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Governor's Message

Answer the Call...

It's Time to Gather the Hive! 🐝



Mantha Young

I want to begin by sharing my heartfelt appreciation for each of our Altrusans and the many ways you faithfully serve your clubs and communities. Your compassion, leadership, and willingness to give your time and talents truly make District Three BEE Essential. Because of you, service thrives, literacy grows, and our impact continues to ripple across every corner of our district.

This special edition of the District Service Bulletin is dedicated to an exciting invitation — our 73rd

Annual District Three Conference, taking place April 24–25, 2026, in Spartanburg, South Carolina, at the Hampton Inn & Suites Spartanburg–I-26–Westgate Mall.

This year brings a fresh and energizing change with our first two-day conference format. With District training moving online, our in-person time will focus on connection, camaraderie, and strengthening the bonds that make our hive so special. We'll begin Friday at 3:45 PM with HIVE Time Meet & Mingle, followed by the First Business Session at 5:00 PM.

Saturday includes FUN Time at 11:15 AM, engaging breakout sessions — Beekeepers, Genealogy, and Book Club — and at 3:45 PM, the entire district will come together for a shared Service Project.

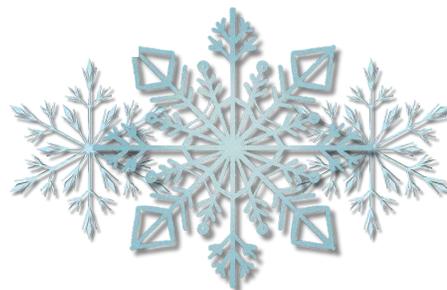
Check the Schedule at a Glance, mark your calendar, and make plans now. Spartanburg is calling — let's gather, grow, and Bee Essential together!

Buzzin' in Service

Mantha

Mantha A. Young
Governor

Altrusa District Three



*Bee in a Blanket...
Stay Warm Buddy*



Get to know Conference International Representative Ingrid Christianson

Nanci Schwartz,
District Three Secretary



Nanci Schwartz

International Leadership

I currently serve as a Director on the International Board and have also held the roles of International Membership Vice Chair and International Communications Chair.

District Leadership

At the district level, I have served on the District Seven Board in numerous leadership roles, including Director, Second Vice Governor, First Vice Governor, Governor-Elect, and Governor. I also served as District Seven Webmaster.

Club Leadership

I have been a dedicated member of the Oshkosh Altrusa Club for 17 years, serving in a variety of leadership and support roles. These include Club President, Director, Communications Chair, Nominating Committee Chair, Yearbook Editor, and Club Webmaster.

Professional Experience

I hold a degree in Electronics and Computer Science and have over 30 years of experience in the IT industry. I am currently employed as a Systems Engineer III at CBTS in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Personal Interests

Outside of my professional and volunteer commitments, I am passionate about photography and have earned several awards at my club's annual Art in the Garden event. I am also a proud member of the Sawdust City Corvette Club. I strive to embrace life fully while making a positive impact on those in need.



Ingrid Christianson

Welcome

District Three Conference Workshops

By Yvette Pue & Nanci Schwartz,
Leadership Chair & District Three Secretary



Yvette Pue

Altrusa District Three Conference this year brings three very different and unique breakout sessions that will provide a variety of interesting information and discussion for the Busy Bee members of District Three.



Nanci Schwartz

Everything I know about teamwork I learned from the Bees

Since our District Three Queen Bee, Mantha Young has put us all on a path to Bee Essential to ourselves and our communities, our own clubs are like individual Bee Hives, busily working to make our communities better. And speaking of Bees...one of our breakout sessions will focus on real Bees and how they live and interact with their fellow hive members. Join Chris Bridges, Master Beekeeper from the Spartanburg Beekeepers Association, a group of local beekeepers who meet once a month to encourage better methods of beekeeping, fellowship, and share ideas to further growth and passion for helping honeybees. Chris will explain to us about bee colonies as a super organism. He will discuss hierarchy decision making and teamwork of the hive. Who knows, maybe we can all learn a bit about how to enhance our clubs by learning from the bees.



Knowing our past as we embrace our future

Have you ever wondered about your personal history? Is there a famous historical figure in your past or maybe someone a little less savory? As many of us have long ago relatives that crossed an ocean on a ship to get here, what country did they come from before their journey? How do you find out that information? Come join our Genealogy Workshop and hear from Jeannie Lawson Leake as she shares some of her genealogy journey with as well as providing information on how to have our own journey to find out more about our past. As you start researching who and where you came from, the possibilities are endless. Jeannie found she was related through distant family to Dolly Parton, two United States Presidents, her own husband and even a Salem witch!

Turning the Page on Literacy

Join us for an interactive book club session where we will dive into Sick Puppy by Carl Hiaasen! To participate in the discussion, please make sure to read the book before the conference begins ([click here for a preview](#)). This session is the perfect chapter for anyone who loves to read and is curious about starting their own literary circle. We'll be sharing the success story of the Lake Altrusa Book Club, which was launched in 2021 by the Altrusa International of Lake County literacy committee to truly "walk the walk" regarding literacy. Five years and 60 books later, the club is thriving and growing, proving that the plot only gets better with time! Come learn our favorite tips for hosting your own meetings, share your thoughts on Hiaasen's wild characters, and discover how to keep your own book club's momentum going strong.



Please submit DSB articles to:
Sandy Thompson
sandy@organizemehappy.com

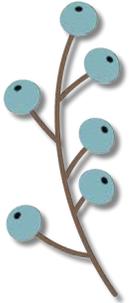
Candidates for District Three Foundation Trustee

By Nancy Shumaker,
District Three Governor-Elect



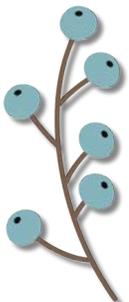
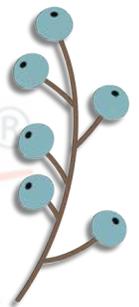
Nancy W. Shumaker

Meet the Candidates



Joanne Brown, an Altrusan since 2013, has been President and Program Chair for her Monticello, Florida club. At the District level, Joanne has used her strong leadership skills at conferences to lead workshops and act as keynote speaker and currently serves as a District Three Foundation Trustee and Chair of the District Three Foundation. A retired veterinarian, Joanne currently is 'farm hand' to a variety of animals she shelters on her Monticello farm. She is involved as Chair of the Awards Committee for the Association of Food and Drug Officials and serves as a Director of the North Florida Back Country Horsemen. Joanne believes strongly in the mission of the District Three Foundation to help communities in many ways and states she would apply her leadership skills to continue fund raising and monitoring the overall actions of the Foundation Board. Joanne believes the Foundation is currently in the best financial situation it has ever been in and she would love to continue to make it even stronger.

Jane Lewis, a member of the Spartanburg, SC club since 2019, served as President in 2023-2025 and is now President of the club's Foundation Board. Jane is proud of the 'club of note' recognition that the club received in 2024 and 2025 during her presidency. Jane also served as the club's New Projects Chair and has been Chair of the Chili Sponsorship since 2021. A charter member of the Spartanburg Uptown Spartanburg Club, she continues to support the club's fundraising events. With 45 years of experience in the pharmaceutical packaging industry, Jane's leadership skills led her to complete her career as plant manager of the Spartanburg division. Now seeking a South Carolina insurance license in order to become a Medicare agent with Wealth Solutions, Jane plans to help seniors select Medicare and ACA options that best meet their needs medically and financially. Jane considers herself a team player and wants to use the leadership, business and people skills learned in her profession to the benefit of Altrusa.



