

ALTRUSA



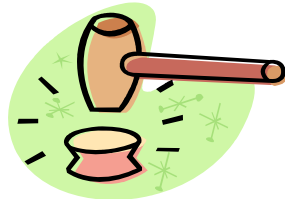
International, Inc. of Orlando~Winter Park
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www.altrusa-orlando.org www.districtthree.org www.altrusa.com

KEYNOTES

May 2008

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

President’s Corner:



Dear Altrusans,

How often as a passenger in the back seat of the car do you watch the passing sights, enjoy the companionship, take a little nap, and arrive at your destination without knowing how you got there? I admit to being a back seat passenger on our Altrusa road trip for the past two years. I’ve enjoyed the ride, contributed, and let others plan the trip. Now, I’m in the driver’s seat and must pay attention to the Altrusa gas gauge, directions and the road signs.

I’ll be sharing some of those directions in the newsletter. Two new articles will now appear: *What’s Ahead* will highlight key upcoming club activities and decisions; *Do You Know* will provide more detailed background information. Suggestions are always welcome on how to improve these sections.

As a back seat passenger, I’ve interacted with my fellow Altrusans and know that this is a wonderful group of generous, dedicated and involved women. I am honored to be starting out on this trip with all of you. There may be bumps in the road and the occasional detour but

we’ll arrive safely at our destination after a rewarding journey.

Sincerely,

Lida Coffman
President

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

The Altrusa International web site <http://www.altrusa.com/Home/Default.asp> is a terrific planning resource. Check out the sidebar on the home page and click on **Service Projects** to see what other clubs throughout the world are doing. You can sort for service projects by Project Type, Awards Received, Club Name and/or District.

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District Three News:



Governor Linda Robison chose **Hands Up with Altrusiasm** as her theme for 2007-2009. She identified four goals for the clubs in District Three and is asking us to recommit to them in the coming fiscal year. The goals are:

1. **Women in Need.** Check all our resources to locate women in need. It has recently been written in the media that 38% of working people (mostly women) are living below the poverty level. The old adage that “if you work, you have all you need” is no longer true and continuing to worsen. Give a hands up to low income working women.
2. **Acts of Kindness.** Normally, most of you give a hand up to people without thinking about it. This is just who you are as an Altrusan. Appoint someone in your club to receive from you and report these acts of kindness to Governor Linda on a monthly basis. Give a random hands up on a daily basis.
3. **Member Services.** Let’s identify through club meeting discussions what our members need and want to make them better and more knowledgeable Altrusans. In addition, what do our members need and want to make them more capable and proficient professionals. Give a hands up to our membership.
4. **Global Warming.** We have seen a great deal in the media lately about global warming. What can we do as a club and what can you do individually to help the environment? Give a hands up to our world.

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Altrusa Orlando-Winter Park News:

May

Our May General Meeting was packed full with many things including Altrusa business and fellowship. First of all, there were expressions of appreciation to our outgoing President Allie Myers and her Board – Martha Kirby, Vice President; Linda Wright, Treasurer; Cheryl Malloy, Recording Secretary; Director, Toni Dedik; and Director, Pat Tobin. As a token of our appreciation for all her hard work and dedication, presented a flag that was flown over our Capitol in Washington.



The new Board was installed in a beautiful ceremony presided over by Betsy Sushinsky. We are all looking forward with great anticipation to working with our new Board: Lida Coffman,



President;
Carol Thomas,
Vice President;
Sharon Blake,
Secretary;
Martha

Kirby, Treasurer; Roberta Klusmeier, Corresponding Secretary; Mary Kay Chester, Director; and Patricia Tobin, Director.

We also were excited to initiate two new members: Lola Youngblood sponsored by Mary Kay Chester and Lisa Derryberry sponsored by Carol Denton. What better



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way to begin a new year with our Altrusa sisters than to welcome to new sisters. We all look forward to learning more about Lola and Lisa, and sharing with them our deep commitment to Altrusa and our community.

