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District Ten AltruNews



WINTER 2016/2017

Governor's Message



The Holidays are just around the corner and we are all busier than ever! Of course, Altrusans are used to that!

It's not too early to plan on attending the District Ten Conference on the first weekend in May in Montrose, Colorado. See the article later in this newsletter for information on hotel reservations. We are working on a dynamic speaker and opportunities to share ideas with Altrusans across the district. Training for incoming Club officers will, of course, be provided and workshops are being planned to educate and enhance your Altrusa experience. Some of the sessions we are developing are Service, an exchange of ideas; ASTRA, the basics of forming a club; Leadership, delegation and teamwork. We are also looking at a breakout session offering 3 options: Newsletters, producing electronically; Awards & Grants, preparation; Computer 101, the basics.

For the Conference Service Project, we will be collecting donations for the Montrose Passage Charter School, quality education for pregnant & parenting teens. A list of items they need will be provided in the Call to Conference.

We are updating award criteria and scoring for three District Ten awards and should have those available by early January. District Director Marianne Cross and District Secretary Lisa Armijo are simplifying the Governor's Award criteria, and District Communications Chair Cozetta Moore is updating the Newsletter and Yearbook criteria for the changing ways our clubs produce and distribute these documents. It's my hope that more clubs will submit award entries this year and I would love to get a Governor's Award nomination from each and every club!

Speaking about awards, please submit your entries electronically to the person charged with judging them. They may ask you to also submit a hard copy to display at Conference, so please check with them before the entry deadline. Descriptions and contact info for each award can be found on the website at http://districtten.altrusa.org/Get-Involved/Club-Information_copy1.aspx. This information will also be published in the Call To Conference, scheduled for February 1st. The entries that go on to compete at the International level MUST be sent electronically and scanning does not always provide the best results compared to your hard-copy entry, so, it pays to start out electronically.

I hope that your many service activities, as well as time with family and friends, bring you love and laughter this holiday season!

Bonnie Jones, District Ten Governor 2015-2017

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Additional contact information for the District Ten Board and Committee Chairs can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

District Ten Board Report

The Board of District Ten Altrusa International held its mid-year board meeting from September 16th to the 18th in Monte Vista, CO. All board members were present for a quorum.

The board passed two new policies concerning a new District Ten Dropbox account. The first is Administrative Policy #7: concerning usage; the second is on Archives procedures. Also passed was Policy #19: Conference requests for refunds and an amendment to Fiscal Policy #13 on reimbursements for board travel. *(Secretary's Note: These policy additions/revisions can be found in Appendix F-District Ten Policies.pdf in the District Handbook folder in District Shared Files.)*

New club possibilities on the horizon are: Monte Vista, CO, with resident Valerie Hagedorn as the Board's contact person; Santa Fe, NM, initial planning projected to begin after the first of the year; and possibly one in Loveland, CO. And, of course, planning on the upcoming 2017 Conference in Montrose, CO, was commenced.

Final Call for Nominations

If you are interested in running for any of the District Ten offices listed below, your official nomination form must be sent to District Nomination Chair, Pat Ropelato, via email at ropiesdairy@aol.com, or by mail to her at 3945 West 1800 South, Ogden, UT 84401.

Governor-Elect
Vice-Governor
Treasurer
Director/Foundation Liaison
Director/Membership

The nomination form was sent to your Club President, so be sure to ask them to send in the form by the deadline of December 31, 2016. That means it must be in Pat's hands on or before that date.

Featuring ...Your Projects!

Don't forget: we'd like to include a feature in each issue of the AltruNews highlighting club projects, be they service or fundraisers, to let the entire District know what our clubs are doing in their communities. To that end, we ask that you provide pictures and descriptions of your favorite/newest/most-successful events.

Please send them to AltruNews Editor, Diane Winger (altruNews@gmail.com), copying Governor Bonnie Jones (bonnie4altrusa@gmail.com), and Communications Chair, Cozetta Moore (cozetta@yucca.net), for possible inclusion on the District Ten website.



