

ALTRUSA



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

KEYNOTES

October 2006

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



President's Corner:

Dear Altrusans:

Hello All. We are about half way through the fiscal year, so I thought it would be a good idea to look back on all we have accomplished thus far.

Membership: We currently have 40 members in our club with two prospective members being initiated soon.

Literacy: We held a school supply drive and in August and donated supplies to A Gift for Teaching. We also presented them with a check for \$100.00. Make a Difference Day is on October 28. Volunteers will read to the children living there and help them decorate quilt squares depicting why they like to read or one of their favorite books. The squares will be tied together, and the quilt will be displayed in their cafeteria.

Community Services: We held a cleanup of the WRCC gardens surrounding the buildings in October, and we are collecting stuffed animals to give to the children who are residents there sometime in December.

Vocational Services: In September we donated \$500 to HOSA which benefits nursing students in our area. Plans are under way for the annual Tea for Twenty to be held in the Spring.

In honor of the International Day of Peace, we mailed a package to a female captain serving in Iraq. We have plans to mail at least two more packages. Carol Denton has been in contact with our representative from International, and they are planning to meet and discuss what services/goods we need to help make the International Convention a success.

We are also working on several different fund raisers at the same time.

We've done a lot so far, and we are looking to rest of the year to accomplish more. Service is our mission, and the Orlando-Winter Park members know this and do it with both passion and pride.

Thanks to you all.
Your President,

Allie Myers

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Altrusa Orlando-Winter Park News:

October's meeting was opened by President Allie Myers with much to discuss with members of various upcoming events in October and November. This month's Community Service Committee's guest speaker, Pam Lindemann from the National United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Central Florida provided an overview of the organization and services. There are 6 centers in the Central Florida area.. UCP assists families with disabled children including those with Downs, Spinal Bifida, Autism, and other symptoms associated with developmental delays. UCP operates publicly funded charter schools that provide tuition free therapy from birth to age 5. It is UCP's dream to eventually expand the program to continue support for regular school age children in the future. Pam's request was that we all become ambassadors to spread the word about available UCP services. She also mentioned the need for volunteers to assist watching children so that parents could have a break, as well a need for volunteers to rock babies. The center is open 7:00 am – 5:30 pm each day. (Headquarters 407-852-3300)

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

October 23, 2006 Board Meeting at Attorney's Dean, Ringers, Morgan & Lawton office, 201 East Pine Street, Suite 1200. 6pm.

October 28, 2006- Make a Difference Day. Great Oaks village, 1718 E. Michigan St., from 1:30pm-4:30pm.

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.

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November Birthdays



Connie Washam	2
Judy Myers-Nelson	22
Dr. Etta McCulloch	23

Update on Packages to Iraq:

On October 18, Allie Myers mailed a large care package to Cpt. Malissa Galubic in Iraq. This box contained items mostly related to a female soldier, such as books for women, and women's toiletries.

The box was quite large, and there were some items left over, so Allie plans to send another two boxes to our soldiers serving over there. In addition to Cpt. Galubic's name, Leslie Dubow has provided us with the names of two men serving in Iraq.

It's not too late to bring in items to fill up the next two boxes. Below is a list containing some of the most requested items. Thanks to Mary Trier for putting together the list for us, and thanks to all who have donated so far. Your generosity has made it possible to send three boxes instead of one.

Items needed:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| Chewing gum | Razors |
| Toothpaste | Toothbrushes |
| Pocket comb | Kleenex |
| Dental floss | Chap Stick |
| Foot Powder | Bobby pins |
| Shampoo | Conditioner |
| Q-Tips | Socks |
| Gloves | Cough drops |
| Antacids | Soap |
| Vitamins | Chips |
| Hard candy | Crackers |
| Beef Jerky | Cookies |
| Dried fruits | Toilet paper |
| Games | Plastic Utensils |
| Batteries | Neosporin |

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Update on Stuffed Animal Drive:

Stuffed Animal Drive:

Don't forget that we are still collecting stuffed animals for the children at the Women's Residential and Counseling Center (WRCC). We have collected 34 animals so far, and there are approximately 50 children at the center. Please bring any new or gently used stuffed animals that you have (doll size please) to the November meeting. There will be a collection box set up for donations.

