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Featured

- 2** Reminders
- 3** Leadership Biennium Goals
- 4-5** Service Workshops Recap
- 6-7** Biennium Logo
- 8** Membership Biennium Goals
- 9** United Nations Day
- 10** With Heart & Mind
- 11-12** M&Ms
- 13-15** District Three Highlights
- 16-17** Communicating for Impact
- 18-19** District Eight Highlights
- 20** Mamie Moment
- 21** Foundation

Dear fellow Altrusans,

I hope this finds you getting ready to enjoy another season. I love living in northern Illinois in the fall. Sweater weather with warm days/cool nights, campfires, visits to apple orchards, football games, and the changing colors of leaves in the trees.

This change in the air also applies to a new biennium. The energy and enthusiasm from the 2025 International Convention in Quebec was phenomenal! A big thank you to Immediate Past President Linda Smith, Convention Co-Chairs Brenda Smith and Susan Porazzo, District One, the Quebec Club, the International Board, and the International office staff. The workshops, keynote speakers - actually the entire convention was fantastic! There was plenty of sharing of ideas and camaraderie. My dream for those of you who attended Convention is that you share the joy of attending Convention and visiting Quebec with your fellow club members. Let's continue sharing this excitement about Altrusa with others by passing it along.

The newly installed Board of Directors and International Committees have hit the ground running and are starting to meet already. Board meetings will be held several times throughout the year, so if you should have any issues you would like to bring before the Board, please contact me or our Executive Director.

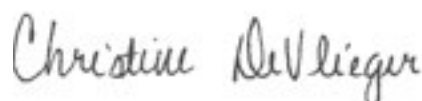
Our website has been updated to reflect the new International Committee leaders and members. These industrious groups have already started their work for the biennium, including articles for this publication. Please check out the Altrusa website and feel free to follow up with them concerning any questions or concerns you may have.

We are off to a great start with the addition of a new club in Waxahachie, Texas. Their charter event was September 27th. You can find more information about them on the District Nine Facebook page and join me in welcoming them to Altrusa. We have several other clubs in formation, so we look forward to more charter events in the future.

In addition to our international project of Days for Girls, we will continue the literacy challenge of distributing 1,000,001 books this biennium and 500,000 literacy service hours. Keep counting and tracking your donations and service hours. Together, we can achieve this goal.

So get your favorite fall beverage, sit down, and relax while reading this edition of The Compass. Not only have I included several articles in this publication, but your new International Committee leaders are excited to share with you what they are working on. I am eager to kick off the biennium and get to work. I look forward to serving with all of you to continue leading to a better community.

With Altrusa Love,



Christine "Chris" DeVlieger
International President

Reminders

- Since our old Facebook page was unfortunately deleted, follow Altrusa International's new Facebook page [here](#). Also, don't forget to follow us on [Instagram](#) so you can stay up to date with our organization's happenings.
- President Chris is continuing previous bienniums' service project - the Literacy Challenge. Remember to keep track of books and service hours donated [here](#).

Navigating the Web...

- Important websites to know!
www.altrusa.org (click Member Login in the upper right)
login.altrusa.org (go directly to the members area)
www.altrusastore.com (purchase Altrusa branded items including pins and banners)
www.altrusaservice.org (browse and share your club's service projects) **(Not currently active.)**
- Give us some feedback and share your thoughts on improving Altrusa with the [Suggestion Box](#).
- If you have forgotten your password to the site please send an e-mail to Altrusa@altrusa.org or call the International Office for assistance.

Important Dates

- October 1** International Day of Older Persons
- October 16** World Food Day
- October 24** UN Day
- November 16** International Day for Tolerance
- November 25** International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women



Leadership Development Committee Biennium Goals

Karyn Evans, International Leadership Development Committee Chair

The International Leadership Development Committee was very busy during the Convention. We were pleased to welcome large groups to both Workshops, Legacy of Leadership. Please look for the materials on the International website. Wednesday morning, we were excited to lead our first meeting with 11 of our 14 new Governors-Elect. A follow up Zoom meeting was held for the three who were not at Convention.



