

## INSIDE

Disaster Relief Message.....	2
International President's Message.....	2
District Board Meets in Lake Mary.....	3
Get Ready for the 65th Dist Conf.....	4
In Memorium .....	5
Making Motions.....	6
Looking for a New Way .....	7
Call for Nominations.....	8
Committee Chair Spotlight.....	8
Int. District & Foundation Awards.....	9
Strategic Plan Approved.....	9
Strategic Plan 2018-2020.....	10
District Three New Members.....	11
Membership Report.....	12
The Transitional Houses.....	13
Caldwell County's MADD Project.....	14
Pajamas & Book Project.....	14
Altrusa Cares of Tampa.....	15
Gainesville's MADD Project.....	15
Special Thank You.....	15
Directors and Committee Chairs.....	16



## Governor's Message

Carroll Myers, a longtime member of the Atlanta club and a dear friend to many in the district, passed suddenly on Monday, October 30, 2017 from a diagnosis of multiple myeloma. Carroll was a caring Altrusan and a wonderful person. She will be truly missed (see the In Memoriam on page 5).

With much love & sympathy,  
Governor Christy

excited about the new opportunities and this strategic approach to supporting future district conferences. I'm sure we will be learning and tweaking the process as we make refinements along the way. See District Secretary Cathie Schanz's article for highlights of the Board meeting.



Fall is upon us and the year is drawing to a close. I want to thank each club throughout the district that completed 'Make A Difference Day' service project. I'm looking forward to hearing the details of the various activities and positive impacts to the communities in which we serve.

The District Three Board held its Mid-Year Board Meeting on October 13 - 14 at the Lake Mary Marriott in Florida which is the site of our 2018 Conference. The Conference Co-Chairs are Carol Thomas of the Orlando-Winter Park club and Lori Farfaglia of the Lake County club. Our conference planning approach has changed considerably and this will be our first year to 'kick the tires' on this new model. Tammy Hall, Program Coordinator, will be guiding us through the process which requires the District Board and committee chairs to take on more responsibilities since no club will be officially hosting the conference. I'm

The holiday season is already in gear with Halloween in October. Don't forget to cast your vote on November 7<sup>th</sup>. In addition, November is when we honor our Veterans; celebrate Thanksgiving, US Presidents, Native American Heritage Day, and shop on Black Friday and Cyber Monday! December ushers in Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and New Year's Eve.

Among all of this activity, the District has launched a Virtual Club Task Force and will be kicking off a new land based club in Mooresville, North Carolina. Let's keep the connections going - Happy New Year!