Save the Dates for Conference!

Your District Ten Board and the Montrose Conference Committee are hard at work planning a great conference experience for you **May 4-6th, 2017**, so put those dates on your calendar now, and make your plans to attend.

You must make your hotel reservations yourself, and it's not too early to do so. Simply call the Montrose Holiday Inn Express at **970-240-1800** or **800-550-9252** to reserve your room by **April 3, 2017**. We have a block of double rooms available at \$99/night (plus 8.85% tax). This rate cannot be guaranteed after April 3rd when unsold rooms will be released to the general public. Be sure to tell them you are with Altrusa International District Ten.

Watch for the Conference Registration form in the Call to Conference which is scheduled to be sent on February 1st. We are also looking at a way to do online registration and will have details as soon as possible.

District Board Formalizes Conference Registration Refund Policy

At its Mid-Year Board meeting, the District Ten Board set a formal policy on refunds of conference registration. Before then, the only reference you could find on a refund was a very brief reference on the registration form itself, and it was often confusing to everyone. We understand that things come up at the last minute; life does get in the way from time to time. However, many of the costs of putting on a conference are set, many items have already been purchased, and meal prices are often based on the number expected, so, having fewer in attendance can raise the prices at the last minute. Therefore, the Board felt it was time to formalize a refund policy, which reads as follows:

Requests for refund of paid registration **prior to 30 days** before Conference should be sent to the Conference Finance Chair and will be refunded at 100%. Refund requests between 29 and 10 days before Conference will be at 50%. Any requests within 10 days or less before conference must be sent to the Governor for approval by the District Board.

Convention 2017 – Fun in the Planning!

Are you going to Nashville in July for the Altrusa International Convention? If the answer is yes, please take note of two items that call for some advanced planning.



Altrusa Cocktail/Mocktail Contest: The Centennial Committee has asked that each district create a cocktail/mocktail recipe to be entered at Convention. To that end, District Ten will conduct a contest from Club entries at the 2017 Conference for a vote by the membership. This could be a great deal of fun for your club! Oh, and we'll have a great time at Conference choosing the winner! Logistics will be sent to Club Presidents and appear in the Call To Conference in February.

Altrusa's Birthday Party: Hopefully, you've heard about our 100th Birthday Party at Convention in Nashville on Sunday, July 23rd. Attendees will come dressed in any "fashion" from any of the decades over the past 100 years. It might be fun if all of us from District Ten dressed in the same decade's fashion and, as the configuration of District Ten was, for the most part, set in 1955, I thought the '50s would be appropriate. What do you think? To that end, please let me know two things: are you going to Convention and what decade would you choose? Email me at bonnie4altrusa@gmail.com as soon as possible so we can finalize the decision and give you time to pull out your sewing machines (or engage the service of a professional seamstress)!

The Centennial Committee is also looking for the following information. Please help! In a few cases the deadlines have passed, but go ahead, anyway, if you haven't already done so.

Centennial Commemorative Book: We need your contributions by 31 October 2016 so please send any and all articles and photos to centennial@altrusa.org for inclusion. Remember we are wanting materials that cover all decades for the past 100 years. Each club could have one page of photos of members (formal or action) to be added to the Centennial Commemorative Book. Please identify each member in the photo. The deadline has passed but they may be accepted if you hurry!

Facebook: [Altrusa International Centennial](#) - Like us on Facebook – keep current on the Centennial news and historical information. We are including a "Throw Back Thursday" feature on the page where Anne Condran, our historian, is posting a weekly snippet from our 100 year history.

Centennial Appeal : Thank you to all members who have generously supported our appeal so far. We will be using the donated monies to fund our many centennial activities and appreciate your support. If members would like to support the appeal a donation form can be found on our International website in the Centennial Tool Kit.