The Leadership Committee members are looking forward to answering your leadership questions and assisting you however we can.

Karyn Evans	Chair	District Five
Linda Dorr	Vice Chair	District Two
Sue Whitaker	Fiscal/Group Tally	District Six
Ashley Mason	Communications	District Ten
Rebecca Wood	Secretary	District Eight

The Leadership goals for this biennium include:

- Deliver high-quality, relevant, and comprehensive training for Governors-Elect
- Develop a practical resource manual to guide audits at the Club and District levels
- Serve as reliable source of leadership knowledge, tools, and support for all Altrusa members
- Build a strong, inclusive community that promotes the growth and development of current and future Altrusa leaders

The first Governor Elect monthly Zoom training was held September 15 with President Chris DeVlieger as the guest. This biennium, the training includes a Book Club. The GEs were provided with a list of books with topics including leadership, conflict management, and non-profit organizations. President Chris led the discussion on *Who Moved My Cheese*.

Be sure to join us on Facebook to see what is happening with leadership. We encourage you to share how your club or district is developing leaders.

Service Convention Workshops Recap

Scott Tice, *International Service Program Development Committee Chair*

Workshop Recap: Partnerships for Service that Empower Through Literacy

The purpose of the workshop was to enable Altrusa Clubs to build partnerships that empower communities through a wide range of literacy efforts.



At the 2025 Altrusa International Convention, our literacy workshop focused on expanding the approach to empowerment through literacy to include not only traditional reading and writing, but also multilingual, digital, and financial literacy. Together, we reflected on which areas our clubs already support, which we have yet to explore, and where new opportunities may lie. While challenges such as limited resources, finding collaborators, and balancing new and existing projects were acknowledged, we also shared ways to overcome them through strong community partnerships with schools, libraries, literacy councils, and other organizations.

Altrusa Clubs inspired us with a wide range of creative projects including book drives, bilingual story times, summer bridge programs, and international initiatives in Mexico, Kenya, and Tanzania. We also discussed the growing importance of digital and financial literacy in helping both children and adults thrive in today's world. The session closed with a call to action to celebrate International Literacy Day, collaborate with at least one new partner, expand or innovate a literacy project, and share our impact stories. Together, we affirmed that literacy remains at the heart of empowerment, equality, and lifelong learning.

Resources shared: Power Point Presentation, "Digital Literacy and our Children" resource, More Ideas for Literacy Resources, Worksheet for clubs/boards for project development

Workshop Recap: One World – Collaborating in International Service

The purpose of the workshop was to improve the quality of life in our worldwide community by giving each Altrusa club the opportunity and resources to build an impactful international service project.

(cont. pg. 5)

At the 2025 Altrusa International Convention, our One World workshop encouraged Altrusans to expand service beyond local borders and embrace international collaboration. We discussed common challenges such as finding dependable partners, ensuring accountability abroad, and balancing new efforts with local projects. We explored ways to overcome these challenges by starting small and partnering with schools, civic groups, faith-based organizations, and international charities.

Clubs shared inspiring examples including literacy projects in Mexico and Tanzania, clean water initiatives in Kenya, Malawi and Guatemala, medical aid through the Pill Bottle Project, educational supplies and scholarships, and partnerships with Days for Girls to support women's health worldwide. Creative ideas like cross-cultural story hours, international festivals, and multicultural speaker series also highlighted ways to build awareness, enthusiasm, and potential collaborations. Participants left with a call to action encouraging Altrusans to celebrate international observances, take on at least one global project per year, and share impact stories that reflect Altrusa's commitment to service across our world.

Resources shared: Power Point Presentation, "More Ideas" sheet with examples and contact information, Days for Girls Information sheet, Worksheet for clubs/boards for project development



2027 International Convention
Columbus, OH
Wednesday, July 21 - Saturday, July 24



Love, Literacy & Legacy...the 2025 – 2027 Biennium Logo

By Chris DeVlieger



As we embark on this new biennium, it is under my theme of “Love, Literacy & Legacy”. I chose “love” because it embodies several things for me. First, let’s make sure we are doing some thing we love. Many of us joined and remain in Altrusa because of the service we are privileged to be part of. Spreading kindness and enriching the lives of others fills my heart...and I hope it does the same for you. Love comes from serving others.

