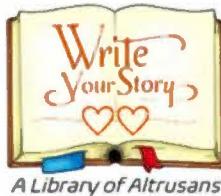




Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Ontario, Canada



DISTRICT SERVICE BULLETIN

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT TWO

Call to Conference WINTER 2026

District Two Governor's Message

**"BE WHO YOU WERE MEANT TO BE
AND YOU WILL SET THE WORLD ON FIRE"**

"BE WHO YOU WERE
MEANT TO BE AND YOU
WILL SET THE WORLD
On fire!"



Dear Altrusans,

With a new year comes new possibilities and new challenges. As we learn and grow as Altrusans, we also inspire and share with others.



One of the best opportunities for inspiration and renewal is the District Two Conference coming up in April. I am so excited to see the Conference taking form, and I can promise you an energetic and productive weekend for all who attend. The dedicated members of South Central, PA with the invaluable assistance of Reading-Berks, PA are preparing a Conference in York, PA that will share ideas, celebrate our achievements, and strengthen the bonds within our district, and I cordially invite each and every one of you to attend.

We are so fortunate to have the International President Chris DeVlieger as our International Representative to share some wisdom. Besides conducting the necessary business of the District, we'll have great workshops by visiting District Four and International Membership Committee member Gillian Allen, as well as leadership insight from our own Linda Dorr. There will be uplifting speakers, news from the International Foundation and a wonderful service project to benefit Hearts of Hope. For our Thursday Welcome Party, we're celebrating the 70th Conference by stepping back into the 70's! Wear your favorite bell-bottom pants or pantsuit, platform shoes, or bold prints like tie-dye or paisley while we enjoy disco music and maybe do the hustle!

If you haven't been to a District Conference before, come and see what you're missing. I also challenge every club to submit entries for District and International awards.

Governor's message continued on page 2

District Two
2025-2027 Board
of Directors

Governor
Brenda Ruby
Centre County, PA
BrendaRuby@gmail.com

Governor-Elect
Margaret "Ann" Tyndall
South Central, PA
ATyndall46@gmail.com

1st Vice Governor
Shari Gomez
Tidewater, VA
ShariGomez66@gmail.com

2nd Vice Governor
Patalia Tate
Montgomery Co., MD &
Washington DC
TatePatalia@gmail.com

Secretary
Amy R. Miller
Centre County, PA
AmyRMiller1@gmail.com

Treasurer
Antonetta M. Fleming
South Central, PA
Anneke51@comcast.net

Immediate Past Governor
Governor
Linda Dorr
Martinsville/Henry Co., VA
LRDorr@comcast.net

Parliamentarian
Beth Vann-Turnbull
Richmond, VA
Elizabeth.L.Vann@gmail.com

Director
Roxanne Barzona
Centre County, PA
RBarzona@gmail.com

Director
Sherral Nelson
Tidewater, VA
sherralnelson1@verizon.net

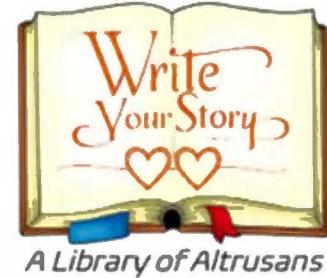
Governor's Message

Continued from page 1

If you can't attend, you can still attend upcoming Zoom workshops (more on those later). But if you can, make your hotel reservation, register online for the Conference itself, prepare award submissions and exhibits, and prepare items for the Foundation's silent auction. Conference season has begun!

All the best,
Brenda

Brenda B. Ruby
Governor, [District Two](#)
brendaruby@gmail.com



**All Aboard for York, PA
for the 70th District Two Conference
April 23rd to 26th, 2026**



 **WYNDHAM
GARDEN[®]**
York

2000 Loucks Rd,
York, PA 17408
[\(717\)846-9500](tel:(717)846-9500)

Traveling by car? Need directions? We have them!
Traveling by plane? Need a ride? We will have it!
Traveling by train? Need a ride? We have you covered!

For more information...contact Ann Tyndall
atyndall46@gmail.com

70th DISTRICT TWO CONFERENCE

Meet Our Conference
International Representative and
International President
Chris DeVlieger



Chris DeVlieger has been a dedicated Altrusan since 2003 as a member of the Altrusa International Club of DeKalb County, Illinois. Over more than two decades, she has served in nearly every level of leadership within the organization. Her service includes two terms as Club President, twelve years on the District Six Board—including District Governor—and a distinguished progression through International leadership roles. She has served as International Director, Treasurer, Vice President, President-Elect, and now proudly serves as International President for the 2025–2027 biennium. Chris is also a committed supporter of the Altrusa International Foundation and is a Hofmeister Lamplighter.

Professionally, Chris brings over 36 years of human resources leadership experience, with expertise in team development, organizational change, and systems improvement. She is widely recognized for her ability to mentor, teach, and inspire others, and has presented leadership and professional development topics for schools, nonprofits, and Altrusa audiences across all levels.

For the past 14 years, Chris has served as a Volunteer Coordinator for one of the nation's largest Feed My Starving Children MobilePacks. Mark your calendar if you should be in northern Illinois the second weekend in November and call Chris. She will gladly put you to work along with over 5,000 other volunteers that weekend. In addition to Altrusa and Feed My Starving Children, Chris serves on multiple nonprofit boards and committees in her community.

Chris holds a bachelor's degree in Management & Leadership and has been an adjunct instructor on human resources. In 2007, Chris took her career to a higher level in human resources by becoming a certified Dream Manager. (Yes – Chris and her employees get paid to dream!) She is a certified Professional Life Coach, a Real Colors facilitator and a Ramsey Solutions Master Financial Coach, teaching Financial Peace University classes several times a year. Chris currently works fulltime as Vice President of Enrichment at The Suter Company in Sycamore, Illinois.

Chris and her husband, Steve, will celebrate 37 years of marriage this April. They have two adult children—Jordan and Emily (an Altrusan) and a son-in-law, Joe. Outside of her professional and volunteer commitments, Chris enjoys gardening, antiquing, reading, traveling, and spending time at her family's lake house in northern Wisconsin.

Chris looks forward to returning to District Two to reconnect and spend time with fellow Altrusans.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Happy New Year, dear sister and brother Altrusans!

I am excited to start my second tenure as treasurer of District Two. Thank you for your support and the confidence in electing me again.

It's going to be a great Altrusa year!

I hope to see you all at the 70th District Two Conference in April in my neck of the woods, York, Pennsylvania. Please, stay safe,

In service and sisterhood,

Antonetta (Anneke) Fleming, District Two Treasurer South Central PA

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT TWO MEMBERSHIP REPORT

ending on December 31, 2025.

