

### Governor Greetings



## ALTRUSANS HAVE HEART

### WE COME TOGETHER TO SERVE



November is such a wonderful time of year with cooler temperatures and the start of the holiday season. But this is also one of the busiest times of the year for Altrusa clubs! For me, this is the time that the *Heart of Altrusa* really shines and sets us apart from other service organizations. We come together in the spirit of love and fellowship to serve our communities.

However, we also enjoy socializing with each other as we serve. It always warms my heart to hear of Altrusans around our District attending and supporting the fundraising efforts or service projects of their fellow clubs as well as their own. We also hold each other up in times of sorrow and adversity. That is what makes our organization so unique.

During this special month of thankfulness, I am very thankful for Altrusa. I have made many good friends throughout the District that I hold close to my heart. It is an honor to be part of an organization that gives so much to improve and lift the lives of women and children in our communities.

This Fall brings us six months into the final year of the biennium, and finds our board members continuing to visit clubs and accomplishing the business of the District. Our Leadership Team has also begun planning our April 2023 Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. Based on feedback from previous conferences, we're mixing it up a bit... and working hard planning interesting workshops, keeping meetings on point and focusing on members needs and wants. We would like nothing more than to see each of you there. More details will be in our Call to Conference Winter Edition, coming out in February.

Let's all be mindful of making time this holiday season to enjoy family and friends and appreciate the blessings that we have been given. Continue to shine your Altrusa light throughout your community during this wonderful time of year. From my Altrusa heart to yours, I wish you all a heartfelt Thanksgiving and a very Happy Holiday season!

Thank you all for your exemplary service to Altrusa,

*Shannon*

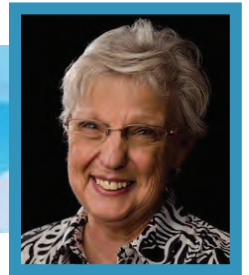


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# District Three Foundation Nominations



## Call for Nominations

### District Three Foundation Board

By Dimple Overstreet, Governor Elect

How can you help! Consider serving on the District Three Foundation Board.

Two Trustees and one Treasurer position will be voted on at the District Conference April 27-29, 2023 in Jacksonville, FL.

The Altrusa District Three Foundation Board is a 501(c)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 by being a member.

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(c)3 Foundation Board external to Altrusa.

The term of office for a Trustee is for 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, 2023. The nominating committee is comprised of: Kitty McElhaney, Linda Robison and Chair Dimple Overstreet. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at [dimplej@embarqmail.com](mailto:dimplej@embarqmail.com).



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



# District and International Awards



## District Three Awards Update

By Mantha Young, Vice Governor



Honor your clubs hard work this year! Volunteers only receive the reward of recognition. Be sure and start planning your awards early this year. Important note: **All awards will be submitted to the new Vice Governor email address: [vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com](mailto:vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com).**

1. Review the award criteria.
2. Identity a project.
3. Complete the application (provide pictures if available).
4. Judging Criteria and Score sheet.
5. Submit by the January 31,2020 deadline.

Updated District Awards applications are available at our website:

District Three Awards: [districtthree.altrusa.org/district-three-awards](http://districtthree.altrusa.org/district-three-awards)

If you are unable to access the applications, please email me at [vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com](mailto:vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com).  
and I will email them to you.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Jacksonville!

**ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL**  
**70<sup>th</sup> Annual District Three Conference**  
**April 27-29, 2023**

*Welcome to Jacksonville*



**Southbank Hotel Jacksonville Riverwalk**

**1515 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32207**

**Phone: (904) 396-5100**

Check out Jax video: <https://youtu.be/-392GE3XuEc>



*Conference Co-Chairs Lorrie Wheeler  
and Nanci Schwartz*





CONNECTING ALTRUSANS  
THROUGH OUR ENVIRONMENT  
ALTRUSA DISTRICT THREE CONFERENCE  
APRIL 27-29, 2023

Just like family, after distance and time have kept you apart, we want to see you again, at our 70th Altrusa District Three Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. Please plan to come!

