

# ALTRUSA



International, Inc. of Orlando~Winter Park  
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[www.altrusa-orlando.org](http://www.altrusa-orlando.org) [www.districtthree.org](http://www.districtthree.org) [www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com)

## KEYNOTES

## September 2006

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



### President’s Corner:

Dear Altrusans:

We have so many exciting events coming up in the next three months that it’s hard to know where to begin. In remembrance of the International Day of Peace which was September 21<sup>st</sup>, we agreed to send useful items to a soldier in Iraq. There will be a box set up at the next meeting for collecting items such as playing cards, foot powder, lip balm, magazines, etc. Orange County Mayor Rich Crotty also signed a proclamation for us to honor that date.

On October 14 we are having a quick clean up of a small garden area at the Women’s Residential and Counseling Center (WRCC). For those who are planning to attend, please bring gardening gloves and tools. This effort shouldn’t take much time, and it will go a long way in helping to make the area around the outside of the building look nice for the residents and visitors there.

Make a Difference Day is coming up on October 28. This is an annual event that takes place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every October. Literacy is the main focus set forth by International for this day. For many years, the Letha H. Brown Literacy award has recognized clubs for their outstanding literacy-related accomplishments. We are looking forward to hearing what our Literacy Committee has planned for this day.

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, the Stein Mart shopping event will be happening. The Community Services committee is busy

getting things lined up, so make plans now for buying your tickets and coming to shop.

In December, we will be holding our annual BETA/STEPS holiday party. There will be another box set up for collecting toiletries for the residents. I know that many of you have saved up the small soaps, shampoos, lotions, etc. from traveling, so bring them in to the upcoming meetings.

We are also planning to collect small stuffed animals for the children at the WRCC. Again, another box will be set up for those donations. At last count, there are about 49 children living there.

Whew! We are such a generous group of ladies, and we really work hard to enrich the lives of people in our community. I want to personally thank each of you for your efforts, and when we all get together, we accomplish more in a year’s time than most people would think is possible. Keep up the great work!

Your President,

Allie Myers

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**Altrusa Orlando-Winter Park News:**

*September's* meeting was once again held at a wonderful Italian restaurant Louie and Maria's. President Allie Myers jumped right into conducting the meeting on all the upcoming events for the fall that were underway by each committee. The vocational services committee chair Pat Tobin introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. Judy Conlin from the Florida Dept. of Education in Tallahassee spoke of the program H.O.S.A. Since Judy's previous visit to our club, plans have been discussed to give support to this program locally.



*Allie Myers, Judy Conlin and Pat Tobin*

**Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

**September 25, 2006** Board Meeting at Attorney's Dean, Ringers, Morgan & Lawton office, 201 East Pine Street, Suite 1200. 6pm.

**October 4 2006-** Altrusa General Meeting at Louie and Maria's Italian Restaurant, 9728 E Colonial Dr. Orlando, 6pm.

**October 28, 2006-** Make a Difference Day.

**October Birthdays**



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

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**Special Announcement #1:**

**Stuffed Animal Drive:**

The Community Services Committee is collecting small stuffed animals to give to the children who reside at the Women's Resource and Counseling Center (WRCC). Please bring a new or very gently used stuffed animal to the October and November meetings, or drop them off at the Curves locations in Winter Park (6844 Aloma Ave.) and at 4616 E. Colonial Drive. We will present them to the WRCC around the first of December. Because of space limitations at the center, Lori Highet from the Coalition of the Homeless recommends that the animals be small. We are still trying to get a count of how many children are at the center, but the last count was around 50.

**Committee Reports:**



**Literacy Committee:**

Please keep the afternoon of Saturday the 28th of October open. We are currently working out the final details of our "Make A Difference Day" at Great Oaks Village. The more volunteers, the better! They currently have 12 elementary-age students and 16 middle students. We are planning for each child to decorate a quilt square relating to their favorite book, favorite character, or why they love (hopefully!) to read. We'll need lots of volunteers to work with and perhaps inspire the children and help serve snacks and drink (not to mention baking and providing the food to start with!). This is always a fun project and the kids seem to enjoy it. Keep the date open and watch for updates. Thanks!

Committee Chair - Martha Kirby



### Community Services:

The fundraiser at Stein Mart is set for Sunday, November 12, from 7 – 9 pm at the Colonial Promenade location. We are responsible for providing a “catered look” table. The set up that we did last year is fine so we will need a couple volunteers to get the food and set up the presentation. I am still waiting for details from the event coordinator but am hoping to have all details by the end of the week in order to send out a flyer to all club members for distribution as well as a ticket template for distribution on or before the October meeting. Cheryl Malloy has volunteered to put together some raffle items for our table.