What's Ahead* **at the June General Meeting**



☑ **Committee Sign up** – come prepared to sign up for one of our three service committees; Literacy, Vocational Services or Community Service. Please email Lida Coffman your preference at lbcoffman@hotmail.com if you can't attend the meeting.

☑ **Committee Planning** – the newly formed committees will elect a chair and start initial planning on club service projects and fundraisers. Packets will be distributed containing information on past projects and fundraisers sponsored, survey results, previous award applications, foundation grants, and general planning data. June 1st is the start of a new fiscal and planning year so the slate is wiped clean and ready for a fresh start.

☑ **Foundation Disbursements** – the Finance Committee will develop over the next month a Foundation disbursement recommendation based on ideas solicited from the committees. The proposal will cover funds raised in the fiscal year, June 1st, 2007 – May 31st, 2008.

☑ **July Social** – bring your ideas for our July social.

☑ **Orlando Train Station Beautification** – Betsy Sushinsky has agreed to coordinate this project. Stay tuned for more details on the date and time to spruce up the landscaping.

*This is a listing of key items identified at the time of this newsletter publication. A complete agenda will be distributed prior to the June meeting.

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Do You Know...



◆ Our new fiscal year runs from June 1st, 2008 through May 31st, 2009.

◆ Altrusa International, Inc. of Orlando-Winter Park sponsors several service projects and fundraisers throughout our fiscal year. An Altrusa club service project is an activity accepted, approved and sponsored by the membership in response to an identified need in the local community or the international community. The fundraisers are whole club activities accepted, approved and sponsored by the membership that are generally organized by specific committees.

◆ The Altrusa International of Orlando-Winter Park Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit corporation. Monies generated from our various fundraising activities are deposited into the Foundation account during the fiscal year.

At the end of the fiscal year, the Finance Committee recommends to the club a disbursement of all non-restricted funds to organizations/causes from the Foundation account. The proposal is based on recommendations from the membership and the committees. The club membership reviews the recommendations of the Finance Committee, makes any changes they deem appropriate and votes on a final disbursement of funds. The funds must be distributed as approved in the fiscal year noted.

Simply put, we raise funds in one fiscal year and disburse those funds in the next fiscal year. For example, we might vote to present a check to XYZ organization in February of 2009 when they provide a club program. Those funds were raised in fiscal year June 1st 2007 – May 31st, 2008, approved for disbursement in fiscal year June 1st, 2008 – May 31st, 2009, and delivered to the organization in February of 2009.

The club is currently scheduled to vote on the recommendation of Foundation disbursements at the August meeting for funds raised during fiscal year, June 1st, 2007-May 31st, 2008.

◆Keep Orlando Beautiful provides restricted funds to our Foundation account to enhance the Orlando Train Station grounds. Those monies are dedicated solely to the use of improving the Orlando Train Station and cannot be used for anything else.

GETTING TO KNOW THE NEW CLUB BOARD



Roberta Klusmeier

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Roberta was born in Merrick, Long Island, New York. She and her family moved to Cape Coral, FL when she was six. Roberta and her sisters remember hearing and feeling the blasting when the canals were being developed in Cape Coral. Her family is Sicilian, which accounts for her spunky but caring nature. She is also a twin, which she says adds a unique, positive dimension to life.

Roberta worked 23 years in the banking industry. For five years she served as Bank Of America's representative on The Heart of Florida United Way Funds Distribution Panel - Strengthening of Our Families Section. In 2004, tired of working nights and weekends, Roberta decided to leave Bank of America to pursue other interests. In April 2008 she graduated from The University of Phoenix with a degree in Business Management and is now evaluating her options. One thing she knows for sure, she does not want to work where she needs to wear a suit. Recently, she went through her closet and has donated 25 suits to "Dress For Success."

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Roberta loves all animals but considers herself a "dog person" Two-year-old Schnauzers Suzy Q (black) and Charley (white) are precious members of the family to sheher and her husband, Don.

