to Governor Peggy Hughes, 1306 East 21st Avenue, Hutchinson, KS 67502. Governor Peggy will appoint a chair of the District Eight Letha H. Brown Literacy Award who shall select three prominent members of the general public to serve as judges. At our 2007 District Eight Conference in Columbia, Missouri, the winner will be announced and presented with a Certificate of Merit and an award of \$100.

All of the entries that win first place in the District in both years of the 2005 – 2007 Biennium are sent to the International Office in Chicago, Illinois. A special committee of no less than three non-Altrusans, distinguished for their volunteer and civic activities, will select a first place winner and two honorable mentions for the 2005 – 2007 Biennium. At the July 2007 Orlando International Convention, an award of \$300 will be presented to the first place winner and awards of \$75 to the two honorable mentions.

Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award

The Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award was adopted in 2002 as a memorial to the only International President who served two terms and who focused on the international aspects of our organization. Activities nominated for the Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award are judged every year at District Conferences and first place winners from each District are entered in the competition at the international level. Every Altrusa Club is eligible to submit their international activities each year of the biennium. This award is based on a yearlong focus on international relations, not just one specific project. The entries are judged on the overall emphasis for the entire program year. The criteria for the activities is:

- Number of meetings dedicated to international relations, with a minimum of two per Club year
- The Club's most outstanding program and if it contributed to the initiation of a new Club project, described in 50 words or less

Altrusa Fact

Check www.altrusa.org regularly for international news.

Awards Continued

- If your Club currently has an existing project to promote international relations and if so describe said project, in 200 words or less
- Which international dates during the past year that your Club observed, with a minimum of three
 - Women's Rights Day, March 8
 - World Health Day, April 7
 - World Literacy Day, September 8
 - International Peace Day, third Tuesday in September
 - United National Day, October 24
 - Human Rights Day, December 10
- If your Club knows that Altrusa has a United Nations Representative, if your Club utilized the resources available from the Altrusa United Nation's Representative and if your Club has a program relating to the United Nations describe said program in 50 words or less

All entries for the Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award must:

- Be typed, double space, on one side of plain white paper
- Have a cover page with
 - The name of the project
 - "Nomination for Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award"
 - Date
 - Club name and address
 - District

The first page of all entries for the Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award must include a completed entry form followed by a narrative not to exceed the specifications of each section as discussed above.

Judges for the Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award are to place primary importance on the written narrative, to consider how comprehensive the international focus was during the entire year and how it was incorporated into other aspects of the Club.

Club entries in District Eight must be **post marked no later than March 19, 2007** and mailed to Governor Peggy Hughes, 1306 East 21st Avenue, Hutchinson, KS 67502. Governor Peggy will appoint a chair of the District Eight Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award who shall select three prominent members of the general public to serve as judges. At our 2007 District Eight Conference in Columbia, Missouri, the winner will be announced and presented with a Certificate of Merit.

All of the entries that win first place in the District in both years of this Biennium are sent to the International Office in Chicago, Illinois. A special committee of no less than three non-Altrusans distinguished for their volunteer and civic activities, will be select a first place winner and two honorable mentions for the 2005 – 2007 Biennium. At the July 2007 Orlando International Convention, an award of \$100 will be presented to the first place winner and awards of \$50 to the two honorable mentions.

We look forward to having many entries for both of these awards submitted in District Eight. For more information on these awards and preparation of entries go to www.altrusa.com. We look forward to highlighting many District Eight Clubs' literacy and international programs at the District Eight Conference in Columbia, Missouri, April 26 to 29, 2007. of entries go to www.altrusa.com. We look forward to highlighting many District Eight Clubs' literacy and international programs at the District Eight Conference in Columbia, Missouri, April 26 to 29, 2007.

Altrusa Fact

Mark your calendar for Conference in Columbia in April 2007.

Happy Holidays!