100 for 100 Member Challenge: *Why do we need to register for the challenge?* Members who complete the challenge will receive a challenge pin. In order to get an idea of how many pins we will need to order we need to know how many members are taking part in the challenge. We will be summarizing the entries and sending this to your Districts to ensure that we capture the numbers for all those who are participating in the challenge.

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(CENTENNIAL Continued from page 4)

Centennial Merchandise: We have sent out a survey to all clubs asking for indications on quantities of items that your members will wish to purchase. We will collate the responses and this will form the basis for the product quantities that will be ordered. Product will be available for purchase at District conferences and International Convention. Please ensure your survey is submitted to centennial@altrusa.org by 5th November 2016.

Member Service Years: We want to honor our many members for their longevity of service. In November we will be sending out a survey to clubs so that they can indicate the names of those members who will in 2017 celebrate service milestones. Please keep an eye out for this.

Altrusa Leaders: Biographies and photos of Altrusan Leaders are still needed. Please send all information on Altrusans who have achieved recognition in their profession during the last 100 years to centennial@Altrusa.org. We know there are many more Altrusa Leaders than Eleanor Roosevelt and Dr. Lillian Gilbreth. Each club is entitled to submit one bio and photo of a member.



Join us in supporting the service of Altrusa Clubs with the **ASK 4 100 Fundraising Challenge!**

The Altrusa International Foundation Board of Trustees and the Education, Development & Marketing Committee

are excited to launch the challenge on social media in celebration of Altrusa International's hundredth year.

Our goal is to raise \$100,000 to be distributed from the International Foundation in grants that support the worldwide outreach of Altrusa Clubs in their communities. Altrusans perform acts of service and kindness (ASK) worldwide every day. The ASK 4 100 Fundraising Challenge connects those acts of service and kindness to the communities served by Altrusans, their friends, and family members.

The ASK 4 100 Fundraising Challenge allows for two ways to fundraise. You can simply go to the website to donate now or become part of our crowd funding website by signing up as an

individual, or as a team. Fundraisers receive a personalized web link to share via email, Facebook, Twitter, or other social media their photos, stories and videos of acts of service and kindness. Be creative and use your web link to honor your birthday, a promotion, or simply in recognition of your great work.

To sign up, please go to www.firstgiving.com/altrusafoundation or contact Shawna Kaiser, Foundation Administrator, at the International Foundation office.

Top fundraisers will be acknowledged and results of the ASK 4 100 Fundraising Challenge will be announced at the 2017 Nashville Centennial Convention.

Thank you for your continued support of the International Foundation and our Grants Programs.

Ida J. Hill, Ed.D.
2015-2017 Foundation Chair

Debby Weber
Education, Development & Marketing Chair

All About Service

by M J Thomas, District Ten Service Chair

Service – n. 1) the action of helping or doing work with/for someone.

2) a system supplying a public need

v. 1) perform routine maintenance or repair work (on a vehicle or machine, building)

Altrusa is synonymous with service. All of our projects fall into one of these three definitions! As our Clubs plan for their next year's activities, our service projects take precedence over all others; even our Fund Raising efforts have the goal of "funding our Service" projects.

So, as Altrusans, how can we best serve in our home Communities? How do we find where our Services are most needed? Oft times the "need" may find us. The volunteer community in your home town is a small group of committed people. Many of us "cross boundaries" as we provide services to others. We know others who are Greeters, Tutors, Food Bank volunteers, Children Advocates, etc. Most of us "serve" in multiple avenues. The Chamber of Commerce, Churches, and Community Efforts all provide us resources local of needs!

The Altrusan's effort to serve where most needed often involves just being aware.

As our Clubs search out our next Service Project, talking with other volunteers can often provide our group with a strong direction. Altrusans should always be in-tune with Literacy needs in our most vulnerable citizens. Reading in a Children's hospital ward, or to Elders in assisted living facilities, volunteering in Head Start programs as a reader...all help with the love of books and reading. Tutoring in ESL, Adult programs, local schools, and Libraries...all help!

