



# Altrusa Action

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

**Dinner:** Wednesday, June 15th,  
6:00, Celebration Hall  
**Menu:** Chef's Choice  
**Program:** "Program Planning,"  
hosted by the Vice  
Presidents  
**Reservations:** Please call  
Phyllis at 355-5477 or email  
to [cormanpj@aol.com](mailto:cormanpj@aol.com) by  
the evening of Sunday, June  
12<sup>th</sup>.

## BOARD

President: Gini Tucker:  
[v2f@psu.edu](mailto:v2f@psu.edu)  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Megan:  
[meganjevans@hotmail.com](mailto:meganjevans@hotmail.com)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Brenda:  
[brendaruby@gmail.com](mailto:brendaruby@gmail.com)  
Treasurer: Phyllis:  
[cormanpj@aol.com](mailto:cormanpj@aol.com)  
Recording Secretary: Amy:  
[amarama3@hotmail.com](mailto:amarama3@hotmail.com)  
Corresponding Secretary: Tammy:  
[gentzel.tammy@gmail.com](mailto:gentzel.tammy@gmail.com)  
Directors (2011-2013):  
Lynn: [lfc70@hotmail.com](mailto:lfc70@hotmail.com)  
Lisa: [lbierlein@verizon.net](mailto:lbierlein@verizon.net)  
Directors (2010-2012):  
Pam: [paruest@co.centre.pa.us](mailto:paruest@co.centre.pa.us)  
Ahmed: [a\\_banya@hotmail.com](mailto:a_banya@hotmail.com)

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications: Tammy:  
[gentzel.tammy@gmail.com](mailto:gentzel.tammy@gmail.com)  
Finance: Phyllis: [cormanpj@aol.com](mailto:cormanpj@aol.com)  
International Relations co-chairs:  
Norma: [nrmkeller@gmail.com](mailto:nrmkeller@gmail.com) and  
Ahmed: [a\\_banya@hotmail.com](mailto:a_banya@hotmail.com)  
Membership: Sally:  
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Service: Megan:  
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I've been sitting here for a good while trying to figure out an appropriately illustrious beginning for my first "President's Message" and I have to be honest, I can't seem to get beyond, "Holy cow, I'm writing my first President's Message!" So with that said, onto the most important item. Jill, thank you so very much for two great years of leadership. Your accomplishments are too many to list so let's suffice it to say you most definitely deserved winning the Betty C. Schwartz Presidential Excellence Award!!

Of next importance: we all owe a special thanks to June, Jill, Brenda and Amy for the **LONG** hours they put in on Memorial Day selling Laga bags. Thanks also go to Sindy, Phyllis and Micky for donating a portion of their day as well. Between this and sales by Jill and Brenda at Conference, just shy of \$1,000 has been added to the *5 Alive Fund*!! Congratulations and thank you for a job very well done.

And speaking of Conference, we all can be extremely proud of our own Governor Sandi. She demonstrated all of the characteristics of a superb leader. It was fun, and rewarding, to watch! We also can be proud of the awards we won. First place in the Nina Faye Calhoun International Award and the Mamie L Bass Service Award, and second place in the Mary S. Resh Program Excellence Award. Hooray for us!! And the final point to report from Conference is that Altrusa International, Inc. of Centre County has been granted the honor of hosting the 2013 District Conference! So, mark the last weekend of April, 2013, on your calendars.

My final topic turns to the future. I want to thank everyone who participated in the strategic planning meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup>. I'm excited about what we developed.

First, our theme for the next two years is *Evolving to Prominence*. Why "Prominence?" We already have distinction and excellence, what we are striving for is prominence, defined by Merriam-Webster Dictionary as "readily noticeable: Conspicuous," and "widely and popularly known: Leading." Our goal is via this prominence to have a club of 50 members by May 2013. And how are we going to accomplish this? Through these following objectives:

(continued)

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1. Implement the new Altrusa International Rebranding initiatives. This effort will be rolled out at the International Convention in July. Phyllis, rebranding facilitator for the district, will present the details to the club at the September business meeting, enabling us to set goals for implementation. Our desire is to be a leading example for other clubs in the district and to be able to showcase our efforts at the Area I Workshop in Harrisburg on October 22. This international initiative will go a long way in helping us define “what we want our club to look like” in 2013, how we evolve what makes us unique and great into the needs of 2013.
2. Re-evaluate our service project model. We decided a few years ago to support non-profits in their efforts. Is this still the best way to focus our service efforts? The Service Committee will study the issue and bring recommendations to the club in the fall.
3. Attract more members to the business meetings. Be sure to come to the June business meeting to help in program planning for the upcoming year! At that meeting you will be asked to complete a short questionnaire designed to identify what it is that members want to get out of the business meetings.
4. Define what we mean by “leadership and professional development” in terms of the needs of professional women today.
5. Have *FUN WITH PURPOSE!* (No, this is not original but I’ve liked the line since I was a kid. Recognize the phrase; remember the source?)

