

Governor Greetings



THE MAGIC IN OUR MEMBERSHIP



Altrusans are people who see their community as an extended family. They look for opportunities where they can make an impact and where they can use their skills to benefit those who have less in life. We know that many members who volunteer live busy lives with jam-packed schedules. It's nothing short of amazing that we can still manage to fit an hour or two during our days or week to do our volunteer work, we are truly *magicians* sometimes.

Do you think about how essential you are as members of Altrusa achieving our organization's mission? Do you truly understand how critical YOU are to our success? The varied skills you bring to the table? I certainly do, as does each of our Clubs that you belong to. The reality is that membership is the secret sauce to Altrusa's success. Members are our greatest asset. As nonprofit revenues decline and as underserved population's needs grow, volunteers are needed now more than ever. However, they are not a magical free resource, or are we?

Check out these mind-blowing facts about what volunteering in America is like:

- Volunteers like to work for organizations that do something they believe in and whose vision is in line with theirs.
- 92% of HR executives believe that volunteering increases one's leadership and management ability.
- 8 million nonprofit groups are currently active in the United States. This means you have more than enough choices where you can volunteer.

The first two stats are a true statement of Altrusa, we do believe passionately in what we do and we certainly build leaders and the third tells us that we as an organization have some steep competition in our quest for membership growth.

Our membership numbers are important, when membership grows, we are a stronger and more effective organization. So, let's get to work and kick off this "Fall" with our eyes on growing Altrusa to new heights so we can lift up more lives in our communities through our club projects. Thank you all for your exemplary service to Altrusa,



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Get Acquainted Board Meeting



By Lori Davis, District Three Secretary

District Board Meets in Charlotte, NC

The 2021-2023 District Three Board of Directors met for the Mid-Year Meeting at the Sonesta Charlotte Executive Park, NC home of our upcoming 2022 Conference. The Board had a pre-meeting dinner, then proceeded to get right to work on the business of the District Friday night. In a very productive meeting, the board discussed the District financial and committee reports. They were very happy to approve Emeritus requests, ratify 2 new ASTRA Grant applications, approve a revitalization Grant, as well as review and approve our updated District Strategic Plan for 2020-2024 all before adjourning for the evening.



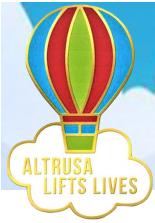
After a very early breakfast on Saturday, the board resumed their meeting and finalized District business before being joined by our Program Coordinator Tammy Hall and Conference Co-Chairs Yolander Hunter and Dolores Hall. Then all got to work approving the Conference Budget, Registration Form and schedule.

Our onsite event manager arrived at the precise time our tour of the 2022 Conference facilities was scheduled to begin. We all found the ballrooms and breakout rooms perfect for our District Three Conference! This location has convenient access with plenty of free parking and each guest room is tastefully decorated and includes a refrigerator.

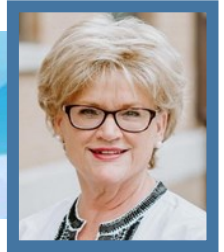
At the conclusion of our tour, all business was wrapped up and the meeting closed with the Altrusa Benediction. We are now more excited than ever about our upcoming 2022 District Conference and inspired to help create a super fun and informative event you will not want to miss!



Board Members from left to right: LaShone Surrency, Scott Tice, Dimple Overstreet, Shannon Schell, Dorothy Manning, Lori Davis, Mantha Young



District Three Awards



By Mantha Young, District Three Vice Governor

It is AWARD time and remember, volunteers need recognition! So, let's remember our tagline this biennium "Altrusa Lifts Lives," and show some love for your volunteers and the work they have done on club projects. Think about your projects and which award it best fits. Assign someone to spearhead the award application process for your club. The Awards Breakfast at District Conference is an excellent opportunity for your club to receive recognition for all the time and efforts placed in fulfilling the needs of your community.

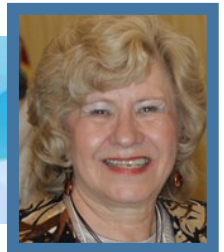
- Review the award criteria
- Identify your projects
- Review the Judging Criteria and Score Sheet
- Complete the application (provide pictures if available)
- Submit by the January 31, 2022 deadline



Awards applications are available online at: districtthree.altrusa.org/district-three-awards website. Need assistance with the application process? Send me an email at mantha@macmediaservices.com.



District Three Foundation News



By Martha Epps, District Three Foundation Chair

Our annual Fall Board meeting was held September 24-25, 2021. There were many housekeeping items that were addressed. Additionally, there were new items that were discussed that will be shared with everyone at a later date.

