



## What Happened?

News and Information about our Club.

Bentonville/Bella Vista

March / April 2018

### March Birthdays

Mar. 10 Kris Sherry/Davis

Mar. 21 Jenny Montgomery

### April Birthdays

Apr. 1 Mindy Ryan

Apr. 13 Karen Robbins

Apr. 14 Valerie Katz

Apr. 18 Gay Kiker



President: Peggy Rosenthal [prosenthal@dreamvacations.com](mailto:prosenthal@dreamvacations.com)

### A Note from our President-

How Time Flies. When I took the office of President in May, 2016, the two-year term was daunting even a bit frightening. Two years seemed to be a very long time. Sitting here today, penning my last President's Message, I reflect on how quickly the two years have passed. The club is healthy, with a very diverse membership. The span of our book distribution has grown enormously, thanks to the great work done by our members and, specifically, the literacy committee. We applied for, and received, multiple grants from the International Foundation. And, I think we really learned to appreciate what each member brings to our collective table.

Having just returned from District Conference, I am happy to report that we received awards for both of the projects submitted for consideration. "Books in the Hands of Children" placed second in the contest for the Mamie L. Bass award. "Katherine Priest Dictionary Project" placed third in the contest for the Letha H. Brown literacy award. Our club is doing great things helping the community on many levels. It's nice to see our efforts recognized.

In two weeks I will install a new slate of officers. I pass the gavel to Gay Kiker who will, undoubtedly, do an incredible job as President. Her passion is there at every turn and she already has some great ideas to put into action. Her right-hand person, Kris Sherry-Davis will be an outstanding Vice President ensuring we have vibrant programming throughout the year. The secretaries, treasurers and directors will round out a great team of ladies, providing support to the board and the members.

Thank you to the current board and to the membership for your support over the past two years. I'm not going anywhere, except on vacation now and again, but will enjoy lending support from another angle.

*Cheers! Peggy Rosenthal*

**March 20** President Peggy opened the meeting with this **Altrusa Accent**: "I get a group of people who are talented to commit to excellence and to work together as one. That's where it starts. Different talents, same commitment." ~Coach Mike Krzyzewski

Marian Eagle, a bridge friend of President Peggy's joined us today. I guess she liked what she saw. She filled out an application on the spot and will soon be an Altrusan!

Kris had a very good report on **Games Day**. We raised \$1996.70. She said Game Day was a great success again this year due to fantastic club participation. We had over 20 members present serving and making sure

participants were well cared for and were encouraged to take part in the silent auction and basket sales. Great job Kris and Katy!

The Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, Book Swap is a fun monthly event. New members Sue Sterling and Anne Marie Steeneck have joined Kris S and Terri to help the children with their book selections. These ladies are off to a great Altrusa start!

Conference delegates and alternates have been officially named. President Peggy, Vice President Gay, and Kris S. will be the delegates. Alternates Karen and Valerie will tag along, ready to serve if needed.

Our meeting on **April 3** was opened by President Peggy with this **Altrusa Accent**: "One of the deep secrets of life is that all that is worth the doing is what we do for others." **Lewis Carroll**

We were very happy to Initiate Sue Stirling, Marian Eagle, and Pat Sporleder as our newest members. With March Madness basketball just ending, President Peggy used that as her theme, stating that "in many ways, our club is like a basketball team, individuals that come from diverse backgrounds with many different talents and skills to support the common goal. We relish our club successes and the difference we make in our community. We enjoy each other's company and have been known to create a festive mood that spreads to others." She then reminded them that, they do not join Altrusa, they become Altrusan's, and welcomed them to our club.



We spent the rest of the meeting pricing & tagging accessories for sale at District Conference. This will be the third year we have had our money making booth there. Wish us luck!

On **April 17**, President Peggy delivered this **Altrusa Accent**: " There's no limit to what we can achieve, if we don't care who gets the credit" *Unknown Author*

**We have new officers!** They will be official taking the reigns in June. We will be ready to help them achieve their goals during the next two years. The new leaders will be; President – Gay Kiker, Vice President – Kris Sherry – Davis, Recording Secretary – new member Sue Stirling, Corresponding Secretary – Gail Cowden. Club Operating Treasurer – Sheryl Burhenn, Club Foundation Treasurer – Vela Lewis, and Directors Terri Gaither, Valerie Katz and Peggy Rosenthal. President Peggy has been seen doing the "I'm Almost the Past President" dance.

Our Program today was about the **Circle of Life Hospice**. Nancy Desler and Colleen Gast were there to help us understand just what hospice means and about the many ways they help people at a very difficult time in their and their families lives.

**April 26-28.** We followed the **Yellow Brick Road** to Lawrence, KS for the **62<sup>nd</sup> District Eight Conference**. Six club members attended and agreed it was a well thought out, educational and enjoyable conference. Linda Burton of the Lawrence club was the Conference Chair. She kept us going in a *good time frenzy*. She was everywhere making sure things were progressing and that all were happily engaged, Great job Linda! Karen said this was the best conference she had ever been to, and as our first president and charter member, she has been to many of them!



Governor Becky Wood kept the conference moving and had some new items to add to the conference. The first was a parade of the club banners. Each club had someone exhibit the banner, stop and tell how long the club had been in existence and how many members they had. Then they continued around the room and the banners were displayed on the wall.

Some of the highlights were the service projects. At the Welcome to Conference meeting we decorated cookies and made thank you notes for the New York Elementary School, who entertained us on Friday at the Keynote Luncheon. I was part of



the thank you card group and was I very happy to have contributed. Those students not only sang, they had entertaining dance moves to accompany the songs. They were very entertaining! When we were done with the project we all enjoyed some Chair Yoga. As the conference continued I saw members using the poses and stretches they had learned.

Another service project we participated in was assembling comfort bags for cancer patients at the Lawrence Memorial Hospital Oncology Unit. The group, headed by Diane McRready, had all the supplies distributed on the tables around the room. Our job was to fill the bags with note pads, lip balm, snacks and other supplies the group had decided would benefit the patients. We also enclosed a card that said, Best wishes from Altrusa.



We had submitted 2 items for award consideration and received recognition for both of them. We took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Mamie L Bass Service award for our “Books in the Hands of Children” entry and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Letha H Brown Literacy award for our Dictionary project.

Here is Peggy accepting the awards from District Eight Governor Becky Wood and Altrusa International President Leanne Milligan. Leanne was incredibly engaging and tasked us all to make one new friend at conference. Her task was to meet and talk to all members, leaving a star on their conference badges. I’m pretty sure she met us all!



We did not get Conference recognition for our Club Display but as you can see, Kris did a great job!

We all spent time at our accessories booth!



And here are your Conference Delegates. Before and after Happy Hour!?

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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](http://altrusa-bb.com) See us on Face book [www.facebook.com/altrusa8](http://www.facebook.com/altrusa8)