With much love and in Altrusa Service,

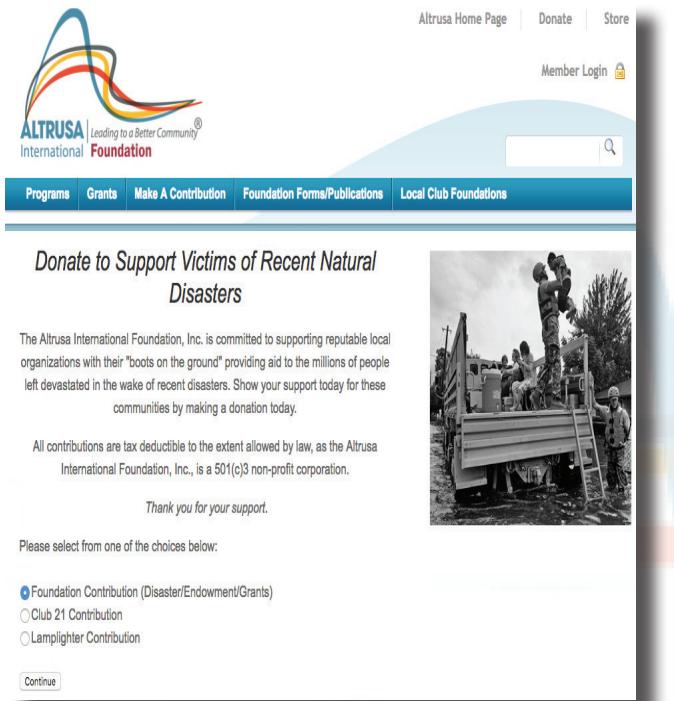
*Christy*



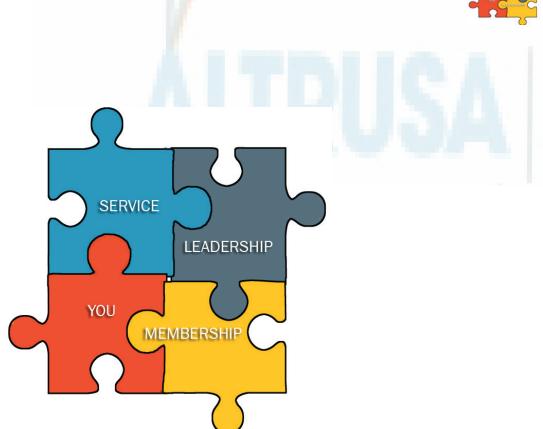
## Support Victims of Recent Disasters...Donate

The Altrusa International Foundation continues to accept donations to support the victims of the recent natural disasters. Show your support with your tax deductible donations. See the International Foundations site for a link to the Foundations Contribution (Disaster/Endowment/Grants) link.

Copy and paste the following link:  
<https://foundation.altrusa.org/Make-A-Contributio-n.aspx>



The screenshot shows the Altrusa International Foundation website. At the top, there is a logo with the text 'ALTRUSA International Foundation' and a tagline 'Leading to a Better Community'. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Altrusa Home Page', 'Donate', 'Store', 'Member Login', 'Programs', 'Grants', 'Make A Contribution', 'Foundation Forms/Publications', and 'Local Club Foundations'. Below the navigation, a section titled 'Donate to Support Victims of Recent Natural Disasters' is displayed. It includes a paragraph about the foundation's commitment to supporting local organizations in disasters, a photo of people working on a truck, and a list of contribution types: 'Foundation Contribution (Disaster/Endowment/Grants)', 'Club 21 Contribution', and 'Lamplighter Contribution'. A 'Continue' button is at the bottom.



## International President's Message



It has been truly inspiring reading of the great service projects that Altrusans around the world are doing. We have celebrated International Literacy Day in September with a wide range of projects supporting people of all ages in improving their literacy skills. Clubs have been planning projects that will "Make a Difference" in October and Altrusans have been reaching out to victims of the many natural disasters, floods, fires and earthquakes that have plagued communities around the world in recent months. Thank you to each and every one of you who have served as you reached out into communities' world wide.

Your International Board, Programme Committee members and Task Force members have been busy working on a number of strategic initiatives to support our new Strategic Plan. I would like to thank all of them for the work they are undertaking to create new programmes and tools that will assist you in helping Altrusa grow from strength to strength in the future. While our Strategic Plan provides a clear plan for the next five years we need each and every member to take ownership of the plan. Remember "Together everyone achieves more".



*Leanne Milligan*

Leanne Milligan  
International President.

### Governor's Contact Info:

**Christy R. Bryant**  
**8940 Providence Estates Court**  
**Charlotte, NC 28270**  
**Email: christybryant@windstream.net**  
**(H) 704-321-2902**  
**(C) 980-229-3110**

## *District Board Meets in Lake Mary Florida*

*By Cathie Schanz District Three Secretary*

Your 2017-19 District Three Board recently held the mid-year board meeting at the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, Florida, site of the 2018 District Conference.

The board had a pre-meeting get together, dinner, then got right to District business Friday night. The board meeting was very productive as the board thoughtfully discussed your District financial and committee reports before adjourning for the evening.

After an early breakfast on Saturday, the board resumed the meeting and finalized District business with final committee reports, review of District policy updates, and review of the strategic plan. Virtual clubs were

discussed and a task force was established. After a discussion on the Hurricane Irma Disaster relief, the board moved on to conference business with a thorough review of the 2017 conference evaluation survey.

**District Three Board Members**  
The board then toured the 2018 Conference facilities with the onsite event manager, Program Coordinator Tammy Hall, and conference co-chairs Carol Thomas & Lori Fargaglia. The property is perfect for our District Three Conference! The location is convenient for access, shopping, restaurants, and more.

Excited about the upcoming conference, the board discussed conference business in great detail then finalized

District business and closed the meeting with the Altrusa Benedicton.

We are excited about the upcoming 2018 District Conference and hope this will be our biggest District Conference yet... you won't want to miss it!