It is now time for all to be thinking about which projects you have been working on that each club has been working on that you want to write up to be considered for and award. The following are the awards available and a brief description of each one:

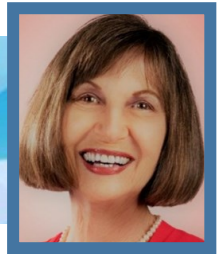
1. **Cassie S. Dollar Rehabilitation Services Award:** Encourages clubs to offer assistance in rehabilitation services to improve quality of life.
2. **Literary Award:** Recognizes literacy project currently sponsored by the Club.
3. **Lucille Spiller Alexander ASTRA Award:** Recognizes service project currently sponsored by ASTRA Clubs.
4. **Richard Ward Ulrich Environmental Service Award:** Recognizes environmental service project currently sponsored by the Club.
5. **Vocational Services Award:** Recognizes education and training project designed to enable persons to move beyond current status.

To see the full requirements, go to the Foundation website.

We also have a grant program that will assist the funding of new service projects. The requirements for the grants are also listed on the website. We also want to remind everyone that we are trying to fund the Grant Program to \$50,000. Your donation to the program would be greatly appreciated. Any donation to the Foundation is tax deductible.



New Club Building



By Julia Allen, New Club Building Chair

EXPANDING ALTRUSA'S FOOTPRINT

Altrusa service is an extremely satisfying experience. Daily we see the importance of our work in our communities and around the world. As an Altrusan there are many opportunities to serve: literacy, domestic violence, scholarships, Days for Girls, veterans, and any number of special club projects... the list is endless. Other than service, camaraderie, a sense of belonging, a sense of accomplishment, personal growth, and socialization are among other reasons to become an Altrusan.

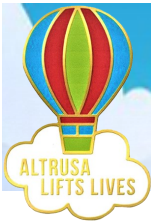
Although we do focus on increasing our own club membership numbers, many opportunities are out there to start new clubs. There may be former Altrusans living just outside your area, people who cannot attend your meetings at the time you have set, people who really want to give back to the community and do not have an avenue, and/or those completely unaware of the possibilities. Our own District Three Virtual Club is in formation and hopes to be chartered soon. The Virtual Club is a great alternative for those who want to be involved but have no club close by. So, let's not forget to let everyone know of this great opportunity for membership and service.

On the Altrusa International website, there is an explanation about the International New Club Building Committee dedicated to helping anyone interested in starting a new club. Altrusa International has resources to assist in advertising Altrusa in the community, share information about the organization, determine the service needs of an area, launch new projects, teach the ins and outs of Altrusa in order to ultimately charter a new club. Our District Three leadership as well as Altrusa International will support anyone to inspire others to join Altrusa in service.

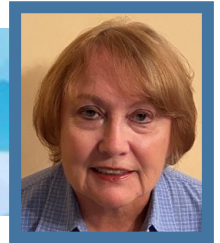
You probably have your own reason(s) for becoming an Altrusan. Why not share with others as they may have an interest in starting an Altrusa club of their own. Remember, you are offering a wonderful opportunity to others to feel more connected to and be a part of their community as well as Altrusa.



From the District Three Board



Leadership



By Joanne Brown, Leadership Chair

What Makes a Great Leader?

The answer to that question will depend on the circumstances. Certainly, if we are looking to elect a politician, we will look for certain characteristics. A leader in the military or business would need different characteristics and experience and a leader in Altrusa another set of skills.

Since Altrusa is a volunteer organization, the leader must take that into consideration. They must learn to recognize the innate capabilities of the members. Likewise, they must be able to identify characteristics and actions that are both productive and unproductive and find a solution to deal with them. Each member brings their own strengths and weaknesses, the leader needs to harness both for the benefit of the organization. Time and space management become more important with volunteer organizations. Our members are not here for us 24/7 or even 8 hours a day. Sometimes there is a fine line between micromanaging and giving members space to complete the project on their own. Good leaders learn to recognize this and know when to give the members full control.

Developing leadership skills in a volunteer organization can be a challenge. Sometimes you need to get out of your comfort zone to try different things and learn from them. Altrusa leaders can mentor and guide new or old members into areas where they can work comfortably and thrive. Working with other Altrusa leaders helps to build a network for sharing ideas, problems, solutions and also giving our members a positive environment and experience.

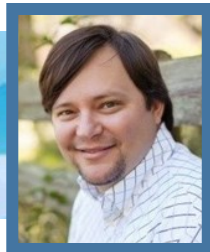


One of the excellent leadership workshops at the Altrusa Convention in Charlotte was on conflict resolution. It was prepared by Tore Johnson and presented by Nancy Kuenzig and Susan Hawes. If you were unable to attend you can go to the Altrusa International web site, log in and go to the member home page and events. Under the 2021 Convention you will find 2021 Convention Presentations & Information.

Go to [Conflict Resolution \(PowerPoint\)](#) and open with Google. That will get you to the presentation [Leadership Workshop Conflict Resolution.pptx - Google Slides](#).



Current Membership & New Members



By Scott Tice, Treasurer

Altrusa International District Three, Inc.

