

District Service Bulletin

MICHIGAN AND OHIO



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Governor Shelley's Letter

Welcome to 2026. We are surviving the snow and cold but we know spring is just around the corner and with that Conference. The 71st District Five Conference will be here sooner than we realize. Together we will be "Poppin along the Altrusa Trail". Just as popcorn pops and transforms, our District is embracing change, trying new ideas but also retaining the old. All of this will make our journey more dynamic and engaging.

What all can you look forward to at Conference?

There will be opportunities to participate in hands on activities. We will start on Friday night with "Adding Flavor to Every Meeting". You will learn new ideas on having fun at meetings. Would you like to know more about the Altrusa structure? At our all-member session on Saturday, you will find out "Who's in the Bowl, What We're Popping, Why It Matters" Interested in Google Tools, we have "Pop into Google". Do you have concerns on how you balance work, life and Altrusa? "Buckets of Balance" may provide you with ideas to help you through that. The "Different Kernels, Same Pop" panel discussion will enlighten all of us on the topic of Inclusion. We will explore new ways to recruit members via social media as we participate in Kernels of Wisdom. Do you need new ideas for international service projects? Join us for "Shared Snack, Shared Mission". We will be sharing a presentation from the International Convention. It includes International service projects from multiple Altrusa clubs. Have you struggled with small projects, those we can do at a meeting? "Small Acts, Big Pops" should assist with new ideas. Remember, we always welcome ideas from all of you as well.

All this and more! Relationships will be renewed and new ones made. Special thanks to our host club, Marion. Without them, we wouldn't be poppin! I look forward to meeting many of you at Conference. Only by poppin along together will our Conference be successful. Your ideas and willingness to share is a vital part of the event. Together, we will keep "Poppin along the Altrusa Trail, embracing, celebrating success and making 2026 a great year! See you in Lima!

Register now!
Shelley



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Calling all Experts!

Are you skilled at any of the below platforms?

- WordPress
- Canva
- Website Building

Please email McKenzie Dinger at mthemaltrusa@gmail.com for more info.

Check us out on:

Facebook: Altrusa District Five

YouTube: @altrusadistrictfive (Subscribe)

District Website: <http://districtfive.altrusa.org>

Important Dates:

February 11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science
March 08	International Women's Day
March 20	International Day of Happiness
May 15	International Day of Families

Workshops:

“Popping up with New Ideas, New Energy, New Connections – Round table discussions

Come with your questions and experience to discuss topics such as Group Tally, Canva, ASTRA, Membership, AI and different communication apps. If some of the topics are new to you, this is an opportunity to learn. If you are already familiar you can share your knowledge of the topic.

“POP into Google Tools”

Google Tools

Google Tools has much to offer the user and it's FREE. This workshop will provide an overview of some of the components of Google Tools. Topics will include Google Drive, Google Docs, Sheets, Slides and Forms and much more.

This workshop will give attendees hands-on opportunities. To get the most out of this presentation, you need a gmail account and need to bring a laptop or tablet to follow along.

“Kernels of Wisdom”

Social Media and Membership

Pop into Engagement! This interactive workshop serves up fresh ideas on how Altrusans can use social media to attract, engage, and retain members. Grab a seat, share your kernels of experience, and leave with strategies that really pop.

“Different Kernel, Same Pop”

Inclusion

We are planning a panel discussion on meeting the needs of all the members. We want to be inclusive and accessible for all our members. Please plan on joining us at Conference and bring questions!



“Buckets of Balance”

Balancing Life & Leadership

Explore positive ideas of how we can all balance a life of volunteer service amongst the chaos of competing deadlines, communication challenges and personal responsibilities to family, friends and self.

“Small Acts, Big Pops”

Simple Service Projects

It was our founder Mamie L Bass in her Principles of Altrusa who wrote “Altrusa believes it is not enough to be good; Altrusans must be good for something”.

In our pursuit to be “good for something” we explore, plan, and carry out many types of projects for our communities. We even look beyond our local communities to discover ways that we can help throughout the world. Many of these projects require a great investment in time and resources. At Conference we will look at simpler less time-consuming projects, Small Acts, that also have a meaningful impact Big Pop. Please bring your ideas to share at conference as we warm up the kernels and Pop up some ideas to pursue service in a small way but with a large impact.

“Shared Snack, Shared Mission”

International Service

Do you struggle with finding International projects? If so, this workshop will assist you. First presented at the International Convention, this workshop will present ideas on new projects. You will see what other clubs throughout Altrusa have done.