District Two Clubs	Active	Emeritus	Charter Strength		Life	Young Professional	Total
			Subtotal*				
Capital City, VA	18	1	18	0	0	0	19
Centre County PA	24	3	25	1	0	0	28
Fauquier County, VA	4	0	4	0	0	0	4
Martinsville/Henry County, VA	16	2	16	0	0	0	18
McKeesport, PA	6	0	7	0	1	0	7
Montgomery County, MD	24	0	25	1	0	0	25
New York, NY	4	1	6	0	0	0	5
Prince George's County, MD	8	0	14	0	0	0	8
Reading-Berks, PA	42	0	42	0	0	0	42
Richmond, VA	10	0	10	0	0	0	10
Rochester, NY	12	0	12	0	0	0	12
South Central, PA	18	0	18	0	0	0	18
Tidewater, VA	31	0	32	0	1	0	32
Washington, DC	2	2	4	0	0	0	4
Life Members, No Club Affiliation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emeritus Members, No Club Affiliation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Affiliate Members	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	14 Clubs	219	9	233	2	2	232

*Includes Dual Member



Prepared by:
 Antonetta (Anneke) Fleming
 Altrusa International District Two Treasurer
 South Central, PA
anneke51@comcast.net



ALTRUSA DISTRICT TWO

TREASURER'S VIRTUAL WORKSHOP



Everything you need to know
about being a treasurer!
STAY TUNED for Zoom link

Monday,
March 23,
7:00 PM

SKILLS

- How to log in
- Update club info
- Add a payment method
- International vs District
- Make a payment
- WHEN to make payments
- Questions???

DISTRICT TWO FALL WORKSHOPS 2025

AREA I - October 8th at West Newton, PA (McKeesport Club), 21 participants



Books and Bags Day was the theme, led by host President Melissa Kolesar with Diane Kolesar. Each club brought personal care items and children's books to donate, and all enjoyed tasty doughnuts. McKeesport welcomed a new member who was initiated by Sue Miller of Reading-Berks. Diane Kolesar, then, gave a brief presentation on the workings of Hope Ministries, followed by a delicious lunch donated by McKeesport members. After lunch, items such as toothpaste, soap, shampoo, and toilet paper were packed in individual bags to be given to Hope Ministries. The clubs also brought children's books which were sent to a local daycare. It was a fulfilling day!



AREA II - October 25th at Adelphi, MD (Prince George's County Club), 19 participants

We aim to strengthen our club membership, develop stronger communications skills, and work on team-building to foster a more collaborative and productive team and club environment.



The program included:

- Networking/Meet & Greet
- Welcome message/Workshop purpose and expectation
 - District Two update by Patalia Tate
 - Club Best Practices and Group discussion
- Membership Recruitment and Retention Group Discussion
 - Team Building Exercise focused: Leadership, Teamwork Situations, Problem-solving, Communication best practices
 - Hands-on project: Days for Girls - folding underwear and towels to be donated to Baltimore Days For Girls Chapter



**AREA III - October 4th, Chesapeake, VA
(Tidewater Club), 28 participants**

We enjoyed wonderful breakfast items at the opening social. An Ice Breaker, conducted by Lisa Carter from the Tidewater Club, brought Altrusans together based on a card provided by Lisa. After three times, everyone in the room was able to talk to each other.

Our speaker, Dr. Jeanne Natali, from the Director of Student Resource and Empowerment Center at Tidewater Community College, shared her story about how she found her calling to help students continue their education. Her perspective was very powerful when she described the struggles many students encounter as they work to improve their lives to be able to receive an education.

One of the service projects for this workshop included bringing items for Dr. Natali to take back to school to help students in need. Donations collected included baby items, individual food items, as well as cleaning supplies. After listening to our speaker, we enjoyed lunch and then began working on our next service project – cutting, folding, and ironing cloth for Days for Girls. Ellen Barta, from the Tidewater Club, coordinated the project and all participated in helping to prepare cloth for her to sew!

There were 28 participants - each eligible for free registration for our next District Two Conference in York, Pennsylvania. We had a wonderful time!



**One great BIG
Thank you!**

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥



ASTRA is the Future of Altrusa!

Our ASTRA Club of Atlee HS has started off our 2025 – 2026 school year with a great group of students.

We have many members who signed up at our “back to school” night that are anxious to get started attending meetings and working in our community.

The club has chosen to meet once a month and we are making progress with many activities that the students have chosen to do this year. We made postcards for the Veterans in October and Christmas Notes for the Staff at Atlee HS to thank them for their service at the school and for being exceptional leaders in December.

The students attended the Wreaths Across America Event on December 13, 2025 with Cindy Jennings of Altrusa International of Richmond, VA club, to honor the veterans.

This is one of their favorite activities that they love to attend each year.

In January 2026, we are going to do another “Blessing Bag” fundraiser at Atlee HS.

Students can donate items such as socks, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpaste, gloves, sanitizers, beef sticks, snacks and candy bars. They put the items in a gallon baggie and will distribute them throughout the communities in which we live to help those who are homeless.

In February 2026, we will make our Valentine goodie bags for the children of the families who apply with Housing Families First for assistance with homelessness.

ALTRUSANS – let's get started by speaking to a school in your area or even at a church where youth attend and may want to do community service. This is a great way to identify and develop their interest in participating in one of the many events that you and your club members facilitate in your area.

They will learn and grow so much that they decide to become an Altrusan one day!

My goal for this year is to establish another ASTRA Club or two or three!!! I know we can do it in District Two.

If you would like to talk to me about anything, you can email me at: cjewels4u@aol.com or call 804-241-8386. It is so worth giving it a try to see what you can do in your area! **Let's Chat Soon!**



Cindy Jennings
ASTRA Chair

Altrusa International District Two
Richmond, VA

cindy.jennings@trane.com



BYLAWS, RECOMMENDATIONS & RESOLUTIONS (BRR)



TIME-SENSITIVE NOTICE



SUBMISSION OF BYLAWS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS (BRR)

In alignment with Altrusa International and District Two governance, all District Board Members, Committee Chairs, Past Governors, and Clubs are required to submit proposed bylaws, resolutions, and recommendations to the District BRR Committee Chair, Cheryl Outen, no later than January 20, 2026.

This submission deadline ensures compliance with the required ninety (90)-day advance notice prior to the District Two Conference, scheduled for April 23–26, 2026.

Submission Requirements: Each proposal must be complete and include the following:

- Historical context, including background and rationale
- Proposed implementation date
- Identification of any bylaws or policies impacted by the change
 - Fiscal impact, if applicable
- A clearly stated suggested motion

Thorough and well-documented submissions are essential to ensure informed consideration by all stakeholders.

