



Altru NEWS

- DEC 2007
- NUMBER 3
- VOLUME 22

www.geocities.com/districttenaltrusa

Your "LINK" to District Ten

Happy Holidays!



As we look back at our accomplishments during the past year, and forward to what the New Year may bring, may you take the time to see what an impact you have had on your community as an individual and as a club. Altrusans are amazing people. Not only do Altrusans do extraordinary things as a group, but individual Altrusans can be found making a difference in their own ways as well. Take time to reflect and remember that you are important to your families, your friends and your community. And, remember to take time for yourself, too.

This issue of the AltruNews is jam-packed with useful and interesting information. Please take a moment to look through it. You will find information on ASTRA, Membership, and Archives just to name a few. Check out the monthly to-do list. It is a great tool for keeping your club on track.

Nominations for District and International office are due by December 28th. Positions for the District Ten Nominating Committee, International Nominating Committee and International Foundation Board are open. All club presidents, district officers and past Governors received a mailing from Ruth Cook, Nominating Committee Chair. It is important for every club to look at possible nominees for each of these positions. Ruth will be waiting to hear from you!

It may seem early to talk about our 2008 District Ten Conference, but next May will be here before we know it. The Clovis Club "Secret Ops" team is working hard to make this a memorable event. Fun Night will certainly become a "must do" as our Secret Agents leak information in the coming months. Our next issue of the AltruNews will have all the details. Make plans now to attend May 1-3, 2008.

In closing, I wish each of you the most wonderful and exciting New Year. May we all be blessed with peace and love.

Rhoda



LOOK INSIDE

Governor's Message	1
District Officers	2
Officer "To Do" List	2
Membership Report	3
Add An Altrusan	3
Grant Awards	4
Archives... Who Me?	4
Nominations	5
Membership	6
Do They Know...	7
Lifesavers	8
GoodSearch.com	8
District Conference	9
ASTRA News	10

For questions, comments and to report corrections please contact:

Kelly Harms, AltruNews Editor
kdharms93@msn.com

www.altrusa.com

District Ten Contacts

Governor

Rhoda Struhs
4312 South 700 West
Ogden, UT 84405
H-801-621-1490
B-801-538-1650
F-801-326-1539
E-mail: rhodastruhs@yahoo.com

Governor Elect

Ida Bender
11200 Overlook Drive NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111
H-505-299-6214
E-mail: idebee@msn.com

Vice Governor

Donna Herman
P.O. Box 1094
Montrose, CO 81401
B-970-249-7711
H-970-249-6455
E-mail: dlh@montrose.net

Director I

Kim Last
2140 Kennedy Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501
B: 970-257-1630
H: 970-241-7157
E-mail: klast2140@msn.com

Director II

Marian Thompson
2706 Serenata Drive
Roswell, NM 88201
B: 505-627-7248
H: 505-623-4374
E-mail: marian.thompson@wellsfargo.com

Secretary

Brenda Holston
741 E. 750 N.
Ogden, UT 84404
H-801-547-7392
B-801-689-1480
E-mail: bholston@gwic.com

Treasurer

David Mangum
464 Howard Street
P.O. Box 267
Delta, Co 81416
H-970-874-7402
B-970-874-9796
E-mail: dmangum872@aol.com

Immediate Past Governor

Margaret Goodhue
65800 Racine Road
Montrose, CO 81401
B/H/F-970-249-3038
E-mail: mlgoodhue@juno.com

Parliamentarian

Martha Dusio
P.O. Box 352
Montrose, CO 81402-0352
B-970-249-7469
H-970-252-9227
E-mail: martha@montrose.net

District Ten Officer "To Do" List

JANUARY

PRESIDENT

- Elect your Nominating Committee. Committee is composed of not less than three (3) members elected by the membership at least sixty (60) days prior to elections (held in March). Advise committee that DISTRICT CONFERENCE in April or May is a prerequisite for incoming officers.
- Report to the membership on the Board's discussion of the "State of the Club" Report and involve the club in its own sixth month review.

SERVICE COORDINATOR OR VICE PRESIDENT

- Meet with the Service Committee to determine if programming is working for the good of the club.

