

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

September 2007

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



President’s Corner:

Greetings! It’s fall once again, and we are starting to go into our busy time of year. We have a lot of events coming up within the next couple of months, so get ready to come out and participate!

Our big yard sale is going to take place on Saturday, October 13th, so get your donations priced and ready to sell. If you cannot attend, please get with someone who is going and make arrangements to have them take your items for you. We are holding this event in front of the Elks Club on Howell Branch Road. A lot of traffic goes by on this road, so hopefully we will make a bundle of money for our club.

Coming up after that is Make a Difference Day on Saturday, October 27th. The people on the Literacy Committee are planning to have a storyteller come and read to the children at Great Oaks Village and have a party for them. Please get with Martha Kirby if you can donate or help out with this event. I know they appreciate any books you can donate, especially ones for older children.

Next on the list is our annual Stein Mart event on November 18th. Please be sure to buy tickets and sell them to friends and family. This is a one-night shopping event that you will want to remember. We get a chance to find bargains in the store along with members from a couple of other

organizations when it is closed to the general public. Plan to come out and sample some tasty treats and do some holiday shopping.

After that, comes our annual BETA/STEPS party where we get these two groups together and celebrate the holidays with food, song and fun. This event is usually held during the first part of December. Every year we save up soap, lotion, and shampoo that some of our members acquire when they stay in hotels during travel. We donate these items to the residents of BETA and STEPS since the state does not pay for their toiletry items. These are small gifts, but they go a long way in helping these ladies out when it comes to spending their own money for such items. Start bringing your toiletries to the next meeting. We will be collecting them from now until just before the party.

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As you can see, we are off and running for another full season of Altrusa fun. Come join us!

Your President,

Allie Myers

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

For the last 16 years, *USA Weekend Magazine* and its partners have sponsored **Make a Difference Day** as an annual event for people to do good for others.

This day is celebrated on the fourth Saturday of **MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY** October. This year, **Make a Difference Day** will be held on Saturday, October 27th.



For the 10th year in a row, Altrusa is launching an effort to combat illiteracy. In the 2005-2007

biennium alone, Altrusans donated and distributed over 500,000 books to children and adults. Through the combined efforts of Altrusans all over the world, we have the power to promote literacy from city to city, state to state, and country to country.

Each year our club chooses a literacy project and holds the event on that day. Last year, we partnered with our sister club in Tampa, FL to distribute over 200 books to children and young adults at the Great Oaks Village. Our Literacy Committee is hard at work on plans for the upcoming date. Please help make this year's **Make a Difference Day** a huge success by either donating books to the cause or by volunteering your time on that day.

For more information about **Make a Difference Day**, you can check out the information on our Altrusa International web site at: www.altrusa.com/Difference/Difference.asp, or visit the *USA Weekend Magazine* web site at: www.usaweekend.com.

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District Three News:

By now, you all should have received the Summer edition of the District Three Service Bulletin. Orlando-Winter Park received lots of praise for our part in the International Convention held in July. Congratulations again to all who worked hard to make it a success!

On Page 3 of the bulletin, there is a chart listing clubs in District Three. Beside each club's name are the four goals that Governor Linda has set for us to accomplish within the next two years. We are already working hard on Global Warming and finding a "Hands Up" project, but what about Goal Number 2—Acts of Kindness?

We as Altrusans are always performing acts of kindness, many times not even realizing what we have done. Let's take time out to remember this month something we have done for others. It doesn't have to be anything on a grand scale. It can be something as simple as holding the door for someone or mailing a card to someone. Write down what you have done and bring it to the next meeting. We can put together a list and send it into District.

Let's show everyone that Orlando-Winter Park is involved and that we are committed to reaching the goals set before us for the next two years.

Altrusa Orlando-Winter Park News

Joyce Whidden, Executive Director of the Adult Literacy League, spoke to members about ALL and its mission to develop readers to build a strong and literate community. The focus of the organization is on adults since literate parents raise literate children. The idea is to foster and build the skills that will sustain literacy. The ALL also partners with other organizations, such as Head Start, supplementing the

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learning experience with tools and age-appropriate books, as well as tips for parents that encourage the use of available resources like the public library.

The ALL provides support for tutors and volunteers to work one-on-one with adults who require assistance with reading skills. Ms. Whidden characterized the 1st through 3rd Grades as a time when you “learn to read;” and 4th through 6th Grades as a time when you “read to learn.” There are a number of reasons why fundamental reading skills are not acquired during these formative years including learning disabilities, poverty or lack of access to education.

