



Altrusa Action

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF CENTRE COUNTY, PA
OCTOBER 2009

Dinner: Wednesday, October 21,
6:00 p.m., Celebration Hall
Menu: Beef Stroganoff or Baked
Haddock
Program: The October
program is "Read to
Succeed: Educating
Philippine Children"
Reservations: Please call to make
a reservation –Call Barb
(238-8882) or email her
(brk@psu.edu) by the
evening of Sunday, October
18th.

BOARD

President: Jill,
hmmbird@comcast.net
1st Vice President: Gini, v2f@psu.edu
2nd Vice President: Sindy,
sbutler@woodcraftindustries.com
Treasurer: Phyllis,
cormanpj@aol.com
Recording Secretary: Amy M.,
amarama3@hotmail.com
Corresponding Secretary: Tammy,
tamgentzel2@cs.com
Directors (2009-2011):
Ginny M., ginginm@aol.com
Theresa,
theresamcelwain@gmail.com
Directors (2008-2010):
Susan, sbhoover@uplink.net

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications co-chairs Tammy,
tamgentzel2@cs.com & Ginny M.,
ginginm@aol.com
Finance: Phyllis, cormanpj@aol.com
International Relations co-chairs:
Norma, nkeller@ccysb.com &
Ahmed, a_banya@hotmail.com
Membership: Sally,
greenhills1250@msn.com
Service: Gini, v2f@psu.edu

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have so much to report that I am not sure I can squeeze it into this month's column! First, let's look at Altrusa on an international level. For the 2009-2011 biennium your International Board is working on two goals: retain and recruit new members and improve/extend the Altrusa image. They are now working toward developing the Altrusa brand. To make the new brand successful, each member will need to become a "brand ambassador" for Altrusa. To that end they have developed an interim Marketing Kit. Some of the new marketing materials, including brochures and handouts, will be available at the October dinner meeting. I know you will be excited and impressed with the results. With these new materials I have no doubt that we can not only make our own club goal of 5 new members, but also help meet International's goal of retention and recruitment. Don't assume other club members will take the lead. **I am asking for a personal commitment from each one of you to bring in a new member this year.**

Bring a friend to the October dinner meeting. There will be a terrific program and an additional bonus. We will have all our Laga purses on display for a chance to do some early holiday shopping after the meeting.

Next let's look at Altrusa on a district level. If you missed the October workshop last weekend you missed an amazing talk on the refugee camps in Darfur, Chad and the Congo by Dr. Lee Ann DeReus. You also missed Roger Snyder's entertaining "Antique Road Show" as he discussed various antiques brought in by members. The afternoon was capped by a trip to the Creamery. Check out more info:

www.altrusadistricttwo.homestead.com

Last, but not least, I want to report on some local Altrusa activities. There will be a sign-up sheet at the October meeting for help with the Pasta Sale on November 5th from 10:30 am to 6:30 pm. We are asking for two hours of your time. Proceeds benefit the State College Area School District Community Education Literacy Endowment. It isn't too late to order some of that wonderful pasta by calling 234-3333; indicate Option A, meat ravioli or Option B, three cheese ravioli. See article below.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not mention the upcoming UNA dinner at the Ramada on October 25th. Dr. DeReus will be one of the speakers.

In Service,

JILL

President: Jill Lillie
hmmbird@comcast.net
P.O. Box 583
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Editor: Barb
Production: Tammy
Distribution: Barb

OCTOBER PROGRAM

The program, arranged by the International Relations Committee, is entitled "Read to Succeed: Educating Philippine Children." The speaker will be Tineke Cuning, Director of International Affairs and Affiliate Assistant Professor of Education at PSU. She is a member of the Centre County UNA-USA Board of Directors and a member of the State College Evening Rotary Club and Soroptimist International of Centre County. Tineke represents both the Rotary Club and Soroptimists in the UNA Council of Organizations. She has worked and traveled extensively in many parts of the world.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications – Tammy and Ginny, co-Chairs

2009-2010 Yearbooks are ready! Please plan on attending the October Business meeting (which features a fantastic speaker!) to pick yours up. If you cannot attend, please contact Ginny Mulhatten or Tammy Gentzel to arrange receiving yours.

