



ALTRUSAGRAM
ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF NEW YORK, NY
<http://altrusanewyorkcity.tripod.com>

Date: January 2009

Dinner Meeting: National Arts Club
15 Gramercy Park South, NYC

Cocktails: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Date: Tuesday, Jan 27- Cost \$40

Reservations: Penny Gardner 212 348-1433

President: Julie Kleszczewski Juliek@msn.com

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President's Message

Embrace the World as Leaders in Service

Dear Altrusan Friends:

Taking the same historic train route that President Lincoln took to his inauguration to Washington DC's Union Station, President Barack Obama arrived smiling with his family. In contrast, President Lincoln sneaked into Washington under heavy guard.

There is a sense of optimism and hope. Today, how different is the meaning of "everyone has the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." We pray for our country, the world, the new president, his family, his team and the Congress. We wish the President and his family happiness.

Happy are the 155 people who survived after "Sully," a US Air pilot glided his plane to a masterfully water landing in the Hudson crowded with maritime traffic. New Yorkers volunteered to aid them with alacrity!

Volunteerism is at the heart of Altrusa. My newest volunteer project is at the VA hospital on the 17th floor. We are told we must always have two volunteers. Two locked doors separate us from the elevators: this "lock-down" is for recovering veteran addicts. Playing bingo with the veterans is a simple job. When Mary Lou calls out "Bingo," all is happiness. When the prizes are gone, I cut the cream-filled cake and lemon curd with a cake server. My partner pours coca cola. Chatter, laughter and smiles abound.

In February, we are planning to volunteer at Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen again as our community project.

We are donating to the Altrusa Disaster Relief Fund this month.

Please join us for a fun-filled, exciting evening with our Special Guest of Honor District II Governor, Nancy Minter. Come and hear her sage Altrusa zing, vision and verve. Bring a guest to celebrate Add an Altrusan Day!

I look forward to seeing you on January 27!

Warmly,

Julie Harrison Kleszczewski, President
212 677 3666 juliek@msn.com

Dinner Program – January 27, 2009

We are pleased to have our District Governor, Nancy Minter as our guest this month. Nancy I sin her first year as Governor having been installed in Richmond VA last April. Nancy will bring us up to date on District happenings. We are a small but mighty district. Let's have a good turnout and bring guests. What better way to introduce new member to Altrusa.

Board Members are invited to meet with Governor Nancy at 5 p.m. at the NAC.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

It's that time again! The years seem to roll by faster and faster lately and what do you know? It's District Conference time again.

The host Club for the 2009 District II Conference is Reading-Berks. This club has a young and energetic group of Altrusans and the Conference promises to be exciting and invigorating. So get out your 2009 calendars, clear April 30 to May 3 so you can attend.

There is a bonus to attending this particular conference.

Ta Dah! Reading happens to be wall-to-wall or rather street-to-street, chock full of outlets. There are shoppers in the New York Club--you know who you are--who will really enjoy this side event.

In Memoriam
Margaret Inch deceased Nov 18, 2008
Joined Altrusa in 1974 in Invercargill then moved to Wellington
President of the Wellington Club
District Governor 1987-89
International President 1995-1997

Chris Mouter, Governor District Fifteen **attended Margaret's funeral and read the following:**

Margaret has been a leading figure in the Altrusa organization not only in New Zealand but also around the world. Margaret joined Altrusa in Invercargill in 1974. She later moved to Wellington and joined the Wellington Club, and became Club President and from there went on to be elected to the District Board eventually become our District Governor in 1989.

This led on to being elected to the International Board and in 1995 we were all very proud when she was installed as the first New Zealand International President at the International Convention in Christchurch. Margaret served Altrusa as International President exceptionally well, and represented New Zealand with distinction. Margaret's theme when she was International President was Leaders in Service Margaret emulated that superbly and continued to be very much involved with Altrusa affairs after she completed her term as President The service she continued to give to her local community and to the world wide Altrusa community will always be remembered

She had many, many Altrusa friends not only in New Zealand but worldwide especially in America and from the many messages I have received they will miss her more than words can say. Doug you know that Altrusans will be always there for you and on behalf of all of us not just in NZ but worldwide we will be thinking and praying for you at this time.

Margaret we will miss you so much especially your wise council, your friendship and laughter and your unflinching presence at District Fifteen conferences and at International Conventions. I will end with these words from our founder Mamie L. Bass .. "You do not join Altrusa you become an Altrusan," Margaret you were an Altrusan through and through and will be forever in our hearts.

We know Margaret that you have joined other Altrusans that have gone before
May you rest in peace.

We heard yesterday that Margaret had as one person said "her fingers in many pies"! .. Her involvement in the Presbyterian Church, hand bell tutoring, her old school in Southland her superb catering skills and memories of when she was headmistress of St.Oran's College.

But it is as an Altrusan that we will miss her, she has been a great help to me as Governor as a friend and mentor and though I really only saw her at Conferences she was always there at the end of the phone. Her ability to be able to sort out the "sticky" problems" and offer sound advice will be sorely missed by many.

The District will also be remembering Margaret by way of a District Leadership award more details of this will be available in the New Year.

Member News

- Aruba beckons Marie Gavin for 2 weeks beginning Jan 27.
- Board Members please make note of the changes on board meeting dates below.
- Two members of our club are reported to be under the weather, Margaret McCoy and Margaret Stadler. Our thoughts are with you. And Linda Pickett also needs our good wishes. Give them a call if they are not at the next meeting.

IMPORTANT DATES: -

Jan 27, 2009	Dinner Meeting
Feb 16, 2009	Membership wine & cheese event at Jessica's Feb. 16.
Feb 25, 2009	Board Meeting before the Dinner Meeting at 5pm.
Feb 25, 2009	Dinner Meeting
March 9, 2009	Board Meeting - 5:30 pm, at Jessica Leeds' home, 1235 Park Av.212-348-5764
April 30-May3, 2009	District Conference

Members Birthdays:

January
11 Ellen Winters

Club Officers and Directors

President	Julie Kleszczewski
Vice President	Henie Parish
Secretary	Linda Pickett
Treasurer	Mary "Penny" Gardner
Immed Past President	Shirley Day
Directors 2008-2010	Audrey Braver, Marie Gavin, Margaret Stadler
Directors 2007-2009	Carole Lancaster, Mary Sikorski, Ellen Winters.

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Don't forget to checkout the Altrusa International Website, www.altrusa.com for forms, information, upcoming event, and publications - it's all there. Also, WWW.altrusadistricttwo.homestead.com The District Two website and our own website, <http://altrusanewyorkcity.tripod.com>

Join the Altrusa Yahoo group. Discuss issues with other worldwide. If you would like to participate, e-mail Susy Meier of Atlanta, GA at susykm@yahoo.com.

Note from the editor – This is your newsletter. Please email me with committee and personal news. Members are interested in what you are doing. Deadline is 10 days before the dinner meeting.