Literacy programs are ever present. Schools need more aides, readers, volunteers for funding efforts, and adult help more than ever before in our history.

Feeding the hungry! Holidays provide an easy, volunteer opportunity. Food Banks, BackPacks4Kids, "Baskets for young families in need"...the list is endless, unfortunately! For your own private service, make your holiday meat into a hearty stew and take it to the homeless along the freeways! Serving into Styrofoam cups with plastic spoons, we can share our warm, nutritious blessings with those "on the move"!

Cold weather brings up the need for warm gloves, socks, and hats for our "at risk" citizens in our home town. Pick-up and drop-off in Coats for Kids programs; volunteering at shelters to cook, clean up after a meal, or serve, reaches out to the homeless and those down on their luck. Cooking a pie or prepping a salad for a Community- meal provides an easy opportunity for Altrusa! Taking a plate of your own family's meal to an Elder or Shut-in, could make the holiday bright for them in a very personal way! Packing & Shipping a Care Package for local active Military Persons is a great way to share Hometown love!

Finding your next Service is easy, once we open our eyes and hearts to the needs of those around our community! Happy hunting, Altrusa!

Membership Recruitment, Retention, and Development

Lois Sappington, District Ten Director/Membership, and
Judy Stubbs, Immediate Past Governor & New Club Building Chair

Ideas for recruiting new members:

- Invite a friend to lunch and share stories of Altrusa fun.
- Call some past Altrusans and invite them back.
- Create a special meeting program, such as a tea party, and invite potential members.
- Share posts of other clubs' service projects on your Facebook page.
- Create a press release and get it published....let people know about our good work.
- Let people know that we don't have time requirements like some other service organizations. We "do what we can, when we can." This will appeal to many.
- Get an Altrusa event placed in the church bulletin.
- Place a bulletin of welcome and membership envelope in the school office, Doctor's office, Hospital, Library, grocery store, College and at the Chamber of Commerce for distribution when new families come.
- Ask businesses and employers to sponsor or subsidize membership.
- Recruit people who are involved with the agencies we serve.
- Evaluate your community, talk to other people (Potential Members) about their community concerns/interests. Invite them to a meeting to give a presentation.
- Talk about the events and accomplishments of your club with potential members.

Keep the meetings interesting, fun and involve all of the members.

- Do a short survey from members to give ideas of interest for a program meeting.
- Have speakers come in for a short program speech on club interests or area needs and accomplishments.
- Have a hostess bring in a small surprise snack to a business meeting.
- Put up a few decorations for the holiday coming up such as Hearts for Valentine's Day.
- Play a short game such as "Who Am I" and give a prize to the winners. Get to know your members.
- Keep up with committee updates; if a committee is short on help, ask other committee members if they can spare an hour.
- Always appreciate other members for their labors; give a hug or a hand shake.
- Always remember that you do not know the difficulties that another member may be dealing with and be open minded, supportive and never critical.

Promote the value of being an Altrusan to potential members?

- One Million Dollar Liability Coverage at events
- Resources available from International & District
- Grants and Award incentives
- Legal Advisor and Parliamentarian available
- Marketing
- Self-satisfaction of being a member in a service organization
- Incredible networking opportunities
- Meet new people and make lifetime friends
- Develop new skills or build upon what you currently have – leadership, organization skills, team planning, project coordination

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(MEMBERSHIP, Continued from page 7)

Expand your horizons
Strengthen your personal mission
Develop personal skills such as patience and tolerance
The feeling of being energized and a renewed sense of satisfaction by making a difference
Expand upon the leader within you
Learn strategic thinking, change management and conflict resolution skills
Become more in touch with your community, its trends, issues, people and resources
It is a wonderful journey and you never know where it will take you!

Create a desire for new club members to serve in leadership positions?

