

ALTRUSA



International, Inc. of Orlando~Winter Park
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KEYNOTES

November 2006

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



President's Corner:

Dear Altrusans:

Hello everyone. The holiday season is upon us and it leaves me wondering how it came up so soon. It always feels like time moves faster at this time of year.

Many of our members got a good start on their shopping at the Stein Mart event on Sunday, November 12. Everyone who attended seemed to be having a great time finding all of those bargains and enjoying the wonderful food that was set out for us. Congratulations go out to Tammy Douglass for coordinating the event and to all who helped her out. Didn't Tammy look great in those outfits she modeled?

The BETA/STEPS party is coming up on December 2, from 12 to 3. Please plan on bringing a potluck dish and help us celebrate the season with those women who are going through some unfortunate circumstances now. After all, this is the real meaning of the season.

Please take some time this season to do at least one good deed for another person. You never know what they might be going through, and your actions, no matter how small, can make such a difference in their lives. Just think of a small favor someone has done for you and how good it made you feel.

For those of you who are planning to travel during this time, please be careful and have a safe trip.

I hope all of you have a wonderful time, and for those of you I don't see over the holidays, I will see you when we will meet again in the New Year.

Thanks to you all.

Your President,

Allie Myers

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Altrusa Orlando-Winter Park News:

Novembers meeting was opened by President Allie Myers announcing the absence of our Altrusan Linda Wright due to her mother recovering from surgery. Vice President Martha Kirby stood in for Linda with the treasurer's report. Along with announcements of birthdays for the month, Allie continued to discuss other events that took place during the month. Packages were mailed to Iraq with many wonderful useful items for soldiers, mainly for female soldiers and additional packages will be sent out to continue with donations are much appreciated. Sharon Blake described the wonderful excitement of the donation of baby wipes by staff at the United Cerebral Palsy of Central Florida facility. We must keep them in our hearts and continue to come forward with donations on a regular basis, it is so deeply needed. Due to the absence of the guest speaker Joyce Whidden, Executive Director of the Adult Literacy League, our Altrusan Toni Dedik spoke of her volunteering at the Adult Literacy League in tutoring a gentleman and was honored to have attended the Recognition of Learning Ceremony in which keeps them motivated. We were fascinated to hear of the process one participates in as a tutor for the league. We are very proud to have a member so dedicated as Toni to volunteer her time and energy to help with the Adult Literacy League. At our meetings end we held the initiation of a new member to our club Ms. Arlene Shaw, sponsored by Carol Thomas and our members committee chair conducting the initiation ceremony Betsy Sushinsky.



A note in regards to January's meeting:

We are going to go to the Children's Advocacy Center for our January meeting. Because December is so busy for everyone, we are asking for volunteers to decorate bags on your own and get them to the January meeting. If anyone who would like to decorate bags e-mail me with the number of bags you would like. I will mail them to you.

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Hope you had a great Thanksgiving!!

Linda Wright

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

November 1 2006- Altrusa General Meeting at Louie and Maria's Italian Restaurant, 9728 E Colonial Dr. Orlando, 6pm.

November 12, 2006- Stein Mart Night of Shopping, Fashion, Food & Fun Fundraiser. 2530 E. Colonial Dr. from 7-9pm.

November 20, 2006 Trim the Orlando Train Station by Altrusa was followed by the Foundation Board Meeting at Houlihans of East Colonial Dr., 5:30pm.,

December 2, 2006- BETA and STEPS Christmas Party, noon-3pm. BETA House, on Lake Underhill Dr.

December 6, 2006- Gift Wrapping event for BETA House, Fashion Square Mall 5 to 8pm.

January 3, 2007- Altrusa General Meeting at Children's Advocacy Center. Tour of center along with donation of decorated tote bags for children that enter the advocacy center.

