



# District Eight Service Bulletin

Volume 51, No. 3

November 2007

Governor Peggy Hughes 2006-2008

Connect to Build Altrusa's Future

## IT'S TIME TO... CONNECT TO BUILD ... ALTRUSA'S FUTURE

***IT'S TIME TO...CONNECT TO BUILD...ALTRUSA'S FUTURE:*** The theme was selected to help focus attention on the importance of creating purposeful relationships in our lives and to work to build our communities through civic involvement

**Governor  
Peggy Hughes**



### **From the Governor**

This end of year District newsletter has a lot of new news. First I would like to extend Holiday Greetings to each and every District Eight member. It has been exciting recently to see how many clubs have completed so many successful service projects and fundraisers. The energy and Altruistic dedication District Eight members have to making civic engagement a life choice shines bright. To each and everyone, Thank-you for all you contribute to your communities.

### **District Eight Has Been Given a Gift.**

Check out the District Eight website [www.altrusadistricteight.org](http://www.altrusadistricteight.org). We have a new look. This was a wonderful Christmas gift to the district and

we thank Myra Kitson, a virtual assistant, for contributing her time and enormous skill to make it all possible. Thanks too, goes to webmaster Diane Eberhard for her willingness to learn a software program to help maintain the site. Look at the site often to keep abreast of District Eight activities and news.

### **Coming Soon**

Go to [www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com) to pre-order the 2007 version of the International Bylaws and Policies. The 2007-2009 Bylaws and Policies Available December 10, 2007

### **Add an Altrusan**

In this issue, see suggestions to help you "Add an Altrusan" in the month of January. The International Membership Development Committee has put in place incentives you need to know about. Sponsors, you can learn how to participate in a membership contest and receive an *Embracing the World Through Membership* tote bag. Another possible goal, make January a "Bring em Back" campaign. Try to recruit members who have moved from other areas or who were once good

members and left but might come back if just asked.

## International Grants

Look ahead to applying for an International Grant. Grant cycle deadline in March 15, 2008. See [www.altrusa.com/Foundation/Generalforms](http://www.altrusa.com/Foundation/Generalforms) for a mock application to help you get started soon.

## District Award Deadline

The District Award deadline for conference will be mid March. Check out the criteria for Mamie L Bass, Letha H Brown, and Dr Nina Fay Calhoun at [www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com) and also in the President's manual. An informational PDF file has been sent to each club president as well. Presidents, please distribute this information to your Board and Committee Chairs right after the first of the year. It is helpful to send the same information to the club newsletter editors, too, so members can see in writing where to locate the information needed to apply.

## Call to Conference PowerPoint

Need a great program for your club? To generate excitement and inform your club members about the April 25-26<sup>th</sup> Conference in Rogers AR use this Call to Conference PowerPoint created by the Rogers club located at <http://www.altrusaofrogers.com/conference.htm>.

May your Christmas be peaceful, and may health, happiness and prosperity visit you and yours in the year to come! Peggy

## See it on the Web



Hot Springs Village Club has been highlighted on [www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com)

11/27/2007 - Six Hot Springs Village, Arkansas Altrusans and two spouses went to Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center in Little Rock to assemble Disaster Kits. Ferncliff is one of the fastest growing Presbyterian camps and retreat facilities in the country.

## Altrusa Fact

Please note that the next DSB deadline will be January 20th

### 2006-2008 biennium goals are:

- **BUILD AND MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP GROWTH THROUGH RECRUITMENT, RETENTION AND NEW CLUB BUILDING** (MEMBERSHIP, NEW CLUB BUILDING)
- **CONNECT MEMBERS TO COMMUNICATION AND IMAGE BUILDING RESOURCES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY** (COMMUNICATIONS, WEBMASTER, DSB EDITOR, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PERSON)
- **SUPPORT CLUBS IN THE MISSION TO IMPACT THEIR COMMUNITIES IN POSITIVE WAYS SUCH AS ASTRA AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**(ASTRA, SERVICE, STRATEGIC PLANNER, FOUNDATION LIAISON)
- **CONNECT MEMBERS TO GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT** (LEADERSHIP, STRATEGIC PLANNER, BRR)
- **BUILD ADDITIONAL ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING SKILLS**(STRATEGIC PLANNER, BRR, FOUNDATION LIAISON)

## **Altrusa Fact**

*International  
Grant cycle  
deadline in  
March 15<sup>th</sup> and  
again September  
15<sup>th</sup>.*

### **Literacy**

At the July 2001, International Board of Directors meeting, Literacy was adopted as the charitable focus of Altrusa International. If your club is already doing a literacy project send an e-mail to [literacy@altrusa.com](mailto:literacy@altrusa.com) and tell Altrusa International about your project. They will post a summary of your project (send pictures please!) in the new Literacy sections, which will be open shortly.