New Members August 16–October 15, 2021



New Member	Sponsor	Joined
Gainesville, FL		
Tobi Allen Doering	Rosie Connolly/Dee Dugger	September
Lake City, FL		
Debbie Brannon	Mantha Young / Patti Roper	September
Michelle L. Cochran	Barbara Doonan/ Georgia Jones	September
Lisa Lizotte	Joy Lutz/Roberta Getzan	September
Brooke Meng	Heather Gray/Cessie Cothran	
Spartanburg, SC		
Tina Luca	Jean Sydnor	September
Phyllis Novick	Linda robison	September
Starke, FL		
Rachel Rhoden	Amanda Seyfang/Sarah Long	September
Virtual Club		September
Tanya McKay		
Waynesville, NC		
Barbara Kolar	Mary Millar	September
Linda Lappe	Joy Johnson	September

Altrusa International District Three, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT as of October 15, 2021



Club	Paid Members	Emeritus	Lifetime	Total Members
Florida				
1 Citrus County	21			21
2 Gainesville	54	5		59
3 Lake City	88	3		91
4 Lake County	20	1		21
5 Live Oak	24	1		25
6 Marianna	19	2		21
7 Monticello	18	1		19
8 Ocala	32	2		34
9 Orlando-Winter Park	26	2		28
10 St Augustine	16			16
11 Starke	43	2		45
12 Tampa Bay	11	3		14
TOTAL FL	372	22	0	394
Georgia				
1 Atlanta	6			6
2 North Georgia	25	3		28
3 Statesboro	35	4		38
TOTAL GA	66	7	0	73
North Carolina				
1 Caldwell County	1	1		2
2 Charlotte	24	4		28
3 Durham	6			6
4 Gastonia	11			11
5 Raleigh	15		1	16
6 Salisbury	8	1		9
7 Waynesville	20			20
TOTAL NC	85	6	1	92
South Carolina				
1 Gaffney	8			8
2 Spartanburg	28	2		30
TOTAL SC	36	2	0	38

	Paid	Emeritus	Total
Affiliate Virtual Club in Formation	3		3
Affiliate Members	2		2
Emeritus No Club Affiliation		3	3

REPORT SUMMARY:	
Active Members	562
Emeritus Members	40
Lifetime Members	1
Affiliate Members	2
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	605



District Three Foundation Board



By Dimple Overstreet, Governor-Elect

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Consider Serving With A Fun Group

The Altrusa District Three Foundation Board is a 501©3 not-for-profit counterpart of the District Three Board, established in 1991 to assist District Clubs in their endeavor to service their community. The Foundation serves as the guardian of Partnership Accounts within District Three thereby providing tax exempt status for donations that flow through the Foundation. If a Club does not have its own Foundation, the Club can take advantage of all the tax-exempt benefits for donations.

Three Trustee positions will be voted on at the District Conference in April 2022 in Charlotte, NC

To be eligible for election as a Foundation Trustee, the nominee:

- Must have been a member of Altrusa International, Inc. for a minimum of two (2) years
- prior to nomination for election, and must have served as club president, club
- foundation chair or club or foundation treasurer.

OR

- Must have been a member of Altrusa International, Inc. for a minimum of five (5) years prior to nomination for election, and must have served on a 501© 3 Foundation Board external to Altrusa.

The term of office for a Trustee is two years and may serve no more than three consecutive terms.

Access a nomination form at the Altrusa District Three Foundation, Inc. link on the Altrusa District Three website, <https://districtthree.altrusa.org/district-foundation/> The form is to be completed by the candidate, a Club President, District Officer or Past Governor. Completed forms are due January 10, 2022. The nominating committee is comprised of: Beverly Hardy, Mary Kirley and Chair Dimple Overstreet. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

dimplej@embarqmail.com

April 28-30, 2022 in Charlotte, NC. See It * Experience It * Live It *



A CALL TO SERVE

Candidates for the District Three Nominating Committee

By Shannon Schell, District Three Governor



District Three is beginning the process of locating members to serve on our next Nominating Committee. We are looking to receive names of multiple candidates to be submitted for consideration. I highly encourage members to seriously consider stepping forward to fill these important positions. Five individuals will be elected at our 2022 Conference in Charlotte, NC. To be eligible to serve on the committee, candidates must be active members who have served a term as a Club President from one of the following clubs:

Atlanta, GA	Lake City, FL	Saint Augustine, FL
Caldwell Co, NC	Live Oak, FL	Salisbury, NC
Durham, NC	Marianna, FL	Spartanburg, SC
Gaffney, SC	Monticello, FL	Statesboro, GA
Gainesville, FL	N. Georgia, GA	Tampa Bay, FL
Gastonia, NC	Orlando-WP, FL	Waynesville, NC
	Raleigh, NC	

No member of the Nominating Committee is eligible to be slated for office while serving on the Nominating Committee. Nomination Forms are available from your Club President or from the Governor and are to be submitted by December 15, 2021 to altrusashannon@aol.com.

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL

69th Annual District Three Conference

April 28-30, 2022

Welcome to Charlotte

See It! Experience It! Live It!



At the Sonesta Charlotte Executive Park

5700 Westpark Drive, Charlotte, NC 28217

Phone: (704) 676-5826

Explore the Queen City: <https://www.charlottesgotalot.com/>

Conference Co-Chairs Yolander Hunter and Dolores Hall

Live It, in Charlotte!