*'Like a missing piece  
in  
a puzzle, your skills,  
expertise and natural  
talents are needed to  
complete the picture  
which will ensure  
Altrusa and District  
Three are here 100  
years from now'.*

*Governor Christy's July Monthly  
Newsletter*



District Three Board Members

*Get Ready for the 65th District Three Conference*

By Carol Thomas Lori Farfaglia, District Three Conference Co-chair

# Altrusa International

## 65<sup>th</sup> Annual District Three Conference

**May 3-5, 2018**

**In a Tropical Paradise**

Sunsets, Palm Trees & Pink Flamingoes

**At the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, Florida**

Hotel Registrations are now available on the Marriott Hotel web site

**Location: Orlando Marriott Lake Mary**

1501 International Parkway, Lake Mary FL, 32746

**Event: Altrusa International District Three Conference**

**Booking Rate \$129.00 per night**

available 05/02/18 to 05/06/18 Book by 04/11/18

**RUSA** | *Leading to a Better Community*

Conference Chair and Co-Chair Carol Thomas and Lori Farfaglia

Any questions contact the following email: [carol.thomas1211@gmail.com](mailto:carol.thomas1211@gmail.com)



## *In Memorium Remembering Carroll Myers*

By Christy Bryant, Governor and District Three Members

We honor the memory of Carroll Myers, a member of the Atlanta, GA club. Carroll was an active and long standing leader in District Three.

She became an Altrusan in 1990 and served as club president 1994-1995 and 2002-2003. She was elected District Director in 1997, under the name Tallman, before she changed it back to her maiden name of Myers.

In 1999, Carroll was editing the DSB and in 2002, she served as District Treasurer. In 2006-2007, Carroll was Altrusan of the Year. Carroll served

as District Three Foundation Trustee and Webmaster for many years.

Most recently, Carroll was the recipient of the "Spirit Award" at the 2017 District Conference in Winston-Salem. She was a dear soul and loved by so many. She will truly be missed....

*"We make a living by what we get;  
we make a life by what we give."*

Winston Churchill



Carroll with fellow Altrusan, the late Connie Cannon



Carroll holding her "Spirit Award" trophy at the Winston Salem Conference in May 2017

*"Carroll was a true Altrusan in everything she did. I cannot remember her ever saying no and it was always with a smile. I recall working with Carroll in the early days of getting the District web site operational and making the club rosters available to everyone through that mechanism. No matter how difficult the problem was that needed to be solved, Carroll found the answer. She will be greatly missed."*

Donna Johnson,  
Past District Three Governor, Past International President

*"Carroll and I became close when I was Governor-Elect. When I was scheduled to visit a club, I would ask Carroll to go with me to talk about the Foundation, which she loved. We spent lots of time in the car getting to know each other. When I asked Carroll if she would consider being my Webmaster, she smiled as she said "I will do it one more time, for you."*

*Thank you Carroll and thank you for the sweet memories.  
Norma Teuton,  
Immediate Past District Three Governor*



Carroll and Atlanta club members at the 2012 conference in Sandy Springs Georgia



# ***Making Motions and Getting the Business of the Group Accomplished***

By Colleen Duris, District Three Parliamentarian

**S**o, you want to bring a matter before the club membership. How to do it? Many times a discussion results in someone stating “SO MOVED” and all moves forward, but does everyone really know what is being voted on?

For any business to come before the group a motion must be made to allow discussion. That type of motion is called a “main motion”. To start the process a member should rise and be recognized by the chair in order to present their motion. The motion may be verbal or in writing. In writing, although more time consuming, is really the best method to allow the presiding officer to be able to read exactly what is being asked, to ensure that the members know exactly what they are voting on AND for the secretary to be able to reflect an accurate account. All main motions must be seconded before stated by the chair. Before the chair states the motion another member may give informal suggestions to modify the motion for clarification or other minor purposes. The member who made the motion may accept or reject those suggestions. Once the motion has been stated by the chair changes to the motion may only be made through other subsidiary motions or by unanimous consent to modify by the original maker. The maker of the motion has the right to speak first on the motion. If a motion is not acceptable in its first proposed form there are a variety of ways to modify the motion. Some of those ways include amendment, referral to Committee or postponing the question.

To amend a motion a member may state an amendment that is germane to the main question. Typically it comes in the form of inserting, adding or striking out something from the original motion. An amendment to a motion must be seconded, is debatable and requires a majority vote. If the amendment is approved by the voting body, then the original main motion would be debated and voted on “as amended”.

