



# AltruNews

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## Governor's Message:

Since we 'Soared to New Heights', we have been to Indianapolis and "Raced" around to complete various duties we were assigned. Then, President Zaida asked me to be on the Elections Committee, which was an honor, and turned out to be a busy job; keeping the Delegates in order and making sure that everyone got to vote in a timely manner. Votes were counted and we now have the New Board.

News from International includes an overwhelming vote for the budget to include monies for a new marketing plan. We got a look at the interim plan from International Communications Chair, Rhoda Struhs, in a Workshop. It was outstanding, and everyone left the Convention with high hopes. You will be hearing more about this, as the templates are online for all clubs and members to use.

When we returned home, we all jumped back into our lives, jobs and clubs. Soon, it was September and time for Mid-Year Board meeting; this year held in Albuquerque, with the entire board in attendance. 2009 Conference Chair, B.J. Ciesielski, submitted a check for \$2,698.74 Conference Net to the Board. Congratulations to the Chairs, B.J. and Frances Apodaca and the Albuquerque Club who worked so hard for a successful Conference!

The Board approved \$1000 to be sent to the Marketing Fund from District Ten. There will be more requests from International as we move forward. The RFP (Request for Proposal) has been completed and we await bids for the job.

Club visits are happening, and we are trying to carry the message from International and District Ten. Those making visits are reporting good results and are having fun at the same time. It is a great time to reconnect with the clubs.

I am keeping busy writing welcome letters to new members. Please keep it up!

In Altrusa Love, Ida Bender, Governor, District Ten



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# District Ten Officer "To Do" List



OCTOBER

**PRESIDENT**

- October is Foundation Grants Month, the time of year when the International Foundation requests contributions for the Grants Program.
- Remember to observe "Make A Difference Day" held in October of each year.

**SERVICE COORDINATOR OR VICE PRESIDENT**

- Assist President as needed.

**TREASURER**

- Submit Foundation contributions to International.
- IRS Form 990 is due by October 15<sup>th</sup>, if necessary.

**SECRETARY**

- When International advises you of a new club, it is a nice touch to enclose to them a letter of good wishes and a dollar bill for seed money. (not required.)
- Fill up that newsletter with goodies!
- Send highlights of minutes to the newsletter editor, if requested.
- Send President a copy of minutes prior to each meeting.

*United Nations Observance – October 24<sup>th</sup>, United Nations Day*

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

**PRESIDENT**

- Follow up on committee assignments and activities
- January meeting should include a "State of the Club Report." Ask officers and committee chairmen to begin work on their committee reports.
- Touch base with new members and make sure they are feeling welcome and well informed about Altrusa.
- November 30<sup>th</sup>, approved grant applications received by the September 15<sup>th</sup> deadline are funded.

**SERVICE COORDINATOR OR VICE-PRESIDENT**

- Help your President gather committee reports to help with the "State of the Club" Report.

**TREASURER**

- Calculate net members and report to President for "State of the Club" Report.
- From December 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, new members pay half year International and District dues.

**SECRETARY**

- More goodies from your minutes for the newsletter
- Send President a copy of minutes prior to each meeting.



What an informative International Convention we had! We heard about the branding process, ways it can reenergize an organization and its relevance for not-for-profits like Altrusa. We learned about managing change through alliance building, commitment alignment and perception assessment. And we were introduced to interim marketing materials designed to bridge where we are now and where we will be a couple of years from now. How I wish every one of you could have been there. The atmosphere was completely electric with the hope of Altrusa

successes to come.

For the 2009-2011 biennium your International Board is working with two goals: retain and recruit members and improve and extend the Altrusa image. With the convention delegates' support in passing the proposed 2009-2011 budget we are ready to move ahead quickly with developing the Altrusa brand. To make our new brand successful each member will need to become a "brand ambassador" for Altrusa.

The International board and program committees will be gathering and creating the tools our members need to promote Altrusa from within our membership. We'll work together to become more educated brand ambassadors who are comfortable attracting media attention, are experts on the positive benefits of volunteering, and are visible in community activities as a promoter of Altrusa.