TREASURER

- December 1st through March 31st NEW MEMBERS pay ½ annual dues.

SECRETARY

- Send highlights of minutes to the newsletter editor, if requested.
- Send President a copy of the minutes prior to each meeting.

FEBRUARY

PRESIDENT

- Report from Nominating Committee to be read before general membership thirty days before March election date.
- Alert all committee chairmen that their yearend reports will be due in May.
- Work closely with Membership Chairman and encourage new members between now and March 31st since half-year dues are now in effect.
- Encourage the club to enter the District Award competitions. Delegate responsibilities for the submittal to the appropriate committee chair.
- All wards are due April 1st, except the Mary Ray Attendance Award, which is due April 25th.
- Also be thinking of submitting for other awards on the International level:
 - Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award
 - Altrusa International Foundation Community Leadership Award
 - ASTRA Award
 - Distinguished Club Award
- Proposed changes in the by-laws for consideration at District Conference must be sent to the District BRR chairman by March 1st. Discuss and prepare ahead.

SERVICE COORDINATOR OR VICE-PRESIDENT

- Club Activity Report is due May 31st to District Membership Chairman. Give all program chairmen a copy and have them begin preparing their section. Remember to send one copy to International for Distinguished Club Award consideration by May 31st.

TREASURER

- After elections, begin sharing information with incoming treasurer.
- Half-year dues are still in effect.

SECRETARY

- Begin preparing record for passing on to next years officers.
- Send the slate of candidates for club officer and director positions to the club membership immediately following receipt from the Nominating Committee.
- Send highlights of minutes to the newsletter editor, if requested.
- Send President a copy of the minutes prior to each meeting.

Altrusa International, Inc., District Ten New Member Report

August 28, 2007 – November 30, 2007

By David Mangum, District Ten Treasurer



Artesia, New Mexico

**Sharon Siegenthaler
Lisa Hobbs-Boons***

Portales, New Mexico

**Marnee Stratton
Sue Bracksieck
Kinsey Barker*
Shannon Hardt
Barbara Royer**

Delta, Colorado

**Peggy Belmire
Allison Garnier
Marie Hymel**

Roswell, New Mexico

**Crystal Chavez
Renee' Roach
Janica Harris
Abigail Smith
Glenda Mitchell
Joan Blodgett***

Montrose, Colorado

**Judy Marrs
Lita Sargent
Elizabeth Esquibel
Jane Gaston**

Ruidoso, New Mexico

**Tanya Hargrave
Janice A. Rogers**

***Reinstated members – Welcome Back!**

Add an Altrusan is coming up in January

Donna L. Herman, Vice Governor

It is vital to our organization that all Altrusans sponsor one new member. It is an obligation of membership. Our challenge for Governor Rhoda's biennium is to recruit, recruit, recruit. Your Strategic planning guide gives the how and where to find new members.

Potential new members are every where. Most times you just need to ask. Recently, I had two people say what is Altrusa when I mentioned it to them. So that tells us we need to make sure that our community hears about Altrusa often, news articles, etc.

Wear your Altrusa pin. It is a good opening to talk about Altrusa. The main thing each of us needs to do is be aware of potential members every day, not just during Altrusa special membership days.

When you get new members be sure to include them on committees and in service projects. They come to us with new ideas and eagerness to work for their community and your club.

FOUNDATION NEWS: “GRANT AWARDS”

By Marian Thompson, District Director/Foundation Liaison

Congratulations to the District Ten Altrusa Clubs of Montros, Colorado and Portales, NM. They were awarded Grants in the September selection for the following projects:

Montrose: “Project Lifeline” \$610

**Portales: “Project Heart” (Healing and Enriching through
Altrus: Reaching Thousands) Program \$1,000**

Entries were slim from District Ten. I know we have Grant eligible projects in this District. Go for it!!

Remember the next submission deadline for Grants is MARCH 15, 2008. The application and guidelines for submission are on the Altrusa Web Site. Remember, if you don't apply you cannot possibly be awarded a Grant.

Again, congratulations to all the members of the Montrose and Portales Altrusa Clubs.

Merry Christmas and Good Tidings to you all!

ARCHIVES...WHO ME?