### **The District Eight Governor's Distinguished Service Award**

criteria is located at [www.altrusadistricteight.org/publications/forms](http://www.altrusadistricteight.org/publications/forms)

### **Altrusa Service Projects:**

Altrusans have always been involved with various service projects that help the community. Please visit the Altrusa Service Projects page at [www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com) for more information and a complete list.

### **Altrusa Foundation Direct Mail Solicitation:**

Traditionally, the Foundation Direct Mail Solicitation Month has been in October. This year, it was extended. Use the new and attractive Foundation Calendar that each and every member has received. The calendar is designed to help us remember to send in our contributions. Use the coupons at the bottom of each month. This makes contributing convenient and easy. Please send in your contributions NOW to the Altrusa Foundation – the choice is yours.

### **Writing a Grant for Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.**

Is your club considering applying for a grant from Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.? Do you need a little help in making sure your project meets the eligibility requirements? Having trouble getting started writing your grant application? If an answer to any of these questions is "yes," please read on for some tips that might help you. See [www.altrusa.com/Foundation/generalforms](http://www.altrusa.com/Foundation/generalforms) for a mock sample application.

### **NEW Life Insurance Plan**

Altrusa International has a new Group Level Term Life Insurance Plan that can be purchased in amounts from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000. The premium amounts are designed to remain the same as the day you enrolled for either the ten-year or 20-year period. This Plan is in addition to, and will not affect, any other Altrusa Life Insurance Plan you may currently have in force. Your spouse is also eligible to enroll. Brochures have been mailed to all Altrusa members. If you have any questions, please call Group Administration Agency, 800-621-1666.

### **Altrusa Convention 2009**

in Indianapolis IN has a new Date: August 6-9, 2009

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE "IRS" FOR ALL CLUBS**

New Filing Requirements for Small Tax-Exempt Organizations;

## Altrusa Fact

Club editors do  
you need  
information for  
your newsletter?

Go to  
[www.altrusaclubsnetwork.org](http://www.altrusaclubsnetwork.org)  
for updates.

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations, that previously were not required to file a return, may be required to file an annual electronic notice, Form 990-N, *Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required To File Form 990 or 990-EZ.* This filing requirement applies to tax periods beginning after December 31, 2006

With the enactment of the Pension Protection Act of 2006, these small tax-exempt organizations will **now be required to file an electronic Form 990-N** with the IRS **annually**. Even though Altrusa Clubs and their Foundations fall under the tax exempt umbrella of Altrusa International, they are not included in Altrusa International's Income Tax Return.

**NEW:** Altrusa Clubs and their Foundations **must** file Form 990-N even though their gross income is \$25,000 or less. **Form 990-N**, also known as the **e-Postcard**, must be filed **electronically**. There will be no paper form. The IRS is developing an electronic filing system for the e-Postcard, and will publicize the filing procedures when the system is completed and ready for use.

Beginning in **2008**, the e-Postcard will be due every year by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax period. For Altrusa and the Foundation, this date will be October 15th. For more detailed information: See [www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com). Click on login

(upper right corner). On the next screen, **ID is:** clubenews (lower case) **Password is:** news01! (include exclamation point). Click on Login, you will be directed to <https://www.altrusa.com/DocumentDropBox/Accent%20October%202007%20.pdf>

## A Thirty-Second Elevator Speech to a Younger Prospect for Membership:

Altrusans want to be a driving force for better. Are you trying to build a career? Altrusa can:

- *Teach you to be flexible and adaptive, to be a lifelong learner, to think creatively and apply new skills. It can teach you to solve problems and frame problems creatively*

- *It can help you use your imagination to solve problems by teaching you to connect the "community" dots you need to succeed.*

- *It can connect you to the opinion leaders of the community.*

- *Employers are now encouraging employees to continue their education and gain more inspiration. Altrusa project-based and hands-on experiential learning can help in that endeavor.*

## ALLLLLLLABOARD.....

**TO THE APRIL 25-26**

**CONFERENCE IN ROGERS AR**

Need club meeting program? Visit [www.altrusaofrogers.com](http://www.altrusaofrogers.com) and share the Call to Conference PowerPoint presentation with your club members. **Check out the "links" page.** The "links" page will be updated frequently with conference information, please check it often.

