

ALTRUSA



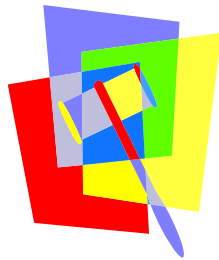
International, Inc. of Orlando~Winter Park
Post Office Box 2972 ~ Winter Park, Florida 32790
www.altrusa-orlando.org www.districtthree.org www.altrusa.com

KEYNOTES

February 2008

"The Future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams" Eleanor Roosevelt"

President's Corner:



Greetings Everyone:

Spring is in the air, and we have some exciting events coming up. On March 5th we will be holding our annual Eleanor J. Matthews Art Scholarship program. As most of you know, Eleanor was a well-known local artist who left a monetary contribution to our club in order to help further the education of local aspiring artists. Each year, we give scholarship money to a deserving student from each of the following institutions: Valencia Community College, Seminole County Community College, Rollins College and the University of Central Florida. Art scholarship recipients, their professors and family members are invited to our general meeting. The students exhibit some of their work, and their professors tell us how these special students were chosen to receive a scholarship. It's wonderful to get a chance to see their work and see all of the proud family members and girlfriends/boyfriends who attend this meeting. If you haven't attended one of these meetings, you are missing out on a special time.

In April, we will be celebrating our club's 60th birthday. Plans are under way to celebrate on Saturday, April 12th at Gargi's Restaurant. This will be a lunch gathering with family members and members from other clubs being invited. Plan to come out and help us celebrate this very special occasion.

Of course, we can't forget the District Three Conference coming up in April (3-5) in Charlotte, NC. We already have some people signed up to go, and there is still time register. So far, we have one delegate and one alternate signed up, and we need another delegate. If you plan to go, please consider volunteering to become a delegate.

If you don't plan to attend Conference, please consider bringing a non-fiction book (must have a copyright within the last five years) to donate to the District Three project called "District Three Altrusans Making Dreams Come True in New Orleans." The books will be donated to a high school that was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Books that are duplicates will be passed on to other schools in the area. Those members attending Conference have agreed to carry the books to Charlotte for us.

Please support your club and district by attending one or all of these wonderful events and/or by bringing books to the March meeting.

Also, don't forget to enjoy the beautiful spring days we have been having.

Happy Easter!

Your President,

Allie Myers



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

You might have seen a spot on the news lately talking about President Bush and how he has been visiting countries in Africa. There has also been some mention of his work on reducing the spread of malaria in these countries.

In an October *International Altrusan* article, our United Nations Representative, Audrey Braver, wrote about malaria and how it is causing devastation around the world. More than 41% of the world population is at risk for this disease, and the proportion increases every year. The greatest number of cases occurs in Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Ethiopia. Malaria has also re-emerged in some countries where it had been declining.

There is a new kind of mosquito net which contains insecticide, and they only cost \$10.00 each. The insecticide lasts for up to five years. These nets can save the lives of children. Audrey says that it has been estimated that about 30 million nets per year are required to meet a target of 30% of at-risk populations.

Some Altrusa clubs are purchasing bed nets, and this might be a possible future project for our club. If you would like to find out more information about this cause, go to: www.theglobalfund.org.

KEYNOTES

District Three News!

The time for the 2008 District Three Conference is fast approaching and the excitement is starting to grow. Each year, the host club picks a conference project, and this year the project is titled, **“District Three Altrusans Making Dreams Come True in New Orleans.”**

Members of the Charlotte, NC club have been in contact with several schools in the New Orleans area and have picked one high school and several elementary schools that need help with restocking their libraries. Warren Easton High School was under eight (8) feet of water during Hurricane Katrina and their library lost over 10,000 books!