If during the course of debate on a motion it appears that more information or research is needed, one may want to move to commit or refer the motion. In essence, this takes the action away from the voting body at that time and turns it over to a committee to review, possibly take action and report back to the group. When proposing to send the item to a committee, one should state which committee, if it is a standing committee or the make up of the committee, (i.e. number of people, officers, etc.). The motion should also contain action required of the committee and when they should report back. The motion to commit must be seconded, is debatable and requires a majority vote.

Alternatively, if a member believes the timing for the main motion is wrong, he or she can move to postpone to a time certain. If passed, this removes the motion from discussion until a later time. The motion to postpone to a time certain requires a second, is debatable and requires a majority vote (typically). It sets a time certain for the question to come back before the

group.

At all times during any of the discussions listed above,

any member may move the previous question, otherwise known as “call the question”. This motion requires a second, is not debatable and requires a two-thirds vote. If someone “calls the question” they are asking for debate to end and an immediate vote taken on the main question. If the vote to call the question is in the affirmative, then the vote on the main motion immediately follows.

If the group simply decides this motion is not working as it is, the motion can be made to withdraw, either by motion by the original maker and through the unanimous consent of the members.

If, after a motion has passed, a member wishes to change what was voted on, the member can move to rescind or amend something previously adopted. A motion to rescind terminates what was previously decided. A motion to amend something previously adopted simply changes what was decided. Both of these motions must be seconded and are debatable. If previous notice has been given that the matter will be taken up at the meeting, then a majority vote is sufficient. If notice has not been provided, then a two-thirds vote is needed. If by any chance action has been taken



## *Making Motions (continued)*

based upon the previous vote, i.e. an individual notified a scholarship was accepted, than the motions to rescind or amend something previously adopted are not allowed.

By following parliamentary procedure, the business matters to come before the members can flow smoothly and allow the input and choices of the majority.



**Diversity  
Different  
Individuals  
Valuing  
Each other  
Regardless of  
Skin (color),  
Intellect,  
Talents, or  
Years (age)**

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Nov. 16th International Day of Older Persons
- Nov. 25th International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

## ***Looking For A New Way To Become An Altrusan?***

By Jane Gray, New Club Building Committee Chair

Do you live in a community that doesn't have an Altrusa club? Has your club recently disbanded, yet there is a small core group that wants to continue the work of the club? Then creating and joining a Virtual Club is an answer! A Virtual Club does not have geographic boundaries (other than the District) and that means it can have members from all four states within District Three! A Virtual Club Task Force – with past Governor Robin Hall and past District Secretary Susy Meier as members – has been working hard to put together the nuts and bolts of forming Virtual Clubs within the framework of Altrusa International policies.

The Task Force unveiled the Virtual Club Guide at the 2017 Convention and a Tool Kit is on the International website. The Tool Kit includes FAQ's, the Guide, bylaws, Club Formation Form, invitation letter, Virtual Club meeting guide, Service Projects, and more! There is additional work to be done, but Altrusa is leading the way. Mini task forces are investigating how finances of Virtual Clubs will be handled and how they will be incorporated. You can expect answers soon. Governor Christy has already been in contact with former members of the Asheville, NC club and former Governor Robin recently moved to an area without a club and is ready to

be in the first District Three Virtual Club! As usual, District Three is in the forefront of accepting the challenges that changing times present. Thanks to Susy who is working on virtual platforms so that these clubs can communicate effectively. I'd also like to pass along that International is streamlining the process for forming "regular" Clubs and former Governor Norma Teuton is on the Membership Development Committee. She said her Committee is preparing a Tool Kit for those as well. Now there is no excuse not to be an Altrusan!



## Call for Nominations to District Three Foundation Board

By Kitty McElhaney, Governor-Elect

Looking for a new opportunity to serve Altrusa at the District level?

Consider serving on the District Three Foundation Board!

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 serve 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 Three Conference in May

2018 in Lake Mary, Florida. At this time, to be eligible for election as a Foundation Trustee a 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 or club foundation chair. The Foundation Board is making a Bylaw change in the eligibility requirement to include being a member for a minimum of five (5) years and served on a 501 (3c) Foundation Board external to Altrusa.

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

Interested Altrusans should contact me for a nomination form that is to be completed by a Club President,

District Officer  
Past Governor.  
Completed forms  
are due January  
14, 2018.

Looking forward  
to hearing from  
energetic nomi-  
nees!