I think this is an extremely exciting time to be part of Altrusa International. I thank each of you

for providing me with the honor of being president through this period. I am truly looking forward to seeing what we all together create over the next two years as we are *Evolving to Prominence!*

*Ginny*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### *Communications* – Tammy, Chair

Dear sisters in Altrusa, it is with great sadness that I report that at the June Board meeting, the board reluctantly accepted a letter of resignation from Ginny Mulhatten. Ginny has served, since I first became a member of the club in 1994, as either a co-chair or chair of this committee. Over the last few years, she has been the driving force behind our work -- keeping us organized, on task and tending to the mundane but every so important details of our yearly work. I would personally like to note that I will sorely miss her guidance and gentle prompts to action.

On a happier note, at the same meeting, the board noted that Barbara Kautz, another long-time committee member has been awarded Emeritus status. I have already missed her presence at dinner meetings but am comforted knowing that she will join us at dinners and special events as her busy schedule and health allow.

### *Finance* – Phyllis, Chair

No report

### *International Relations* – Norma and Ahmed, Co-chairs

On behalf of the IR Committee membership, I thank our Board of Directors and our full membership for your major support of the activities of our International Relations Committee through this past fiscal year. Through our Club’s good work and high level of financial investment, we received First Place in the Nina Faye Calhoun Award competition for the second year in a row. With our Club’s major support of international projects, our good work in the sale

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of Laga Bags (thank you Jill), and our work with Centre County UNA, we have made a tangible difference in lives of many in Sierra Leone, Nicaragua, Indonesia, New Zealand, Japan, and right here at home through our support of the “Bear Team” at Park Forest Middle School as they raise funds for UNICEF and Penn State students through our “Make a Difference Day” project and our scholarship of international students to attend the United Nations Dinner and through support of the Pittsburgh-based “Project to End Human Trafficking.” The International Relations Committee greatly appreciates the full support of our Club and we look forward to continuing involvement in many projects as well as beginning a new year of activities.

**Membership** – Sally, Chair

Katie Smith has joined Altrusa and she will be initiated in July (she is on vacation this June).

**Service** – Megan, Chair

For our August picnic meeting, we are suggesting having a service night by giving the Centre County Library in Bellefonte a good cleaning from 5:30 on, followed by a picnic in the park!

**Business Meeting Minutes May 18, 2011**

**Guests:** none

**Accent:** presented by Phyllis. Altrusa just had its District Two Conference last week. Phyllis is now the District Brand Ambassador and she will be taking classes to help us with our marketing. More will be happening at the convention so stay tuned.

**Positive Notes:**

**Brenda R:** Conference was wonderful. While she was at conference, her sons cleaned the house.

**Gini E:** Boalsburg Market is now outside. You can buy shares but they now have an ala carte option so you can pick what you want each week.

**Megan E:** her niece graduated on Sat and starts at the NPS in Gettysburg on Monday

**PhyllisC:** Sindi came through her operation

very well and we are glad to see her here

**Sally R :** They now have ten chickens and the first day had 10 eggs. She was so happy with them that she got more and has even more eggs

**Norma K:** Thank you to everyone for all the help with Spring Fling, women’s dept works so much better because of us

**Gini T:** Spent her weekend at the conference where all she heard about was Governor Sandi. It was awesome and Governor Sandi did us proud

**Sandi C:** Starting June 18<sup>th</sup> she is going to Ireland for 2 weeks as a reward for all her hard work over the last few months.

**Sindi B:** Charlotte has a new roommate: a lab she rescued. It is named Star.

**Theresa M:** She received an email from Brad Schmidt who runs Young Life: they are going to Lake Champlain. The kids need to do odd jobs to raise money, so if you have any let her know.

**Jill L:** Her oldest son will be home for a couple weeks in late July/ early August, lost both of their dogs in the last few months but now have a new rescue dog who is very sweet and a joy to have.

**Approval of April Business Meeting**

**Minutes:** Theresa moves to approve, June seconded. Motion passed

**Treasurer’s Report:** Checking Balance: 2502.04, Savings: 4998.62, Allocations:1,295.00, Five Alive Funding: 2500. Total: 3705.66.  
Report will be filed for Audit

**Correspondence:** none

**Communications:** none

**Finance:** none

**Membership:** we are initiating two people tonight

**Service:** no report.

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**International Relations:** Their budget was approved; they applied for the Nina Fay Calhoun Award at Conference. Megan has had contact with the people from Nicaragua. They are doing well and she has new pictures which she will share.

