



# THE COMMUNICATOR

## WINTER 2019

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Ocala

[www.districtthree.altrusa.org/ocala](http://www.districtthree.altrusa.org/ocala)

District Three

[www.districtthree.altrusa.org](http://www.districtthree.altrusa.org)

International

[www.altrusa.org](http://www.altrusa.org)

Facebook

Altrusa International Ocala, Florida

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It's that time of year again when we all reflect on the past and look forward to new beginnings, or at least the start of a new year to give us an excuse to make changes. A little over halfway into the club year and we have already accomplished great things and made a difference in many lives. Our literacy grants have impacted our community, as did our Interfaith dinners, Arnette House lunch and the continued support of the Juanita Cunningham bookshelf. In addition, the over pouring effort the membership showed toward our holiday family gifts was tremendous. You all are a very generous group, thank you!

A big thanks to Mary Cay for hosting us in her incredibly decorated home for our holiday gathering and for Miranda's activities at our club meeting. Everyone enjoyed the festivities.

Please remember to provide names of potential persons who may be interested in Altrusa to Maclyn for our Add-an-Altrusan event in January. Please continue to

*Share* Altrusa with everyone.

Altrusa love & hugs,

*Colleen*

### CALENDAR

2020

JAN

2 NOON—BOARD MEETING—CENTERSTATE BANK  
9 NOON—BUSINESS/PROGRAM—MESA DE NOTTE  
21 5:30—CLUSTER—DIANE'S HOME

FEB

6 NOON—BOARD MEETING—CENTERSTATE BANK  
13 NOON—BUSINESS/PROGRAM—MESA DE NOTTE  
18 5:30—CLUSTER—DIANE'S HOME

MAR

5 NOON—BOARD MEETING—CENTERSTATE BANK  
12 NOON—BUSINESS/PROGRAM—MESA DE NOTTE  
17 5:30—CLUSTER—DIANE'S HOME

### SAVE THE DATES!

**District Three Conference—April 16-18, 2020**  
**Trivia Night Fundraiser—March 7, 2020**

## Inside this issue:

Poem/Recipes	2	Thank You	8
Club 21	3	Spotlight/Accent	9
Community Service	4	Governor's Message	10
Welcome/Holiday Fun	5	Care/Eyeglasses	11
Membership	6	Program	12
Literacy	7	Minutes	13-14

**More from our President:**

## New Beginnings

by Gertrude B. McClain

It's only the beginning now  
...a pathway yet unknown,  
At times the sound of other steps  
...sometimes we walk alone.  
The best beginnings of our lives  
May sometimes end in sorrow,  
But even on our darkest days  
...the sun will shine tomorrow.  
So we must do our very best  
Whatever life may bring,  
And look beyond the winter chill  
...to smell the breath of spring.  
Into each life will always come  
A time to start anew,  
A new beginning for each heart  
...As fresh as morning dew.  
Although the cares of life are great  
And heads are bowed so low,  
The storms of life will leave behind  
...the wonder of a rainbow.  
The years will never take away  
Our chance to start anew,  
It's only the beginning now  
So dreams can still come true.



### Snickerdoodles

Mix together 1 cup shortening, 1 ½ cup sugar and 2 eggs.

Sift together and stir in 2 ¾ cups flour, 2 tsp cream of tartar, 1 tsp soda, ½ tsp salt.

Chill dough.

Roll into balls the size of walnuts. Roll in mixture of 2 Tbsp sugar and 2 tsp cinnamon. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake until light brown but soft.

8-10 minutes at 400°



### Date-Nut Cookies

1 cup dates cut up fine  
1 cup pecans cut up fine  
1 cup sifted powdered sugar  
1 unbeaten egg white

Combine dates, nuts and sugar, add egg white and blend well

Place teaspoon full of dough on greased cookie sheet (or parchment paper lined sheet), top with ½ candied cherry. Bake 12 minutes at 350°

Let cool on pan before moving from baking sheet.



