



What Happened?

News and Information about our Club. Bentonville/Bella Vista

July/Aug. 2015

July / Aug. Birthdays

July 19 Connie Brown

July 29 Linda Krysl

Aug. 9 Michele Oakley

Aug. 24 Janie Sokol



President: Katy Henkel katycruise@cox.net

A Note from our President: As Altrusans, we each have the opportunity to serve on various Committees, Projects, or as Officers. In our Club, every new member is assigned to a committee when they join. As your experience and time in the club increase, you will probably be asked to become an officer.

I want to Highlight two of our most dedicated officers, who have done a very Important, but “thankless task” for us. Carolyn Lacey served as our General Club Treasurer and Vella Lewis our Foundation Treasurer for over 6 years. They have kept the records straight, filled in all the forms to International Altrusa, sent the checks when needed, gotten cash from the banks, and anything else we asked. Job Well Done, gals. Thank You from All of Us.

\$\$\$ -Money no longer talks: it just goes without saying.

\$\$\$ -Beware of little expenses: a small leak will sink a great ship.

\$\$\$ -Money can't buy love, health, happiness or what it did last year.

\$\$\$ -There are bigger things than money, for instance, bills.

Katy Henkel

July 7. Katy opened our meeting with this Altrusa Accent...Let us not be so caught up in life, that we don't accept change or transition to new things and opportunities.

There is a new reimbursement form. Committee Chairs and members will use them so our treasurers can keep better records of our spending and make sure we don't go over our budgets. Oh yes, and so we can get some cash back!

As promised, we talked about our **projects** for this year. There will no longer be a **Bags for Books** fundraiser. We discussed making a donation to The Dolly Parton Imagination Library through United Way.

We will continue the **Dictionary Project** which is very dear to our hearts.

The **Tennie Russell Primary School** and the **Thomas Jefferson School** will be on our project list this year.

And we decided to purchase a **Krayon Kiosk iPad Stand** for the Bella Vista Public Library. Some of us had no idea what that was, but the library assured us the young readers would really love and use it.

Fundraisers were also on the agenda today. We will continue the **Spaghetti Dinner** and the **Business Card Ad Flyers**.

New on our fundraising agenda is **Arkansas Gives**. It's easy, costs very little, and all donations go straight to our foundation. Sounds perfect!

Not quite so easy is the **Scholastic Books Warehouse Sale**. It's 3 days, working for \$10 an hour in book money. It would increase Altrusa exposure in the community and allow us to purchase books at a low price for Books for Africa, and other projects. Not hard labor just a shift or two helping out... almost perfect...

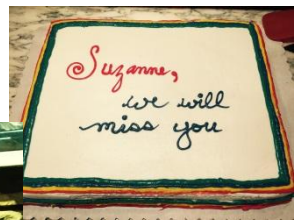
We will also host a **Fashion Show** next spring. Sounds like a good time!

Selling **Innisbrook Wrapping Paper** within our club and possibly other Altrusa clubs is also on our fundraising list.

Whew! Are we going to be busy!

Then it was time to say farewell to Suzanne Webb. She has been one of our most active members. She has been an inspiration, a dynamic fundraiser, and has brought many new members to our club.

Katy brought a cake and club members read several touching farewell messages to Suzanne. Katy read the minutes of the May 16, 2006 meeting where Suzanne was initiated as an Altrusan. There were only 8 members and \$500 in the operating account. When asked to join she said "Mmm, maybe". We're so glad she did. We will miss you Suzanne!



I don't want to cry again. Will you read it for me please? ←



July 21. President Katy opened the meeting with some good advice. **Always be looking to the future** – not living in the memories of the past. If you want to be really alive, vital and vibrant in life, you must always be learning and growing. In our society today, there is no excuse for not continuing to learn.

Our new member, Marty, has a friend, Lillian, who had been an Altrusan for many years. She will be 100 in August, and has said she wants to “Die an Altrusan”. District Eight Governor Brenda Smith was contacted for guidance on how we might help. She suggested our club make her an honorary member. A vote was taken and Lillian was granted an Honorary Membership. Welcome Lillian!

The Methodist Church in downtown Bentonville is booked! The **Spaghetti Dinner** will be on October 1st. Gay is getting her committee fired up and ready for dinner!

Now that the **Tennie Russell Primary School** is one of our new programs, Carol Cahueque, their Family Coordinator, was at this meeting to tell us about the school and how we can best help. This is a pre-kindergarten school for 3-4 year olds that are; 200% below the poverty level, are foster children not living with their biological parents, or have one parent in prison. Their purpose is to prepare these kids for kindergarten. Sounds like we have a *wonderful* new project on our schedule. I am constantly amazed at the level of poverty right here in our own neighborhoods.

