March Already and Spring Forward!

The tour of ACCESS on Saturday, February 15th was a wonderful opportunity to not only learn about the services and resources they have available to their clients but also possible opportunities for Altrusa to provide service either in volunteer hours or donations!

Coming Up! Princess Night on March 14th is always an exciting project this time of the year! We’ve been given publicity which hopefully will result in our serving an increasing number of young ladies going to Prom! Please give of your time for set up and take down so we can share the workload.

We will assemble our Hospitality Bags/Operation Bag Lady kits with personal and hygiene items at our meeting in March at The Venue.

The Nominating Committee will give us a report of the slate of officers for the coming year. It is so important for our club to remain vital that we have members involved in all facets of the club – from service to its administrative functions!

District Conference in Youngstown May 1-3, is a relatively easy drive and I hope many of you plan to attend. We are preparing a basket to contribute to the District Foundation Raffle with an Italian theme: What we have is olive oil, a dipping set with a cruet and saucers; we are asking for contributions – suggestions: pasta, jarred sauce, bottle of wine, etc. You can bring these to the March and/or April meeting. Our own Cathy Hyatt is also working her magic on a Centerpiece for use during Conference which is then entered in to a competition – her centerpiece last year won first place! Let’s root for a Repeat!!

There is a lot going on and we get so busy, it is important to take time to be kind to ourselves, be kind to others, and from the International website, remember this: “We enjoy the friendship, fun and satisfaction that comes from working together for the benefit of others.”

In Altrusa Love,
Barbara
**Our Vision:** Altrusa International of Akron supports and promotes personal growth through opportunities for leadership and fellowship while serving their community.

**Our Mission:** Altrusans do what they can, when they can, how they can, and where they can to improve the lives of those in their local and worldwide communities.

---

**Service**

**Service Committee**  
~Authors~ Meg Griffin & Marcia Gilmore

The Service Committee met in February and reviewed the Member Surveys. Thank you, ladies for your wonderful ideas and participation. We are reaching out to the ladies, that we have selected for current service projects, to request that they submit a service project application for membership approval. We hope to initiate more of the project suggestions, as time permits. We did approve the 210 Open M Christmas Basket Service Project application. This would make this service project an ongoing project with funds being used from our Foundation Treasury, not to exceed $ 100.00. This will be presented at our March program meeting for membership approval.

A reminder to the Service Project chairs to review your current year's finances for your project for any surpluses or deficiencies. Budget requests should be submitted for your service project to the Foundation Treasurer prior to May 15th per our Financial policies.

**Princess Night**  
~Author~ Linda Rittenour

PRINCESS NIGHT PROJECT – MARCH 14TH

We are ready for a great day filled with many smiles and happy tears on March 14th at Akron Altrusa's Princess Night Project. Please try to be in attendance. We need all members who are able to help. Nothing else can replace the feeling which comes from observing the expressions on the faces of the girls when they find that perfect dress!

**ACCESS Info**  
~Author~ Margaret Hoffner

On a recent tour that Altrusa took of the ACCESS shelter, Stephanie Zelasko, the Director of Advancement, mentioned the need for donations of women’s gently worn clothing. She suggested current-season appropriate clothing, and is able to accommodate a few large boxes or bags. The excess will be taken to The Haven of Rest at Stephanie’s suggestion. Margaret Hoffner will be collecting any clothing you would like to donate, and if you bring it to the next Altrusa meeting on the 19th, she can drop it off at ACCESS with the surplus being donated to The Haven of Rest.

**Helping Hands**  
~Author~ Janet Coomes

It’s almost spring. When doing your spring cleaning, keep Helping Hands in mind for sheets & gently used towels. Our supplies are running low. Any kitchen items are always needed. Silverware, miscellaneous utensils, plates, bowls, etc.
**Scholarship**

~Author~ Kerry Sutherland

Project Learn has awarded our group with the Philanthropic Literacy Leader Award for this year for our grant of $400 towards GED test fees for Project Learn students. Barbara Simons and Jacque Johns will be attending the awards ceremony on March 14, during which other members of the community will be recognized for their support of Project Learn and literacy.

Olivia Wright has been selected as our scholarship award winner this year. She recently completed hands-on coursework at the Akron CNC Training Center and is employed in the field, so the $500 award will go to defray tuition she is still owing the school. Olivia and Akron CNC Training Center owner, Laurie Norval, will be our guests at our March dinner meeting.

**Finance**

No Report

**Communication**

No Report

**Membership**

~Author~ Shelley Kendrick

Just a reminder, please come prepared to fill out the sheet(s) at the front table with your Service Hours. We did not have them available at the last meeting due to the change in location. If you have questions on how to complete the form, we can assist you.

**FYI** I will accept your annual dues at any time. The cost is $98.00. If you have questions, don’t hesitate to ask.
Upcoming Events:

Princess Night  March 14, 2020

District
The 2020 District Five Conference will be held
May 1-3, 2020
Holiday Inn – Boardman, OH (Youngstown)
7410 South Ave.
Boardman, Ohio
I hope many of you will be able to attend!

International
Next Convention
July 21-25, 2021 Quebec, Canada

March Birthdays
Sue Goodyear  Jill McKinney
President: Barbara Dull
Immediate Past President: Linda Rittenour
Vice President: Beth Haas
Secretary: Marilyn White
Cynthia Danals
Operating Treasurer: Shelley Kendrick
Directors (2018-2020): Christine Walton, Yvonne Smerick
Directors (2019-2021): Marcia Gilmore, Kerry Sutherland
Foundation Treasurer: Liz Mahoney
Newsletter Editor: Shelley Kendrick
Yearbook Editor: Nancy Kuenzig

**Altrusa Meetings/Administration** - Time spent on Club, District or International operations. (Includes activities such as yearbook, newsletter or website preparation, internal operating committee meetings, planning and execution of leadership training, serving as presenter/facilitator/delegate at conventions or conferences, etc)

**Altrusa Service** - Time spent for service projects and activities sanctioned by Altrusa. Includes time spent in planning, preparation, execution and evaluation of external fundraisers and Altrusa service projects.

- (Operating and internal fundraisers to fund the operating budget do NOT qualify for service projects.)

**Other Service** - Number of other volunteer service hours donated to non-Altrusa organizations (for example, volunteer work in hospitals, schools, libraries and not-for-profit organization.)

Attached to this email is the history of Project LEARN in Summit County. Our own Jacque Johns has written this for us.

Thanks Jacque!