### "Neiman-Marcus" Cookies

1 cup butter  
1 cup brown sugar  
1 cup sugar  
2 eggs  
1 tsp vanilla  
12 oz. chocolate chips  
1 ½ cup chopped nuts

2 ½ cups blended oatmeal\*  
2 cups flour  
½ tsp salt  
1 tsp soda  
1 tsp baking powder  
4 oz. Hershey bar (grated)

\*Measure oatmeal and blend in blender to a fine powder.

Cream butter and both sugars, add eggs and vanilla. Mix together flour, oatmeal, salt, baking powder and baking soda, add to creamed mixture. Add chocolate chips, Hershey bar and nuts. Drop by spoon full onto cookie sheet.

Bake 10 minutes at 375°

# CLUB 21

**Colleen Duris**

Club 21 is a program developed by the Altrusa International Foundation which is committed to supporting programs for children affected by disease. For many years it supported a camp for children with AIDS. Now, it reaches out to many programs and has a grant application process for such programs to receive money. Some of the organizations that have benefited from Club 21 over the past few years are:

## **Camp Sunshine of Aurora, Ohio**

Camp Sunshine of Aurora was founded by parents of children with special needs. Since 2008, the camp has assisted children with differing abilities while fostering their unique talents and gifts in a creative and structured environment. Summer vacation can be challenging for our kids, but at Camp Sunshine, they can truly enjoy a fun summer camp with their friends!

## **Camp Dreamcatcher of Kennett Square, Pennsylvania**

They offer therapeutic and educational camp sessions for hundreds of HIV/AIDS infected/affected youth. Campers, age 5-17, enjoy horseback riding, go-kart racing, swimming, arts/crafts, miniature golfing, concerts, boating, basketball, tennis, volleyball, a camp-wide carnival, cooking and our annual dance and talent show! The camp week includes separate programs for younger campers (age 5-11), older campers (age 12 & 13), teen campers (age 14 & 15), counselors in training, leaders in training (age 16) and junior counselors (age 17).

## **Cavett Kids Foundation**

Their programs serve kids with a wide range of serious illnesses, including heart disease, cancer, cystic fibrosis, Crohn's disease, kidney failure, and much more. They are proud to host the OLDEST KIDNEY CAMP IN THE NATION, along with many other camps that offer support, encouragement, and belonging to children with life-threatening illnesses.

## **Sherwood Forest Camp of St. Louis, Missouri**

Sherwood Forest serves children from low-income families and underserved communities in Missouri and Illinois, who live at or below the federal poverty line. They strive to establish and sustain long-term relationships with their campers, their families, and the agencies and schools that serve them. By balancing traditional camp adventures with evidence-based programs that reinforce and support school-year learning, Sherwood Forest connects with, educates, and inspires the youth of St. Louis.

For as little as Twenty-One (\$21) dollars you can support these worthwhile programs. Information for Club 21 membership will be available at our next club meeting. Please consider supporting this cause.

# Community Service

TJ Bright



These Altrusans and friends prepared and served dinner to Interfaith families on Monday, September 30.



Our Day of Caring on October 26th at the Arnette House was successful in all ways. We served ham, Olive Garden salad and breadsticks, potato salad and dessert to approximately 20 residents. We also, presented a sakroots bag to each young person filled with personal care items and school supplies. After lunch, 35 books were presented to their library in the name of Sara Arnette, our first president.



This Christmas season, the Community Service Committee selected another family to support. Our Altrusans stepped up and donated everything (and more) on the family's list. It is wonderful to know that this deserving, single dad and his two children will have a fantastic Christmas. Thank you to all who helped. It is the season to give and our club gave from our hearts.



## WELCOME STACIE



New member initiation was held at our December 12th business meeting. We welcome Stacie Corbett to Altrusa International of Ocala! She was sponsored by Mary Cay Landt and Colleen Duris!

## HOLIDAY FUN

Our much anticipated  
"Ugly Sweater Contest"!