The second word for my theme “literacy” - was easy. I love books, and I love to read. Reading has played an important role throughout my whole life for a variety of reasons. Literacy was one of the primary reasons I joined Altrusa. Did you know that the literacy program “Action for Literacy” was voted upon by the Convention

Body at the Brighton, England 35th Convention in 1977? Then during the International Convention held in Dallas, Texas in July 2001, literacy was adopted as our international focus, to be promoted throughout our association. In other words, we serve our communities through our literacy projects. Therefore, we will continue the book challenge established initially by Past President Kathy Folley and then Immediate Past President Linda Smith.

The last word “legacy” simply stated means lasting impact. Last year, I visited Altrusa’s collection of historical documents at the Archives Department of Ball State University with my dear friend, Anne Condran, where Altrusa history came alive for me. Not only was I able to hold the original Articles of Incorporation for our association, but I held the actual Principles of Altrusa written by Mamie Luella Bass. It was here where Mamie’s legacy came alive for me. Through her writings, you understand the challenges and struggles she and others had back in 1917. Suffrage, suppression, war, lack of technology, etc. If Mamie can build an association through all of that, so can we.

One may say that legacy encompasses the memories, teachings and experiences one leaves behind. But what is missing in that thought is that your legacy is actually built in the now. Your legacy is created in the way you show up in each minute of the day. It comes through in every interaction you have, and it is built with every action you take. The more focused you are on what matters and the kind of change you want to make in the world, the more likely you will be able to create a legacy that has a positive impact. That’s what Mamie did, and what we need to do now. Let’s focus on our exciting future.

(cont. pg. 7)

The 2025 - 2027 biennium logo pictured above was introduced during Convention in Quebec. I am thankful that Gillian Allen took my idea and initial drawings to create the logo before us today. I am also pleased to offer you the opportunity to purchase apparel with the 2025 - 2027 biennium logo. Currently, short sleeve polos shirts and long sleeve shirts (both men and women's size) are available through <https://altrusathibodaux.company.site/> or you may contact Gillian directly at gillianallen.altrusa@gmail.com

If you wish to add the Altrusa International logo to the bottom of the new biennium logo, keep in mind we must comply with trademark regulations (i.e. size, font, etc.). Contact Gillian to discuss any questions about the logo.

Please note the cost of the shirts includes tax, shipping and a \$2 per item donation to the International Foundation. I feel it is important to support the philanthropic arm of our organization that supports our grant program which clubs are eligible to apply for in order to enrich lives and our communities for generations to come.



Cliff Allen and Chasity Cheramie, Altrusa International of Thibodaux, LA

Membership Development Committee Biennium Goals

Kristi Burnett, International Membership Development Committee Chair

Altrusa International Convention in Quebec City was amazing! Getting together new long-time friends and then meeting in person those we follow on Facebook or chat through email is a highlight.

President Chris DeVlieger introduced her new committee leaders and members on Friday afternoon. It was thrilling to have the entire Membership Development Committee in attendance at the convention.



Welcome!! International Membership Development Team we may be small but we are mighty:

District Six:	Nancy Norris, Chair	n2norris@comcast.net
District Eleven:	Melinda Aguirre, Vice Chair	Melinda.aguirre84@yahoo.com
District Four:	Gillian Allen	gillianallen.altrusa@gmail.com
District Ten:	Judy Stubbs	judystubbs27@gmail.com
District Twelve:	Dena Burian Blacklaw	spirit2736@yahoo.com
District Fourteen:	Virginia Caballero	caballero_vi@hotmail.com

Our team is here to help. We will be contacting the District Membership Chairs and Governors to provide support. If there is any way we can assist, please let us know at membership@altrusa.org or at our personal emails.

Biennium Goals:

- One new member for each member
- Streamlining new member process
- Establishing onboarding of new members
- Developing ways to engage Young Adults
- Collaborating with District Membership Chairs
- Creating new member challenges

We are excited and looking forward to a awesome biennium!! Biennium theme: Love, Literacy, and Legacy!

