



Altrusa Action

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF CENTRE COUNTY, PA
DECEMBER 2010

Dinner: Wednesday, December 15th, 6:00, Celebration Hall
Menu: Holiday Meal! Prime Rib or Turkey with stuffing/gravy, \$25/person
Program: "A Plethora of Entertainment" hosted by the Communications Committee
Reservations: **No standing reservations, please call Phyllis at 355-5477 or email to cormanpj@aol.com** by the evening of Sunday, December 12th.

BOARD

President: Jill Lillie:
hmmbird@comcast.net
1st Vice President: Gini: v2f@psu.edu
2nd Vice President: Cindy:
sbutler@woodcraftindustries.com
Treasurer: Phyllis: cormanpj@aol.com
Recording Secretary: Amy:
amarama3@hotmail.com
Corresponding. Secretary: Tammy
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Ginny M: ginginm@aol.com
Theresa:
theresamcelwain@gmail.com
Directors (2010-2012):
Pam: paruest@co.centre.pa.us
Ahmed: a_banya@hotmail.com
COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Communications co-chairs: Tammy:
gentzel.tammy@gmail.com and
Ginny M: ginginm@aol.com
Finance: Phyllis: cormanpj@aol.com
International Relations co-chairs:
Norma: nrmkeller@gmail.com and
Ahmed: a_banya@hotmail.com
Membership: Sally:
greenhills1250@msn.com
Service: Gini: v2f@psu.edu

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Holidays!

Our holiday party is fast approaching! Don't forget to call in your reservation even if you have a standing reservation. There will be red and white wine available for purchase, but no cash bar. Also, there will be no gift exchange this year. My wish is to have every member there to share a wonderful meal and amazing entertainment in each other's company. We will also take up a collection for the Ethel Beaver fund, which provides for needy children, so remember to bring your checkbook.

I thought this poem was worth sharing with all of you. Even though it is titled "The Christmas Gift" it could just as easily be "The Hannukah Gift" or "The Kwanza Gift".

I wish you all a holiday filled with family, friends, peace and love.

Warmly,
Jill

The Christmas Gift
By Joanna Fuchs

*The Christmas Season fills our hearts with joy;
Bright happy days bring special kinds of pleasure.
We're wrapped in the excitement of it all,
The sights, the sounds, the smells, the tastes we treasure.
Yet when we have some quiet time to think
About our finest blessings all year through
We focus on our family and our friends
And appreciate the gift of knowing you!*



President: Jill Lillie
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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications – Tammy and Ginny M., Co-chairs

The committee met on Tuesday, November 30, over dinner, wine and hot toddies. We had a wonderful gathering as we were warm and protected by the torrential rain by friends and good cheer. We reviewed plans for holiday party entertainment and believe all contingencies have been covered. We would like to remind all Altrusans that reservations for the party are required (no standing reservations) and friends and family are welcome. Cost for dinner will be \$25 per person. The menu is posted in the newsletter. There will not be a cash bar as the cost is too prohibitive for our small group. However, both white and red wine will be available at the usual \$4 per glass.

We also discussed committee structure and plans for the coming year. Specifically, we will be producing a new brochure in time for use over the Memorial Day weekend (during our Laga Bag outreach/sale at the Boalsburg Mansion) and we will be working to reduce committee member responsibilities for producing the yearbook (and increasing Altrusa member responsibilities for review and timely submission of their own yearbook pages). Finally, the committee is scheduled to meet at 5:30 p.m. on the 5th Tuesday of the month with location of the meeting to be announced. The dates are as follows: March 29, May 31, August 30 and November 29.

Finance – Phyllis, Chair

No report

International Relations – Norma and Ahmed, Co-chairs

No report

Membership – Sally, Chair

No report

Service – Gini, Chair

No report



Business Meeting Minutes November 17, 2010

Guests: Melanie: from Centre County library
Tracy: international student: was at Make a Difference Day and wants to know more about Altrusa

Bridget: graduate student in International relations

Accent: presented by Jim E. about seed savers exchange. We have lost 75 % of seed variety since 1900. There are 13,000 people all over the world who trade seeds back and forth to preserve old varieties. They have several publications/catalogs where you can buy seeds or learn how to preserve seeds. They have a good web site, www.seedsavers.org, but you have to be a member and get their yearbook to participate in the exchange.