International Relations – Norma and Ahmed, co-Chairs

The committee is presenting this month's program, with speaker Tineke Cuning (see above).

Membership – Sally, Chair

We're planning that Brenda Ruby will be initiated in January.

Service – Gini, Chair

Banning Dirty Books: The Bellefonte library is in the process of painting all of its shelves, so they will not need our cleaning rags for some time!

Pen Pals: RSVP is still looking for volunteers to write to school children four times a year through their Pen Pals program. If you are interested, please call them and get aboard. Susan Hoover said she got a wonderful letter from a little girl.

Park Forest Day Nursery: We will be collecting Crest for Kids this month. Please make sure it is the correct brand. Apparently they have done a

considerable amount of testing, and this is the one the children will use.

UNA PROJECT

Centre County UNA-USA greatly appreciates Altrusa's purchase of two solar box cookers to support UNA's project of making cookers available to women and girls in refugee camps to aid in maintaining their personal safety.

Some Altrusans have stepped forward and provided a personal check for the purchase of even more cookers. There is still an opportunity for any Altrusan to do this when you see Norma Keller at Altrusa's October meeting.

Centre County UNA-USA also thanks Altrusa for supporting two international students to attend the UNA dinner. Anyone who has attended the dinner knows that the additional international students provide a richness to the evening that can't be brought about in any other way.

ALTRUSA IS PASTA PARTNER

Altrusa is getting some much needed recognition through our partnership with the State College Area Community Education's pasta fundraiser. Community Ed is trying to fund a Literacy Endowment through the Centre County Community Foundation. They have been facing increasing budgetary cuts over the years, and feel this is the best way to assure adequate funding for the adult GED program. Every ad shows Altrusa as the sponsor of this fundraiser. Every person who calls into their "pasta hotline" to order ravioli is greeted with a message "Thank you for supporting Altrusa's fundraiser...."

Our members are expected to spread the word about this fundraiser and to help out on distribution day, November 5th from 10:30 am to 6:30 pm at the Mt. Nittany Middle School parking lot. If you have not yet ordered any ravioli, please do so by calling 234-3333. Each 4 lb. package is \$20, and they have both meat and cheese ravioli. Flyers about the sale were e-mailed to all members. Please post those flyers where you work, at church, and encourage friends and family members to buy. The ravioli was sampled by board members and we agreed that it is simply delicious! All you need to provide is the sauce and an appetite!



THE BUSY BEE By Amy R. Miller

During the month of September, several members of our club were busy raising funds, adding to our membership, and exploring ways to increase community awareness of our club and its mission.

Laga Bag Sale

On September 13 we held our 2nd Laga Handbag sale. The Community Help Centre and Aids Project generously donated their space so we could hold the sale downtown.



Laga bags on display

Several Altrusa members donated their time, energy, and creative skills to help make the sale a success. Others wowed us with their culinary skills making brownies, banana bread, cookies and coffee for our shoppers. Some demonstrated their modeling abilities by donning bags or T-shirts which mentioned Altrusa and the sale.



Tammy, Jill and Amy advertising the sale



Megan Evans models luggage and a matching bag

Many people stopped by to browse, buy presents, and show support for the sale. At the end of the day we raised approximately \$618 from the sale. Thanks to everyone who helped or stopped by. We couldn't have done it without all of you.

New Member Initiation

During the September 16th Business Meeting, two new members were initiated into the club. Our past president, Becky Schrope led the ceremony.



Our new members and their sponsors



Tammy, Brenda, and Norma

Brenda Goldman works for **Hope For Kids** and the **Kidz Rainbow Center** and is sponsored by Tammy Gentzel and Norma Keller.