Circulation of Proposals: The District BRR Committee will distribute all submitted proposals to District Officers, District Committee Chairs, Past Governors, and Clubs at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual conference, no later than February 19, 2026. This timeline allows sufficient opportunity for review, discussion, and evaluation.

Key Considerations: All proposals should reflect the best interests of Altrusa, recognizing that approved changes may have a significant and lasting impact on the organization and its members.

Submissions should be thoughtful, well-reasoned, and aligned with Altrusa's mission and values.

Additional Resources: For detailed guidance on the submission process, please refer to pages 4–6 of the Altrusa International Official Policies.

If you have questions or require clarification, please contact:



Cheryl Outen
BRR Committee Chair
Altrusa International District Two
Capital City, VA
outen.cheryl@gmail.com





A Legacy of Connection and Record-Keeping

Thank you to every club that submitted a yearbook this year. Whether your club is large or small, maintaining a yearbook is a vital practice. While earning award recognition is a distinct honor, the true value of a yearbook lies in its role as a historical record and a functional resource for your members.

I am so pleased that I received eight yearbooks prior to the deadline. After reviewing each submission, I know how much work and time went in to your yearbooks because of the wealth of information they contained regarding local projects, membership, and club history.

The District Communications Committee serves as a vital liaison between local clubs and Altrusa International. Our mission is to promote positive public relations and increase the visibility of Altrusa within our District and our individual communities.

2025 Strategic Goals:

1. Consistent Outreach: Distribute monthly "Communication Bytes" to all club presidents and communications chairs.
2. Altrusa International events and critical updates to local clubs via professional press releases. Club Engagement: Encourage every club to maintain an active newsletter and an updated yearbook.
3. Award Excellence: Serve as the non-voting chair for the Ann Ayer District Two Yearbook Award and the Irene Mardis Newsletter Award, ensuring results are reported to the Governor within the designated timeframe.
4. Encourage Sharing: Promote the exchange of successful project ideas and event highlights through the District Two Service newsletter and the District Service Bulletin (DSB).

***Thank you to all our clubs for the remarkable service you
continue to provide to your communities.
Keep up the great work!***



Diane Kolesar
Communications Chair
Altrusa International District Two
McKeesport, PA
d_kolesar@hotmail.com



ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION CLUB 52



DON'T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A CHARTER MEMBER OF CLUB 52

At the 59th International Convention in Quebec City, Canada, we officially transitioned from Club 21 to Club 52. Two Hundred Seventy Four Members who attended the International Convention in July 2025 had the first chance to become Charter Members of Club 52. Looking ahead to the 2026 District Two Conference, you as an individual, as well as Club memberships will still have time to become Charter members until the May 31, 2026 deadline.

We celebrated the 30th anniversary of this powerful initiative of the Club 21 program that launched in 1997. Over the past 30 years, Club 21 has grown from a single camp for children with AIDS/HIV to supporting a wide range of programs for children facing physical, mental, and emotional disabilities, cancer and blood disorders, and other medical and socioeconomic challenges. Our reach now extends even further, encompassing international education and health initiatives. With this growth, the need for additional funding has increased. All who donated from July 2025 through May 31, 2026, including at Spring 2026 District Conferences or via our website will be recognized as CHARTER MEMBERS OF CLUB 52.

Clubs and Districts contributing \$252 or more during this period will also be recognized as Charter Members and will receive a Club 52 patch for their banners as a symbol of their commitment and impact.



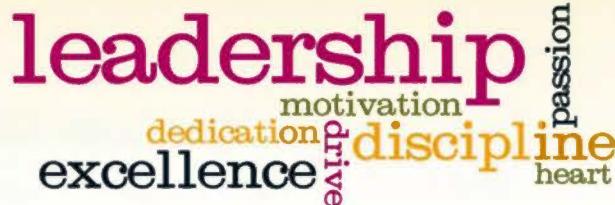
Carol James
Prince George's County
District Two
International Foundation Liaison
ctjaames@aol.com



ARE YOU A LEADER?



Do you currently or have you (whether Altrusa or another organization):



- Chaired a committee
- Run a meeting
- Led a project
- Raised a family
- Run a household
- Created a budget
- Supervised others
- Served as a club officer or director
- Served on a District Committee

If the answer is YES, YOU ARE A LEADER!



You don't necessarily have to be the one in charge to be a leader.

If you have successfully worked with others to achieve a goal, whether it be in Altrusa, at work, at home or in another organization, you are a leader.

Leaders know how to work with others to get things done.

They don't take the credit themselves for accomplishments; rather, they recognize that without the help and support of those they work with, the goal would not be achieved.



So what holds you back from taking a leadership role in your club or District?

Fear of making a mistake?

We all make mistakes. The key is to learn from them.

Not knowing how to do everything?

That's why we have mentors and experienced members in our clubs who are happy to help you.

Thinking you will have to do it all yourself?

That's why there are other members in the club to help you.

The next time someone asks you to take on a leadership role, SAY YES!



You are already a leader - put your skills to work and learn some new ones!



Deb Flage
Leadership Committee Chair
Altrusa International District Two
South Central, PA
dflage@verizon.net





When I first learned about Days for Girls in 2015–2016, I was appalled to discover that young girls in many parts of the world were managing their menstrual cycles using rags, corn cobs, paper, and other unsanitary materials. At the time, I had a 15-year-old daughter, and I could not imagine her being forced to endure such conditions. I knew then that I wanted to be involved in helping girls in other countries access safe and effective ways to care for themselves during their menstrual periods.

Even more disturbing was learning that in some regions, girls who begin menstruating are viewed as “women,” placing them at increased risk of exploitation, forced sex, and trafficking. Wanting to make a difference, I became involved with Days for Girls and started a team. Together, we sent menstrual kits to Ethiopia and Kenya. Through this work, I met incredible people while speaking with churches and women’s groups.

One of my most meaningful experiences was being invited by Altrusa International of Martinsville-Henry County to speak at a Area III Fall Workshop. My daughter joined me and together we spoke about the hardships girls face in other countries, as well as the life-changing impact of the work Days for Girls is doing.