# Membership

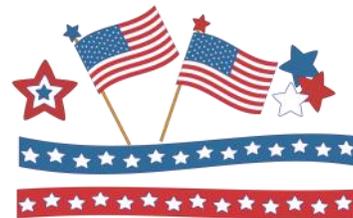
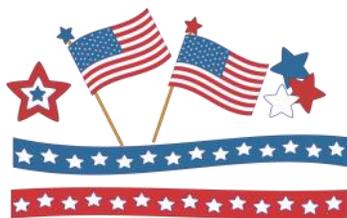
Maclyn Walker

## Results of the Altrusa Membership Satisfaction Survey

1. **In your experience, what are the top 3 benefits that you enjoy the most from being a member of Altrusa?**
  - 1) Fellowship/Friendship/Comradery
  - 2) Community Service/Helping our community
  - 3) Tie
    - A. Leadership skills and opportunities
    - B. Good food
    - C. Fun
2. **Also in your experience, what are the top 3 areas that can be improved to increase your satisfaction with your Altrusa membership?**
  - 1) Understanding committee roles and functions/orientation
  - 2) Tie
    - A. More members/more young members
    - B. Too many small projects for full club participation
    - C. New community projects
    - D. More fun activities
3. **What type of events or activities (social and/or professional development) would you like to see offered for Altrusa members? Please be as specific as possible and include any already offered that you would like to see continued.**
  - 1) Fun social events
  - 2) Tie
    - A. Holiday gathering
    - B. Hands on projects
    - C. Interfaith projects
    - D. Born Learning Trails
    - E. Christmas service projects
4. **To what extend would you like to increase your oppourtunities to get to know the other Altrusa members?** Very much
5. **Based on survey results, if the membership committee decides to offer more oppourtunities in the evening, what day(s) will you be unable to attend?**
  - 1) depends on schedule
  - 2) Wednesday
  - 3) Tie
    - A. Monday
    - B. Tuesday
    - C. Friday

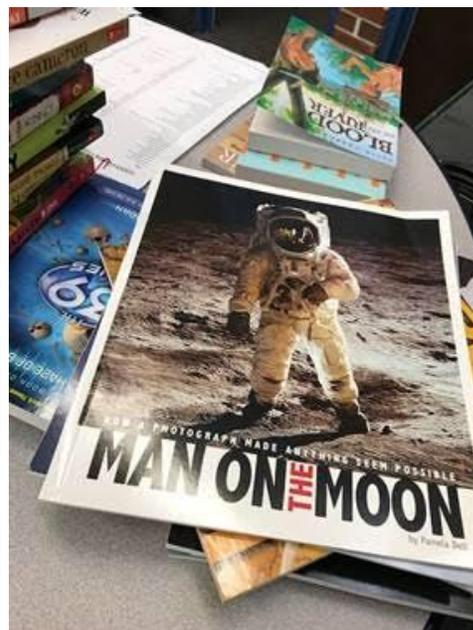
# Literacy

The Ocala Ritz Reserve complex held a groundbreaking ceremony on November 6. This new 27 unit apartment building will help homeless veterans and people with special needs. The Literacy Committee hopes to help furnish the rec room with a table and chairs for tutoring, shelves for books, and even a food pantry.



## Grants for Classroom Enrichment & Student Achievement 2019/2020

We are pleased to report that our grant recipients have **all** completed their mid-year reports and two even included photographs of their purchases! We look forward to meeting them and hearing their success stories at our Trivia Night in March!



## THANK YOU

My name is Mary Grace Williams and I am the Media Specialist at Belleview Middle School. I would like to thank you and your organization for awarding our school one of the Altrusa Grants for Classroom Enrichment and Student Achievement. We are very excited to be able to use the funds to purchase new novel sets that will be used during Panther Prime Time. Panther Prime Time is the very beginning of each day at Belleview Middle, a time during first period that is dedicated to literacy. I would like to put a label inside of each book purchased with the Grant funds to give Altrusa the recognition it deserves. Could you send me a logo that you would like me to use on the labels? Thank you again, we cannot wait to get these new books into our students' hands.

