



President's Report by Roberta Hoey



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I would like to commend our local ASTRA committee for the work they are doing with this group of young people. On November 12th, the committee hosted an Awards Dinner for the ASTRA Members and their parents. This was to celebrate again placing first at International Convention and adding another trophy to the case at Montrose High. On the menu were pasta dishes, salads, breads and desserts all donated by Altrusans. The event was well attended with Margaret Goodhue, International ASTRA Co-Chair and Past District Ten Governor, and Donna Herman, current District Ten Governor- Elect among the guests. Lori Michaels is advisor of the ASTRA Club this year and chair of the committee. What an outstanding group of young people! Next on the schedule is cutting and making of Holiday Wreaths to sell and help finance some of the many projects planned. This is a fun time for the ASTRA Members as well as a big money raising venture.

One of our major fund-raising events is now history for this year. Even in our depressed economic situation we have still managed to pull together a great event. We had 61 members participate in the Holiday Festival & Gifts. I would like to especially thank Tracy Frank, Chair and Bobbi Brown, Co-Chair of the event. Judy Copeland and Susan Woody and all their helpers did a superb job on the food. Rose Price has again fulfilled her responsibilities as Decorating Chair with a wide array of excellent items for auction. Dena Brooks and her Sponsorship Committee handled the job of soliciting sponsors for funding. Others too numerous to name devoted an amazing amount of time, energy and money to this event. A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE. AS USUAL THE ALTRUSANS MAKE IT HAPPEN. We will have a final tally on the amount of money we did earn soon and know how much we can continue to contribute to the support of our local charities.

Michelle Gottlieb and the Holiday Party Committee are planning our party for December 15th. It will be held at the Holiday Inn at 11:30 AM-approx. 1:30 PM. The meal will be catered with a \$10.00 charge that will be added to your next dues invoice. We are being asked to bring a childhood photo of ourselves for a game and there will be a collection of non-perishable food items for a local group. If you have not signed up to attend, please contact Michelle as soon as possible.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Roberta Hoey

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ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF MONTROSE, CO BUSINESS MEETING, OCTOBER 20, 2009

President Roberta Hoey called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS. Anita Johannsen showed Altrusa shirts and apron with a recycle logo on them. They are from a project several years ago and are being offered for a suggested donation of \$10.

Janis Marcha, Environmental Committee chair, reported on the "ride your bike to school" project. Tickets were presented to kids each day they rode their bike to school. During a 19-day period 397 tickets were dispersed at Centennial and 465 at Columbine. Two bikes were given away at each school with names drawn from students who participated. She also reported that 80 bulbs were planted in Cerise Park.

Diane Winger reported a program for kids and their parents will be held Nov. 3, 2009, at the library as a kick off for a community-wide Pennies for Peace drive. She said collection jars will be placed throughout town and also at Altrusa.

Marianne Cross announced there will be an ornament tree at the Festival of Trees and asked members to make ornaments which will be offered for a suggested donation of \$5 each.

Judy Copeland reported that if people don't cook they may make a donation of \$10 to \$15 to be used for the purchase of cheese and veggie trays for the Festival hors d'oeuvre tables.

Elaine Moore is selling tickets for a pasta dinner on Nov. 7, sponsored by the Elks, to benefit the families of the three policemen who were shot or killed recently.

MINUTES of the previous meeting were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE was read by Dorothy Causey in Jeanne Kuchynka's absence. There were thank you letters from Hospice and Palliative Care of Western Colorado for our donation to the Camp Good Grief art program; Dream Catcher Therapy Center, Inc., for \$200; Northside Elementary School Library for donated books; and the Montrose Chamber of Commerce for our membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT was presented by Janis Marcha and it was filed as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs by Kaye Hotsenpiller. Oct. 27, Lifeline program by Alice Vest. Nov. 3, official visit by District Governor-Elect Donna Herman; and Nov. 24, Dusty Gavels presentation on How to Report Service Hours.

Membership by Diane Winger. Priscilla Cozens, volunteer coordinator at Hospice and Palliative Care, has submitted an application for membership.

Service by Linda Riba. The following donations were approved by the club -- \$500 to the Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club for general operating funds, and \$200 to the Partners Challenge Mountain Bike Race. Linda pointed out a \$100 error in the 2009-2010 budget which reduces the discretionary funds to \$7,550 from \$7,650.



(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

OCTOBER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES—(continued)

NEW BUSINESS

Judy Copeland moved and it was seconded that we sign a contract with Big O Tires whereby Altrusa will get a percentage of the money paid for purchases by, or any services performed for, Altrusans at Big O. We will get 3% for work up to \$500; 5% for \$501 to \$1000; and 7% for anything \$1001 and higher. Motion carried.

Janis Marcha explained our profit sharing program with City Market and passed a sheet for those who weren't already signed up.

It was suggested that we should learn and say the Altrusa Collect. Judy Copeland moved and it was seconded and passed that we say the Collect at our business meetings and at any other times we would like.

