

## Featured

- 2** Hospitality
- 3** Reminders
- 4** Identifying Future Leaders
- 5** Altrusa and the UN
- 6-7** District Four Highlights
- 8** District Six Highlights
- 9** Altrusa of Santa Maria
- 10** Eleanor Roosevelt
- 11** Is Your Website Secure?
- 12** Foundation

SPRING HAS SPRUNG ... AT LAST!! What a wonderful time of year .. a time of renewal and new beginnings. Time to close one chapter and begin a new one. And in a few short months we will do just that when we close the 2021-2023 biennium and begin the next. I am amazed at how fast the time has gone by. I'll have lots of information to share with you about all that has been accomplished during the past two years when we gather in San Antonio in July for the 58th International Convention.

And speaking of convention, I hope you've begun making your plans to join us in San Antonio. The hotel link and registration link are now open so go out there and grab your hotel room ... remember we are able to offer an amazing room rate of \$179/night for our event ... and then register for convention as well. We have lots of exciting plans in place to insure you have a wonderful time and come away renewed, re-energized, and excited as we begin a brand new chapter.

As Altrusans we share a love of service and I applaud all of you for taking on our literacy challenge so wholeheartedly. As I have often said literacy is important to me and watching you all jump on board with my vision has been heartwarming to say the least. We will find out at convention in July where our numbers stand and I'm confident they will be substantial. But large or small your impact on your community will be felt far into the future.

That's what makes Altrusa such a wonderful organization to be a part of ... knowing you are making a difference. I've always said Altrusa is a gift to be shared. You can share the gift of Altrusa by offering membership to likeminded individuals who want to make a difference but may not know how to go about it. You can share the gift of Altrusa by addressing the needs within your communities and making a difference in people's lives. You can share the gift of Altrusa by getting the word out about our organization as often as you can so your community knows who we are and what we do. Sharing is caring ... and sharing Altrusa is the ultimate give of all. So let's spread the word and share this amazing gift.

It has been my privilege to serve as your president these last two years. We've experienced some bumps along the way but we did what Altrusans do best .... recognized a problem, faced it head on, and went to work to make things right. Yes, a lot of changes have taken place over the last year or so ... but rest assured that your Board of Directors have worked tirelessly to rectify problems and set policies into place to prevent misdealing in the future. We are a strong and powerful organization and because of you and your support we have persevered and will strive for many years to come. Serving as your International President has been an honor and a privilege, and I can't wait to see what the future brings.

Remember United We Can ... achieve much!

*Kathy Folley*

International President  
Altrusa International, Inc.

## **HOSPITALITY GOES A LONG WAY**

*Traci Squarcette, Altrusa International ASTRA Committee*

April is ADD AN ALTURSAN month. As we welcome new guests and potential members, imagine how wonderful it would be to have ASTRA members in the mix. Young people are searching for belonging in this next chapter of their lives. They want to serve their community alongside like-minded people who encourage them to use their voices. This group we call ASTRA to ALTRUSANS. The million-dollar question is "How do ALTRUSANS foster belonging for ASTRA students in this next stage of life"?

Answer: HOSPITALITY. Here are some simple ways each club can reach out to ASTRA graduates or ASTRA members to and through graduation:



1. Invite ASTRA to ALTRUSANS to projects, events, and meetings. Avoid just offering an invitation. Welcome them in a way they will want to return. Sit with them, listen, and let them speak and share ideas.
2. Treat ASTRA to ALTRUSANS like the adult they are. Transitioning from a student to a full-fledged adult is not easy. Realize that we have known some of them as students but, we MUST flip the switch. ASTRA to ALTRUSANS want to find their place in the club and we need to give them the space to do that.
3. Past ASTRA students may move away to go to college or not know where they will end up next. Until they find a landing place, follow up regularly with ASTRA to ALTRUSANS that you know. Invite them to keep membership at a home base and contribute when they are home.
4. Offer ASTRA to ALTRUSANS a Young Professional rate for dues within your club. Note: Altrusa International offers a Young Professional rate at a 50% discount for up to 30 years of age.
5. Don't forget your kids and grandkids who were ASTRA members! There is nothing more special than passing the legacy of becoming an ALTRUSAN to your family.
6. ASTRA to ALTRUSANS + HOSPITALITY = BELONGING