Positive Notes:

Lynne M: oldest son is now going to circus school in Queens. He says it's a dream come true. He is living there in an apartment and seems to be doing very well. Her son Max started high school and made honor roll, daughter is not driving her crazy

Becky: had a surprise visit today from Rosemary who was a student from Zimbabwe. She is now working at a university in Ohio and always asks about Altrusa.

Phyllis C: wants to thank everyone who sent cards for her mom's 92nd birthday. She was thrilled. They also just came back from Hilton Head which was awesome

Mildred: hosted an international tea which was very well attended but she realizes that international students really don't eat sweets. She had lots of leftovers and had another one for her neighbors

Sally: wants to blow Mildred's horn for doing an awesome tea

Theresa: son in law invited them to Marine Corps Ball. It was a lovely event and she was pleased to go.

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Gini T: in 13 days she will be 60 and has had a ball since 50

Today is the 59th anniversary of the club's charter

Approval of Minutes from the October Business Meeting: June moves that they be approved, Pam seconds. All voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report: does not have a formal report right now, but will put one in the next newsletter. We netted about 1400 on the raffle. Megan sold 30 tickets – great job. Pasta sale: will net about 1600 for the foundation which made them very happy

Correspondence: none

Communications: Reminder that each committee is responsible for the entertainment for the party. You need to have a 5 to 10 minute skit/ presentation. We are still confirming the price and that will be in the newsletter when it is decided. There will not be a gift exchange.

Finance: the board has approved a request from Park Forest Day Nursery for a donation of \$321 for school supplies to use in their classroom. This is different from what we bring to meetings. Phyllis makes a motion on behalf of the committee that we do this. June seconded. All in favor. Phyllis received a letter from Children and Youth Services about the Ethel Beaver fund. Please bring donations to the Christmas party. You can make checks payable to the Ethel Beaver Fund. Cash donations will be accepted also.

Membership: we are trying to get Tracy to join – she is very interested

Service: Megan Evans is the new chair of the service committee. We are banning dirty books, 9 am at the library. Bring rags, buckets and a feather duster if you want to come. You should also bring a sense of humor and a disregard for the shushing rules. We will be collecting for Park Forest Day Nursery again. We need 10 regular size bags of dried beans. They are also looking for: workbooks that you brush water on the pages and the colors come up.

International Relations: none

Old Business:

Laga Raffle tickets: we drew all the winners at the November board meeting. We brought them and will distribute them now.

Make A Difference Day: it was a huge success and we may try to do it again next year. Thank you Thank you Thank you Ginny M for all your efforts, it would not have gone as well without you. There are extra copies of the book for \$11 a piece if you to purchase one. Phyllis will collect the money and make sure it gets to Ginny.

South Hills Craft Fair: some people already signed up, please invite your friends to come from 11-4 on Saturday.

New Business:

Bridget/ Altrusa Student Club: treasurer of international student government association: the group is very interested in community service and volunteering, will be getting in touch with us about forming a student chapter of Altrusa.

Award Presentation: we are being recognized as a 2009-2010 distinguished club by the international foundation:

Nominating committee for next year's officer's: Jill is proposing that it be Louise, Ellie and Becky. Phyllis moved that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees. Pam seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Jill asked Becky to chair the committee.