Update on BETA/STEPS Drive:

Toiletries for the BETA/STEPS residents:

We are still collecting items (soap, shampoo, conditioner, makeup, etc) to give to the residents at BETA/STEPS at the annual Christmas party. A collection box will be set up for donations at the November meeting.

WRCC Cleanup:

On Saturday morning, Oct. 14, a group of Altrusans went to the Women's Residential and Counseling Center (WRCC) to put mulch down in a garden.

The day before, Davey Tree Service had generously donated and delivered a pile of mulch to the parking lot. Our club members came armed with wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels and gloves to level the pile of mulch and put it around the bushes and flowers in the garden.



All members present soon discovered that there was more than enough mulch to cover the one garden. Everyone continued to put down mulch until they had covered three gardens, bushes around the building, and a large area around the trees surrounding the parking lot. What started out to be a one-hour project turned into a four-hour one, but everyone persisted until the pile of mulch was

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leveled, and plenty of areas around the center were looking nice.

Everyone left tired, but with a sense of accomplishment. Lorri Hight, director of Volunteer and Food Services for the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida, was there to see our work on the first garden and thanked everyone for their work. Even one of the residents there joined in and helped.



Thanks to everyone who came out and persisted. You were all real troopers, and the WRCC grounds never looked better!

Committee Reports:



Literacy Committee:

Date: Saturday, 10-28-06

Time: 1:30pm - 4:30pm (children only participating from 2-4. I added a little front and back for setup and cleanup)

Where: Great Oaks Village, 1718 East Michigan St., Orlando, FL 32806 (just east of Orange Avenue, and east of Fern Creek on south side of Michigan)

What: We will be helping each child decorate a fabric quilt square with fabric markers - a picture of their favorite storybook character or scene or perhaps a picture showing why they - hopefully - love to read. Then we'll tie the pieces together and make a quilt to hang in their cafeteria. Thanks to Linda Wright for this great idea and for ordering the quilt supplies.

November's meetings guest speaker from Adult Literacy League. Joyce Whidden, director, hopes to

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join us. If she is delayed during her trip home from Canada, we will be joined by either Natasha Rogers (Program Director) or Sherry Clark (Family Literacy Coordinator). She's excited to come and update us on their program and to thank us for our past help and support. If you'd like to check them out before the meeting go to www.adultliteracyleague.org for more information.

Committee Chair - Martha Kirby



Community Services:

The fundraiser at Stein Mart is set for Sunday, November 12, from 7 – 9 pm. Now that the tickets have been disbursed the next focus is on Gift Baskets and a catered look table. Be in touch with Tammy Douglass to finalize the plans for an absolutely fabulous fund raising event.

A collection box will be available for any toiletries, lotions, travel shampoos, conditioners, soaps etc. at the November's meeting.

Committee Chair: Tammy Douglass



Vocational Services:

Pat Tobin and the committee members continue with plans for a wonderfully exciting Annual Altrusa's *Tea for Twenty* event. The date has been set for **February 10, 2007.**

Committee Chair: Pat Tobin

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Convention Committee: No updates at this time for the upcoming Altrusa International Convention.

Altrusa Member Spotlight:

What does the Vice President do?

The Vice President has to be ready to act when the President is absent or unable to serve.

Responsibilities Include:

- Being prepared to act as president when required
- Keeping up with current club activities and meeting agenda items
- Acting as a sounding board for the president
- Being knowledgeable about the club's administration and procedures
- Being willing to accept assignments to represent the club at community events.
- Being willing to carry out any special assignments that will strengthen and expedite the work of the club.