Altrusa, See it, Experience it and Live it at the 69th annual District Three Conference in Charlotte North Carolina. The conference will be held, April 28th through 30th at the Sonesta Charlotte Executive Park Hotel. The conference team is diligently working on the details to make this the most exciting conference experience ever. We've been listening to your feedback from previous conferences and applying those improvements. You will notice that the conference is in April instead of May so that it does not conflict with May college graduations. There are other exciting improvements as well.

The Sonesta Charlotte Executive Park Hotel (recently renovated) is conveniently located close to the Charlotte International Airport. You will also have close access to the light rail train that goes directly to Uptown Charlotte and you'll be within a short driving distance of the premier SouthPark Mall. The Winter DSB will contain all the conference details.

The Queen City has seen an explosion of growth since the last conference was held 10+ years ago. Take a peek, using the links below:

Invite Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWESulEdjGY>

Things to see and do:

<https://www.charlottesgotalot.com/>

<https://www.charlottesgotalot.com/about-charlotte>



Altrusa
SEE
EXPERIENCE
LIVE
CHARLOTTE
69th District Conference
April 28th-30th

See you in April for the ultimate conference experience!

2022 Conference Co-chairs:

Yolander Hunter – Charlotte, NC

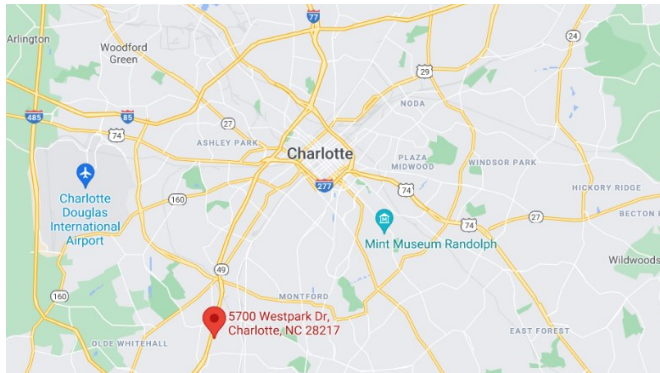
Dolores Hall – Raleigh, NC

Sonesta Charlotte Executive Park

5700 Westpark Drive, Charlotte, NC 28217

Phone: (704) 676-5826

Location of our 2022 District Conference



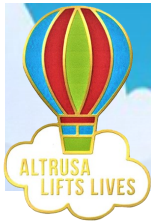
The Sonesta Charlotte Executive Park offers a dynamic experience just five minutes from Charlotte Douglas Airport. Right in the heart of the trendy Uptown and South End neighborhoods, the hotel puts you steps away from famed historic and cultural landmarks, local farmers' markets and enticing shops and bars.

The 300 tastefully appointed guest rooms and specialty suites provide a calming retreat, while 15,000 square feet of flexible event and thoughtfully designed social spaces keep everything moving forward. Treat your taste buds to locally sourced cuisine at our restaurant "Food For Thought" or relax and escape to the indoor and outdoor swimming pool.

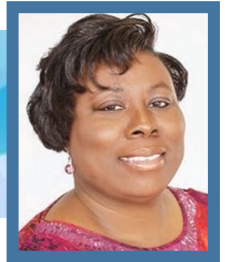


Book Your Stay ! [Charlotte Hotel Near Airport | Sonesta Charlotte Executive Park](#)





The Conference Experience



Get Excited! Altrusa District Three Conference is Near!

By LaShone Surrency, Director

If you've been waiting, anticipating or just have no clue of "What to Expect" at Conference in 2022, let me share a few highlights to help you get ready and enthusiastic about the 69th Annual Altrusa District Three Conference, April 28-30, 2022, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Here are a few highlights, activities, and educational forums to encourage you to attend.

- Opportunity to build long-lasting relationships with other Altrusa members from other clubs.
- Empower, motivate, and learn from others the value and commitment of servant and transformational leadership.
- Share innovative and creative ideas about accomplished mentoring projects, helpful fundraising strategies, and effective team building designs.
- Enhance marketing and public relations skills to broaden awareness of club initiatives and special projects.
- Learn ways to recruit/retain members in certain and uncertain times.
- Lead and/or participate in leadership workshops and orientations for first-timers and existing Altrusa members.
- Celebrate our accomplishments, and observance of Altrusa members that journeyed before us.
- Re-energize and rejuvenate your Altrusa spirit of patriotism!
- Lots of fun, fellowship, and joyful memories in the making!

So, mark your calendar now and plan to join us at the 2022 Altrusa District Three Conference.

Come See it! Come Live it! Come Experience it! --- **ALTRUSA LIFTS LIVES!**



The Conference Experience



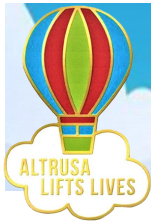
The Importance of Attending Conference

By Dorothy Manning, Director

This year I had the privilege of attending both the District and the International Conference. My wish is that every Altrusan could attend one of these conferences or both. They will find that there is a lot to learn about this organization and various non-profit organizations that are supported by the clubs.