In my early Altrusa membership years, conferences connected me to some of the most amazing and dedicated professional women. I have many Altrusans in my family and friends group. At the local, district and international level, many have given so much of themselves to help create successful Altrusans. Altrusa provides the common ground of community service and leadership building that have been pivotal in my growth as a business owner and community servant. From simple things, like speaking to strangers, then speaking from a podium to the extreme of chairing a conference, all these experiences have afforded me infinite opportunities for growth in leadership and self-confidence. Conference has the unique ability to combine all this with so much FUN! Invite that new member who needs to connect to our common goals; invite that club member that seems to have disconnected, get excited about Altrusa again. Create an avenue for camaraderie as we plan an exciting adventure for you and your pals in Jacksonville. We even have a site with Altrusa Details to be added as we go! Check it out!



**CLICK HERE:** [Show Me Jacksonville](#)





Registration will be approved at the upcoming board meeting so keep an eye on the [District Three Conference](#) webpage and the Winter DSB in January.

On the website you can see some previous award winners to inspire you as you prepare your club's award applications for this year. Speaking of awards, you have time to get your environmental project done for our Conference Challenge. Not sure what the prizes will be, but you can't win if you don't do anything at all!! We are focusing the conference theme on water, however, ANY environmental project is acceptable that follows the Richard Ward Ulrich Environmental Award criteria (click here [→](#) [□](#) also found on the District Three website. And if the project falls in the 2023 calendar year- you can apply for the award in 2024!

Should you need of some inspiration, EVERY community is within a "Waterkeepers" or "Riverkeepers" alliance.



Partnering with other service organizations is always a win-win! One such collaboration will take place at our conference! Our Keynote will be tied to these organizations, as well as our conference service project.

As we get into the next stage of planning "Raindrops to Rivers", please reach out and be willing to serve when asked. Just like drops of water, every contribution is critical to the final cascading result!

***Conference Co-Chairs Lorrie Wheeler and Nanci Schwartz***

Microsite: <https://www.visitjacksonville.com/altrusa2023/>

Conference page: <https://districtthree.altrusa.org/news-events/district-three-conference/#>

Ulrich Award: <https://districtthree.altrusa.org/district-foundation/#:~:text=Richard%20Ward%20Ulrich%20Environmental%20Award>

Waterkeepers: <https://waterkeeper.org/>

Riverkeepers: <https://www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org/>

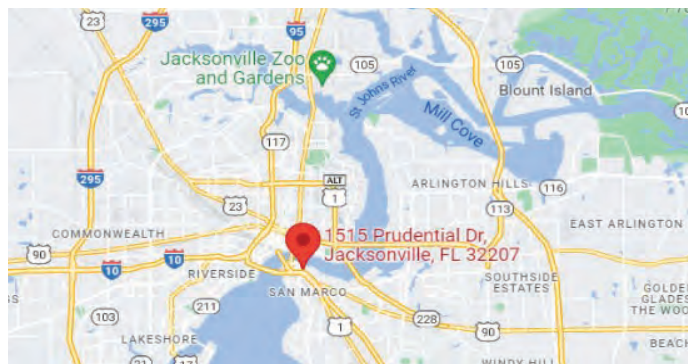


## Southbank Hotel Jacksonville Riverwalk

1515 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Phone: (904) 396-5100

*Location of our 2023 District Conference*



Discover the Southbank Hotel at Jacksonville Riverwalk. It is centrally located nestled on the Southbank of downtown near trendy San Marco and Riverside historic districts. The hotel draws inspiration from the St. Johns River, ports and area bridges, providing an authentic Northeast Florida experience. Here you will enjoy big city amenities and boutique style.

You will find savory onsite dining and lounges, a tranquil pool and courtyard. The hotel offers 322 guest rooms and 40,000 square feet of event space, which makes this Jacksonville convention center hotel the ideal spot for Altrusans to gather and have a great time. Experience the coastal undercurrents and feel the southern hospitality during your stay at this newly renovated Marriott Southbank Delta Class Hotel.





# District Three Foundation



## DISTRICT THREE FOUNDATION UPDATE

by Martha Epps, District Three Foundation Chair

The District Foundation Board convened for our fall meeting the last Saturday of September. Our discussions centered on our financial distributions to the clubs as it is time to start making a decision as to what projects you would like to have funded by an award or grant. Our main goals of the meeting were to update and simplify the Grant and award processes as well as to increase the Grant Fund to \$50,000.