**Old Business:**

**Laga Hand Bag Sale:** we are scheduled for Memorial Day. We will have a tent. Jill has made two hour time slots for volunteers and needs people to sign up.

**New Business:**

**Conference Report:** Brenda and Gini: it was fabulous and they loved the programs. The focus is on the rebranding that is happening. Altrusa wants to Evolve. Phyllis is our Rebranding Ambassador. They are broadening membership eligibility and will not have classifications any more. Any announcements of the bylaw changes will be in the International Altrusan.

We won the following awards: 2<sup>nd</sup> place for Mary Resh (programming), 1<sup>st</sup> place for Nina Fay Calhoun (international), 1<sup>st</sup> place Mamie L Bass award (service) and the Betty C Schwartz Presidential Excellence Award for Jill Lillie.

Our district workshop will be Oct 22 in Harrisburg. And next year's conference will be in Tidewater.

District Board recommended that we would send \$1000 to New Zealand for Disaster Relief

We have been asked host the conference in 2013. The board is in favor of us doing this. Maureen McGough from Blair County will be installed as Governor. We would like to reciprocate since they hosted when Sandi became governor. Gini T moves that we host 2013 conference. Sally seconds. Motion passed.

**Announcements:**

Sindi for Sandi: she could not attend the conference, but had so many calls about what a great job that she did.

Sandi: Many people could not attend conference due to illness. A lot of members stepped up to help and lead. It is inspiring to be involved in such an amazing group of men and women.

**Adjournment:** 7:30

**Program:** Initiation and Installation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy R. Miller, Recording Secretary

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**July 2011**

6	5:45	Board Meeting
20	6:00	Dinner Meeting (All Members) Program: <b>Hands on Project and Annual Planning</b>
22-25		International Convention – Rapid City, SD

**August 2011**

3	5:45	Board Meeting
12		International Youth Day (UN)
17	6:00	Library cleaning/Picnic in Bellefonte (Board of Directors)

**Mark Your Calendar:**

***The Area I Workshop 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 fun activity. Lunch will be provided.***



**BIRTHDAYS**

**June**

9: Nancy Desmond

22: Megan Evans

28: Lynn Myers

**July**

7: Lisa Bierlein

11: Phyllis Corman

16: Helen Bell

27: Norma Keller

**VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Since it's hard to try to figure up volunteer hours after a year, we're going to try getting volunteer hours for the current month (since the last business meeting) at the business meetings. Forms will be available; just fill out and give to Brenda. If you prefer to email your hours to her at the end of the month, that's fine too.

**VOUCHER**

Altrusa International of Centre County,  
Inc.  
Monthly Voucher

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Month of \_\_\_\_\_ 2010/2011

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 ..... \_\_\_\_\_

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

...to Linda, who was awarded a Fulbright to teach in Hungary next year! How exciting!

...to Gini, for retiring at the end of June!

...to Barb, for being awarded Emeritus status!

...to Phyllis, for being appointed the District Two Rebranding Ambassador!

...to Jill, for receiving the Betty C. Schwartz Presidential Excellence award!

...to ALL OF US, for the two First Place and one Second Place awards earned in District Two, as well as raising almost \$1,000 through our Laga handbag sales at Conference and Memorial Day!



**"Evelyn Bull An Altrusan"**

The inspiring video of former District Two Altrusan and poet Evelyn Bull, who recently passed away at the age of 102, has been posted and can be watched on the internet at the following location:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ketVyLMTBmw&feature=youtu.be>

Check it out!!!

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### THE BUSY BEE By Amy R. Miller

Beginning at 7am on this Memorial Day, a few brave and bold Centre County Altrusans headed over to Boalsburg, known as the birthplace of Memorial Day. Their mission: to introduce and sell Laga Bags to the crowds who came to spend the day and pay their respects to our fallen service men and women.

The day was filled with battle reenactments, brass bands, BMX bike stunts, wagon rides, people in Civil War Era costumes, a visit by Mary Todd Lincoln and food and fun for all ages.



The Altrusa Laga Tent

The festivities kicked off at 9 am with the firing of a cannon, which happened to be right up the hill from our tent and lent an air of authenticity to the day. And despite the cannons being loud and unexpected, our troop of Altrusans: Jill L, June K, Brenda R, Amy M, Gini T, Phyllis C and Sindi B soldiered bravely on. We shared our stories about the women in Sumatra and how they made the bags and how they benefitted from the sales. We also talked about Altrusa and what it meant to us and to the community. By the end of the day, the sun was hot and our troops were tired, but we were grateful for our tent and the shade it provided. A good day was had by all and we raised 546.58 for our club.



Amy, Jill and June in their Laga Shirts

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Altrusa International, Inc. of Centre County

P.O. Box 583

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