The Physical Education Department and the Athletic Exercise Room were also destroyed during the hurricane. They reopened last September, and as teacher Nancy Hernandez reported, they are just rebuilding their school one day at a time as they are providing an education to 837 students. She said they would be thrilled with anything we could do for her school. She does have fiction books but needs non-fiction books and the books – per the American Library Association guidelines - need to have a copyright date that is not more than five (5) years old. They are also in need of a current set of World Book Encyclopedia. The Charlotte club is going to work on one set but they could probably use more than one, or as Nancy said in her email, “We will pass on and share with other schools anything that we can’t use or that is duplicated.”

They are asking each member who attends Conference to bring one or more books for this project - after all, our main service goal is to promote literacy. They will have labels that say, **“Donated by District Three Altrusans”** and Conference attendees will place them inside the books. They will also help box them for the trip to

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New Orleans. Pictures will be taken of Altrusans working on the project.

We can help out by following the Charlotte club's guidelines and bringing books to our March meeting. We need those of you who plan to attend District Conference to volunteer to carry those books to Charlotte when you go.

A longer list of books, as well as a source for ordering books for the high school, will be added to the District website and also mailed to club presidents. The District Three website is: www.districtthree.org. Select "Conference 2008" and then "Conference Project" to learn more.

Together, our District members can make a difference.

DON'T FORGET!!



District Three Conference

April 3 to 5, 2008

Charlotte, NC

Conference Hotel - Omni Charlotte

Conference Project: Books to

replenish school libraries in New

Orleans

KEYNOTES

Altrusa Orlando-Winter Park News

February



Through the efforts of Candy Dawson, club members at the February General Meeting were introduced to Mary Dipboye from Ten Thousand Villages. Mary helped to establish the Ten Thousand Villages Store at 346 Park Avenue in Winter Park based on previous experience establishing the same type of store in Houston. Ten Thousand Villages is a Mennonite concept that establishes a partnering relationship with various artisan groups in third world countries.

Since 1946 as a founding member of the International Fair Trade Association, Ten Thousand Villages has supported the work of such artisans in over 30 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. Hand-crafted items such as pottery, jewelry, linens, etc. are purchased at a fair trade value and sold in Ten Thousand Villages Stores. This partnership allows local artisans to sell their goods for fair wages and provides a tangible way to improve their lives, helping to bring dignity to their lives as well.



Mary said that there were a number of ways to get involved with the store including: volunteering to work the floor; arranging a fund raising shopping night where our club would get 10% of the proceeds; participating in the "Drumming Circle" held the last Friday of each month from 7:30-8:30 pm in the Parish Hall at St. Margaret Mary Church in Winter Park; or collecting items for school children.

The store is open Monday-Saturday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Sunday 12:00 to 5:00 pm. Mary urged everyone to get on the email list for the store. Visit

the store's website at
Orlando@tenthousandvillages.com.

HOLD THIS DATE!

WE'RE HAVING A BIRTHDAY, OUR 60TH

Altrusa International of Orlando -Winter Park is celebrating its 60th birthday in April. On **Saturday, April 12th, at noon** there will be a buffet luncheon celebration at Gargi's Lakeside, a popular Italian restaurant. It is located off Lake Ivanhoe, at 1414 North Orange Avenue and the phone number is 407-894-7907. Spouses or significant others are also invited. It is a beautiful setting on the lake and we will be outside under a very large awning.



We would love to invite all former members of the Orlando or Winter Park Clubs and our former Presidents to participate in this special birthday event. If any current member knows of any of these former members, please make sure they are invited. Perhaps they will want to come back to us.

The cost for the buffet is \$26.00 per person, and there will be a cash bar. Please make your reservation with Betsy Sushinsky (sushinsky@juno.com) no later than Tuesday, April 9th.

Directions to Gargi's from I-4:

- From I-4 take Princeton St exit (85).
- Turn East onto E. Princeton St.
- Turn Right N. Orange Ave.
- Gargi's will be on the Right in .5 mile

KEYNOTES

Volunteer Project



Linda Wright has presented a partnering opportunity for our club through The Screen Actors Guild Foundation's Literacy Initiatives. **BookPALS**

(Performing Artists for Literacy in Schools), the SAG Foundation's core community outreach program, is an all-volunteer program comprised of performing artists who read aloud to students in at-risk elementary schools. The **BookPALS** program has been expanded to include the following volunteer projects as well.

