



What Happened?

News and Information about our Club.
Bentonville/Bella Vista

President: Peggy Rosenthal prosenthal@dreamvacations.com

A Note from our President... Autumn - my favorite time of the year. Temperatures are cooling down, although this year not so much.. Children are back in school. And, of great importance to me, college football is underway!

Holidays are ahead of us. While caught up in shopping, baking, parties and community functions please keep friends and family in mind and give thanks for another good year.

Peggy Rosenthal

On **Sept. 6** Governor Peggy opened the meeting with the **Altrusa Accent**; When you have the ability to do what you love, love what you do and have the ability to impact people. That's having a life of success. That's what having a life of meaning is." — **Tim Tebow**

Your reporter left town for four weeks and came back to find our club has grown again! We have three more new members! Football season is underway so that was the theme of the Initiation. Gay explained that the players work together to make a great team who will deliver good results. Vella described the fans as being there to cheer us on or give a little TLC when necessary. Linda talked about the coaches who provide guidance with the goal of helping the team advance and live up to its potential. Peggy wrapped it up by telling them, and reminding us, that you don't join Altrusa, you become an Altrusan.

Chris Rice, Sheryl Burhenn and Tara Pander have joined our team and are most welcome!

Sammy Laney of the **DEB Project** visited us again. With all these new members she needed to reintroduce herself and let us know once again how we can help.

Sept 8 was **World Literacy Day**. Keeping in mind Altrusa will be celebrating its 100 year anniversary in 2017; our club donated 100 new books to the Bella Vista Library. Ten of those books were donated in memory of Helen Slaymaker, a longtime member of our club, who passed away last month. Delivering the books are Sheryl, Katy, Gail, Gay and Club President Peggy.

Sept. /Oct. Birthdays

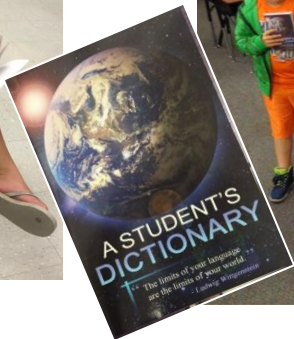
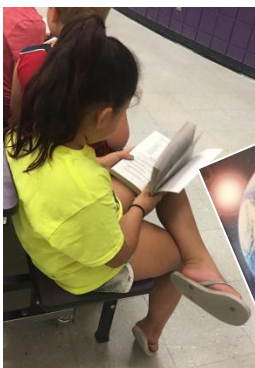
- Sept. 1 Donna Williams
- Sept. 7 Su Lynn Hanson
- Sept. 26 Gail Cowden
- Oct. 5 Chris Rice
- Oct. 10 Peggy Rosenthal





Also on **World Literacy Day** our members were at the new Bentonville West High School, giving them 100 books for their 6 new Special Ed rooms. Our Fayetteville Altrusa Club also donated 100 books to the school. Altrusa Clubs working together and making a difference! Pictured here with some of the books are Katy, Jenny, Gail, Tina, Connie, (*holding her book upside down and backwards*), and Karen.

In September we delivered the dictionaries. All third grade students in Bentonville, Pea Ridge, Gravette, and Bella Vista received their own dictionary that they may keep long after third grade is over. When those students got their hands on those books they couldn't wait to open them and start looking things up.



At our meeting on **Sept 20** I counted 33 attendees! President Peggy opened our meeting with the **Altrusa Accent**; Altruism is innate, but it's not instinctual. Everybody's wired for it, but a switch has to be flipped. **David Rakoff**

We had a wonderful program. Jack Eaton of the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Benton County, and Mindy Brown, a scholarship recipient, came to tell us about the program. Since 1984 they have given out 8000 scholarships. The scholarships are set up in an account for single parents who wish to go to school. Mr. Eaton said the funds are not handouts. The applicants are carefully interviewed before they are selected. The money is set up in an account and the students turn in receipts for necessary items they need; gas, lights, shampoo, laundry items, etc. When the Foundation was set up in 1984 Helen Walton was involved and promised to match all donations. Walmart is still honoring that pledge. Walmart also pays all of the administration costs so all of the funds go directly into the fund. The Scholarship Fund has been one of our clubs projects for many years and we were thrilled to find out more about it. We also take one of the families as our Christmas project. As it turns out, it was Mindy's family we shopped for last year. Normally we are kept in the dark as to the family whose wish list we get. Mindy said she put "from Special Friends" on the gift cards. We are so happy to be those "Special Friends" and to have met her.