2026 District Five Conference:

When: April 24-26, 2026

Where: Howard Johnson by Wyndham Lima, 1920 Roschman, Ave., Lima, Ohio 45804

Theme: “Poppin’ Down the Altrusa Trail”

Come ready to learn, share ideas from your club, and reconnect with Altrusans from across Ohio and Michigan. We look forward to seeing you there!

What to Bring: “Dress for Success” school supplies to donate (First grade – Eighth Grade), Club banner, Club basket contribution for the Foundation, trifolds for the trifold competition, money/checks to purchase items, and laptops or tablets to better engage in workshops!

Friday:

- Registration opens at 1:00 p.m.
- Marion Club invites everyone to participate in the service project benefiting “Dress for Success”.
- Orientation sessions for First Timers and Delegates begins at 6:15 p.m. and will be reprised on Saturday Morning.
- A Dinner Buffett will be provided for all conference attendees between 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- Opening session starts at 7:00 p.m. featuring a fun, interactive workshop with a *SWEET* Surprise.
- Snacks and drinks will be available in the hospitality room. Gather with new and old friends!

Saturday:

- Registration opens at 7:00 a.m.
- Club Presidents and Past Governors are invited to a special breakfast hosted by the Governor at 7:30 a.m. All other attendees will enjoy a breakfast buffet.
- The General Business Session begins at 9:00 a.m. focusing on District and International updates, along with voting.
- An All Member Session will be held to give every detail of Altrusa! Come interested in learning the who, what, why of our organization.
- The Awards luncheon will highlight the great work and community service happening across the District beginning at 12:30 p.m.
- Members will have an exciting slate of workshops to choose from.
- Meet and greet Kitty McElhaney, International representative from District Three, at a reception in her honor prior to the 6:30 p.m. banquet.
- Following the banquet, fun and fellowship continues in the Hospitality Room.

Sunday:

- A Memorial Service at 8:00 a.m. will honor Altrusans we have lost since our previous conference, followed by an Inspirational Service with an uplifting message.
- Brunch and Closing Session begin at 9:30 a.m. Sunday highlights include: the announcement of the Club winners of the International Awards, plus the 2027 Call to Conference from the Bucyrus Club

Vendor Tables will be for Altrusa Club Vendors only and are first come, first serve this year. This is an excellent opportunity to raise money for your Club’s operating budget.

The Altrusa Store will be open to purchase logo items and sign up for Club 52. Foundation basket raffle items will be on display. Marion Host Club will have 50-50 tickets available to benefit their service projects. Live auction items will be offered by the District.

Conference FAQ:

What should I bring to Conference?

Bring your Club Banner for the Roll Call of Clubs on Saturday morning.
Some workshops are hands on, so bring your laptops and/or tablets

Dress?

Business casual

First Timers

There are two sessions, Friday and Saturday, to assist you in what to expect at Conference.

Delegate Responsibilities

Serving as a delegate or alternate is an honor. It also comes with responsibilities. When you vote it is not yours individually, it is your club's vote. Make sure you have discussed it with your club prior to Conference. Delegates will be seated in a designated area. There will be two orientations offered to prepare you for this responsibility. First Timers will also have orientation to prepare you for what is ahead. These will be held on Friday and Saturday.

Most important!

Bring yourself. Put aside all the outside influences that seem to get in the way. The weekend is to learn, share, meet new friends, get acquainted with old friends, and most of all have fun!!

Reminder

For any District event for which a registration fee is charged, a written request for refunds must be submitted to the Governor and approved by the Board. Applicable refunds will be made as follows:

31 days prior to the event, a 90% refund will be made after the close of Conference, 15 to 30 days prior to the event, a 50% refund, there will be no refund if received between 0-14 days prior to the first day of the event.

2026 Conference Foundation Raffle:

As District Five's mission to support the Altrusa International Foundation, now is the time for clubs to begin planning for their raffle item donation. Each club is asked to provide a raffle item, at \$50 or more in value. If an individual would like to provide additional raffle items, these will be graciously accepted. District Five clubs are encouraged to be creative, be imaginative, be generous with your item – your club's donation could be the highlight of the raffle event.

Raffle tickets will be available for purchase during the Conference. However, for those who would like to support the International Foundation but are unable to attend in person, tickets are also made accessible remotely. This month, club presidents will receive a signup sheet intended to be shared at club meetings, allowing members interested in participating to sign up for raffle tickets. Each sheet of raffle tickets is priced at \$20.00, providing 25 chances to win. Additionally, purchasers of raffle sheets are entered for a special door prize, further enhancing the excitement and opportunity to contribute.