BookPALS Readers – Volunteers read aloud in a classroom once a week, once every two weeks or once a month, depending on their schedule. They can be assigned to a school near home or work, are paired with two classes, and read aloud for 30 minutes each, back to back.

PencilPALS – Elementary school children write letters and share their thoughts about favorite books and school happenings. **PencilPALS** volunteers write response letters. Through this writing skills are enhanced and intergenerational relationships prosper.



We the Children –

This is a grant-funded book publishing project through which children conceive, design, write, illustrate and publish their autobiographies under the guidance of literary and visual artists and other volunteers. Volunteers assist with all aspects of the writing, editing, illustrating and layout process as well as helping to facilitate the Book Presentation Ceremony.

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Anyone interested in attending a volunteer meeting to plan for involvement in the fall should RSVP to Linda (lwright@cfl.rr.com) so that this could be a coordinated project for the club. The meeting is scheduled to be held at Barnes and Nobel at Colonial Plaza (2418 E. Colonial Dr.) at 5:30 pm on February 26th. Related websites to check for additional information are: www.sagfoundation.org, www.bookpals.net and www.storylineonline.net.

Calendar of Upcoming Events



March 5, 2008-
Altrusa General Meeting – **ELEANOR J. MATTHEWS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS!**
Dubsdread Country Club, 549 W. Par St., Orlando, 6:30 pm. (407) 246-2551.



March 25, 2008-
Altrusa Board Meeting – Law Offices of Dean, Ringers, Morgan & Lawton, 201 E. Pine St., Suite 1200 – 6:00 pm.

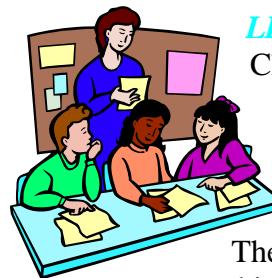
KEYNOTES

March Birthdays:



Cheryl Malloy	3
Carol Denton	5

Committee Reports:



LITERACY COMMITTEE

Chair: Martha Kirby

The Literacy Committee has no report this month.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Chair: Tammy Douglass



The Community Services Committee has no report this month.

VOCATIONAL SERVICES

Co-Chairs: Ann Price & Helen Mize



Wasn't the Tea for Twenty on February 23rd a huge success? Thanks to all who attended. Special thanks to all table sponsors and each and every Altrusan who contributed in any way to this very special event!!

See next month's newsletter for a more detailed report and pictures.

Minutes for February General Meeting:

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF ORLANDO-WINTER PARK
GENERAL MEETING
February 06, 2008
Steak and Ale, 640 S. Orlando Ave., Maitland, FL 32751

CALL TO ORDER: President Allie Myers called the General Meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Sharon Blake, Linda Bond, Barbara Brown, Mary Kay Chester, Lida Coffman, Candy Dawson, Toni Dedik, Carol Denton, Carol Halliburton, Anita Hope, Michelle Jones, Martha Kirby, Roberta Klusmeier, Maryanne Kravitz, Cheryl Malloy, Helen Mize, Allie Myers, Judy Nelson, Ann Prince, Betsy Sushinsky, Carol Thomas, Patricia Tobin, Linda Wright, and Peggy Wolford.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Maureen Bergondy-Wilhelm, Debbie Berry, Jean Campbell, Tammy Douglass, Sandy Drake-Caldwell, Leslie Dubow, Liz Finley, Chris Gennaro, Suzanne Godfrey, Florence Lamborn Johnson, Dr. Etta McCulloch, Margot Perez-Rios, Nancy Rapport, Mary Trier, and Connie Washam.