Encourage new members with potential to become leaders – sometimes people just need to be asked
Host an officer training workshop for your club – it doesn't hurt for all members to have an understanding of the duties of your officers
Be a mentor to the new officers – doesn't hurt for each retiring officer to do this
Use the Altrusa International Resource Guide as a guide for the new club officers
Encourage new members to attend District Conference and as a club, try to set aside some operational funds to assist with the cost

Many of the ideas presented were taken from the *Altrusa Guide for Club Membership Committees*. For further ideas the entire Guide can be found at <http://members.altrusa.org/PDF/Manuals/2013%20Guide%20for%20Club%20Membership%20Committee.pdf>



District Ten Membership as of 11-8-16: 367

Welcome to our 15 newest Members (since last issue)!

Artesia, NM

Sue McGee-Chiodini joined on 11-7-16
Margo Rand joined on 11-7-16

Delta, CO

Linda Dysart joined on 10-22-16
Willyn Webb joined on 9-2-16
James Pinner joined on 9-2-16
Kaci Pinner joined on 9-2-16
Natira Orr joined on 9-2-16

Montrose, CO

Debbie Blanchard join on 8-26-16
Korey Hehn joined on 8-22-16
Diana Varey joined on 8-22-16

Pueblo, CO

Dagmar von Kalben joined on 9-23-16

Roswell, NM

Dianne Marley joined on 9-20-16
Evelynn Lopez joined on 11-8-16
Katie Roehl joined on 11-8-16

Ruidoso, NM

Carol Benfatti joined on 9-24-16



Awards

by René Eaton, Vice-Governor

As I travel from club to club for my visits, I am always amazed by the many qualified service and literacy projects that can be used for award entries. You may be saying to yourself “we never get an award even though we enter” or “why enter when the same clubs win every year!” Maybe, with the following suggestions, you will be encouraged to enter.

I have been honored to read many of the entries and they all have our Altrusa goals of Literacy and Service in mind. Some clubs feel like they do not have anyone qualified to write an award or that, maybe, they do not know how to write an entry. The majority of reasons they are disqualified is that the criteria was not followed.

It all starts with sitting down and beginning to write using your own words to summarize and describe the project. Use a well-thought-out process to capture accomplishments or contributions and describes the impact to the community.

Read general information and specifics on how your entry can meet the award criteria and qualifications. Develop a well-thought-out and organized entry. Describe what the project did to impact those you are serving. Exemplify how the project was outstanding, Explain details about your project. Use action verbs to describe the project to show the depth and breadth of achieving the project that sets it apart from the competition.

Ensure that the entry has all the required criteria, review for completeness, spelling, typos, omissions, incorrect grammar, inconsistent font size, relevancy to questions asked and the overall strength of your presentation

Let’s look briefly at a few of the criteria:

Actual hours spent working with the project.

You count hours working on your project, but consider adding the time spent preparing for the project, did you go buy books, this took time; did you decorate for a project, how many meetings did you spend planning it. These are a few more things to consider when combining hours.

Percentage of club members participating in project.

How many were on the committee preparing project, how many were at Board meeting when presented and how many members were at meeting when presented to your membership. Use percentages for member participation.

Evaluation relative to delivery. Example: “Jen Hanson District Ten Community Service Award”

Did the committee evaluate the project to see if it recognized outstanding Community Service and did it create an awareness of Altrusa’s commitment of service?

These are just a few items to consider when you are asked to send in an entry for an award. Ensure the criteria is followed, this is how you can be on your way to writing a great entry. Remember, it’s not the quantity of words in the entry, but the quality. Do not get discouraged, you can’t win if you do not enter.

All award entries are due April 1 (unless otherwise noted in the Award Information page on the website and in the Call to Conference).

A “winning” nomination begins with a well-thought-out process to capture extraordinary accomplishments and contributions. Consider sending an entry for an award.

For the most current award information refer to the Altrusa Website (districtten.altrusa.org) and in District Shared Files. International Award entries and ASTRA forms may be found on the International website (Altrusa.org): go to the Publications tab and then to Forms.

