



# What Happened?

## News and Information about our Club.

April 2014

### Bentonville /Bella Vista

**President: Bobbie Platt** [babplatt@cox.net](mailto:babplatt@cox.net)

**A Note from our President:** "Thank you one and all for the hard work you did the past two years. It has paid off!" *Bobbie*

**April 1.** It is time to send in our yearly Altrusa dues.

April is Add an Altrusan Month. Even though Gay Kiker was absent today, her friend Agnes Sebesta joined us. This is her second visit and she is showing great interest in being an Altrusan. More good news!

Charlotte Fisher's mother, Joyce Cunningham, also joined us today. She told us she was 89 years young, is still living in the home she was born in and still works part time, She has been an Altrusan for many, many years and is the reason we have Charlotte as an Altrusa sister. Thanks for that Joyce!

Bobbie Morgan shared a certificate of appreciation we received from Cooper Elementary for the support we have given them this year.

Cares and Concerns: Carolyn Lacey's family is home from Little Rock. Mary Louise Harris is also home!

Bobbie Platt, Gay Kiker, Valerie Katz and Katy Henkel are getting ready to attend the Altrusa Conference in Hutchinson, Kansas. Our President has been asked to present the Accent at Conference. You go girl!

The Awards committee has entries for the Governor's Distinguished Club Award, the Mamie Bass Service Award, the Letha H Brown Literacy Award, the Yearbook Award and the International Grant for our book project in South Africa, in the mail or e-mailed. Good job ladies! The International Grant will be entered next year per Charlotte; don't think she entered it this year did she??

Peggy Rosenthal and Su Lynn Hanson updated members on "Games Day" set for May 6th. It looks like we will be having another awesome event!

Suzanne Webb presented information on the Charity Sale being held at Belk's on May 3, Tickets sold by Altrusans gain \$5 each for our treasury and purchasers also receive a \$5 discount on items in the store. Bobbie Morgan will make more tickets available at the next meeting.

### April Birthdays

Apr. 13 Karen Robbins

Apr. 14 Valerie Katz

Apr. 18 Gay Kiker

Apr. 23 Jean Anderson



Whew! That was a very busy meeting.

**April 16.** Saving Grace is a local organization that helps homeless and abused teenage girls find a new life. They learn to take care of themselves, find jobs and get an education. Altrusans, Lisa Eldridge, Bobbie Platt, Charlotte Fisher, Valerie Katz and Joyce Cunningham, attended the annual luncheon to show their support.



**April 24, 25, 26.** District Conference. A wonderful and informative experience. We were paying close attention. Arkansas will be hosting in 2016.

On Thursday our host's, Altrusa International of Hutchinson, Kansas, welcomed us. We were greeted, handed a Kazoo, and told how to hum into it to make "Music". We had a "hum-along" and then a Conga-line was formed and we all joined in to "Dance" around the room. Girls! Not only do I have pictures, I have video!

On Friday the Opening Session began with the Presentation of the Flags. The U.S. flag and the four District Eight states flags, accompanied by a rousing singing of the state's songs. We split up and attended all the workshops offered.

Bobbie's Accent on the Altrusa colors and what they stand for was well received. The other three of your delegates spent the whole time commenting, "Did you know that? I didn't." We have asked her to give the Accent again at one of our regular meetings.

We were given tickets to all the meals with, table assignments. To my dismay, we were split up for all but the last evening's Governor's Banquet. They wanted us to get to know members of other clubs. The transition from, stranger to fellow Altrusan, was eased by the introduction of "Table Topics". Why did you decide to come to Conference? What would you change? What did you think of the workshops?, were a few. More good things to know for 2016.

On Friday evening we went to the Strateca Underground Salt Mine & Museum. We were 650 feet below ground level, equipped with a real hard hat and a gizmo to use in the event of an oxygen shortage. The tour took two hrs., was fun and informative, even when they turned out all the lights. I, for one, was happy when it was over as that heavy hard hat was giving me a headache! Wouldn't want to have missed it though.

We then were treated to a Murder Mystery Dinner/Fun Night up stairs, part of the museum. It was most entertaining.

Saturday was the Awards Luncheon. We were thrilled! We received The Third place Membership Award for clubs with less than 35 members. Our growth during 2013-2014 was 13.64 %. We received Third Place for the Mamie Bass Service April 2014



Award. And took First Place for the Governor's Distinguished Service Award for our Dictionary Project. At the Governor's Banquet, Gay Kiker took the podium for a brief talk about our dictionary project. Fine job Gay!



*Don't we  
look proud?!*

Our delegates sold items from the table full of goodies members donated to sell at conference. Funds will go to send next year's delegates.

We do hold to the "All work and no play, etc.etc., way of doing things, so we played Bridge each evening.



On Sunday there were dire warnings concerning the weather; tornados, high winds and rain. So on the way home your delegates decided to stop at a casino. Just to let the storms get well ahead of us, of course.

Can't wait to go again next year!

**Valerie Katz:** Communications [valeriekatz567@aol.com](mailto:valeriekatz567@aol.com)

Meetings are held at 11:30 on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, at the River Grill Restaurant in Bentonville. See us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/altrusa8](http://www.facebook.com/altrusa8)