Your donations will be needed and whole-heartedly appreciated to achieve our ambitious goal, however, the continued Altrusian generosity will make this goal completely achievable.

We do not have a set date for when the final updates will be added, so be sure to keep checking the website. Penny Penn at [ppenn04@yahoo.com](mailto:ppenn04@yahoo.com) will be accepting grant applications, while Joann Brown at [joannbrowndvm@gmail.com](mailto:joannbrowndvm@gmail.com) will receive the awards applications.

Thank you and let's have another successful grant and award season!



**Donations to the District Three Foundation are greatly appreciated 😊**





# District Three Foundation Cont.



## DISTRICT THREE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>Chair</b>	Martha Epps	Starke, FL	mlepps451@embarqmail.com
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Joanne Brown	Monticello, FL	fourwindsfarmhouse@centurylink.net
<b>Secretary</b>	Penny Penn	North Georgia, GA	ppenn04@yahoo.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dawn Mainville	Lake County, FL	dawn@gofiguretax.com
<b>Trustee</b>	Gayle Magruder	Spartanburg, SC	ggmagruder@charter.net
<b>Trustee</b>	Julie Keiper	Waynesville, NC	julie@techstrategics.com
<b>District Liaison</b>	Dimple Overstreet	Starke, FL	dimplej@embarqmail.com



# Current Members & New Members



By Scott Tice, Treasurer

## Altrusa International District Three, Inc.

New Member August 16, 2022–October 15, 2022



New Member	Sponsor	Joined
Live Oak, FL Stephanie Cheshire Cassandra “Cassie” Simpson	Joyce Davis/Carol Hingson Carol Hingson	October October
St. Augustine, FL Audrienne Martine Smith		September
Waynesville, NC Margaret G. Amick		September



# Altrusa International District Three, Inc.

## Membership Report as of October 15, 2022



Club	Paid Members	Emeritus	Lifetime	Total Members
<b>Florida</b>				
1 Citrus County	19			19
2 Gainesville	50	5		55
3 Lake City	81	8		89
4 Lake County	20	1		21
5 Live Oak	28	1		29
6 Marianna	24	1		25
7 Monticello	21	1		22
8 Ocala	31	3		34
9 Orlando-Winter Park	29	1		30
10 St Augustine	17			17
11 Starke	44	2		46
12 Tampa Bay	10	2		12
TOTAL FL	374	25	0	399
<b>Georgia</b>				
1 Atlanta	5			5
2 North Georgia	27	2		29
3 Statesboro	41	3		44
TOTAL GA	73	5	0	78
<b>North Carolina</b>				
1 Caldwell County	1	1		2
2 Charlotte	25	3		28
3 Gastonia	11			11
4 Raleigh	14		1	15
5 Salisbury	11			11
6 Waynesville	22			22
TOTAL NC	84	4	1	89
<b>South Carolina</b>				
1 Gaffney	9			9
2 Spartanburg	27	4		31
TOTAL SC	36	4	0	40

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

REPORT SUMMARY:	
Active Members	570
Emeritus Members	41
Lifetime Members	1
Affiliate Members	2
<b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>614</b>



# District Three Board Meeting Report



## Mid-Year Board Meeting Overview

by Lori Davis, Secretary

The Altrusa District Three Board had their Mid-Year Meeting October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> in sunny Jacksonville Florida. The meeting was held at our upcoming 2023 Conference site the Marriott Southbank Hotel Riverwalk. First, Governor Shannon Schell held a brief get together in her room, then all gathered for a wonderful dinner at the hotel's restaurant Southbank Johnnies. Following dinner, it was off to the Captains Boardroom for a long evening meeting packed with the business of the District, reports of accomplishments were shared from each board and committee member. Treasurer Scott Tice shared his financial and membership updates and the 2022 Conference Report was approved. The board ratified five Emeritus requests and approved the names of the new slate of officers to be voted on in April 2023 at Conference.

The next morning the meeting reconvened and proceeded with the business at hand with an update to our policies reflecting rights and duties of the new non-primary membership classification pertaining to International Policy 10G(a). We broke for a tour of the hotel with the entire Conference Leadership Team getting a feel of each room and the event it will hold. Next up were discussions of the conference budget, schedule and workshops. The location of the 2024 conference site was disclosed and discussed, then dates and times were set to continue conference planning with monthly zoom calls. With all scheduled business accomplished Governor Shannon then concluded the meeting with the Altrusa Benediction.