This is more than a raffle – it is a way for District Five Clubs to show our commitment to the Altrusa International Foundation. Let's make 2026 our most memorable and impactful year yet!

Club 52:

At the District Five Conference in April 2026, Altrusans will have the opportunity to become charter members of Club 52. At the 2025 International Convention in Quebec City, Club 21 transitioned to Club 52 to meet commitment to children's camps for those living with disabilities and serious illnesses but also extends support to international healthcare and educational projects that make a difference worldwide. Individuals can contribute \$1 per week for 52 weeks, amounting to a one-time gift of \$52 each fiscal year. For clubs and districts, the recommended annual contribution is \$252, enabling Altrusans to unite and amplify their collective impact.

District Five currently has 16 charter members. Let's see if we can reach over 100 Altrusans as charter members to support the important and needed initiative of Altrusa International.

Marion Service Project:

The Marion Altrusa Club will host their 16th annual Dress for Success Project in 2026. Members take children who need some financial help shopping for new school clothes. Each child also receives a backpack filled with school supplies and reading books. The backpacks are customized to match each child's school supply list. We hope to support 30 children this coming school year. The following are a few of the most needed items. Also listed are a few classic book titles we also provide these children. Your support and donations will be greatly appreciated.

School Supplies:

24 count crayons
wide ruled composition notebook
pencils
scissors – blunt and pointed end
erasers – large pink and pencil top
wide ruled filler paper
wide ruled spiral notebooks
highlighters

New or gently used reading books:

Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
Charlotte's Web by E.B. White
Matilda and/or The BFG by Roald Dahl
The Lord of the Rings by JRR Tolkien
Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor
The Secret Garden by Frances H. Burnett
The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe by CS Lewis
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle
Harry Potter (any of the series) by JK Rowling
The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams
The Cat in the Hat or any other title by Dr. Seuss

Trifolds:



DON'T FORGET YOUR TRI-FOLDS!

Remember to bring your tri-folds to the Lobby by 5 pm on Friday of Conference for display, “Fundraisers” but specifically for your operating budgets.

Judging will be based on the following:

- Originality/Creativity
- Lay Out
- Clarity
- Materials
- Visual Appeal

If you wish to participate send an email to Peggy Harrison, pharrisonaltrusa@gmail.com

Judging will be conducted by our International Representative and a member of the hotel staff.

Plus, for all of your work, first place will receive \$50 and second \$25.

This is a great opportunity to share and give new ideas to other clubs, Let's work together to make fundraising even more successful for every club!

Don't forget to pick them up after 9:30 am on Sunday.

Vendor Tables

Once again we will offer vendor tables for our Altrusa clubs. This is a great opportunity to raise funds for your operating budget. Since this is a biennium of change, there will be no charge for the tables this year but this will be treated on a first come/first served basis. There will be 8 six-foot tables (16 spots).

If you would like to reserve a space, contact Sandy at sschultzaltrusa@gmail.com.

Deadline to reserve is April 4th.

Memorial Form:



Memorial Form

Your help is needed to ensure the Memorial Service portion of the District Five Conference is as meaningful and informative as possible.

Please complete this form and send it either by email or mail, along with a photo, for Altrusans in your club who have passed away since the last conference. All memorial forms must be submitted by March 21, 2026

Submit to Shelley Kendrick
 Email: skendrickaltrusa@gmail.com

Name of Club:

Name of Deceased Member:

Age:

Member of Altrusa since (approximate if unsure):

Contributions to Altrusa and this club include (attach page if needed):

Please include a picture if possible.

Person submitting this form:

Name: _____ Position in club: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

Name of Member to participate in Memorial Service if known: _____

PRELIMINARY Conference at a Glance:

