

Governor's Message



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5

OCTOBER 2026

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

CHANGE IS IN THE AIR!

Dear Altrusans,

I am a die-hard Publisher fan, but this will be my last Message created on Publisher since Microsoft announced its sunsetting effective October 1. I am trying a tip that I found on the internet, and saving as PDF, then converting to PowerPoint. We'll see how that goes; if it's a bust then I'll go back to Word (these messages are a little too wordy for Canva) or, who knows, maybe I'll find the Next Big Thing. While I'm sad to see it go away, it's a great reminder that we can't just sit where we are, because the world changes and we need to change with it.



This is a season of transformation. As the days get shorter, we get ready for pumpkin spice everything, and harvest the programs and service that we planned earlier. Remember the Literacy Challenge — donate at least one book for every member, take pictures, and record your donations at altrusa.org. You have until November 30 to submit your service and qualify for the commemorative patch for your club banner.

I just discovered an interesting website: <https://www.unitebooks.com/book-deserts/the-book-desert-map>. This map indicates areas that have been designated as book deserts, where households are least likely to have 100 books. If you're looking for a place to donate your books, this map may help.

I hope everyone attended our workshop on Membership Events, and that you picked up something useful. Remember that although service is our heart, membership is the lifeblood of our organization. Be on the lookout for the video and materials to be posted on the District Two website. But we're not done! Linda Dorr will be presenting Part 2 of her Canva presentation, on Wednesday, October 28th. It's entitled "From Good to Great: Tell Your Altrusa Story" — see the flier on page 3. You won't want to miss it! [The Zoom link is here](#), but I will also send it out in a later email. We will also be presenting a workshop in November on Best Practices for Planning a Service Event, so stay tuned for that.

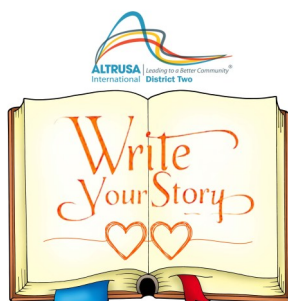
This is also the month for fighting homelessness. I hope everyone is able to go to their Area Workshop on October 24th — please see the fliers on pages 4-6. Our shared topic is homelessness, and how we can make an impact.

A final reminder to prepare those Yearbooks and get them sent

Continued on page 2

Dates To Remember:

- October 16: World Food Day
- October 24: Area Workshops
- October 24: Make a Difference Day
- October 24: United Nations Day
- October 31: Yearbooks due to Communications Chair and District Board
- November 7: Mid-Year Board Meeting
- November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women



A Library of Altrusans
2025 - 2027

to Communications Chair Diane Kolesar (d_kolesar@hotmail.com) and the District Board. Remember that we will be using the new criteria for judging. But long or short, complete or skimpy, we want to see your yearbooks!

In our quest for growth, let's not forget that growth includes new Altrusa and ASTRA clubs. It may take time and a few nibbles before we land that fish, but keep trying, and keep the New Club Building and ASTRA Chairs in the loop.

Finally, I want to remind you that your District Board is here for you. If you have a question, reach out to a member of the Board or a Committee Chair. If you need help, ask for it. If you have a suggestion for the Board, for a workshop, for Conference.... anything at all, let us know. A Board is only as good as its members, and we strive to deliver great service to our District. Let us be of service!

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](#)

DSB Editor Submissions:
mangstadt@aol.com

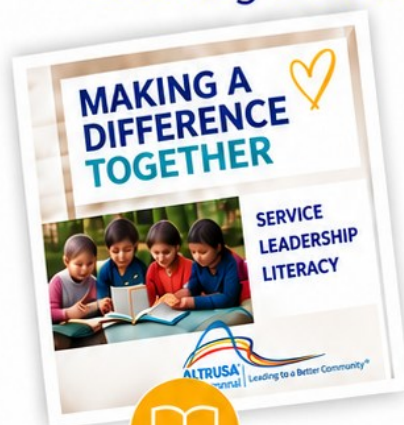
Service Newsletter Submissions:
d2servicenewsletter@gmail.com

Questions, concerns, suggestions:
brendaruby@gmail.com



Canva FOR ALTRUSANS | PART 2 **From Good to Great Tell Your Altrusa Story**

Creating Consistent, Engaging Communications for Your Club



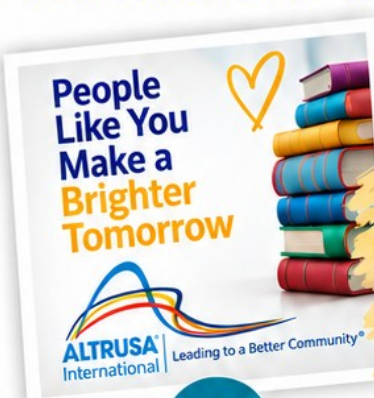
Newsletters

Share your impact



Social Media

Inspire your community



Promotions

Invite, recruit, and engage

*One Design.
Many
Possibilities!*



**Wednesday,
October 28, 2026**



7:00 p.m. EDT



Zoom

(Zoom link will be provided
by email.)