In addition, the Vice President should attend board meetings in order to stay on top of current club activities.

A knowledge of Parliamentary procedures is also helpful for the individual serving in this position.

Here's what our current vice president, Martha Kirby, has to say about the position:

My job as originally explained is to "support the President in any way asked and be available to conduct meetings in the President's absence". In reality, it's been much more interesting than it sounds. I've enjoyed attending the monthly board meetings (which I believe are open to all members) and finding out first-hand how much goes on behind the scenes. It's a great way to have input and feel more fully involved. I've gotten to know the other board members on a more personal level and like feeling part of the team. It hasn't been scary - it's been fun! We have a terrific group of members and I've greatly enjoyed participating so far.

Minutes for October General Meeting

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF ORLANDO-WINTER PARK
GENERAL MEETING
October 04, 2006
Louie and Maria's, Orlando, FL

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

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Debbie Berry, Linda Blake, Sharon Blake, Linda Bond, Barbara Brown, Mary Kay Chester, Liddy Coffman, Toni Dedik, Carol Denton, Jennifer Franklin, Diane Goigel, Carol Halliburton, Martha Kirby, Cheryl Malloy, Allie Myers, Mary Trier, and Linda Wright.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Maureen Bergondy-Wilhelm, Jean Campbell, Kathy Chonody, Lisa Daniels-Wentz, Diane DeWolf, Tammy Douglass, Sandy Drake-Caldwell, Leslie Dubow, Liz Finley, Chris Gennaro, Suzanne Godfrey, Anita Hope, Roberta Klusmeier, Danielle Merket, Judy Nelson, Terry Pass, Barbara Radosky, Nancy Rapport, Margot Perez-Rios, Carol Phifer, Betsy Sushinsky, Carol Thomas, Patricia Tobin, Connie Washam, BJ Watson, Suzanne Weinstein, and Peggy Wolford.

GUESTS: Carol Farrell (1st visit) sponsored by Carol Halliburton; Jack Myers, Allie's husband; and our guest speaker from United Cerebral Palsy of Central Florida, Pam Lindemann.

MINUTES: Minutes from the September General Meeting were sent via email 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: Linda Wright reported that the Project Account balance was \$3,743.97 and the Operating Account balance was \$11,022.04.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Taste for Learning Valencia College
- Party announcement for Edith Bush

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- Event at the Winter Park Public Library 10/20
- Passport to Fun with Michlee puppets on 10/04
- Orange County Head Start
- Beta Holiday Gift Wrap assistance request
- BETA Christmas present drive
- Goodwill Newsletter
- BETA Community Report
- Oviedo Mall Fund Raiser on 12/10 – planning meeting 10/12

PROGRAM: Pam Lindemann from the National United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Central Florida provided an overview of the organization and services. There are 6 centers in the Central Florida area. Pam works at the UCP East Orange-UCF area center that is just off of University Blvd. a few blocks away from the campus entrance. UCP assists families with disabled children including those with Downs, Spinal Bifida, Autism, and other symptoms associated with developmental delays. UCP operates publicly funded charter schools that provide tuition free therapy from birth to age 5. It is UCP's dream to eventually expand the program to continue support for regular school age children in the future. Pam showed a video that included a number of inspiring testimonials from parents and teachers on how valuable this experience is for the child and their care givers. Pam's request was that we all become ambassadors to spread the word about available UCP services. She also mentioned the need for volunteers to assist watching children so that parents could have a break, as well as a need for volunteers to rock babies. The center is open 7:00 am – 5:30 pm each day. (Headquarters 407-852-3300)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Service: Linda Blake provided an update for Tammy Douglas that included passing out 5 tickets for the Stein Mart shopping night to each member present. For those not present the tickets will be mailed out. Anyone requiring additional tickets should contact Tammy or Linda. The event is planned for November 12th (Sunday, 7:00-9:00 p.m.). Tammy is also looking for volunteers for models, as well as people to help with bagging purchases. Barbara Brown is helping coordinate some of the food for the evening. In addition, Allie Myers mentioned the need for raffle items and baskets similar to what was done last year. Since there will be fewer clubs invited to participate this year than in the past, we really need to get the word out.

