



What Happened?

News and Information about our Club. Bentonville/Bella Vista

July/Aug. 2018

July / Aug. Birthdays

July 16 Pat Sporleder

July 19 Connie Brown

July 29 Linda Krysl

July 29 Terri Gaither

Aug. 1 Donna Williams



President: Gay Kiker ben_gay@sbcglobal.net

A Note from our President: First, let me thank you for the opportunity to serve as President of this great group. I will try to make this a profitable and fun-filled 2 years. I joined Altrusa in 2013 about 6 months after we moved to Bella Vista. I was always involved in some type of volunteer organization in my life before retirement, so, the urge to join a service group was natural. Luckily, I met Mary Louise (because she sells Mary Kay products) and she told me about Altrusa. From her description and her enthusiasm when talking about Altrusa, I knew this was the club I wanted to be involved with. I've tried to learn as much as possible about Altrusa International, District Eight, and our local club. The history of Altrusa is fascinating, and it is still relevant 100 years later. That tells a lot about the leaders and members and shows Altrusa can change with the times. You too can learn the history and inner workings of this great organization by looking at the Altrusa International website. It is stuffed with ideas, information about other clubs, how to increase membership, how to raise funds, how to install officers, how to approach social media, etc. etc. etc. If you aren't into "searching the web", save your questions for our meetings. If I don't know the answer, I will gladly look it up for you. Thanks again for putting your trust in me to lead us through the next 2 years. I know with your help, we will soar.

Gay Kiker

July 17 The meeting was called to order by Vice President Kris Sherry with the following **Altrusa Accent...** The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why. *Mark Twain*

Connie Brown received a Sammy Award for Kids Literacy from the Samaritan Community Center for her advice and counsel to the organization. *Congrats Connie!* Be sure to see her great work on our facebook page!
www.facebook.com/altrusa8



Congratulations to our VP Kris! She has been promoted to VP of sales at Lindsey and Associates in Rogers.



Our **Literacy Committee** has been, as always, very busy! Connie was happy to let us know that our members have many worthwhile volunteer opportunities to choose from. She says we have been fortunate to receive children's book donations regularly and our goal is to get books to whoever needs them! Here is what they have been up to...

We recently donated books to the the **Washington County Altrusa's**, Parent UP backpack event.

An **Eagle Scout** who learned about us through the Bella Vista Library requested and received books from us for a book box project he is doing.

At a recognition dinner, the **Samaritan Community Center** thanked us for our continuing donation of books.

Sheryl reported that she supplied books to the book boxes at **Autumn's Re-Ride Youth Ranch** and the **Artist Retreat Center** in Bella Vista.

Tina is keeping the **laundry at Sugar Creek** stocked with books.

We routinely stock books in a **Bella Vista Library** book box, at Metfield.

We recently donated books to the **Rogers Altrusa**, for their Pages and Pictures Event.

Terri dropped off back packs and supplies to the **Thomas Jefferson Elementary School** that the literacy committee provided. The school was very grateful! Their music teacher has requested a set of books and we are working on getting them for her. We are ready to start the monthly book swap and the school will let us know when they are ready to begin.

Our Literacy Committee is fabulous! I need a nap just reading about all they do!.

On **July 21** several of us helped **Washington County's Altrusa** chapter at the annual back-to-school event which had many activities, including free haircuts, lunch, face painting and giving away filled back packs for children in rural Washington County.



The **Single Parent Scholarship Fund** will host a luncheon to honor our club and Altrusa International of Rogers for volunteer help. The luncheon will be October 16 from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at the SPSE/BC office, 2601 SW "D" Street in Bentonville. This happens to be one of our meeting dates so be sure and mark your calendar. It's on my calendar! Sounds like a great day!

Reporting of Volunteer Hours! How hard can it be?

Kris' review: Altrusa volunteer hours include; meeting preparation, meeting attendance, driving time to and from meetings, and participation in all Altrusa activities. Other volunteer hours includes any volunteer work that is *not* connected to Altrusa. Our President must send a report on these hours to International every year. We get Altrusa points for this! Let's help her!

The **Audit Committee** Katy, Linda, and Karen, obtained a *professional* to do the audit. He is Linda's husband, Mark Krysl, a former auditor for the International Monetary Fund. Wow! He audited the Club and Foundation accounts.

His report:
Good job ladies!



Based on this review, the various records...are accurate. No exceptions or discrepancies were found between source documents (receipts/invoices) and the official records of the organization.