The first step is to put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) detailing the marketing and branding services we need to secure. (If there are any Altrusans in this field interested in submitting a proposal, be sure to get your contact information to our Executive Director, Regina Baras.) While the proposal is out for response, your Communications/Marketing Chair Rhoda Struhs and Vice Chair, Rhonda Hauter will begin developing the project timetable. This will help all of us stay on track and watch our project as it moves toward our goals.

So where do you fit in? We are counting on each Altrusan to make a personal commitment to retain existing members and actively recruit new members. The minimum goal for the first year of the biennium is to halt the membership decline. We are striving to maintain our membership at a number at or above what it was on October 1, 2009. Your Membership team, their Board liaison and the International Office will send quarterly progress reports to each club and district so we can watch our growth. If all goes well soon we'll have a graph on the web site to help us visually track our advancement.

Watch this space for more International news in your next DSB.

***Donna Johnson, International President***

### **BRR It's November**

Yes, it's that time of the year. Some of you have already had snow and others of us are only experiencing some cold north wind, but this is not about the weather. It's about one of the Standing Committees of the District – BRR – Bylaws, Resolutions and Recommendations.

Let me introduce you to the 2009-2010 BRR Committee – Marian Thompson, Roswell; Martha Dusio, Montrose; Vicki Ripp, Delta; and Gaynelle Thomas of Portales.

Any one of this committee will be happy to take your recommendations for changes to the Bylaws and bring them before the Conference body. Remember that Article XVII, Sections 3, Notice of the Bylaws states: At least sixty (60) days prior to the date of such conference, notice shall be given of any proposed amendments to the District Bylaws to be placed before the Conference. Keep this in mind when making any proposals.

Have a great Altrusa year.

The BRR Committee

### **Reminder:**

Instead of using Google to search the internet, go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and enter "Altrusa International Foundation" when you are asked "who do you goodsearch for."

## **Reports on Altrusa International Convention, August, 2009, Indianapolis**



### **Dona Garretson**

What a whirlwind week filled with so many new things to learn about Altrusa, many to renew friendships with and catch up on recent happenings, and many special moments to cherish. Each one of us could probably write a book! Indianapolis is a beautiful city; I only wish there were more time to see all the great attractions. In addition to so much more, a visit to the Mamie L. Bass memorial after Convention ended was touching and a moment for serious reflection about our founder. As I stood there I could not help but be in awe of this woman, and women like her, who were inspired to create Altrusa. Look at us now - we are an international organization of women and men who make a difference in our communities.

District Ten is awesome and those members who were able to represent all of us at Convention were an inspiration to me. We are smaller in numbers at this point (not for long) and still show the support, understanding, and enthusiasm of the BEST district in our association. We share so much fun and contemplation of what will come next for our organization. Frankly, my heart swelled with pride when I watched our District in action as they participated in decisions that would affect the entire organization. Congratulations to each of you. You represented us well.

I was blessed with the opportunity to serve as President-Elect and next biennium as International President of Altrusa, International, Inc. I humbly thank all of you for your belief in me throughout the years. I will do my best to serve Altrusa. Never forget that together we can succeed and strengthen the organization that we respect and love.

A special thanks to those of you who gave me the beautiful bracelet. I will wear it every day of my future life with Altrusa and never forget that the heart of Altrusa is found in my Club and District. The inscription reads, "Every moment promises a future of endless possibilities, simply dream, believe and never give up." I will remember this and abide by its message as I serve and never be without that reminder around my wrist.

Thank you.

Please try to attend Convention in Rapid City, South Dakota 2011-2013. Together we will shine!

### **Margaret Goodhue**

It is always great to see old friends. Joyce Delabar was the International President 1993-1995 and hadn't been to a convention since. She isn't in the best health but it was great to see her again. She had visited District Ten when Conference was in Montrose. Also, wonderful to see Mary Osentowski. She has given workshops for us in District Ten. Huge talent.

On the down side, I counted that we could have had 20 or more votes in the elections. It is always important to attend Convention to support nominees from our district. We missed a great opportunity to be represented by two special and talented members.