Her mother's generous spirit is what instilled a desire to give back to the community to Roberta and her sisters. An active Altrusan since 1991, Roberta was club President 1997 - 1999. She has served on many committees, attended numerous District Three conferences and workshops, and was chairman of the "A Gift for Teaching" project at the 2007 Altrusa International Convention here in Orlando.

Roberta is looking forward to serving as Corresponding Secretary; we know she will do a fabulous job.

Betsy Sushinsky

KUDOS

**Maureen Bergondy-
Wilhelm**



Congratulations to Altrusa sister Maureen Bergondy-Wilhelm on her promotion and new position as Director of Research and Technology Programs for the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division. The Division is responsible for all of the Research and Development, Technology Transfer, and Small Business Innovative Research programs at the command. The new position involves a lot more program management and coordination with senior representatives from other organizations. Maureen now works with a lot more engineering and computer science -based

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technology development programs. She says she has a lot to learn and is drinking from the proverbial fire hose right now, but it is a great new challenge and she is looking forward to the adventure.

In her previous position as a senior research psychologist, Maureen was the head of the Training and Human Performance Research Branch. For the past seven years she has supervised 25 - 30 research psychologists, engineers, and training specialists working in the area of human training, human computer interaction, selection, and human performance research application.

Maureen has great news about her brother John who suffered a brain aneurysm a few months ago. He is doing amazingly well and is back at work. His doctors cannot detect any physical problems or memory losses. He is calmer which is a good thing. She thanks all of you for your prayers.

Betsy Sushinsky

Toni Dedik received a Jefferson Award.



This award is given out to people in our community for outstanding community service. Not only does Toni give her time to Altrusa, but she also volunteers at the Adult Literacy League and various other charitable organizations around

town.

The winners of this award will be announced on WESH Channel 2 News. If you want to find out more about the Jefferson Awards, their website is www.jeffersonawards.org.

Congratulations, Toni!

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Accent on a New Altrusan

Lola was born in Chattanooga, TN but has spent most of her life in Florida. For many years she worked for The Xerox Corporation as a systems analyst and trainer. Eventually, she felt it was time for a change and decided to use her gift for sales as a way to make a living. Over the year, Lola has been a manufacturer's rep for gourmet foods and kitchen products, sold upscale lady's apparel at Dillard's, and eventually worked in the insurance industry. She is currently semi-retired, doing volunteer work and looking for that perfect part-time job to keep her busy.



Lola is definitely a "cat person". At the moment there is no furry feline friend sharing her life but she says it probably won't be long before another special kitty will come along and change that.

Lola enjoys cooking and baking. She's famous for "Mac and Cheese." Every time there is a large gathering, Lola is asked to bring HER M & C because it's so awesome. She says it must be the five pounds of cheese that go into it. Lola usually limits baking to the holiday season.

Reading is also something Lola enjoys. She prefers suspense novels, historic fiction, and non-fiction; anything but romance novels. One of her favorite authors is Nelson DeMille.

Volunteering has always been a part of Lola's life. Altrusa is the first service organization she has belonged to. Interest in Altrusa began the day she met Altrusan Mary Kay Chester a few years ago. They were both volunteering at the Habitat For Humanity Thrift Store and quickly developed a great friendship. Mary Kay was always talking about Altrusa and the club activities. Lola says all it took was being a guest at one meeting and she knew Altrusa was for her. She appreciates the charities and projects the club supports as well as the committee system and team effort that helps accomplish club goals. The friendliness and openness of the members is also very appealing.


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Lola is looking forward to many rewarding years as an Altrusan.

We are happy to welcome Lola to the club.


Betsy Sushinsky

June Birthdays:



Lida Coffman	6
Roberta Klusmeier	8

Calendar of Upcoming Events



June 4, 2008-
Altrusa General Meeting
 Steak N Ale, 640 S. Orlando Ave, Maitland,
 6:30 pm.
 Located at intersection of Rt. 17-92 & S.
 Maitland Ave. For specific directions, please
 call the restaurant at (407) 645-3335.

