



What Happened?

News and Information about our Club.

Bentonville/Bella Vista

May / June 2025

No May Birthdays
June 12 Tina Brandt



President - Linda Krysl lakrysl@aol.com

A Note from our President: July is upon us, with heat and fireworks!!!!

Let's keep the fireworks coming!! Altrusa activities are being planned for the coming year and the committees are organizing for there fund raisers. We love having new members and guests visit us to see who we are. I believe we are one hot club, come see for yourself!!

Linda

Our **May 6** meeting was called to order by President, Linda with the following **Altrusa Accent...**

"I'm proud to be a member of the Bentonville/Bella Vista Altrusa Club" Linda, Gay and Cheryl



A new Altrusa adventure began with the Initiation of **Patty Creighton** as she boarded the Altrusa Cruise Ship. Pictured are, Patty on the right, President Linda on the left and Patty's sponsor Gay, in the middle!



It was time for the **Samaritan Community Center** to start getting ready for their annual **Backpacks for Kids** project. Many members were there helping them inventory school supplies.



We have a new **Signature Project**, the Decatur School District. This month we were at **Decatur Northside Elementary** for our book giveaways and swaps. We expanded our literacy efforts to include **Decatur Intermediate School**. We also presented a \$500 check for literacy to the elementary school. The **Decatur Public Library** had their official Open House, and we supported them by helping to restock their shelves. Their new librarian is Deborah. Karen McAuley is doing an excellent job heading up our project for Decatur.



New Officers were selected for the **Foundation Board**: President-Sue Sterling, Vice President-Pat Schrad, Secretary-Gay Kiker, Treasurer-Terri Mclure, Directors-Terri Gaither and Roxanne Hipwell

There was an additional **Report on Conference!** We won three awards, **The Governor's Fall Literacy Challenge**, **The Governor's Acts of Kindness Award**, and **Sharing the Joy of Altrusa Award**; (how you bring new members into the club). We had jewelry left over from conference that we donated to the **Gravette Friends of the library**. We received a Thank You card from Teresa Davis, for the jewelry, which they were able to sell.



Our **May 20** meeting was a workshop for **Days for Girls** held at Lorrie Healy's home. We had 12 members present to assist. Our Club has been involved with Days for Girls ever since it was adopted by Altrusa International as an international project. They delivered 155 Spring Kits, which will go to Majuro Atoll in the Marshallese Islands. There will be Marshallese people there to help distribute the kits to those in need. We have provided financial contributions and done hands-on projects with our local club. Our club's **Days for Girls** Committee Chair, Kathy Williamson, has accepted the position of Co-Lead for the **Days for Girls Rogers AR Chapter!** Good job Kathy!

Our **June 3**, meeting was called to order by President, Linda Krysl with the following **Altrusa Accent...**
A woman is like a tea bag; you never know how strong it is until it's in hot water. Eleanor Roosevelt

Pictured are members presenting a \$500 check to the **DEB Project Thrift Boutique**. We are always happy to support them. They make a significant difference to area foster families and school social workers. We have supported the DEB Project financially, and by volunteering, for many years as we watched Sammy Laney go from working from her home to establishing the thrift store. Wonderful work Sammy!



We gave away 33,343 books over the last two years, in support of President Linda K. Smith's biennium International **"One Million Books"**, challenge.



We sponsor summer reading and at the **Sulphur Springs Library Summer Reading Program**, toddlers learned about 2D and 3D art. The Junior group made robots, and the Senior group sculpted animals.



Sue Sterling has made our reservation with the Catholic Church for Thursday, March 5, 2026, for **Game Day**. We can have the hall the day before to help with setting up. Excellent job Sue!

Our **June 17**, meeting was called to order by President Linda Krysl, with the following **Altrusa Accent...**
There is no better Compass than Compassion *Amanda Gorman*

Altrusa District Eight applied for and received a grant of \$100 for each District Eight club from **Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.** for their **Comfort for Children in Crisis Project**. Our club added a \$100 slated for the Benton County Sheriff's Office.

Lt. Shannon Jenkins, Public Information Officer with the Benton Co. Sheriff's Office, spoke to our club about the needs for children going through a crisis. There is a separate juvenile detention center. Shannon also runs the Shop with a Cop program, the toy drive, blanket drive, and getting costumes, candy, and games to the fairgrounds for Halloween, expecting a crowd of 5000! She prefers to work with middle school children, aged 8-14. Her goal is to build a relationship between the police and the child.



About one hundred of the seven hundred inmates in the jail are female. Their sex offender count is 149. They have a book program in jail with a goal of keeping the mind busy. They get donated books for the inmates that need to be paperbacks with no pictures or color on the inside. They are always looking for more books. Shannon has many adult programs. A Blanket program for families with no heat or stranded motorists, SALT-

(seniors in law enforcement) providing transportation for folks who can't drive, meals on wheels, providing necessities such as socks, Depends, toilet paper, etc. They also help with Health issues/Alzheimers. Also there are AA programs and a ministry program in the jail.

Shannon spoke about scams on seniors. Her comment was, "if it doesn't sit right in your gut, it is not right." The most popular one, "you failed to show up for jury duty. You will go to jail unless you pay money!" The scammers are VERY persistent, in your face, and try to keep you on the phone so you feel the pressure.

Financial Reports \$\$\$

Operating Budget- Per Karen McAuley, is \$8266.23. Audited by Marlene Olafson

Foundation Budget- Per Terri McClure is \$11735.00 . Audited by Sue Sterling

The *CD* has a current balance of \$10,122.41.

Dates to Remember:

September 25 Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser

March 5 Game Day Fund Raiser

Valerie Katz: Communications vkatz21@gmail.com

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

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

Login for Altrusa is: user – Altrusan password – MamieBass1955