GUESTS: Lisa Derryberry (2nd visit) and Susan Sendra-Berger (1st visit) guests of Carol Denton; Lola Youngblood (2nd visit) guest of Mary Kay Chester; and Mary Dipboye, speaker.

KEYNOTES

MINUTES: Minutes from the January General Meeting appeared in the Newsletter. There were no additions or corrections voiced and the minutes were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Linda Wright reported that the Project Account balance was \$3,895.66 and the Operating Account balance at \$12,473.88. The 50-50 Drawing Account contained \$264.00. The treasurer's report was approved as read.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- An acknowledgement and thank you from Beverly Hardy, District Three Vice Governor, for submitting entries for all of the awards. This was greeted with a round of applause and Allie Myers extended a special thank you to all those who contributed.
- Thank you from BETA for the holiday party and gifts.
- Several thank you messages from A Gift for Teaching including a letter from a 5th Grade teacher and notes from her class.
- Note from Linda Robinson, District Three Governor, congratulating our club on such a great newsletter and extending appreciation for all our good work in the community.
- An invitation to an art show at UCF.
- Best wishes from the Valencia Foundation for 2008.
- Brochure from the Russell Home Tea Room.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Since most of our fund raising activities have been completed, there were no formal reports from the Literacy and Community Services Committees. Martha Kirby did mention that the Literacy Committee was looking for additional ideas for literacy activities in which the club could participate.
- Helen Mize from the Vocational Services Committee reported that plans were coming together for the Tea for Twenty that will be held on February 23rd from 2:00-4:30 pm at the Fairwinds Credit Union. Sign-up sheets were circulated for food, tables, and baskets for auction. Pat Tobin said that we really needed to get a head count of how many people would be coming to the tea so that we could ensure sufficient place settings. Additional sponsors for tables were also requested.
- Betsy Sushinsky from the Nominating Committee announced that a slate of officers for the next year had been identified for all positions except president. Betsy asked that everyone please consider taking on this leadership role and to call her if interested. A ballot will be provided at the March General Meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Networking:** Allie Myers said that Sharon Blake volunteered to host the next Networking meeting. Sharon said that the plan is to hold it during February and that she will be sending out an email with specifics.
- **District Conference:** Allie Myers announced that the District Conference would be held April 3-5 in Charlotte, NC this year. Because there were some difficulties sending out an electronic copy of the registration form, Allie had

brought copies with her and she encouraged everyone to return completed forms to Linda Wright ASAP.

- **Environmental Project:** Allie Myers provided an inventory of our media recycling efforts (e.g., magazines, books, CDs, videos, etc.) as of January 15th. These items were reported as part of the awards submissions.
- **60th Birthday Celebration:** Peggy Wolford reported that the committee suggested having a luncheon at Gargi's Restaurant on Saturday, April 12th, at 11:30 am. All the details have not been finalized but the management seems very willing to work with us. The cost would be \$25.00 per person and the restaurant can accommodate 125 people. Carol Denton added that we need to invite past presidents. Allie Myers added that we should also consider inviting spouses and other clubs.
- **Eleanor J. Mathews Awards:** Roberta Klusmeier reported that she was in the process of making arrangements for the March General Meeting at the Sheraton Ivanhoe. The meeting will be on March 5th to honor recipients of the scholarship awards for this year. Roberta said that she is still negotiating a price and will also check on the possibility of parking validation.
- **Archives:** Allie Myers said that a committee had pulled together all of our records and memorabilia but that we still have not come up with a storage solution. Allie asked for suggestions but none were forthcoming. She also mentioned that Maureen Bergondy-Wilhelm had sold the large display booth that she had been storing for the last few years. Maureen will be sending a check in soon.
- **Screen Actors Guild Literacy Partnership:** Linda Wright said that she had previously sent out an email from Florida BookPALS and wanted to discuss interest in partnering with the Screen Actors Guild Foundation's Literacy Initiatives. A volunteer meeting to plan for involvement in the fall is going to be held at Barnes and Nobel at Colonial Plaza (2418 E. Colonial Dr.) at 5:30 pm on February 26th. Linda would like members to RSVP to her if interested so that this could be a coordinated project for the club. Linda will be sending out a follow-up email message. For more information see flbookpals@bellsouth.net.
- **Frances House of Hope:** Carol Halliburton reported that Frances Wigfall of the "Heart of Frances" organization has recently purchased a house in the Pine Hills area. This location will continue to serve mothers undergoing cancer treatment with child care services. Frances is in need of furnishings for the home including beds and yard furniture. Anyone with donations should contact Carol Halliburton.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Adopt a Highway:** Linda Wright said that the Adopt-a-Highway program was looking for organizations to agree to a two-year commitment to collect trash on a designated two-mile segment of road. Adopt-a-Highway will send someone to the club to explain the requirements and will post a sign with our club name on the stretch of highway we agree to maintain. Linda suggested we adopt a portion of Lake Margaret Drive which is a part of Mildred Fernandez's district. Linda will get more details.