Carol Thomas, a retired graphic designer, has been an Altrusan and member of the Orlando/Winter Park, Florida club since 2003. She served as President of the club in 2010-2012 and has been active at both the District Three and International levels, serving in 2013-2015 as Co-Chair of the District Three Support our Soldiers service project and in 2015-2017 as a District Three Director and International Chair of the Support our Soldiers service project. In 2021-2023, Carol took on the responsibility as Editor of the District Three Service Bulletin. Carol finds attending District Three conferences and Altrusa International conventions rewarding and notes that her service in Altrusa has given her much knowledge about what Altrusans can achieve as leaders in our communities, our District, and internationally. Carol believes that by becoming a District Three Foundation Trustee, she can contribute to the continued success of our District.



2026 District Three Awards Criteria

By Scott Frieser, Vice Governor



Scott Frieser

Name of Award	Description	Level of Award	Due Date	Please note	Send to name/address	Judging Committee
Mamie L. Bass Service Award	Encourage interest in developing hands-on projects that benefit the community	District Three & International	1/31/2026	District winner is submitted to International for competition in the biennium Convention year.	Awards Chair / Vice Governor Scott Frieser 13212 Providence Green Ct. Charlotte, NC 28277 vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com	3 Prominent members of the general public
Letha H. Brown Literacy Award	Encourage interest in developing hands-on projects that benefit the community	District Three & International	1/31/2026	District winner is submitted to International for competition in the biennium Convention year.	Awards Chair / Vice Governor Scott Frieser 13212 Providence Green Ct. Charlotte, NC 28277 vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com	3 Prominent members of the general public
Ernestine Milner Program Excellence Award	Encourage good program planning	District Three	1/31/2026		Awards Chair / Vice Governor Scott Frieser 13212 Providence Green Ct. Charlotte, NC 28277 vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com	3 Prominent members of the general public
Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award	Encourage and stimulate International relations	District Three & International	1/31/2026	District winner is submitted to International for competition in the biennium Convention year.	Awards Chair / Vice Governor Scott Frieser 13212 Providence Green Ct. Charlotte, NC 28277 vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com	3 Prominent members of the general public
Outstanding Community Service Award	Demonstrate member commitment to service projects as a Club priority	District Three	1/31/2026		Awards Chair / Vice Governor Scott Frieser 13212 Providence Green Ct. Charlotte, NC 28277 vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com	Submissions that meet criteria are recognized
Newsletter Award	Encourage publication of timely and informative club newsletters	District Three	1/31/2026	Send 3 consecutive issues from previous calendar year	Awards Chair / Vice Governor Scott Frieser 13212 Providence Green Ct. Charlotte, NC 28277 vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com	3 Prominent members of the general public
Todd Jordan Yearbook Award	Encourage publication of annual club yearbook	District Three	1/31/2026	Send electronic copy of current Club Yearbook in PDF format to Awards Chair.	Awards Chair / Vice Governor Scott Frieser 13212 Providence Green Ct. Charlotte, NC 28277 vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com	Submissions are recognized

2026 District Three Awards Criteria Continued

By Scott Frieser, Vice Governor



Scott Frieser

Name of Award	Description	Level of Award	Due Date	Please note	Send to name/address	Judging Committee
Governor's Outstanding Club	Special recognition by the Governor	District Three	2/28/2026	Send to Governor	Governor Mantha Young PO Box 292 Lake City, FL 32056 vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com	Governor Mantha
Extension Award	Award for chartering new club	District Three	No Application Required	Determined by District records	Awards Chair / Vice Governor Scott Frieser 13212 Providence Green Ct. Charlotte, NC 28277 vicegovernordistrictthree@gmail.com	Governor Mantha
Myrtice H. Price Membership Award	Encourage clubs to make membership a high priority	District Three	No Application Required	Computation obtained from District Treasurer's records as of 1/31/2026	Send membership changes to District Three Treasurer Scott Tice 7610 SW 63rd Place Rd. Ocala, FL 34474 districtthreetreasurer@gmail.com	Based on computation from Treasurer
New Member Incentive Award	Cash awards based on new members gained during the previous year	District Three	No Application Required	Computation obtained from District Treasurer's records as of 1/31/2026	Send membership changes to District Three Treasurer Scott Tice 7610 SW 63rd Place Rd. Ocala, FL 34474 districtthreetreasurer@gmail.com	Based on computation from Treasurer
Membership - Greatest Net Gain	Based on membership gains between 2/1 - 1/31 of the previous year	District Three	No Application Required	Computation obtained from District Treasurer's records as of 1/31/2026	Send membership changes to District Three Treasurer Scott Tice 7610 SW 63rd Place Rd. Ocala, FL 34474 districtthreetreasurer@gmail.com	Based on computation from Treasurer

Please note the following change was approved by the board earlier this year!

The monetary award from the Myrtice H. Price award comes from the \$10,000 endowment within District Three. The interest is calculated as of January 31st of each year.

First, Second, and Third place winners will receive checks for 50%, 30%, and 20%, respectively, of the interest earned annually from the Myrtice H. Price Investment Fund.

In the event of a two-way tie for First Place, the First and Second place awards will be combined and split evenly amongst the winners. If there are three or more winners, the First, Second, and Third places will be combined and split evenly amongst the winners. If there is a tie for Second place, the Second and Third place awards are combined and split evenly amongst the winners. If there is a tie for Third place, the Third place award will be split evenly amongst the winners.

Altrusa International District Three, Inc.

Membership Report

By Scott Tice
District Three Treasurer



Scott Tice

Altrusa District Three Membership as of January 15, 2026

Count of Member Type Row Labels	Column Labels Active	Affiliate	Dual Member	Emeritus	Life	Young Adult	Grand Total
Atlanta, GA	5		1				6
Charlotte, NC	20			1		2	23
Citrus County, FL	20						20
District Three Virtual Club	13		10			1	24
Gainesville, FL	43			8			51
Gastonia, NC	10			1			11
Lake City, FL	76			6		7	89
Lake County, FL	27						27
Live Oak, FL	27			1			28
Marianna, FL	24						24
Monticello, FL	22			2			24
North Georgia, GA	39		1	4		1	45
Ocala, FL	30			3			33
Orlando-Winter Park, FL	36			1			37
Raleigh, NC	14				1	1	16
Salisbury, NC	9			1			10
Spartanburg, SC	29			3		1	33
St. Augustine, FL	13						13
Starke, FL	39			2	1		42
Statesboro, GA	35			5			40
Affiliates	1	8		3			12
Grand Total	532	8	12	41	2	13	608

District Three New Members

By Scott Tice
District Three Treasurer



Scott Tice



Altrusa District Three, Inc.
New Members - Oct. 16, 2025 - Jan. 15, 2026

New Member	Sponsor	Joined
<u>Central Polk County, FL (in formation)</u>		
Annette Jensen		12/9/2025
Ashley Murphy		12/9/2025
<u>Citrus County, FL</u>		
Annmarie Briercheck		10/27/2025
Alicia Downing		10/27/2025
Holli Herndon	Melissa Sutherland	10/27/2025
Jennifer Hooper		10/27/2025
Trish Mlekodaj		10/27/2025
<u>Lake City, FL</u>		
Tosca Moore	Jennifer Anchors	10/28/2025
Mercy Urrutia	Shellie Young	1/12/2026
<u>Marianna, FL</u>		
Jessica Donofro	Kathy Milton Kathy Donofro	11/26/2025
Joy Evans	Edna Riley Kay Dennis	11/26/2025
<u>North Georgia, GA</u>		
Alli Downs	Maggie Edmiston	12/4/2025
<u>Orlando-Winter Park, FL</u>		
Nada Hatoum	Dawn Jones	11/5/2025

Call for Members Celebrating Altrusa Milestone

By Nanci Schwartz
District Three Secretary

Each year at the Altrusa District Three Conference, we recognize Altrusans who are celebrating a membership milestone. If you or a member of your club has achieved 25 or 50 years of service as an Altrusan this year, please email District Three Secretary Nanci Schwartz at napschwartz@gmail.com with the following information:



Nanci Schwartz

- Name of Altrusan Celebrating Milestone
- Years of Service
- Club Name

Help us ensure we honor your Altrusan anniversary by sending the information to Nanci before **March 7, 2026**.