Mary Grace Williams

On behalf of Osceola Middle School and the Media Center, I would like to thank Altrusa for the generous monetary grant of \$1000 to purchase new books and resources for our Twenty in 2020 Reading Challenge. We are truly grateful for the gift and the desire to help meet the needs of our students. Altrusa can take pride in knowing that their generosity will allow many of our students to have access to more appropriate and interesting reading material, and thus empower them to strive for reading success.

The Twenty in 2020 Challenge is for ALL Osceola students to meet the goal of reading five books per quarter, working towards a total of **twenty** books read for the school year. Having a good range of levels and topics helps every student find books that they can read and enjoy! The grant will help significantly with increasing the choice of books our students have access to.

We are honored that you chose OMS as the recipients for your grant, and look forward to seeing what the future holds for our students. We truly thank you!

Susan Oberteuffer Mitchell, Media Specialist/Librarian

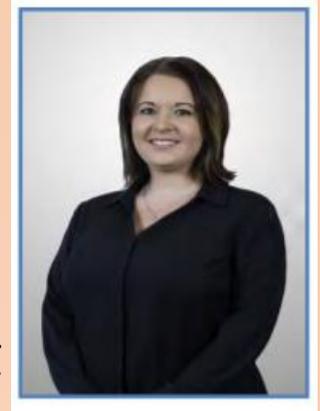


Thank you to Mary Cay Landt for the delightful evening of Altrusa fellowship in her lovely home for our holiday gathering. A good time was had by all.

## SPOTLIGHT

### Introducing...Vanessa Wall

I was born in Kokomo, Indiana, and lived there until I was 5. My dad joined the Air Force, so we moved all around during my childhood, but my best memories include our stay on the Langley Air Force base in Hampton, Virginia. He retired and we moved to Ocala when I was 9. I attended Lake Weir Middle School and Lake Weir High School. I had my kids young with my high school sweetheart, Teriel Johnson. I wanted a career that allowed me to be off in the evenings, weekends, and holidays so I could manage a career while raising kids. I have been in banking for 19 years now, working my way up from the teller line to the Regional Manager and Senior Vice President. I love to coach and train my coworkers as well as helping customers with any financial trouble or dreams they may have. My kids are now 19 and 20. My daughter attends FAU in Boca Raton, majoring in Sports Management. My son is working at Publix and plans on attending State Trooper Academy come Fall 2020. I am currently building my forever home in Summerfield, so that is where I'll stay.



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### Altrusa Accent

Altrusa Principle #4—Altrusa, in the very derivation of its name, is committed to the philosophy of unselfishness, the joy of giving rather than getting, and to the search for that happiness which is based upon spiritual worthiness.

## Message from Governor Kitty

### Blessings

A blessing is something one is grateful for in one's life. Charles Dickens, author of **A Christmas Carol**, penned the following: "Reflect upon your present **blessings** -- of which every man has many -- not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." When we count our blessings, our focus changes to what we do not have to what we do have. We are blessed to live in a country, where patriotic men and women volunteer to defend our freedom. We are to be stewards of our **blessings**, sharing our time, talents and resources so that others can be blessed. Being Altrusans, we pledge to live by Altrusa Principle #4, which states: "Altrusa, in the very derivation of its name, is committed to the philosophy of unselfishness, the joy of giving rather than getting, and to the search for that happiness which is based upon spiritual worthiness." As the holiday hustle and bustle are upon us, take time to not only bless others, but also reflect on your **blessings**.



I am blessed to be a member of an altruistic organization, which has gifted me with friendships, an opportunity to lead and an avenue to assist like-minded individuals in Building a Better Community.

Wishing you and yours a Happy Holiday Season!

In Altrusa Service,

**Kitty**



## CARE

Nancy Jones



Happy healthy holidays to all. Our Val is still at The Villages Rehab center and hoping to be home soon. Again, she thanks everyone for their cards and especially their visits.

Betty is improving from many of her health issues and trying to get settled into her new home.

## Eyeglasses to See



We continue to see a need, even though we only had two applications in December. In November, we had six applications and twelve in October!