## Reminders

- **Dues for the 2023-2024 cycle are now available.**
- **Links for registration and reservations for International Convention are available here:**
  - **Registration:**  
<https://altrusainternational.regfox.com/altrusa-international-inc-2023-convention>
  - **Hotel Reservation:**  
<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/SATGH/G-ALTR%20>

## Navigating the Web...

- Important websites to know!
  - [www.altrusa.org](http://www.altrusa.org) (click Member Login in the upper right)
  - [login.altrusa.org](http://login.altrusa.org) (go directly to the members area)
  - [www.altrusastore.com](http://www.altrusastore.com) (purchase Altrusa branded items including pins and banners)
  - [www.altrusaservice.org](http://www.altrusaservice.org) (browse and share your club's service projects)
- Give us some feedback and share your thoughts on improving Altrusa with the [Suggestion Box](#).
- If you have forgotten your password to the site please send an e-mail to [Altrusa@altrusa.org](mailto:Altrusa@altrusa.org) or call the International Office for assistance.

## Important Dates

- May 15 International Day of Families
- June 6 World Environment Day
- June 23 UN Public Service Day
- July 30 International Day of Friendship
- August 12 International Youth Day

## How to Identify Future Leaders

*Linda Moore, International Leadership Chair*

Identifying future leaders in this organization is easy.....Altrusans are already leaders. But for the planning of the organization's future, we must take a closer look at our membership and identify and mentor our future leaders. These are the members that are hard workers and always willing to help. They bring new ideas to the table by feeding off the ideas and thoughts of others. Future leaders are engaged, can handle pressure and they naturally attract followers. Good Leadership is contagious and for Altrusa and any other organization to move forward, we must be willing to make changes.



A future leader will be a member, or potential member, that has an idea of something new. Either in the way that a meeting or project is structured or something new altogether in a way to raise money. If someone is willing to bring up a new project for the club to discuss, it is imperative that we give this person the time, attention and respect to listen and understand their thoughts. What I am trying to say is.....Don't close your mind to new ideas.

The process of thinking that the club has always done "this" project, so we must do it again this coming year is not a solid one. Maybe we put aside an age-old project and start a new project that a newer member suggests and let them take charge of it. This not only allows the newer member to bring to life their idea and show their leadership, it allows the club to move forward.

You will also notice that our future leaders are willing to help solve a problem. They may not always step up at first, but if asked, they will always help work things out. They don't back down when asked to participate and are willing to mentor and be mentored.

Identifying our Future Leaders in Altrusa is the simple task of being respectful of others, understanding new ideas and listening to another person's thoughts. Remember, it is not what "You or I" can do but it is what our club can do in our community, our Districts with clubs working together, and Internationally, the impact that can be made at a global level. We all became Altrusans to serve. Let's move forward with our

## Update: Altrusa & UN Civil Society

*Megan Holleran, Altrusa Representative to the United Nation's Department of Global Communications, Civil Society Unit/NGO*

Since 1946, Altrusa International has held roster status with the United Nations. Altrusa's roster status has allowed Altrusan UN representatives to participate in briefings via the UN Civil Society. It is through the UN Civil Society briefings that an Altrusa UN representative like myself, can learn about relevant topics on the UN's agenda and share them with Altrusa's greater community.



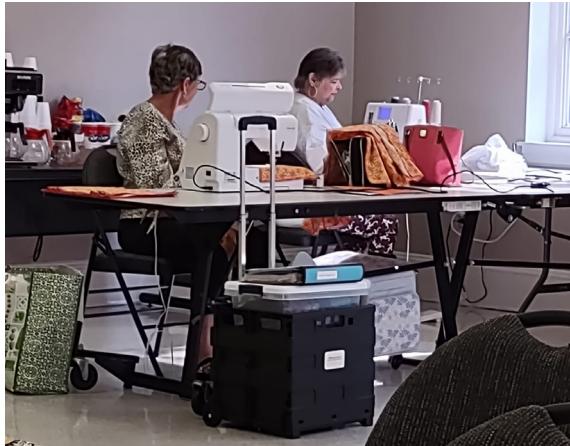
I first learned of Altrusa's UN status in 2019. I was asked to speak at Altrusa New York's monthly meeting on behalf of the organization I work for. It was during this meeting that learned I about Altrusa's UN status and the opportunity for a New York based Altrusan to attend UN Civil Society meetings. As someone who works in nonprofit I have always had an interest in the work of the United Nations. After learning more about the work of Altrusa I jumped at the opportunity to become a member and eventually join the Altrusa UN representative's team.

