



# Altrusa Action

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

**Dinner:** Wednesday, June 16, 6:00,  
Celebration Hall  
**Menu:** Soup and salad bar  
**Program:** The June program is  
“Miss This Meeting at Your  
Own Peril” hosted by 1<sup>st</sup>  
Vice President Gini  
**Reservations:** Please call to make a  
reservation –Call Barb (238-  
8882) or email her at  
bkfoxbark69@gmail.com by  
the evening of Sunday, June  
13th.

## BOARD

President: Jill Lillie:  
[hmbird@comcast.net](mailto:hmbird@comcast.net)  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Gini: [v2f@psu.edu](mailto:v2f@psu.edu)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Sindy:  
[sbutler@woodcraftindustries.com](mailto:sbutler@woodcraftindustries.com)  
Treasurer: Phyllis: [cormanpi@aol.com](mailto:cormanpi@aol.com)  
Recording Secretary: Amy:  
[amarama3@hotmail.com](mailto:amarama3@hotmail.com)  
Corresponding Secretary: Tammy  
[tamgentzel2@cs.com](mailto:tamgentzel2@cs.com)  
Directors (2009-2011):  
Ginny M: [ginginm@aol.com](mailto:ginginm@aol.com)  
Theresa:  
[theresamcelwain@gmail.com](mailto:theresamcelwain@gmail.com)  
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 co-chairs: Tammy:  
[tamgentzel2@cs.com](mailto:tamgentzel2@cs.com) and Ginny M.:  
[ginginm@aol.com](mailto:ginginm@aol.com)  
Finance: Phyllis: [cormanpi@aol.com](mailto:cormanpi@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:  
[greenhills1250@msn.com](mailto:greenhills1250@msn.com)  
Service: Gini: [v2f@psu.edu](mailto:v2f@psu.edu)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the time of year that we are looking back at what we have accomplished but more importantly, looking forward to what we hope to accomplish. Our June dinner meeting will be strategic planning along with committee planning. We need everyone's presence and everyone's input if we are to accomplish all that I know we can. This is your opportunity to air your passions, your ideas, what you like, what you don't like, what you want to get out of your membership. Put your thinking cap on NOW and come prepared to suggest new programs and speakers; new service projects; more networking; and new fundraising ideas. Mamie L. Bass would tell you that it is difficult to *become* an Altrusan if you don't participate!

At the last dinner meeting I gave a “State of the Union” address or rather a “State of the Club” address that I thought was worth condensing and repeating. We met our club goals of increasing our membership by a minimum of five. I am happy to report that we started with 31 active members and now have 38. Another goal was to find a signature service event and make it interactive. Both the Community Ed pasta fundraiser and the Easter Egg Hunt for Park Forest Day Nursery could fit that bill. We wanted to find a signature fundraising event and I think the Laga handbag sales are well on the way to becoming that event. We wanted to stimulate participation by offering more hands on activities. Those activities this year included making Christmas cards for inmates; cleaning Walnut Springs Park; cleaning library shelves at the Bellefonte library; organizing an Easter Egg hunt for the children of PF Day Nursery; helping with Spring Fling; putting school bags together for UMCO; and helping with the Community Education pasta fundraiser. Each committee made and met the majority of their goals. We hosted the Area 123 Workshop. We installed a new governor from our club. And you reported that you volunteered a total of 2,673 hours in non-Altrusa service; 773 hours in Altrusa business; and 190 hours in Altrusa service.

We will embrace the Governors goals to GROW as we set our goals through the club's strategic planning. I need each and every one of you at the next meeting, quacking with enthusiasm! See you on the 16<sup>th</sup>!

Warmly,

JILL

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Communications** – Tammy and Ginny M., Co-chairs

Please remember to forward any changes in your contact information (address, email, phone, etc.) to the Communications Committee as soon as possible! Information may be Emailed to [Gentzel.Tammy@gmail.com](mailto:Gentzel.Tammy@gmail.com) OR [GinGinM@aol.com](mailto:GinGinM@aol.com) OR call Tammy at 272-1542.

We would also like to include a picture of you or something that tells us more about you on your yearbook page. Please forward us a camera ready photo of yourself, your family or an interest that would help us to know more about you (for example, Tammy might forward a picture of one of her stitching projects).

