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International President's Message

It is that time of the year when we find ourselves celebrating in all sorts of ways. I have just experienced my first U.S. Halloween. It's a time when a lot of myths and legends (and a lot of candy) comes to the fore. How is this relevant to Altrusa? Well sometimes it can be interesting to take a look at the way our clubs operate and consider whether some of the things we do are required, are a simple tradition, or in some cases something that happens due to a myth. Do we "have to do things a certain way?" Do we "have to do it all the time?" Is it time to try something new?

It is also that time of the year when we give thanks. In the US Thanksgiving is a time of year to gather with family and give thanks for all that we have. When we take a look at our fortunate lives it can provide food for thought on how we might be able to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate. It can be great time to give thanks to the many leaders in our organization that are working to grow Altrusa so that we can continue to serve our communities.

Only a few weeks later we celebrate the holidays. Again, this is a time for giving and sharing. I am constantly inspired by the many and varied service projects that I read about on Facebook or in club newsletters and the difference that Altrusans are making in the lives of so many.

As we head towards the end of 2018 it is time for us to look back on a year of service to those in need, take a short break before launching into 2019. As 2019 dawns many of us will make New Years resolutions. While setting personal goals perhaps it is also timely for us to consider Club goals, set some 2019 resolutions for our clubs and perhaps create some new traditions.

Thank you all for your service over the past year and I do wish you and your families all the best for the holiday season and for a prosperous 2019.



Leanne Milligan
International President 2017-2019



Featured

- 2 Whats New?
- 3 Attracting New Members
- 4 A Helping Hand to Leadership
- 5 District Nine Days for Girls
- 6 Foundation
- 7-8 Clubs in Formation

Remember:

Half-Year Dues take effect

December 1st.

What's new at International?

- Work is underway on the integration of International Website and Group Tally. Our goal is to have both under one credential. Currently we are still using the shared credentials. If you need them again please send an email to altrusa@altrusa.org to request them.
- Club Newsletters are no longer being collected to post on the International site. You may post them on your club's site.
- 2019 District Conference Schedule - [Click Here](#)
- 2017-2018 Distinguished Clubs list - [Click Here](#)
- Don't forget to look over the Convention Schedule-at-a-Glance - [Click Here](#)
- The convention registration form is being finalized and will be available soon. Currently you can book your stay at the Grand Sierra Resort by [Clicking Here](#) or from the link on the website once you log in.
- Join us in welcoming Carrie Shrader as our permanent Accounting Assistant. (finance@altrusa.org)



Carrie began her journey into the Accounting field at the Chicago Board of Options Exchange when she was 19 years old. She has grown in the field over the last 20 plus years in various industries learning and honing her skills along the way. Carrie enjoys reading and cooking in her down time.

Navigating the Web...

- Important websites to know!
 - www.altrusa.org (click Member Login in the upper right)
 - login.altrusa.org (go directly to the members area)
 - www.altrusastore.com (purchase Altrusa branded items including pins and banners)
 - www.altrusaservice.org (browse and share your club's service projects)
- Give us some feedback and share your thoughts on improving Altrusa with the [Suggestion Box](#).
- If you have forgotten your password to the site please send an e-mail to Altrusa@altrusa.org or call the International Office for assistance.

Attracting New Members is Essential To Us All

Beverly Luedke, International Membership Committee, Chair

Some clubs will tell you that attracting new members has been an easy process yet other clubs would tell you the complete opposite. What is the KEY FACTOR to this quandary?

Prospective members all have their own reasons for joining a service organization but every club needs to provide the one ESSENTIAL basic that these prospective members are looking for—"The Positive EXPERIENCE".

When a new prospective member first comes to your club, are they immediately welcomed by your members? Do they feel that they are in a place they want to be and be a part of? First impressions are vital and you can never take that first impression back. Having designated greeters at every meeting and event could prove to be a real asset to the membership growth of your club. At that meeting, the club leadership should also have an active member befriend the guest and make sure to personally introduce him or her to as many members individually as well as a group. Everyone wants to be included and for a prospective member, it starts immediately. A welcoming environment is critical!!!



It is also important for new and prospective members to feel valued. These members can bring fresh and innovative ideas to the club and your encouragement can be the determining factor to their joining or not. Solicit ideas from them because they may have a different yet relevant new idea for the community. It is this type of environment that new members want to experience.

As these new members become more attracted to the club, share your club's history and its importance to the community. Share your club's favorite projects, signature events and fundraisers and don't forget to mention the difference your club has made to those in the community and around the world.

Altrusa International has so much to offer to new members- opportunities of friendship, giving, and leadership. The only thing keeping a prospective member from becoming an Altrusan is you unless you take the opportunity to ask the question "Have you ever thought of becoming an Altrusan?" Share your gift of Altrusa with those around you.

Important Dates

- November 25** International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- December 1** Half-Year Dues take effect.
- December 3** International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- December 10** Human Rights Day
- February 4** World Cancer Day
- February 20** World Day of Social Justice

The International Office will be closed December 24 & 25, and January 1.