# Altrusa Make a Difference Day Projects

by Dee Dugger, Service Program Development Committee Chair



## ALTRUSA OF LAKE COUNTY, FL

Lake County Altrusans have an annual tradition for their Make A Difference Day Observance. Since 2016, members have served up free books during the Leesburg Police Department's National Night Out event. This year, the members purchased hundreds of new books for children and teens. Members also collected gently read books for adults. In all, they gave away nearly 750 books at the October 4 event."

## ALTRUSA OF SALISBURY, NC

The Salisbury, NC Altrusans are participating in a community baby shower. They collected baby items at our last meeting and Stephanie Bruce, Vice President, will deliver them to be packed up and delivered on the day of the baby shower on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## ALTRUSA OF GAINESVILLE, FL

For their project this year, Gainesville Altrusans partnered with University Church of Christ to collect and ship clothes for men, women, and children to the Ukraine. So far over 70 bags of clothing have been donated. Here is an excerpt of an email from a clothing recipient:

"Thank you, dear friends at the University Church of Christ and Altrusa club in Gainesville. It is not just things you gave to me. You brought so much encouragement to me! For the first time in months, I feel that am not alone trying to prepare for a long and cold winter. We have warm clothes now! I do not remember being lifted like this ever! If you can measure happiness in drops of water, then I just bathed in it today! "

This photo represents a small portion of the bags of clothes delivered by the Gainesville club to University Church of Christ.



# District Three Service Projects Report Cont.

## ALTRUSA OF RALEIGH, NC



Head Start teachers with their baskets from the Raleigh Club

For their project, the Raleigh Club packed and delivered baskets of books and school supplies to the teachers at the Parkway Head Start in Cary, NC. They have three classrooms for the 18-month- to 2-year-old-children and five classrooms for those 3 to 5 years old. Laundry baskets were filled with age-appropriate books and workbooks as well as chalk, crayons, markers, stickers, and snacks. For the teachers we included tissue and paper towels. The baskets were delivered by Jane Gray and Rana Van Name on teacher development day (October 10) so they could meet the teachers and see the school. All recipients were very pleased with our donation and promised to give us feedback for next year.

## ALTRUSA OF LAKE CITY, FL

Lake City has installed Lending Libraries at our Rural/Distant County parks/community facilities. We will be introducing the Libraries to the community mid-October at our local Makers Market/Fall Downtown Festival with book giveaways and readings! Raising awareness for literacy and Altrusa's commitment to come.



## ALTRUSA OF STATESBORO, GA



The Statesboro Club Takes Literacy seriously. They have been busy this month with a variety of projects: Literacy materials were donated to Family Liaison Coordinators in our local elementary and middle schools. Books were also donated to an elementary school for use as prizes during a "Book Walk" activity held in conjunction with Family Literacy night. In addition, they read to Pre-K classes, collected and distributed over 1300 books to nine schools and gathered books for a Trunk or Treat event.



# District Three Service Projects Report Cont.

## ALTRUSA OF ORLANDO-WINTER PARK, FL

For many years several members of the Winter Park Club have supported Writer's Promise, which is a program to help 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders with their letter writing skills. Each month students in the program exchange handwritten letters with volunteers to help them improve their writing ability and discover the joy of writing and receiving letters.

Writing supplies including pencils, children's stationery, colored paper, seasonal stickers, and envelopes. Our club provides a check for \$200 from Foundation Funds to cover postage for the year. In addition, our club has purchased 22 copies of "The Magician's Nephew" by C.S. Lewis which is a part of the Chronicles of Narnia series. The class will be reading this book at some point during this year.



## ALTRUSA OF MARIANNA, FL

Altrusa International of Marianna donated supplies to CHROME (Christ Helping Rescue Oppressed Men Everyday) Retreat located at the old Middle School in Marianna. CHROME is headquarters for the men's discipleship and recovery program focusing on a relationship with Christ and healing. The program is designed to support men who are overcoming life-controlling issues. Through the process of RESCUE, RECOVERY, and RE-ENGAGEMENT they are able to walk alongside men in difficult situations and support them as they take bold steps and begin to live the life God as destined for them. This program is funded by donations and grants.