## Reminders

- \* Marion County Superintendent of Schools Literacy Festival is scheduled for Saturday, February 29th, 2020
- \* Sponsorships are due February 3, 2020
- \* Trivia Night is March 7, 2020
- \* Needs for our veterans: clothing, non-perishable food items and personal care items
- \* The next Interfaith feeding will be on January 30, 2020
- \* Cluster Club meets at Diane's on the 3rd Tuesday at 5:30—all are welcome
- \* Add an Altrusan is January 9, 2020
- \* Wear your name badge to our business/program meetings to earn a surprise
- \* 67th District Three Conference is April 16-18 in Charlotte, NC
- \* [www.trackitforward.com/site/altrusa-international-ocala-fl](http://www.trackitforward.com/site/altrusa-international-ocala-fl)



## Program



On October 10, Betsy Brody and Bonnie Field from the League of Women Voters of the Villages/Tri-County gave an informative presentation on the National Popular Vote: Interstate Compact (NPVIC). They explained the origin and function of the Electoral College in the election of the President and Vice President of the United States. They also examined the changes some states are making to their delegate selection process to better reflect the popular vote.

On November 14, Trish Kilgore, Chair Elect of the Marion Cultural Alliance, informed us about the mission and history of this nonprofit. The Horse Fever public art project was its inaugural effort and MCA's mission is to champion, convene, and create opportunities for artists and arts organizations. MCA also operates Brick City Center for the Arts, an art gallery located in downtown Ocala. Some of their signature events include: Ride for the Arts, Applaud for the Arts, Art in the Attic, and Over the Edge.

L to R: Joan Coke, Diane Barrineau, and Trish Kilgore



June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020

### Officers

President.....	Colleen Duris
President Elect.....	Miranda Barrineau
Vice President.....	Maclyn Walker
Director.....	Debbie Catabia
Director.....	Sue Dean
Director.....	Elaine Goodelle
Secretary.....	Frances Ferguson
Treasurer.....	Scott Tice

### Committee Chairs

ASTRA.....	Angie Dansby
Budget.....	Cindy Athey
Care.....	Nancy Jones
Cluster/Scholarship.....	Susan Keith
Community Service.....	TJ Bright
Foundation.....	Mary Cay Landt
Fundraiser.....	Debbie Catabia
Literacy.....	Joan Coke
Membership.....	Maclyn Walker
Newsletter/Web.....	Helen McDavid
Program.....	Miranda Barrineau

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL INC. OF OCALA  
Business/Program Meeting Minutes  
October 10, 2019

President Colleen Duris called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm at Mesa de Notte on Silver Springs Blvd. Members recited the Altrusa Grace and pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Minutes from the Previous Meeting: Minutes approved as corrected.

Correspondence: Elaine Goodelle reported we received newsletter from Interfaith and a thank you from Public Education Foundation.

Treasurer: Scott Tice reported invoices were sent to membership for quarterly dues and luncheons. Please pay promptly.

ALT: Balance is \$62.44

Door prize: Won by Angie Dansby. Donated by TJ Bright.

Astra: Angie Dansby reported clubs at Forest High School and Lake Weir High School were active.

Budget: NR

Care: Cards were passed around for Valerie Forster, Charlene Schlemmer and TJ Bright's husband. Valerie is now in rehab in Lady Lake and improving each day. Charlene's husband passed away last week. TJ's husband is doing well after his surgery. No word about Maclyn's father but we hope he is doing well.

Cluster: Elaine Goodelle reported committee will meet on Tuesday, October 15th at 5:30 at Diane Barrineau's home. Their Trivia Night basket theme will be "Buy Local".

Community Service: TJ Bright reported Interfaith dinner schedules for November 30th has been canceled and will be rescheduled. Reminder the Arnette House Book Donation and Luncheon will be October 26<sup>th</sup>. If you signed up to provide something you may bring to Colleen Duris' office if no refrigeration is required. Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at noon at Chelsea Coffee.

Foundation: NR

Literacy: Joan Coke reported she had received 12 grant applications from schools and the committee awarded 7 for a total of \$5679.64. Ribbon cutting for The Preserve will be November 6<sup>th</sup>.