In our community, one out of four citizens reads at the 6th Grade level or below, so the ALL is always looking for volunteers. Training sessions are provided for volunteers who generally conduct tutoring sessions twice a week at a local library at a time convenient for both the student and tutor. Ms. Whidden brought information on how to get involved and noted that Altrusan, Toni Dedik, is currently involved in tutoring. Toni Dedik can attest to the many benefits one receives from sharing part of their time and energy to assist another in learning to read.



Guest Speaker Joyce Whidden and Toni Dedik

The ALL serviced about 5,000 people this past year on a shoestring budget. Ms. Whidden thanked the club for its continued support. There is a tremendous need to expand literacy efforts and civic-minded organizations like Altrusa are making a difference. Find out more about how you can help at www.adultliteracyleague.org. Donations are also greatly appreciated. You can send yours to Adult Literacy League, Inc., 346 W. Michigan St., Suite 100, Orlando, FL 32806

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ALTRUSA FUNDRAISING UPDATES



Gift Wrap - If you were not at the September meeting and would like to sell gift wrap, please contact Roberta Klusmeier. She has the catalog from Innisbrook. Roberta's e-mail address is gators1307@aol.com. All orders placed at or before the October 4th meeting will be delivered in November. Orders placed after the October 4th meeting and by the November 1st meeting, will be delivered in December.

See's Candy - Mary Kay Chester will have See's Candy brochures available at the October 4th meeting. If you would like to sell See's Candy, please contact Mary Kay so she can get a brochure to you. Her e-mail address is Mary Kay Chester@juno.com.

For our newer members, proceeds from the sales of gift wrap and See's Candy go into our Project Account. The funds in this account are used for volunteer opportunities for which we have not budgeted in the Foundation and projects that cannot be funded through the Foundation. A good example is the expense of our holiday party for BETA and STEPS. While our donations to BETA and STEPS come from the Foundation, we cannot pay for food and other expenses of putting on this party from the Foundation.

Cookbooks - We have currently given 132 cookbooks for donations to our Foundation. Remember that we have to receive donations for 150 to break even. We had 500 cookbooks printed.

We will bring the cookbooks to our yard sale on October 13th. I plan to bake two of the recipes in the cookbook to share with our guests and hopefully entice sales!! If you would like to bake a recipe out of the cookbook for the yard

sale, please contact me. My e-mail is lwright@cfl.rr.com.

Also, remember that our cookbooks come in an envelope so you can slap on two stamps and mail them to friends and family. Please consider sending them as a Christmas greeting and encourage others to do the same!! We can add some glitter paint to the palm tree on the cover so it looks like ornaments!

Remember: Cookbooks are free with a \$5 donation to our Foundation. Donations to the Foundation are tax deductible. I will mail you some if you'd like. Just send me an e-mail at lwright@cfl.rr.com.



Environmental Project

As we all know, one of Governor Linda's goals for this biennium is for Altrusans to be aware of global warming and to do our part in helping solve this growing problem. With that in mind, we all agreed at the September meeting to re-circulate our old magazines because paper takes up as much as 50% of all landfill space, and something this simple can make a difference.

The next time you get ready to toss that magazine you have finished reading, set it aside and bring it to the next meeting. Several members have found places (doctors' offices, nursing homes, hospitals) where the personnel are thrilled to get magazines for their waiting rooms or patients rooms, and these members have volunteered to take them there.

We are making up peel and stick labels with our club's name on them so we can cover up our names and addresses printed on the front of the magazines, AND show people that Altrusa has given the magazine as a donation. What better way to show our community that we care, to get our name out there, and to recycle at the same time? If each one

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of our members gets involved with this project, can you imagine the impact this might have?

Picking up that used magazine and bringing it to a meeting requires a small amount of time, yet it will spread cheer and keep the magazine out of a landfill for a little while longer.

Bring your magazines to meetings and show you care!

ALTRUSA ACCENT:



President Allie Myers and Linda Bond

At the September meeting, Linda Bond presented her new book titled "Their Lives Were Music" to Altrusa Orlando-Winter Park Club president, Allie Myers. This biography follows the interesting life of Charter-Emeritus Altrusa member, Grace Sanford. The double CD set includes a sample of her Concert for Two Pianos for which she and husband Harold were famous.