# Congratulations!

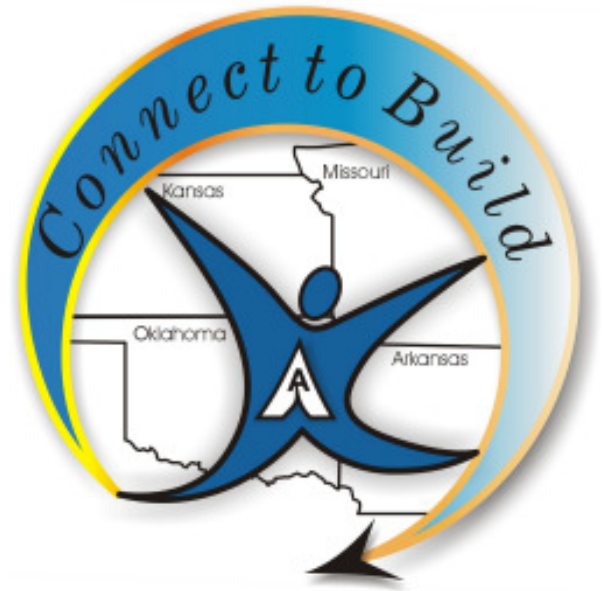
The Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. received a record number of grant funding requests this last grant period.

The following District Eight Clubs were approved for funding. This news will be published in the upcoming issue of the *International Altrusan*.

Altrusa International, Inc. of  
Project Name Amount Approved

Bentonville/Bella Vista, Arkansas  
Dictionary Project \$1,000

Conway, Arkansas Books for  
Adult New Readers Project \$1,000



Congratulations to the members of Conway and Bella Vista/Bentonville. You should be proud of your club and the support of such worthy projects.

## Altrusa Fact

Check it out:  
District Eight  
website has a  
new look:  
[www.altrusadistricteight.org](http://www.altrusadistricteight.org)

# Sad News

With a heavy heart, we report that Wednesday evening December 12th, Fayetteville Altrusa club President-Elect Penny Storms' home burned to the ground while she and her husband Pat were gone. They lost everything.

Many District members know Penny by the many contributions and service she has given to the District over the years. Please keep Penny and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

If you would like to do something special or want to know what you can do to help, please contact Linda Batson, Fayetteville Club President, at [lbatson@magreenwood.com](mailto:lbatson@magreenwood.com).

Your notes and expressions of concern may be sent to Penny at:  
Penny Storms  
Ozarks Electric Cooperative Corp.  
P.O. Box 848  
Fayetteville, AR 72702

# Membership Incentive

A free tote bag with the message Embracing the World through Membership will be given to the first 300 Altrusans who sponsor a new member July 2007-2009. The tote is in addition to a charm from International President Zaida Perez-Mendez. Only one sponsor bag will be awarded per new member.

## Important

Please help ensure timely receipt of your club, district and international communications (e-mail, telephone, address) by keeping your personal contact data accurate and current. On-going maintenance of membership data has been a critical behind-the-scene activity. Please take two quick actions anytime you have changes:

- 1) Visit [www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com) then click on Change Address at the bottom of the list on the left side of the screen then enter your updated data.
- 2) Notify your Club Treasurer of all changes.

You or she may fill out the Membership Information Form with the change of address and mail it to the routing indicated at the bottom of the form, OR complete the form on the International website, click on Forms and then Membership Information Form.

Accurate contact information saves time and money. To be certain you receive timely and important announcements, such as Call to Conference, please take a moment to verify that your data is correct by contacting your Club Treasurer.