# ASTRA Club Projects



## Eyes on ASTRA – Our Future

### ASTRA Club of the University of Florida

by Jeraldyn Rivest, District Three ASTRA Committee Chair

This ASTRA article spotlights the ASTRA Club of the University of Florida, District Three's only university-based club. They hold monthly business meetings on campus, and had several service projects each month including raising \$300 through their end-of-year banquet fundraiser for their philanthropy project, Food 4 Kids backpack program. The club has 16 ASTRA members and volunteered 170 hours last school year.

The club was sponsored by the Altrusa International of Gainesville, FL Inc. and chartered in 1997 through the leadership of Donna Johnson, as Faculty and Club Sponsor, in coordination with the Associate Dean W. Andrew McCollough and the Warrington College of Business. Kim Pace joined as a Faculty Advisor in Fall 2014 and Bea Sherouse joined Kim and Donna in 2017. Bea now meets with ASTRA and Kim Pace remains Faculty Sponsor (a requirement of UF) but does not attend meetings.

The articles below are excerpts from the monthly "Gainesville Altrusan" newsletter and highlight a few of the ASTRA Club's great service projects they have been involved in - Go Gators! For more information about sponsoring a new ASTRA club, please contact the District Three ASTRA Committee Chair, Jeraldyn Rivest at [Jeraldyn@hotmail.com](mailto:Jeraldyn@hotmail.com).

#### February 2022 Service Project at Saint Francis Pet Care clinic and Altrusa Trading Closets

We are continuing our great start this semester with our event at the Saint Francis Pet Care clinic this past February. The clinic is a primarily volunteer-run organization that aims to facilitate pet care for those in vulnerable communities to better benefit the pet and the overall human-pet relationship. ASTRA did all we could for the day whether organizing the shed, food storage, and upkeep/clean up.



ASTRA assisted members of Altrusa with the Altrusa Trading Closets fundraiser. ASTRA assisted with packing clothes, shoes, and loading clothes racks on to a truck for storage. That event also transitioned with our initiative to assist the youth of the community with the Prom Closet in the upcoming month of March.





# ASTRA Club Projects Cont.

## April 2022 Service Project at The Ronald McDonald House

As we start to wrap things up for the spring, we look towards other facilities to engage with. ASTRA has had interactions with The Ronald McDonald House before, but it had been a while since we have worked with them, to the point that our group specifically, hasn't participated with Ronald McDonald House at all. This situation necessitated adaptation with the food we prepared there because not everything was set/provided as we originally anticipated. We took that in stride by diverting for a bit of a field trip to purchase the remaining groceries we needed.

By the end of it we were able to pull off a student prepared meal and managed to cook enough spaghetti and meatballs for about 15-20 people. As of now, further fundraising has been slotted for the end of the month with anticipated success as in our previous ones. Next up we have an initiative to go with the Repurpose Project.

*Below see what college student meal prep looks like.*



*Thanks to ASTRA members Aryan Sahota and Jieli Wegerif for the photos and update and to Bea Sherouse, their Altrusa sponsor, for facilitating communication between the Altrusa and ASTRA clubs each month.*





# Growing Our Facebook Audience



By Josie Frieser, District Three Communications Chair

Can you believe that mainstream social media did not launch until the early 2000's? Its almost hard to imagine with the amount of social media that is being used today. For everything from family and friends to business, networking and philanthropy. Millions of us turn to social media every single day.

The question for Altrusa clubs is "How can we leverage social media, specifically Facebook, to grow our audience?" Here are a few tips to help you do just that:

**Photos, Photos, Photos!** When it comes to social media, if you want visitors to stop and look at what you have to say, share those photos! Behind the scenes, finished product, hands on service, etc.

**Discussion!** How do you hold their attention while visiting your page? Engage them in discussion. Instead of just dropping information to be read, engage your audience by starting a conversation and finishing it. Ask for their feedback and suggestions of what they would like to see more of.

**Connect with others!** Just like we all want engagement on our own club pages, others want the same for their pages as well. Increasing your engagement with others will expand your social profile. Visit other pages and take the time to interact. They too are trying to gain a presence and your engagement and feedback mean as much to them as it does to each of our clubs.