December Birthdays



Allie Myers	3
Betsy Sushinsky	9
Carol Phifer	11
Carol Thomas	11
Sharon Blake	14
Lisa Daniel Wentz	18
Kim Strome	23
Barbara Brown	31
Chris Gennaro	31
Elizabeth Finley	

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Trim the Train Station:

On Monday Nov. 20th Barbara Brown, Roberta Klusmeier, Laurence Mathiote and Betsy Sushinsky had a fun afternoon decorating the historic Orlando Train Station for Christmas. This annual club activity is part of our Keep Orlando Beautiful project and much appreciated by the AMTRAK employees as well as all the visitors who pass through the station during the holidays. Several years ago we acquired the 7 ft. tree and decorations along with pine garlands for the doors. More recently new festive wreaths for the windows and baskets of seasonal greenery were added. The decorations are kept in storage at the station. Volunteers are needed to take down the decorations on Wed. January 3rd from 4pm.-5:30pm. The station is just a few blocks from the Children's Advocacy Center so volunteers can go straight to the meeting. Please let Betsy know if you can help.

Altrusa Foundation News:

The annual meeting of the Altrusa International of Orlando-Winter Park Foundation Board of Directors was held on Wednesday November 20th at Houlihan's Restaurant. Board members present were Betsy Sushinsky, Peggy Wolford, Carol Halliburton, Barbara Brown, Roberta Klusmeier, and Anita Hope. Liz Finley was unable to attend. Also in attendance were club president Allie Myers, former foundation treasurer, Kathy Chonody, and Mary Kay Chester who will replace Linda Wright on the board.

Minutes of the annual meeting are available upon request.

"This Is The Season For Giving, Please Consider Making A Donation To The Foundation Scholarship Fund."

2007 District Three Conference:

Soon it will be time to register for the 2007 District Three Conference. This year, the conference will be held April 26-28 at the Paramount Hotel in Gainesville, Florida. The registration fee will be \$180.00, which includes a fun night. Clubs will receive a \$25.00 reward for each new member who registers for the conference, so all of you new

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members come to the conference and help out your club. For all others, Gainesville is only a couple of hours up the road, so this one will be easy to attend. If you have never been to a District Conference, it is an invaluable chance to learn more about Altrusa and a good chance to meet other Altrusans in our District.

Gift Wrapping booth for BETA:

In the past ALtrusa has volunteered to man the gift wrapping booth in support of BETA House and once again we have December 6th from 5 to 8pm at the Fashion Square Mall. All of the supplies are available at the booth, we only need to have at least 3 people present to support BETA in their annual fund raising event. Please contact Toni Dedik if you can come and participate she will be in touch with additional information to those able to help.

Update on BETA/STEPS Drive:

BETA - STEPS Christmas party is coming up Saturday. Dec. 2nd from Noon to 3pm at BETA. If you are planning to participate please respond back and let us know what you would like to bring to go along with the pizza.

We need: Salads, cookies, bars, beverages (caffeine free soda, lemonade or punch)

This is an "all club" event, we hope many of you will be able to be there. Let's make it full for all, wear your Christmas sweater, Santa or Elf hat, and a holiday attitude.

I look forward to hearing from you. Have a blessed and happy
Thanksgiving

Betsy Sushinsky

Committee Reports:



Literacy Committee:

The Make a Difference Day event was a huge success with Altrusan members in attendance along with members of Martha's daughters girl scout troop as well. The children were read a story by Martha Kirby followed with an activity of decorating quilt squares with fabric markers and a quilt was constructed for viewing at the village by all the children and staff. Books were donated by the Tampa Altrusan Club (approx. 200) and 59 by our Club for the children to choose 2 each for themselves to enjoy, the remaining to be in the library for all to enjoy. An afternoon of fun reading, activity and sharing was enjoyed by all.

Committee Chair - Martha Kirby



Community Services:

Stein Mart night of shopping, November 12th from 7 to 9pm was an evening filled with refreshments, gift baskets, shopping and our very own Tammy Douglass modeling at the Fashion Show to make this a night to remember for Altrusa.

