



Altrusa Action

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF CENTRE COUNTY, PA AUGUST 2011

Dinner: Wednesday, July 20th,
6:00, Celebration Hall
Menu: Chef's Choice
Program: "Hands-On Project –
Arms For Peace" hosted by
the Service Committee
Reservations: Please call Phyllis
at 355-5477 or email to
cormanpj@aol.com by the
evening of Sunday, July 17th.
NO STANDING RESERVATIONS

BOARD

President: Gini Tucker:
v2f@psu.edu
1st Vice President: Megan:
meganjevans@hotmail.com
2nd Vice President: Brenda:
brendaruby@gmail.com
Treasurer: Phyllis:
cormanpj@aol.com
Recording Secretary: Amy:
amarama3@hotmail.com
Corresponding Secretary: Tammy:
gentzel.tammy@gmail.com
Directors (2011-2013):
Lynn: lfc70@hotmail.com
Lisa: lisa.bierlein@gmail.com
Directors (2010-2012):
Pam: paruest@co.centre.pa.us
Ahmed: a_banya@hotmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications: Tammy:
gentzel.tammy@gmail.com
Finance: Phyllis: cormanpj@aol.com
International Relations co-chairs:
Norma: nrmkeller@gmail.com and
Ahmed: a_banya@hotmail.com
Membership co-chairs:
Sally: greenhills1250@msn.com
and Jill: hmmbird@comcast.net
Service: Megan:
meganjevans@hotmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Since I ended my July newsletter message discussing our people going off to Convention, it seems logical to start this one with them returning. The big news is our Phyllis receiving the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award. This award is the highest honor bestowed on an Altrusan and the only one given to an individual by International. It is only given out at Convention, so every two years, and then ONLY if they feel there is an Altrusan worthy of the honor. And our Phyllis surely is! The list of her activities, much too long to include here, is extremely impressive. And, by the way, while at Convention Phyllis also managed to be elected to the International Nominating Committee.

Another reason to come to the August picnic is that it is going to be a lot of fun! We'll be starting with cleaning shelves at the Bellefonte Library. While this may sound boring, it truly is a lot of fun since we totally ignore any library rules for quiet—picture a gab fest with some minor arm motion involved. All you need to bring are some rags, a feather duster if you like, and a bucket. Phyllis will be there at 5 with the cleaning agent so come any time after that (official start is 5:30). At 7PM we'll continue the gabbing at Phyllis' with food and drink. Please make every effort to come. It's the one time in the year when we simply get to visit and catch up with each other....and that "each" includes you! For those who have not yet had an opportunity to sign Phyllis' congratulations poster, it will be at the picnic. (Remember you have to let Phyllis know that you will be attending since there are no standing reservations for August.)

Looking ahead to September and October. A big part of Convention was the rolling out of the new Altrusa identity and logo. We're lucky to have the district Rebranding Ambassador, Phyllis, in our club. She will present the entire concept and rollout process at the September meeting. Having had a preview at the past board meeting, it definitely is information you want to know. The initiative is built around the foundation of clarity, flexibility and inclusion.

Barb Kautz will be our guest at the September business meeting as we honor her both for being awarded Emeritus Member status and for all of the contributions she has made to Altrusa throughout her many years of active service.

The Fall Workshop is being held on October 22 in Harrisburg at the State Capitol building and will include a private tour of the facility. The program portion of the day will be the new branding strategy. We are hoping to have already started implementing some of the pieces by then so we can serve as an example for the other clubs. It's going to be a great day, so please mark your calendars. Details about timing and carpooling will come later.

See you at the library!!

Gini

ALTRUSA ACTION

August 2011

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications – Tammy, Chair
No report

Finance – Phyllis, Chair
No report

International Relations – Norma and
Ahmed, Co-chairs
No report

Membership – Jill and Sally, Co-chairs
Katie Smith has joined Altrusa and she was
initiated at the July meeting.

Service – Megan, Chair
No report

Altrusa Business Meeting Minutes July 20, 2011

Guests: Mary Watson, program speaker

Accent: presented by Megan. On the
definitions of Patriotism.

Positive Notes:

Brenda: Looking forward to going to the
International Convention.

Gini: Celebrating her 20th day of retirement!
Went to Long Island to get her mother's house
in order, found documents such as birth
certificate, marriage certificate, and cradle roll.
Her retirement celebrated with a big party
(actually bride & groom's), a brunch (for the
newlyweds), and fireworks (4th of July).