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Norma, Megan and Phyllis

Megan Evans works for the **Centre County Youth Service Bureau** and is sponsored by Norma Keller and Phyllis Corman.

Welcome aboard, Ladies. We're glad to have you with us.

ALTRUSA IDOL

To add to the fun of the September business meeting, the membership committee sang songs including "Country Roads," "We are the Champions," and "Stop in the Name of Love", revising the lyrics to apply to Altrusa.



Sally, Megan, Phyllis, Becky, Brenda, and Jill singing during Altrusa Idol

To the surprise of our new members (who were roped into it) and the pleasure of the other members present (who didn't know what to expect), the group began to perform their revised songs. The goal: to pick the song that we thought best represented Centre County Altrusans and could be used at workshops, conferences or even for PSA's.



Jill and Becky sing, sing, sing



Sally, Megan, and Phyllis join in

And the favorite: "We are the Champions." If you missed it at the meeting, expect to see it soon. Thanks to Jill for providing the lyrics and music for this entertaining evening.

MINUTES

Business Meeting, September 16, 2009

Guests: none

Accent: Presented by Jill Lillie: **Altrusa and the United Nations**

In 1946, Altrusa was the first International classified service club for executive and professional women to have an observer approved to the United Nations.

In 1978, Altrusa received consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The mission of

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ECOSOC is the promotion of “higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development; social, health, and related problems; and universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.”

Altrusa is a non-governmental organization (NGO) whose competence allows us to make occasional and useful contributions to the work of the United Nations and to be available for consultation upon request. Altrusa’s NGO Representative is appointed each biennium and serves in the following ways:

- Attends weekly briefings for NGOs and serves as participant member of ECOSOC committees.
- Arranged opportunities for visiting Altrusans to attend briefings and other meetings.
- Provides UN material as requested by clubs and members.

Altrusa International of Centre County has maintained our relationship with the United Nations by designating an active member as our representative to the UNA/USA chapter. Whenever possible, we recognize special days designated by the United Nations and occasionally will present related programs.

Positive Notes:

Brenda Goldman: Today is Brenda’s birthday. She is starting her 50/50 plan to lose 50 lbs by the time she turns 50. She also found out that her daughter is pregnant with Brenda’s first grandchild.

Theresa McElwain: She recently had a hysterectomy by means of robotic surgery. She is doing great, had a speedy recovery, and recommends robotic surgery to everyone who needs a hysterectomy.

Tammy Gentzel: : Tyler moved out of the house last August, but only 3 blocks away so it was like he still lived there. This year he lives across town and she has only seen him once since then.

Sally Rothwell: Her daughter got married in June. They were able to buy a house without Sally cosigning. This makes her very happy

Phyllis Corman: She is officially a senior citizen. She got her first Social Security check. She also wanted us to know that Sindy Butler is doing better since her attack of rheumatoid arthritis, and actually starts work again tomorrow.

Norma Keller: She is officially retired now and loves it – she meets her grandchildren from the bus, walks dogs, etc. At her retirement party, a local couple offered to sponsor an endowment for Big Brother/Big Sister that they will double if enough people donate. She is thrilled and honored that they are doing this.

June Krumrine: Her 4th great-grandchild was born on the 9th.

Jill Lillie: Youngest son Rob graduated from South Hills, and is now going to be working at Zerbee Gap – a home for boys behind Spring Mills – through the Youth Service Bureau.

Approval of minutes from July Business

Meeting: Phyllis moved they be approved as corrected, Barb seconded. All were in favor.

Treasurer’s Report: We are doing very well as far as money is concerned.

Correspondence: none

Communications: New yearbooks were passed out. Member pages are single-sided in case of changes, and the addition of new members. There are no pictures this year because we are using new software and couldn’t transfer the old pictures. We will be collecting new pictures to put in next year.

Finance: Laga bag sale was Sunday the 13th: We sold \$1,348 worth of bags at the event. Our profits will be about \$619.