[Click here to download reporting form](#)



The Role of Delegate and Alternate at District Conference

By Penny Penn
District Parliamentarian

During the business sessions at a district conference, matters essential to the governance of the district and other issues of importance are discussed and votes taken. They include election of officers and the nominating committee, amendment of the bylaws and budget approval. Delegates' presence and participation at these meetings are crucial because they serve as the official representatives of their clubs. They speak for their clubs and can provide their members with what is happening at the district and international levels.



Penny Penn

Delegates are selected based on the number of members in their clubs, with a maximum of five delegates per club. Each club may also designate alternates equal to the number of delegates. Upon arrival at the conference, delegates and alternates must confirm their status during registration by ensuring they receive the appropriate ribbon to attach to their badges, identifying them as a delegate or alternate. Badges must always be worn to gain entrance to the meetings. If an alternate's status changes to delegate because of the delegate's unavailability, the Credentials Committee must be notified so the change can be approved. Once an alternate is seated as a delegate, the change is permanent for the duration of the conference.

Delegates should arrive at business meetings no later than five minutes before the meeting begins and sit in the designated seating area. Each delegate is entitled to one vote. When making or speaking to a motion, a delegate should address the chair, identify themselves as a delegate, give their name and club they represent. Delegates wait to be recognized before speaking.

Following the conference, delegates should report back to their clubs to inform them of the topics discussed, decisions made and the impact on or significance of them to the clubs.



2026 District Three Conference Schedule at a Glance!

Spartanburg, South Carolina

Rosemary Leake & Tina Luca Conference Co-Chairs

Schedule at a Glance 2026 District Three Conference



Rosemary Leake



Tina Luca

Thursday, April 23

7:30 – 10:00 pm

6:00 – 7:30 pm

Friday, April 24

8:00 am – 10:00 pm

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

9:00 am- 3:45 pm

1:00 – 2:30 pm

3:30 pm

3:45 – 4:45 pm

5:00 – 6:30 pm

6:45 – 8:45 am

Saturday, April 25

7:00 am – 7:45 am

8:00 am – 8:25 am

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

7:30 am – 2:30 pm

8:30 am – 10:00 am

10:15 am – 11:00 am

11:15 am – 11:45 am

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

1:45 pm – 2:30 pm

1:45 pm – 2:30 pm

1:45 pm – 2:30 pm

2:45 pm – 3:30 pm

2:45 pm – 3:30 pm

2:45 pm – 3:30 pm

3:45 pm – 4:15 pm

4:00 pm

6:00 – 7:00 pm

7:00 – 9:30 pm

Sunday, April 26

8:00 – 11:30am

Pre-Conference District Board Meeting/ Cashmere
Pre-Conference District Foundation Meeting/Gabardine

Pre-Conference District Board Meeting / Cashmere
Registration and Credentials * / Rotunda
District Foundation Auction* / Altrusa Store * / Gabardine

Past Governor's Luncheon / Linen
Meet & Greet for First Timers / Step& Repeat
Hive Time – Meet & Mingle / Linen
First Business Session / Organza B & C

District Foundation Awards Dinner and Annual Meeting / Organza A

Registration Credentials*/Rotunda

Voting / Linen

Vendors/Pre-Function C

District Foundation Auction* / Altrusa Store * / Gabardine

District Awards Breakfast / Organza A

Second Business Session/ Organza B & C

Fun Time "BINGO"/Organza B & C

Leadership Luncheon/Organza A

Beekeepers – Chris Bridges/Organza B

Genealogy/Organza C

Book Club/Linen

Beekeepers – Chris Bridges/Organza B

Genealogy/Organza C

Book Club/Linen

Service Project/ Organza B

District Foundation Board meeting/Gabardine

Cocktail Reception for International Rep / Pre-Function C

Governor's Banquet/Organza A

Post-Conference District Board Meeting / Cashmere

The above schedule is subject to change.

*Registration and Credentials, Altrusa Store and District Foundation Auction will be closed during meals and business meetings.



Conference Service Project

By Deborah McLendon
Service Program Development Chair



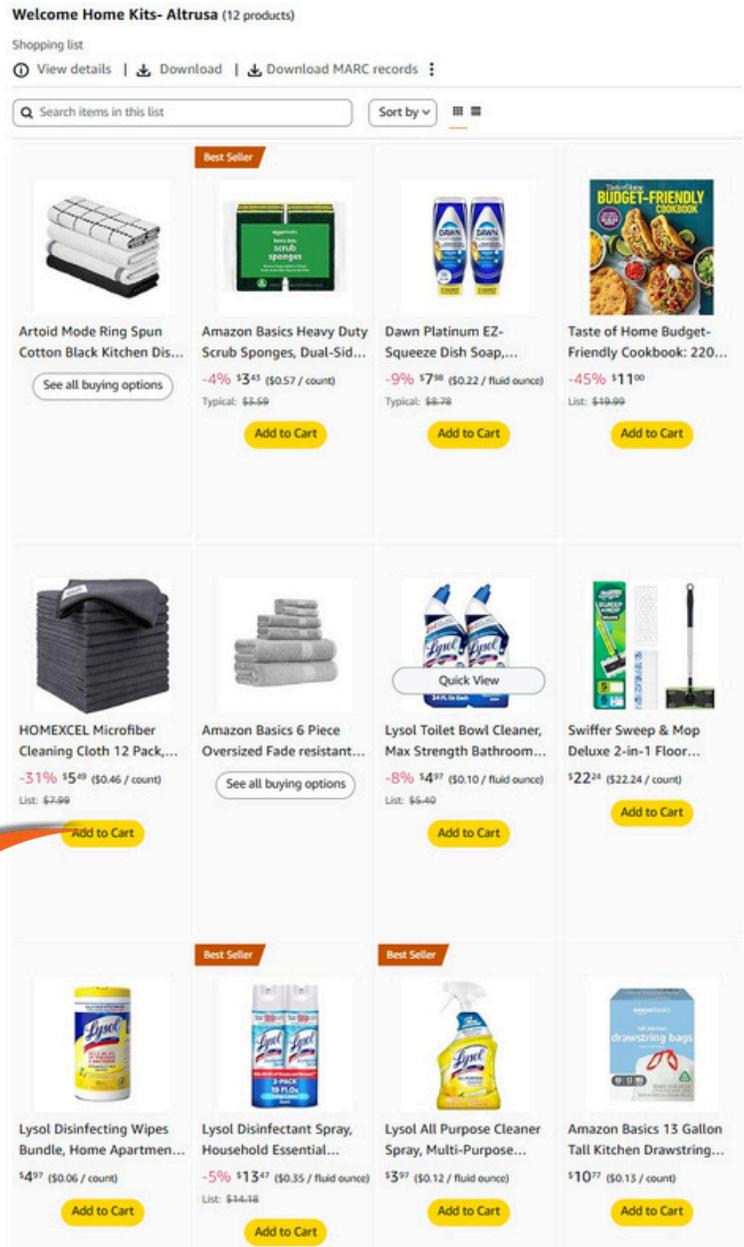
Deborah McLendon

In support of our “Bee Essential” focus this biennium, I am excited to share the two service projects selected for the District Three Conference in April – A Place to Call Home ([A Place To Call Home | Spartanburg, South Carolina](#)) and Help for Our Elderly (helpforourelderly.org).