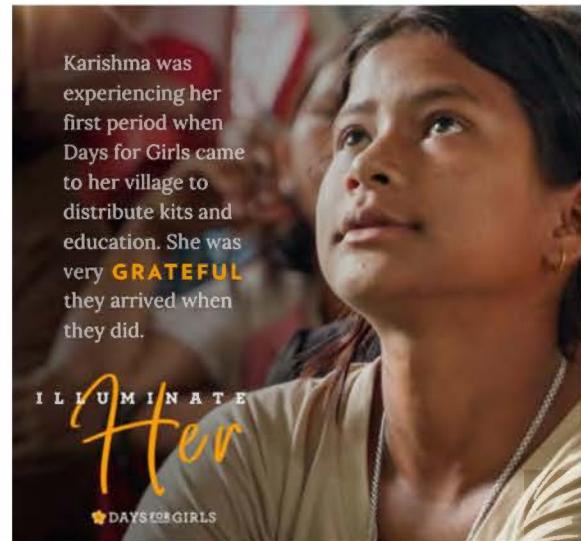
Nearly ten years later, significant progress has been made—but the need remains great. Recently, I read an article highlighting conditions in Uganda where only 22% of girls have access to sanitary pads. Many rely on unsanitary alternatives which negatively affect their health, confidence, and ability to attend school. For girls living in refugee settlements, the situation is even more severe. Days for Girls recently delivered and integrated menstrual health supplies within a refugee settlement hosting approximately 137,000 refugees. Through a one-month initiative, the project reached 1,500 women and girls with menstrual health education and washable Days for Girls kits—providing not only supplies, but dignity and knowledge.

This work was made possible through initiatives such as Illuminate Her, a Days for Girls campaign that ran through December 31, 2025, with a fundraising goal of \$50,000. Thanks to generous supporters, the campaign exceeded its goal, raising \$53,456. Projects like those in refugee settlements are only possible through continued initiatives and ongoing support. By contributing, we help promote dignity, improve health outcomes, and reduce menstrual stigma for young women living in conditions of displacement and uncertainty. Access to a Days for Girls kit is one less burden these girls have to carry.

While the Illuminate Her campaign was just one way to help, there is still much work to be done. Together, we can continue expanding access to menstrual health resources and ensure that young women everywhere can manage their periods safely and with dignity. My daughter and I still have a Days for Girls Team in Virginia Beach. I joined Altrusa and recently my daughter has also become a member.



Susan Corey
Days for Girls Chair
Altrusa International District Two.
Tidewater, VA
jnscorey@verizon.net



Membership

Development and Retention

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH THROUGH YOU!

Congratulations to all clubs who have retained or grew their membership numbers since the beginning of this club year!

District Conference is a few months away. Are you a First Timer to Conference?
You'll want to be!!

Our International Representative this year is International President Christine DeVlieger.
She and I have a fun-filled program planned EXCLUSIVELY for First Timers!
Come prepared to learn more about
WHO YOU WERE MEANT TO BE, and then, HOW TO SET THE WORLD ON FIRE!



10 New Year's Resolutions - 10 Opportunities to Find New Altrusans

1. Wear your Altrusa pin all day long on the day of your meeting.
2. Ask your members to change their Facebook cover picture to something about Altrusa and update it regularly.
3. Post pictures from a service project on Facebook and tag the agency and anyone who participated.
4. Encourage your family members to become Altrusans.
Be multi-generational.
5. When your club receives a donation, do you follow up with a thank you note?
A thank you note is always a good thing to do.
Consider adding how the money donated will make a difference.
Invite the donor to help with a project.
6. Plan a "January or February in Hawaii" Membership Drive party.
Dress in tropical attire. Hula anyone? Make it a fun event. Send party invitations.
7. Check International's Membership website page.
The team has developed "Membership Recruitment Guidelines" and has revised the "Recommendation for Membership" form.
8. Make contact with missing committee members.
9. Review your personal goals for making a difference in 2026.
10. Smile!

Membership Development & Retention - continued



CONGRATULATIONS! to all clubs initiating new members this 2025-2026 club year!

Capital City, VA - Lisa Sales

Martinsville/Henry County, VA - Janice Merkel - Jackie Thornton

McKeesport, PA - Paula Patriarco

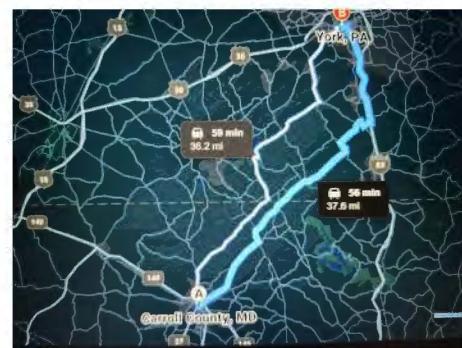
Montgomery County, MD Monica Parchment - Tina Mack -

Paulette Hendrick - Muriel Whorley

Prince George's County, MD - Jacquelyn Britt - Carolyn Morris-Carswell

Reading-Berks, PA - Lori Adamski

CAN YOU HELP
THE NEW CARROLL COUNTY, MD
CLUB ORGANIZE?



A new Altrusa club, Carroll County, MD, is in the process of organizing. Jeanette Wolfe, District Two New Club Building Co-Chair, and Rita Behofcist, a former South Central, PA club member, are working hard to make this happen.

Carroll County is part of the Central Maryland region of the state. It is bordered on the north by the Mason-Dixon line with Pennsylvania and on the south by Howard County across the Patapsco River.

Rita indicated York, PA is only 30 minutes away from where the club is meeting. With these facts in mind, can you think of someone who lives in this area as a potential for the Carroll County club?

If yes, please contact Jeanette at wolfej1@aol.com



Sue Miller
Membership Chair
Altrusa International District Two
Reading-Berks, PA
smemiller@comcast.net

“BE WHO YOU WERE
MEANT TO BE AND YOU
WILL SET THE WORLD
On fire!”



Become an Altrusan



Sue Miller
Membership Chair



Membership Half-Year Dues Opportunity

Altrusans,

This is a friendly reminder that half-year dues opened on December 1, 2025. Any new members added after this date will be charged the half-year dues rate valid through April, 2026.

To make payment convenient,

International Dues can be submitted in the following ways:

1. Online: Via Group Tally using a bank account or credit card.
2. By Mail: Send a check to the address below:

Altrusa International, Inc.
1400 E.Touhy Ave., Suite 410
Des Plaines, IL 60018

Altrusa International is a unique organization in that individuals are not solicited to "join Altrusa". Our members are invited to "become Altrusans".



Club Building: District Two News

District Two is gaining momentum with several exciting club-building initiatives across Maryland.

Carroll County Progress

Monthly meetings are underway for our newest group in Carroll County, Maryland. We extend special kudos to Rita Behofcist of the South Central, PA club, who is serving as the primary organizer.

We are also thrilled to welcome five new affiliate Altrusa members sponsored by Rita: Kim Bishop Clinedinst, Marsha Ansel, Lori Lewis, Jeanette Moratilla Wolfe and Gloreese Lathe.

This energetic group is already making an impact; they recently completed their first service project by collecting thirty bags of food to stock a local church pantry. What a wonderful start!

The Path to Chartering

To officially charter the Carroll County club, we need a total of fifteen members. Per International guidelines, at least eight must be affiliate members, while the remainder can be dual members. We already have dual membership commitments from our neighboring clubs in Montgomery County, MD, and South Central, PA. Our goal is to reach the "magic number" of eight affiliates in time for the York, PA District Conference. Carroll County is located one hour from York. If you know anyone in the Carroll County area who would make a great Alrusan, please reach out to us.