Altrusa Awards - Go for the Gold

by Kyra Taylor

Two of the most prestigious awards in Altrusa are the Mamie L. Bass Service Award and the Governor's Distinguished Service Award. There is, perhaps, no greater feeling for an Altrusa club than to win one of its major awards. Just ask any club who has received the honor. In addition to the bragging rights for the first place winner, your entry for the Mamie L. Bass Service Award is submitted for competition at the International level. I imagine winning at the International level would be comparable to— well, winning the Lottery. The District first place winning club receives a Certificate of Merit and check for \$100.00 at Conference, and the International winner receives an award of \$300.00 at Convention.

The Governor's Distinguished Service Award is offered only at the District level and the winning club also receives a check for \$100.00 at Conference.

These are all facts that you probably know. What you may not know, particularly if your club has never submitted an entry for these awards, is that (1) your club *does not* have to be at charter strength to submit an entry, and (2) the rules for both awards are pretty simple. The high points for both awards are set out below for your convenience.

Mamie L. Bass Service Award

Judging: The competition is held each year of the biennium. The District Governor appoints a chair of the District Mamie L. Bass Award Committee, the chair selects three prominent members of the general public to serve as judges (*not* Altrusans), and winners are announced at District Conference. Judges place primary importance on the narrative. Everything else is supplementary, including the amount of funds spent on the activity.

The Rules: The eligibility rules are pretty simple. Any Altrusa Club is eligible to enter one service project which (1) was conducted in its entirety during the 12-month period ending prior to the submission deadline, (2) was completed on or before the submission deadline, or (3) is a project of an ongoing nature whose major activities were conducted during the 12-month period ending prior to the submission deadline. There are, of course, a couple of no-no's. Projects which are primarily for fundraising purposes or which generate funds for clubs are not eligible. And a project submitted for the Mamie L. Bass Service Award cannot be submitted for the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award in the same biennium. The winning entry is forwarded to the International Office immediately after the close of Conference (June 1st deadline), and the judges for the International competition (also non-Altrusans) consider the entries from all Districts for both years of the International biennium.

Entry Preparation: All entries must be typed, covers should be labeled, "Nomination for Mamie L. Bass Service Award, name of club, District, club year," the first page of the manuscript should be the entry form, completed in its entirety, and *the narrative must not exceed 500 words* and must be typed with double spacing on plain white paper. It would be helpful to refer to the judging criteria and score sheet when preparing your entry. Probably more entries lose for failure to adhere to the rules than for any other reason. The Criteria and Score Sheet, a sample Title Page, and the Entry Form, along with complete information on the do's and don't's, are all available in .pdf format on the International website (www.altrusa.com, click "Awards" on the home page), and in the Club President's Handbook (Chapter 14 covers all Altrusa awards).

Altrusa Fact

*Six District
Eight Board
members
visited all 26
District Eight
clubs August-
October 2006.*

Submission—When & Where: Now is the time to get prepared and start working on your entry. The deadline for submission, usually around the third week of March, will be announced in the February DSB (Call to Conference issue). Entries should be sent to Service Chair Sandra Perkins 111 Cabriole Cove Marion, AR 72364.

More Information:

The Governor's Distinguished Service Award

The Rules: All District Eight clubs are eligible to enter one currently sponsored community service project that has been an ongoing in the community for at least five years. Now this is the only little hiccup: The project must have been previously submitted for either the Mamie L. Bass Service Award or the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award. So, if your club has a service project that has been ongoing for at least five years and you have previously submitted that project for either the MLB or LHB awards, you're in good shape for this award.

Judging: The competition is held every year and entries are judged on content, effectiveness, creativity and originality, and success in meeting the objectives.

Entry Preparation: Submit three copies of your project to the Immediate Past Governor.

A sample title page and the Entry Form are shown on the District Eight website (www.altrusadistricteight.org). From the home page choose "Publications" and under "Forms and Information" you will find both the Entry and Criteria listed there. The description of the project *must not exceed 500 words*. In addition to the narrative, you may also submit five pages of supplemental information (8½ x 11, one side only). Entries that do not comply with the requirements will be disqualified. Judges will have discretion to award points.