**Club Treasurers:** Please verify your clubs membership data with that on file with the International office. If you need assistance, contact District Treasurer Linda Wood Sharp [lwsharp@dtimt.org](mailto:lwsharp@dtimt.org) or 870/932 2176

*The Rogers conference committee wishes all of you a happy holiday and reminds you it isn't too early to make reservations for the District Eight conference to be held in April at Embassy Suites in Rogers. Beautiful rooms, a spa, lots of nearby shopping, manager's happy hour and a complimentary breakfast which shames every other hotel breakfast – that's what you will find at the Embassy.*

Visit [www.altrusaofrogers.com](http://www.altrusaofrogers.com) and click on the Embassy link for reservations.

## Altrusa Fact

Altrusa - 90  
years of service  
- 1917-2007

# Conference

**52<sup>nd</sup> District Eight Conference  
April 24-26, 2008  
in Rogers, Arkansas**

Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas  
3303 Pinnacle Hills Parkway  
Rogers, AR. 72758  
Phone: 1-800-Embassy Suites

Online: [www.embassysuitesnwa.com/home.aspx](http://www.embassysuitesnwa.com/home.aspx)

If making reservations for the District Eight conference in April you will need this code: AL3.

If shopping is your thing, visit [altrusaofrogers.com](http://altrusaofrogers.com), go to the links page and visit some of our shopping opportunities in Rogers and the surrounding area. There are many more and we will be updating the links page with more web addresses.

Check [www.altrusaofrogers.com](http://www.altrusaofrogers.com) to share a PowerPoint presentation with your club members.

*Make  
Your  
Reservation  
Today!!!*

## **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.*

## **International Foundation Fundraiser**

Do you Google? Instead, try using [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) as your search engine. Every time you use it, \$.01 will be donated to the International Foundation.

Once you have gone to the GOODSEARCH site, simply type Altrusa in the second box (name of charity). Click on Altrusa foundation in Chicago, IL. The site has requested that only the national site of each organization be named but you will see

the Dallas club listed since they initially located the site. The site is fully paid for by advertisers so your contribution costs you nothing. You can set both your home and work computers to this site as the default search engine. Help out Altrusa every time you are surfing the net!

(Contribution from newsletter editor Mary Hoffmann *NIBS....News in brief style* Altrusa International, Inc. of Saint Louis)

# Do You Wanna Dance?

*Pat Moore, ASTRA Chair*

“Do ya wanna dance?” This was the proposal presented to members of the Fayetteville ASTRA Club when they went to the Fayetteville Senior Center to help prepare meals for “Meals on Wheels” last week. And dance they did! Learning to two step was the highlight of the evening as the girls danced with the seniors and had more fun than they imagined was possible. They plan to go back regularly to dance with the seniors.



“Do ya wanna draw?” Making Christmas cards to include in the boxes they are preparing to send to troops overseas, this was the question facing the club members at last week’s regular meeting. Boxes with candy canes, Santa hats, towels, pajamas, deodorant, room fresheners, fabric softeners, phone cards, macaroni and cheese, etc., are about ready to be shipped to our brave military men and women who are so far from home and loved ones at this special time of the year.

“Do ya wanna laugh?” This goes without saying when a group of teenagers gather to work on community projects that are making a difference throughout our world. Have you read about the winners of the ASTRA Club Service Awards listed in your most recent INTERNATIONAL ALTRUSAN? These awards are pre-

sented to our youth for their work with neglected or abandoned children, hospice groups, literacy projects, cancer awareness, high school dropouts, etc.

What is your club doing to cultivate these young people to be contributing members of your community? Developing an ASTRA Club gives new meaning to community service. Knowing you are helping to mold young lives into caring adults is a gift that gives for generations to come.

So, I ask again. Do ya wanna dance, do ya wanna draw, do ya wanna laugh, do you want to make a difference? Get an ASTRA committee formed and develop a club in your community.

Get out there and DANCE!

## ***Altrusa Fact***

*International  
Conventions:*

2009  
*Indianapolis IN*

2011  
*Rapid City SD*

2013  
*New Zealand*

# Jonesboro

As a regular social event, the Jonesboro Altrusa Club gets together each time there is a 5th Thursday during a month.

Usually we meet after work for dinner (and once for dinner and a self-defense class) but during November we met for lunch.