Roberta Hoey announced there would be an internal fund raiser on Dec. 8 when the Literacy Committee would raffle a vase.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Submitted by Dorothy Causey, acting secretary

BIRTHDAYS! BIRTHDAYS! BIRTHDAYS!

The Courtesy Committee thought it would be nice to include a Happy Birthday wish in the newsletter each month for the members with birthdays coming up in the following month. That way, in case you (or they) miss a meeting, you can share birthday wishes personally!

January Birthdays:

Christy Biella	January 4
Diane Winger	January 7
Lesley Archibald	January 8
Nancy Morton-Kaiser	January 11
Roberta Hoey	January 12
Lori Michaels	January 12
Val Burnell	January 14
Bonnie Eakin	January 29



Montrose ASTRA president,
Sara Kuta, was crowned Colorado's
Junior Miss 2010. Congratulations Sara!



Altrusa & Library Kick Off Pennies for Peace

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009, about 50 people attended a special Pennies for Peace event at Montrose Library co-sponsored by the Library District and Altrusa of Montrose. Jana Ackerman, Outreach Coordinator for Children's Services at the Library, read the story *Listen to the Wind* to the children in attendance. *Listen to the Wind* is the best-selling story of Greg Mortenson ("Dr. Greg") arriving in the mountain village of Khorphe in northern Pakistan and promising to build a school there. The story is told from the point of view of the children of Khorphe, who previously had attended "school" outdoors, scratching their lessons in the dirt.



The children and adults who attended the program were also treated to a short video describing how the Pennies for Peace program began over 16 years ago. His non-profit organization, Central Asia Institute (CAI), has built or provided support for 131 schools, paid salaries for over 1,200 teachers, and 58,000 students (including 40,000 girls) have been educated as a result of their work. The organization has also worked with various educational and vocational programs for women in the region, and has provided health care services and projects.

Many individual classrooms as well as entire elementary schools in Montrose plan to collect pennies to donate to CAI. Altrusa members have placed Pennies for Peace collection jars in a number of area businesses so that community members can also contribute. This Montrose Pennies for Peace drive will conclude on **Wednesday, December 16** when Alpine Bank East (on East Main) will count the pennies collected and a donation will be made to **Pennies for Peace** (Central Asia Institute) to help build additional schools, provide school supplies to children, provide scholarships to advanced students, train teachers, and more.

Teachers, families, businesses, and individuals who wish to have their collections counted and included in the donation to Pennies for Peace on December 16 may contact Diane Winger through Altrusa's email address -- altrusa.montrose@gmail.com.

Also, please contact Altrusa if you would like someone to come to your business or club to give a presentation about Pennies for Peace and/or read *Listen to the Wind* to a children's group.

Greg Mortenson is also the author of best-selling book *Three Cups of Tea - One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time*. Altrusa of Montrose has donated copies of Mortenson's book to the Montrose Library and to all Montrose schools.

Upcoming Activities - Plan to Attend!

December 15, 2009: Holiday Party—bring a childhood photo of yourself for a game and there will be a collection of non-perishable food items to be donated to our Christmas Basket project

January 5, 2010: Patricia Byrd – Reclaim Kids 252-8708

February 2, 2010: Habitat for Humanity – Bill Bond – 240-4563

March 2, 2010: Danny Hoey – 4H Sports Club – 596-2241

Environmental Committee Kids on Wheels Contest



Altrusa's Environmental Committee held a month-long Kids on Wheels contest that challenged students from both Columbine Middle School and Centennial Middle School to ride their bikes to school to help the environment and create better health. The contest ran from September 21 through October 17.

The bikes were presented to students on October 17th 2009.

(left) Altrusans Kylee Smith and Janis Marcha present the Altrusa Kids on Wheels Bike challenge winner Zach Lasher from Columbine Middle School with a new Haro Mountain Bike donated by Jeans Westerner.



(right) Altrusan Cheryl Gibson presents a bike to Andrew Cretti, the Centennial Middle School bike winner.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL HOLIDAY FESTIVAL!



After hundreds of hours of planning, organizing, decorating, cooking, and more, Altrusa members can sit back and relax (briefly!) knowing that another Holiday Festival & Gifts fundraising event is complete.

Preliminary figures show net revenues of just over \$13,000 raised by this event. This amount is slightly less than half of our fundraising goal for the year; our Spring Luncheon is our other major fundraiser each year.

With the funds raised, along with funding from our Foundation's reserves, Altrusa of Montrose hopes to provide services, grants, and scholarships totaling over \$41,000, primarily to our local community. Since our fiscal year began in June 2009, Altrusa has already funded additional units for **Lifeline** (helping seniors live safely in their own homes), purchased

stuffed toys (**Love Hug Bears** given to children having surgery or emergency care at MMH), helped fund the expansion of Christ's Kitchen (helping to feed members of our community), and provided grants to organizations such as Bosom Buddies, Dreamcatcher Therapy, Hospice, Montrose Community Dinners (Thanksgiving dinner), San Juan Health Care, and Youth Appreciation Day.