### **Finance** – Phyllis, Chair

No report

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

The Committee continues to bask in the glow of having been awarded the Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun Award which honors the work of all of our Club members in our efforts to work on international issues. Because we are a "first place winner," our Club's activities have been entered into the international competition as well which will be judged in July. As we enter into a new budget year, our committee will soon convene to consider projects for the 2010-2011 year. We have once again been asked to consider a grant for the Sierra Leone project which helps women and girls produce Gara Tie and Dye items and sell them to earn a living. At the first meeting of the committee in this new year, we will also review the "Say No to Violence Campaign." Audrey Braver, Altrusa's United Nations Representative, has strongly recommended that our Chapter and others become a part of this important initiative. The Committee will subsequently report on this Campaign at an upcoming dinner meeting.

### **Membership** – Sally, Chair

No report

### **Service** – Gini, Chair

No report

### **Business Meeting Minutes May 19, 2010**

**Guests:** **Deb Seaward:** brought by Phyllis Corman

**Accent:** presented by Jill Lillie: reminder that if you are a member of Altrusa you are in a leadership role and it is your responsibility to support the organization through fund raising and service.

### **Positive Notes:**

**Mikki Pharo:** as of yesterday became a great grandmother. Her great grandson is in Orlando.

**Theresa McElwain:** City Serve was a big success. There were 882 volunteers and 131 completed projects.

**Ginny Eisenstein :** farmers market in Boalsburg is now open

**Phyllis Corman:** taking her mom to her brother's in Ohio on Friday to attend show choir of two nephews. The one who is a senior is in the Barber Shop Quartet. He has been accepted to Xavier and has gotten a presidential scholarship

**Sandi Craig:** wanted to say thank you to all the Centre County Altrusans who made the conference and her installation so wonderful. She also won the foundation raffle.

**Norma Keller:** her date for the night is her 6 yr old grandson Jordan. She is pleased to be able to bring him with her.

### **Approval of minutes from April Business Meeting:**

There were some errors in the treasurer's report. These changes have been made and will be reflected in the minutes. Sandi Craig approved as corrected. Barb Kautz seconded. All voted in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** checking has 1410.76, 49897.775 in savings, 6400 total. Our bills will be filed for audit.

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**Correspondence:** The only thing we had was a renewal for our United Nations membership.

**Communications:** We had a meeting this month Monday May 10 at 5:30 at Perkins. It was a good meeting. We are working on the yearbook. If you have any change in your contact information for this year, please get it to us so that it can get in the yearbook. We are also looking for a new member to do announcements to CDT and other print media. We would like it to be someone organized who can keep up with continual deadlines.

**Finance:** the proposed budget was in newsletter. As a rule, our projects budget must be funded by withdrawal from savings or a fundraiser. This year we may want to try doing a raffle in which there would be 30 prizes – 1 each day for a month. Prizes would be Laga bags. Members could sell raffle tickets for \$10 each. This is a way to get word out about Laga bags and make some money for our club. Jill is willing to give bags at cost. In order to do this we would have to add \$100 to our expenses to cover small game of chance license. The finance committee moves that we adopt the proposed budget with the additional expense for the game of chance license. We are not voting on the fund raiser tonight, just making the change to the budget to cover costs of the license for the future. All voted in favor. The proposed budget with this amendment has passed.

**Membership:** Lisa Beirlein is being recommended for membership.

**Service:** We are going to start banning dirty books again. This will start again July 24<sup>th</sup> the Saturday after the business meeting.

**International Relations:** We won the Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award at conference. Our submission is being forwarded on to International.

**Old Business:**

**Conference:** We won lots of awards. Conference was very well done. Workshops were very well done and everything was very awesome.

Area workshop: we are thinking about combining with the other districts again and doing a bus trip to New York and the UN. The workshop will be October 16. Further details will be shared when available.

**New Business:**

**State of the club:**

**Goals:** we currently have 38 members. We added 7 new ones when we wanted 5.

**Signature service event:** We participated in the Community Ed Pasta Fund Raiser and an Easter Egg Hunt for the Park Forest Day Nursery. Either of these event could be expanded into a signature event for our club.

**Signature fund raising event:** Laga hand bag sales could easily become a new and better fund raising event for our club. The ideas are still in development.

