



District Eight Service Bulletin

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Together Everyone Achieves More

Editor, Marne Close (marne_close@sbcglobal.net)

The Governor's Message



A Fantastic 54th Annual District Eight Conference

From Governor Linda K. Smith

Conference was fantastic even if I almost lost my voice (great drugs the following week soon had me back to normal)! A huge Thank You goes to Emporia for your dedication and teamwork to make this a memorable conference and to the other Kansas clubs for their assistance. As I watched the Miss USA Pageant, I could not help but chuckle as I thought of that special glue, WD40, and duct tape. If you did not come to conference, be sure and ask your club members what these three things are all about.

Dona Garretson was an outstanding International Rep to our Conference. I hope everyone who attended had a chance to meet her. Dona will be installed as International President in Rapid City, SD next year. She will be a great International President!

Once again your generosity showed. Altrusans again raised significant amounts of money for not only the Altrusa International Foundation, but also for the Conference charity. Thank you for your support of these two great organizations.

It is dues time again. If you have not done so already, please send your renewals (and, of course, any new members) to District Treasurer Cheri Heeren at 1685 Hickory Lane, Sedalia, MO 6530 and to Altrusa International at 332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1123, Chicago, IL 60604-4305. These were due on June 15, so if they haven't been sent, you will have to pay late fees. Do NOT send dues for Emeritus members.

(Continued page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE:

1 Governor's Message

2 Taking Time to Visit

3 Foundation Report

4 United We Grow

5 Treasurer's Report

5 54th Conference Review

7 Around the District

8 Welcome New Members

9 President's Message

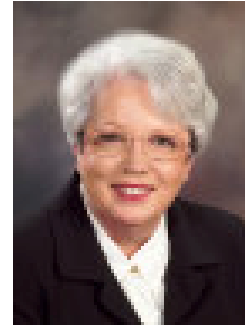
(Continued from page 1)

Club visits are just around the corner. I have been busy scheduling mine. Thank you, club presidents, for being so willing to work with the dates I have suggested. I look forward to seeing Altrusa friends as I make these visits and meeting new Altrusans as well. If you all have specific things you would like your District visitor to address, please let me know and I will pass that information to them.

In October, the District Board will journey to Sikeston, MO, to make plans for the 55th annual District Eight Conference. Block out April 28-30, 2011, on your calendars and plan to attend Conference. Please note that the Conference starts a week later than normal because of Easter. In 2012, Conference will be in Hot Springs, AR, hosted by the Hot Springs Village Club. In 2013, we will be hosted by Norman, OK. Conferences are a great place to make new friends but to also learn new program ideas. Don't miss out!

I continue to enjoy my time serving as your Governor. I am just sorry I cannot visit all of you every year, but I enjoy keeping up with what you are doing via your newsletters. Please keep sending them!

Please add the District Officers and Committee Chairs to your distribution lists for your electronic newsletters. If you don't have them in electronic format, please send to the Governor and your assigned visitor for 2010. Hopefully, by now you have been contacted to know who your visitor will be. If you haven't heard from her, contact me and I will let you know who that is!



Taking Time to Visit By Sue Hart, First Vice Governor

By definition, visit is a verb, an action word, and meaning: *To go to see in order to comfort or help; to pay a call on as an act of friendship or courtesy.*

The “action” has started in that your District Eight Board members have received a listing of clubs to visit this year and soon you will be contacted by your visitor to arrange a convenient date and time. This is the club's opportunity to take advantage of the district officer's experience and knowledge of club operations. Your visitor will also update the members on the latest information from District and International.

Use these visits as a time to bring your thoughts before the District Board. The visit is all about YOUR club, what is important to YOUR members, how can the visitor help YOU. Here are a few helpful hints in preparation of the district officer's visit:

Preparing for the visit –

- ✓ Schedule the date. The district officer may be visiting other nearby clubs to save travel expenses. Thanks to our members, expenses have been reduced as clubs work on scheduling meeting dates to avoid duplicate trips to the same area within District Eight. Visits (continued page 3)

- ✓ are usually scheduled between July and October.
- ✓ Make plans, have topics for discussion. Discuss with the membership the purpose of the visit. Ask: What do we wish to gain/accomplish from this visit? Generate discussion of your club's challenges, goals and achievements. Let this visit be meaningful for the club.
- ✓ ***Complete and return the club background report promptly.*** The club background report form can be found on the district website under the publications/form tab. <http://www.altrusadistricteight.org/publications.htm> Additional materials that would be helpful could include
- ✓ Your yearbook, latest club activity report and newsletters.