Club Happenings

Roswell

Altrusa Literacy Committee donated two bookcases, World Atlases, over 100 books and school and craft supplies to Boys & Girls After School Program on 9-8-2016 for World Literacy Day.



On Make a Difference Day, the Altrusa Park, Literacy, and Community Service Committees in Roswell held an event in Altrusa Park. The Breast Cancer Committee was also present and had a table there giving out information and goodies. It was a huge success with 250-300 people attending throughout the day and 21 Roswell Altrusans helping out!



The event also included the formal dedication by a City Councilor of the Altrusa Reading Grove, an area of the park where three benches and a sign had been purchased by the Roswell Club in the hopes that it will be used as a quiet, peaceful and shady area to sit and read.

The day included a drawing for four bicycles, a give-away of 400 books to adults and children, balloon animals, decorating Trick or Treat bags, petting a couple of alpacas, the Fire Department's obstacle course and meeting Sparky, the fire dog, a school-uniform exchange, games and prizes, the Imagination Blocks and play area and, last but not least, hot dogs, water, cookies and chips.

Tucumcari

Altrusa International of Tucumcari hosted their annual Cash Party at the Tucumcari Convention Center. This year's Cash Party theme was "Phantom of the Opera." Altrusa is pleased to



announce that the last two ticket holders, Beate Macias and Union Pacific of Tucumcari, decided to split the grand prize of \$15,000 and the runner up prize of \$500. Proceeds of the annual Cash Party benefits Altrusa community service projects throughout the year.

Montrose

Our project for Make a Difference day was a food drive to stock the shelves of Sharing Ministries. We set up at 3 locations to gather non-perishable food and cash donations. Specific committees – Service, Literacy, International Relations, Environmental, Literacy, and Educational Services – staffed each location. All donations were gathered and delivered to Sharing Ministries.

The weather was perfect for us as we assisted this organization that helps so many in our community. Sharing Ministries was grateful for our support.

We collected 467 pounds of food plus \$200 in cash donations for Sharing



Ruidoso



We distributed over 300 children's books in just one hour on Halloween.



We promoted our low-cost mammograms and tossed a lot of candy to little spectators at the Village of Ruidoso's Annual Aspenfest parade on October 1st.

CLUB OFFICERS' MONTHLY CHECKLIST

November

PRESIDENT

Begin work on election of club Nominating Committee.

Email or mail final report on Make a Difference Day report to International Office.

Observe International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on November 25.

Touch base with new members and make sure they are feeling welcome and well informed about Altrusa.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Same

TREASURER

Half-year dues for new members December 1 through March 31.

SECRETARY

Same

December

PRESIDENT

Half year dues for new members from December 1st through March 31st.

Observe Human Rights Day on December 10.

Mid-year review of Long Range Strategic Plan.

Mid-year evaluation of Club Program.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Assist the President in gathering committee reports to help with the mid-year Club evaluation.

TREASURER

Calculate new members and report to President for mid-year evaluation.

SECRETARY

Same including assisting with the mid-year club evaluation.

(CHECKLIST Continued on page 13)

(CHECKLIST Continued from page 12)

January

PRESIDENT

Elect club Nominating Committee composed of not less than 3 members elected by the membership at least 60 days prior to the elections held in March.

Have Bylaws, Resolutions and Recommendations (BRR) Committee start review for possible changes in Bylaws.

Elect Delegate/Alternate to District Conference at least 60 days prior to Conference. Send names of Delegates and Alternates to the District Secretary.

If club has Local Foundation, correspond with local Foundation President to assure it filed its Local Club Foundation Annual Report with the International Foundation when due in the Fall of each year.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Same

Touch base with committees to ensure programming is working for the good of the Club.

TREASURER

Remember new members pay half dues through March 31st

SECRETARY

Insure all minutes are signed and in order

Remind the President if there is any unfinished business

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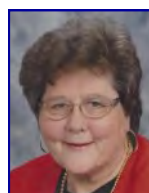
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