Jonesboro has a new restaurant named Simple Elegance and their specialty is tea. We decided that it sounded like the perfect place to bring out our inner “Grace Kelly” and wear our elegant and fashionable “Sunday Best” hats. While wearing our hats, we dined on scones, soup, quiche, salad and hot tea.

Everyone had a great time and looked like we were on our way to the Kentucky Derby!



## *Altrusa Fact*

*How to Sponsor  
a New Member  
Listen  
Talk  
Ask*

## 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** is unique in that 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 the foundation’s effort to support children infected with HIV and AIDS.

# Welcome to New Members!

*Please extend a warm welcome to these new members of District Eight*

Poplar Bluff MO  
Renee Stratton  
Jennifer Rosener

Stillwater OK  
Terri Bernhardt

Bella Vista/Bentonville  
Carolyn Lacey

Hutchinson KS  
Belinda McClanahan  
Valerie Harper

Columbia MO  
Nancy Allison

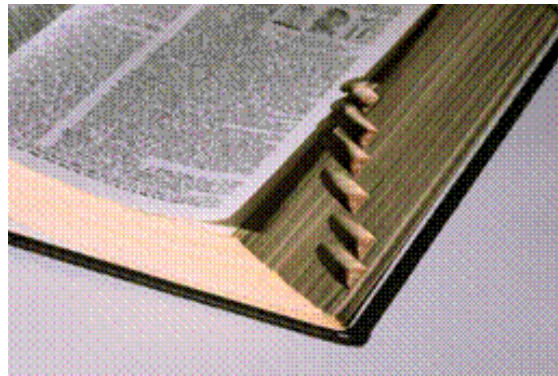
Little Rock AR  
Betsy Barnes  
Cathy Coston

West Memphis AR  
Brenda Gadsberry

Springdale AR  
Kim Ragle

Sikeston MO  
Linda Craven

## Kansas City Dictionary Day



We were at Visitation School with 72 third graders and their teachers. They were excited, smart and enthusiastic! They had lots of ideas about “Teams” of all kinds! After a short break, our second group of Altrusans met at Bryant School. The differences were obvious—private school/public school, new building/old building, lots of diversity at Bryant. The enthusiasm of the kids was the common denominator!

The Bryant students (40 third graders) were very polite and interested; many had no experience with a dictionary and were obviously happy to have one. Mrs. Roxanne Pierce, the Bryant principal, stayed with us the whole time, and thanked us graciously.

Our two Irish visitors took a dictionary and Noah Webster sheets with them to explain this project to their contacts in Ireland. They loved it!

This is a “one day project” in our Service Plan; we paid \$300 to The Dictionary Project to sponsor the two schools. The smiles, “Thank you” comments and morning of fun with the kids was invaluable!

Altrusans: Joyce Anderson, Barbara Norris, Ev Tracy, Marne Close, Suzanne Gladney, and from Ireland, Noreen Kelly and her friend, Kay McCormack.

### *Altrusa Fact*

*CLUB  
PRESIDENTS*

*Please be  
sure that all  
your*

*members  
receive this  
Newsletter*

*either via e-  
mail or a  
hard copy.*

*Thanks for  
your help.*

# An October day at Elmwood...

We were 7 Altrusans (and Alan) out early, with brooms, saws, clippers and bags in hand, on the Saturday before Halloween and not a bit “spooked” by the tombstones and snake skins at Elmwood Cemetery. We could see our morning’s work – stacks of filled yellow trash bags and shoulder-high piles of limbs and branches lining the driveways. We started with an introduction in the lovely stained-glass chapel by board member and archivist, Bruce Mathews, to the history at Kansas City’s second oldest cemetery. Anne Rosenblum and Bruce took photos of our group hard at work. This was a beautiful morning and we had so much fun...we’re thinking we should come more often!



## ***Altrusa Fact***

*Need a Fresh New  
Service Project  
Idea?*

*Check it out:*

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

[www.cityyear.org](http://www.cityyear.org)

[www.bethecause.org](http://www.bethecause.org)

[www.firstbook.org](http://www.firstbook.org)

<http://>

[www.pointsoflight.org/](http://www.pointsoflight.org/)

[resources](#)

A professional photographer, Bruce is recording a photo of each gravesite at Elmwood, and working on the “Elmwood Family History Project” to be added to their website (as of November 1): [www.ElmwoodCem-KC.org](http://www.ElmwoodCem-KC.org) The 15-45 minute presentation by Bruce is available to local groups of any kind and includes a wealth of history (gravesites at Elmwood include: 12 KC mayors, 50 Harry Truman relatives, 2,000 veterans-including the Civil War, and many more local and national notables). Elmwood is an allo-volunteer organization with no paid staff. Each mowing costs approximately \$2,000! The board has work mornings every month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday and volunteers are welcome.