A Place To Call Home (APTCH) is a coordinated initiative in the Spartanburg area that addresses homelessness and housing instability by developing a compassionate response to ensure that everyone has a safe and secure place to call home. Families and individuals enter and move through the program towards independent living. When the time comes to move into permanent housing, APTCH provides a Welcome Home Kit to help them establish their new household.

The clubs of Altrusa District Three will come alongside APTCH and provide some of these kits. The kits start with a kitchen trash can that is filled with items that you need every day – trash can bags, kitchen sponges, dishwashing liquid, cleaning cloths, kitchen towels, disinfecting wipes and sprays, toilet bowl cleaner, bath towel sets, Swiffer sweeper and mop, and a basic cookbook. The trash cans have already been provided, so all that’s left is for us to fill them! All these filler items have been included in the Amazon wish list link found below. Our goal is to present to APTCH at least 20 complete kits, so I encourage each club to purchase each item on the list for a complete kit. Orders will be delivered to APTCH and the address has already been provided to Amazon. [A Place To Call Home – Welcome Home Kits](#)



Conference Service Project

By Deborah McLendon
Service Program Development Chair



Deborah McLendon



Help For Our Elderly provides supplies and support for seniors in the Spartanburg area who are living at or below the poverty level. They partner with local charities, churches, businesses and community outreach programs to connect with those who need some help with everyday life. The clubs of Altrusa District Three will come alongside them and provide over-the-counter medications that Help For Our Elderly can distribute to their seniors. Items in their wish list include acetaminophen; regular strength and extra strength pain relievers for arthritis and joint pain; arthritis relief gels, creams and patches; antacid tablets; cough and cold medicine; and adult vitamins. All these items have been included in the Amazon wish list link found below. These are individual selections and not part of a kit, so you may order them as you desire. Items from this list will be delivered to Tina Luca and her address has already been provided to Amazon.

Help For Our Elderly – OTC Medications

Time has been scheduled on Saturday afternoon for us to work on the service project and assemble the Welcome Home Kits. I am eager to see all of you at conference this April and to witness your generosity to these two organizations. We will be “busy bees” that afternoon in service to Spartanburg. Thank you so much for your support of the service project.

2026 Altrusa Service Project Help for Our Elderly (12 products)

2026 Altrusa District Three Conference Service Project for Help for Our Elderly, Spartanburg, SC

Reorder list

View details | Download

Product Name	Price	Discount	Quantity	Action
Amazon Basic Care Tussin DM MAX, Cough and Col...	\$5 ⁹⁸ (\$0.75 / fluid ounce)		30	Add to Cart
21st Century Sentry Senior Tablets, 265 Count	\$11 ³⁴ (\$0.04 / count)	-16%	30	Add to Cart
Tylenol Regular Strength Tablets with 325 mg of...	\$6 ⁹⁸ (\$0.07 / count)		30	Add to Cart
Amazon Basic Care Maximum Strength OTC...	\$22 ⁹¹ (\$1.47 / count)		30	Add to Cart
Amazon Basic Care Extra Strength Pain Relief...	\$3 ¹⁹ (\$0.02 / count)	-45%	30	Add to Cart
TUMS Ultra Strength Chewable Antacid Tablet...	\$9 ⁹⁸ (\$0.06 / count)		30	Add to Cart
Motrin IB, Ibuprofen 200mg Tablets, NSAID...	\$19 ⁴⁷ (\$0.09 / count)	-17%	30	Add to Cart
Advil Targeted Relief Pain Relieving Cream, Up to 8...	\$10 ⁹⁸ (\$4.77 / ounce)		30	Add to Cart
Advil Pain Reliever and Fever Reducer, Pain Relie...	\$10 ⁹⁸ (\$0.11 / count)		30	Add to Cart
Voltaren Arthritis Pain Relief Gel, Diclofenac...	\$11 ⁹⁸ (\$7.05 / ounce)		30	Add to Cart
Aleve Liquid Capsules, Naproxen Sodium...	\$24 ⁴⁶ (\$0.20 / count)		30	Add to Cart
Tylenol 8HR Arthritis Pain Relief Caplets, 650 mg...	\$12 ⁴⁷ (\$0.12 / count)		30	Add to Cart



At Conference: First Timers

By Dee Dugger, Randi Kahl & Rosemary Leake
District Three Directors



Dee Dugger

All First-Time conference attendees are invited to a short orientation meeting. At this meeting, there will be a short review of Altrusa, a brief description of the conference, and an activity to help you get to know other Altrusans.

The first-timers event is open to EVERYONE who is attending the conference for the first time. The length of membership doesn't matter; just that you are attending for the first time.

Our conference is shifting from a 3-day to a 2-day format. Our initial first-timer's meeting will be via ZOOM, then we will meet at the conference for a photo-op.

District conferences (and International Conventions) are a great way to meet Altrusans from different states/countries and share ideas on how we can continue to be involved in our communities.

Please consider attending conference this year. We would LOVE to see you there.

At Conference: Altrusa Spirit Award

By Dee Dugger, Randi Kahl & Rosemary Leake
District Three Directors



Rosemary Leake

Altrusa, in the very derivation of its name, is committed to the philosophy of selflessness, the joy of giving rather than getting, and to the search for that happiness which is based upon spiritual worthiness. The District Three Spirit Award recognizes the member who practices the Principles of Altrusa within the organization as well as her/his home community.

Members attending the conference are invited to submit nominations for the 16th Annual Altrusa Spirit Award. The winner will take home the Altrusa Spirit Trophy for the year.

Nominations must be a fully registered conference attendee. Previous recipients of the Altrusa Spirit Award, as well as current District Board Members, are not eligible for nomination. One nomination per attendee.

The winner is selected based on the attributes of the applicant, and the award is presented at the Governor's Banquet on Saturday Night.

Hope to see you there,
Your Directors,

Dee Dugger, Randi Kahl, and Rosemary Leake

Conference Registration

By Coleen Duris & Suzy Meier
District Three Program Coordinators

[Click here to download form](#)



Coleen Duris



Suzy Meier



Altrusa International, Inc. 73rd Annual District Three Conference April 24 - 25, 2026

Hampton Inn & Suites Spartanburg-I-26-Westgate Mall
801 Spartan Boulevard, Spartanburg, SC 29301



Conference Registration (One Member Per Form)

Please Print

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ Home Club: _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Dietary Needs: ___ Vegetarian ___ Diabetic ___ Gluten free Other: _____

Conference Booklet/Materials: ___ Paper copy ___ Electronic Version (please check one)

Please check all of the following that apply to you:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> International Officer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate | <input type="checkbox"/> Incoming President | <input type="checkbox"/> International Rep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate | <input type="checkbox"/> Past Governor | <input type="checkbox"/> Past International President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> District Committee Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> First Timer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District Foundation Officer | | |

Conference Fees

Please register by April 2, 2026. After that date, a \$20.00 late fee will be charged.

Conference fees will be refunded if cancellation is received by April 2, 2026.