Jill: Had a wonderful trip to Chicago, able to see
both sons and have a great time.

Approval of April Business Meeting Minutes: Jill
moves to approve, Brenda seconded. Motion
passed

Treasurer's Report: Phyllis is in Baltimore, but
the treasurer's report is in the July newsletter.
Report will be filed for Audit

Correspondence: none

Communications: none

Finance: none

Membership: we are initiating Katie Smith
tonight

Service: August picnic – we will be cleaning the
Centre County Library in Bellefonte beginning at
5:30, then going to Phyllis' house for the picnic,
catered by Jim's. Cost will be \$10/person and
there will be NO standing reservations –
everyone must contact Phyllis. Wine,
champagne, and non-alcoholic drinks will be
provided.

International Relations: none

Old Business:

August Banning Dirty Books/Party Hearty: Our
annual August picnic will also be a service
project as we meet at the Centre County Library
in Bellefonte at 5:30pm to clean and dust
shelves. Afterwards we will troop to Phyllis'
house where our picnic will be catered by Jim's.
Wine, champagne, and non-alcoholic
beverages provided. The picnic is on August
17th; you MUST contact Phyllis by Sunday,
August 14th – as always, for the picnic there
are NO STANDING RESERVATIONS.

Attendance: Why/Why Not: Survey was in the
July newsletter, will follow up with email. [Note:
Survey follow-up tabled until September
meeting]

New Business:

Laga Sales – November 19th: On the Saturday
before Thanksgiving we have committed to
selling Laga bags at not one, but TWO
locations: Mt. Nittany Middle School and South
Hills. This will take some extra effort and
coordination by all of us, but should be a
successful fund-raiser as both events are well-
attended. Sign-up sheets will be available at a
later meeting, but be sure and put the date on
your calendars.

ALTRUSA ACTION

August 2011

SURPRISE!!: We have found out that Phyllis will be receiving the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award at the International Convention in Rapid City. A great honor as this is an international award; all attending the business meeting signed a congratulations placard for Phyllis.

Adjournment: 6:45

Program: Initiation and "Arms For Peace" by Mary Watson.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda B. Ruby, filling in as temporary
Recording Secretary

WATER WARS

CELEBRATE UNITED NATIONS DAY ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

The Centre County United Nations Association and the UNA Council of Organization will address a challenging and life threatening global issue at their 2011 United Nations Day Dinner celebration on Sunday, October 23rd at the Ramada Inn at 5:30 pm. "Water Wars," presented by Dr. Rick Schuhmann, will explore how climate change, the greatest environmental challenge of our time, may affect our global fresh water resources and will ask how we as a species will respond. What will we do as population increases and regional water resources decrease? Is our inability to exercise the moral courage necessary to change course right now an indication of how we might behave in the future. Is conflict inevitable? Are water wars on the horizon? Dr. Schuhmann joined the Civil and Environmental Engineering faculty of Penn State in 1998 and is currently the Walter L. Robb Director of Engineering Leadership Development. For nearly two decades Dr. Schuhmann has been active as an environmental engineer in both local and international water resource projects.

Plan to join the UN Association and the Council of Organizations for an exciting evening as we welcome internationals from 30 nations, celebrate the vital work of the United Nations and raise awareness of the global challenges face by many nations in their reach for a safe, sustainable water supply. The UN Dinner will showcase the outstanding accomplishments of local organizations working to assist communities at home and around the globe as they face water scarcity and lack of potable drinking water.

The cost of a dinner ticket is \$30 and a formal invitation will be available in September. Learn more about the Centre County UN Association the UNA Council of Organizations by visiting www.unacentrecountypa.org

Centre County's Council of Organizations Members: Altrusa International of Centre County, American Association of University Women, Friends Meeting, Global Connections, Hadassah, Harris Township Lions Club, League of Women Voters of Centre County, Soroptimist International of Centre County, St. Paul's Methodist Women, State College Downtown Rotary Club, State College Evening Rotary Club, State College Family YMCA, State College Lions Club, State College Presbyterian Church, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Centre County and University Baptist & Brethren Church