## Reports on Altrusa International Convention, August, 2009, Indianapolis, Indiana Continued

### **Roberta Hoey, President, Altrusa International, Inc. of Montrose**

This was my second International Convention and I thought this one was well planned and organized. Most of the planned events were held on schedule and informative. We were busy constantly. Even though there were tours planned that could be taken I do not know how anyone fit them in and attended workshops, etc. I attended two workshops which were very informative and the rest of our group commented how pleased they were with the workshops they attended. Montrose winning two International awards helped make the Convention real special. I would encourage all members to attend future Conventions whenever possible.

### **Nancy Taylor**

Returned home just in time to be welcomed by the energetic wind, rain and hail storm! I decided not to change clothes and try to come back into town as the tree limbs were flying past the window and hail covered the yard. I hope all had a good time. Sorry I missed the fun. Many well wishes and District Ten folks asked to be remembered to Kathy and were pleased with my progress report on her. Many again had great comments about our hosting the 2008 Conference in Clovis. Yes, I have the program that lists us as a Distinguished Club Recipient! I will bring it to our next meeting. Excellent Convention. Next is planned for 2011 in Rapid City, So. Dak. 2013 is New Zealand.

Altrusa is truly International. We honored our outgoing President Ziada Perez-Mendez of Puerto Rico, watched flags presented for Russia and Ukraine. Installed an Association Director and a Foundation Director both from New Zealand!

I proudly carried a beautiful set of hand-crocheted, pastel green doilies for the foundation raffle. Thank you Victoria. We are thankful to have such a talented, generous new member.

### **Rhoda Struhs**

My first impression of the 2009 International Convention was the sense of energy that was almost tangible. It seemed that the delegates were ready for Altrusa to move forward. And, it became apparently true when they overwhelmingly voted to pass the budget. With their approval, the International organization can begin the process of researching and developing an updated brand for Altrusa.

We had speakers present information on rebranding and dealing with change – two issues that Altrusa members are faced with. It helped us all become more comfortable with Altrusa's future.

Unfortunately, I missed all the workshops but the ones that I conducted for the Communications Committee. In that workshop, we showed the new marketing materials and the steps that have been taken to get to this point. Everyone was excited about the new Interim Marketing Kit (it is now on the Altrusa website).

The Installation Banquet was extra special for District Ten. Watching our own Dona Garretson installed as International President Elect was a proud moment for all of us. With Donna Johnson as International President and Dona Garretson as International President-Elect, our future is very bright.



## New Club Building in Southern Utah

Work has begun in earnest to organize an Altrusa Club in Southern Utah. The first of several planned informational meetings was held August 27th in St. George, UT, with additional meetings scheduled for September. The club will draw from all of Washington County, Utah.

Interest has been high as Judy Smith, affiliate member and club organizer, has been spreading the word. Judy spoke at several professional networking meetings and the St. George Rotary Club, letting them know what Altrusa is and that it's coming to the area! The local newspaper included several notices announcing the meeting.

Dona Garretson, International President-Elect and a District Ten Past Governor, from Grand Junction, and Rhoda Struhs, International Communications Chair and District Ten Immediate Past Governor, from Ogden, joined Judy for the initial meeting.

Judy attended Altrusa's International Convention in Indianapolis in August and made sure that every Altrusan she encountered knew a club was being organized. Several Altrusans from across the country have family or friends in the area. If you have family, friends or business associates in Washington County, UT (St. George, Hurricane, Washington City, Santa Clara or Ivins), please send Judy the contact information at [jasmithut@earthlink.net](mailto:jasmithut@earthlink.net).

## Altrusa International, Inc. District Ten New Member Report June 12, 2009 – September 21, 2009

### Albuquerque, NM

Frances Kurts 7-27-09  
Janet Sanchez 7-27-09

### Grand Junction, CO

Edna Phillips 6-18-09  
Patricia Taylor 7-15-09

### Montrose, CO

Roena Frank 6-16-09  
Allison Nadel 6-30-09

### Ogden, UT

Debbie Jensen 5-18-09

### Roswell, NM

Elvira Lupien 8/26/09  
Donna Landfair 8/26/09

### Tucumcari, NM

Clarice Strong 7/01/09

Welcome to all new members.  
It's so great to see our clubs growing!

