

What Happened?

News and Information about our Club.

Jan. / Feb. 2019

Jan. / Feb. Birthdays

Jan 21 Libby McDonald

Jan 26 Vella Lewis

Feb. 12 Anne-Marie Steeneck

A Note from our President... As I type this message... our club members are busy preparing for our Game Day fundraiser. There will be a crew to help assemble the baskets we sell, a crew to ready the bidding sheets for the silent auction items, a crew to get the Dr. Seuss books together for selling, and a crew to purchase the supplies needed for our famous chicken salad sandwiches. I am truly amazed how this group comes together and gets things done. There is always someone available to swap books with the TJ Elementary kids; or clean, sort, and ready the books we give to the Children's Shelter; or change out the bulletin board at the DEB project store; or keep the book barn full at Autumn's Re-Ride; etc, etc. There are many, many more services we provide for our community and it's so nice to always know that whatever the project happens to be...it will get done.

I don't need to hope that our Game Day is a success, I know it will be a success! The weather might be cold, but, there are lots of diehard card players in this area who look forward to this event every year.

So, whether you are baking cookies, making devilled eggs, or making that famous dip that is asked about every year; let me thank you for your devotion (and your skills!) to this Altrusa club. **Gay Kiker**

Jan. 15. Our meeting was called to order by President Gay with the following **Altrusa Accent...** *source unknown.* We burn out not because of what we do. We burn out because we forget WHY we do it. Remember your why.

The new system for reporting our **volunteer hours** seems to be working! We deliver them at rollcall and most of us remember to bring them to the first meeting of the following month. Good job Sue!



Our **Literacy Committee** continues to keep books in the hands of our communities children. A seemingly tireless Connie, told us where the books have gone this month. **The Northwest Arkansas Children's Shelter** received some of the dictionaries left over from our project to give them to all 3rd graders in the area. **Havenwood** received new books and Reading Buddies (Beanie Babies) for 30 children. The **Bella Vista and Gravette Libraries** received donations of older children's books. The Book Nooks at the food truck across from the lake, at the **Bentonville Sugar Creek Laundry / Big Ben Cleaners**, and at the **DEB** store have been stocked. And the **First Christian Church** helped us by giving us the left-over books from their holiday event. As usual, this committee does a fantastic job!





Several club members helped at the **Scholastic Books Warehouse Sale**. The Thomas Jefferson Elementary School Librarian came to the sale and was able to choose 60 books for her school from the credits we earned.

Feb. 10. Once again we were able to volunteer our services to the Bentonville Library Foundation by staffing their luncheon.



Looks like Tina was enjoying the food!

Club Foundation Treasurer Vella Lewis reported that the Account had an increase due to a \$1,500 donation from Mars which was requested by Janet. She said that her company has our club on their donation calendar for 2019 also. Thank you Mars and thank you Janet!



Tina Brandt had some very nice information about the **Bentonville Sugar Creek Big Ben Laundry**. Ben (a Bentonville Fireman) and Tiffany Snodgrass own and operate two laundries, one in Bentonville and one in Rogers through which they channel their desire to help those in need. Much of their work revolves around kids. They did a coat drive last fall that brought in close to 1000 coats! They collect new



backpacks in the summer and fill them with supplies for students in the fall. Loads of Learning is a project started at the U of A. When the funding ran out, Ben agreed to continue paying for it.

This is where we came in, by providing a book shelf and books. Children come with their parents, interact and read while laundry is being done. They can take a book home if they choose. Tina and Connie keep those Book Nooks full!



We work all year with the **Single Parent Scholarship Fund**. This organization continues to change lives every day in our community.

Linda, Su Lynn, Gay, Karen and Vella were on hand to give Jack Eaton, Executive Director, a financial gift from our club.

We received "Thank You" notes for the Christmas gifts for the 5 families we shopped for, and for the Eleven members that helped at their Christmas party.

The **DEB Project** is having a **Fashion Show fundraiser** at the First Baptist Church in Bentonville on April 13, The models will all be adopted children and adults. Clothing worn in the show will come exclusively from the DEB store. Judge Stacey Zimmerman of the Washington County Juvenile Court plans to attend. The two guest speakers will be Arkansas State Senator Bart Hester who is a foster parent and Benton County Prosecutor Nathan Smith. Looks like we have another date to put on our calendars!

Feb. 19. Our meeting was called to order by President Gay with this **Altrusa Accent...** *Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened!* *Christopher Roche*



Terri Gaither reports the book swaps at the **Thomas Jefferson Elementary School** on Jan. 3 and Feb. 13 were well received and great fun for students and Altrusans alike!



The committee for the clubs **20th Anniversary Celebration** has been busy. The date and location have been set. Saturday May 4, from 1 – 4 at Arvest Community Room in downtown Bentonville. Mark your calendars, this will be great! ←→

The **District Conference**, is almost here! April 25-27, at the Double tree Hotel in Chesterfield, MO

These events are great fun and very educational. Let's have a good turnout for this event!



Our **Program / Flex 'n Stretch** was presented by club member Donna Williams. This is a program that she teaches. "Movement is the essence of good health and first we need to warm up muscles by stretching," she said. She added that slower movement *can* give you good physical fitness. She and two volunteers (Kris and Terri) demonstrated many exercises to stretch the neck, arms, sides, and waist. She had exercises for the lungs - breathe deep, for balance, (with a chair to lean on if needed) stand straight, lift one leg and stand on one leg with eyes open and then with eyes closed. For reflex, put your arm close to your side and form a circle with your thumb and index fingers. Have someone drop a ruler through the circle and try to clasp it before it hits the ground. That turned out to be harder than it looked!



Feb. 28 found Connie, Gail, Karen and Valerie at the Altrusa Fayetteville meeting at Mermaids restaurant. They had asked Gail and Valerie to come to their meeting and speak about how they became authors. The food was scrumptious!

The plans for the **Game Day** fundraiser are in high gear! All have been given their assignments and the tables have been sold. It is sure to be a fun day for all.



See you all on **Game Day!!** March 5 at United Lutheran Church, 100 Cooper Road. 10 a.m.

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