It was great meeting delegates from all the various districts in the United States and some of the International delegates as well. There was much to learn in the various workshops and a lot of fun exploring the surrounding shops and restaurants in the area.

Being the president of the local Altrusa club has been a very rewarding position for me and I have some very supportive members especially those that have been members for many years. My goal is to get more members to attend at least one of the Conferences. I feel that by attending you get a better understanding of the impact your club can make in the community.



The Conference Experience



Why I Attend Conference

By Nancy Schumaker, Director

My academic career included attending a lot of conferences. Over time, I decided that any conference had to meet certain expectations, or it wasn't worth the time and money. Here are four expectations I believe the District Three conference excels at meeting.

Learning: Workshops by experienced members

- help newcomers get the most out of conference offerings,
- instruct club presidents and treasurers how to fulfill their official duties, and
- provide participants with ideas about new member recruitment, fund-raising activities, and service projects.

Evaluation: Speakers at breakfast and lunch

- emphasize the qualities and characteristics that epitomize an Altrusan, and
- allow us to measure our own efforts against those standards.

Affirmation: Recognition ceremonies

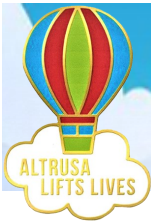
- highlight outstanding service activities and outreach efforts,
- explain the grants and awards available to help fund those programs, and
- allow us to affirm to one another the impact that our service projects make upon our communities and the world.

Direction: Business meetings and elections

- allow us to determine the procedures and policies that govern our organization,
- give us a chance to meet and choose the future leaders of our district, and
- provide a road map for moving our clubs and the district forward.

These four expectations provide us the means to **LEAD** ourselves and others as we improve our clubs, our district, and our international organization. Come to Conference. You'll leave re-energized and committed to all we do as Altrusans.





Astra News



By Jeraldyn Rivest District Three Astra Chair

STARTING A NEW ASTRA TRADITION

About 100 miles and 3 months. That was the traveling distance and time between the 68th District Three Conference held in Greenville, SC and 57th Altrusa International Convention held in Charlotte, NC.

With proximity in their favor, the ASTRA Club of Charlotte, NC embraced the opportunity to participate at both events; a first for ASTRA members in District Three and hopefully one that we can make a new ASTRA tradition across the District. There are currently 8 ASTRA Clubs in District Three with Charlotte being the only Community club.

“Stepping Outside the Box” was the appropriate theme for the April Conference where the ASTRA Club was invited by the District Three Governor to participate in the Opening Flag Ceremony and the ASTRA workshop. It was a chance for workshop participants to ask questions of the students and hear about their service projects. At this conference, we started to ask ourselves how we could expand ASTRA involvement?

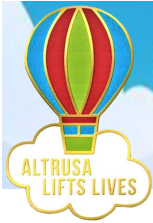
Fast forward to the “Racing to Success” Convention where ASTRA Club members were invited by the Altrusa International President to participate in the hands-on service project and speak at the Service Project Luncheon. ASTRA members also participated in the Opening Flag Ceremony and ASTRA Workshop. A highlight of the convention was the Awards Luncheon where ASTRA members were invited by the ASTRA International Committee Chair to announce awards and enjoy lunch with fellow Altrusans.

The ASTRA Club felt energized and inspired by Altrusans coming together to improve their local and global communities. The 2022 District Three Conference is being held in Charlotte, NC and once again the students are eager to participate. If your ASTRA Club would like to join us in this new ASTRA tradition or if you have ideas how we can get ASTRA more engaged at the upcoming conference, please contact Jeraldyn Rivest, District Three ASTRA Chair at Jeraldyn@hotmail.com.



Photo taken at the Awards Luncheon at the 57th Altrusa International Convention in Charlotte, NC. ASTRA Club of Charlotte, NC members left to right.

Back row: Tristan Rivest, Sebastian Rivest, Mackenzie Indresano, Beverly Hardy (Outgoing Altrusa International President), Janiah Pulliam, Josie Frieser (Club President, Altrusa of Charlotte, NC Inc.) and Debbie McBee (Outgoing Altrusa International ASTRA Chair). Front row: Jeraldyn Rivest (ASTRA Sponsor and Incoming Altrusa International District Three ASTRA Committee Chair), Callie Harrigan, Katie Caldwell and Cody Frieser.



Your Membership Matters



By Randi Kahl, District Three Membership Chair

Make the most out of your Club's New Member Orientation!

Developing and conducting a recruitment campaign is very important and often challenging. Nevertheless, as we all know, retaining new members is entirely another matter. Involvement is crucial to the longevity of an organization, but understanding the organization and its goals, objectives, and structure are equally important as well. Providing new members with the ideas and responsibilities of Altrusa membership will create more informed members and a more productive organization that can and will make significant contributions to the organization.

Hosting an orientation online or in-person is a great way to engage new members and their sponsors. The key result from the orientation is to help new members get plugged in right away. It helps them find their way in the Club and make new friends, leading to a better member experience and greater member loyalty. The information presented during orientation cannot be emphasized, for it provides a foundation for a new member. In addition, it helps the new members understand how the Club, District, and International functions and fit into the big picture.