A Helping Hand to Leadership

Marvynne Ashley, International leadership & Development Committee

Have you felt interest in a leadership role in Altrusa but not put your hand up because the role just seemed too daunting?

Would you consider a leadership role if you knew there was someone to work with you and to assist you; someone you chose and who is available to assist you in your leadership role in a confidential partnership; and someone who has experience in the role you are considering?

These helpful, available, experienced people exist. They are Mentors. They are available to teach, advise and to guide and support you as a Mentee through the term of your new/existing leadership role.



Throughout this biennium of International President Leanne Milligan, a Mentoring Taskforce has been created to develop a Mentoring Guide that supports a Mentoring Program for emerging leaders. This work is under way so keep an eye out for updates from International.

The Mentoring Guide will clarify the roles of Mentor and Mentee and the benefits of a mentoring relationship for both parties and is coming your way.

This is an opportunity to consider your own leadership journey and to utilize Altrusa and its international membership to be either a Mentor or a Mentee.

Mentoring is a collaborative, mutually beneficial partnership between a mentor (who possesses greater skills, knowledge and experience) and a Mentee (who is looking to increase their skills, knowledge and experience).

Choosing a Mentor is often influenced by a connection that already exists. For example, a club member may seek a leadership role on a club board and identifies a person they already know as an Altrusan who is or has been on the board as someone they would like to learn from. They may also wish to gain financial management skills and would look to someone in their club who has those skills (an accountant, treasurer etc.).

A mentoring relationship is a learning and sharing relationship that delivers benefits for both parties.

Critical for the mentee are the benefits of a learning experience without judgement; that is confidential between you and your mentor; and will provide access to support, networks, resources and tools relevant to your development; and gaining confidence in your journey as an emerging leader.

For the mentor are the benefits experienced by sharing, advising and teaching another. These include increasing your own confidence and satisfaction your Altrusa service can be used to a wider network; increasing your knowledge by sharing it; revitalizing your connection with Altrusa in a reciprocal relationship and making a difference to an emerging Altrusan leader.

For Altrusa, the benefits of mentoring will be building a stronger organization because of the efforts of Altrusans who engage in the program and creating an environment that encourages Altrusans to accept leadership roles knowing the support is there.

Let's use our ALTRUSA Mentoring Program!

District Nine

Days for Girls On The Move

Making A Difference

Jane Tucker, Altrusa International of Richardson, Inc.



On April 21st, 2018 during the opening business session of our Sixty-Second District Nine Conference Kathy Jackson, International Director, included in her report from Altrusa International, Inc. the Days for Girls service project. Following her introduction of the project, committee member Jane Tucker gave a power point presentation about Days for Girls to the attendees as well as provided them with the Days for Girls Frequently Asked Questions handout. A hygiene kit was made available to show conference attendees how the kit is compiled. After the conference District Nine Governor Linda Moore has continued to promote the Days for Girls service project to our District Clubs.

Our Richardson Club has included Days for Girls information in our monthly newsletter, donated 150 wash clothes and 332 Zip Lock bags to the Highland Village DFW Metroplex Team as well as purchased Days for Girls Popsockets. The proceeds from the sale of the Popsockets helped the Highland Village Days for Girls Team raise \$1,000 to pay for the excess baggage fees to get a delivery of hygiene kits to Africa. In addition to this, both the Garland Club and the Richardson Club sent representatives to an emergency kit assembly session in Highland Village, Texas on June 12th to help meet a Days for Girls urgent request to send more kits to Africa. During this session we assembled 600 basic kits and 100 postpartum kits.

On June 26th, 2018 the Copperas Cove Altrusa Club had a member of the Days for Girls Team from Temple, Texas be their guest speaker at their monthly meeting. This Club is also in the process of forming a Days for Girls Team to sew and assemble the hygiene kits in the Copperas Cove area of Texas. In the spring of 2019, the Richardson Club and Garland Club along with the Days for Girls Highland Village Team are planning "Come Together" sewing and assembly project in the Dallas area.

Our District Leadership Workshop will be on October 20th, 2018 in San Antonio and we hope to use this as an opportunity to network Days for Girls even further. This is also the date of the proposed International Facebook Live Session Event so the timing is perfect to promote this to our members.





*Anna H. Settle
1922-1924 President*

In 2017, at the Nashville Centennial Convention, the Altrusa International Foundation Board of Trustees honored the service of Ms. Settle by updating the biennial service award title to the *Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award*.

[Please click here to read the biography and accomplishments of Ms. Settle.](#)

Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award Deadline May 19th, 2019

The purpose of the CLA is to recognize individuals who've made significant contributions to their communities as volunteer leaders.

Think of someone who:

- Has chaired a specific community service program which provided, or continues to provide, a benefit to the community
- Chaired an Altrusan project or program (not a fundraiser) – they may have chaired a project sponsored in cooperation with another civic or charitable organization
- Lives or works in the community of the nominating Altrusa Club
- Is a true volunteer, not a paid staff member
- Does not have to be a Altrusa member
- There may be (1) nomination per Altrusa Club
- The CLA will be presented at the Foundation Luncheon at the July 2019 Reno Nevada International Convention
- The monetary prize is \$2,000 (US) – to be given to the winner's project, or a service project of their choice, if necessary.