By Glenda Reid, District Ten Archives Chair

Have you ever picked up an old family album, flipped through the pages and been very disappointed because you didn't know one single person in the pictures? There were no names, no dates or events to tie you to this family. I think many of us have experienced this kind of feeling at one time or another.

As Altrusans we have many years of history to archive and leave for future generations of Altrusans. We should be laborious in saving our materials in scrapbooks as well as telling the story through pictures and handouts from workshops and other programs we have in our meetings, Conferences and Conventions.

Archives help us remember things we tend to forget. Let's take a trip down memory lane through an Altrusa Scrapbook and many will say, “Oh, I forgot we did that. That was really lots of fun and the children enjoyed it so much!” We can improve on projects we have already had, or know a particular project wasn't so successful. We can also get ideas from other Altrusa Clubs who bring posters and scrapbooks to District Ten Conference.

Just remember years from now someone else will be reading and looking at what you archived.

Time is Ticking . . . Please Send in Your Nominations

All club presidents, district officers and past governors received a request for nominations for positions in District Ten and Altrusa International. It is the right, privilege and responsibility of every Altrusa Club, District Officer and Past Governor to submit nominations.

Please act quickly; the deadline is December 28, 2007!

Criteria for Nominees

District Ten Nominating Committee

District Bylaws, ARTICLE IX, Section 3 (c) (ii):

To be eligible for election to the District Ten Nominating Committee, a member must:

(aa) Be an Active Member other Bylaws notwithstanding, and

(bb) Must have served a term as President of a Club

No club may be represented on two consecutive Nominating Committees. Albuquerque, Delta and Tucumcari may nominate candidates from clubs other than their own, but no member from these clubs may serve in 2008-2010. Committee members serve for a two-year term beginning with the close of the Conference at which they were elected. (May 2008)

International Nominating Committee Nominee from District Ten

International Policy 45 (v):

To be eligible for election to the International Nominating Committee, a member must be an Active Member and must have served a term as club president. No member of the Nominating Committee is eligible to be slated for International office while serving as a Committee member.

The International Nominating Committee serves for two (2) years beginning with the close of the International Convention at which they were elected. (2009)

Nominee as Trustee of the International Foundation

The nominee must have served as a club president and have had experience with charitable foundations. The Trustee elected at the International convention will serve a four-year term. (2009-2013)

It is important to **submit your nominations by December 28, 2007. Send to Ruth Cook, Chair of the Nominating Committee, 5915 Bellamah Ave. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110-5223, or email to rphcook@juno.com.**

MEMBERSHIP – Why is it so Important???

Chrissy Otley, District Ten Membership Chair

When my local club has prospective members attend meetings, we tell them about all the different projects we do. Which can sound overwhelming, but then we tell them that we all work together and that they don't have to work on every project and we have FUN working on things together.

The only way a club can continue to support its projects successfully, is to have many members with different talents. Being on the District Board I had the opportunity to learn about other clubs in our District and I learned that membership is the key to a club's future.

I recently did an orientation meeting for my club on membership and I got all the information for the presentation from the Altrusa International website (www.altrusa.com). The following information was submitted courtesy of the Brazos-Waco, Texas Altrusa Club:

It is the obligation and responsibility of every Altrusan to seek out and to sponsor new members continually. To find prospective members should be the top priority of each Altrusa club and each Altrusa member.

What?? I thought my responsibility to Altrusa was to work on community service projects. Hmmh. So I thought about this statement for awhile and then I realized that our club is not successful because of the projects we do. It is successful because of the members that do all the wonderful projects.

Unfortunately, I have seen many wonderful clubs disband because they did not continually recruit new members. We need to invite our friends, colleagues, relatives and people we do business with to become Altrusans. Share your experiences with prospective members. Talk about Altrusa with your friends and co-workers. Don't let Altrusa be a secret, share your clubs success stories with the world. If others know how Altrusa has been a wonderful experience for you, they will want to be apart of it.

Please make it YOUR personal goal to invite/sponsor one new member this year!

Please contact me if you have any questions or need help with membership. I will do my best to help you and your club. My address is 905 W. Runyan Ave, Artesia, NM 88210, phone #'s 505-746-1520 or 505-748-4152, email chriso@ypcnm.com.