Aug. 4. Katy’s Altrusa Accent today was:

--**The** world is filled with Nice People...if you can’t find one, BE ONE!

--**You** increase your joy by increasing the pure Joy of others.

--**I** can’t be happy every day, but I can be cheerful.

--**Whoever** said “money can’t buy happiness”, didn’t know where to shop.

That last one got some chuckles from the ladies!

Committee reports were due today. Since the **Communications committee** chair was not hanging out in California, she hosted a committee meeting. She reported that Soraya is keeping up with the Facebook page, Michelle is very busy working on the scrapbook, and she has managed to get the newsletters out on time. Good news.

Gay and Carolyn shared plans for the **Spaghetti Dinner**. It is scheduled for October 1st and the tickets are being printed!

Janet says the **Dictionary Project** plans are taking shape. *HOWEVER!* It is almost time to order them and since we have lost Suzanne, she needs a place for them to be delivered and stored until the time for distribution. Anyone have room? Another reason we will miss our Suzanne!

Connie, Michelle, and Jenny will head for the **Tennie Russell School**. They have plans to go to the school and learn firsthand how our club can help.

Roxie Wright from the **Bella Vista Public Library** was our guest. She gave us a brief history of the library. There are many new children’s activities and they are trying to keep up with the times. They have 3 iPads with Children’s programs loaded on them, but, nowhere for the kids to sit down and use them. We voted to give the library \$1084.00 in order to purchase the iPad kiosk that holds 4. We are putting our fundraiser earnings to work!

Valerie and Bobbie regaled us with an informative and humorous account of the recent International Convention. Valerie is planning a separate Newsletter to cover this.

Aug. 18, President Katy opened our meeting with this Altrusa Accent...

--**Life** is never so busy that there is not time to serve

--**I** always wondered why somebody didn't do something about that. Then I realized I was somebody!

--**Don't** ever question the value of volunteers. Noah's Ark was built by volunteers; the Titanic was built by professionals!

--**Be** proud you are a volunteer for Altrusa International

This was a very important day for us. Our newly elected District Eight Governor, Brenda Smith, and her twin sister, Past District Eight Governor and now District Eight Parliamentarian, Linda Smith paid our club a visit!. Your reporter was once again in CA so missed them. Bummer!

Governor Brenda had asked Katy not to plan a program for this day. She said she would *handle* the job. First she had all club members introduce themselves to her and then she began to share her Ideas and hopes with us.

At the International Convention, she accepted many awards on behalf of District Eight clubs. She presented Katy with a membership award our club had won. We had a net gain of 2 or more members. This was the goal for the last biennium.

She was proud to report Altrusa International ended this year with a net gain. She introduced the "**Each one bring one**" program for her term. If you invite someone to visit our club, ask them to bring a friend. Why try for 1 new member, 2 new members would be fabulous! There are 602 Altrusa members in District Eight. Gov. Brenda's goal for her 2 year term is 650. I hope we can help with that goal.

She encouraged our members to go to the Conferences and Conventions. The next International Convention will be in 2017 in Nashville, TN, the site of the very first Altrusa Convention. **Altrusa will be celebrating 100 years!** I for one don't want to miss that!

President Katy wanted to know, if a club member had to choose to attend the District Conference or the International Convention, which one would be more beneficial. Gov. Brenda said the District Conferences costs less, are usually in cities close by, and you meet Altrusans from the clubs in this district. You will also make lifelong friends and get information on other clubs fundraisers. Plus you will hear about different projects being done in Altrusa communities.

She expects to see our club members at next year's conference which will be held right here in Bentonville. Let's show her a great turnout!

She encouraged our club to participate in **World Literacy Day** on September 8. Her club gives books to the local hospital for every new baby born on that day.

She also encouraged our club to participate in **Make a Difference Day** on October 24th. by doing a project to Make a Difference in our community.

She then asked if our club has ever applied for a grant. We can apply for grant money available to help with expenses of a project. You apply online and the process is easy. The deadline for grant submittals is September 15. President Katy is going look into applying for one for our Tennie Russell School project.

Then Gov. Brenda discussed our club presence on social media. How important it is to keep the information current, and to send updated information to the District Eight website, Your Communications Committee will be getting up to speed!

Many thanks to Governor Brenda for visiting our club and inspiring us to do better.

The Spaghetti dinner committee is on the job. Gay said the tickets and the mystery bags will be handed out at our next meeting.

It's time to start selling the flyer ads, \$50 per business card. Gay sent us a donation receipt attached to the last meeting minutes. Thanks Gay!

Good news for Janet! Mary Louise answered the call and has offered the use of her garage to store the dictionaries until we can hand them out. Thanks Mary Louise!

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Meetings are held at 11:30 on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, at the River Grill Restaurant in Bentonville. Our web-site www.altrusa-bb.com See us on Facebook www.facebook.com/altrusa8