[Please click here for the Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award materials](#)

(312) 427-4410



foundation@altrusa.org

Grants Program and Club 21 Program Cycle One 2018

Congratulations to the awarded Altrusa Clubs in cycle one! The Grants Program will distribute (51) project grants and (1) individual grant across twelve separate districts for a total amount of \$149,111.

[Please click here to see the full cycle one Grants Program awards to Altrusa Clubs](#)

In addition, cycle one 2018 for the Club 21 Program will grant a total of \$12,000 to the following international projects: *Medicine for Mali* in the amount of \$9,000 and \$3,000 to the *Ghana Health & Education Initiative*.

We appreciate the opportunity to support your local community service programs.
Don't forget the next application deadline is March 15th, 2019 | ALL ALTRUSA CLUBS ARE ELIGIBLE

[Please click here for the Grants Program application and guidelines](#)

Clubs In Formation

Norma S. Teuton and Beverly Luedke, International Membership Committee

What an exciting time to be a part of New Club Building. We've had a lot of interest and activity this Biennium. Some efforts have not produced results but many have. If you know of someone who lives in an area where a new club is being formed, please talk with them about becoming a part of the new club and Altrusa. A big thank you to all of you New Club Building/Membership Chairs who provided me with updated information for your District.

District Two: A potential New Club in Formation Altrusa International of Hagerstown, MD. Past International President, Silvia Silverman held an informational meeting on November 3rd to determine interest.

District Three: Mooresville, NC and the Midlands Community in SC have not materialized. New Club in Formation Altrusa International of Southwest Florida held a Member Event on October 24th. A call for prospective members was in the last District Service Bulletin. The District is proceeding with plans to form a Virtual Club.

District Four: GREAT NEWS!! Altrusa International of Anderson County, TN chartered on September 8th. I was honored to be able to attend the charter banquet. Pearl, MS has 4 Affiliates. Marsha Padgent (Organizer) and Immediate Past Governor, Clara Bennett will transfer from Tupelo, which will disband in May, to the Pearl, MS Club. They hope to charter in April 2019. Hamilton, AL and Scottsboro, AL are in process but moving slowly. An Altrusa member has asked for help in organizing a club in LaPlace, LA (about 1 hour from Baton Rouge). Attempts to organize a new club in Chattanooga, TN have been unsuccessful but District will try again in Spring 2019.

District Five: The District is planning an open house to determine interest in forming a new club in the Mason and West Chester, OH area. No new information on Branch County in Michigan, which I understand would be an ASTRA Club.

District Eight: Several years ago, Altrusa International of Little Rock, Arkansas had a big split, leaving around 6 members in the club. In August, past members of the Little Rock Club contacted the District Board to say they want to rejoin the Altrusa organization with a new club in the Little Rock area. They are highly committed and the Board is supporting the effort. Another possibility is the Siloam Springs, Arkansas Club, which has taken on new life. No recent updates on these efforts or a new club in the Kansas area.

District Nine: A New Club Building Proposal was signed on 8/15/18 for New Club in Formation North San Antonio, TX. All action on New Club in Formation Altrusa International of Tyler, TX has been halted for now.

District Ten: San Luis Valley, CO (covering communities of Monte Vista and Alamosa in South Central, CO) had its first organizational meeting. Also exploring possibilities of starting clubs in Espanola, NM (outside of Santa Fe) and Loveland, CO (north of Denver).

District Eleven: New Club in Formation Altrusa International of Santa Ynez Valley, CA (Buellton) has 6 members, some of which may be dual members of the Central Coast Club, which is forming the new club. The first organizational meeting was held October 30th. Club in Formation Altrusa International of Northern Nevada has two Affiliates. They have had two organizational meetings to date.

District Fifteen: Great News!!! New Club in Formation Altrusa International of Ohariu, New Zealand has reached charter strength and now has 16 Affiliates. Their tentative date for the charter banquet is December 13th. Way to go Ohariu and District Fifteen! No additional information on a possible virtual club and on an ASTRA Club at Auckland University.

(Please forward any updates or new information on Clubs in Formation to nsteuton@comcast.net)

International Board Members

Leanne Milligan International President	Linda Smith International Director
Beverly Hardy President Elect	Tanika Wilson Executive Director
Kathy Folley Vice President	Patricia A. Woodward, JD Legal Advisor
Judy Stubbs Treasurer	Colleen M. Duris, PRP Parliamentarian
Silvia Silverman Immediate Past President	Sandra Miller Foundation Representative
Chris DeVlieger International Director	
Denice Gilb International Director	
Kathy Jackson International Director	

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Dr. Ida J. Hill, Ed. D. Immediate Past Foundation Chair	Linda L. Robison Education, Development & Marketing Chair
Debby Weber Vice & Finance Chair	Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award Chair
Eula Tatman Immediate Past Finance Chair and Education, Development & Marketing Co-Chair	Martha Hardwick Hofmeister Legal Advisor
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