## **Rogers Christmas**



November 30, 2007 we had our annual Christmas Party and Silent Auction. We raised over \$1,700 for our literacy and scholarship programs. We also collected clothing, shoes and other donated



items for Northwest Arkansas Children’s Shelter that filled an SUV. The Children’s Shelter is our District Eight 2008 Conference Service Project.

# Kansas City

On Saturday, July 14, seven Altrusans gathered at The Family Conservancy to clean toys. There were puzzles, balls, figurines, books and other playthings. There were toys some of us wished we had as children, or even now. There were also educational items such as little fruits and vegetables and really big teeth and toothbrushes. The big teeth were a little scary but we all thought we could use the big toothbrushes – they would be great for cleaning! We also discussed part of our next project – painting the reception area. Jenny, Marne and Nancy gave Barb King some great ideas on color so she will be picking out paint for our next workday on November 3. If you like to paint this will be a great time for you, if you don't we'll have other things to do. And Barb always provides us with great pastries.



## ***Altrusa Fact***

*Future  
Conventions  
July 2009:  
Indianapolis  
Marriot  
Downtown  
Indianapolis,  
Indiana  
July 22-25,  
2011  
Ramkota Hotel  
and Conference  
Center  
Rapid City,  
South Dakota  
July 2013  
To Be  
Determined  
New Zealand*

Attendance: Anderson, Close, Foss, Martin, Paul, Troutman, Rix

# Kansas City Make A Difference Day

Saturday, October 27th, was a beautiful day for getting out and about and making a difference in Kansas City. These Altrusans (and Al-Trouser) were seen around Elmwood Cemetery taking care of little neglected items—such as trimming and brushing extra growth from headstones and picking up fallen leaves and tree branches.



# Bentonville/Bella Vista

Altrusa International, Inc. of Bentonville/Bella Vista enjoyed a full service schedule this fall and winter. Our principle service project, “The Dictionary Project”, was completed in October. Our club provided over 1300 third grade students in the Bentonville, Gravette, and Pea Ridge public school systems with student dictionaries. We also provided the yearly need for student dictionaries to our local literacy council. To raise funds for our projects, we held a spaghetti supper in October that met our needs for the cost of the “Dictionary Project” for 2008! Hurrah!

We also participated in the USA Weekend “Make a Difference Day”. Our club held a “Trade-A-Book” that Saturday at the new Cooper Elementary School opening celebration in Bella Vista. Our partner and sponsor, Random House Books, provided a selection of new books for trade for all grade levels. As this school is the first in Arkansas to be geo-thermally heated, the children are exceptionally aware of ecological issues and the idea of recycling books fits in nicely with a “green” outlook. Also, we accepted donations from adults who wanted books, but did not have any to trade. These donations were given in full to the Bella Vista Library, furthering our goal to promote literacy for both adults and children. Furthermore, we donated and delivered for shipment on “Make a Difference Day” over 500 books to public and private schools in the remote islands of the Philippines, which fulfilled our goal this year to promote literacy internationally as well.

We held our Christmas Party at the Jackson House in Bentonville on December 4<sup>th</sup> and enjoyed great food, fellowship, party games, and caroling. We look forward with enthusiasm contributing to the Regional Conference in Rogers, Arkansas this spring and fulfilling our service goals for 2008! We send all our fellow Altrusa members our heartiest wishes for a successful and happy new year.

## Salina Christmas Party



### **Altrusa Fact**

#### **The Vision in the Future (VIF)**

*now has a  
web page  
that is  
accessible  
from a link  
on the  
home page of  
the  
International  
website  
[www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com)*

# Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

by Kathy Surratt-States

Altrusa District Eight Clubs are rich in history. Do you know your Club's history? Do you know the history of the other Clubs in our District?