June 23, 2008
Altrusa Board Meeting - Orlando Public Library,
 101 E. Central Blvd., Cypress Room – 6:00 pm.

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Minutes for May General Meeting:

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF ORLANDO-WINTER
PARK GENERAL MEETING
May 07, 2008
Roadhouse, 1870 N. Semoran Blvd., Orlando, FL 32807

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

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

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

GUESTS: Lisa Derryberry sponsored for initiation by Carol Denton and Lola Youngblood sponsored for initiation by Mary Kay Chester.

MINUTES: Minutes from the March General Meeting appeared in the Newsletter. There were no additions or corrections voiced and the minutes were approved as submitted. For April, the club celebrated its 60th birthday with a social rather than a General Meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Linda Wright reported that the Project Account balance was \$4,216.96, and the Operating Account balance at \$11,132.79. The treasurer's report was approved as read. Linda Wright also provided a handout that summarized the Operating Account activity for the past year. This included a summary comparison of budgeted to actual income and expenses, as well as an itemized list of activity for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- An announcement from the UCF Art Gallery
- An invitation to a Senior's First Event
- An announcement about a Gift for Teaching event
- A thank you letter from PACE for our support of a family for Christmas
- A flyer about a UCF Student Art Exhibit
- A card from Mary Sanatana, Tampa Club, congratulating us on our 60th Birthday
- Notes from Beverly Hardy, District Three Vice-Governor, and Linda Robinson, District Three Governor, who would like to pay us a visit. Lida Coffman will coordinate schedules.

- A note from the Governor of District Four who wanted more information about our recent Mystery Tea. Ann Prince and Helen Mize will respond.

FOUNDATION MEMBERS:

- Betsy Sushinsky, Foundation President, explained that there had been a few changes in the Board due to recent resignations. Anita Hope resigned her position as Foundation Treasurer due to work and family commitments and Liz Finley, who has now moved to emeritus status and with her husband's health issues, will also no longer be able to serve as a Director. To fill these two vacancies, Betsy made a motion to elect Cheryl Malloy to the position of Treasurer and Michelle Jones to the position of Director. The motion was seconded by Carol Denton and approved unanimously by the members present.
- With the confirmation of two new members, Betsy Sushinsky said that the current Foundation Board included the following:
 - Betsy Sushinsky, President
 - Carol Hallibuton, Secretary
 - Cheryl Malloy, Treasurer
 - Peggy Wolford, Director
 - Roberta Klusmeier, Director
 - Michelle Jones, Director
 - Barbara Brown, Director
 - Allie Myers, Director (pending vote at June meeting)
 - Maryanne Kravitz (pending vote at June meeting)
- Betsy mentioned that she would prefer to have nine members on the Board and asked interested members to speak with her about volunteering.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **District Three Conference:** Carol Thomas was one of our delegates at the District Conference, April 3-5 in Charlotte, NC.
 - Carol circulated the award certificates that our club won and provided details about the scoring. We got special recognition for submitting for every award. Some examples of our accomplishments include:
 - Ernestine Milner Program Excellence Award – 1st Place
 - Todd Jordan Yearbook Award – 3rd Place (1 point away from 2nd Place)
 - Newsletter Award – 3rd Place
 - Richard Ward Ulrich Environmental Services Award – 3rd Place
 - Outstanding Community Service Awards – recognition for highest community service dollars raised including in kind (\$41,450) and the most per member average donations (\$1,000)
 - Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award – 2nd Place
 - Letha H. Brown Literacy Award – did not place
 - Mamie L. Bass Service Award – did not place (just a few points away from 3rd Place)
 - Carol also mentioned that Judy Nelson was recognized for 26 years of service and Liz Finley was granted emeritus status.
 - Carol said that our club donated 123 books (H.S. and