Committee Chair: Tammy Douglass



Vocational Services:

Pat Tobin and the committee members held a short meeting as a committee for the upcoming Altrusa's

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Tea for Twenty Fund Raising event.

Additional information will be shared very soon.
Set your calendars for Saturday, February 10th, 2007.

Committee Chair: Pat Tobin



Convention Committee:

Mark your calendars now for the upcoming International Convention to be held here in Orlando from July 13-16 at the Disney Contemporary Hotel. Carol Denton is our International Convention Chair. She will be providing us with information about what we need for this event.

Betsy Sushinsky is the club coordinator. Let's all plan to work with Betsy and Carol to make this convention a success.

Altrusa Member Spotlight:

Our very own Altrusan Toni Dedik has shared recent events in which she has involved in as a volunteer and as an Altrusan. I was volunteering at Festival of Trees the night of the Bank of America volunteer recognition event. The Adult Literacy League and BETA both received monetary awards from Bank of America, I presume it is their charitable foundation. The Adult Literacy League people were so excited as it was a nice chunk of money! Some of them approached me where I was stationed to give me the good news!

Also, on Sunday I escorted Dr. Etta McCulloch to the HOSA Foundation Annual Meeting at High Springs. I had the privilege of meeting the students who serve on the HOSA Board. They really make you feel good about the future of our country! Judy Conlin (Co-founder with Dr. Etta McCulloch) let them know that I was a representative of Altrusa who have been so very generous to them in the past year and asked them to thank me on behalf of the Altrusa group. They are charged with a fundraiser each year to benefit HOSA - they made \$200. I told them that once they have done a fundraiser they have a better appreciation for the funds that come to

them from the outside. They agreed!

Etta turned 94 on Thanksgiving Day, by the way! The HOSA Foundation Board was absolutely thrilled that she attended the meeting as she hasn't been to one in years! Judy was good to remind me of the date and time so I could encourage Etta to go. Thank you Toni for sharing these wonderful moments you have had recently with us.

Minutes for November General Meeting

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF ORLANDO-WINTER PARK
GENERAL MEETING
November 01, 2006
Louie and Maria's, Orlando, FL

CALL TO ORDER: President Allie Myers called the General Meeting to order at 6:10pm.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Allie Myers, Betsy Sushinsky, Sharon Blake, Suzanne Godfrey, Linda Bond, Barbara Brown, Terry Pass, Anita Hope, Arlene Shaw, Carol Thomas, Tammy Douglas, Mary Kay Chester, Lida Coffman, Pat Tobin, Linda Blake, Jennifer Franklyn, Martha Kirby, Toni Dedik, Carol Halliburton.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Maureen Bergondy-Wilhelm, Jean Campbell, Kathy Chonody, Lisa Daniels-Wentz, Diane DeWolf, Sandy Drake-Caldwell, Leslie Dubow, Liz Finley, Chris Gennaro, Danielle Merket, Judy Nelson, Barbara Radosky, Nancy Rapport, Margot Perez-Rios, Carol Phifer, Connie Washam, BJ Watson, Suzanne Weinstein, and Peggy Wolford, Carol Denton, Mary Trier, Linda Wright and Debbie Berry

GUESTS: Ashley Holtigan, sponsored by Jennifer Franklyn, _ Laurence Mathiote, sponsored by Betsy Sushinsky and Barbara Boyd, sponsored by Martha Kirby.

MINUTES: Minutes from the Octobers General Meeting were sent via the newsletter with the announcement of this month's meeting. There were no additions or corrections voiced and the minutes were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Martha Kirby reported that the Project Account balance was \$3,750.10 and the Operating Account balance was \$11,954.04.