Full Conference Registration:

(Includes Friday Dinner, Saturday Breakfast, Saturday Lunch, and Saturday Governor's Banquet (Attire: Cocktail))

_____ \$215.00 _____

Friday Only Registration: *(Includes Dinner)* _____ \$100.00 _____

Saturday Only Registration: *(Includes Breakfast, Lunch, and Governor's Banquet)* _____ \$165.00 _____

Less First Timer Discount: *(Full registration only, check First Timer's Column Above)* _____ (\$ 25.00) _____

Late Registration Fee: *(For registrations received after April 2, 2026)* _____ \$ 20.00 _____

Subtotal Member Registration _____

Guest Tickets for Meals:

Name: _____ Friday Dinner _____ # of Guests _____ @ \$55.00 _____

Name: _____ Saturday Breakfast _____ @ \$35.00 _____

Name: _____ Saturday Luncheon _____ @ \$40.00 _____

Name: _____ Sat. Governor's Banquet _____ @ \$65.00 _____

Subtotal Guest Registration _____

Grand Total Registration _____

Make Checks to: Altrusa District Three Conference 2026

Mail to: Altrusa District Three Treasurer
c/o Scott Tice
7610 SW 63rd Place Road
Ocala, FL 34474
scottaltrusa@gmail.com

Conference Hotel: Hampton Inn & Suites

Spartanburg-I26-Westgate Mall
801 Spartan Blvd, Spartanburg SC 20301
\$124 + taxes until April 2, 2026 (or block of rooms is filled)

To make hotel reservations, hold down your "CTRL" key and click link below:

[Book your group rate for Altrusa](#)

Or Call: 1- 864-699-2222

Ask for hotel code AD3, Altrusa International District Three 2026 Group

District Three Website: [District Three Conference Information](#)

Questions? Rosemary Leake altrusanrdl@gmail.com or Tina Luca tluca_61@yahoo.com

2026 District Three Conference Spartanburg, South Carolina

Colleen Duris
District Three Program Coordinator

Link to Hotel: [Hampton Inn & Suites Spartanburg-I-26-Westgate Mall](#)

Hampton Inn & Suites



1881 Meetings, Meals & Breakout Sessions



Booking Link: [Altrusa International District Three 2026 Conference at HAMPTON INN Booking Code: AD3](#)

Guests may also call the hotel directly to book at 864-699-2222 and request the "AD3" rate for April 23-26, 2026. Those who wish to book online using their Hilton Honors account may do so by inputting the rate code "AD3" under "Special Rates - Group Code."

Please note that the cut-off date is set for April 2nd – about 4 weeks prior to check-in, everyone would need to book by or before then to secure the group rate. Please note that there is a 4 Day cancellation policy in place.

What is there to do in Spartanburg, SC?

- [Top Ten things to do in Spartanburg Video](#)
- [This Charming Town In South Carolina Is So Affordable, You'll Wonder Why You Didn't Move Sooner](#)

Membership

Mantha Young
District Three Governor



Mantha Young

Get ready, District Three... Spartanburg is calling, and we're bringing the FUN with us!

Conference isn't just meetings and business sessions — it's where friendships grow, ideas spark, and new members truly feel the heart of Altrusa. Membership is all about connection, and there is no better place to strengthen those connections than our 2026 District Three Conference.

This year, let's challenge ourselves to show up with intention: invite a guest, bring a prospective member, or encourage that newer Altrusan to attend for the first time. Conference is where confidence blooms, leadership skills grow, and lifelong friendships are formed. It's where we share stories, celebrate service, and leave inspired to do even more in our communities.

Expect laughter, learning, meaningful conversations, and plenty of "aha!" moments. Whether you're a longtime member or brand new, Spartanburg will be the place to recharge your Altrusa spirit.

So start spreading the buzz now! Let's fill the rooms, welcome fresh faces, and make this our most energized, member-focused conference yet.

Because when District Three gathers together... amazing things happen.
See you in Spartanburg!

Conference Fun Time

Amanda Seyfang
District Three Membership Chair



Amanda Seyfang

B-I-N-G-O spells Fun Time!

Fun Time at the Altrusa District Three Conference promises to be both entertaining and meaningful with a lively game of Bingo scheduled for Saturday prior to lunch. This fun-filled break gives members a chance to relax, connect, and enjoy some friendly competition.

Bingo is free to play, but attendees may choose to purchase additional cards as a fundraiser benefiting the District Three Foundation. Multiple payment options will be available for convenience, including cash, check, Venmo, PayPal, and Zelle.

This enjoyable event combines fun and fellowship with the spirit of service, making Fun Time Bingo a perfect reflection of Altrusa values. It's sure to be a memorable highlight of the conference and a great way to support the important work of District Three.



International Foundation: Club 52, Grants and Lamplighter Donations

Martin Houston
District Three International Foundation Liaison



Martin Houston

Your Altrusa International Foundation continues to work hard for all Altrusans in 2025-2026. What used to be Club 21 is now Club 52, continuing to fund international health, education, and childhood illnesses programs through Club 52 grants.

Altrusa Clubs can submit applications for International Foundation project grants by March 15, 2026. Clubs can request between \$400 and \$4,000. Altrusans can find all of the information on the international [website](#).

The Foundation has introduced a new Lamplighter category, the Diamond Lamplighter. Everything concerning donations can be found on the [website](#).

I look forward to seeing everyone in Spartanburg, South Carolina in April for the District Three Conference. I will be selling 50/50 Raffle Tickets as well as Bingo Cards that you can plan during Fun Time. These funds will all support your International Foundation. Please donate today!

Martin Houston
Altrusa International of Atlanta, GA Inc.
District Three International Foundation Liaison

District Foundation Awards, Grants & Joey Robison Scholarship

Joanne Brown
District Three Foundation Chair



Joanne Brown

District Foundation Awards, Grants and the Joey Robison Scholarship
The District Three Foundation Board is pleased to announce the 2026 Awards. The Foundation Awards are:

Cassie S. Dollar Rehabilitative Services Award

Wilma B. Hogan Literacy Award

Lucille Spillers Alexander ASTRA Services Award

Richard Ward Ulrich Environmental Services Award

Vocational Services Award

The Foundation Awards Grid is on the District Three website and the deadline to submit entries is **January 31, 2026**. The Foundation Grant applications and the Joey Robison Scholarship applications are also on the website and due on **January 31, 2026**.

Please email all award submissions to: distthreefoundationawards@gmail.com. We encourage all clubs to submit nominations. We want to hear about all the great ways our Altrusa and ASTRA clubs are impacting their communities! We have exciting news about the changes in the award prizes which will be debuted at the conference in Spartanburg. Grant and Joey Robison Scholarship application are emailed to: district3foundationgrants@gmail.com.

ASTRA

By Jeraldyn Rivest
District Three ASTRA Chair



Jeraldyn Rivest



ASTRA Sponsors, a few reminders about the ASTRA Award and Scholarship deadlines.

ASTRA Service Award – ASTRA Clubs submit entries for the District competition to their District ASTRA Chair by the MARCH 1st DEADLINE (for all districts).

[ASTRA Service Award Guidelines & Criteria \(fillable PDF\)](#)

Please remind your ASTRA students to submit their scholarship applications by the **March 15th** deadline and order the ASTRA Graduation Cords for your Seniors – [Graduation Cords Request Form \(fillable PDF\)](#)

ASTRA High School Scholarships are given by the Altrusa International Foundation as a way to recognize high school senior ASTRA members who have grown through service in ASTRA. A winning applicant will have demonstrated exemplary Altruism within his or her community and must have applied to an institution of higher learning (college, university, tech school, etc.) Up to four scholarships will be awarded annually in the following amounts: Two \$2,000 each and Two \$1,000 each.

- [High School Scholarship Application](#)
- [High School Scholarship Reference Form](#)
- [Aplicacion de Beca Escuela Superior](#)
- [Formulario de Referencia Beca Escuela Superior](#)

ASTRA College/University Scholarships recognize college/university ASTRA members who are actively participating in an ASTRA club, have exemplified a genuine concern for the welfare of others in their community, and have grown through service in ASTRA. Applicants must be an active ASTRA member and must be enrolled in and currently attending an institution of higher learning. When applying, each ASTRA member exhibits their growth in Ability, Service, Training, Responsibility and Achievement through service to their community and sponsoring Altrusa Club. Up to four \$1000 scholarships will be awarded annually.