"Do They Know How Much We Care?"

By Kim Last, District Ten Director

Have you heard the one about the teacher who's asked, "What do you teach?" The teacher responds, "I teach children."

Ultimately, **we are all teachers**, teaching the children around us all the time. They are little (and not so little) sponges, soaking up not what we say, but what we *do*. Whether the subject is Math, English, Table Manners or Social Interaction, literacy is key. The ability to understand the written or spoken word, to interpret its relevance and apply it to real-world situations, is essential to student success in all subject areas.

Results from recent National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) show that in 2005, 69% of Grade 8 students and 64% of Grade 12 students were below the proficient level in reading. The same results showed 69% of Grade 8 students and 77% of Grade 12 students were below proficient in writing.

Interviews with educators and parents point to two factors affecting students' literacy achievement: student skills and student engagement. The two are fundamentally linked. Educators who teach reading and writing skills without addressing student engagement (the students' motivation, the "why do I care?" factor) are unlikely to yield substantial improvements.

As anyone who has spent time with Middle and High School students can attest, attempting to build skills of disengaged adolescents is a futile enterprise. Whether expressed as defiant noncompliance or passive "checking out," the student who refuses to learn will succeed in that effort.

There is much that we can all do to help create student motivation and engagement. What are the key elements of student engagement? First, *Student Confidence* – a belief that they can influence their own behavior. This is especially important at the adolescent developmental stage, characterized as it is with a strong desire to be seen as competent and to avoid public failures. Ask yourself, "How do I instill confidence in the young people around me?" When you meet a young person's eyes, do you acknowledge them; do you smile and let them know you see them?

Second, *Teacher Involvement*, keeping in mind that **you and I are teachers**. Do you let the young people around you know how much you care and do you encourage them? The caring teacher who believes that students can succeed has a positive effect on students, so that *believing in potential creates potential*. Do you remember the teacher who gave you that confidence, who believed in you? You have that impact on a young person.

Third, *Relevant and Interesting Texts*. It's no use asking, "How is school going?" Kids hear that question all day long. Do you know the words to the music young people listen to? Do you know what they have conversations about amongst themselves? If you don't know, are you willing to be vulnerable enough to ask?

Fourth, *Choices of Literacy Activities*. Who wants to be told what to do? Not me, I'll rebel in a heartbeat and so will most of us. We all want a choice. Adolescent learners often experience rules and regulations imposed on them by adults who do not seem to understand their world. The physical and emotional changes they experience are a further source of feelings that they have no control over their lives. Students who understand the goal of an assignment and feel a sense of control over how they achieve that goal are more likely to work hard even in the face of difficulty.

The point is that, while we Altrusans do a great service providing many, many young people with reading materials that they might not otherwise have, books are not enough. We are people who need people. Kids are people. Even the most dismissive young person needs people, needs you, and probably needs you more than the rest.

Spend some time with a young person. Keep in touch. Take yourself back to their age and tell them a story of a failure, a challenge, a roadblock. Let them know you're not so far apart. Most of all let them know you care. It's what we all need to know.

Lifesavers to the Rescue

www.altrusa.com

By Dona Garretson, International Vice President, 2007-2009
Past Governor District Ten, 2001-2003



Have you explored the Altrusa International, Inc. website lately?? If not, take a few minutes and check out the wonderful improvements at www.altrusa.com. Communication is a must within our organization! As busy Altrusans we need information at our fingertips. We want to be up-to-date on what is happening at the club, district, and international level with the least amount of effort possible.

Altrusa Photo Album is the very first area that comes into view. Among others you will find a photo of the Montrose Club along with information about the Club's Buddy Bag project! Great site to view Altrusans in action!

An information packed link reached from the first screen is **Altrusa Service Projects** where project ideas from all around the world are posted. Zero in on project types, club names, district, award winners, etc. It brings into focus the scope of what Altrusans do.

Down the left hand side of the first page, there are links to ASTRA information, all of the blank awards entry forms and summaries of past winners entries, International Foundation information, listing of clubs by district, copies of the International Altrusan as far back as 2002, access to Altrusa's travel site, Doc Morgan ordering, Visions in the Future (VIF) reports, latest copy of the Altrusa Tradition, and many more areas of interest.