I received my UN grounds pass in late February 2020 in an office located near the United Nation's headquarters. However, just two weeks later the UN and New York City shut down due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Although this greatly curtailed the in-person experience of the UN, the UN Civil Society worked diligently to provide quality remote briefings and information sessions. It was through these briefings that I learned in-depth about the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals are described by the UN as: "a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future". I had the opportunity to present this "shared blueprint" at Altrusa's 2021 International Convention. In a workshop I presented the SDG's and gave practical tips on how club members can integrate the goals in daily activities.

The United Nations has now reopened. The Altrusa UN representative team are actively working to secure new UN grounds passes. I look forward to sharing all the new and exciting UN initiatives and information with the Altrusan community.

## District Four Highlights



Anniston - Days for Girls



Boaz - House of Hope



Baton Rouge - St. Vincent de Paul



Fort Payne-DeKalb - Boom Days



Jack - Breakfast with Santa



Kingsport - Sorting and Labeling Books



Greenwood - Community Food Pantry



Oak Ridge Partners in Education Committee



Enterprise Hosting Reception



Thibodaux Planning Service Project for Bayou Boeuf School



Clarksville - Buddy Bench

## District Six Highlights Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky



Altrusa Club of Fox Valley, IL.  
Knitting Blanket Project for  
Juvenile Justice Center



Evansville, IN Club Meeting



Recent Indianapolis, IN Service Project.



2021 - 2023 District Six Board

**ALTRUSA CLUB OF SANTA MARIA***Diane Alleman-Stevens, District Eleven*

Photo: Back row – Altrusa Service Committee members Sandi Frazier, Glenda Stevens, Joe Ann Ryle, Co-President Sandi Miller, Carla Biely, Rosie Rybicki, Tammy Fournier – Service Committee Chair.

Altrusa of Santa Maria, has proudly, for 28 years, held the Junior High School awards dinner at the Historic Santa Maria Inn in Santa Maria Ca. The local junior high schools select a student to be honored based on their volunteer work in their schools and community, not on academic achievements. Some of the volunteer work is to tutor other students, assisting the teachers during class and anything else that is needed in the school. In the community, they volunteer with their churches with food and clothing distribution to the less fortunate. They each received a gift certificate to a local store and this year they received a mug with their name on it. Glenda Stevens, a local artist in residence, creates beautiful centerpieces using the Junior High School colors/logos. Most of these students have a 4.0 GPA and a representative from the school speaks about each student sharing their goals and accomplishments.

Even during the pandemic, students continued their volunteer outreach and since we could not meet for the awards dinner, Altrusa of Santa Maria still rewarded them their medals and gifts, with the Altrusa members, including Mayor Alice Patino, caravanning to their homes to show their support. We feel we are developing future leaders which need to be taught early and often.

This project was created by Sally Czarnecki when she brought back the idea from her Altrusa International exchange trip to New Zealand.

## Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award

Hillary Sloan, International Service Committee Chair



Eleanor Roosevelt was a member of Altrusa Club of New York City. Her classification was under furniture since she was a factory owner. During FDR's governorship she helped organize the Altrusa Club of Albany. The picture is Eleanor from 11/24/1933- New York, New York. Eleanor Roosevelt is with celebrated members of New York's Altrusa Club after she addressed the business and professional women's organization at a dinner in her honor.



The Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award is named in honor of the legendary Eleanor Roosevelt who included active membership in the Altrusa Club of New York City in her service-oriented life. It is Altrusa International's only award given to an individual member. Designed to recognize an Altrusan who makes a lasting contribution to community service as a result of involvement with Altrusa, recipients must have a distinguished service record at the Local, District and International levels. Hazel P. Williams received the first award in 1985.