Looking Ahead: Hagerstown and Baltimore

Our expansion efforts don't stop in Carroll County. We are continuing to pursue a club in Hagerstown, MD, where we have already met with a promising lead.

Additionally, we are scheduling meetings with referrals to explore interest in a Baltimore, MD club. Please help us reach our biennial goal of increased membership and club building. Your referrals and support are the keys to our success!



Melissa Kolesar & Jeanette Wolfe
New Club Building Co-Chairs
Altrusa International District Two

McKeesport, PA
mkolesar05@gmail.com

Montgomery County, MD
wolfeJ1@aol.com



The Parliamentary Minute: FYI or FYA (For Your Approval)?



**As Parliamentarian of District Two,
I know all too well that sometimes
it's the simplest things that can trip us up.**

PARLIAMENTARIAN

An advisor skilled in parliamentary procedure, who can guide your board in conducting meetings effectively and in accordance with your bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order.

One example of something often unclear to folks is what to do once a financial report is presented.

Do we call for a motion, second, and then take a vote to approve it, so it's official?

Are we so grateful to have some money in our club account that we cheer...
get on with the meeting?

What do we do?!?

The answer is super simple.

The President simply says, "The financial report is filed for audit."

Reports are for informational purposes.

Votes (that are properly motioned and seconded, of course) are to take new action. Since the financial report is to inform, not propose new action, it needs no approval.

I hope this Parliamentary Minute is helpful to someone out there.
Wishing all my fellow Altrusans a Happy, Healthy New Year!



Beth Vann-Turnbull
Altrusa International District Two Parliamentarian
District Two Webmaster
Richmond, VA
Elizabeth.L.Vann@gmail.com





Service



'SHARE YOUR STORIES'

As we reflect on this winter season, we are reminded that the heart of Altrusa beats strongest through the service programs and projects led by our clubs across District Two. Each initiative—whether large or small—creates meaningful change in our communities and brings Altrusa's mission to life in powerful ways.

From literacy and education to community support and advocacy, District Two clubs continue to demonstrate creativity, compassion, and commitment through their service.

These efforts not only impact those we serve but also strengthen our visibility and voice within our communities.

As we move forward, I encourage each club to celebrate and share your service stories—with your community and with the District. By promoting your projects and reporting your activities, you help inspire fellow clubs, spark new ideas, and showcase the incredible collective impact of District Two.

Thank you to every Service Project Chair and club member for your dedication, leadership, and passion. Your work matters, and it deserves to be seen and celebrated. Together, we will continue to uplift our communities and one another through service.



Patalia Tate
President, Montgomery County
Altrusa International District Two 2nd Vice Governor
District Two Service Project Coordinator
tatepatalia@gmail.com

d2servicenewsletter@gmail.com for quarterly
District Service Newsletter submissions

District Two Service



Martinsville-Henry County, VA

held a Bring a Friend meeting where members and guests joined forces to fold 100 washcloths and panties for Days for Girls Kits supporting menstrual health and education for girls around the world.



Montgomery County, MD

volunteered at Shepherd's Table to help prepare and serve a hearty brunch to 147 guests. In addition to their volunteer work, the Club donated 1,000 trial size toiletries and a \$300 check to further support Shepherd's Table's mission.



Centre County, PA

answered an urgent call for students who are in need of food due to the elimination of critical food programs and the rising cost of groceries.

Anti-Hunger Backpacks are distributed to enrolled students each Friday. On this night, they packed more than 1600 Backpacks.

McKeesport, PA

welcomed local author, Brooke Auckerman, who read her popular "Loretta Owl" series at the McKeesport Regional History & Heritage Center. Families dropped in for stories, and the first ten children each day received a free book.



Prince George's County, MD

packed a box of school supplies for the school children in El Salvador. When the box arrived, the children were excited and thankful for the supplies and especially grateful for their assistance in helping with the needs of their students.



Tidewater, VA

created a Sensory Garden for dementia and memory loss patients at the Jones & Cabacoy Veterans Care Center. They began with donated pansies, and with their Foundation Grant and other donations, finished the fall planting phase. They will continue in the spring.

South Central, PA

had two book giveaways, one at Hummelstown Arts and Crafts Festival, where they gave away 588 books. Most were for the children. The second giveaway of 225 books was held at Wildwood Celebration Park Day.



Reading-Berks, PA

provided veterans at Veterans Making a Difference with a hearty homemade breakfast to thank them for their service.

It was a special day as they also distributed handmade winter hats to the men and women at the breakfast.





Support Our Soldiers

What is one of the most significant problems veterans face?

Veterans struggle most with the difficult transition to civilian life, facing challenges like finding purpose and identity, securing employment, and rebuilding social connections, alongside significant health issues such as PTSD, chronic pain, anxiety, depression, and substance abuse, often stemming from service-related trauma.

We as a community service organization have helped in many ways. Each club in District Two has a service project devoted to our veterans. I have talked with many veterans over the years, including my family members. They would always point out that it is the caring and thoughtfulness of people that makes the difference. Some veterans need more help than others, but all Veterans want to be remembered and respected.



Armed Forces Day

Armed Forces Day is a day for our citizens to unite and express our heartfelt gratitude to the nation's actively serving military members for their service. Celebrated on the third Saturday of every May, it is a time to recognize the sacrifices and contributions of our armed forces and to stand together in appreciation.

Memorial Day

Memorial Day is a day of solemn honor. Gen. John A. Logan declared May 30 as a day to decorate the graves of Union soldiers who died in the Civil War. After WWII, the name Memorial Day gradually became more common. As club members, we can demonstrate remembrance by placing flags on gravesites and sponsoring patriotic programs. There are many opportunities to honor our fallen with the utmost reverence and respect.

Veterans Day

Veterans Day, initially known as Armistice Day is a day of festivity and appreciation, celebrating and recognizing all who have served in the US Armed Forces, including those who have passed away. It was renamed in 1954.

Each of these days, as well as every day of the year, provides a unique opportunity to honor our veterans.

Let's make a difference this year by choosing to celebrate our veterans or their families.

Your participation can make a significant impact and show our veterans that they are not forgotten.