**Stand out!** Your page and it's content should be unique. Don't take the easy road and copy and paste from other page. Keep it fresh and up to date to keep visitors coming back.

**Hashtag/Tag/Check-in!** When sharing a post to your page, make sure to use hashtags that are relevant. #Altrusa, #CommunityService, etc. When others search the same hashtag your posts will come up. Tag those who are involved or participated. Tag your club, tag District Three. By tagging those involved, anyone associated with those who are tagged will be able to view your post. Check-in at the location your event is taking place. By doing so, when others search the location or check-in themselves, they will be able to see what it is that your club has done at that location.

**Social budget!** While your club may not have a social media budget, you may find it valuable. It may be worth spending a few dollars to highlight the bigger projects or events happening. Using Facebook ads you can target your specific location and reach only those right inside your own community. Use your money wisely. Give them the information that best highlights what your club is doing to serve the community and ways that they can help.

At the end of the day, it is all about connections. The more connections we build with others, the wider our reach. As your District Three Communications Chair, I challenge each club to share about your next event. Tag me, tag District Three, hashtag Altrusa, and check-in at your location. Don't forget to share photos and context and engage your audience!





# New Clubs for New Altrusans



## Let's Grow Altrusa!

By Julie Allen, District Three New Club Building Chair

There are folks who would really like what we have as Altrusans! We have the satisfaction of knowing that Altrusa service and work in our communities and around the world are important and needed. The endless areas of service include, but are not limited to, literacy, domestic violence, scholarships, Days for Girls, veterans, and any number of special club projects. Not only do Altrusans make a difference in people's lives, but we also enjoy camaraderie, a sense of belonging, a sense of accomplishment, personal growth, and socialization—not to mention how much fun we have.

Since we are coming out of the pandemic and people are getting back to normal activities, many opportunities to start new clubs exist. People are eager to give back to their communities but may not have an avenue to do so or be aware of Altrusa possibilities.

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.

Why not share with others what we as Altrusans have and the reason you became an Altrusan. They may have an interest in starting an Altrusa club of their own. By telling them about Altrusa, you are offering a wonderful opportunity for them to feel more connected to and, be a part of, their community as well as Altrusa.







# Membership



## MEMBERS MOVING UP– It Takes an Altrusa Village

By Randi Kahl District Three Membership Chair

Every Club has the challenge of looking for new members to grow their Clubs. But then there is the dreaded challenge of finding Board Members or Committee Chairs at the Club Level, especially at the District Level, by every Nominating Committee. The # One Challenge is that people are interested but unwilling to commit as Board Members or Committee Chairs due to several dynamics. Factors run the gambit from lack of knowledge to availability of one's time.

Yes, these factors are authentic and valid and need to be considered. The expression it takes a village is an abbreviated form of an African proverb: It takes a village to raise a child. For instance, the Nigerian Igbo proverb is "Oran a azu nwa," which means "It takes a community to raise a child." Today, having a village means building a sense of community around you. The more people you can trust, the better equipped you'll be to handle any possible problems. In Altrusa, that village or sense community is the local Altrusa Club and its members.

What does it mean? You have the support of every Altrusan you know and those you don't know by simply asking. What we do as Altrusan builds a foundation with ourselves, our Club, our District, and our community. Members are the key to strong roots within the Club, allowing it to flourish. The strength of a foundation is reflected in Committee Chairs and Board Members, whether at the Local Club level or District level.

Yes, it is scary! When a member of the Nominating Committee either calls or emails you. Or you decided to throw your hat in the ring for consideration. You are thinking, "I do not have the skills, knowledge, characteristics, or even time to serve as a Committee Chair or Board Member" or "I'm not good enough". But you are good enough and/or someone thought you have the "sparkle". Just remember the village! Each member within your Club will help guide and support you as you navigate and develop. That is what Altrusa is about - Builders of Leaders. Just reach out and ask! You are not alone.

# YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

The very first Altrusa principal states that Altrusa is a builder of leaders. The different Committee Chairs and Board Positions either at Club or District Levels, presents the most incredible opportunities to support one's goals/objectives or desires and to help you believe in your importance. Growing You – an Altrusa Member-an Altrusa Leader.