Award Nomination Due Date

May 15, 2023

Please send nomination form to International

**"WELL BEHAVED WOMEN RARELY  
MAKE HISTORY"**  
**-ELEANOR ROOSEVELT**

## Is Your Website Secure?

Emily DeVlieger, Communications Co-Chair

It is crucial nowadays to have a secure website for people to visit. How do you know if your website is truly secure? here are a few steps to take to keep your website updated:

1. Ensure you have an SSL certificate (or Secure Sockets Layer). The SSL provides communication between servers and browsers that cannot be seen. For more information about an SSL, click here:

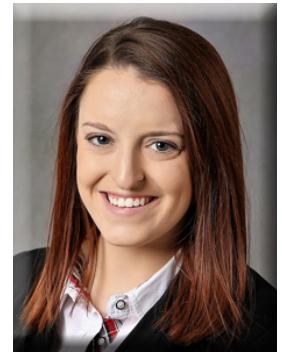
[https://blog.hubspot.com/marketing/what-is-ssl?hubs\\_content=blog.hubspot.com%2Fwebsite%2Fhow-to-secure-a-website-for-free&hubs\\_content-cta=SSL](https://blog.hubspot.com/marketing/what-is-ssl?hubs_content=blog.hubspot.com%2Fwebsite%2Fhow-to-secure-a-website-for-free&hubs_content-cta=SSL)

2. Make sure your website's software is update regularly. With most sites, you can set all updates to be automatic so you don't have to worry!

3. Using anti-malware software can stop cyber attacks from happening. With malware, it does all security for you. Some common places are SiteLock, Astra Security, or MalCare.

4. Back up your website! In case of emergency, have your website backed up regularly. This saves your website so you don't have to rebuild. Most website providers do have a backup software, or look into Nexcess to help.

5. Make your passwords IMPOSSIBLE for hackers. Use numbers, symbols, upper and lower case so no one can crack the code.



These are just a few things on how to keep your site safe and secure. What steps will you be taking?

### Phishing

A Game of Deception

Click this link to learn how to better protect yourself from phishing attacks:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WNVTGTrWcvw>



## Introducing the 2023 International Foundation Board of Trustees Nominees



**Germaine Vonderhaar**  
District Five  
Altrusa of Hamilton, OH

Germaine Vonderhaar became an Altrusan in 1994 and presently serves as Altrusa International Treasurer from 2021-2023. She served as District Five Treasurer from 2009-2011, First Vice Governor from 2011-2013, Governor Elect from 2013-2015 and District Five Governor from 2015-2017. On the club level, she served two separate terms as Club Treasurer, Vice President and President. She served on the Finance Committee for several years. In 2022 she co-chaired the club auction which raised funds for scholarships for Altrusa's club Foundation. All of these positions will help her to move onto the International Foundation level.

On a personal level, she retired from the banking industry. She served as Treasurer for three years for the Arts Center in her local area and served on the Foundation Committee for the same period over seeing their Foundation of \$500,000. Germaine has been on her church's Finance Committee for a number of years and presently is Finance Chair. She is on the Fundraising Committee for donations to gather funds for capital improvements of her church. She performs audits/reviews on the reports generated by the church. Germaine is also treasurer for two other non-profit organizations in her local area.

My volunteer activities began in my early twenties as a young mother. I became involved literacy projects and community service. So, it was a natural fit when I was asked to become an Altrusan. I was initiated into my local club, Altrusa International of Muncie, IN in April 1988. I have served my local club through various offices before becoming Club President from 1995-1996. I have served as chair, at least once, on most of my club's committees and twice on the Muncie Altrusa Foundation Board of Directors. I have served at the District level as Communications Chair, Service Chair, and District Liaison to the Altrusa International Foundation. At the International level, I served as the Historian on the Altrusa Centennial Committee and was a keynote speaker at the 2017 International Convention in Nashville. I also served on the 2019 Elections Committee.