Roxanne Barzona
Support Our Soldiers Liaison
Altrusa International District Two
Centre County, PA
rbarzona@gmail.com



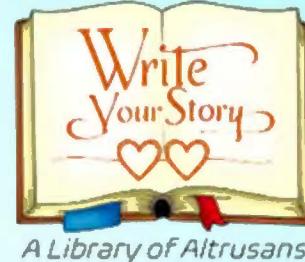
70th Annual District Two Conference

April 23-26, 2026

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 23, 2026

3:00 – 6:00 PM	Pre-Conference Board Meeting
6:00 – 6:30 PM	Flag Ceremony Practice
3:00 – 7:00 PM	Early Registration/Credentials Open
7:00 – 10:00 PM	Hospitality Room Welcome Party - Boogie into the 70's



Friday, April 24, 2026

7:30 AM	Exhibits, Sales & Silent Auction, Registration/Credentials
8:00 AM	First Timer's Meeting, Delegates Briefing, Flag Ceremony, First Business Session, Lunch with Speaker & Awards, Leadership & Membership Workshops
	Dinner on your own
7:30 PM	Town Hall Meeting

Saturday, April 25, 2026

7:30 AM	Exhibits, Sales & Silent Auction, Registration/Credentials, Elections
8:30 AM	Foundation Breakfast & Awards, Second Business Session
	Lunch on your own
2:00 PM	Service Project, Area Meetings
6:00 PM	Gavin's Gathering, Awards Banquet with Speaker

Sunday, April 26, 2026

8:30 AM	Interfaith Service
9:00 AM	Post-Conference Board Meeting



"BE WHO YOU WERE
MEANT TO BE AND YOU
WILL SET THE WORLD
On fire!"



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

[CLICK HERE](#)

for Conference On-Line Registration and Payment Options



70th District Two Conference

April 23-26, 2026

Meet Our Conference Speakers & Workshop Leaders



Dr. Steven Messner, Ph.D

- PRESIDENT, CEO, TRUSTEE RETIRED - CARSON LONG MILITARY ACADEMY
- MEMBER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
- CHAIRMAN OF THE PERRY COUNTY AMERICA250PA COMMITTEE



The Honorable Judge Eleni Dimitriou-Geishauser

- JUDGE FOR BERKS COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
- SUPERVISORY JUDGE PRESIDING OVER DRUG TREATMENT COURT, MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT COURT, AND DUI TREATMENT COURT.



Linda Dorr

- IMMEDIATE PAST DISTRICT TWO GOVERNOR
- INTERNATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR
- INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING VICE-CHAIR



Gillian Allen

- IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT DISTRICT FOUR - THIBODAUX, LA CLUB
- MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



HOTEL INFORMATION
Wyndham Garden York
2000 Loucks Rd.
York, PA 17408

(717)846-9500 - Front Desk
Reservation Information (see next page)
Altrusa Special Room Rate - \$147/night

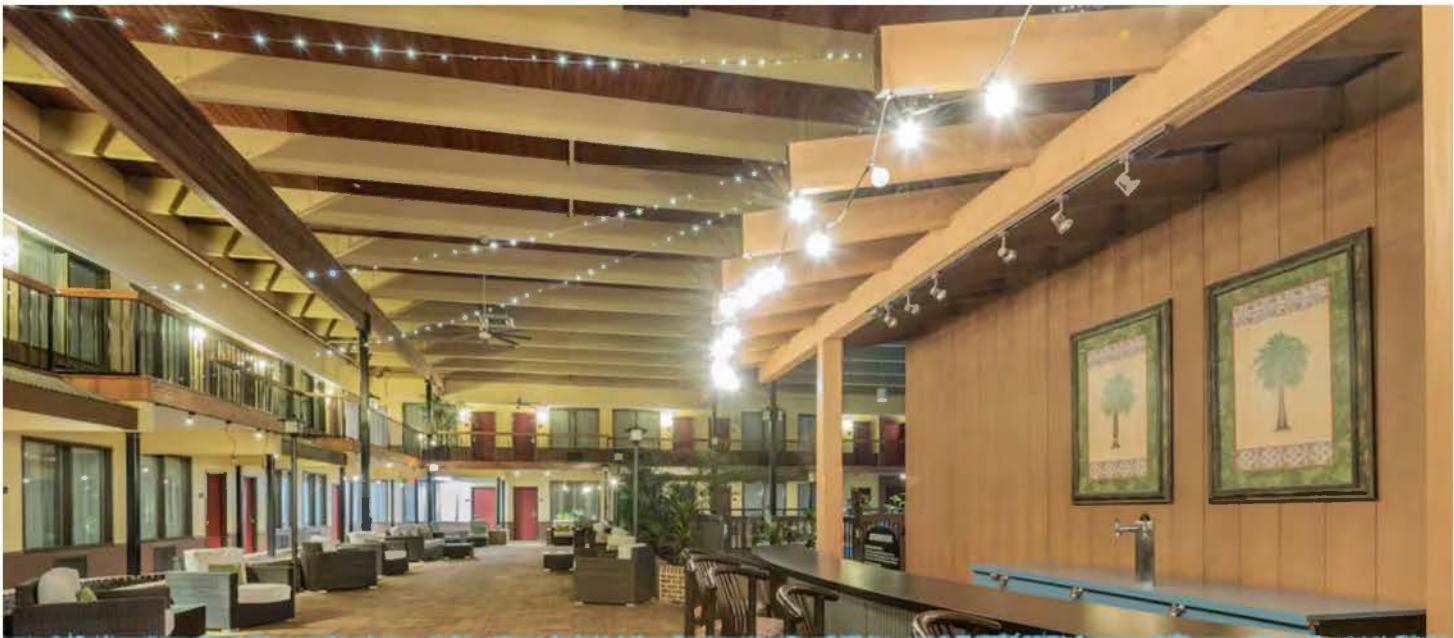
Hosted by South Central, PA and Reading-Berks, PA

CLICK HERE

Register Now!

**to register for the
70th District Two
Conference**





70th District Two Conference

Make Your Reservations Now!

TO BOOK A ROOM:

Call the Wyndham Garden York directly at (717)846-9500

Provide the following details to the front desk agent:

Your arrival and departure dates.

**State that you are with the Altrusa District Two Conference
to receive the special rate.**

CARD INFORMATION:

A credit card is required to hold the room. Payment will not be charged until check-in. You can use the card on file or another payment upon arrival.

CONFIRMATION

You will receive an email confirmation or can request your confirmation number over the phone. Make sure to mention the Altrusa District Two Conference when booking to secure the group rate!



