




What Happened?

News and Information about our Club.
 Bentonville/Bella Vista
 September / October 2022

Sept. /Oct. Birthdays

Sept. 1 Donna Williams
 Sept. 3 Ellen Landau
 Sept. 17 Sue Sterling
 Sept. 26 Gail Cowden
 Oct. 10 Peggy Rosenthal



President: Gay Kiker riverman77414@yahoo.com

A Note from our president... As I write this President’s note, there is definitely a chill in the air. Fall has come to our area and the brilliance of the fall colors is growing every day. Before you blink, it’ll be Thanksgiving, then Christmas. It’s a busy season, both for Mother Nature and our Altrusa club. We’ve had a very busy summer and early autumn. We have delivered dictionaries to 3rd graders, started book swaps in a few elementary schools, and helped our libraries with book events. We just held our annual Spaghetti Dinner after taking 2 years off due to Covid. Final figures aren’t in yet, but I suspect the club made quite a bit of money! A big thanks to Sarah and her committee for making the Spaghetti Dinner such a big success. There were challenges this year with the new venue, but everyone pitched in and helped where they could. We now have our own storage unit to house all of the books that magically appear via Connie. It is large enough to also house other inventory items we use year after year for our fundraisers. It will be nice having our own space and the ability to arrange and re-arrange when needed. I’m looking forward to the holiday season and the many projects we help with. Before you know it, it’ll be 2023! Time does fly when you’re having fun!!!

Gay Kiker

Our meeting on **Sept. 6** took place at the **Deb Project** from 9 a.m. to noon. Club members moved dishes, sorted shoes, separated and arranged jewelry, and much much more.





Our **Sept. 20** meeting was called to order by President Gay with the following **Altrusa Accent...** *Some of us will make tiny ripples and others will send waves crashing, but each one will change the surface of the water forever* Robin Dancer

Janet and her **Dictionary Project** team got the dictionaries out to the students! We delivered almost 1,000 dictionaries to third graders in eight schools in our area. Thanks so much to MARS and their security guard, Gayle. MARS receives delivery of the dictionaries, stores them for us and helps load them into our cars for delivery!



On **Sept. 27** Karen M. set us up to participate in the **Bella Vista POA Give Back program**. The Highlands Pub and Grill donated 10% of their sales that day to our Club!!

Karen M. reported that we received a *Thank you* letter from the **Gravette Library**. In the letter, Librarian Karen Benson wrote, *When the Arkansas State Librarian asked what made the biggest impact on the 2022 summer reading program, I replied that it was Altrusa volunteerism and support.*

For the **Altrusa International Foundation** grant for **Days for Girls** we had committed to completing 210 kits. We actually made 211 kits. In addition, we supplied 867 kit components to the Liberty Distribution Center. The 211 kits were distributed to; 50 to Northern Ecuador for women and girls rescued from sex trafficking, 101 to Ukraine, and 60 to Southern Ecuador. Gay has completed the required report to Altrusa International Foundation about the use of the Days for Girls grant funds. Lorrie Healy was very thankful for our efforts.

Our **Oct. 4.** meeting was called to order by President Gay with the following **Altrusa Accent...** *Atsa one spicey meat aballa!!* Chef Boy Ardee

On **Oct. 6** New member Sue Terri G., and Sue M. set up a school-wide, book give-away at the **Thomas Jefferson Elementary School**.



Oct. 8 was the day for the **DEB Project Fashion Show**. Members Connie, Tina and Sue M. were on hand to greet guests, work at the registration table, and help with T-shirt sales. Some cute Therapy dogs were also at the show and **Thomas Jefferson Elementary School** is scheduled to receive one!



Club member Carrie has become a Community Ambassador for the **Single Parent Scholarship Fund**. One hundred and forty individuals were awarded scholarships for this semester. The organization has increased their scholarships by 25%. Full time students receive \$2,500 per semester, three-quarter students receive \$1,875, and half-time students get \$1,250, and \$100 to families to buy school supplies. This money can be used for direct educational costs and to pay a variety of household expenses including: utilities, rent, taxes, childcare.

We have a place for our *stuff!* We have signed a contract with **SpareBox Storage** in Gravette. The cost is \$99 a month for the unit plus \$9 a month for insurance. Gay has already purchased shelves for the new unit.

On Oct, 11th, at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Bella Vista, our yearly **Spaghetti Dinner** was held! This was a new venue for us and our committee did a fabulous job! New spaghetti options included vegetarian sauce and gluten free pasta. Our \$10 Mystery Bags were, as usual, very popular and sold quick! New this year was wine! Proceeds had been ear-marked for our Dictionary Project in the past but IT technology has reduced the number needed. We have many other children's literacy projects that will benefit. The **DEB Project** bought 10 tickets and told us to give them out to the deserving! Club members were joined in making this a success by friends and family!



On **Oct. 22** club members volunteered at the **Bentonville Library Foundation Oz Kids Crit and Fall Fest**. In honor of **Make a Difference Day** we helped with race packet pickup, registered racers, gave away goody bags and gave each child a free book of their choice!



On **Oct. 25** this SUV was full of items for the newly re-opened rural **Sulphur Springs Public Library**. Club members Connie and Sue M. delivered 38 backpacks, 274 adult and children's books, 30 children's Spanish books, 27 prizes and 4 games to Melinda Griffin, the Library Director, in honor of National Make a Difference Day.



Oct. 29 was the Bella Vista Library Treat Street Event. Teri G. and Gay were part of the Boo Crew and Gail reprised her role as Granny Boo, the friendly ghost storyteller, to the absolute delight of the children.



Bits and Pieces

The general login for Altrusa is: user – altrusan password – MamieBass1955

Linda reported that former member Mary Louise Harris, who lives in an area in Florida that was affected by hurricane Ian, is okay.

Carla's husband is having more heart-related tests.

Terri Gaither's daughter's wedding went well.

Tina and Doug Brandt will celebrate 55 years of marriage on September 24th.

Karen Robbin's son has married.

Former Club member Katie Henkel had a small stumble and is fine.

SAVE THE DATE

March 7, 2023 – Game Day

Valerie Katz: Communications valeriekatz567@aol.com

Meetings are held at 11:30 on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

Our web-site altrusa-bb.com See us on Face book www.facebook.com/altrusa8