My professional career spans thirty years in managerial positions in 501 c3 or c6 not-for-profit organizations. For eight years, prior to retirement, I was Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations for a large center serving persons with disabilities. After retirement, I worked part-time as the Executive Director of the American Advertising Federation (AAF) of East Central Indiana. In addition to Altrusa, I have served on several nonprofit Boards of Directors including the Ball State University Bracken Library Board of Directors, Motivate Our Minds, an after-school enrichment program for underserved inner city students, several boards at my church, and the American Advertising Federation District Six where I served as Governor and Chair of AAF Central Region. I have supported the Foundation financially for several years. I am honored to be the fifth recipient of a Hofmeister Lamplighter Award. After the death of my husband, I established an annual gift in his memory to honor his passion for literacy efforts.

I seek to serve on the Foundation Board of Trustees because I want to help ensure a strong future for the Foundation. In my career managing nonprofits, I have learned that developing and expanding donor development beyond Altrusa will help establish a more secure financial future for the Foundation. I believe my executive management and policy making skills, marketing and public relations experience, event planning, fundraising, and grant writing skills developed through my professional background can be an asset to the Board of Trustees. I have ample time, and it would be an honor to serve on the International Foundation Board of Trustees. Thank you for considering me for this important responsibility.



**Anne Condran**  
District Six  
Altrusa of Muncie, IN

Altrusa has been an integral part of Dona Garretson's life for over 46 years, and she currently serves as District Ten Parliamentarian. She served on the committee to form the Altrusa International Foundation of Grand Junction, CO and was the first term President/Chair. During her tenure on the International Board of Directors, Dona served as the Association Representative to the Foundation Board of Trustees during two separate biennia. While serving as International President and other Altrusa leadership roles along the way, Dona was able to visit every District in the Association. Dona was also appointed the Interim Association Manager for ten months until the International Board was able to recruit an Executive Director, and she assisted in the recruitment and hiring of the International Foundation's first Director, Shawna Kaiser Veldhuizen.

After serving in the Peace Corps in El Salvador, Dona co-founded and operated an accounting and tax practice that offered tax, accounting, and bookkeeping services to small corporations and individuals for 32 years until her retirement in 2012. Her professional experiences also include more than 15 years as an American Airlines agent in Chicago. For six years, Dona was a board member with Child & Migrant Services, Inc. in Palisade, CO, and currently serves on the District Board of American Contract Bridge League. She also served on the Award Selection Committee for the National Philanthropy Day in Colorado.



**Marcia Lucas**  
District Eleven  
Altrusa of Tucson, AZ

I have had the interesting, challenging, growing voyage of being an Altrusan since 2001. I grew up with all things Altrusan with a mother also a long time member. I have held the positions of president twice, committee chairs innumerable times, foundation trustee twice (currently serving as chair of the Tucson Club), served as literacy chair under Gov. Ann Bauman. Education included degrees in education from the University of Arizona and program/judicial management masters from University of Southern California. Work experience has run the gamut from GED teacher at a junior college in Phoenix area, "professional" volunteer for numerous programs over the years, client educator with home health agency, master consumer advisor with UofA cooperative extension service in Tucson. My spouse and I have enjoyed traveling to international conventions and district eleven conferences. Personally we have killer Chihuahuas (every one of which have been rescues over the years), have loved to travel with Road Scholar educational program and cruise and hope to resume those activities again, kids and grandkids are on the west coast. The values and focus of Altrusa is important to me as I was raised with the expectation of service, volunteering and trying to make the world a little better place for having been in it.

*As you prepare for the International Convention, please don't forget to bring your items for the International Foundation's silent auction. Please note, items should be easily transportable by winners.*

Consider making a special anniversary gift at one of the six levels:

- \$60 - Light Blue
- \$160 - White
- \$260 - Teal
- \$560 - Dark Blue
- \$860 - Maroon
- \$1,060 - Gold

### 6 for 60 Giving Campaign



All gifts made June 1-May 31 will be recognized at the International Convention. Cumulative gifts, except Club 21, over \$500 (USD) made in each fiscal year will be eligible for Lamplighter recognition.

Let's commemorate the Altrusa International Foundation's 60th anniversary by supporting this campaign today!