- [College/University Scholarship Application](#)
- [College/University Scholarship Reference Form](#)

For questions, please contact Jeraldyn Rivest, ASTRA Chair at Jeraldyn@hotmail.com or 704-634-0606.



District Three Website Update

By Emily Pazel
District Three ASTRA Chair



Emily Pazel

To help everyone access up-to-date Conference details, District Three maintains a dedicated Conference page on our district website. Below are step-by-step directions to help you find this information. These instructions are based on viewing the website from a desktop or laptop computer. If you are using a phone or tablet, the layout may look slightly different, but the same menu names and page titles apply.

Option 1: Use the Website Menu (Recommended)

1. Open your internet browser (Chrome, Safari, Edge, etc.).
2. Go to the District Three website [homepage](#)
3. In the main menu, hover over “News & Events”; then click “District Three Conference” from the drop-down menu.
4. You are now on the Conference page.

Option 2: Use the Direct Link (Fastest)

If you prefer to skip the menu, you can copy this address directly into your browser’s address bar:
districtthree.altrusa.org/news-events/district-three-conference/

What You Will Find on the Conference Page

On the District Three Conference page, members can locate:

- Conference dates and location
- Registration forms (including a document version and an editable PDF).
- Club reporting and conference-related forms (for delegates, in memoriam, and member recognition items).
- Conference program and “schedule at a glance” resources, which will be updated and ready as details are confirmed

Thank you for staying connected and using the district website as a source for conference updates and information. I will continue to keep the Conference page organized and updated so members can find what they need as the date gets closer. Please feel free to email me at emilypazel@gmail.com if you have any questions!

In Altrusa Spirit,
Emily Pazel
Altrusa District Three Webmaster



America 250

The America Gives Semiquincentennial Initiative

By Nanci Schwartz
District Three Secretary



Nanci Schwartz

Our nation turns 250 years old on July 4, 2026, and we have a unique opportunity to recognize that by participating in the national America Gives initiative. This initiative is part of the 250th anniversary celebration implemented by the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, which was established by Congress in 2016 to plan and orchestrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The Commission's logo represents its mission in a design which is intended to evoke a sense of commemoration, celebration, and purpose while the flowing red, white, and blue ribbons form the number 250 as a single continuous path, representing the unity, cooperation, and harmony we strive for as a country.

The *America Gives* initiative is sponsored by America250.org, the nonprofit supporting organization to the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission. The goal of *America Gives* is to build on America's legacy of giving back and to inspire a renewed culture of service for years to come. It challenges businesses, non-profits, schools, youth groups, faith-based networks, and organizations of all kinds to commit to increasing their level of volunteering and impact starting on January 1, 2026, and to make 2026 the largest year of volunteer service in U.S. history.

Volunteers from all over our nation are logging their volunteer hours on the America Gives website at <https://america250.org/america-gives/>. How about you?



Conference Silent Auction Fundraiser

“Going, going, Gone!!”

Joanne Brown
District Three Foundation Chair



Place your bids!! The District Three Foundation will be holding its annual silent auction fundraiser at the Spartanburg conference in April. Monies raised will help fund the grants and awards given to clubs! It cannot be successful, however, without your generous support. This will be our major fund raiser this year since there is no dessert dash. We prefer that you bring cash or a check to pay for the items as we pay a surcharge for every credit card charge.

We need clubs to begin thinking about your donation...what basket, hand-crafted item or interesting trinket do you think will bring a good price? This is an example of a basket sold at our 2024 Silent Auction. We look forward to an exciting bidding competition and thank you for your generous support in the past!





District Three Virtual Club: Connecting Altrusans Near and Far

As we begin another year, the District Three Virtual Club remains focused on advancing Altrusa’s mission of service and literacy while building strong connections across geographic boundaries. We are pleased to share that our club now has 25 members and continues to grow.

In December, we welcomed Kelli Preissler of Huber Heights, Ohio, sponsored by Kitty McElhaney and Emily Pazel. In January, we were excited to welcome Peggy Brown of Mission, Texas, sponsored by Judy Perkin and Emily Pazel.

Our club hosted its Annual Holiday Meet & Greet during our December meeting, which included seasonal games and opportunities for members to connect socially. We were honored to have two special guests join us for this event: Christine DeVlieger, International President of Altrusa International, and Kimberly Kierce, District Governor of Altrusa International District Nine (Texas). District Nine is currently exploring the possibility of establishing its own Virtual Club, and our members have been excited to share insights and experiences to support that effort.

Another important milestone for our club was the publication of our first-ever Yearbook, which highlights our members, service projects, and accomplishments since chartering. Creating this yearbook was a meaningful way to reflect on how far we have come and to document the impact of our collective service efforts.

As we look ahead, we are working to launch new service projects and look forward to connecting in person with fellow Altrusans at the District Three Conference in April.

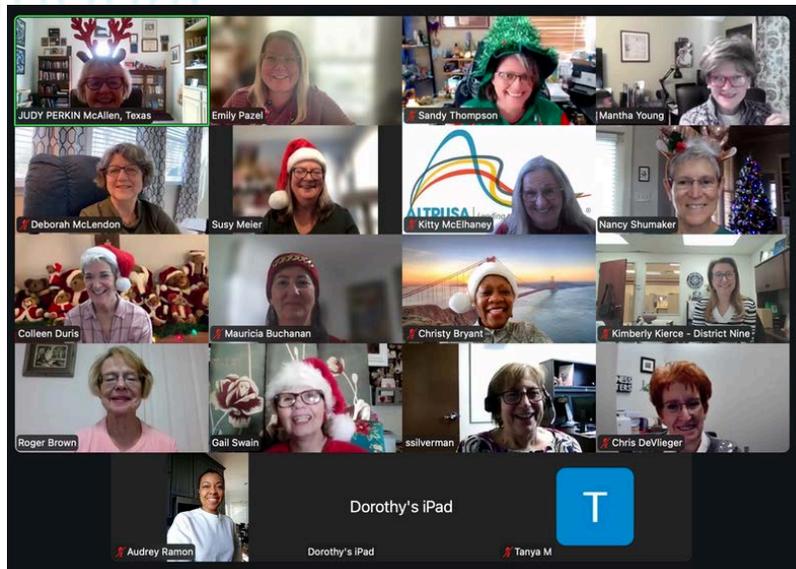
The District Three Virtual Club offers a flexible and welcoming option for individuals who are unable to attend in-person meetings, who do not have a local club nearby, or who wish to connect with Altrusans beyond their immediate community. Our members meet regularly online and remain actively engaged in District and International initiatives.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the District Three Virtual Club and membership opportunities, please contact:

Judy Perkin

President, Altrusa International District Three Virtual Club

Email: batesperkin@gmail.com (Please include “Altrusa District Three Virtual Club” in the subject line)



Club Service Projects

& News

By Mantha Young
District Three Governor

Altrusa International forming in Central Polk County holds Valentines for Veterans event

The new Altrusa International forming in Central Polk County club recently held a community service project. The event was designed to attract potential new members while creating Valentines for Veterans. Annette Jensen and Ashley Murphy hosted the event at the Lake Alfred Library and provided card kits for participants to assemble and sign. Mantha Young, District Three Governor, and Kitty McElhaney, International President-Elect, attended and were able to provide additional information about Altrusa to the attendees. This small group of nine people was able to complete 110 Valentines to be distributed to area veterans.



Club Service Projects & News

By Wendy Williams
Altrusa Intl of Ocala, Florida

Make a Difference Day



Debbie and volunteers



ASTRA

Altrusa International of Ocala traditionally plans a hands-on service project for National Make a Difference Day, which is the fourth Saturday in October. This year, we had exceptional turnout.