The Sanford's have found their place in history as the first documented musicians and composers of Winter Park, Florida. The many photos, news articles and personal documents from her estate were donated to The Winter Park Historical Museum, The Winter Park Library, The Juilliard School, Oberlin Music Conservatory and The Albin Polasek Museum Sculpture Gardens.

A special thank you goes to Altrusa member, Toni Dedik for her help in editing this project. Due to the amount of copyrighted material, this not-for-profit, limited edition book will be sold by

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special order and at Mrs. Bond's cost of \$21.00. A \$5.00 donation will be made to the Grace Sanford Music Scholarship Fund for each book sold. This scholarship was set up to honor Grace and the \$10,000.00 her estate left to the club. The presentation of the book at September's club meeting was a special gift to Grace for what would have been her 103rd birthday on September 10th.

Spotlight on a new Altrusan:



We are happy to welcome new member Maryanne Kravitz to the club. Maryanne is a native of Philadelphia, PA. She attended college there and worked as a legal secretary for attorneys and judges for several years. Eventually, she started her own

transcription business for court reporters and later on, a medical transcription business.

Maryanne has been a member of the administration at Lake Highland Preparatory School in downtown Orlando for 18 years starting out in the library of the Upper School and moving up to Assistant to the Upper School Director. She has been the Assistant to the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of LHPS for the past 10 years. Maryanne and her husband Len have a son and a daughter. Their son is an EMT, soon to be a paramedic in Boston, and their daughter teaches 6th grade science at LHPS.

In her free time Maryanne enjoys working out at the "Y," walking, reading historical novels and is addicted to Sudoku puzzles. The family has a condo at New Smyrna Beach where they enjoy getting away and relaxing. In December Len and Maryanne are going on a cruise through the Panama Canal to celebrate her birthday which is September 26th.

When asked why she wanted to become an Altrusan, Maryanne indicated that her friends, Carol Denton and Debbie Barry, had impressed her during discussions about Altrusa activities. Over the years she has had a strong desire to give back to her community and now that she has more time, feels

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Altrusa is the perfect place to give of her time and talents. She is off to a great start -- she immediately volunteered to take on the club newsletter and is doing a great job. Congratulations and welcome Maryanne, we are happy to have you as our Altrusa sister.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:



October 3, 2007-

Altrusa General Meeting - Gentry's Restaurant, 4120 S. Orange Ave, just south of Michigan – 6:00 pm.

Accessible by taking the Michigan exit off of I-4, go east to Orange Ave. and turn right. For more specific directions, please call the restaurant at (407) 856-5188.

October 13, 2007

Altrusa Annual Yard Sale - Elks Lodge, 4755 Howell Branch Rd., Winter Park from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

October 27, 2007

Make a Difference Day – Great Oaks Village – 2:00 pm.

October 29, 2007-

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

October Birthdays:



Anita Hope	5
Sandra Caldwell	13
Debbie Berry	17
Mary Kay Chester	22



Correction: Candy Dawson's e-mail address should be mscdawson@aol.com. If anyone has changes or corrections, please send them to Nancy Rapport

ASAP so they can be included the next roster printing. Nancy's email address is NABarnette@aol.com

Committee Reports:



Literacy Committee:

Join your fellow Winter Park-Orlando Altrusans at Great Oaks Village on Saturday, October 27th, for **Make a Difference Day**. There will be approximately 60 children from elementary, middle and high school. A storyteller will be present to entertain the younger children, and the plan is to occupy the older children in decorating bags for the Children's Advocacy Center. Any creative decorating ideas from members would be greatly appreciated in order to provide some direction for the students. Donations of snacks, books, art supplies, etc. are needed. What a wonderful way to provide a fun day for these students and encourage literacy with "Altrusiasm!" See you there.

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Community Services:

Claudia Casey, B.S., B.S.A., will address the October meeting. Ms. Casey is currently in the Marketing Department of Vitas Hospice and serves as the Community Liaison for the Central Florida program.

Tickets for the Stein Mart fund raiser on Sunday, November 18th, will be distributed at the October 3rd meeting. Volunteers are needed to help out that night with the table, food, clean-up, etc. More details will follow on that.



Vocational Services:

Sharon Moultries, from the New Directions program at SCC, will attend the October meeting. The club will present a check to her from the proceeds of the 2006 Tea for Twenty.