One of the older Clubs in District Eight is Greater Kansas City, Missouri, which held its first organizational meeting on November 7, 1936. Then in June 1938, with 23 members, the new officers and board of Greater Kansas City were installed by then International President Harriett Quisenberry. In October 1938, the Greater Kansas City Club held a luncheon, which featured famous Altrusan, Dr. Lillian Gilbreth of New York, the mother in "The Cheaper by the Dozen" as the speaker. The Greater Kansas City Club was officially chartered in April 1942 and then International President Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun presented the Charter.

Across the state of Missouri in St. Louis, Altrusa was introduced in December 1936, when fourteen women from diverse fields met to form the St. Louis Altrusa Club. At that time St. Louis City had a population of 800,000 making it the seventh largest city in the United States. At the same time in the middle of Missouri the Altrusa Club of Columbia, Missouri was being organized in 1937. Formal chartering for the St. Louis Club took place in 1940 at which time Missouri was part of District Six. Missouri remained part of District Six until 1955 when the Districts were redefined under International President Gretchen Vanderschmidt. Under this change Missouri joined Arkansas, Kansas and Oklahoma to form District Eight. International President

Vanderschmidt was a charter member and had previously served as President of the St. Louis Club from 1939-40 and 1946-47 and served as District Governor in 1945-47. In 1988, to honor Ms. Vanderschmidt for her commitment to Altrusa, the St. Louis Club established a scholarship in her name to assist women who return to school to prepare for a professional career that is awarded yearly.

The Altrusa Club of Fayetteville, Arkansas was organized in November 1939 and chartered in March 1940. It was part of District Seven at this time, which consisted of Arkansas, Guatemala, Korea, Louisiana, Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Other Arkansas Clubs started with the Altrusa Club of West Memphis, Arkansas that was organized in 1949 and chartered September 9, 1952 and the Altrusa Club of Rogers, Arkansas that was established in 1954.

Fast-forward to 2003, to the newest Club in District Eight, the Altrusa Club of Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, which held its first pre-organizational meeting on October 17, 2003. The Club was officially organized on February 2, 2004 and held its Charter Banquet on March 29, 2004.

We truly are an organization rich in history. Do you know the origins of your Club? Plan on including a page of history in your next yearbook or devote an issue of your newsletter and highlight your charter members. And remember, our activities of today are our organization's history tomorrow.

## Altrusa Fact

*"I must do something" will always solve more problems than "Something must be done."*

# Awards

by Pam Nunnelley

The 51<sup>st</sup> District Eight Conference presents the Mamie L. Bass Service Award to third place, Greater Kansas City, Missouri, second place Fayetteville, Arkansas.....and the first place award goes to....drum roll...*Hot Springs Village, Arkansas*. Each club awarded was given a certificate, and the first place winner received a trophy from the Columbia Club. WOW!

SO, the next step is for your club to APPLY. We know you meet the criteria.J

Awards applications are DUE BY MID MARCH 2008. Please look at the district website: [www.altrusadistricteight.org](http://www.altrusadistricteight.org) for updates and the February issue of the

## **Altrusa Fact**

*Wisdom is knowing what to do.  
Skill is knowing how to do it.  
Virtue is doing it.*  
David Starr  
Jordan

Altrusans, each of your clubs give 100% to the communities in which you live. District Eight and International would like to publicly recognize your tireless commitment to literacy, service and the world-wide community. Can WE do that for you? All you have to do is “toot your horn.” To assist with starting the process for your club, copies of the following awards criteria and

applications are located in this issue:

- **Mamie L. Bass**
- **Letha H. Brown**
- **Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun**
- **Governor’s Distinguished Service**



District Service Bulletin, “Call to Conference.”

For more information on how to apply for these awards go to [www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com).

*The November issue of the DSB was delayed due to a major ice storm that hit South Central Kansas. About half of Hutchinson was without power - some for more than a week, including DSB editor Patsy Terrell. We apologize for any inconvenience.*

*Gov. Peggy Hughes*

To all District Eight Members

Merry Christmas

Happy Hannukah

Feliz Navidad

**Glædelig Jul**

*Joyeux Noel*

Mele Kalikimaka

**BUONE FESTE NATALIZIE**

Meri Kirihimete

*Pozdrevlyayu s prazdnikom Rozhdestva is*

Novim Godom

Gesëende Kersfees