

**Altrusa International, Inc. of Grand Rapids, Michigan
PO Box 601
Grandville, MI 49468-0601**

Charis Austin

October 6, 2022

Sandy Schultz, Editor

**Brann's Steakhouse
4175 Division Ave SW
Wyoming, MI 49519
6:00 PM**

President's Message

The main purpose of the October meeting will be used for member installation and orientation. We have three members who have not received orientation to Altrusa. The Board decided at our September meeting that we all could use a refresher, since for many of us it has been years since we had orientation. Yes, we can all read our Altrusa Encyclopedia, but it is different from hearing from long-time members why you are still here. We started as a women's organization and now men are included.

The Board has requested that we do what we can to cut down the amount of repetitious business we do during meetings. This means that reading the newsletter and working on committee business between meetings is important. We want to concentrate on new ideas for service which will attract members. Remember our membership goal is to be at full charter by the 2024 conference.

To ensure that everyone can hear, I am bringing a PA system which has two microphones, one of which is wireless. Everyone says that they can talk loud enough and don't need a microphone. Not an option because we want everyone to hear what is going on.

Sandy is our Club Liaison for conference. She will be our contact with the Conference Planning Committee. The District Five board meeting will be devoted to planning the conference. The other clubs who help us will be helping with things during conference. Our hosting responsibility is our club's responsibility. By the time you read this, we may have had the extra meeting to go over the conference timeline and host committee responsibilities. If you were unable to attend the meeting on the 24th, we will make sure that you receive a copy of the information we hand out during that meeting. No decisions were made during that meeting. We just reviewed materials explaining the host club responsibilities and timeline too complete them.

During our October meeting we need to pick a committee to plan the Christmas party. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please let me know.

The next committee to appoint is the Nominating Committee. This should be done by the January meeting so that there is time to ask people to run for office and have the election in April. New officers will be installed in May and will assume their responsibility in June.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our meeting on Thursday, October 6.

October Meeting

As Charis stated, this meeting will be concentrating on Installing Cherie Fuss as a member and Orientation for the club.

Sandy will be bringing the Membership Roster for all members. If your information is not correct, please advise Sandy and she will issue the corrections.

Service Committee News and notes

Habitat Restore

We have an opportunity to volunteer at the Habitat Restore at 5701 S Division in Kentwood on October 8 from 10-12 or 10-1. This is a volunteer opportunity for our club, so let Wanda know if you are able to participate.

Days for Girls

We have a work day scheduled for October 22, 2022 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM at Aurora Pond, 2380 Aurora Pond Dr SW, Wyoming, MI. Please join us for fun, work and laughter.

Fundraising projects

Sandy has the prices from Bob's Butcher Block and will give a very brief update.

We do not have a Parade Home in the Fall Parade. Jan reports that we will have a home in the Spring parade in 2023.

We are once again selling Key Cards as a fundraiser. We have ordered 25. The cost is \$30.00 this year and the club keeps 50% of each book sold.

A suggestion has been made that we participate in the Wine and Beer Festival downtown on November 18 and November 19. We would take shifts and the club would receive either \$9.00 or \$10.00 per hour for each person who participated. We would use these funds for our club operating budget expenses. Jodi Pederson will have more information at the meeting.

International 500 Books to 500 Kids Project

We have moved all the books for this project to the storage area at Ferrand Estates. Denise has the information for getting into the area to pick up items. Please bring any books you have to Denise so she can put them in the area we have. We are also looking for suggestions for where to distribute the books so please let us know of your suggestions!

October Birthdays

Kyle Austin October 31

Conference Planning Meeting.

We held a planning meeting on September 24. Sandy passed out information and then emailed the information to those unable to attend the meeting. The pertinent information is on the page marked "Time Line". This gives us guidance on when items need to be completed.

Highlights of the meeting:

The Conference Theme needs to be decided on by January and presented to District Five for approval. Governor Tami's theme is "Reform the Norm" and our theme must incorporate that as well. We also need to come up with the "Call to Conference" for Sunday morning. Please bring your ideas to the November meeting so we can discuss them as a club and make a decision.

The committees needed for Conference are:

Decoration Committee, Conference Bag Committee, Expeditors Committee, Entertainment and Special Events, Display and Vendor Committee. Please consider which committee you would like to serve on and let Sandy know.

October Board Meeting.

The October Board Meeting will be held at Russ' of Wyoming on October 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM. As a reminder, anyone is welcome to attend the board meetings OR to let any board member know of any concerns so the board member can bring it before the board.

Items for Archiving.

The club has several boxes of items for archiving that we agreed would go to Grand Valley State University. If you have any that you want to add, please bring them to the meeting to give to Sandy as she is going to get them take to the Archivist in October.