Submission—When & Where: As with the MLB, the deadline for submission is usually around the third week of March and the date will be announced in the February DSB (Call to Conference issue). Entries should be sent to Immediate Past Governor Debbie Holesko at 109 E. Lakehurst Drive, Stillwater, OK 74075.

So, now you know how easy it is, lets have a big turnout of entries for these awards at the Columbia Conference next April. Go ahead and be getting ready so when the Call to Conference arrives, you'll already have your entry ready to go. Again, check the International website (www.altrusa.com) for information on the Mamie L. Bass Service Award and the District Eight website (www.altrusddistricteight.org) for information on the Governor's Distinguished Service Award. And just like the lottery, you can't win if you don't enter. So please enter.

Altrusa Fact

Fundraisers conducted by Altrusans must clearly state that proceeds are to be used for philanthropic purpose. Policy 24 BRR



SEASON'S GREETINGS

**FROM DISTRICT EIGHT BOARD
and COMMITTEE CHAIRS**



District Eight Altrusa Connecting

by Diane Eberhard

Mexico, MO –

To help the third grade students understand giving and give back – after receiving a Third Grade Dictionary,



Altrusa Fact

Dr Nina Fay Calhoun, Dallas, Texas was the only Altrusan to serve two terms (World War II) 1941-1945 as International President. Her classification was dermatologist. The Altrusa Tradition

letters were sent to each parent inviting them to share new or gently used books with children in pre-school.

Altrusans used these books in our “Make A Difference Day” celebration. Books were donated St. Joseph Early



Learning Center; Community R-6; Mexico Public Schools Pre-Kinder-gartens; the Audrain County Crisis Intervention Center; Wee Care Daycare and Williams Family Support Center.

Assisting the Literacy Committee in delivering books were Jill Rafferty, Ans Schmidtke and Jackie Heaston. Thanks to all for “making a difference” in the lives of children on October 28, 2006

Stillwater, OK –



Stillwater’s Make a Difference Day project was the collection of books for distribution in the Friday back packs, for needy children at Highland Park Elementary School.

Altrusa Fact

*Mamie L Bass
Indianapolis,
Indiana served
as Altrusa's
first national
president
1917-1918.
Her
classification
was
architectural
firm business
administrator.
The Altrusa
Tradition*

This project is conducted by the Mission Committee and UMW of the First United Methodist Church. Every Friday the children are given a back pack to take home for the weekend that contains child friendly food items. Beginning in September, this back pack will contain a book (which they can keep) provided by Altrusa. The back packs are returned on Monday to be refilled for the next Friday. Gently used and new books were collected and the first donation was presented to the Highland Park School Counselor.

Columbia, MO –

The Columbia Altrusa Club distributed dictionaries in conjunction with Make a Difference Day to the third grade classrooms in Benton and Grant Elementary Schools.

Hot Springs Village, AR –

Hot Springs Village Altrusans delivered 264 dictionaries to the Fountain Lake, Cutter Morning Star and Jessieville Elementary Schools. A donation of dictionaries was also made to the Literacy Council of Garland County.

Sikeston, MO –

Sikeston Altrusans collected school supplies from area church groups, business and other organizations to be donated to three area abuse shelters, a local GED program and soup kitchen.

Hutchinson, KS –

Hutchinson, KS Altrusans did two projects on Make A Difference Day.

Some members were posted at a local book store and Wal-Mart to collect items for foster children for St. Francis Academy. Items included suitcases, quilts, crayons, coloring books, reading books, puzzles, a booster seat, as well as cash contributions.

Other Hutchinson members hosted a “Mother/Son Fun Night”. Eleven local schools were represented. There were 22 boys and 21 mothers who played pumpkin bowling, cow patty toss, horseshoes, and “Wrap the Mummy”.