Friday	Event
1:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.	Registration and Credentials
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Expeditor Training
1:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Host Club Service Project – Drop Off
2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Poppin' Up with New Ideas, New Energy, New Connections Round Table Discussions
5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner Buffet
6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.	Altrusa Store, Foundation Raffle & Vendor Tables Open
6:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.	Flag Ceremony Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.	Orientation for Delegates
6:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.	Orientation for First Timers
7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	OPENING SESSION Including ALL MEMBER SESSION – Adding Flavor to Every Meeting – Boring to Soaring
9:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Altrusa Store & Foundation Raffle Open
9:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room Open
Saturday	
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Registration and Credentials
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Past Governor's and President's Breakfast
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet
8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Altrusa Store, Foundation Raffle & Vendor Tables Open
8:15 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Orientation for Delegates
8:15 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Orientation for First Timers
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Voting (<i>Past Governors, Officers, Delegates</i>)
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Break, Altrusa Store & Foundation Raffle Open
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	ALL MEMBER SESSION – Who's in the Bowl, What We're Popping, Why it Matters – The Who, What, Why of Altrusa
12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Break, Altrusa Store & Foundation Raffle Open
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	AWARDS LUNCHEON
2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Break
2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	WORKSHOPS
	Different Kernal; Same Pop – <i>Inclusion</i>
	Kernels of Wisdom – <i>Social Media & Membership</i>
	Shared Snack; Shared Mission – <i>International Service</i>
3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	WORKSHOPS
	Pop Into Google – <i>Google Tools</i>
	Buckets of Balance – <i>Balancing Life & Leadership</i>
	Small Acts, Big Pops – <i>Simple Service Projects</i>
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Break, Altrusa Store, Foundation Raffle & Vendor Tables Open
5:45 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Reception for International Representative
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	BANQUET
9:15 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room Open
Sunday	
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Memorial Service
8:45 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Inspirational Service
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	BRUNCH AND CLOSING SESSION

Registration Form:



REGISTRATION FORM
71st Altrusa District Five
Conference and Annual Meeting
April 24-26, 2026
Lima, OH

Print Full Name _____	Name on Badge _____
Street Address _____	Club _____
City _____	State _____ Zip _____
Primary Phone _____	Cell/home/work _____
Alternate Phone _____	Cell/home/work _____
Email _____	
Emergency Contact _____	Contact Phone _____

Check here if you do not want the above information printed in documents for networking after conference.

Please tell us about yourself (circle all that apply):

- | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------|
| Member | First Timer | Club President | Past Governor | Guest |
| District Chair | District Board | International Rep. | | |

Registration DOES NOT include hotel reservations – see hotel information below.
All registrations MUST BE postmarked by 4/10/2026 to be accepted.
NO on-site registration. NO meals can be added after 4/10/2026

Full Conference (Early Bird if received or post marked by 4/3/2026) \$175.00 _____

Full Conference (Regular Registration 4/4/2026 – 4/10/2026) \$195.00 _____

Note: Conference fee includes conference bag/materials, Friday Buffet, Saturday Buffets: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Sunday Brunch.

Dietary Restrictions (circle if applicable): Gluten Free Vegan

Guest Meals

Dietary Restrictions (circle if applicable): Gluten Free Vegan

- *Friday Buffet* \$ 30.00 _____
- *Saturday Breakfast* \$ 20.00 _____
- *Saturday Lunch* \$ 30.00 _____
- *Saturday Banquet* \$ 35.00 _____
- *Sunday Brunch* \$ 25.00 _____

TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDED \$ _____

PAYMENT: Mail check payable to Altrusa International District Five with Conference Registration Form to Sandy Schultz, 2871 Green Meadow Dr, Apt 1, Jenison, MI 49428. For information, contact Sandy Schultz at sschultzaltrusa@gmail.com.

Do you want confirmation of Registration? Yes No

NOTE: Your attendance at conference is your consent to be included in photos/videos for future use of Altrusa District Five.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Howard Johnson by Wyndham Lima, 1920 Roschman Avenue, Lima, Ohio 45804

A block of rooms for Altrusa has been reserved at the hotel. The room rate is **\$104.99/2 Doubles or 1 King** plus taxes. **Register for hotel rooms by calling Howard Johnson by Wyndham Lima** at 419-222-0004. The **deadline** to make **hotel room reservations is Friday, April 3, 2026**. Please use the group code "Altrusa District Five" when making reservations to receive the group room rate.

Registration Link:

<https://form.jotform.com/dfivealtrusaconference/2026AltrusaDistrictFiveConference>

Officer Training Information:

OFFICER TRAINING INFORMATION for **Presidents, Treasurers and Secretaries** (any Altrusan is welcome to attend)

Trainings will be:

Presidents, Saturday, May 9, 2026, 9:30am to 11:30am.

Treasurers, Saturday, May 16, 2026 9:30 – 9:30am to 11:00am Secretaries,
Saturday, May 16, 2026, 9:30am to 10:30am

PowerPoint presentations will be sent out before the training(s).

Deadline to register is May 3, 2026.

Scan the QR code to register for the trainings.