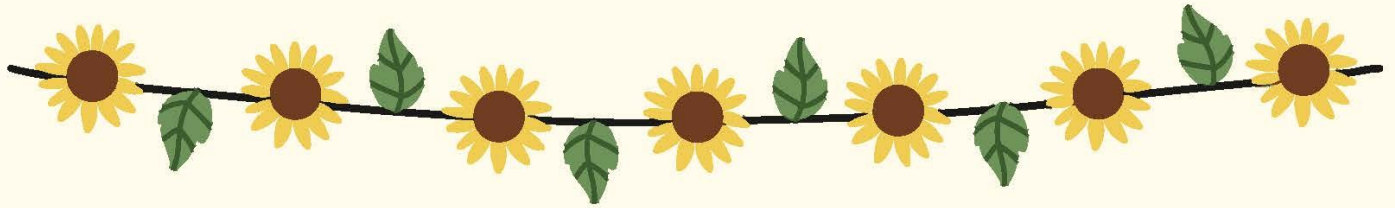
Presented by
Altrusa District Two

Presenter: Linda Dorr

Vice Chair, Altrusa International Leadership Development & Training Committee
Immediate Past Governor, District Two

All Altrusans are welcome! 

Learn. Create. Tell Your Altrusa Story. 



District Two - Area 1

WORKSHOP

Hosted by Altrusa International of Reading-Berks



Saturday, October 24, 2026

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

CHILDREN'S HOMELESSNESS

An opportunity to learn, connect, and make a difference



SERVICE PROJECT

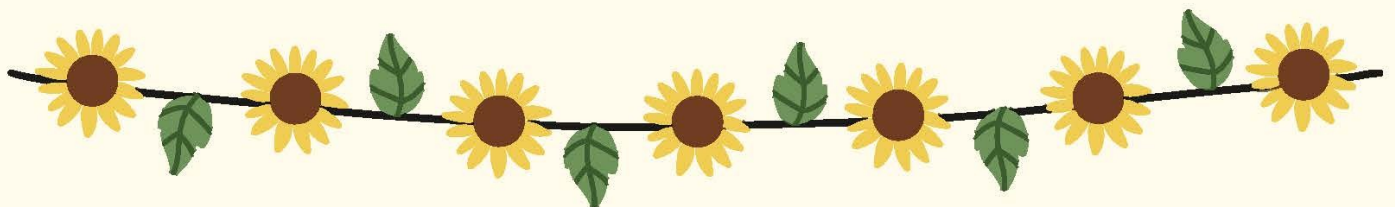
Benefiting the children of Opportunity House in Reading

Good Shepherd UCC

170 Tuckerton Rd., Reading, PA 19605

**Cost: \$20.00
payable at the door**

**RSVP to Sue Miller
smemiller@comcast.net**





Please join us for:

ALTRUSA AREA II WORKSHOP

ALTRUSANS WORKING TOGETHER

Montgomery County • Prince George's County • Washington, D.C.
Carroll County • Fauquier County • New York City

Saturday, October 24, 2026 | 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Hillandale Baptist Church

2601 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi, Maryland 20783

Hosted by Altrusa of Montgomery County

BETHESDA CARES WELCOME HOME SERVICE PROJECT

We will assemble kits of essentials for people moving from homelessness into homes.



AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- Hands-On Welcome Home Kit Assembly
- The Future of Altrusa Starts with Us
- Altrusa and the United Nations
- Club Project Updates
- Growing Membership
- Leadership
- Fundraising Ideas Exchange
- Homelessness Impact Presentation
by Bethesda Cares

Continental Breakfast & Lunch

\$10 donation to help cover the cost of food

RSVP BY OCTOBER 17
tatepatalia@gmail.com



AREA III

Fall Workshop

Join Altrusans from Across Area III
for a Day of Connection, Learning & Inspiration!



**Saturday,
October 24, 2026**



9:30 – 10:00 am
Welcome/Ice Breaker
10:30 am – 2:00 pm
Workshop



Holiday Inn Express
9933 Mayland Drive
Richmond, VA 23233

*Learn • Share • Grow
Stronger Together!*

Mark Your Calendar!



Connect
with Altrusans
across Area III



Learn
through engaging
workshops



Inspire
with ideas to
strengthen our Clubs
and Communities



Collaborate
and build
lasting friendships

Hosted by

Altrusa International
of Richmond, Virginia Club



AREA III SERVICE PROJECT
Supporting SupportWorks Housing
Charlottesville

Service ♥ Fellowship ♥ Leadership
Making a Difference Together!

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	mcolesar05@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

		WHO	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	NOTES
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	Communications Chair	Copies to Dist. Board & Int'l Office
Nov. 2026				
11/01/26	Governor's Newsletter	2025-2027 Governor	Governor	
11/01/26	Service Newsletter submissions due	Local Club	Service Chair	
11/07/26	Mid-Year District Board meeting	District Board of Directors		
11/10/26	Nominations by Districts for Int'l Foundation Board and Int'l Nominating Committee due	Governor		
11/15/26	2027 - 2029 Altrusa Int'l nominations for Nominating Committee & Foundation Board	International		
11/25/26	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women	Local Club		

BRING A FRIEND....



...BUILD A FUTURE