A few key ideas for hosting orientation will make your new members feel right at home whether you hold the orientation in-person or online.

1. **Make it Brief** – Keep the orientation to more than 30 minutes and allow time (about 10-15 minutes) for questions. Start with the basics and focus on the essential information so that you do not overwhelm new members. Provide additional information through your Club's workshops, Club's meetings (if time permits), or newsletters. This could also be an excellent refresher for all Club members.
2. **Build a Welcome Kit** – Most Club's provide new members with a handbook upon induction to the Club. However, make sure during orientation to reference the handbook to orient the new members that this key to help with their questions. Also, provide the Club's contact list, information on the Club's website, or Facebook sites, information on the Club's membership fees, and maybe even a little Club Swag.
3. **Get to Know the New Members** – Getting to know your new members at your orientation makes them feel like they matter. So please start with the new members giving a brief introduction about themselves and their interest in the Club. This allows them to introduce themselves and find out about their hidden talents.
4. **Make Connections with the Club** – Introduce an established member other than the new member's sponsor. An established Club member can share another view about their enthusiasm for the Club and why they joined Altrusa, from their favorite parts of being a member to what they have learned for Club activities.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Lastly, your new member orientation is not just one meeting. It is a process lasting through the first year of membership!

Recommend:

1. Send a Follow-up Email – Thank them for attending and ask if there is anything that they are unsure of or require any other documentation/information. Also, ask for feedback. For example, was there anything confusing, or was there still something they were wondering about after orientation was over?



2. Meet One-On-One – Within a month or two of their induction into the Club or orientation. Follow-up and find out if they have any additional questions or concerns. This will allow you to provide any additional information they need, put them in contact with someone to help them, or suggest projects or committees they might want to work on. This will ensure that the new member will have a personalized and engaging experience with Altrusa.

By following these tips, your Club will ensure new members:

Know the organization and can articulate the purpose of Altrusa
Understand their responsibilities to the Club and Altrusa Organization

When new members are informed, they are more likely to feel comfortable with the Club, become more actively involved in Club activities and remain for years.

Altrusa Above and Beyond



Club Service Projects and News

Altrusa International Gainesville, FL

By Dee Dugger, Club President

“House Shower for the HONOR Center”



*Dee Dugger and
Vianne Marchese*

For the last several months, Gainesville members have been bringing a little extra to the meetings. We collected consumable, but not edible, items such as laundry detergent, household cleansers, sponges, etc. that would be donated to The [HONOR Center](#). The Honor Center is a state-of-the-art facility providing comprehensive homeless programs, including Permanent Supported Housing, HUD-VASH, Grant and Per Diem Transitional Housing, Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans, and Veterans Justice Outreach. The facility also features **The Residence**, a 45-bed domiciliary designed to meet the needs of homeless Veterans who are disabled or in need of a place to recuperate from health care crises or serious illness. The 24-hour, homelike facility offers private and semi-private rooms, with the ability to serve up to six female Veterans. HONOR is an acronym for Hope, Opportunities, Networking, Outreach and Recovery. Through the HONOR Center, homeless veterans can gain access to permanent and temporary housing, job skills training, mental health counseling, therapy and arts and recreation.

Vianne Marchese, chief of community care for the North Florida/South Georgia VA region, was the guest speaker at the October 14 meeting. Marchese said permanent housing for homeless veterans is provided through a partnership with the Gainesville Housing Authority and the Alachua County Housing Authority through a program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Transitional housing is provided through Volunteers of America Florida and VETSPACE, two programs also based in Alachua County that are non-profit organizations that also provide services to homeless veterans.

The club presented 10 reusable bags filled with laundry detergent, dish detergent and sponges, household cleanser, 1 roll of paper towels, 2 rolls of toilet paper, bath soap and a 2022 calendar. Several other bags of mixed items were also presented.



Donations to HONOR Center



Club members and Vianne Marchese with donations

Club Service Projects and News

Altrusa International Spartanburg, SC

By Sue Newlin, Club President

We Expand our Altrusa Native Plant Garden in 2021

The Altrusa Pathway at Hatcher Garden and Woodland Preserve in Spartanburg, SC is set for dedication on November 10, 2021. The placement of the marker designating the "Altrusa Pathway" within the Altrusa Native Plant Garden is the culmination of the Environmental Committee of Altrusa International of Spartanburg's multiyear project to create, expand and sustain a native plant garden within the 10-acre Hatcher Garden and Woodland Preserve. The pathway project was made possible by a generous grant from the Altrusa District Three Foundation. The grant was used to purchase 15 Rhododendron and 40 various ferns to extend the Altrusa Native Plant Garden (originally established in 2013). Twenty five percent of our club members who willing and able to get down and dirty got the plants in the ground in March. The club had previously contributed over \$700 to replenish plants in the original Native Plant Garden that were damaged or destroyed by heavy rains. This was accomplished in January of this year and all are now thriving. The Altrusa Pathway runs through the replenished and newly extended Altrusa Native Plant Garden located on the Bartram Trail; a popular walking trail enjoyed by hundreds of visitors to Hatcher Garden every year. This gives Altrusa great community exposure as well as helping the club achieve its goal of improving environmental awareness and education.