Adjournment: 7:30

Program: Centre County Library

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy R. Miller, Recording Secretary



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 2010

- 1 World AIDS Day (UN)
- 5:45 Board Meeting
- 10 Human Rights Day (UN)
- 15 6:00 Holiday Party (Communications)
- Program: **A Plethora of Entertainment**

January 2011

- 5 5:45 Board Meeting
- 19 6:00 Dinner Meeting (Membership)
- Program: **Membership Games**
- 27 **International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust (UN)**

BIRTHDAYS

December

- 3: Jill Lillie
- 11: Ginny Eisenstein

January

- 2: Sally Rothwell

From the "Things Are Tough All Over" Department:

Due to increased costs, the price for dinner will be going up effective January 1. Details to be announced as they become available...

DISTRICT NEWS:

The next District Conference in 2011 is being hosted by past governors. Each club has a different responsibility. Our club is responsible for the printed program. At the January meeting I will be asking for three or four volunteers to produce the program. Typically the program includes a list of past governors, conference rules, and the agenda. It could be as much as 30 pages, front and back, and we will need approximately 100 copies. The board thought that the April dinner meeting would be a great time to assemble everything. Please consider stepping forward to help with this important project in January.

If you are unable to attend the January dinner meeting but want to help, contact Jill at hmmbird@comcast.net.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

Statistics as of November 1, 2010

	<u>Last report</u>	<u>This report</u>
Clubs *		
Total Clubs*	359	361
Clubs under Charter	144	146
Strength	(40%)	(40%)

*Does not include unpaid clubs.

Membership **

Membership Status	<u>Last Report</u>	<u>This Report</u>
Active	8,856	8,958
Affiliate	39	39
Subtotal	8,895	8,997
Life	12	12
Emeritus	431	431
Total	9,338	9,440



VOUCHER

Altrusa International of Centre County, Inc.
Monthly Voucher

Member's Name _____
Month of _____ 2010/2011

- Dinner @ \$17.00.....
- 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

Centre County Library

Do you like to read? Well, Altrusans certainly do. One of the primary goals of Altrusa is to promote literacy. In November, the Centre County Club did just that.

One of the ongoing service projects of our club has been “Banning Dirty Books.” Members of our club visit the Centre County Library and Historical Museum in Bellefonte armed with buckets, rags, and smiles on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Their mission: to help clean the shelves. Our club has cleaned all the shelves 1 time and is beginning to do it again. There was a brief interlude while the building underwent construction, but we started up again in November and hope to continue as long as they will have us.

The Centre County Library system supports three Branch Libraries located in East Penn’s Valley, Centre Hall, and Philipsburg. Their mission: providing books, information and technology resources to preserve our heritage and promote a lifetime of reading and learning. One way they achieve this goal is by operating a Bookmobile that travels throughout Centre County.

During our November business meeting, Melanie Phillips, circulation manager of the Centre County Library, spoke to us about how the library has grown and changed over time. They have gone through several building and branch library relocations and a few bookmobile vehicles. Our own Tammy G remembers riding on the bookmobile when she was a little girl and what an important part of her life it was.

In addition to the bookmobile, they also provide library by mail services to Centre County Residents who are home bound. Their list of services includes: books for all ages, current best sellers, large print books, magazines & newspapers, books on tape & CD, music compact disks, videocassettes (both entertainment and non-fiction), DVD movie disks, telephone books, information services, interlibrary loan, story hours & children’s activities, summer reading programs, computers for public use with free Internet access, Library of Congress access, public meeting rooms, expert staff to help you, and much more. And all these services are free to any Centre County resident.

The Centre County Library system wants to remain an inviting and vital part of our community by providing access to current technology and services to foster education and to enhance our community’s quality of life. They are supported by the United Way, but will always welcome donations, either monetary or of new or gently used books.

As a thank you to the Centre County Library for all the great community work that they do, Altrusa International Inc of Centre County presented them with a \$50 donation and 3 copies of the book “Eleanor Roosevelt, A Life of Discovery” which we used as our Make a Difference Day project. To learn more about the Centre County Library system, visit their website at <http://www.centrecountylibrary.org> or call them at (814) 355-1516.

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Jill L presenting Melanie P with money and books for the library

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P.O. Box 583
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***WE HELP
ALL OVER THE WORLD***