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CORRESPONDENCE:

- UCF Art Gallery exhibition October 26th thru December 7th.
- Gift for Teaching Silent Auction and fund raising event announcement.
- eWomen Network Night of Chocolate Decadence event, November 15th.
- Femmes de Coeur, 9th Annual, Sweetheart Affair, Monday, February 5th, 2007.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Allie Myers announced the absence of Linda Wright is due to assisting her mother in recovery from knee surgery. We hope all is going well for Linda and her mom.
- Sharon Blake shared with the members the deep appreciation of the donation of baby wipes for the UCP organization. They were so excited to haven received such a large supply thanks to the generosity of our members.
- Toni Dedik announced the BETA House gift wrapping booth will be at Fashion Square Mall and volunteers were needed for December 6th from 5 to 8pm. A request for volunteers was expressed.
- Allie Myers announced of the upcoming International Convention Committee has received a list of requests and the date of the convention will be July 12th thru the 14th, 2007.

ALTRUSAN ACCENT: Betsy Sushinsky spoke of International Altrusans- Leaders in Service.

PROGRAM: In the absence of the guest speaker Joyce Whidden, Executive Director of the Adult Literacy League, our Altrusan Toni Dedik spoke of her personal joys of assisting in tutoring adults at the league.

NEW MEMBER INITIATION: Betsy Sushinsky performed the initiation of new member Arlene Shaw with her sponsor Carol Thomas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Service: Tammy Douglass passed around a last minute volunteer sign up sheet for the Stein Mart Night of shopping event scheduled for November 12th (Sunday, 7:00-9:00 p.m.). She also mentioned a request of donations of bows and gift wrap for the evening would be greatly appreciated. Tickets will be sold at the door and to be sure to mention Altrusa as the organization to benefit from the sale. All volunteers will be able to pre-shop the week before the event, and the items will be held in the office for purchasing on the evening of the event.

Vocational Services: Pat Tobin announced plans are underway for the upcoming Tea for Twenty which will be held on February 10th, 2007. A mini meeting of the committee will be held after the general meeting.

Literacy: Martha Kirby spoke of the "Make a Difference Day" held at Great Oaks Village on 10/28 from 2:00-4:00 pm. Altrusan members in attendance were, Martha Kirby, Sharon Drake, Betsy Sushinsky, Toni Dedik, Linda Wright and Leslie Dubow. Children in attendance were, 11 elementary age, 23

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middle school age and 10 high school age (who assisted in the activity of the day). Martha read to the children for story time with an activity of decorating individual quilt squares with fabric markers and the quilt was then put together to be hung for all of the children to enjoy at the village. Along with the activities, 259 books were donated, 200 were donated by Altrusa, International of Tampa. The children were allowed to pick out 2 books each and the remaining books were to be available through the village library. Martha Kirby's daughter and members of her girl scout group enjoyed participating in the event as well..

Other Club Activities:

- Sharon Blake will be collecting the toiletries brought into the meeting for the BETA and STEPS Christmas party. Linda Blake discussed the menu to include, pizza, salads, desserts and drinks for 50 adults and children. The party will be on December 2nd, from noon to 3pm at the BETA house located on Lake Underhill Road.
- Allie Myers shared with members the WRCC gardening clean-up on 10/14 at 10:00 am. The gardening extended to our areas of the grounds far more than was planned, but the result was truly appreciated by the staff and ladies of the WRCC.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Allie Myers announced that tote bags were available for anyone who wishes to take home a few to decorate for January's general meeting which will be to tour the Children's Advocacy Center and a check will be presented as well..
- Mary Kay Chester reminded the group of the sales of Sees Candy orders were due to her by 11/11. Orders could be emailed to Mary Kay.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Allie Myers opened for discussion the need for monies for miscellaneous uses during the year, for instance postage in mailing of the packages for the soldiers in Iraq. After much discussion by members, Anita Hope made a motion that a transfer of funds to discretionary purposes in the amount of \$200 come from the Metro Bench section of the budget, Pat Tobin seconded the motion. All were in favor.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: January, 3, 2007, at 6:00 pm the Children's Advocacy Center, Orlando, Florida

ADJOURN: There being no further business to conduct Allie Myers adjourned the General Meeting at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Thomas
Filling in for Cheryl Malloy, Recording Secretary

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KEYNOTES

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