SERVICE BEFORE SALAD

Our August meeting will start at the **Centre County Library, 203 N. Allegheny St. Bellefonte**, where we will dedicate a couple hours to cleaning the library stacks. Then on to Phyllis's house for a picnic from Jim's Italian Restaurant PLUS wine and champagne. We will have Chef Salad and assorted hoagies from Jim's. **Cost is \$10** and will be payable that night as usual. Reservations MUST be made by contacting Phyllis by the Sunday before. **No standing reservations** - everyone must let Phyllis know. Phyllis will be at the library beginning at 5:00 pm so the sooner we get started, the earlier we get done. Bring along rags, buckets, and feather dusters. Also bring a lawn chair for the picnic. **Driving?** Please remember your fellow Altrusans and offer a ride - carpooling is green! We are aiming for No Altrusans Left Behind!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2011

- 7 5:45 Board Meeting
- 8 World Literacy Day
- 21 6:00 Dinner Meeting (Finance)
Program: **Altrusa Rebranding Report**

October 2011

- 5 5:45 Board Meeting
- 16 World Food Day
- 19 6:00 Dinner Meeting (Communications)
Program: **Developing Our Network**
- 22 Area I Workshop, Harrisburg
Make A Difference Day
- 23 UNA Dinner – “Water Wars”
- 24 United Nations Day

LAGA SALE – SAVE THE DATE!

We are going to sell Laga handbags on **Saturday November 19th** at two different craft fairs to raise money to fund our Five Alive Project. We will be passing around a sign-up sheet at the next meeting but look at your calendars now and save the date! We will need lots of help to handle both commitments.



Mark Your Calendar:

The Area I Workshop, “Seeds of Change,” will be held **Saturday, October 22** in the Capitol at Harrisburg, jointly hosted by the Harrisburg and Reading-Berks clubs. The Workshop will focus on our rebranding initiative. Scheduled activities are from 11AM-4PM, followed by a private tour of the Capitol. Lunch will be provided.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

*“We never know how high we are
Till we are called to rise;
And then, if we are true to plan,
Our statures touch the skies.”*

- Emily Dickinson, American poet

BIRTHDAYS

August

- 11: Theresa McElwain
- 14: Ellie Beaver
- 15: Becky Schrope
- 20: Micki Pharo

September

- 4: Vicki Wedler Herrle
- 18: Brenda Ruby
- 23: Louise Hess

VOUCHER

Altrusa International of Centre County,
Inc.
Monthly Voucher

Member’s Name _____

Month of _____ 2011/2012

- Dinner @ \$14.00 _____
- Wine @ \$4.00/glass..... _____
- Dues (\$5.00 Minimum)..... _____
- Scholarship Donation..... _____
- Habitat for Humanity Donation..... _____
- Other Service Project Donations _____
- Other Payments _____
- Total check/cash..... _____



THE BUSY BEE By Amy R. Miller

Altrusa International Convention July 22-26 Rapid City South Dakota

Between July 22 and July 26, I was privileged to be a delegate for the Centre County Club and District Two at the 2011 International Convention which was held in Rapid City, South Dakota. The days I spent there were fabulous and it was a trip filled with firsts for me. Not only did I get to see an amazing part of the country that I had never seen before, it was my first time in an airport and on a plane since high school.



A shot from the plane and some South Dakota Landscape

During the convention, I met so many amazing women, not only from our own district, but from Texas, New Zealand, Puerto Rico, Rapid City and all over the world. It was truly inspirational to be in the presence and to learn from so many women who share the same strength and giving spirit that I do. I was truly touched to learn about the great work that is being done by Altrusans around the world and am honored to be a part of such an amazing organization. I also learned many things about Altrusa, its history and tradition and also the new directions that it would like to go in. Being part of the bylaws changes and seeing the new logo unveiled was both interesting and educational for me. I am happy to be a part of an organization that not only recognizes its rich history, but is striving to do more and become better known.



ALTRUSA ACTION
August 2011

The installation banquet and the new logo

One of the best parts for me was seeing our own Phyllis C. receive the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian award for all her service and dedication to Altrusa and to all of us. I am so honored to know and count her as one of my friends and mentors and was blessed to be part of this great surprise and honor for her. She didn't even know she was the award recipient until they mentioned that the winner had Altrusa on her license plate. Congratulations and thank you Phyllis.



Phyllis receiving the award and special congratulations from District 2

And of course along with all the business and inspiration of the conference we managed to have a lot of fun too. We saw Mt Rushmore, and visited the town of Deadwood where Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane are buried. Overall the convention was enjoyable and exhausting and was definitely an experience that I would repeat again and again.



Mt Rushmore and members of District 2 dining in Deadwood

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Altrusa International, Inc. of Centre County
P.O. Box 583
State College, PA 16804

***WE HELP
ALL OVER THE WORLD***