Six Hutchinson High School students helped Altrusa members to play games, emcee, distribute door prizes, eat cookies and clean up. Even they had fun at the fun night.



Josh East is “mummifying” his mother, Rebecca East.

Altrusa Fact

The next Altrusa International Convention is scheduled for July 13-16, 2007 in Orlando, Florida.

Salina, KS –

In honor of World Literacy Day, the Salina Club donated books to 12 new babies born on 9/8/06.

For Make a Difference Day, Salina Altrusans collected humorous books, videos, and DVD's to be donated to the Hospice of Salina Humor Library.

Greater Kansas City –

Shirley Palmer and the Membership Committee hosted an Orientation on Wednesday October 11. Bethany Stanley, Sue Martin, Phyllis Schauffler, Joyce Andersen, Jan Gindra, Ev Tracey, Barbara Norris, Shirley Palmer, Donna Lewis, Nancy Paul and Dana Johnson played a rousing game of Altrusa Bingo after a great



Phyllis Schauffler, Joyce Andersen, Sue Martin, Bethany Stanley

dinner. I think people may have learned some new things about Altrusa. I know I did. Thank you to Shirley for hosting.

We have a second Orientation scheduled for April.11, 2007.

Dictionary Project

October 18, 2006

In honor of what would have been Noah Webster's 248th birthday, six Altrusans visited two Kansas City Elementary schools on October 18 to present third grade students with their

personal dictionary. We delivered 74 dictionaries to Hale-Cook Elementary School, 73rd & Pennsylvania and 62 copies to Visitation School, 51st and Baltimore.



Dana Johnson, Barbara Norris, Nancy Paul, Mary Weil, Suzanne Gladney

As part of our presentation we told the students a bit about Mr. Webster, assisted them in looking up words and told them about other fun uses for their dictionaries at school, they will be theirs to take home with them as they move on to fourth grade. We found the students to be bright, polite, and welcoming. Altrusans participating in dictionary day were: Marne Close, Suzanne Gladney, Dana Johnson, Barbara Norris, Nancy Paul, and Mary Weil.

Information of Interest

You may be interested to know that more than 25,000 third-graders in the metropolitan area received dictionaries this week. This is the fifth year for the project with more than 100,000 dictionaries delivered to date. The presentations are made possible by organizations like Altrusa helping to fund the Kansas City Dictionary Project and delivering them each October.

Chickasha, OK –

Altrusa International of Chickasha, OK, hosted its annual Hall of Trees, November 19, 2006.

The theme this year was “A Season of Merriment and Melody”. Profits from the evening which include a live auction of decorated Christmas tree and a silent auction preceding and during dinner go to three charities in Chickasha.

They are the Resurrection House, the local homeless shelter; Chickasha Mobile Meals; and Chickasha Community Theatre. It’s too early to estimate our profits, but the evening was a tremendous success.



Altrusans Beth Ann Schenk, Patty Noel, Donna Day, Joyce Witte, Nancy Adams



From left to right are Altrusans Lisa Hatchett, Norma Hayes, Kelly Jeanis, and Maxine Dyer



Altrusans Anita Moydell and Sue Carter

Altrusa Fact

*SPONSORA
NEW
MEMBER
AND
RECEIVE A
GIFT FROM
INTERNATIONAL
PRESIDENT
LINDA
NICHOLS: An
hourglass
motif pin is
sent to each
sponsor who
contributes to
Altrusa's
membership
growth during
her 2005-2007
biennium*

West Memphis, AR –

Two Hundred Phonics Phones, were recently donated by Altrusa to two agencies in West Memphis.



Susan Muncy, Club President, presents Phonics Phones to the Literacy Council. The literacy tutors will use the phones to help adults learn phonics, which will help them learn to read.

By using the Phonics Phone, the words the student says are directed back into their own ears and they can hear much clearer what they say.

Reading specialists know that people must hear the words and sounds they say in order to say the words and sounds correctly.