The Club supported the Early Learning Coalition of Marion County's diaper assistance program. We hosted a diaper drive for the month of October, donating 2,505 diapers. On October 25, fourteen Altrusans, two guests, and five ASTRA members gathered at the Early Learning Coalition to prepare diaper packages for families in need. The large turnout enabled us to wrap 9,150 diapers and stuff 262 resource bags in two short hours while enjoying snacks and fellowship.



Wagon Debbie, Wendy, Frances



Karen, Brenda, Mary Cay

The National Diaper Bank Network reports one in four U.S. parents miss work or school because they can't afford the daily supply of diapers needed for their child to attend child care. The Early Learning Coalition's diaper assistance program helps eligible families meet an essential need while reducing barriers to child care and employment. The program is 100% supported by community donations, and the local need is increasing. The Early Learning Coalition distributed over 29,000 diapers in 2025, an 86% increase over 2024.



Club Service Projects

& News

By Dee Dugger
Altrusa Intl of Gainesville, Florida



Every child loves a birthday party!



At a recent meeting, members packed 'Birthday Boxes' that were given to the Child Advocacy Center in Gainesville. They will be given to families who foster children or have children in crisis. Every day, 1,200 children enter foster care. On average, they'll spend two birthdays in the system, too often without anyone to celebrate them. The Birthday Box brings joy to kids in foster care by showing them they are cherished and remembered.

Each box includes a pan, cake mix, frosting, and a can of lemon-soda or flavored seltzer water, replaces eggs and oil. A birthday table cover, candles, decorations, a birthday crown, and a goody bag rounded out the box.

Thirty (30) birthday boxes were donated.



Club Service Projects & News

By Mimi Cooper
Altrusa Intl of St Augustine,
Florida



Tis' the Season for Literacy

It all started with Mrs. Claus (aka Altrusan Mimi Cooper) reading Christmas stories to children attending a fundraiser breakfast sponsored by St Francis House and Port in the Storm. These are two facilities working with the homeless population in St Augustine. The children were allowed to choose which book they wanted Mrs. Claus to read. A popular one was How the Candy Cane Got Its Stripe which focuses on kindness and friendship.



All the families received 'Kindness Stars' which is our project to spread kindness throughout our community.



Our final seasonal literacy project was selling our cookbook, What's Cookin' in St Augustine. We sold these at two different outdoor Christmas markets. The weather wasn't very cooperative, it was cold and foggy, but we still made some money for our scholarship funds and had a great time telling folks all about our Altrusa club. We also gave our Kindness Stars to all who stopped by our table.



Club Service Projects

& News

By Pat Cichon
Altrusa Intl of Monticello, Florida



Donation to Jefferson K-12 School Media Center

On October 16, 2025, Altrusa donated \$500 of its Foundation Literacy Grant to purchase hard-bound library books at the kindergarten and first-grade levels. The media center had been shut down since before 2022. This donation will allow the school to replace damaged books and extend the collection with titles and reading levels best suited to the students' needs. Shown here are (front row) JCS Principal Yolanda Smith-Davis and Altrusa President Pat Cichon; (back row) Altrusa members Sally Jordan and Katrina Richardson, JCS Teacher Nicole Roddenberry, and Altrusa members Laura Young and Linda Hamedani.



Providing Literacy Opportunities in a Unique Way



Many of our Altrusa members participate in a twice-monthly food pantry distribution here in Monticello. A bag of food is handed to each vehicle as it makes its way through the line. There are many times that Altrusa members support a community effort like this, but we have added a truly unique twist of our own – at each Altrusa meeting we collect magazines, books, calendars, and puzzle books. At the food pantry as each car is handed their parcel of food, an Altrusan offers a selection of books and magazines for adults and children. It has become a popular feature of the food pantry with clients looking forward to receiving books, along with food, each month.



Kristi Rosende, Altrusa member, sharing books with a food pantry client.



Shown below: A group of Altrusans with their book donations after the November meeting (left to right Kristi Rosende, Cathy Gregory, Joyce Hrynciw, Linda Harmon, Joanne Brown, and Pat Cichon).

Providing Help with the Annual Community Toy Drive

The Monticello community has a toy drive to provide Christmas gifts for local youngsters (JOY Jefferson Outreach for Youth). This year's drive collected enough to provide 165 children with an average of five toys, one book and one stuffed animal each. Here again, this is not an Altrusa project per se but we are aware of a need to make donations and prepare the gift bags for pick-up a few days before Christmas. Altrusa ladies are there to help!! We are already planning for ways to provide more books and blankets for the children in December of 2026.



Altrusa members from left to right: Pat Cichon, Sally Jordan, Cathy Gregory, Vivian Smith, Mary Ann Conner, Kristi Rosende and Joanne Brown.



We Look for Ways to be of Service



Monticello Altrusans are all over town and try to help wherever needed. Altrusa member Sally Jordan was one of many Altrusa members that donated old eyeglasses to the Lions Club in November.



Club Service Projects

& News

By Yvette Pue

Altrusa Intl of Orange-Winter
Park, Florida

Orlando-Winter Park Makes a Difference

Fall is always a busy season for everyone and for the members of the Altrusa of Orlando-Winter Park club, fall provides lots of opportunities to help make a difference in our communities.

For our Make a Difference Day activities, Altrusa of OWP delivered more than 70 books collected during their fall Bunco Fundraiser, as well as more than \$300 worth of food and snacks to the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) for use by members attending counseling services at the center. The Children's Advocacy Center provides assessment, advocacy, and therapy services to abused and neglected children. Often these children are in need of items to support the transition from being taken away from abusive home life. [Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]



Decorating Train Station

Each fall, OWP decorates the downtown Amtrack Train Station, providing a bit of holiday festivities for travelers. OWP members hand wreaths and swags and decorate a tree for the viewing enjoyment of Amtrack customers and employees alike.

Supporting Operation Homefront

On November 16th, members of the club, in conjunction with Operation Homefront and assisted by volunteers from Dollar Tree Stores handed out pre-packaged meal kits (that included mashed potato mix, turkey stuffing mix, pks. of mac and cheese, a pie shell and pumpkin filling, a can of yams and a bag of marshmallows, and an assortment of canned vegetables and cranberry sauce, plus a \$20 gift card), baking kits (potholder/spatula/cookie mix), and craft items. We served 112 military families who were thankful for this gift.



Also working with Operation Homefront and Dollar Tree Stores for the annual Toy Drive, OWP members: collected more than 7000 items from their assigned Dollar Tree stores. On December 4th, OWP members used those toys to assemble 185 gift bags for Operation Homefront to distribute to military families. Additional we assembled 65 Christmas stockings for the Center for Independent Living's Silent Night, 40 gift bags for STEPS, and 90 small gift bags for the Table. Most of the excess toys were used for distribution to other National Guard units as well Seminole, Volusia, and Polk County Schools, and other organizations supported by Altrusa.





Club Service Projects

& News

By Yvette Pue
Altrusa Intl of Orange-Winter
Park, Florida



Stuffing Stockings and Gift Bags full of toys for the Holidays

On December 6th, members provided a holiday party to a group of ladies from the Specialized Treatment, Education and Prevention Services (STEPS) program. STEPS is a private, not-for-profit organizations that offers comprehensive substance abuse education and treatment services to women, men and their children regardless of race, religion or national origin with priority given to pregnant injecting drug abusers, pregnant substance abusers and injecting drug abusers. The Orlando-Winter Park has been supporting STEPS with this holiday event for more than 30 years. The party included tree decorating and photos, lunch and gift bags of personal care items for the ladies in attendance. The next day, members helped distribute the children's holiday gift bags at the National Guard Christmas Party.