**More hands on activities:** We did several hands on activities at meetings and outside: Christmas cards, Walnut Springs Park, library cleaning, Spring Fling, pasta fund raiser, Easter Egg hunt, school supply bags. We hope to continue this into the future.

**Finance:** The Laga bag fundraiser met our goals

**Communications:** Yearbook was resized and much cheaper, Busy Bee was done, CDT was challenging, web site is running, have a photographer. Our goals were met

**International Relations:** We learned about other cultures, history and events and had

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several speakers. Solar cookers had direct impact and we helped children in Nicaragua

**Membership** : almost had 100% retention, sent out cards

In addition to this: We hosted area 123 workshop and installed a governor from our club. We also had a great number of service hours: 2673 hours in non-Altrusa service, 773 hours in Altrusa business, and 190 Altrusa service.

Overall our club is doing very well.

**Changing meeting dates:** we would like to make meetings on a date for more members to attend. The 4<sup>th</sup> wed of the month could be possible. When we have done this in the past, we had twice the attendance on these days. Jill will poll the members and see what response we get.

**Adjournment:** 7:15

**Program:** Initiation and installation of officers

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**June 2010**

- 2 5:45 Board Meeting
- 5 World Environment Day (UN)
- 16 6:00 Dinner Meeting (1<sup>st</sup> VP Gini):  
"Miss This Meeting at Your Own Peril"
- 24 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Club's  
Organization

**July 2010**

- 7 5:45 Board Meeting
- 21 6:00 Dinner Meeting (All Members)  
"Altrusans Labor"

**BIRTHDAYS**

**June**

- 9: Nancy Desmond
- 22: Megan Evans
- 28: Lynn Myers

**July**

- 11: Phyllis Corman
- 16: Helen Bell
- 27: Norma Keller
- 31: Marla Moon

**STEPS FOR NEW MEMBERS**

Just a reminder about the procedure involved in prospective new members. You should obtain an application from Sally Rothwell (Membership Chair). Complete it, sign it, and get one other member to sign it.

Return the application to Sally. Once she receives it she will email the information to Brenda Ruby to be e-mailed out to all club members. If a member has any objection to a prospective member, they must make that known to a board member within 5 days of the e-mail. If the board does not receive any objections, then they will approve her (or him) at the next board meeting. A letter of welcome and request for payment of dues will be sent to the prospective member by the Membership Chair inviting them to join.

This is not an overnight process and will take time depending on when the name is submitted.

The new e-mail process should help speed things.

Also be aware that we will only do initiations in October, January and May each year. Even so, a new member may join at any time and participate in all activities before being formally initiated.

**VOUCHER**

Altrusa International, Inc. of Centre  
County, Inc.  
Monthly Voucher

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Month of \_\_\_\_\_ 2009/2010

- 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

**A First Timer's Impressions of District Conference**



**Me and Ginny M. at conference**



**Members from the Centre County club and 1 guest**

I have been an Altrusan for a little over three years and have not only met some amazing women through this organization, but have also grown and learned from my involvement in it. I have enjoyed being involved in our international and local service projects and have learned much about the organization by serving as my club's recording secretary. I am truly privileged and blessed to be part of this incredible organization. However, nothing has made this clearer to me than attending my first district conference.

As an officer in my club, I regularly attend Altrusa business and board meetings and had heard many reports about how amazing, fun and beneficial going to a district conference could be. I had expressed my interest in attending in the past but had been unable to attend until this year.

In a word, District Conference is **Fabulous**. I am so glad I was able to attend and I would recommend attendance to all members of Altrusa. What makes conference so fabulous? For me there were a number of reasons that it was not only incredible, but also memorable. First of all was the way all the members who attended from my club mentored me. They not only gave me an idea of what I might expect at a conference, but also introduced me to members of other clubs and made sure that I was included in various social activities and having a good time. They made me feel very comfortable and welcome.

Second was the variety of things I got to experience while at the conference. I was able to choose from workshops on leadership, being an Altrusa officer, financial planning, social networking on the internet, meditation, and women in Congo. I can honestly say that not only were the workshops well presented and organized, but I took something new or valuable away from every workshop that I attended.