At the November meeting, Kim Bignon, of Organizer U, will provide us with information on New Start 4 Single Moms. The program was piloted by the First Baptist Church in Orlando and is now offered nationally.

The Vocational Committee has contacted the Oviedo Women's Club and is waiting for confirmation on dates available for the Tea for Twenty in February. They are looking at Saturdays and Sundays as possibilities.

Minutes for September General Meeting:

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF ORLANDO-WINTER PARK

GENERAL MEETING

September 5, 2007

Gentry's Restaurant, 4120 S. Orange Ave., Orlando, FL 32806

CALL TO ORDER: Allie Myers called the General Meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Linda Bond, Barbara Brown, Lida Coffman, Candy Dawson, Toni Dedik, Carol Denton, Sandy Drake-Caldwell, Carol Halliburton, Anita Hope, Michelle Jones, Martha Kirby, Roberta Klusmeier, Maryanne Kravitz, Cheryl Malloy, Helen Mize, Allie Myers, Ann Prince, Betsy Sushinsky, Carol Thomas, Patricia Tobin, Mary Trier, Connie Washam, Peggy Wolford and Linda Wright.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Maureen Bergondy-Wilhelm, Debbie Berry, Sharon Blake, Jean Campbell, Mary Kay Chester, Tammy Douglass, Leslie Dubow, Liz Finley, Chris Gennaro, Florence Lamborn Johnson, Dr. Etta McCulloch, Judy Nelson, Margot Perez-Rios, and Nancy Rapport.

GUESTS: Star Mahaffey (1st visit), guest of Mary Trier and Jovanna Nelson (1st visit), guest of Carol Denton.

ALTUSA ACCENT:

Allie Myers provided the Altrusa Accent by sharing some of the items she found while sorting through the archives. This included the club's original charter from June 1948. In addition, Allie had copies of handwritten program invitations bound with ribbons, an Altrusa song book, 25-year service awards for two of our emeritus members (Florence Lamborn Johnson and Margot Perez-Rios), an Altrusa marketing plan, pictures of Grace Sanborn, and a club history from 1954-1955. Allie mentioned that a small committee is in the process of organizing the club archives and will then recommend a storage solution.

PROGRAM:

Joyce Whidden then spoke to the members about the Adult Literacy League.

MINUTES: Minutes from the August 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 \$2,945.29 and the Operating Account balance at \$10,510.26. The 50-50 Drawing Account contained \$153.00.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A flyer from Michele Puppets about a black tie affair in October.
- A newsletter from Harbour House for abused women. Roberta Klusmeier said that we donate used cell phones to them which she will collect from the members.
- A brochure from the Heart Gallery that takes pictures of children available for adoption.

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- A newsletter from the Center for Independent Living
- An advertisement from UCF about an art exhibit
- A newsletter from Seniors First
- From "A Gift for Teaching" – a flyer announcing their current promotional, as well as a thank you for our recent donations
- A letter received by Pat Tobin with a resume from a potential speaker, Debora M. Coty, aunt of a former member named Candy Beatty
- Email from Tammy Douglass with the announcement of two upcoming Golf Tournaments
- An announcement from Valencia Foundation about a Golf Tournament
- A notice about an Interfaith Golf Tournament to benefit homeless families
- A letter from District Three Governor Linda to Carol Denton forwarding compliments to the Orlando-Winter Park club for doing such a terrific job hosting the International Convention.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Literacy: Martha Kirby provided a reminder that "Make a Difference Day" will be on 10/27/07. Roberta Klusmeier will deliver the school supplies provided by club members to "A Gift for Teaching" store (at the corner of John Young and Oakridge). Toni Dedik also announced that the cash donations raised at the Convention totaled \$921.00 which will be multiplied by ten by a local media campaign. Betsy Sushinsky has some photos of the mound of school supplies collected at Convention that she will give to Carol Denton for submission to the District newsletter.

Community Services: Tammy Douglass is the chair. Although she could not be present this evening, Allie Myers reminded everyone that the Stein Mart event would be 11/18/07.