United Nations Day

Kathy Schrein, Altrusa Representative to the United Nation's Department of Global Communications, Civil Society Unit/NGO

Ah! The 59th Altrusa International Convention has come and gone. However, the Altrusans who came as members left as friends; the sessions attended focused on new ideas for ongoing projects and possible Club activities.

Concerning 2025-2026 projects and new activities, your United Nations (UN) committee held two interactive workshops-"Be Part of the United Nations Sustainable Developmental Goals" and "Celebrate the United Nations Days of Observance". Both of these 1-hour sessions have been videoed taped and will soon be available for distribution by Altrusa International!



October 24, 2025 will celebrate one of the most important Days of Observance-United Nations Day! The 2025 theme will be "Cooperation Builds A Better World".

Eighty years ago, an article forming the UN by 60 countries was ratified. In its founding charter, the UN made a commitment to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly international relations and to promote social progress, higher standards of living and human rights, (Our own Eleanor Roosevelt chaired the UN's Human Rights Committee as selected by then President Harry Truman.)

On this day, a concert is held every year in the General Assembly at the NYC Headquarters and in UN offices in Vienna, Geneva, The Hague and Nairobi. In the UN's General Assembly, there are 193 member states with equal representation.

Perhaps your Club might want to help honor this world-wide UN celebration. Ideas: Actions/projects-

1. Host an International Fair at a local school or network with area World Affairs groups.
2. Attend a cultural presentation at area college/university
3. Serve an international dinner at club meeting
4. Develop project for Altrusa's Nina Fay Calhoun International Award
5. Have a UN Birthday Party!

Altrusans can be part of the world's largest intergovernmental organization, working at the community level for global welfare and international relations--at home with local activities, sharing the UN's mission!

With Heart and Mind: Shaping a Future of Service through ASTRA

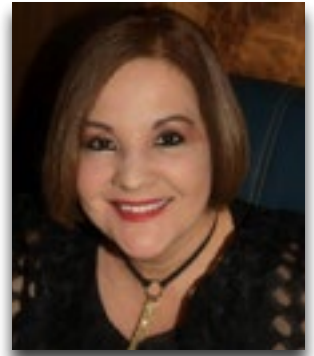
Mabel Acevedo, International ASTRA Committee Co-Chair

In every act of service, every word of encouragement, and every moment of listening lies the quiet power of mentorship. As Altrusa members reflected, shared, and imagined new ways to uplift ASTRA students, one truth stood out: mentorship is not only about what we do—it's about how we show up.

With open hearts and thoughtful minds, we become more than mentors—we become guides, role models, and catalysts for change. ASTRA is more than a student program—it is a pathway. Every student we empower becomes a legacy in motion, carrying the values of love, literacy, leadership, and service. We are the building blocks of responsible citizens who will contribute to society through service—and, in time, many will carry that spirit forward as future Altrusans.

Forming and nurturing ASTRA Clubs is essential to this mission. These clubs create a structured, supportive environment where young people can lead projects, develop skills, and put their values into action—building the confidence and leadership needed to shape communities for years to come.

Our investment in the next generation begins with intentional, compassionate mentorship. Let's be present with our full selves, listen deeply, encourage authentically, and share what we know—not to instruct, but to inspire.



When we mentor with both heart and mind, we light the way for students and grow future leaders. The heart brings passion and empathy; the mind brings clarity and strategy. Together, they create a lasting impact that transforms lives.

Let us keep planting, mentoring, and believing—in a future where ASTRA and Altrusa thrive, connected by purpose and driven by our belief in the potential of each new generation.

Together, with heart and mind, we shape the future.

M&M's

By Chris DeVlieger

I have loved M&M's for as long as I can remember. When I was growing up, M&M's were plain chocolate and came in six colors. In addition to them tasting great, I enjoyed them because they did not melt in my hands and make a mess which was a plus for a neat freak like me (even as a child). Over the years though, M&M's introduced peanuts, almonds, peanut butter cream as well as many other varieties and different colors for the holidays. You can even now order custom M&Ms direct from the factory with special designs like we enjoyed at the 2025 International Convention in Quebec. That's why I have chosen to combine my love for Altrusa and M&M's to create a visual theme this biennium.