Kitty McElhaney, Governor-Elect  
[altrusankitty@comcast.net](mailto:altrusankitty@comcast.net)



## Committee Chair Spotlight

Roberta Klusmeier, Membership



I was born in Long Island, New York and have a twin sister and an older sister.

My family moved to Cape Coral, Florida in 1965. I married my husband Don in 1979 and have no children. We moved to Orlando in 1984 and live in Apopka. I worked for Bank of America for 23 years and worked with the Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Dept. Heads as an Administrative Assistant.

Don and I currently are the owners/Property Managers of six rental homes in Eustis, Florida and Bowling Green Kentucky. I became an Altrusan in 1991 and will celebrate 25 years this January. I have held the position of Club President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Director. In addition, I also am the Chair of the Eleanor J. Mathews Art Scholarship Awards. We have given over \$100,000 to the four area colleges. We hold a dinner every April where the recipients of the Scholarship award mingle with

the members and show their art work.

I just celebrated one year with Cornerstone Hospice as a volunteer of which I find very rewarding. Altrusa is an important part of my life and I have made many friends over the years. Making a difference is something we strive for every day and I feel fulfilled in being a part of this wonderful organization.



# *International, District and Foundation Awards*

By Cheryl Meyers



Application deadlines are fast approaching for awards to be given at the next

Conference. January 31, 2018, will be here before you know it! It's time to start thinking about which of your projects will apply to which award and who can be assigned to fill out the application for your club.

## **NOTE: International has updated the applications for:**

- Mamie L. Bass Service Award
- Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award
- Letha H. Brown Literacy Award

**BE SURE YOU HAVE THE VERSION THAT SAYS "REVISED AUGUST 2017" AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.**

**When you have the project to go with the award and who will write the application from your club, please send applications to:**

### **International and District Three Awards:**

Vice Governor/Awards Chair  
Cheryl Meyers, 36 Cedarwood Drive, Waynesville, NC 28785  
[greatsmoky70@gmail.com](mailto:greatsmoky70@gmail.com)

### **Foundation Awards:**

Julie Keiper, 45 Town & Country Drive, Waynesville, NC 28786  
[julie@techstrategics.com](mailto:julie@techstrategics.com)

### **All Membership information**

should be in to:

Shannon Schell, 3171 Willow Brook Ln., The Villages, FL 32162  
[seszippy@aol.com](mailto:seszippy@aol.com)

You can find all the awards applications on the District Three website: [districtthree.altrusa.org](http://districtthree.altrusa.org) Look under "Resources" then select "Award Applications." You'll see the choices. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at any time. [greatsmoky70@gmail.com](mailto:greatsmoky70@gmail.com)



## **DSB Articles**

**Send DSB articles to Yolander Hunter, DSB Editor, email address: [dsbYolander@gmail.com](mailto:dsbYolander@gmail.com)**

- Please add 'DSB' as the first information in the subject line
- Include the name of the article in the subject line
- Send the article in a WORD document
- Identify any people in pictures
- Have a picture, please attach as a jpg
- Provide the full contact information of the writer or article submitter

## ***Strategic Plan Approved***

During the Mid-year Board meeting at Lake Mary, Florida, the District Three Board reviewed and approved the 2018-2020 District LRSP 1-pager for final approval by the membership at the 2018 District Conference at Lake Mary, Florida. This district plan aligns with the International plan and provides guidance to club-level plans. A conference call will be scheduled in November to review the plan and to address any questions.