The Phones are not made from ordinary plastic plumbing pipe, but of polished furniture grade PVC. The fittings are manufactured to be able to turn so they can be used for partner reading. Tutors say partner reading is a great way for two students to hear each other while not disturbing the class.

Altrusa Fact

*Dr Harvey
Cushing....
"Nothing
Great or New
Can be Done
Without
Enthusiasm,
It Is the
Flywheel
Which
Carries Your
Saw Through
The Knots In
the Log"*

The Phonics Phone is a teaching tool that helps students hear the words they say. When you speak, your words project forward toward the person or persons to whom you are talking. This is great for conversation, but is not ideal for listening to one's self.



Sandra Perkins and Susan Muncy present Phonics Phones to Carla Sumner, Speech and Language Pathologist at West Memphis Healthcare.

Altrusa of West Memphis participated in Make a Difference Day by distributing Baskets of Books to places in the community where children have to wait with their parents for long periods of time.



A basket of children's books is presented at the Crittenden County Court House. Shown Left to Right are: Sandra Perkins, Project Chair; Ruth Trent, County Clerk, Susan Muncy, President, and Trish O'Connor, Vice President.



Sandra Perkins, Make a Difference Day Project Chair, makes a presentation of children's books and VHS tapes to the staff of the Crittenden County Children's Services, which will be used by children who are awaiting placement in foster care.

A sign hanging on each basket encouraged parents to read a book to their children or to allow their children to read a book while they waited.

Altrusa Fact

In 1935 Altrusa became international with the extension into Mexico. The 1937 convention was held in Cuernavaca, Mexico.

Membership Tea

The members of Altrusa of West Memphis, Arkansas recently prepared delectable desserts and appetizers and held a get-acquainted tea for prospective members.

Prior year scrapbooks and display boards were on display and all Altrusans shared something about Altrusa with our guests. One prospect joined and two more are interested in becoming Altrusans.



Fayetteville, AR –

This is the presentation of check for \$11,000 to Circuit Judge Mary Ann Gunn for scholarships for the Drug Court Program.

Pictured are local law enforcement officials, fire and emergency officials. Coaches for the two teams were Prosecuting Attor

ney, (pictured) and the Public Defender (pictured).

Also pictured President Linda Batson, and Past President and Event Coordinator Rebecca Wood.



Altrusa Fact

When “Action for Literacy” was introduced in 1977, Altrusa knew it had found its ongoing crusade: Conquering illiteracy. The Altrusa Tradition

District Eight Altrusa Building

Columbia

Tina Roberts
Angela Weithman

Hot Springs Village

Willa Carlton
Colleen Gaynes
Maureen Halloran
Martha Patton-Rogers
Patricia Rozema

Jonesboro

Bren McCullars
Deborah Schmidt
Michelle Williams

Salina

Jill Brantley
Kristina Litchman
Mary McMillin
Karen Williams

Sikeston

Barb Collins

Springdale

Judy Halloran

West Memphis

Chris Catlett

Accent from District Conference

by Mary Sobba

Accent from the Saturday morning session at the 2006 Altrusa District Eight Conference

The future membership of our local clubs is the responsibility of each of us. The club purposes directly tie to membership and may be a good recruitment tool.

The purposes of this Club shall be:

To cultivate friend relationships, promote mutual understanding, and foster the solidarity of women who are actively engaged in business and the professions.

To encourage high ethical standards of business and professional conduct.

To give vocational information and to be of service to women already engaged in or entering business or professional fields.

To encourage participation in community and public affairs on a nonpartisan basis.

To do any and all things conducive to service, betterment and ultimate welfare of women in business and the professions

To promote educational and cultural training and improvement

To be informed on international affairs and to promote mutual understanding between people of all nations.

(from the 2003-2005 Bylaws & Policies)

A study in Illinois was conducted to see how to get people involved in their communities. Of their 68 recommendations 6 action steps were identified that work for everyone.

6 Action steps that work for everyone

Simple yet powerful ways to truly change Illinois

ACTION: Ask people to be involved.