We were invited to decorate a table for the House of Flowers "Let's Have A Party!"

I presented this to our Altrusa Board the Table Decorating Contest at the Piedmont Interstate Fair. They were very supportive with the tablescap project and gave us the approval to proceed and our theme was "Altrusa International of Spartanburg Invites You to Join Us:

We had to decorate a 60 inch round table with table linens, a centerpiece, china and glassware for a 4 place setting. We could use napkin rings, place cards, invitations, water pitchers and other serving pieces at our discretion. The tables were judged on creativity, originality, use of colors, neatness and eye appeal. We decided on a Christmas themed table with Altrusa banners and picks in a centerpiece that listed our current projects. Invitation cards invited others to join Altrusa International of Spartanburg. The purpose of this project was to get our name out to potential members and sponsors. We wanted to also emphasize what we do for our community. Fellow Altrusans and myself had a fun morning working together. We were very pleased with the outcome.



Rosemary Leake and table decorated by Altrusans



*Margii Rolden, Rosemary Leake,
Jane Lewis and Sherron Langley*

Club Service Projects and News

Altrusa International Monticello, FL

By Jaunice Hughes Club President

In this DSB, we would like to highlight our “Make A Difference Day” project for this club year and introduce you to our four (4) new members.

After hearing a speaker from the Florida Sheriff’s Youth Ranch, Altrusa of Monticello could not resist the opportunity to support the work they are doing. Created by the Sheriffs of Florida, the Ranch provides children every opportunity for success and helps create new lives and good memories. In the beginning, care was provided through family-like homes where boys from broken homes found love, compassion and guidance from their house parents and others on campus. Later, other opportunities arose and today both boys and girls find refuge within their on-campus homes. It is here that these children find support, direction, purpose, love, safety, and acceptance.



We were told the Youth Ranch would appreciate books for their charter school library and school supplies. We felt this project would allow us to continue to be Literacy Advocates, as referenced in our club’s Strategic Plan for 2022-2027. As our “Make A Difference Day” project for this club year, we sent 60 books and a check for \$100.00 for school and art supplies. We hope this support will encourage and help create hopes and dreams for these children.



*Gretchen Thornton,
Kayla Gebhard-McGowan
and JoAnn Arnold*

We have welcomed into the Monticello club four (4) new members during this club year: Jo-Ann Arnold (rejoin), Kayla Gebhard-McGowan, Teri Naylor, and Gretchen Thornton. These four ladies are enthusiastic, talented, community-minded, and very kind-hearted. We are very excited to have them as Altrusa Sisters.

Jo-Ann Arnold is a retired nurse. She retired from the State of Florida Health Department where she worked as a consulting nurse. Jo-Ann was instrumental in starting our local food bank in Jefferson County that feeds in-need families in our area twice a month.

Kayla Gebhard-McGowan is married and has two daughters. She is the Manager of the Jefferson County Teachers Credit Union and serves on the Board of Directors of Aucilla Christian Academy (where her daughters attend school).

Gretchen Thornton moved to Monticello from Mississippi. Her passion is Agriculture and Farming and puts her skills to work at the Jefferson County Extension Office. Gretchen has one son.

Teri Naylor was raised in Jefferson County. She is a Licensed Esthetician and has recently started her own business, BeYOUTiful Skin Spa, where she provides facials and skin care products for those in the community.

While we are a small Club (21 members and 1 emeritus), we are committed and enthusiastic about serving those in and around our community. If you are in our beautiful town while traveling in Florida, we hope you will notify us so that perhaps you can attend one of our meetings.

(Article Contributors: Linda Hamedani, Jane Thigpen, and Juanice Hughes)



Teri Naylor

Club Service Projects and News

Altrusa International Live Oak, FL

By Darleen Hinrichs, Club President

Altrusa International of Live Oak Has Been Busy

Days for Girls

Altrusa of Live Oak, FL participated in the annual service project *Days for Girls* in September. Members donated hygiene boxes for girls in the local school system, as well as individual hygiene items for the schools to give out as needed. It is our privilege to help these young women to maintain their dignity and hopefully to feel special too.



A Soldier's Hands

Learning how little mail gets into the hands of the military stationed in Germany, Altrusa of Live Oak, FL was pleased to participate in *A Soldier's Hands*, writing cards and expressions of thanks to our US Naval troops who will be spending the holidays so far from home. Over one hundred soldiers will receive a heartfelt holiday greeting because of the efforts of our local chapter.