KEYNOTES

- **Disbursing Foundation Funds:** Anita Hope, Treasurer of the Foundation, said that we need to disburse funds raised this past year to the Adult Literacy League, the Child Advocacy Center, the Winter Park Library, and Great Oaks Village. The amount of each check had already been voted on by the membership, so she just needed volunteers to deliver the money to each organization. Toni Dedik volunteered to deliver the checks to the Adult Literacy League and the Winter Park Library; and Linda Wright said she would deliver the ones to the Child Advocacy Center and Great Oaks Village.
- **Music Scholarship Funds:** Linda Bond mentioned that this was the 4th anniversary of Grace Sanford's passing and that the club also needed to disburse funds from that account. One potential benefactor mentioned was A Gift for Music which is affiliated with A Gift for Teaching. After discussion, Linda Wright made a motion that a committee be formed who would develop a schedule and guidelines for how the music scholarship funds would be disbursed. This was seconded by Linda Bond and unanimously approved. Allie Myers asked for committee volunteers. Betsy Sushinsky, Allie Myers, Candy Dawson, Toni Dedik and Cheryl Malloy agreed to be on the committee.
- **Disbursing 50-50 Funds:** Linda Wright also mentioned that April was International Foundation month and that it would be appropriate to disburse the money that we had been collecting in the 50-50 Fund to the International and District Foundations. Carol Halliburton made a motion that we should distribute funds from the 50-50 account by providing \$150 to each Foundation. The motion was seconded by Linda Blake and unanimously approved.

PROGRAM:

Mary Dipboye from the Ten Thousand Villages store on Park Avenue in Winter Park addressed the meeting.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Martha Kirby announced that the bookstore at University and Goldenrod will be closing its doors. During the first two weeks of March, they are offering books at half price and the third week everything will be sold for \$1. Martha urged those who would like to purchase books for various literacy events to consider stopping at the store.
- Linda Bond mentioned that there was a special display at the Winter Park Library that will run through to the end of this month. It features notable couples from the Winter Park area including Harold and Grace Sanford.
- Peggy Wolford said that we should look into Associate Memberships for retired ladies who may be interested in participating in club activities. These members would meet for lunch, like a cluster club. Judy Nelson is currently involved in this type of activity at her winter residence.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: The next formal meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 5, 2008. The time and location is to be determined.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to conduct Allie Myers adjourned the General Meeting at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Malloy
Recording Secretary

KEYNOTES is a monthly publication of Altrusa International of Orlando-Winter Park. Please send information for upcoming editions by the 15th of the month to: Maryanne Kravitz, Editor, mkravitz42@hotmail.com or call at 407-852-7727.

- President:** Allie Myers
- Vice President:** Martha Kirby
- Treasurer:** Linda Wright
- Recording Secretary:** Cheryl Malloy
- Board Director:** Toni Dedik
- Board Director:** Pat Tobin
- Foundation President:** Betsy Sushinsky
- Foundation Treasurer:** Anita Hope