STEPS Program

On December 6th, members provided a holiday party to a group of ladies from the Specialized Treatment, Education and Prevention Services (STEPS) program. STEPS is a private, not-for-profit organizations that offers comprehensive substance abuse education and treatment services to women, men and their children regardless of race, religion or national origin with priority given to pregnant injecting drug abusers, pregnant substance abusers and injecting drug abusers. The Orlando-Winter Park has been supporting STEPS with this holiday event for more than 30 years. The party included tree decorating and photos, lunch and gift bags of personal care items for the ladies in attendance. The next day, members helped distribute the children's holiday gift bags at the National Guard Christmas Party.



On December 17th, members coordinated with Brittany Pilcher with Quest to deliver puzzles, board games, and sensory toys, as well as cake and frosting mixes to Quest's Apopka facility. For over 60 years, Quest, Inc. has transformed the lives of thousands of adults and children with developmental disabilities through a range of services proven to increase capabilities and quality of life. From the humble beginnings of a single location serving eight individuals, to currently over 20 locations, serving over 500 individuals each day in Orlando and Tampa, Quest continues to build communities where people with development disabilities experience a full life. In conjunction with the delivery, members toured the Quest Training Facility that provides life skill training for adults with physical and mental disabilities. The facility serves about 80 clients a day who are primarily from the Central Florida area including residents housed in the Quest apartment complex. In addition to an opportunity to socialize in the theater and arcade/game room, clients also utilize physical therapy resources including a fully outfitted gym. Additional enrichment activities include field trips to local sights and theme parks.

Silent Night Event



In early January, members "un-decked the halls" of the Amtrack Train station, signaling the end of the holiday season and the start of a new year. We look forward to 2026 and the opportunities to continue to serve our communities.



*Club Service Projects
& News*
Altrusa Intl of Lake City, Florida,
Florida

Lake City's Epiphany ASTRA Club Visits Courthouse

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025 LOCAL LAKE CITY REPORTER

Epiphany ASTRA Club visits Courthouse

Students met with judicial system officials.

Staff report

The Epiphany Catholic School's ASTRA Club, affiliated with Altrusa International of Lake City, participated in an educational visit to the Columbia County Courthouse last week.

The Nov. 7 visit provided students with an

in-depth look at the local judicial system and the roles of key constitutional officers.

Third Judicial Circuit Judge Leandra Johnson, who also serves as a member of Altrusa International of Lake City, sponsored and coordinated the visit. Throughout the morning, students had the opportunity to meet and learn from five constitutional officers, including Sheriff Wallace Kitchings, State Attorney John

Durrett, Public Defender Cliff Wilson, Clerk of Court Jay Swisher and Johnson.

"This experience gave our ASTRA students valuable insight into how our judicial system operates and the importance of each role within it," Johnson said. "It's always rewarding to see young people engaged and eager to learn about their community and civic responsibilities."

The program was made possible through the efforts

of the State Attorney's Office. Special recognition was given to Lorelie Brannon and Eddylys Chico for organizing an informative and engaging agenda that allowed students to see the justice system in action.

The ASTRA Club, sponsored by Altrusa International of Lake City, encourages young people to develop leadership skills through community service and educational opportunities.



COURTESY

Students in Epiphany Catholic School's ASTRA Club met with Circuit Judge Leandra Johnson, Sheriff Wallace Kitchings, Clerk of Court Jay Swisher, State Attorney John Durrett and Public Defender Cliff Wilson last week to learn about the judicial system.

Club Service Projects & News

Altrusa Intl of Lake City, Florida,
Florida



Make a Difference Day

Members visited Grand Cypress Assisted Living Facility to play Right-Left-Center with residents and delivered books.



Bright Shiny Faces

Members delivered hygiene bags to children at Happy House Daycare as part of our Bright Shiny Faces Program



Pop-N-Shop

Members donated over 35 Christmas gifts for children ages 1-16 to the Gardian Ad Litem.



Annual Christmas Lunch

Members collected pet supplies to support the Lake City Humane Society.



DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

DISTRICT THREE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Governor	Mantha Young	Lake City, FL	AltrusaDistrictThreeGovernor@gmail.com
Governor-Elect	Nancy Shumaker	Statesboro, GA	nancyshumaker.altrusa@gmail.com
Vice Governor	Scott Frieser	Charlotte, NC	Scottfrieser.altrusa@gmail.com
Treasurer	Scott Tice	Ocala, FL	scottaltrusa@gmail.com
Director	Dee Dugger	Gainesville, FL	Ladydragonfly54@gmail.com
Director	Randi Kahl	Orlando, FL	Randi_altrusa@yahoo.com
Director	Rosemary Leake	Spartanburg, SC	Rosemary1976@msn.com
Secretary	Nanci Schwartz	Lake County	napschwartz@gmail.com
Parliamentarian	Penny Penn	North GA	ppenn04@yahoo.com

DISTRICT THREE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ASTRA	Jeraldyn Rivest	Charlotte, NC	jeraldyn@hotmail.com
Bylaws, Resolutions & Recommendations (BRR)	Judy Perkin	Virtual	batesperkin@gmail.com
Club Revitalization	Julie Keiper	Waynesville, NC	julie@techstrategics.com
Communications	Sarah Long	Starke, FL	sarahajp@gmail.com
District Service Bulletin	Sandy Thompson	Lake City, FL	sandy@organizemehappy.com
Finance Committee	Scott Tice	Ocala, FL	scottaltrusa@gmail.com
International Foundation Liaison	Martin Houston	Atlanta, GA/YES	martinhouston@gmail.com
Leadership	Yvette Pue	Orlando, FL	ypue@att.net
Membership	Amanda Seyfang	Starke, FL	aseyfang@gmail.com
New Club Building	LaShone Surrency	Lake City, FL	lsurrency@elcgateway.org
Program Coordinators	Susy Meier Colleen Duris	Atlanta, GA Ocala, FL	susymeier@gmail.com cmdaltrusa@gmail.com
Service Program Development	Deborah McLendon	Statesboro, GA	Dmclendon16@gmail.com
Webmaster	Emily Pazel	Virtual Club/Yes	emilypazel@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CLUB ASSIGNMENTS

Governor	Mantha Young	Lake City, FL	Spartanburg, Ocala, Citrus County, Salisbury & All Clubs in Two Years
Governor-Elect	Nancy Shumaker	Statesboro, GA	Atlanta, Gastonia, N. Georgia, Orlando-Winter Park
Vice Governor	Scott Frieser	Charlotte, NC	Lake County, St. Augustine, Gainesville, Monticello
Treasurer	Scott Tice	Ocala, FL	n/a
Director	Dee Dugger	Gainesville, FL	Statesboro, Starke, Lake City
Director	Randi Kahl	Orlando, FL	Live Oak, Marianna, District Three Virtual
Director	Rosemary Leake	Spartanburg, SC	Charlotte, Raleigh, Waynesville

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

FOUNDATION BOARD 2025-2026

Chair	Joanne Brown	Monticello, FL	joannebrownsvm@gmail.com
Co-Chair	Yolander Hunter	Charlotte, NC	yhunteraltrusa@gmail.com
Treasurer	Shannon Schell	The Villages, FL	seszippy@aol.com
Secretary	Traci Jones	Oviedo, FL	tracijones505@gmail.com
Trustee	Christine Brewer	Lake City, FL	christinegbrewer@icloud.com
Trustee	Constance Larsen	Ocala, FL	connie_d_larsen@hotmail.com

CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

2026			2027		
Tina Luca	Spartanburg, SC	tluca_61@yahoo.com	Amanda Seyfang	Starke, FL	aseyfang@gmail.com
Rosemary Leake	Spartanburg, SC	rosemary1976@msn.com	Rebecca Golden	Lake City, FL	rebecca.golden@fgc.edu