## Altrusa International District Three, Inc. Strategic Plan - 2018-2020



<b>Vision:</b> Altrusa is a leader among international organizations improving communities worldwide through a network of member clubs.	<b>Mission:</b> To improve communities worldwide by providing service, developing leadership, fostering international understanding and encouraging fellowship through an international network of dedicated volunteers.	<b>Brand:</b> Leading to a Better Community <b>Brand Anchors:</b> Flexibility, Inclusion, Clarity	<b>Measures:</b> 1.Member Numbers 2.Member Satisfaction Rating 3.Service Hours and Fundraising \$ 4.Website hits 5.Social Media Connections
<b>Service</b> Inspire profile enhancing Service Projects	Facilitate the sharing of service project ideas	<b>Support a District Service Project</b> Seek out new opportunities for addressing Literacy needs in our communities Inspire service projects/fundraisers through a data base/tool kit Encourage new more flexible & inclusive service projects	<b>Support a District Service Project</b> Seek out new opportunities for addressing Literacy needs in our communities Inspire service projects/fundraisers through a data base/tool kit Encourage new more flexible & inclusive service projects
<b>Marketing</b> Enhance the flow of Altrusa information internally and with external parties	Enhance bi-directional flow of information within Altrusa	<b>Share</b> information through the District Service Bulletin <b>Collect</b> feedback via on-line surveys (Members to District) <b>Develop</b> a comprehensive marketing plan including best practice guides/tool kits <b>Enhance</b> the social media strategy/policy to communicate with prospects & members. <b>Enhance</b> the District Three website for potential members & intuitive one for members.	<b>Share</b> information through the District Service Bulletin <b>Collect</b> feedback via on-line surveys (Members to District) <b>Develop</b> a comprehensive marketing plan including best practice guides/tool kits <b>Enhance</b> the social media strategy/policy to communicate with prospects & members. <b>Enhance</b> the District Three website for potential members & intuitive one for members.
<b>Members</b> Increase membership Numbers to 1,000 members by 2020	Recruit & Retain a diverse membership	<b>Embrace</b> change and diversity <b>Expansion</b> of ASTRA clubs with focus on transition to Altrusa <b>Improve</b> resources for the effective recruiting of new members <b>Promote</b> activities that are attractive to potential and younger members <b>Engage</b> members in their Altrusa journey via service & personal interactions	<b>Embrace</b> change and diversity <b>Expansion</b> of ASTRA clubs with focus on transition to Altrusa <b>Improve</b> resources for the effective recruiting of new members <b>Promote</b> activities that are attractive to potential and younger members <b>Engage</b> members in their Altrusa journey via service & personal interactions
<b>Leaders</b> Create a pipeline of strong Altrusa Leaders	Develop leadership at all levels of Altrusa	<b>Cultivate</b> a training track for new leaders (train the trainers) <b>Create</b> tools/best practice guidelines to build new leaders <b>Support</b> a mentoring programme <b>Remove</b> barriers to growing new leaders	<b>Cultivate</b> a training track for new leaders (train the trainers) <b>Create</b> tools/best practice guidelines to build new leaders <b>Support</b> a mentoring programme <b>Remove</b> barriers to growing new leaders
<b>Member Service</b> Inform, Update and Educate members	Respond to member needs in a timely manner	<b>Enhance</b> collection and reporting of membership data through Group Tally <b>Produce</b> tools/resources to support District/Clubs and members <b>Provide</b> District Service Bulletin, District Website, District workshops, email communications and other services	<b>Enhance</b> collection and reporting of membership data through Group Tally <b>Produce</b> tools/resources to support District/Clubs and members <b>Provide</b> District Service Bulletin, District Website, District workshops, email communications and other services





## *District Three New Members*



### **NEW MEMBERS: August 16 – October 15, 2017**

<b>New Member</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Joined</b>
<b>ORLANDO-WINTER PARK</b>		
Lesa Castrillo	Yvette Pue	August
Lyn Goddard	Randi Kahl	August
Traci Jones	Carol Denton	August
Suzanne Lynch	Roberta Klusmeier	August
<b>LAKE CITY</b>		
Laura Fowler Goss	Dennie Decker/Mantha Young	September
Shellie Young	Mantha Young/Jill Adams	September
<b>GAINESVILLE</b>		
Pamela Morse	Sara Freeborn/Donna Johnson	October