Vocational Services: It was announced that the committee would be conducting a meeting after the General Meeting was adjourned. Pat Tobin also said that logistics could not be worked out with Judy Conlin to present a check to HOSA for \$2,333.00 raised at the Tea. Pat will ensure that a check in this amount is sent to Judy.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Foundation Budget Approval:** Anita Hope, Foundation Treasurer, explained that the Foundation was set up as a 401C type of account where all the money we take in must go out. As an example, Anita provided an accounting of funds raised and distributed for the 05-06 fiscal year. She then provided an accounting of funds raised for 06-07 with a recommended distribution from the Board. Linda Wright explained the seed money that was furnished from the Project Fund to establish the Foundation. After some discussion, Carol Halliburton made a motion to approve the distribution of funds for 06-07 as recommended by the Board. The motion was seconded by Connie Washam and unanimously approved by those present.
- **Garage Sale:** Peggy Wolford said that she was awaiting confirmation from the Elks of a date for the sale. Carol Thomas circulated a sign-up sheet for transporting, setting-up, working and breaking-down.

- PACE Holiday Sponsors: Allie Myers mentioned that PACE had recently lost a corporate sponsor to buy Christmas gifts for families supported by the organization. Anita Hope said that her company had volunteered to assist and said that it would involve buying presents as well as a holiday dinner for one family. Betsy Sushinsky made a motion that the Orlando-Winter Park Altrusa club should also adopt a family and support purchases for the holidays through personal donations. The motion was seconded by Roberta Klusmeier and unanimously approved.
- Networking Meeting: Allie Myers said that the first networking meeting was hosted by Tammy Douglass and enjoyed by all those who attended. Allie explained that attendees are encouraged to bring friends who are not affiliated with Altrusa. This is an opportunity to get to know each other better, as well as potentially recruit new members. Allie provided forms to fill out for those interested in participating. The next meeting will be held at Sharon Blake's.
- Project Committees: Allie Myers next addressed the email that she had recently sent out for assistance with BETA/STEPS, Archives, and Nominations.
 - Sharon Blake has volunteered to coordinate the BETA/STEPS Christmas Party but will need helpers. Roberta Klusmeier, Michelle Jones, Mary Trier, and Sandy Caldwell volunteered to assist.
 - Anita Hope will host the members who will assist in organizing the Archives which includes Allie Myers, Cheryl Malloy, Linda Wright and Toni Dedik.
 - Betsy Sushinsky volunteered to lead the Nominating Committee and will be assisted by Roberta Klusmeier and Connie Washam.
- Linda Wright announced that she had more cookbooks available for sale.
- Roberta Klusmeier distributed Innisbrook catalogs. She said that orders could be sent via email to her, but please note in the subject line "Innisbrook wrap." Roberta plans to place two orders between now and late November to ensure purchases are received prior to Christmas.
- Roberta Klusmeier also passed around the most current Roster for the members to make corrections to contact information if needed. Roberta will ensure that this is returned to Nancy Rapport.
- Linda Wright also mentioned that Mary Kay Chester would be accepting See's Candy orders. Linda said that she would send an email reminder out about both See's Candy and Innisbrook wrap to the membership.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Heart of Frances: Allie Myers said that Carol Halliburton had been contacted by Frances Wigfall who is running a daycare for kids whose parents are currently undergoing cancer treatment. She and Carol took 200 books, various school supplies and women's scarves out to the location. Allie said that there is a need for additional assistance and suggested that some bookcases might be helpful for storing the books that had been delivered. After some discussion, anyone with donations should contact either Carol Halliburton or Carol Thomas.
- Environmental Project: Allie Myers suggested that we

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should organize a magazine recycling project. Since most of us subscribe to one or more publications, we should make an effort to pass these on to hospitals, nursing homes and schools rather than contribute to the landfills. She asked that everyone bring magazines for recycle to the next meeting and we will distribute them. She would like to track what we bring in and where we distribute these so we can report this to District.

- In connection with the recycling theme, Connie Washam said that she will do some checking and provide additional information about recycling empty toner cartridges. In addition, Martha Kirby said that we should all consider getting our subscriptions through the schools or Girl Scouts. The price is the same and these organizations then get a percentage from the publishers.
- Grace Sanford Book: Linda Bond announced that she had completed writing a book about Grace Sanford who was a charter member of Altrusa. Linda had been a caregiver for Grace in her later years and learned about Grace's fascinating life and musical career. The book is comprised of a sample concert and biographical set on CD and is available in limited edition. The cost to Altrusa members is \$21.00. Please contact Linda about purchasing a copy.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Wednesday, 10/03/07, at 6:00 pm at Gentry's Restaurant, 4120 S. Orange Ave., Orlando, FL 32806.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to conduct, Allie Myers adjourned the General Meeting at 8:20 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