Membership: Maclyn Walker at hospital with her dad so no report.

Fundraiser: Debbie Catabia reported sponsorship sheets were now available to begin talking to potential sponsors for Trivia Night. Each committee will be donating a basket and committee needs your theme of basket by as soon as possible. Deadline for sponsorships is Feb 3, 2020. A total in commitments if \$4250.

Program: League of Women's Voters gave an informative program on the different aspects of how voting is done in the states. Betsy Brody and Bonnie Field presented the program.

Newsletter: Helen McDavid reported next deadline for newsletter is December 20th.

New Business: Colleen Duris announced District is looking for nominees for the District Nominating Committee. If you are interested contact Colleen. Only requirement is that you have served as President of local club.

Colleen Duris announced the cookie of the month Snickerdoodle.

Meeting adjourned with the Altrusa benediction at 1:00 pm.

Attendance: Miranda Barrineau, TJ Bright, Donna Carroll, Debbie Catabia, Joan Coke, Angie Dansby, Colleen Duris, Frances Ferguson, Elaine Goodelle, Helen McDavid, Scott Tice, Gloria James, Maria Kusmierz, Barbara Little, Vanessa Wall, Cindy Athey, Diane Barrineau, Karen Elliott, Sue Dean, Gloria James, Carol Trow.

ALTRUSA INTERNTIONAL INC. OF OCALA

Business/Program Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2019

President Colleen Duris called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm at Mesa de Notte on Silver Springs Blvd. Members recited the Altrusa Grace and pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Christmas games were enjoyed by all and the ugly sweater contest was won by Vanessa Hall, TJ Bright, and Elaine Goodelle.

Guest: Gloria James daughter, Mandy Dickey was our guest.

Minutes from the Previous Meeting: Minutes approved as distributed.

Correspondence: Elaine Goodelle reported we received newsletter from Interfaith.

Treasurer: Scott Tice reported invoices will be sent to membership for quarterly dues and luncheons next month. Please pay promptly.

ALT: Balance is \$62.44

Door prizes: Won by Elaine, Donna, Cindy and Vanessa.

Astra: NR

Budget: NR

Care: Cards were passed around for Valerie Forster and Betty Cluster.

Cluster: Elaine Goodelle reported committee will meet on January 21st at 5:30 at Diane Barrineau's home. Their Trivia Night basket theme will be "Buy Local".

Community Service: TJ Bright reported Interfaith dinner will ab January 30, 2020. Gifts for our family will be delivered today. Thank you to the entire club for your participation. ALL gift requests were provided for. Literacy Festival will be February 29, 2020. More news to come. 52 books were delivered to Tools for Teachers.

Foundation: NR

Literacy: Joan Coke reported she had received reports from schools and committee was reviewing. Theme for Trivia Basket will be "The Great Escape".

Membership: Maclyn Walker her Dad was out of hospital and home. Add an Altrusan is January meeting so send any new member names to her as soon as possible. Our Christmas Holiday Social will be December 17<sup>th</sup> at Mary Cay Landt's home. Please let Maclyn know ASAP if you plan to attend. Their will be a gift exchange, so if you wish to participate bring a wrapped gift.

Fundraiser: Debbie Catabia reported sponsorship sheets are available . Deadline for sponsorships is Feb 3, 2020. A total in commitments is over \$5000.

Program: January program will be "Add an Altrusan" and February will be on Fraud protection.

Newsletter: Next deadline for newsletter is December 20th.

Colleen Duris announced the cookies of the month Snowball and Date Nut.

Meeting adjourned with the Altrusa benediction at 12:40 pm.

Attendance: Miranda Barrineau, TJ Bright, Donna Carroll, Debbie Catabia, Joan Coke, Colleen Duris, Frances Ferguson, Elaine Goodelle, Scott Tice, Gloria James, Maria Kusmierz, Vanessa Wall, Cindy Athey, Diane Barrineau, Karen Elliott, Janet Behnke, Brenda Ford, Connie Larsen.