Membership: Tonight we are initiating 2 new members and we have one prospective member who will be joining soon. Thanks to Jill, Becky, and Phyllis for their help.

Service: We are still waiting to hear back from Gloria as to what Park Forest Day Nursery needs. In October it will be toothpaste. Gini

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will send the specifics.

There is also info and applications for the RSVP pen pal program; you write 4 letters per year, and don't have to be retired. Contact 355-6816 if you want to volunteer.

Habitat houses: We did not do a housewarming in the spring, but they are still collecting and we may do something in the next few months

International Relations: Ahmed has a class that conflicts with the dinner meetings and apologizes for not being here.

They have confirmation for speakers for the October and March dinner meetings. The UN Dinner is October 25th. Please attend if you can. They will have solar box cooker kits available for use in the refugee camps, which will help decrease violence against women in the camps.

Phyllis Corman made a motion that our club sponsor an international student to the UN dinner, and that we buy 2 solar cooker kits costing us \$90 in all. Nancy Desmond seconded. All were in favor.

Old Business: Purse Sale

Kudos to Tammy for the great advertising for the sale. We would like to form a committee to take charge of getting the word out about future sales. It is a very easy fund-raiser to manage, though. Nancy Desmond would like to be involved. We could have purses available to sell and raffle off at workshop. They are also starting a new collection called Tasik: these are all-natural eco-friendly items made out of dried water lilies etc. We could have some at the October meeting for holiday gifts.

New Business:

Convention in Indianapolis was quite well done. The attendees had a good time, and visited Crown Hill Cemetery and the Grave site of Mamie L Bass. There were some really good speakers who talked about branding Altrusa and keeping membership strong, getting more marketing and word out about who we are. They got \$16,000 in pledges for the marketing campaign which will supplement the reserve funds.

Area Workshop: October 3. They need folks to offer housing for our visitors. Email Phyllis to make a reservation if you plan on attending. Clem's BBQ will be providing

lunch. Speakers are Lee Ann DeReus and a local antique expert.

Announcements:

Pasta Sale: to benefit the State College Area School District Community Education Literacy Endowment. We are sponsoring it and using it as a Service project rather than a fund-raiser for us. We need to help distribute and take money for orders, but that is all. It is a great way for us to get our name out. We will be asking for volunteers to help out on that day. The board approved that we support it. They tasted it, and it was good.

Adjournment: 8:15

Program: New Member Initiation: Megan Evans and Brenda Goldman were initiated. The program was "Altrusa Idol"

VOUCHER

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

Member's Name _____
Month of _____ 2009/2010

Dinner @ \$16.00 _____
Wine @ \$4.00/glass _____
Dues (\$5.00 Minimum) _____
Scholarship Donation _____
Habitat for Humanity Donation _____
Other Service Project Donations . _____
Other Payments _____
Total check/cash _____

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

Altrusa Foundation Grants Month

- 3 Area 1,2,3 Workshop,
Bellefonte
- 7 5:45 Board Meeting
United Way Day of Caring
- 16 6:00 Dinner Meeting
(International): "Read to
Succeed"
- 24 United Nations Day
- 24 Make a Difference Day
- 25 UNA/USA Dinner,
Ramada Inn

November

- 4 5:45 Board Meeting
- 17 58th Anniversary of our
club's charter
- 18 6:00 Dinner Meeting (Service):
"Our Hands Help"

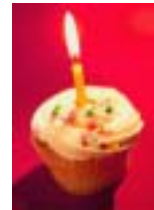
BIRTHDAYS

October

- 7: Charlotte
- 8: Barb
- 12: Karen
- 14: Cheryl
- 20: June
- 21: Sindy

November

- 17: OUR CLUB
- 23: Amy
- 30: Gini



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL

ALTRUSA ACTION:

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Altrusa International, Inc. of Centre County
P.O. Box 583
State College, PA 16801

**FALL IS HERE –
ENJOY
THE COLORS**