RATIONALE: A big difference between nonparticipants and participants in local communities is that nonparticipants often are not asked to help. 32% of those polled said they would be more involved if they were asked. The power of the personal invitation is enormous. Also use newsletters, Web sites, and community bulletin boards to make it easy to identify ways to be involved.

ACTION: Ask for a limited amount of time.

RATIONALE: The biggest barrier to participation is pressure people feel due to job and family obligations and responsibilities. So make your request seem reasonable – a specific duration of time and number of hours.

ACTION: Teach civic skills.

RATIONALE: People evidently feel intimidated; 23% do not know how to get involved. So they need not

Altrusa Fact

ABC Boxes are a great literacy project. Check the May 2004 issue of the International Altrusan for the dimensions at www.altrusa.com.

Service with a Smile

By: Sandra Perkins, Service Chair

We have all heard that the human face uses fewer muscles to **smile** than to **frown**.

Doesn't that make you wonder why we encounter so many people every day with frowns on their faces?

The day-to-day pressures of our busy lives are too often reflected on our faces in the form of a frown or knitted brow.

As Altrusans going about the business of Service in our communi-

ties, do we take these responsibilities too seriously and forget to have fun?

Any task is easier when the participants are eager and enthusiastic, so why not turn those frowns upside down and tackle your Service Projects with a Smile!

With that thought in mind, here are some tips for a successful Service Project. I challenge all District Eight Altrusans to tackle their Service Projects with enthusiasm and a smile on their faces!

Altrusa Fact

Does your club need to do a Community Needs Assessment to choose new service projects? Check out pages 67-71 in the Club President's Handbook at www.altrusa.com.

Search your community and **S**urvey your members to determine where there is a need your club can fulfill. **S**hare your ideas with other clubs at conference. **S**nap pictures to send to District and International. **S**erve with an open heart and an open mind. **S**ubmit your Service Projects for District competition.

Memorialize your projects by keeping a written record of all pertinent details. **M**ake a difference in your community.

Investigate your possibilities. **I**nitiate a plan. **I**nvolve all members in the project.

Listen to your members. **L**earn how to utilize the ideas and talents of your members. **L**isten to the heartbeat of your community.

Envision every aspect of your project. **E**ffectively manage all details. **E**xecute your plan with enthusiasm.

When a Member Moves

Altrusa loses a fair amount of members through a move. This should not always be the case. If we follow some simple steps, Altrusa could keep most of its members who relocate.

When one of your members moves:

- *Get her new address!*
- Include the member's new address on the deletion form that is sent to International and District.
- Check to see if there is an Altrusa Club in the area where your member is moving. If there is, contact the President. If you can't locate that information on www.altrusa.com, contact the District Treasurer or Membership Chair. They can help.
- If there is not a club in that area, notify International and furnish the new address. (International will send Affiliate Membership information).
- There is a Member Referral Form available at www.altrusa.com or in the President's Handbook. When notifying the new President or International, be sure to include your club name, moving member's name, new address, telephone numbers, classification and any comments or special achievements. Include your name and contact information.

When a member of another club relocates to your area:

- Hopefully, you received a letter of introduction from another club president telling you that one of her members has moved into your area.
- Immediately contact and invite that person to attend an Altrusa event meeting.
- Send one of your members to visit her soon after she arrives. Make her feel welcome.
- Continue to follow up with her.

National trends show that people now move and relocate for work reasons more than ever, especially younger people. Sadly for Altrusa, we lose mostly younger members through moves. Our younger members are the future of Altrusa International. Let's keep each other informed when members move.

Altrusa Fact

In the 1930's Altrusans were aware of the dramatic technological changes taking place when radio entered households on a broad scale. They used the medium to promote community service projects. The Altrusa Tradition

Astra

by Pat Moore

ASTRA is such an important part of the Altrusa spirit. It is our opportunity to reach out to the youth of our community and to impact young lives in their very formative years.