The October meeting will feature Pam Lindemann, Center Director for United Cerebral Palsy, as the guest speaker.

### *BETA & STEPS Christmas Get Together*

To be held on December 2, 2006 from Noon – 3pm.  
at the BETA House on Lake Underhill Rd.

**"BETA" currently houses 9 Girls, 4 which are pregnant and 5 babies.**

**"STEPS" currently houses 22 Gals, 20 children 8 girls, 12 boys ranging from babies to six children ranging from 7 - 9 yrs of age.**

**WE** are asking for each and every one of you to obtain any and all **"donations" for the Christmas gift bags.**

It was a very special time for all last year decorating the tree, singing Xmas carols and sharing and we are so looking forward to making this year even better!

Obviously, whatever freebies we can get will be great so please start NOW asking for those donations.

**Collect toiletries, lotions, travel shampoos, conditioners, soaps etc. and bring them to the monthly meetings.**

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Thank you for your dedication in helping us reach this goal and to provide much

In addition to BETA and STEPS celebration during the holidays, the Community Services Committee is asking club members to collect & donate small stuffed animals (baby doll size) for distribution to the **Women's Residential and Counseling Center (WRCC) in December.** One of Allie's friend has also donated 25 small stuffed pillows for the center. Jennifer and Linda have graciously offered to have collection points at two of their Curves locations (6844 Aloma Ave, Winter Park or 4616 E. Colonial Drive next to Michaels- in the Colonial Promenade). You can drop off bears anytime between 6:30AM-8PM.

Committee Chair: Tammy Douglass



### Vocational Services:

Pat Tobin has been moving forward with the annual Altrusa Tea for Twenty event. The date has been set for February 10, 2007. We are hopeful to be able to reserve the community room of the Fairwinds Credit Union Building once again. Further information will be forth coming.

Committee Chair: Pat Tobin



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

## Altrusa Accent:

### *MAMIE L. BASS SERVICE AWARD*

The Mamie L. Bass Community Service Award was authorized by the International board of Directors in 1963 as a memorial to Altrusa's first national president, Mamie L. Bass. There name of the award was changed to the Mamie L. Bass Service Award by the International Board in July 1975.

The objectives of the award are to stimulate interest in developing action programs in the community that fall within the scope of Altrusa's program of service. To encourage members of local clubs to participate actively in service projects developed to meet specific local needs; and to recognize outstanding club achievement in community service.

## Altrusa Member Spotlight:

### What does the Club President do?

According to the Club President's handbook, the office of Club President is the one office most able to move the club forward. With the help of board members and committee chairs, the president can help membership attain exciting new service achievements as well as gain greater community recognition for the club. The president's responsibility to the club includes the following:

- Assume the leadership role of president.
- Prepare a written agenda for all club meetings.
- Preside with enthusiasm at meetings.
- Express appreciation for club achievements.
- Follow approved parliamentary procedure.
- Make sure the club has a strategic plan and that it is being implemented and monitored yearly.
- Share District and International communications involving membership.
- Share pertinent information from District and International with officers and committee chairs as soon as possible.
- Oversee the proper functioning of club committees.
- Sign all membership certificates.

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- Serve as the club's community representative, attending functions where Altrusa should be represented, or appointing another member to serve as the club's representative.

The president also has other responsibilities to the Board, to District, and to International. It's a busy, but very rewarding position. Here's what a couple of your former club presidents have to say about the position:

### **Pat Tobin:**

Serving as President of our Altrusa club was very rewarding and gratifying. The support and help I received from others was so comforting, especially since I'd only been a member for a few years. The tools that are provided (Presidents Handbook), and having a fabulous board made the job so much easier. Everything you need or want to know is either at your fingertips or a phone call away. I encourage anyone who wants to experience personal growth in a leadership role to give yourself the opportunity by serving Altrusa as President. It's well worth it!

### **Betsy Sushinsky:**

I enjoyed working with the board as a team making decisions, and planning the programs and activities for the year.

As president you learn so much about Altrusa from the correspondence that comes from International and District. You never feel you are alone, because answers to questions are just an e-mail or phone call away, and that is very comforting.

I learned so much from seasoned club members; they were always very supportive and open to new ideas.

I especially learned that you must delegate; you cannot do it all yourself. Delegating wasn't easy for me, but through the committee system, Altrusa functions so successfully that it became easier as I went along.

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## Minutes for September General Meeting

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The minutes will be sent separately when available.

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