The First M&M - Membership & Marketing

We have a legacy rich in service and leadership. In order for us to grow as an international organization and continue leading to better communities, we must find new ways to attract and retain members. After all, Membership Matters. For us to achieve our membership goals in our Long-Range Strategic Plan, the International Board and Membership Committee is looking forward to collaborating on some innovative programs and resources to assist Clubs. This also includes succession planning or as I like to refer to as "building up leaders" (in reference to #1 of the Principles of Altrusa). We will share more about these initiatives as soon as possible, including the reporting of new measurements in the next publication.

With our organization providing over 100 years of leadership and service, I am looking forward to developing strategic partnerships with other non-profit organizations, potential sponsors, and vendors. My dream for this biennium is to be the service organization of choice. I believe the creation of a marketing plan will assist us with the endeavor. We will also look into branding initiatives at both the international and local levels to help us accomplish this. If any Altrusan has experience with marketing and branding, please contact me at cmdevlieger27@gmail.com to participate in this Task Force.

The Second M&M - Mamie Moments

We have a beautiful history of leaders who overcame challenges and grew our association. I have a deeper appreciation and understanding of this after visiting Altrusa documents archived at Ball State University. I enjoy history, so I was excited to learn more about Altrusa and Mamie Luella Bass. My excitement quickly became a little emotional. What I underestimated was the wealth of historical information and how humbling it is to be an Altrusan holding the original documents which Mamie wrote. I was also surprised to discover other Altrusans who played equally significant roles in launching Altrusa. Understanding our history is essential for ensuring continuous improvement and that we will be around another 100 years. Therefore, during this biennium, each Compass publication will contain a "Mamie Moment." A little bit of history for us to learn, understand and grow from.

Those who have gone before us built a solid foundation and left a legacy of lasting impact for Altrusa. It is time to take those values and share them with others. Now is the time for growth, and growth requires change, communication, courage, compassion and cheering each other on. All it takes is to believe in the power of "1". For example, each Altrusan who attended the 2025 International Convention in Quebec brought a book(s) as their "admittance ticket" for Saturday's banquet. Over

The Altrusa Compass

370 books were donated to the Quebec Club for a new service project. They were impressed by the generosity of fellow Altrusans and incredibly grateful. Consider this simple act of donating one book. 370 lives were enriched. That is why this biennium, we will continue with the challenge of donating 1,000,001 books. Now imagine if each of us recruited one member, how much more service we could provide in our communities and the world. Then imagine adding a new club in your district. Dare I dream of adding a new District... 😊

For those of you who attended the 2025 International Convention in Quebec, I hope you have had a chance to share the enthusiasm and energy from attending the convention with your club. This is an exciting time to be an Altrusan. I would like you to remember the words of Mamie Luella Bass in the Principles of Altrusa – “Altrusa believes it is not enough to be good; Altrusans must be good for some thing.” Together, let’s make every moment of this biennium truly magical and do some thing meaningful by leading to a better community.



District Three is Buzzing!



ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL
OF OCALA, FL
**\$5,000
DONATION**
SUPPORTING EDUCATION

PACKING PARTY

PACKING PARTY! ROWAN
HELPING MINISTRIES, THANK
YOU FOR ALLOWING
ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF
SALISBURY, NC TO SERVE.





District Three

Page Two

Ice Cream & Books

WHAT A DAY! ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF STARKE, FL HAD AN AMAZING TIME CONNECTING WITH THEIR COMMUNITY WHILE HANDING OUT FREE BOOKS AND ICE CREAM TO THE KIDS!





District Three

Page Three

Back to School Brigade

THANKS TO THE GENEROUS DONATIONS OF DOLLAR TREE CUSTOMERS, ALTRUSANS OF ORLANDO-WINTER PARK, FL MEMBERS COLLECTED AND SORTED SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR LOCAL MILITARY FAMILIES AS PART OF THE OPERATION HOMEFRONT "BACK TO SCHOOL BRIGADE." THEY ASSEMBLED 120 BACKPACKS FOR THE STUDENTS THIS YEAR.