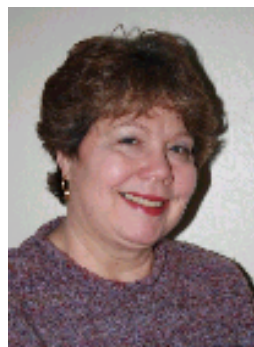
Planning the visit –

- ✓ Board meeting. If at all possible, schedule a board meeting before or after the regular meeting. Committee chairs should be encouraged to provide a written committee report. Please allow time for questions.
- ✓ Regular meeting. Notify members well in advance and encourage them to be in attendance. Allow ample time for the district officer's presentation, usually 15-20 minutes as well as time for discussion and questions.

Special touches – this is what makes Altrusans fantastic people!

- ✓ Assign a greeter and have members wear nametags
- ✓ Provide the district officer with information about meal costs and menu choices
- ✓ Arrange for any special equipment needs
- ✓ Read about club visits in the president's manual and the Altrusa Encyclopedia

Remember that the club visit is about communication, serving the membership,



Altrusa Foundation Report

By Holly Burgess Foundation Liaison

This has been a banner year for District Eight's affiliation with Altrusa International Foundation. The kudos goes directly to the District Eight Clubs.

Through Club 21, Camp Safe Haven has long been an important partner with Altrusa in providing a safe and nurturing atmosphere for children with HIV to run and play just like any other child at camp. In 2008 District Eight Club donations to Club 21 passed an all time record. Not to rest on its laurels District Eight decided to beat its own record in 2009. The challenge in 2010 is for all our District Eight Clubs to be Club 21 Clubs.

According to David Butler, Founder and CEO of Camp Safe Haven, "All of us at Safe Haven are most grateful to all at Altrusa for your love, support and generosity. We often refer to Altrusa as Safe Haven's "God Mothers", and it brings all of us great comfort knowing Altrusa is always there for the kids we serve!"

District Eight Clubs also took the initiative to apply for Foundation Grants. Our clubs are involved in very important projects and activities that support our communities. With all organizations struggling to find funds to for these activities it is imperative that we continue applying for Foundation Grant money. If you applied in the last club year be sure and apply again next year. Congratulations to all the clubs that received grant funding. We look forward to finding out who received a grant in the current May, 2010 Grant Cycle.

(Continued page 4)

May, 2009 Grant Cycle Award

Mexico, MO Third Grade Dictionary Project

September, 2009 Grant Cycle Awardees:

Columbia, MO Library Express Book Nook

Sikeston, MO Backpacks for Friday

St. Louis, MO Hope House Children's Garden

On the Altrusa International Foundation Website it is stated, "The Altrusa International Foundation is dedicated to improving economic well-being and quality of life through a commitment to community services and literacy." It is your Foundation and its job is to work for you. Take advantage of all it has to offer. Also, be generous in giving to the Foundation Programs that help communities all over the world.



United We Grow

Penny Daugherty

Communication Chair District Eight

For the past two years I have been able to be a part of the judging process for local club newsletter and yearbook awards. For anyone who hasn't had the opportunity to be involved in this process, please know that it is an extremely difficult task. There are many wonderful newsletters in our district, but there can only be three winners and they are chosen according to

criteria set forth by District and International.

Even though I sometimes walk away from Conference feeling that I haven't been able to give enough credit to the club communication chairs, the process does give me a chance to see the many similarities and differences in the way each club operates and disseminates information.

At the Conference in Emporia, Dona Garretson, International President-Elect, gave a presentation about interim marketing materials to be used during the planning phases of our new marketing campaign. One of the strategies of the new campaign is to present a unified message, from the local clubs in our own district to international clubs around the globe. I, too, had noticed the differences and distances between clubs as being a weakness even just within our own district. We have been very successful at relating our local club message and mission to our individual communities, but the time has come for us to join together to tell our collective story as a united organization.

Please take time to look over the interim marketing materials available on the sign-in section of the international website. Keep yourself and your club informed of the opportunities for increased awareness with regard to new marketing materials as they are rolled out so that we can all benefit from the investment of time and resources designed to promote the organization we love and serve. Through this process we should grow in strength, numbers, and mission.



A Note from the District Eight Treasurer, Cheri Heeren

Welcome to the treasurers who are new this year, and a special thanks to those of you who just finished your term. It takes all of us working together to keep District Eight financially strong.

Here are a couple of reminders for our club treasurers:

1. The form from International this year should indicate that Emeritus members do NOT pay any dues to District Eight. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY DUES PAYMENTS FOR EMERITUS MEMBERS!**
2. When sending in new member dues and information, please be sure to include the name of the person who sponsored the new member.
3. IRS Form 990-N: Even though Altrusa Clubs and their Foundations fall under the tax exempt umbrella of Altrusa International, they are NOT included in Altrusa International's 990 Income Tax Return. Altrusa Clubs and their Foundations must file Form 990-N even though their gross income is \$25,000 or less.