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**District Board**

Third was how much I learned about Altrusa beyond the scope of a club. By attending the business meetings, meals and ceremonies, I was given a much clearer understanding of what Altrusans do all over the country. As an Altrusan, I am aware of some of the history of the club and know the keys and purpose of the club. But it was not until I sat in a room with over 100 other Altrusans, did I truly start to realize what it means. Attending conference, has allowed me to appreciate the rich traditions and spirit of giving that is Altrusa. To meet and recognize all the kindred spirits and experience the energy and caring that is a part of all present, was inspiring.



**Audrey B and Sylvia S speaking at Conference**

I got the chance to meet and come to know amazing women from all over the East Coast. And I got to be among women who mentor, support and truly care about one another. Not only were long time Altrusans helping the first timers learn and grow, they were helping a newer club host conference, recognizing outstanding service projects and efforts by various clubs and sharing memories and stories

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from conferences past. And one of my favorite aspects of conference was seeing all these women with different interests, strengths, and background come together to make their communities and the world better.

And to top it off and tie it all together, there was a beach party, an Altrusa Spa, shopping, sight-seeing and other social activities and events. So not only do Altrusans know how to work hard, encourage and support other and their communities, they also know how to relax and have fun. We drank together, played volleyball and danced together, and formed friendships that will last a lifetime.



**Beauty Queen Pose and Wave**



To me all these things are what make Altrusa the amazing organization that it is. And even though it was a very full and in some ways exhausting 3 days, I have been changed by my experiences at conference. I have some wonderful memories and new friends and feel even more blessed to call myself an Altrusan. And would I attend again: absolutely.



**Other Centre County Altrusans**



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**Message From Sindy:**

*Hi all I have been missing from the meetings due to I have taken on a part time job in caring for an elderly woman. She has brought a lot of joy in my life and teaches me different recipes. However she has two cats that are seven years old, both declawed, and neutered she wants to give away. They were her husband's cats, he has passed away and she now uses a walker and they get in front of her walker and she is afraid of falling. Plus she has to have hip surgery in June. The cats are the sweetest cats I have ever been around however my home is full or I would take them in a heartbeat. The only thing she asks is they HAVE to go together, they have been together since birth. So if anyone is interested in the cats please call me 404-1605. - Sindy Butler*

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**PLEASE HELP! WE WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU!**

To help our members get to know each other better, we would like to include a picture, pictures or graphic that tells us something about you in this year's yearbook. Submissions might be a picture of you or you and your family engaged in your favorite activity. They might be a portrait that shows you in your best light. They might be a graphic that depicts your favorite interest or state of mind. Please use your imagination, have fun, and **forward us your submission as soon as possible!** Submissions may be made to [Gentzel.Tammy@gmail.com](mailto:Gentzel.Tammy@gmail.com) OR [GinGinM@aol.com](mailto:GinGinM@aol.com) OR snail mailed to Tammy Gentzel, c/o Community Help Centre, 141 West Beaver Avenue, State College, PA 16801.

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***Altrusa International Highlight***

**For more, go to the website at [www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com)**

**Event Calendar For Altrusa Clubs**

The following events are planned by Altrusa Clubs around the world. If your club has an upcoming event, please contact us so that we may publish it on this list.

**International Youth Day** *(Thu, Aug 12, 2010)*

International Youth Day is August 12, 2010. Celebration possibility for the Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award.

**International Day of Peace** *(Tue, Sep 21, 2010)*

International Day of Peace is September 21, 2010. Celebration possibility for the Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award.

**2011 Altrusa International, Inc. Convention** *(Fri, Jul 22, 2011 - Mon, Jul 25, 2011)*

The 2011 Altrusa International, Inc. convention will be held in Rapid City, South Dakota at the Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center on July 22-25, 2011.

***Altrusa District Two Highlight***

**For more, go to the website at <http://altrusadistricttwo.homestead.com>**

**AREA DESIGNATIONS AND LOCATIONS**

Article 1. District Two includes Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Ontario (Kingston West), Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, Virginia, and West Virginia. The District is divided into three Areas according to local club's geographic locations. They are:

AREA I: Bergen County, Blair County, Centre County, Harrisburg, McKeesport, New York City, Parkersburg, Pittsburgh, Reading-Berks, Rochester

AREA II: Fauquier County, Montgomery County, Washington DC

AREA III: Capital City of VA, Charlottesville, Martinsville/Henry County, Richmond, Tidewater

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# *ALTRUSA ACTION:*

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Altrusa International, Inc. of Centre County

P.O. Box 583

State College, PA 16804

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