## Altrusa International District Three, Inc. Membership Report

Shannon Schell  
District Three Treasurer

### Altrusa International District Three, Inc. MEMBERSHIP REPORT as of October 31, 2017

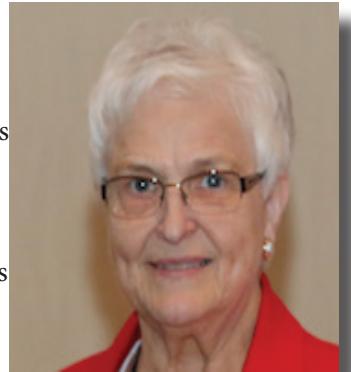


CLUB	Paid Members	Emeritus	Lifetime	TOTAL MEMBERS
<b>Florida</b>				
1 Citrus County	23			23
2 Gainesville	57	7	1	65
3 Lake City	104			104
4 Lake County	26			26
5 Live Oak	22	1		23
6 Marianna	26	2		28
7 Monticello	20			20
8 Ocala	33			33
9 Orlando-Winter Park	25	2		27
10 St Augustine	19	1		20
11 Starke	46	1		47
12 Tampa Bay	18	2		20
<b>TOTAL FL</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>436</b>
<b>Georgia</b>				
1 Atlanta	7			7
2 North Georgia	24	3		27
3 Statesboro	29	1		30
<b>TOTAL GA</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>North Carolina</b>				
1 Caldwell County	4	1		5
2 Charlotte	24	2		26
3 Durham	6	1		7
4 Gastonia	16	1		17
5 Raleigh	17	1	1	19
6 Salisbury	20	1		21
7 Waynesville	23			23
<b>TOTAL NC</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>South Carolina</b>				
1 Anderson	11	1		12
2 Gaffney	7			7
3 Spartanburg	38	2		40
<b>TOTAL SC</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Affiliate Members</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>REPORT SUMMARY:</b>				
<b>Active Members</b>	<b>645</b>			
<b>Emeritus Members</b>	<b>32</b>			
<b>Lifetime Members</b>	<b>2</b>			
<b>Affiliate Members</b>	<b>1</b>			
<b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>680</b>			



# *The Transitional Houses... Why we Adopted Them*

By Gail HackettAltrusa Spartanburg Club President



**T**he Hope Center for Children was formed when the Ellen Hines Smith Girls' Home and The Children's Shelter of the Upstate combined forces to provide a broader array of services in building stable, healthy families and providing children a safe place from abuse and neglect.

The Hope Center consists of several buildings, each housing different age groups. In 2015, Our club decided to work with the Transitional Houses because they had received the least attention from other community groups. The youth in these homes are ages 16-22 who would otherwise be homeless. To live there, they must work and/or go to school. They are provided safe shelter, food, hope and support while they work toward their goals, one being self-sufficiency.

When our group visited, we discovered many needs, the first one being the lack of books or any reading materials in the house. In the fall of 2015, our Altrusa Club created a reading corner for the houses. We brought bookcases, bean bag chairs, a rug, and lamp, and collected a small library of books – pleasure reading, biographies, reference, dictionaries, SAT & GED prep, various other prep books, cookbooks, how-to, and spiritual books. This library was to serve as a resource to help them in their studies and to encourage reading development and a love of reading. We came back later in the spring to add more books to the library.

In 2016, our club held a Housewarm-

ing Party where we spent time with students and staff. We brought a wide variety of household goods – bath towels and accessories, bed linens, pillows, blankets, coverlets, cleaning supplies and products, rugs, lamps, and other items to spruce up one house. (The other house was in better shape.) We hung curtains and blinds, and had a great time with students and staff as we all worked together. We brought lunch, and many club members spent most of the day getting the house in order. We also provided more books, including up-to-date-prep books.

This year, 2017, most of the books they requested focus on vocational skills – books on parenting, cooking, how-to books (especially mechanics), GED, PSAT, ACT, SAT and other test preps, other how-to books (interview, resume writing, banking), cosmetology, communications, and child development. In addition, they asked for spiritual and devotional books, dictionaries, skills books, African American culture books, self-care books, fiction and non-fiction books, and books on how to find apartments and buy cars and other life skills.

We will bring lunch to share again and enjoy our time with the students and staff as we help them go through the books and get them shelved. While there, we will be looking for other needs they have, because we are invested in these students and staff, even as the residents come and go; we intend to continue our support. We are delivering the books and lunch on Make a Difference Day, and

our members are looking forward to celebrating this day in its true meaning. During the year, we will replenish the books as they are used and taken.

For Thanksgiving we are taking them dinner – enough dinner to last throughout the holiday!

In addition to caring for the Transitional Houses, we are also supporters of the Hope Center by donating money to their general fund, attending events to show our support, providing tutoring should the need arise, and looking for other ways we can assist this organization. Altrusa International of Spartanburg, SC, Inc. feels privileged to help the Hope Center for Children of the Upstate in Spartanburg, SC.



# Caldwell County's MADD Project

By Margaret Cannon, President

Members of Caldwell County club participated in a Make-A-Difference Day (MADD) project. Keeping in mind Altrusa International's request to focus on Vocational Services for this year's Make-A-Difference Day Project, Altrusa International of Caldwell County, North Carolina chose to support a shelter.