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- elementary) to the total of over 700 total collected at the conference for rebuilding a school library in New Orleans.
 - Carol announced that next year's Conference will be in Tampa. Allie Myers added that Tampa is our sister club so we will be called upon to assist.
- **Archives:** Allie Myers said that we have pulled together all of our records and memorabilia but that we still have not come up with a storage solution. Allie Myers and Linda Wright have agreed to become club historians and will begin to assemble scrapbooks and sort through pictures. Liz Finley and Carol Denton have offered to assist in identifying photos.
- **Meeting Place:** Allie Myers explained that we still have not found a suitable meeting place. Pat Tobin added that she had looked into a meeting room at the Orlando Science Center but it didn't work out. Allie Myers encouraged everyone to keep looking. The location of the next meeting will be published in the Newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Train Station Beautification:** Allie Myers said that the train station was due for new flowers and a general clean up of the grounds. She asked that volunteers contact her so a date could be arranged.
- **Music Scholarship Funds:** Allie Myers said that the committee had met to discuss disbursement of funds for the Grace Sanford Music Scholarship. The committee had discussed a number of options and agreed on requesting approval from the membership to issue a \$1,000 Scholarship to the Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra. Monies would include \$250 from the Grace Sanford account plus \$500 from the recent sale of a display unit plus an additional \$250 from the Project Account. Maryanne Kravitz made the motion that \$1,000 would be given to the FSYO which was then seconded by Carol Halliburton and unanimously approved. Allie Myers also mentioned that Toni Dedik had additional information about another deserving group, the Florida Young Artists Symphony that we will consider for next year.
- **Center for Independent Living:** Carol Halliburton said that the club has been contacted by this organization to assist with the building of wheelchair ramps for the handicapped. Allie Myers said that a committee will need to be formed to coordinate what needs to be done and asked members to contact Lida Coffman if interested in participating. For more information, please look at www.cilorlando.org.
- **Recognition for Metro Advertising:** Carol Halliburton has asked the club for monies to pay for a plaque for Charlie Rocker who has supported the club for many years through the Metro bench fund. The club has been getting a monthly stipend of \$300 from the advertising on streetside benches that have been instrumental in paying for our operating expenses. Carol Denton made a motion that \$100 should be expended to pay for a service award for Charlie Rocker. Toni Dedik seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed. Carol Halliburton will obtain the award and present it to Charlie Rocker.

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INSTALLATION of OFFICERS: Betsy Sushinsky presided over the initiation of the new slate of officers for this next term. She identified the keys that each position represents to further the efforts of the organization. The new slate of officers includes:

Lida Coffman, President
Carol Thomas, Vice President
Sharon Blake, Secretary
Martha Kirby, Treasurer
Roberta Klusmeier, Corresponding Secretary
Allie Myers, Director (Immediate Past President)
Mary Kay Chester, Director
Patricia Tobin, Director

INITIATION: Betsy Sushinsky also presided over the initiation of two new members:

Lola Youngblood sponsored by Mary Kay Chester
Lisa Derryberry sponsored by Carol Denton

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Pat Tobin announced that a friend of hers was conducting a survey to broaden career opportunities for college students. She had copies of the survey and also provided a web address (www.personmatch.kuder.com) for those interested in participating.
- Allie Myers congratulated Toni Dedik on her nomination for a Jefferson Award for Outstanding Service. Toni said that it is her involvement with Altrusa that has provided impetus for her volunteerism. Way to go, Toni!
- Allie Myers also announced that Maureen Bergondy had recently been promoted to a Director position at NAVAIR. Congratulations, Maureen!
- Linda Wright wanted to thank Ann Prince and Helen Mize for their efforts at promoting the club and the charitable support we provide. As a result of this conversation, one of their clients arranged for a \$5,000 grant to the Child's Advocacy Center. Linda Wright said that the Advocacy Center was most appreciative since a number of their funding sources have been reduced as of late.
- Linda Wright presented a gift to Allie Myers for her steadfast leadership over the last two years. Thank you, Allie!

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: The next formal meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2008. The time and location is TBD.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to conduct Allie Myers adjourned the General Meeting at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Malloy
Recording Secretary

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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.

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