



What Happened?

News and Information about our Club.

Bentonville/Bella Vista

March / April 2017

President: Peggy Rosenthal prosenthal@dreamvacations.com

A Note from our President: Spring has Sprung!

Spring brings rain showers, beautiful flowers and budding trees. It's lovely to be outside and exciting to know that summer is right around the corner. This year, however, it has also brought our club members quite a lot of difficulties. A tornado ripped through the town where one of our members lives; destroying the elementary school her children attend. Several members have lost close family members and friends over the past couple months. And, a few of our members have personal illnesses making them fight hard just to get through the day and look forward to tomorrow and the years to come.

District conference is right around the corner and I'm happy to see we have several members attending. Then, in July, we will celebrate Altrusa's 100th anniversary with a great international convention in Nashville. Our club was delighted to celebrate our official anniversary on April 11th, spending time at the Bentonville Public Library, where we read to preschoolers and donated 100 books in honor of the occasion.

So, we manage the positive with the not-so-positive. Please keep our members and their families in your thoughts and prayers. We are a club, a team and a community. Together, we will provide strength much greater than our individual contributions.

Take care, *Peggy Rosenthal*

Mar. 7. President Peggy opened the meeting at 11:30am, with an "**Altrusa Accent-**"... As soon as you trust yourself, you will know how to live." -**Goethe**

Yesterday the church we had booked for **Game Day** called Katy and reported that the church had been double booked! We must move upstairs to uncharted territory. Katy said to bring our *GOOD Altrusa ATTITUDES* and all would be well!!

The "**Tennie Russell Project**" will no longer be on our calendar. The movers and shakers of that project will now be known as the "**Literacy Committee**". They now have two new projects, the Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, and book donations to the Northwest Arkansas Children's Shelter. These ladies are busy!

March Birthdays

Mar. 12 Bobbie Morgan

Mar. 10 Kris Sherry/Davis

Mar. 19 Charlotte Fisher

Mar. 21 Jenny Montgomery

April Birthdays

Apr. 1 Mindy Ryan

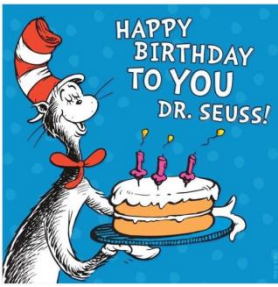
Apr. 4 Esther Price

Apr. 13 Karen Robbins

Apr. 14 Valerie Katz

Apr. 18 Gay Kiker

Apr. 23 Jean Anderson



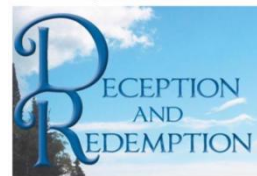
Mar. 10. Game Day!! The move to a new location was seamless. Our Game Day crew took it in stride and the day was a complete success. Everyone had a great day, the food was, as usual, wonderful and several ladies in attendance asked about



joining our merry group. We were celebrating the birthday of Dr. Seuss. He wrote the cat in the hat to help kids learn to read. We hold our fundraisers to *keep them reading.*



One for our fellow Altrusans was unable to attend our big event. Gail Cowden was part of the Local Author Showcase at the Bella Vista Library on that date. She is our very own murder mystery author. Look for her book!



Our meeting on **Mar. 21** was opened by President Peggy with this **“Altrusa Accent”**... "The secret is to have eight great players and four others who will cheer like crazy." **Jerry Tarkanian**

President Peggy initiated new member Leah McCalmon today with a St Patrick’s Day theme. On a previous visit to our club, Leah said our club was like “Coming home”. Welcome new Altrusan, Leah!



Our **I-Report** today was on Kris Sherry/Davis. Kris wanted to be a ballerina, would like to learn Spanish, and surprised us all by saying she was an introvert! When she is feeling stress she looks for humor in the situation and calls her mother. The person she most admires is her grandmother who is always trying to help others. She says she wishes we could all meet her. She always tries to look for people who are genuine and has no tolerance for folks who are rude to the disabled. The best advice she ever got was to “Mind her own business” but we are very happy she is here minding ours as our recording secretary.

April 4. President Peggy is off cruising so Vice-President Gay opened the meeting with this **“Altrusa Accent”**... “Don’t cling to a mistake just because you spent a lot of time making it.” **Unknown**

This was a business meeting and we had lots of business to report on.

Connie reported that the Altrusa Operating Funds are at \$2,682.11. Vella reported that the Altrusa International Foundation financials are the highest they have *EVER* been in the history of our club at \$12,679.62!! All our fundraising has shown great results! We will be able to do some wonderful things in our community.

Charlotte has been working with **Autumn's Re-Ride**. They will be starting their program again soon and the "Book Barn" we started there last year will be filled and ready. Due to weather concerns it will be housed in a tire. Charlotte said she was going to pick out a tire today and that might be a *site to be seen*. She got some *help* from Sheryl and Chris.



Our **Cares and Concerns** time at this meeting was distressing. Too many of our members are dealing with health problems and loss. Our Immediate Past President, Katy Henkel, has been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. She will begin aggressive treatment Friday. Su Lynn read a special devotional she had put together in honor of Katy and her up-coming struggle.

Bobbie Platt continues to struggle with complications from her recent knee surgery. Byretta Fish is grieving the passing of her friend and mother-in-law. And Mindy Ryan asked that we remember her daughter this week as she deals with the suicide of her best friend who was only 25 years old. Our hearts and prayers will be with all of them.

The **Literacy Committee** is working full speed and has quite a few projects in the works.

