

Governor's Message



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

SEPTEMBER 2026

Altrusa International District Two
Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Ontario, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, Virginia, and West Virginia

FALL INTO LITERACY

Dear Altrusans,

Welcome to September! Moving toward autumn, which is my favorite season (except for the fact that it's followed by winter!), I see many of your clubs are in full swing, with back-to-school projects and programs promoting literacy. Keep track of those donated books, because World Literacy Day is right around the corner, and today starts the Literacy Challenge!

You should have received an email from President Chris DeVlieger explaining the challenge — one book donated for each member of your club. But I challenge you to make it two, or even more! Literacy is crucial for learning, and it's hard to become literate without books. So sad that we lost Dolly Parton, but we can still keep her dream of books for every child alive.

Please remember to report the number of books donated and number of service hours **every month** rather than waiting for the end of the fiscal year. And if you want to make a greater impact, you're probably working on that Foundation grant application. Remember, it needs to be at the Foundation by the deadline, September 15.

On a sadder note, we have seen a rise in scammers trying to cheat open and kind-hearted people. If an Altrusan is asking you to give you personal financial information or buy gift cards, all of the alarm bells should be ringing. Check the email to see if it's the one they usually use, and follow up with the person by phone if you have any doubts (or even if you have no doubt — why not play it safe and develop a good habit?). Scammers are getting more sophisticated all the time, and it falls on us to be savvy to their methods and avoid being taken advantage of.

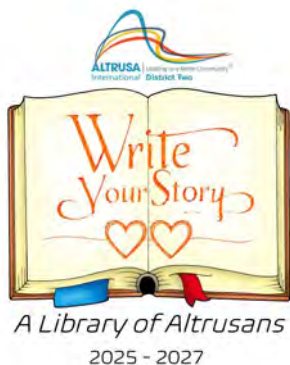
Back to happier thoughts. Our Area Workshops are coming up on **October 24** — take advantage of this opportunity to gather with your nearby clubs and do some good! This kickoff to our District service project to support the homeless will see each Area creating its own version of service. Plans are underway for an inspirational service project at our District Conference as well, so keep your eyes peeled for upcoming information.

I also want to remind you that you're running out of time to fulfill the bargain I made to dye my hair! Seriously, this is the time for ASTRA

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Dates To Remember:

- September 8: World Literacy Day
- September 15: Deadline for Foundation grant applications
- September 21: International Day of Peace
- October 24: Area Workshops
- October 24: Make a Difference Day
- October 31: Yearbooks due to Communications Chair and District Board



clubs to start. Keep working on the first steps — if you don't have the steps in place to start one this year, don't despair. You can lay the foundation for a new ASTRA club next year; don't let up! Contact Cindy Jennings if you need help or ideas; I know she'd be happy to give you a hand!

Finally, I hope you're all working on your Yearbooks. The new criteria for the Ann Ayer Yearbook Award was emailed to all club Presidents (and Communication Chairs, if they are designated in Group Tally). I'm sorry we don't have the updated Policies and Procedures completed yet, but I will get the award criteria posted on the District's News and Events page ASAP (it might be there by the time you read this).

September and October are always busy, busy months, but please don't forget to take care of yourself. Sometimes we get so occupied with family, work, and Altrusa (and in my case, Penn State sports) that it becomes far too easy to become overloaded. Take a deep breath and relax. Enjoy the beautiful weather, read a book, take a stroll, or treat yourself to an ice cream cone!

Warmly,

Brenda



October 24, 2026	Fall Area Workshops—locations TBD
November 7, 2026	Mid-Year Board Meeting—Washington, PA and virtual
April 22-25, 2027	71st Annual District Two Conference—Washington, PA (McKeesport)
July 21-24, 2027	International Convention—Columbus, OH
April 2028	72nd Annual District Two Conference—hosted by Capital City
July 2029	International Convention—Richmond, VA

HELPFUL WEBSITES & EMAILS

[District Two Website—News & Events Page](#)

[District Two Facebook Page](#)

[Altrusa Service Facebook Page](#)

[Group Tally](#)

[The Altrusa Store \(Doc Morgan\)](#)

[Altrusa International Foundation](#)

[District Two Service Newsletter](#)

[The International Altrusan](#)

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Service Newsletter Submissions:
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Questions, concerns, suggestions:
brendaruby@gmail.com



Altrusa International District Two



CLUB VISITS 2026-2027

CLUB	BOARD MEMBER	CLUB	BOARD MEMBER
Capital City, VA	Patalia Tate	Prince George's Co., MD	Ann Tyndall
Centre County, PA	Linda Dorr	Reading-Berks, PA	Shari Gomez
Fauquier County, VA	Sherral Nelson	Richmond, VA	Brenda Ruby
Martinsville/Henry Co., VA	Brenda Ruby	Rochester, NY	Sherral Nelson
McKeesport, PA	Shari Gomez	South Central PA	Patalia Tate
Montgomery County, MD	Roxanne Barzona	Tidewater, VA	Roxanne Barzona
New York, NY	Linda Dorr	Washington, D.C.	Ann Tyndall