At the International Convention in Orlando, FL in July 2007, the delegates indicated that more and more information should be posted on our website and less mailed directly to members. This indeed will save in printing and mailing costs and more importantly, will allow a faster means of communication to all of us. Be sure to check it out!!

USE GOODSEARCH.COM – EARN MONEY FOR THE FOUNDATION

What if the Altrusa International Foundation earned a penny every time you searched the Internet or shopped online?

Well, now we can!

GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine (i.e, Google) and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results.

Instead of using Google to search the internet, go to www.goodsearch.com and enter "Altrusa International Foundation" when you are asked "who do you goodsearch for", then enter your search terms. Every time you search, the Foundation gets a penny!

Also, GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates a percentage of each purchase to your favorite cause. More than 100 great stores including The Gap, Best Buy and Barnes and Noble have teamed up with GoodSearch and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to support the Foundation and the work it does. Thanks and spread the word!

FROM: International Altrusan OCTOBER 2007 Issue

Why do we have District Conference?

From Encyclopedia

Ida Bender, District Governor Elect

Each District holds an annual Conference in March, April or May. Officers and Directors are elected at the Conference. The District establishes whether elections will be held in odd or even numbered years.

Functions of District Conference

- Conduct the District's official business; elect new officers (in election years); propose amendments to the Bylaws; make recommendations for changes in policies and procedures; propose, discuss, and pass resolutions to be forwarded to International for action.
- Consider matters submitted to the District by the International President, the International Foundation Chair; and Board of Directors.
- Renew understanding and appreciation of Altrusa's principles, ideals, programs, and purposes and identify individual and collective roles in attaining them.
- Review club progress and recognize and reward club achievements.
- Discuss and define better ways to plan and carry out program meetings and club service projects.
- Provide leadership training for club officers and committee chairs.
- Expand circles of friendship and service within Altrusa.

Reasons not listed in the Encyclopedia

- An opportunity to meet and greet your entire District Ten Board, and Officer and Director nominees.
- An opportunity to meet a member of the International Board, bringing International closer to home.
- An opportunity to be rejuvenated, revitalized and re-energized about being a member of a wonderful International organization.
- An opportunity to toot your club's horn and share the wonderful things your club is doing, and provide ideas for other clubs in the District.
- An opportunity to be a leader at the next level, and the guidance to succeed.
- An awesome opportunity to renew friendships that are a bonus of being a member of Altrusa. These are friendships for life, and Conference gives us the opportunity to touch base again, and make new acquaintances, expanding your Altrusa family.

Make all of your travel arrangements through
www.altrusatravel.com



District Ten ASTRA News

By Carol Parker, District Ten ASTRA Chair



District Ten ASTRA Clubs have had a busy fall and summer! Here are a few of the projects happening across the district so far this year: a highway cleanup, Christmas shopping for at-risk youth, collecting personal care items for local and international youth in crisis, serving as waiters for an Altrusa event, funding efforts to combat breast cancer, and making wreaths as a fundraiser. Phew! These youth are making a big time difference in their communities, nation, and world!

The best news is that several new clubs are in the formation stage across the district. The Delta Club will be chartering two new ASTRA Clubs in January. The Cedaredge High School Club and the Delta Opportunity School Club have elected officers and are meeting once a week. Amanda Twamley, Jeannie Brown and Adriana McHugh serve as advisors. Plans are to charter these clubs in January. We are hoping the charter two other clubs before the end of the year.

ASTRA Clubs are a terrific way for Altrusa Clubs to build leadership skills and the habits of community service in youth. By partnering with ASTRA Clubs on service projects, Altrusa members become positive role models and allow both groups to increase their impact. The Montrose ASTRA Club recently participated with the Environmental Committee of Altrusa on a highway cleanup project, doubling the number of participants and creating connections between youth and adults of good will in the community. It was fun, easy, and more fulfilling due to the dual participation.

Need ideas or support to start or revive an ASTRA Club?

Help is available from Carol Parker,

District Ten ASTRA Chair at cpparker@starband.net or 970-240-0421.