Our yearly spaghetti dinner is just two weeks away on Oct. 6th. Gay and Jenny have been working hard getting all the I's dotted and the T's crossed. We have our

assignments! Sauce to cook, brownies to make, tickets to sell, and mystery bags to assemble. Since we are lucky enough to have so many new members, we needed more aprons. Gay found some on-line and had one to “Show” us.

Our **Oct 4** meeting was opened by President Peggy with this **Altrusa Accent**: “No person who can read is ever successful cleaning out an attic” – **Ann Landers**

The Book Nook for the **DEB Project** is up and being enjoyed. Tina and Michelle were there to finish putting it all together. Now children shopping with their moms can enjoy a book while they wait. The shop, that raises funds for the **DEB Project** was severely damaged by flooding but is once again open.



We received a thank you note from Wanda Brown, Dept. Chair of the Special Ed. Math department letting us know how much our gift of 100 books was appreciated and that they were certainly being used.

Oct. 6. The spaghetti Dinner was once again well attended, a great success, and a whole lot of fun! Our new members pitched right in like veterans. Spaghetti sauce was started early in the morning. Tables were set, brownies were cut, Surprise Bags were delivered, and almost 400 dinners were served. Grand Job Ladies!



The 2016 Spaghetti Dinner Crew!



This fundraiser will pay for
All those dictionaries!



A special thank you to our District Eight visitors Becky Wood and Penny Daugherty, and our friends from the Altrusa Clubs of Fayetteville, Washington County and Mexico MO, who came to enjoy spaghetti with us!



Our **Oct. 18** meeting was opened by President Peggy with this **Altrusa Accent**: "Elephants have the largest brains of any mammal on the face of the Earth. They are creative, **altruistic** and kind." - **Ingrid Newkirk**

Patty Creighton was there to share her history with **Havenwood** whose Vision & Mission is to put an end to homelessness and poverty by help single moms move from crisis to self-sufficiency and be equipped to leave the program a good citizen and mother. The 3 year program provides housing the 1st and 2nd year. In year 3 they move in to one of 15 safe & affordable fully furnished apartments. When they leave the program they may take whatever they received with them. Some of the things the program offers are counseling, therapy, clothes, a food pantry, library, life skills training, and programs for kids who accompany their mothers. Su Lynn suggested giving a bag of books to the children during their first week of arrival since their life is so traumatized at this point. We will make this an ongoing project as new families arrive.



We made a *BIG* difference on **National Make a Difference Day!** Spear headed by Connie, and once again remembering Altrusa's 100 year anniversary in 2017 and that we are part of District Eight, we donated 800 books to Glen Oaks Elementary School. Connie read a story posted on Facebook by Altrusa District 11 (California and Arizona and far western states) about a school in Baton Rouge damaged in their recent flood. At the same time we received two large donations of children's books that we couldn't use locally or wouldn't fit



into our children's literacy projects for this year. She contacted Trey Veasey, the literacy specialist (librarian) of Glenn Oaks Park Elementary School in Baton Rouge to see if he would be interested in them for his school. Connie discovered there was an Altrusa Club in Baton Rouge. They work closely with Kiwanis in Baton Rouge and they shared our story. Mike Baker, a member of Red Stick Kiwanis, was coming to Northwest Arkansas on vacation and was excited to transport our books back to his hometown, Connie met with Mike and Carol Baker and transferred our books to them and they were on the way to Baton Rouge. The books arrived just in time for National Make a Difference Day on October 22! Well done Connie!

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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 altrusa-bb.com See us on Facebook www.facebook.com/altrusa8