The organization should complement Ms. Lewis and Ms. Brown on their excellent record keeping and the accuracy and neatness of the information.

August 1 was the date to meet with other NWA Altrusa clubs to learn more about the Days for Girls Project. We were well represented!



On **August 2** we joined with other Altrusans in the area to help the Samaritan Community prep 3300 backpacks with age appropriate school supplies for needy children in our area.



August 7 This meeting was opened by President Gay with this **Altrusa Accent...** *The road to enlightenment is long and difficult, and you should try not to forget snacks and magazines.* **Anne Lamott:**

On **August 13** some of our members attended a District Eight Regional Event. A great way to learn more about our district.

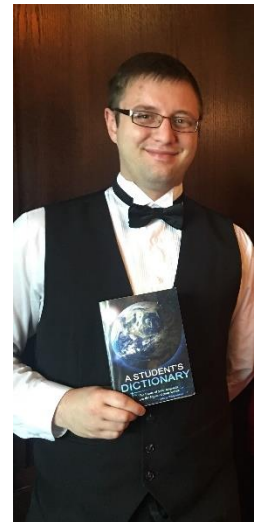


On **August 18** the DEB Project's Sammy Laney hosted an Open House and Teachers Appreciation Day. "Blessing" bags filled with school supplies were handed out to teachers. 70 of the 300 bags will go to staff members from Life Way Christian School, which is run by the First Baptist Church in Centerton and does not receive government funding. And we were there supporting the day and making sure their Book Library was well stocked! Connie invited us all to drop by and volunteer time to at the DEB store. She said any of us could help as it was just "Smart monkey work".

We learned that Linda Krysl had hip replacement surgery on August 6. She is doing well and is in our thoughts and prayers. Hope to see you at a meeting soon Linda!

August 21 The meeting was called to order by President Gay with this **Altrusa Accent...** *Service to others is the rent we pay for our time here on earth.* **Muhammad Ali**

The **Dictionary Project** is under way. We will meet on September 13 from 9:00 to 11:00 am at Mary Louise's garage. Members may then pick up the dictionaries and labels later that day. The price of the dictionaries has gone up to about \$3.00 each which is an extra \$970 from past years. We could have gotten a cheaper version, but it would not have had the hundred pages of special reference items like math formulas, maps, States, etc. that make this dictionary so special. Our fundraisers have made it possible to get these dictionaries! Our goal is to have dictionaries delivered to all 3rd graders by the end of September. Our waiter Gauge told the group that he still has the dictionary he got through Altrusa 18 years ago!



The **Spaghetti Dinner** is being organized! Gay is in charge again this year and we are getting our orders.

The Dinner will be October 4, the first Thursday in October. Su Lynn is in charge of the Mystery Bags. She brought empty Mystery Bags for members to take and fill with wine, gift cards, candles, bath salts, specialty food items, teas, coffees, party sets of napkins and plates, kitchen tools, garden supplies, Halloween or Christmas decorations. *She thought we needed some guidance! Thanks Su Lynn!* Please bring your bags by the second meeting in September.

Our program was led by Kate Lonberger, the **Development Director of Girl Scouts**. The 3 C's from the past – cookies, camping and crafts are still part of the program, but have been replaced in emphasis by the new 3 C's, courage, confidence and character building. Cookie sales provide funds for service

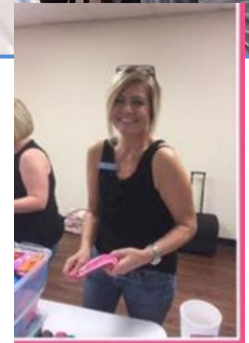
opportunities. The girls learn how set goals, how to achieve them and then decide how the profits will be spent.

Melanie Billings, a local troop leader who accompanied Kate, told us her troop decided to give \$250 to Autumns Re-Ride, one of the organizations we support. A wonderful decision girls!

Days for Girls International Project



On **August 22**, 10 of our members went to Pea Ridge to join with the Rogers Club in sewing and assembling the hygiene kits for Altrusa International's Days for Girls. As you can see, the ladies were having a good time while they were doing a great service project!



Thanks again to Connie for sending me great pictures and to Sue for jogging my memory by taking such good minutes at our meetings.

Valerie Katz: Communications 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. Our web-site altrusa-bb.com See us on Facebook www.facebook.com/altrusa8