The **Thomas Jefferson School** is on their calendar this year. Chris and Terri volunteered to start right away by going to the school to help students in need of reading help. We also want to participate in their "May Book Swap" by donating books to students that don't have books to swap. The school will have a Young Authors Day on May 25 that we hope to be involved in.

April 11 Happy 100th Birthday Altrusa International!!

Apr. 7. Getting a jump on the birthday celebrations the **Literacy Committee** did a little Altrusa math. April 11th... Altrusa Intl.'s 100th birthday... $11 \times 100 = 1100!!$ That's how many books, flash cards and water bottles we gave the **Northwest Arkansas Children's Shelter!!** *Thirsty for knowledge, read a book!*





Apr. 11. On this day we donated 50 books to the **Benton County Sunshine School** in honor of Altrusa's big day.



Also on this day we donated 100 books to the **Bentonville Public Library**. At the start of their story hour, President Peggy read a birthday story to the children and in return they sang happy birthday to Altrusa! Clifford the BIG RED DOG (Kris) was also there to greet the kids!



Apr.18. President Peggy opened our meeting with this **"Altrusa Accent"**... Perseverance is a great element of success. If you only knock long enough and loud enough at the gate, you are sure to wake up somebody." **Henry Wadsworth Longfellow**

Happy 18th Birthday Altrusa International of Bentonville/Bella Vista! The Altrusa Club of Fayetteville and our clubs first President Karen Robbins, were the driving force that got our club started and kept it going during some lean times. Fayetteville members Rosemary Rodgers, Mary Mann, Gay Harp, Elizabeth Weathers, Glenna Cunningham, Chris Bell and Sue Payton came to help us celebrate. While they were here we donated books to the new library the Fayetteville club established at the Yvonne Richardson Community Center



April 6th. Our club raised \$1,648.00 with **Arkansas Gives!!** Great job to all those who donated and shared the link with family and friends!

Xyta Lucas, from the **Bella Vista Museum**, presented our program today. We got to learn all about the history of Bella Vista from 1915 when it was developed as a summer recreation resort to 1916 when a golf course, swimming pool, dance pavilion and hotel were added. The area faltered after World War II and the depression. Then in 1965 John A Cooper Sr. purchased the location and transitioned it into a retirement community. And we love our beautiful village.

Our list of Conference attendees has gone down again. Gay fell on her dock and shattered her heel. It looks like she won't have to have surgery but will be on crutches and in a lovely and *LARGE*, black boot for at least 6 weeks. The other two conference drop-outs, Bobbie Platt and Katy Henkel are still battling their own ill health and demons. We will be keeping them all in our thoughts.

April 27-29. Peggy, Karen, Connie, Kris and Valerie headed for Tulsa and the **61st Annual District Eight Conference.**

We sold jewelry, attended workshops, ate cake, and had a wonderful time.



The Highlights!

Our Official Delegates
at work!



Connie was elected as a District Eight Director. Karen has been appointed as the District Eight New Club Builder chair. Congratulations ladies!

We were very proud to have Connie chosen to deliver the Altrusa Accent at the Opening Business Session



Our club received a \$500 grant from Altrusa International for our Goodman, MO project to help purchase books for the elementary school destroyed by a tornado in April. Our club donated an additional \$500 putting our fundraising efforts to good work.

Our Dictionary Project took 1st Place for the **Governor's Distinguished Service Award**

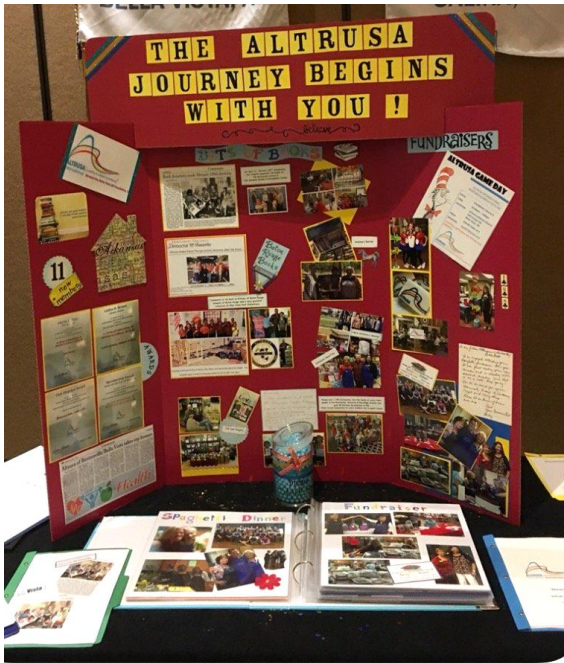
This award comes with \$100 from the District!



We were the only large club (over 35 members) to show a positive growth this year so we got 1st place!

Recognized for bringing in new members were Michelle, Janet, and Judy

Connie graciously accepted on their behalf.



Michelle's work on our display was rewarded! Our beautiful display won 3rd place,



Karen was asked to preside over the Memorial Service. She asked a member of each of the clubs who had lost a member to speak. She then asked us all "What will you leave between your brackets?" (Life)

The display in front of Karen was not for commiseration, but for an auction later in the day.





Because we took 1st Place for the **Governor's Distinguished Service Award**, Karen was asked to give an informative presentation on our Dictionary Project at the Governor's Banquet.



New District Eight Governor Becky Woods presented her 2017-2019 Program. She invited us all to be part of her "A" team. Karen was also asked to be part of the program. She got so excited her hair caught fire!!



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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 Face book www.facebook.com/altrusa8