

Governor's Message



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

AUGUST 2026

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

DOG DAYS OF ALTRUSA

Dear Altrusans,

Dates To Remember:

- August 12: International Youth Day
- September 8: World Literacy Day
- September 15: Deadline for Foundation grant applications
- September 23: International Day of Peace
- October 24: Area Workshops

This seems like a good time to get a glass of lemonade, recline on the beach chair, and take a minute to look at our biennium goals, to see where we've been and where we're going.

SERVICE: We had a high number of awards submissions at the 2026 Conference, and many of the projects reported were partnerships with other organizations. Individually and together, we have assessed community needs and analyzed projects. What worked? What didn't? What kind of impact have we made?

COMMUNICATIONS: We continue to try to improve communications between clubs and between the District and individual clubs. We need to do a better job of marketing our clubs, including service projects and membership drives.

LEADERSHIP: The District Chair has been meeting with the club Chairs, and we are encouraging mentoring and succession planning.

MEMBERSHIP: We have made inroads in starting new clubs and helping under-charter strength, but are still struggling with District net membership. In June 2025, our total membership (active, emeritus, life, young adult) was 252; in June 2026 it was 232, a net loss of 20 members or nearly 8%. Depressing, but there have been encouraging trends. McKeesport went from 7 to 12 members; we have 5 affiliate members; and Prince George's County had a successful membership drive. Re-member, service drives membership, so make sure you're inviting non-Altrusans (including men) to help!

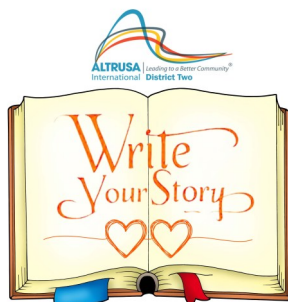
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROJECTS (DAYS FOR GIRLS, SUPPORT OUR SOLDIERS): Our DSBs have included information about both initiatives and we urge all clubs to take part.

As you can see, we have made progress but have plenty of room to grow, especially with membership. I hate to harp on it but I hope everyone is thinking about it and making an effort to bring new people into the fold.

In other news, International has announced the winners of the Distinguished Club Awards. I am proud of the **six clubs in District Two that are Distinguished Clubs** (see page 3), especially our newest Distinguished Club, Capital City, VA. Congratulations, ladies!

Another big round of applause for ALL of us for paying dues on time, and not too early! No club jumped the gun this year, which is much appreciated by the Board, especially the Treasurer who has to keep the budget numbers bal-

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A Library of Altrusans

2025 - 2027

anced. Thank you all!

On the subject of Group Tally, do you have a dual member listed in group tally that is no longer paying dues to your club? Let International know to remove them as a dual member. Has someone been a dual member but now is in your club as a primary member? Let International know that, too.

Finally, I hate to say it but the stores are proclaiming that it's back-to-school time (what happened to summer?). This is a time when there are many opportunities for service. Keep in mind that September is National Literacy Month, and September 8th is International Literacy Day. Supporting our children to become readers is essential to a future of thinking adults. There are many adults struggling to better themselves that need help as well. One in five (20%) Americans read below the level needed to earn a living wage.

Consider applying for a Foundation grant to help you help them, with literacy or whatever service you do. We can make a difference.

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



Congratulations

to District Two's *Distinguished Clubs* 2025-2026:

Capital City, VA

Centre County, PA

Martinsville-Henry County, VA

Montgomery County, MD

Reading-Berks, PA

Tidewater, VA

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

AUG. 2026				
08/01/26	Governor's Newsletter	2025-2027 Governor	Governor	
08/01/26	Start organizing your Make a Difference Day Project	Local Club		
08/01/26	Encourage members to become Club 52 members	Local Club		
08/06/26	Forms due to International Nominating Committee for those who wish to be slated for International Office	Past Governors/Current Board Members	Potential slated candidates	
08/12/26	International Youth Day	Local Club		
08/15/26	Start planning a membership recruitment event	Local Club		
08/15/26	District Service Bulletin articles due	Dist. Board, Comm. Chairs	DSB Editor	
08/15/26	Board of Director nomination forms due to Nominating Committee Chair	District Nominating Committee Chair	Local Club	
08/30/26	District Service Bulletin e-mailing	DSB Editor		
08/30/26	Recommendation for nominations for District Board by Nominating Committee passed to Governor for review	Governor	District Nominating Chair	
SEPT. 2026				
09/01/26	Governor's Newsletter	2025-2027 Governor	Governor	
09/01/26	Consider making a club donation/application to the International Foundation Grants Program	Local Club		Review available grants to determine if Club should apply for an Int'l Grant. Consider making an end-of-year donation to a program of your choice.
09/01/26	Distribute club yearbook electronically	Local Club		Copies to Dist. Board & Int'l Office
09/01/26	Mid-Year District Committee Chair reports to Secretary	District Committee Chairs	District Secretary	
09/02/26	Forward list of interested eligible candidates to all International Officers, Past International Presidents District Officers, Past Governors & Club Presidents providing opportunity for written statements of support.	International Nominating Committee	International Nominating Committee Chair	
09/08/26	World Literacy Day, this is a great opportunity to introduce a new project	Local Club		September is Literacy month.
09/15/26	Grants and Club 52 Program applications due to International Foundation	Local Club		Due September 15
09/15/26	District Awards information e-mailed to Clubs	Local Club	Awards Coordinator	
09/15/26	Letters of Support for International Board candidates due to International Nominating Committee	Those writing letters of support		
09/23/26	International Day of Peace	Local Club		
09/25/26	Conference Proceedings report to Governor	Conference Committee	District Secretary	

**WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS,
WE'D BE A NATION
WITHOUT A SOUL.**

— ROSALYNN CARTER