Involving young people in positive service to our communities helps build self-esteem and confidence in the youth. We build bridges between ASTRA members and the community. ASTRA provides another area for Altrusans to serve the community, and creates a potential for future Altrusa members as these young people mature, develop, and take their places in community leadership roles in future years.

How are your plans for a new ASTRA Club progressing? I know many of you are busy building your Altrusa clubs and that is very exciting work.

Are some of you looking for new projects to impact your communities? Certainly building an ASTRA Club can be very rewarding.

As I set my goals for Governor Peggy's biennium it seemed that a new ASTRA Club in each state was a most doable goal. I am happy to report that Columbia, MO is working diligently on an ASTRA Club and we hope to hear good things about that endeavor.

I have had a request for information from a Kansas club and an Ar-

kansas club is looking into another ASTRA Club. Knowing the competitive spirit that exists in Oklahoma, I expect to hear that one of those clubs is ready to work for ASTRA, too.

Exciting reports are coming from the existing ASTRA Clubs in District Eight.

Just last week I received Moberly's ASTRA Directory. They list forty-nine members in grades nine through twelve. These young people are working in their community collecting school supplies for local schools, canned goods for their Christos Center, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, and participating in other fun and rewarding projects.

Some of the girls in the Fayetteville ASTRA Club served as cheerleaders for Fayetteville's Battle of the Badges fundraiser and were the hit of the afternoon. They are planning to make Thanksgiving cards to take to a local nursing home at their next meeting and will select Angels from the Angel Tree to buy gifts for children whose Christmas might otherwise be pretty grim. Some of them are reading to children after school in a local day care center.

Knowing the history of the Sikeston ASTRA Club, I'm sure they are working on important projects for their community, also.

Altrusa Fact

ASTRA: an acronym formed by the first letters of: Ability, Service, Training, Responsibility, and Achievement.

We all have full plates what with family, jobs, church, Altrusa service, and other obligations. But somehow we always seem to find ways to fit in one more project.

Won't you please consider the important role that an ASTRA Club could play in your Altrusa Club's life, your community's life, the life of even one young person? It is certainly well worth the effort.

http://www.altrusa.com/PDF/Workshop_Newsletters/Starting_An_ASTRA_Club.pdf

January is “Add An Altrusan” Month

- Plan an annual membership drive. January is the month that many clubs focus on recruiting new Altrusa members.
- Promote Altrusa Principles. See the Media Kit at: [www.altrusa.com/PDF/Committee_Newsletters/International_Communications_Committee\\$2006\\$03\\$Media_Guide.pdf](http://www.altrusa.com/PDF/Committee_Newsletters/International_Communications_Committee$2006$03$Media_Guide.pdf)
- Get out into the community and be visible. The key to a successful drive is asking guests to club meetings and project activities.
- **Talk it up!** Tell what projects your club does to improve the community.
- Share Altrusa's vision with existing contacts **and** new ones.
- Be enthusiastic and excited about your Altrusa service project work.
- Be proud of your Altrusa accomplishments.

Half-Year Dues

Clubs can pay half-year dues (\$22.50 + \$10.00 processing fee) for **new** members from December 1st until March 31st. (After March 31 International will not accept half-year dues for new members).

Reinstating members are **not** eligible to pay half-year dues. Reinstating members are required to pay \$55.00 (\$45.00 + \$10.00 reinstatement fee) at all times of the year (plus district and club dues if any).

Altrusa Fact

District Eight has had one of its members serve as an International President 1953-1955: Gretchen Vanderschmidt, St Louis, Missouri. Her classification was secretarial school owner. The Altrusa Tradition

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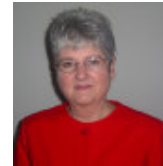
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NEW CLUB BUILDING



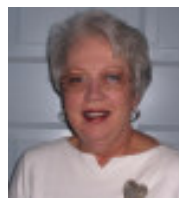
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