A collection box was also provided at the meeting for stuffed animal donations. These will be given to the WRCC for Christmas gifts for approximately 50 children. Please bring additional donations to the next general meeting or make arrangements with Sharon Blake or Cheryl Malloy for pick up.

Vocational Services: No report was available, although Allie Myers mentioned that plans were underway for the Tea for \$20 event in February.

Literacy: Martha Kirby announced that "Make a Difference Day" would be on 10/28 from 2:00-4:00 pm at Great Oaks Village. They are anticipating 10 elementary aged children and 23 middle schoolers. There may be some high school aged

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students who could help the younger children complete planned activities. Martha said that there would be some story time for reading to the children, as well as time for each child to draw a picture on a quilt square. The pictures would illustrate a favorite book or something about a character or place of interest they have read about. The older children may assist in tying the squares together to form a quilt. Martha also mentioned that she had received word from the Tampa chapter that they were sending 200 books for elementary children. Additional donations for books for older children would be appreciated as well. Mary Kay Chester mentioned that the Habitat Store had a good selection at nominal prices. Martha said that readers and helpers were needed to support the activity, as well as anyone willing to donate snacks. Martha will be sending out an email with specifics.

Other Club Activities:

- Linda Blake has been in contact with BETA and STEPS about the annual Christmas party. A collection box was set up for all those who would like to donate toiletries. This will be available at the next general meeting as well. This year we are planning a combined Christmas Party with tree trimming, caroling, and food.
- Allie Myers announced that the WRCC gardening clean-up was to take place on 10/14 at 10:00 am. Mulch needs to be added to a couple of areas and some weeding needs to be done, but nothing as extensive as our last visit.
- Allie Myers also mentioned that a couple of boxes were available for collecting items for soldiers in Iraq. The soldiers that we have addresses for are local residents. Another suggestion was made by Carol Denton that we should also think about sending Christmas cards.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Allie Myers passed around the proclamation that was obtained by Linda Wright for the "International Day of Peace". A copy will be sent to District and International.
- A few members have been researching other locations for the general meeting, but have not been successful as yet. We will meet at Louie and Maria's in November. December's general meeting will be our BETA/STEPS Christmas Party and January's meeting will be at the Children's Advocacy Center downtown. Carol Denton suggested that we need to have a bag decorating evening prior to the January Children's Advocacy Center meeting. Allie Myers will inquire about the status of bags we have in stock. In addition, Linda Wright mentioned that a check will be presented that evening to the Child Advocacy Center.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mary Kay Chester said that Sees Candy orders were due to her by 11/11. Orders could be emailed to Mary Kay.
- Allie Myers requested volunteers for a budget review. Basically someone is needed to look over the previous years' budget and plan for the next years' operating budget.
- After an inventory of Altrusa brochures was taken, Betsy Sushinsky recommended that it was time to reorder. Carol

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Denton made a motion that funds should be allocated for new brochures that was seconded by Linda Blake and unanimously approved. In the future, brochures will be included under annual general administrative costs. Time is of essence to get the brochures completed since we should have these available for the Stein Mart evening as advertisement for the club. Allie Myers will follow through with Betsy Sushinsky to ensure the brochures are ordered.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Wednesday, 11/01/06, at 6:00 pm at Louie and Maria's, located at 9728 East Colonial Drive, Orlando

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

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Malloy
Recording Secretary

KEYNOTES is a monthly publication of Altrusa International, Inc. of Orlando-Winter Park. President Allie Myers. Editor: Carol Thomas. Please send information for upcoming editions by the 15th of the month to: Carol Thomas 8521 Black Mesa Dr., Orlando, FL 32829, kingrat@cfl.rr.com or 407.595-8554
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