Form 990-N, also known as the e-Postcard, must be filed electronically. There will be no paper form. The IRS has step-by-step instructions for filing electronically at www.irs.gov/eo. You may also read more about this on the Altrusa International website www.altrusa.com/Publications/Other.aspx.

The e-Postcard will be due every year by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax period. For Altrusa and the Foundation, the close of the fiscal year is May 31st and the e-Postcard is due October 15th. The fiscal year end date for Altrusa International, Altrusa Clubs, Altrusa International Foundation and the Altrusa Clubs' Foundations is May 31st. The e-Postcard cannot be filed until after your tax year ends (May 31st).

Please feel free to email me with any questions! 2heerens@charter.net



54th Conference Review Diane Eberhard, Governor Elect

Altrusa members enjoyed the 54th District Eight Conference as we were given a “Welcome to Our Front Porch” by Altrusa International, Inc. of Emporia. I think we all found that there was a little something for everyone.

The Thursday Night Welcome introduced Altrusans to Shelley Hansley, who is the Coordinator for the beauty pageants of Miss Universe, Inc. Shelley shared with us many of her experiences, as well as beauty secrets from pageant contestants including new uses for Preparation H, WD-40, duct tape and plastic wrap.

We ended the evening with Barbara Roark who introduced us to Laughter Yoga. These yoga exercises not only help relieve stress, they are also a mood enhancer. Who doesn't feel better after a good laugh?

Friday morning found twelve First Timers participating in a version of the Newlywed Game called "The Newly-Joined Game." Lead by emcees Linda Wood Sharp and Becky Wood, contestants were assisted by the studio audience Altrusans with answering questions and competing for great prizes.

With 126 Altrusans registered, the Opening Business Session was called to order by Governor Linda Smith, a wonderful presentation of Flags was completed by Millie Havard Hansen of Little Rock and we were warmly welcomed by Jim Kessler, Mayor of the City of Emporia. The District business was very efficiently conducted and included electing Janet Horner from Lawrence to be our Representative for the Altrusa International, Inc. Long Range Strategic Planning Committee. We closed the day's business with a very moving Memorial Service presented by Penny Storms of Fayetteville, remembering 9 Altrusans who had passed away since the 2009 Conference.

President-Elect Dona Garretson spoke to us about the marketing materials now available on the Altrusa International website, ideas on partnering, using PSAs and other media outlets and asked us to think about our individual Altrusa stories.

Dorine Harter of Emporia introduced us to our Keynote Luncheon Speaker Antonia Felix. She is a New York Times best-selling non-fiction

author who now resides in Emporia and she spoke to us on "Women Who Serve (And Change the World)." She shared wonderful insights on women in leadership, politics and their passions.

Friday afternoon was filled with workshops presented by our very excited Committee Chairs and our lovely day ended with shopping, food and karaoke. Who knew District Eight had so many great singers? No, not buying it? Can I say we had fun trying? We really did!

Saturday morning found us back to business with voting for our Nominating Committee, which resulted with the election of Donna Banman, Marne Close and Penny Storms serving as Chair. Cindi Buxton, Altrusa International Foundation Chair applauded District Eight for having the largest number of Club 21 members. Governor Linda Smith gave us her annual report and we were very well entertained with invitations to Conference from Sikeston, Hot Springs Village and Norman. The District Eight Conference Project was highlighted by Kelsey Ortiz, Director of the Flint Hills Tech College Adult Education Center. Kelsey gave us a very moving history about the Reading Lab's establishment at the Center and called us angels from heaven for Altrusa's help and support.

We were given to opportunity to attend workshops on ASTRA and the International Foundation and then gathered for the Awards Luncheon with Sue Hart, First Vice Governor presiding. And the award winners are...