# Club Service Projects and News

## Altrusa International of Lake City, FL

By Jennifer Anchors, Altrusa International of Lake City, FL

### Meet Lake City's Emeritus and Esteemed Members.

Altrusa showed up in numbers for our budding sixth graders in Columbia County recently. A total of 10 Altrusa International of Lake City volunteers arrived bright and early Thursday July 21st to greet the incoming sixth graders at Richardson Sixth Grade Academy for their Annual Red Carpet Event. The event was to welcome students coming in from elementary schools all over the county and help them become more familiar with the new spaces and faces they'll encounter over the coming school year. Students were ushered into their new auditorium and organized into groups after being greeted by our Altrusians. After a brief review of expectations, groups broke off into bonding activities such as a life-size Hungry Hungry Hippos game in the gymnasium, teamwork with a critical thinking challenge in the science department and interpersonal skill building in the cafeteria with Getting To Know You question boards. In all, upwards of 100 students had an opportunity to get out first day jitters, reunite with classmates and lay the foundation for a great school year to come thanks in part to the nearly dozen of volunteers from our District 3 club who logged a whopping 38 hours serving these students in our community.



Altrusans Tammy Hall and Kitty McElhaney



Dorothy Spradley and Betty Ropez

# Club Service Projects and News

## Altrusa International of Marianna FL

By Georgeann Adkison, Club President Altrusa International of Marianna, FL

### MARIANNA GREETS GOVERNOR

Altrusa District Governor Shannon Schell paid a visit to the Altrusa International of Marianna business meeting for October. Shannon enlightened our club on activities in our district and reminded us that we are not alone. There are many other clubs in our district, in our country and around the world. She talked to us about upcoming District Conference and explained about the workshops, sharing of information and fellowship to be had there.

Anyone interested in becoming an Altrusa Member please contact one of our club members or come visit us at our meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Jim's Buffet.



Left to right: Vice President Jay James, President Georgeann Adkinson, District Three Governor Shannon Schell and Secretary Aundrea Sellers



# Club Service Projects and News

## Altrusa International of Orlando-Winter Park, FL

By Yvette Pue, Club President, Altrusa International of Orlando-Winter Park FL

### Back-to-School Brigade 2022

The Orlando-Winter Park Club contributed to the beginning of the new school year by participating in the national Operation Homefront Back-to-School Brigade for 2022.

Operation Homefront is a nonprofit, national organization dedicated to building strong, stable, and secure military families so that they can thrive in the communities they have worked so hard to protect. The Back-to-School program was started in 2006 when Operation Homefront partnered with Dollar Tree Stores and a number of corporate sponsors (CSX, SAIC, Navy Federal Credit Union, etc.) to outfit the children of military families with back packs filled with school supplies. The program is reliant on volunteers to collect school supplies from assigned Dollar Tree stores that are donated by customers at checkout. Volunteers then sort and fill back packs supplied by Operation Homefront. This year the Back-to-School program celebrated a major milestone distributing its 500,000<sup>th</sup> back pack!

Since 2016, our club has annually provided the volunteer workforce needed to bring the program to fruition. Nine of our members met at the Army National Guard in Orlando on July 28<sup>th</sup> to assemble 125 back packs. This year was particularly challenging since we were only able to collect



Altusans assisting in the assembly of back packs from left to right, Amy Freeman, Sharon Blake, Alison Hale, President Yvette Pue, Vice President Dawn Jones, Susan Steadman and Traci Jones



Altusans and friends in the back pack assembly are Will, Cheryl Malloy, Carol Denton, Yvette Pue, Nicole Pue, Traci Jones, Maryanne Kravitz, Roberta Klusmeier and Linda Birkbeck



1200 items from assigned Dollar Tree stores which was about 1/3 of what we received in 2021 (3500 items). Through donations of additional supplies from our members (over \$150) with those from the representatives of the

National Guard and Operation Homefront, we were able to fill each back pack with at least 12 items including all the basics (pens, pencils, paper, binders) and more. All left over items were then donated to the Seminole County "Tools4Schools" organization, a local free store for teachers.

On July 30<sup>th</sup>, eleven members of our club assisted with the distribution of back packs to over 45 local families. In addition, our club donated 225 activity books to add to the back packs in preparation for the coming school year.



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