Please take a moment to answer the following questionnaire about this year's Festival and email your answers to Tracy Frank, Chair of the event (Tracy.E.Frank@wellsfargo.com). Please feel free to be honest in your assessment and be forthcoming with any ideas you wish to share. We appreciate your input so we can improve this event for 2010!

- 1. Membership participation: This is one of our major fundraisers. Did we get the level of membership participation desired?**
- 2. Club recognition: Does this event provide recognition for Altrusa and the community services we provide funding to? What did we do well?**
- 3. What could we have done differently?**
- 4. Food/beverage: What is your opinion on the quantity and quality of the food and beverages we served?**
- 5. What suggestions do you have on how to generate more attendance or more bidding?**

Make a Difference Day!



Altrusa Literacy and Litter League— Combination Book Giveaway and Recycling Event

Kick Off: Altrusa and ASTRA volunteers met at Anita Johansen's home on Hwy 90 on October 24 and did more than just collect trash for the landfill on a stretches of Hwy 90, 6100 Road, Oak Grove Road and Dave Wood Road. They sorted through roadside trash to collect recyclable plastic & glass containers and metal cans in orange bags and

non-recyclable trash into grey bags. The following week, Waste Management picked up all the bags, taking the orange bags to their recycling center and the grey bags to the landfill.

The next step for this Make a Difference Day Event: On November 19, ASTRA Members and Altrusans presented sets of three books about global warming, carbon footprint and green living from the Literacy & Environmental committees for all District middle school and high school libraries as well as the Montrose Library and the Boys and Girls Club.



Photo Above Right:

Back Row (l to r) Ashlee Watterson, Nichole Dickinson, Brandi Fresquez, Cassie Stewart, Bethany Parker, Kaylee Isom, Beverly Howze, Taylee Neubauer, Pat Myers (MHS Counselor and ASTRA Sponsor), Shannon Garcia, Kristin Lehr, Stephanie Speck & Altrusans Susan Bony and Carolee Hawkins

Middle Row (l to r) Meriyah Martinez, Marcella Archuleta, Altrusans Lori Michaels, Kylee Smith, Lorie Bollig, Sheryl Solow (Assistant Superintendent for Montrose County School District), Anita Johansen & Carol Parker

Front Row (l to r) Kate Adams, Emily Wolverton, Katie Burnet, Haley Brooks, Talyor Petschl, Veronica Baas, Libby Capshaw, Sara Kuta & Kassey Petschl (holding Blake Hawkins).

Seasons Readings— 10th Annual Gift of Books to Children

Montrose Altrusa members work on the first batch of Seasons Readings books for the 2010 holidays (photo right).

The Montrose Daily Press and Altrusa of Montrose partner to bring new and gently used children's books to clients of Health and Human Services for the Holidays. The two have been bringing books into the homes of local children for 10 years and have collected and donated thousands of books for area youth over those years.

Seasons Readings runs through December 15 with donation drop off sites at The Montrose Daily Press, City Market South, Genesis Christian Book Store, Starbucks and The Coffee Trader.



Literacy Committee Sponsors Speaker for Student Programs in 2010

Author and literacy speaker Michael Shoulders will provide motivational assemblies to K-2 and 3-5 grades in all six RJ1 District Elementary schools.

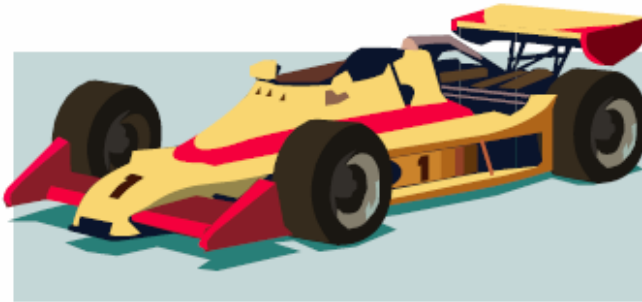
Mr. Shoulders is a children's book author and winner of the NAPPA (National Parenting Publications Award) Gold Award. He travels extensively in the United States and Europe teaching children how stories make books and how much fun reading can be. For more information, visit his web site at www.michaelshoulders.com.

Many Montrose Altrusans saw Mr. Shoulders give a literacy presentation at our District Ten Conference, two years ago in Clovis, New Mexico. We approached Mr. Shoulders in 2008-2009 about a visit to Montrose, but were unable to follow through. Mr. Shoulders contacted our club in September 2009 because he has an Author's Visit in Denver on February 4, 2010 and had the cost of his plane ticket to Denver already covered. We were excited that we were able to make arrangements to have him come to Montrose for three days in February 2010.

The Literacy Committee has budgeted for this series of presentations and is in the process of requesting funds from other service clubs to help defray transportation/lodging/meals and any incidental expenses of his visit to the area. If you have other ideas for other sponsors or grants to cover the costs for these presentations, please contact me.

Susan Woody
Literacy Committee Chair 2009-2010

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.