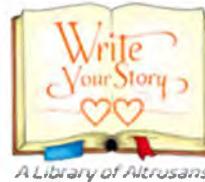
REGISTRATION FORM
70th ANNUAL DISTRICT TWO CONFERENCE

April 23 – 26, 2026

Wyndham Garden Hotel

2000 Loucks Road, York, PA 17408

(717) 846-9500 (Altrusa Conference - \$147/night)



Last Name	First Name	Altrusa Club/State
Street Address	City	State/Zip Code
Evening Phone	Email Address	Name on Badge

Please check ALL descriptions that apply to you for Altrusa year 2025-26:

Member First Timer Club President Delegate Alternate District Committee Chair Past Governor
 District Officer Past International President International Officer International Representative

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (Tentative starting times)

Thursday, April 23	3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Pre-Conference District Board Meeting 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. Early Registration/Credentials Open 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. Welcome Social – Hospitality Room
Friday, April 24	7:30 a.m. Registration/Credentials, First Timers Meeting, Delegates Briefing, Exhibits and Silent Auction, First Business Session, Workshops, Area Meetings
Saturday, April 25	7:30 am Registration/Credentials, Nominating Committee election, Foundation Breakfast, Second Business Session, Service Project, Awards Banquet
Sunday, April 26	8:30 am Interfaith Services, Post-Conference Board Meeting

ADVANCE REGISTRATION OPTIONS – Please select ONE plan:

Full Registration @ \$220.00 = \$ _____
 Board Member @ \$100.00 = \$ _____
 Friday Only @ \$125.00 = \$ _____
 Saturday Only @ \$165.00 = \$ _____

PLEASE SELECT YOUR SATURDAY BANQUET CHOICE BELOW:

Rustic Stuffed Chicken _____

Special Request Dietary Restriction _____

Parmesan Panko Crusted Fillet of Haddock _____

FOR GUESTS ONLY – Additional Meal Tickets

Friday luncheon @ \$25.00 = \$ _____
 Saturday breakfast @ \$25.00 = \$ _____
 Saturday Awards Banquet @ \$45.00 = \$ _____

LATE REGISTRATION FEE (Postmarked after 3/28/26 - NONREFUNDABLE) @ \$25.00 = \$ _____

Total Payment Enclosed: \$ _____ I will use online form to pay by credit card.

Registration includes Friday and Sunday breakfast (through hotel), Friday lunch, Saturday breakfast and dinner.

Please list any dietary requirements or physical needs: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

1. Make checks payable to: Altrusa District Two, Conference Account

Mail completed form with check to: Altrusa District Two Conference Treasurer

Attn: Antonetta Fleming

2468 Aspen Way, Harrisburg, PA 17110

2. **CLICK HERE** to register online and/or pay by credit card – **NOTE: there will be a 5% fee incurred.**



GETTING READY FOR AWARD SUBMISSIONS?



and scroll down to the very bottom of the page for all the Award Information and Forms

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS CHECKLIST

<https://login.altrusa.org/files/2024/02/Awards-Checklist-.pdf>

For International awards, please submit your awards applications on Award Forms dated January 2026 going forward. If you've already submitted an award application please resubmit on the updated form. Apologies for the inconvenience.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION FOR MAMIE L. BASS SERVICE AWARD

<https://files.constantcontact.com/67cb6814501/d74ceef0-0c78-4d3a-be16-6d4d052b11fb.pdf>

SUBMISSION INFORMATION FOR DR. NINA FAY CALHOUN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AWARD

<https://files.constantcontact.com/67cb6814501/14afd7af-a4df-47e6-a2f1-317b8aee6e0b.pdf>

SUBMISSION INFORMATION FOR LETHA H. BROWN/BETTY S. BROOKS LITERACY AWARD

<https://files.constantcontact.com/67cb6814501/86e079bf-ff0a-4a0f-a8d2-62c07f5f5f36.pdf>

• SUBMISSION INFORMATION FOR DISTRICT TWO AWARDS:

- Ann Ayer Club Yearbook
- Patsy Flensburg Conference Exhibit Award
- Irene Mardis Club Newsletter
- Edith W. Nelson Environmental Award
- Betty C. Schwartz Presidential Excellence Award
- Mary S. Resh Award Checklist

CONFERENCE DELEGATES, EXHIBITS, AND AWARDS

Delegates and Alternates

Names of Delegate(s) and Alternates(s) from each club must be reported on the enclosed form to the District Secretary. There are NO credential cards to give to your delegates(s) or alternates(s). The number of delegates and alternates are determined sixty (60) days prior to District Conference pursuant to Club Bylaws. Each club in good standing that has an Active and Active Retired membership of 15 members shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate. For each additional 15 members or portion thereof, a club shall be entitled to 1 additional delegate and alternate. The District Treasurer will review with the District Secretary and notify you of any discrepancies. **Send attached form (page 33) by March 27 to:**

District Two Secretary Amy Miller, email: amymiller1@gmail.com.

Conference Exhibits/Merchandising:

If you plan to bring an exhibit or sell items for fundraising, **please complete the attached form (page 32) and email by March 1 to: District Two Governor-Elect Ann Tyndall, email: atyndall46@gmail.com**

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS (Info on District Two Website)

Celebrate your significant service successes! It is a thrill to learn what our clubs in District Two accomplish during the Club year. Your dedication and hard work is worth acknowledging and honoring.

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

Mamie L. Bass Community Service Award

The District Two Service Program Coordinator selects judges for this award. The Coordinator serves as chair, and the three persons selected as judges are prominent persons of the community but are not Altrusans and independently score each entry. The judging panel returns the score sheets and entries to the Chair who tallies the scores and provides the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners to the Governor. The Chair is also responsible for sending the winning entry to the International office for International competition. The District Two club 1st place winner receives \$100. **Submit your entry to District Service Program Coordinator Patalia Tate, email: tatepatalia@gmail.com. Deadline: postmarked 2/28/26.**

Betty S. Brooks/Letha H. Brown Literacy Award

District Two International Foundation Liaison coordinates the judging activity and appoints three (3) prominent members of the general public to serve as judges who independently score each entry. The judging panel returns the score sheets and entries to the Chair who tallies them and provides the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners to the Governor. The Letha H. Brown Literacy Award is a international award, but in District Two it was combined with the Betty S. Brooks Literacy Award established by the Washington, DC Club, which presents \$40 to 1st place in recognition of past District Governor Betty S. Brooks. The winning entry also receives a \$100 award from Altrusa International Foundation presented by the International Representative at Conference. The winning entry is then submitted by the Foundation Liaison to the Letha H. Brown International competition. **Submit your entry to International Foundation Liaison Carol James, email: ctjaames@aol.com. Deadline: postmarked 2/28/26.**

Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award

Chair of the Judging Committee is appointed. The Chair selects three prominent members of the community who are not Altrusans to independently score each entry. Score sheets and entries are returned to the Chair who tallies the scores and provides the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners to the Governor. The Chair is also responsible for sending the winning entry to the International Service Program Development Committee for International competition. **Submit your entry to Past International President Silvia Silverman, email: chatulita1@gmail.com. Deadline: postmarked 2/28/26.**

Please note that comprehensive guidelines for each International Award are available on the Altrusa website at <https://www.altrusa.org>. After logging in, navigate to the Service Tab and scroll down for detailed information. You can also find the International Award applications on the District Two website at <https://districttwo.altrusa.org>. Go to the News & Events tab and scroll down for access.