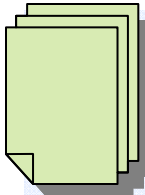
Altrusans, your club Presidents have received the request for nominations from the District Ten Nominating Committee. Please discuss nominees with your board. The nominations are for: District Ten Nominating Committee, International Nominating Committee, and Nominee as Trustee of the International Foundation, who are to be elected at Conference in Colorado Springs.

Deadline for the nominations is December 15, 2009. Return the form to Alice Vest, Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Please consider running for these positions. **The Future of District Ten Depends on You and Your Club's Nomination.**

*Marian Thompson, Martha Dusio and Vicki Ripp agreed to serve on the BRR Committee with Chair, Gaynelle Thomas.*

*Please thank them for stepping up and serving Altrusa.*



The International Office staff has been working very hard and has the 2009-2011 version of the Bylaws ready to be posted on the International web site on Monday (9-16-09). (It would have been last Monday, but we had to go back and tweak them a bit to make sure they were searchable and of the smallest possible size for convenient downloading.) You all said you'd love to have them within 6 weeks of convention and the office has them for you in about four weeks. Hurray!

You may remember that we modified our policy regarding Manuals to indicate the bylaws would be made available to all members on-line at no charge. We are still aware that there will be members who wish to have a hard copy and are working on the best solution for this. With the bylaws being available on the web site, the printing dynamics have changed radically and we need to make certain the solution we propose is workable for both members and the International Office.

Please remember that there will still be a charge for those who wish to receive a printed copy of the bylaws. As policies change over the next biennium, we plan to keep the on-line copy continuously updated, however the "printed" version will not be redone until the next convention and any associated bylaw changes have been accomplished.

Donna Johnson, Altrusa International President



## ASTRA Club Reports

**The ASTRA Club of Cedaredge High School** is starting out its new school year all revved up and ready to go. By the end of September they will have 3 new officers, with last year's vice president stepping up to the office of president, and they will have at least one project already completed. They have a long list of projects they hope to accomplish during the upcoming year including helping the local animal shelter, providing suitcases with necessary items for children who get taken out of their home, assisting children in another country to have a better life, among many other project ideas.

**The ASTRA Club of Delta Opportunity School** is starting its year off running!!! This alternative high school has as a requirement for graduation a Service Learning credit which ASTRA helps many of them accomplish. The club is in the process of connecting students with residents at a local nursing care facility to create an "Adopt-A-Grandparent" program. The ASTRA students will be assisting the residents get around at the Pow Wow to be held in town in mid-September. They will also keep in touch with holiday greetings, as well as visits whenever possible, and holiday celebrations together as a group. The club also wants to work on the exterior of their building, as well as with their neighbors of the BELA pre-school.

**The ASTRA Club of Delta High School** had a busy summer and early fall. This summer we put together 42 reward kits to benefit "Family Drug Court". The Family Drug Court is a program that helps people with drug abuse problems who may lose or have lost their children to social services. The reward kits will be used as positive reinforcement for those participants who successfully complete portions of the drug court process - mostly staying "clean" and completing substance abuse classes. This fall we are gearing up for a pet food and supply drive to benefit the Delta County Humane Society. We will also help out at the Altrusa Fundraiser - The Sugar Plum Festival!

**The ASTRA Club of Montrose** had their first meeting of the school year on September 17". They have a big year planned and more will follow on their many service efforts.

**New Club News** - There were two ASTRA organizational meetings in Grand Junction: one for a possible ASTRA high school club and one for a possible Mesa State University ASTRA club. Nothing official has happened yet - but the possibilities are exciting!

Thank you for your support!

**Yours in Service,** Jessica Shaffer, ASTRA Chair, District Ten

**ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
DISTRICT TEN CHAIRMEN 2009- 2011**



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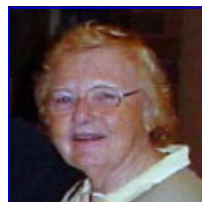
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