Christmas Fundraiser

For decades, Altrusa of Live Oak, FL has held an annual Christmas Tour of Homes as its primary fundraiser. Due to the Pandemic, the Tour was canceled for 2020 and 2021. It was difficult to find another fundraiser that did not require gathering in-person, but we discovered our Christmas greenery fundraiser just in time. Fresh evergreen wreaths and other décor items can be ordered locally from an Altrusa member or online to be delivered direct to the customer's door! We found the greenery to be delightfully aromatic and of great quality. Our wreaths remained fresh and beautiful through January and some even through Valentine's Day! To see our items and/or to order (deadline November 8) visit <https://sherwoodfundraiser.com/AltrusaLiveOak>. We plan to continue this fundraiser in the future, alongside the Tour of Homes.

Club Service Projects and News

Altrusa International Lake County, FL

By Nancy Schwartz, Literacy Chair

Lake County Altrusans Giveaway almost 1,000 Books

Lake Altrusans were ready for the return of National Night Out in Leesburg.

The Leesburg Police Department went all out for the October 5th event by having it at a new location and adding new activities. The annual event was cancelled last year due to the pandemic.

The Literacy committee made sure our club was ready for the big event by collecting nearly 1,200 books to giveaway to attendees. Thanks to Dawn Mainville for securing 16 boxes of books from the Leesburg Library. The books were taken out of circulation.

It was a good thing that LPD allowed our club to “double up” the booth space and set up two tents and several tables to display the books.

“It was wonderful to see the endless stream of children and adults come by and browse the titles,” said Nanci Schwartz, Literacy Chair. “We encouraged everyone to take multiple books and each Altrusan even helped our visitors pick out books to enjoy.”

It was helpful that club members met in late September to add Altrusa Labels and sort the books so that they could be displayed based on age-appropriateness and interests.

Night fell before all the books were given away, but the leftover books will be donated to Goodwill.

In addition to the books, Domestic Violence Committee Chair Karen Rogers prepared goodie bags filled with information about The Haven, the local domestic violence shelter as well as resources the Altrusa Club had prepared to help victims. More than 100 bags were distributed at National Night Out.



*Nancy Schwartz, Dinah Henderson Donna Marzek,
Anita Valdez and Dawn Mainville*



Karen Rogers, Dinah Henderson and Donna Marzek

District Strategic Plan Board Approved

During the Mid-Year Board meeting in Charlotte, NC, the District Three Board reviewed and approved the 2020-2024 District LRSP 1-pager for final approval by the membership at the 2022 District Conference at the Sonesta Charlotte Executive Park Hotel in April 2022. This updated district plan aligns with the International Plan and provides guidance to club-level plans. Please be sure to update your own Club Plan which can now encompass 4 years should you choose.



Altrusa International District Three, Inc. Strategic Plan - 2020-2024



Vision: Altrusa is a leader among international organizations improving communities worldwide through a network of member clubs.	Mission: To improve communities worldwide by providing service, developing leadership, fostering international understanding and encouraging fellowship through an international network of dedicated volunteers.	Brand: Leading to a Better Community Brand Anchors: Flexibility, Inclusion, Clarity	Measures: 1.Member Numbers 2.Member Satisfaction Rating 3.Service Hours and Fundraising \$ 4.Website hits 5.Social Media Connections
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Service Inspire profile enhancing Service Projects	Facilitate the sharing of service project ideas	<u>Support</u> a District Service Project <u>Seek</u> out new opportunities for addressing Literacy needs in our communities <u>Inspire</u> service projects/fundraisers through a data base/tool kit <u>Encourage</u> new more flexible & inclusive service projects
Marketing Enhance the flow of Altrusa information internally and with external parties	Enhance bi-directional flow of information within Altrusa Promote Altrusa to communities worldwide	<u>Share</u> information through the District Service Bulletin <u>Collect</u> feedback via on-line surveys (Members to District) <u>Develop</u> a comprehensive marketing plan including best practice guides/tool kits <u>Enhance</u> social media strategy/policy to communicate with prospects & members. <u>Enhance</u> District website for potential members & intuitive one for members.
Members Increase membership Numbers to 800 members by 2024	Recruit & Retain a diverse membership	<u>Embrace</u> change and diversity <u>Expansion</u> of ASTRA clubs with focus on transition to Altrusa <u>Improve</u> resources for the effective recruiting of new members <u>Promote</u> activities that are attractive to potential and younger members <u>Engage</u> members in their Altrusa journey via service & personal interactions
Leaders Create a pipeline of strong Altrusa Leaders	Develop leadership at all levels of Altrusa	<u>Cultivate</u> a training track for new leaders (train the trainers) <u>Create</u> tools/best practice guidelines to build new leaders <u>Support</u> a mentoring programme <u>Remove</u> barriers to growing new leaders
Member Service Inform, Update and Educate members	Respond to member needs in a timely manner	<u>Enhance</u> collection and reporting of membership data through Group Tally <u>Produce</u> tools/resources to support District/Clubs and members <u>Provide</u> District Service Bulletin, District Website, District workshops, email communications and other services

To Submit DSB Articles

Send DSB Articles to Carol Thomas at carol.thomas1211@gmail.com DSB Editor

- Please add DSB and Article Name in the Subject Line of your email
- Please send your article in Word Format
- Please identify individuals in any pictures provided
- Please provide full contact information for the submitter or author of your article

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