Please Note: (a) An Altrusa Club may not submit the same project for both the Mamie L. Bass Service Award and the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award in the same biennium. (b) A winning project at the District Level cannot be re-submitted for two full Awards cycles, and then, only if significant improvements are made to the project. The Awards Chair will be responsible for ensuring this and removing ineligible applications prior to judging. Chairs should submit the winning entries to the Altrusa International Office immediately after the close of Conference. Winning entries from the District Conference must reach the International Office by June 1.

DISTRICT AWARDS

Edith W. Nelson Environmental Award

Recognizes Clubs that participate in a variety of activities that protect and enhance the environment. The District Two Membership Development Committee Chair will chair judging with two additional members. Given by District Two in recognition of past International President Edith W. Nelson. 1st place winner receives \$50 from the District. **Submit entry to Membership Development Chair Sue Miller, email: smemiller@comcast.net. Deadline: postmarked 2/28/26**

Irene Mardis Newsletter Award

District Two Communications Committee Chair serves as chair of the judging committee along with three other members. Three (3) copies of three (3) issues published between May 2025 and March 2026 are to be submitted by each club. Award given in recognition of past District Two Governor Irene Mardis.

Submit entry to Communications Chair Diane Kolesar, email: d_kolesar@hotmail.com

Deadline: postmarked 2/28/26

(underscore_ between the d and k)

Ann Ayer Club Yearbook Award

Yearbooks sent to the District Governor, Governor-Elect, First Vice-Governor and Second Vice-Governor and to the Communications Chair postmarked by 10/31/25 are eligible for judging and are automatically included in the competition. Points may be deducted for yearbooks mailed after 10/31/25. District Two Communications Chair serves as Chair with three members for this award. **Entries were submitted to Communications Chair Diane Kolesar, email: d_kolesar@hotmail.com Deadline: postmarked 10/31/25.**

Mary S. Resh Award

District Two Leadership Chairperson serves as chair of the judging committee with two additional members. Award recognizes excellence in program planning and execution and is given in recognition of District Two's first International President. 1st place receives \$50. **Submit your entry to Leadership Training Chair Deb Flage, email: dflage@verizon.net. Deadline: postmarked 2/28/26.**

Phyllis J. Corman ASTRA Award

This award honors Phyllis J. Corman, Governor 1992-1994, Past International President and winner of the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award. It recognizes the efforts of local clubs in creating or supporting ASTRA clubs. The District ASTRA Chair will chair judging, along with two other committee members. Guidelines for the award are sent annually to each club by the International office. The first three place winners receive certificates and the first place winner will receive \$50. The Chair will be forward entries to International by May 31. **Submit your entry to Past International President Phyllis Corman, email: cormanpj@aol.com. Deadline: postmarked 2/28/26.**

Betty C. Schwartz Presidential Excellence Award

Award recognizes local club Presidents who excel in leadership, Altrusa knowledge, parliamentary procedure and timeliness. Includes the club's and the President's participation in Area, District and International activities. Given by District Two in recognition of Past Governor Betty Schwartz. **Submit your entry to Governor Brenda Ruby, email: brendaruby@gmail.com Deadline: postmarked 2/28/26.**

Patsy Flensburg Conference Exhibit Award

The Governor-Elect chairs the judging committee alongside the immediate Past Governor and the visiting International Representative.

The Eleanore Pettersen Membership Growth Award

Recognizes the clubs with the greatest percentage of growth in membership from April to the following March, and the greatest number of new members each year. The District Governor with the assistance of the District Treasurer will determine the clubs showing the most growth.

We kindly request chairs handling award entries to acknowledge receipt by notifying the club. Additionally, we encourage chairs to submit all award entries via email. Chairs should submit the winning entries to the Altrusa International Office immediately after the close of Conference. Winning entries from the District Conference must reach the International Office by June 1.





CELEBRATION OF LIFE FORM -Due Date March 28, 2026

Submit to: Donna Miller

705 Glenn Dr.
Harrisburg, PA 17111
donloumil@msn.com

*Please provide a photograph if available

Name of Club: Altrusa International of _____

Name of deceased member _____

Age: _____ Member of Altrusa since: _____ (approximate if unsure)

Contributions to Altrusa and this club include:

Person submitting this form: Name:

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Position in Club: _____

Name of member to participate in Celebration of Life Service at Conference, if known: _____



Conference Exhibit and Merchandising Space Reservation Form

Altrusa International of _____

Wishes to reserve the following space at Conference:

Exhibit depicting a service project _____

Space requirement _____

Space for selling a product or service _____

Space requirement _____

Submitted by _____

Telephone # (H) _____

(C) _____

(B) _____

If you plan to bring an exhibit or sell items for fundraising,
please complete this form and email to District Two Governor-Elect,

Ann Tyndall by March 1.

atyndall46@gmail.com

The Governor-Elect chairs, the Immediate Past Governor, and the visiting International
Representative serve as judges.



Designation of Conference Delegates and Alternates

Determined sixty (60) days prior to District Conference pursuant to Club Bylaws. Each club in good standing that has an Active and Active Retired membership of 15 or less for whom dues have been paid to International and District shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate. For each additional 15 members or portion thereof, a club shall be entitled to 1 additional delegate and alternate. DUE: March 28, 2026.

Altrusa International of _____

Name of Delegate (s): _____

Name of Alternate (s): _____

Club President's Signature

Club Secretary's Signature

Return form to: District Two Board Secretary, Attn: Amy Miller, email: amyrmiller1@gmail.com (preferred) or mail: 237 M Alley #6, State College PA 16801 by 2/28/2026.



Online Conference Evaluation



Our 70th Annual District Two Conference will be held April 23-26, 2026 in York, Pennsylvania.

The Conference Co-Chairs, Deb Flage and Sue Miller, with help from Ann Tyndall, our District Two Governor Elect, and Brenda Ruby, our District Two Governor, have worked very hard to organize this conference. Feedback from the 2025 Conference held in Altoona, PA, is being used in planning our 70th conference.

All conference participants are encouraged to complete the Online Conference Evaluation so their voices are heard when planning begins for future conferences.

The evaluation will be online and easy for all conference participants to complete. The evaluation results will be compiled and published in the Summer DSB. Your feedback is vital to ensure our District Two Conferences improve every year!



Shari Gomez, First Vice Governor
Altrusa International District Two
Tidewater, VA Club



Patalia Tate, Second Vice Governor
Altrusa International District Two
Montgomery County, MD Club



District Two Service Bulletin Editor - Melinda Angstadt, Reading-Berks, PA