Attendance Stillwater, OK

Newest Member: Diane Bielanski, Hot Springs Village, AR

Newsletter: 1st Place Hot Springs Village, AR
2nd Place Fayetteville, AR
3rd Place Greater KC, MO

Yearbook: 1st Place Hutchinson, KS
2nd Place Fayetteville, AR
3rd Place Sedalia, MO

Club Displays: 1st Place Fayetteville, AR
2nd Place Hutchinson, KS
3rd Place Sikeston, MO

Membership: Under 35 Members

1st Place Sikeston, MO (31% growth)
2nd Place Emporia, KS (28%)
3rd Place Sedalia, MO (19%)

Membership: Over 35 Members

1st Place Mexico, MO (21%)
2nd Place Lawrence, KS (20%)
3rd Place Hot Springs Village, AR ()

Letha H Brown Literacy Award:

1st Place Stillwater, OK
2nd Place Columbia, MO
3rd Place Moberly, MO
Honorable Mentions:
Sikeston, MO
Lawrence, KS

Mamie L Bass Service Award:

1st Place Greater Kansas City, MO
2nd Place Salina, KS
3rd Place Sikeston, MO

Governor's Distinguished Service Award:

Fayetteville, AR

Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award:

Salina, KS

ASTRA Award: Sikeston, MO

Wrapping up Saturday afternoon were the President's Workshop and the All Conference Workshop "Inspired to Lead" conducted by Cheri Heeren.

We were able to fit in just a little bit more shopping time in downtown Emporia, which brought us back to a delightful reception honoring International President-Elect Dona Garretson and the Governor's Banquet.

Congratulations Altrusa International, Inc. of Emporia Kansas and Governor Linda Smith on a wonderful and very successful Conference!

Around the District

The new service year has begun. As your District Service Bulletin Editor, I would like to hear about your projects as they take place. I would like to know what projects you are working on, some of the history, number of volunteers, number of volunteer hours, the purpose of the project and the outcome of the project. Sometimes you have to toot your own horn to let the rest of us know what your club is accomplishing during the year. I would like to highlight what good things District Eight is doing this year. I would also like to be able to let the rest of the District know about awards received by your club or individuals or your fund raisers

Please send your information via e-mail to marne_close@sbcglobal.net with **Altrusa** as the first word in the subject line. If I don't see Altrusa in the subject line, I may delete the email without opening if I am not familiar with your email address. Also there is an underscore between marne and close in the email address. It gets covered up by the blue line in word.

This space could have been telling District Eight about your club's activities

Marne Close
District Service Bulletin Editor



WELCOME NEW TO THE NEW TEAM MEMBERS January - May 2010

Bentonville/Bella Vista

Charlene Archibald
Bobbie Morgan

Columbia

Linda Clary
Lan Tu Holem

Fayetteville

Pam Carlisle
Nadine Huddleston
Marianne Minhan
JoAnn Wilkins

Hot Springs Village

Alice Justus
Judy Parker

Lawrence

Nancy De Garmo
Catherine Glidwell
Elorse Kerbs
Rachel Rademacher
Susan Schneweis
Hilea Sparks
Sandra Unruh

Mexico

Michele Aulbur
Amanda (Mandy) Cope
Kimberly (Kim) Dollens-Scherry
Kathy McCluggage
Dawn Miller
Carla Northcutt
Susan Paden

Mexico (Continued)

Suzanne Pursifull
LeAnn Sharpe
Paula Sigman

Moberly

Mary Colley
Lori Trusty

Salina

Kathleen Crouch
Glenda Mummert
Marcia Smith Stephenson

Sedalia

Charli Ackerman
Barbara Grechus
Kay Greer
Shelley Krueger
Chris Smith
Nancy Jean Sparks

Sikeston

Annabel Connors
Mary Carder
Frankie Sullins
Deborah Wilson

Stillwater

Carey Bonds

Welcome to all these new members to District Eight.
We hope to meet you at next year's conference in
Sikeston, Missouri.

President's Message

2009-2011 International President Donna C. Johnson

Altrusa Friends:

Can you see your International Communications Committee grinning from ear to ear? Can you hear the International Board jumping up and down with glee? Can you feel the excitement mounting in the International Office?

The nationally recognized marketing firm, Miles Media, Gig Harbor, Washington, was unanimously approved by the International Board of Directors at the January 30, 2010 meeting as the agency of record for this initiative. This action was the culmination of an extensive evaluation process carried out by the RFP Review Committee composed of Board Members, the Executive Director, International Communications Chair and Vice Chair, and several volunteer member reviewers. You can find an overview of the assessment process and a short version of the proposal submitted by Miles Media at www.altrusa.com. Login and look for Revitalization under the Members tab.

The Executive Director will be charged with leading the marketing and rebranding project to completion in collaboration with the direction of the Board of Directors. I have also appointed District Twelve Altrusan Rhonda Hauter to serve as the liaison for the Altrusa International, Inc. Revitalization and Rebranding Initiative and to assist the development, implementation and execution of this special project.

We'll keep you up to date as plans develop and additional information becomes available. Keep an eye on that Revitalization link found on Altrusa International website for all the latest updates. I'm so excited about our future and I can't wait to share it with you as it unfolds.

Sincerely,

Donna 