DISTRICT TWO BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2027

Governor	Brenda Ruby	Centre Co	brendaruby@gmail.com
Governor Elect	Ann Tyndall	South Central	atyndall46@gmail.com
1st Vice Governor	Shari Gomez	Tidewater	sharigomez66@gmail.com
2nd Vice Governor	Patalia Tate	Montgomery Co	tatepatalia@gmail.com
Director	Roxanne Barzona	Centre Co	rbarzona@gmail.com
Director	Sherral Nelson	Tidewater	sherralnelson1@verizon.net
Treasurer	Anneke Fleming	South Central	anneke51@comcast.net
Secretary	Amy Miller	Centre Co	amyrmiller1@gmail.com
Parliamentarian	Beth Vann-Turnbull	Richmond	elizabeth.l.vann@gmail.com
Immediate Past Governor	Linda Dorr	Martinsville-HC	dorrlr13@gmail.com

DISTRICT TWO COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2025-2027

POSITION	NAME	CLUB	EMAIL
DSB Editor	Melinda Angstadt	Reading-Berks	mangstadt@gmail.com
ASTRA Clubs Committee Chair	Cindy Jennings	Richmond	cindy.jennings@trane.com
BRR Committee Chair	Cheryl Outen	Capital City	outen.cheryl@gmail.com
Communications Committee Chair	Diane Kolesar	McKeesport	d_kolesar@aol.com
Days for Girls Liaison	Susan Corey	Tidewater	jnscorey@verizon.net
International Foundation Liaison	Carol James	Prince George's County	ctjaames@aol.com
Leadership Training Committee Chair	Deb Flage	South Central	dflage@verizon.net
Membership Development Committee Chair	Sue Miller	Reading-Berks	smemiller@comcast.net
New Club Building Committee Co-Chair	Jeanette Wolfe	Montgomery Co	wolfej1@aol.com
New Club Building Committee Co-Chair	Melissa Kolesar	McKeesport	mkolesar05@gmail.com
Planning Committee Chair	Ann Tyndall	South Central	atyndall46@gmail.com
Rep to Int'l Nominating Committee	Linda Dorr	Martinsville- Henry Co	ldorr@comcast.net
Service Program Coordinator	Patalia Tate	Montgomery Co	tatepatalia@gmail.com
SOS Liaison	Roxanne Barzona	Centre Co	rbarzona@gmail.com
Webmaster	Beth Vann-Turnbull	Richmond	elizabeth.l.vann@gmail.com

CALENDAR

SEPT. 2026				
09/01/26	Governor's Newsletter	2025-2027 Governor	Governor	
09/01/26	Consider making a club donation/application to the International Foundation Grants Program	Local Club		Review available grants to determine if Club should apply for an Int'l Grant. Consider making an end-of-year donation to a program of your choice.
09/01/26	Mid-Year District Committee Chair reports to Secretary	District Committee Chairs	District Secretary	
09/02/26	Forward list of interested eligible candidates to all International Officers, Past International Presidents District Officers, Past Governors & Club Presidents providing opportunity for written statements of support.	International Nominating Committee	International Nominating Committee Chair	
09/08/26	World Literacy Day, this is a great opportunity to introduce a new project	Local Club		September is Literacy month.
09/15/26	Grants and Club 52 Program applications due to International Foundation	Local Club		Due September 15
09/15/26	District Awards information e-mailed to Clubs	Local Club	Awards Coordinator	
09/15/26	Letters of Support for International Board candidates due to International Nominating Committee	Those writing letters of support		
09/23/26	International Day of Peace	Local Club		
09/25/26	Conference Proceedings report to Governor	Conference Committee	District Secretary	
OCT. 2026				
10/01/26	Governor's Newsletter	2025-2027 Governor	Governor	
10/01/26	Send IRS Form 990-N (If receipts over \$25,000, send 990-EZ or 990)	Local Club US only	Club Treasurer	Due 5 months after close of fiscal year
10/01/26	Mid-Year Committee Chair reports to District Secretary	District Committee Chairs	District Secretary	
10/24 TBD	Confirm eligibility of Nominating Committee candidates for office	District Board	Governor	Review all relevant Bylaws and Policies to confirm eligibility
10/15/26	District Service Bulletin articles due	Dist. Board, Comm. Chairs	DSB Editor	
10/16/26	World Food Day	Local Club		
10/24/26	International Board of Directors meeting	Int. Board of Directors	International President	
10/24/26	Make a Difference Day	Local Club		4 th Saturday of October
10/24/26	United Nations Day	Local Club		
10/31/26	Distribute club yearbook electronically	Local Club		Copies to Dist. Board & Int'l Office

**IF IT DOESN'T CHALLENGE YOU,
IT DOESN'T CHANGE YOU**