NOURISHING WITH LOVE



STATESBORO, GA, ALTRUSANS SERVED AT THE SOUP KITCHEN, PREPARING 200 LUNCHES AND A HOT MEAL WITH CARE.



SERVICE BEYOND BOUNDARIES

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF NORTH GEORGIA MEMBERS RECENTLY DELIVERED DAYS FOR GIRLS ITEMS TO TRANSFORMING LIFE IN NICARAGUA

Communicating for Impact: Altrusa Charts a Stronger, More Connected Future

Pam Grantham, International Communications Committee Chair

“Communication is the thread that ties us together.” That simple truth was at the heart of the Communication Workshops at the 2025 Altrusa International Convention in Quebec City. For two days, Altrusans gathered to explore how we can talk with one another—and with the world—in ways that strengthen connections, spark ideas, and move our mission forward.



Two Voices, One Goal

The International Communications Committee, led by myself (Pam Grantham) as Chair and Vice-Chair Jeraldyn Rivest, had the privilege of guiding members through two workshops. Though each session had a different focus, they shared a common purpose: helping us tell Altrusa’s story boldly and making sure every member feels included in the conversation.

Jeraldyn and I often joke that she’s the “external voice” and I’m the “internal voice.” At Convention, that balance came to life.

Telling Our Story Beyond Altrusa

In her workshop Engage & Inspire: Communicating with the Community Online, Jeraldyn reminded us that Altrusa isn’t just about service projects—it’s about the lives touched along the way. “Every project is a story waiting to be told,” she said, urging clubs to capture moments of impact through photos, short videos, or even a heartfelt social media post.

She also shared some of her favorite tools, from AI-powered design platforms to volunteer-matching sites, that make it easier than ever to spread the word. With a little creativity and a willingness to experiment, our service can shine far beyond our club walls.

Strengthening Connections Within Altrusa

My session, Together We Strive: The Power of Internal Communication, turned the spotlight inward. One of our biggest challenges as an international organization is making sure that information flows smoothly from International to District to Club—and back again.

I spoke about the importance of clear guidelines, designated liaisons, and digital tools like Zoom, Teams, and Google Workspace. But most importantly, I emphasized listening. Communication isn’t just about what leadership shares—it’s about making space for members’ voices and ideas.

When everyone feels heard, we build not only stronger communication but also stronger trust.

(cont. pg. 17)

Goals for 2025–2027

At Convention, our committee shared three guiding goals that will shape our work for the next two years:

1. Improve communication between organizational levels so every member feels informed, aligned, and connected.
2. Strengthen Altrusa's presence outside the organization by using social media to showcase service and invite others to join.
3. Increase brand visibility so Altrusa presents a consistent, recognizable identity to the world.

We're already working on resources—like communication toolkits and digital storytelling guides—that will help clubs and districts bring these goals to life.

Moving Forward Together

The takeaway from Quebec City was clear: communication isn't just about information—it's about connection. By telling our stories more boldly and listening more openly, we strengthen Altrusa from the inside out.

The whole Communications Committee is here for you, ready to support and encourage every club as we grow together. Whether you're experimenting with a new social media idea or navigating how to keep your club connected, we're just an email or message away. Together, by communicating with clarity and purpose, we can inspire, connect, and grow Altrusa's impact for years to come.

Tips for Clubs: Putting Communication into Action

- **Tell Your Story:** Highlight service projects with short videos, photos, or member testimonials.
- **Use Multiple Platforms:** Share updates through social media, newsletters, and local press.
- **Designate a Communications Lead:** Assign a member to coordinate your club's communication efforts.
- **Leverage Digital Tools:** Use Zoom, Teams, or Google Drive to stay connected and collaborate.
- **Ask for Feedback:** Regularly check what's working and adjust as needed.
- **Be Consistent:** Keep up a steady rhythm of communication to engage members and the community.