For years the Caldwell County club has supported "The Shelter Home of Caldwell County." The

home provides services for abused women and children. This year the Caldwell Country club decided to donate purses filled with items that the women from the home would need when going for a job interview.



Altrusans Margaret Cannon, Gaye Forbes & Toye Allen



## Pajamas and Book Project

By Marciana Segui

The Pajamas and Book Project got its start by a simple gesture of a very sweet little boy named Sebastian Segui, who is Marci Segui's son. Marci is a member of Altrusa International of St. Augustine. At the time, Sebastian was 6 years old and they were talking about different ways to help out their local community.

First, Sebastian and his cousin, Ian Segui, held their first lemonade stand and donated the money to The Homeless Coalition. Sebastian then came up with the idea to give presents to the children at The Homeless Coalition. Marci told Altrusa about what Sebastian was wanting to do for the children. Altrusa thought it was a great idea to give presents for the children's birthday.

When Sebastian and Marci delivered the presents for the first time and found out that the children loved their gifts, Sebastian wanted to keep

giving more gifts. Sebastian enjoyed shopping for the pajamas and filling their birthday bags.

Altrusa International of St. Augustine has allowed Sebastian's simple and kind gesture keep going and is now one of their main projects that helps bring joy to the children. When Altrusa first started the project, the gifts contained a brand new pair of pajamas and a book in a birthday bag.

Today, each child gets a backpack filled with pajamas, book, blanket with a birthday card. Marci's nephew, Zachary Segui, helps her deliver the backpacks now. Sebastian still helps Marci pick out the pajamas and books. Sebastian's idea has turned into a 10+ year monthly commitment visiting the Homeless Coalition and is still ongoing.

The women who work at The Homeless Coalition tell Marci that the chil-

dren really enjoy getting their gifts on their birthday and it is making a difference in their lives. This warms her heart knowing that Altrusa is making children feel special on their birthday. It just shows that a little kindness does go a long way. Marci would like to thank Altrusa International of St. Augustine and The Homeless Coalition for allowing Sebastian, Zachary and her to continue with this project.



Jean Harden, Joyce Curtin, Sebastian Segui & the birthday kids



## ***Altrusa Cares of Tampa Bay***

By Caylee Fredette

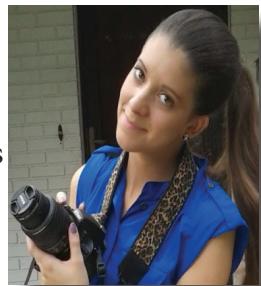
Altrusa Cares is our most active social projects this year. In this service project we aid The Forgotten Soldiers Outreach in their goal to continually encourage the men and women who are abroad fighting for our great nation. Our hope is to inspire hope, strength and courage while they are separated from loved ones, families, and their children. We wish to send them a piece of home even though they are miles away.

Our partnership is focused on sending "We Care" packages to the troops through Forgotten Soldiers Outreach. In these care packages our club supplies snacks, hygiene products, and comfort items to reg-

istered individuals, squadrons, battalions and hospitals. One of our members Caylee Fredette is a teacher at Knights Elementary School in Plant City, Florida. She has her students help to create uplifting letters of encouragement to accompany the supplies in the care packages.

The benefit of this project services not only our men and women in the military, but also the children who participate. The students who attend Knights Elementary School come from low socio-economic opportunities. This partnership with Altrusa allows them to make a lasting impact on society that they would not be

able to do otherwise. The students understand how truly important their letters are to the soldiers.



## ***Gainesville FL's MADD Project***

For their Make-A-Difference Day project, The Gainesville club participated in a vocational project at "Her Hope House." The facility is a home for women transitioning out of prison or off the streets. The house provides support with putting their lives back together. The vocational committee planned on a day of workshops for the women at "Her Hope House". Vocational activities include resume writing, practicing job interviewing and how to dress for success as they work towards re-entering into society.

In addition to the workshops and resume writing, members planned to gather supplies for Her House.



## ***A Special Thank You***

Charlotte North Carolina club Co-President Rey Wilson-Thompson wished to thank the members of District III for their many cards and encouraging words during her time of bereavement. Rey was overwhelmed with the outpouring of support she received after the loss of her father.

## *Board of Directors and Committee Chairs*

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2017-2019 District Three Committee Chairs

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Club Revitalization	Clara Marts	<a href="mailto:cimarts@fibrant.com">cimarts@fibrant.com</a>
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