

# Governor's Message



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 7

DECEMBER 2025

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

## 'Tis the Season for SERVICE

### Dates To Remember:

- December 1: First day of half-price International dues
- December 10: Human Rights Day
- December 13: National Wreaths Across America Day
- January 3: DSB articles due
- January 24: International Day of Education
- January 26: International Day of Clean Energy

Hello Altrusans,

With the passing of November, I find myself still in a state of gratitude: for family, friends, and health as well as the multitude of Altrusans and others working to make this a better world. I have enjoyed reading your newsletters, posts on Facebook, and articles in the Service Newsletter demonstrating all of the ways that we lead to a better community. As the days grow shorter and darker days approach, the shining light of service and the holiday season brighten our planet.



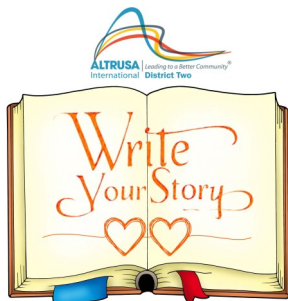
Congratulations are due to the **Martinsville-Henry County** and **McKeesport** clubs for being awarded grants from the International Foundation. Martinsville-Henry County was granted \$2,000 for their "Loads of Literacy Books for All" project (read about it [here](#)), and McKeesport has \$2,500 to use toward their "Neighborly Necessities." Who knows, one of these projects may show up as a future award winner!

SPEAKING of awards... NOW is the time to think about award submissions. I'd love to see every single club submit at least ONE service project for either the Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award, Mamie L. Bass Community Service Award, or Letha H. Brown/Betty S. Brooks Literacy Award. To that end, don't have one person go it alone — make it a team effort! (A gold star to any club that submits for EVERY award!)

The Board met on November 15th and reviewed the plans for the 2026 Conference in York, PA. It's going to be a corker, you won't want to miss it! The Board also voted to recommend that the District drop the Second Vice-Governor position—most districts no longer have a second Vice-Governor, and it will streamline the Board and save money on costs to the District. The membership will be able to vote yea or nay at the 2026 Conference.

In other news, the Governors' Council has designed an online form for clubs to indicate interest in having a sibling (sister) club. The Club President or designated representative can fill it out and state whether they'd be interested in a nearby club, one from another country, a smaller club that they could help, a larger club that could help them—all the reasons for matching up. The same form is being used by all Districts and can be found [here](#). Even if you have a sibling club or are not interested, I recommend filling it out so we know you're "off the market." The goal is to have a database to make it easier for clubs to make connections.

*Continued on Page 2*



*A Library of Altrusans*  
2025 - 2027

*Continued from page 1*

Remember that dues for new members are now half-price from now until March 31. A better deal than Black Friday! Be sure to bring a guest to your next meeting and find potential members to take advantage of these savings.

Finally, our deepest sympathy goes out to District Fourteen/Puerto Rico, who lost not one but two former Governors in November. Ana Elsa Comas Ramirez (1993-1995) and Vivian Torres (2003-2005) demonstrated selfless dedication and will be missed.

May peace and connection reside with you and your family. Best wishes to you and yours this holiday season.

With appreciation,

*Brenda*

## 2025-2026 Cycle One Club 52 Grant Awards

**Andando Foundation: Keeping Kids in School and Empowering Women  
Senobowal Garden Project- \$4,906**

**Ghana Health and Education Initiative (GHEI): Mother Mentor for Child  
Development Through 23 Project- \$2,500**


**Tandana Foundation: Community Health and Wellbeing in Otavalo Ecuador  
Project- \$2,500**

LEAD WITH KINDNESS

*Live with gratitude*

**From Altrusa International of Martinsville-Henry County, Inc.**

This year, our club is focusing on simple ways we can all celebrate the season while also caring for our planet. We're sharing our tips through email, websites, and social media to help spread the message **without using extra paper** — a small step that makes a big difference!

We hope these ideas inspire a joyful, sustainable season for you and your loved ones. 

From all of us at **Altrusa International of Martinsville—Henry County, Inc.**, we wish you and your family and friends a **very happy holidays!**



## How To Have A Green Holiday!

### Buy Local

Purchase meat and produce from local sustainable farms – your meals will taste better too.



### Give Local

Consider buying locally crafted gifts from small businesses.

### Consider Giving An Experience

Give tickets to a play, a gift certificate for a facial or manicure, a museum membership, etc., rather than a gift.



### Buy a Real Christmas Tree

Purchase a tree from a sustainable farm if possible, and of course recycle it!

### Create Your Own Holiday Decorations

Create your own holiday decorations and memories from items you have handy at home!



### Consider Sending an E-Card

Consider sending an e-card rather than a paper one that usually cannot be recycled



### Use LED Lights

Use LED lights, and not just for the holidays - they use less energy, last longer, and are safer!

Happy Holidays from Altrusa MHC



## Altrusa International District Two



# CLUB VISITS

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

## DISTRICT TWO BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2027

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

## DISTRICT TWO COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2025-2027

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



# CALENDAR

<b>DEC. 2025</b>				
12/01/25	Governor's Message	2025-2027 Governor	Governor	
12/01/25	International & District dues are half price for new members from Dec 1 – March 31	Local Club	District Treasurer	
12/01/25	District Nominating Committee candidate names due from Clubs	Local Club	Governor	Conference Chair, DSB Editor
12/10/25	Human Rights Day	Local Club		
<b>JAN. 2026</b>				
01/01/26	Governor's Newsletter	2023-2025 Governor	Governor	
01/01/26	First week in January, ASTRA scholarship applications available	Local Club	ASTRA Member Altrusa Member	Due March 15 to Int'l ASTRA Chair
01/01/26	Elect Club Nominating Committee	Local Club		
01/01/26	Club Presidents prepare for District Award entries	Local Club		Review criteria before submission
02/23/26	BRR requests due from Clubs to District BRR Chair	Local Club	BRR Chair	Required 60 days before District Conference
01/03/26	District Service Bulletin articles due	District Board, Comm. Chairs	DSB Editor	
01/31/26	International Board of Directors meeting	Int. Board of Directors		
01/31/26	Consider making a contribution to the Foundation's Disaster Relief Fund	Local Club		
01/31/26	Invite ASTRA participation at District Conference	Governor	District ASTRA Chair	
01/31/26	District Service Bulletin & Governor's Call to Conference e-mailing	DSB Editor		E-mail DSB to Int'l Office for distribution

## 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](#)

**DSB Editor Submissions: melinda.angstadt@gmail.com**

**Service Newsletter Submissions: d2servicenewsletter@gmail.com**

**Questions, concerns, suggestions: brendaruby@gmail.com**