District Eight Highlights



Children's books in French donated



Parade of Banners



Governor Sarah Akin



District Eight Members



Vickie and Corretta help with Days for Girls at both St Louis and Lawrence KS workshops



Thanks to Sally and Sammie for their help Hosting Lawrence workshop



Christmas Shopping in Quaint Quebec City

Mamie Moment

Organized We Spread Over The Earth

“Plunged in the midst of a world war, surrounded by industrial conditions such as the world has never dreamed of, with the face of business entirely changed in every aspect, with the position of women such as unheard of before, we stand in this convention as sponsors of a great women’s movement which is unlike any women movement ever before put forth. It is only the shallow thinker who is not convinced that organization is the only tool worth using in these days when great needs exist. The individual is valuable to society only as she harnesses her energy to those of her associates who work with the same high ideals and noble purposes as she also has glimpsed and moves on without thought of self to a high goal of helping society. Alone our sphere is limited. Organized we spread over the earth.”

Mamie Luella Bass, President of National Altrusa Institute
Convention Speech June 22, 1918 Indianapolis News

**Don't forget to follow
our Altrusa International
social media pages!**

We post club service projects,
updates from the International
Office, club updates, and more
to help grow our membership.



[@altrusa](https://www.tiktok.com/@altrusa)



[@altrusainternational](https://www.instagram.com/altrusainternational)



[@altrusaintl](https://www.facebook.com/altrusaintl)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 59TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

The 59th International Convention proved to be a resounding success, offering Altrusans from every District the chance to reconnect, celebrate achievements, and exchange ideas. With Clubs and Districts from across the globe represented, the Convention highlighted the strength and unity of Altrusa's mission while honoring outstanding service and commitment.

One of the biggest highlights came from fundraising. The International Foundation announced an impressive **\$68,900** raised in donations—the largest amount ever collected at a Convention. These funds will further Altrusa's work in communities worldwide and stand as a testament to the generosity of members.

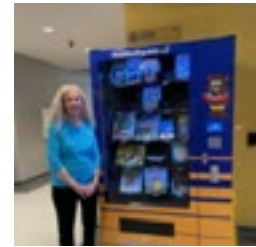
This year also marked the introduction of a new recognition: the **Wilma B. Hogan Enduring Community Project Award**. The inaugural honor went to Altrusa International of Highland County, Ohio for their Books for All project, which has made a lasting impact by increasing access to reading materials.

The **Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award** was presented to Virginia Smith, with award proceeds designated to benefit Breckinridge Elementary Magnet School in Lexington, Kentucky.



Pictured Left: Bright Elementary principal and students with Altrusa of Highland County members. Karen Robinson (left), Foundation Chair 2023–2025, presents the monetary award check to Karyn Evans (right), member of Altrusa International of Highland County, OH.

Pictured Right: Virginia Smith and Students of Breckinridge Elementary Magnet School.



The **Debby Weber Awards** celebrated excellence in giving by Altrusans. For Largest Total Donations, winners included:

- 1st Place: Altrusa International of Muncie, IN
- 2nd Place: Altrusa International of St. Louis, MO
- 3rd Place: Altrusa International of DeKalb County, IL

For Largest Total Per Capita, winners were:

- 1st Place: Altrusa International of St. Louis, MO
- 2nd Place: Altrusa International of DeKalb County, IL
- 3rd Place: Altrusa International of Fox Valley, IL

Introducing Club 52: Honoring Our Legacy, Building the Future

Another highlight from the Convention is the official transition from Club 21 to **Club 52**. Two Hundred Seventy-Four Altrusans attending the Convention became Charter Members of Club 52. This new chapter invites everyone to contribute **\$1 per week for 52 weeks—for a one-time donation of \$52**—to continue and expand the legacy we've built together.

All who donate from July 2025 through May 31, 2026, including at Spring 2026 District Conferences or via our website—will be recognized as Charter Members of Club 52.

Clubs and Districts contributing \$252 or more during this period will also be recognized as Charter Members and will receive a Club 52 patch for their banners as a symbol of their commitment and impact.



Click [HERE](#) to Become a Charter Member Today!



The Convention not only honored achievements but also set the stage for continued growth, service, and fellowship in the years ahead.