

BRAZOS BYLINE



Altrusa International, Inc. of the Brazos

April 2008

Dates to Remember

- April 18—20—
District Nine
Conference,
Richardson
- April 23—
Program Meeting,
Lake Brazos
- April 30—
Orientation Meet-
ing, Lake Brazos

From the President....

Wow! It's hard to believe the end of the year is upon us. The next few weeks will be busy in preparing for the new year and installing our new officers. At the program meeting this month, we will review our club's Strategic Plan. I hope that everyone is able to attend and that we can have a fruitful discussion on the future direction of our club. I think it's important that everyone have a voice.

New leadership almost always means change. However, I think change can be a good thing. Sometimes we get stuck in the mode of "we've always done it that way!" I think our new officers will do a great job in leading our club. I know that Susan W. is in the process of identifying committee chairs. If you are asked to serve, I hope that you consider doing so.

We have six members who will be attending District Conference later this month. I'm sure they will have a great time and come back with lots of energy and new ideas. A word of caution to those who are attending – if Terry and Judie ask you to participate in a scavenger hunt – DON'T DO IT!

Happy April to everyone! The bluebonnets are blooming and spring is here. It's only a matter time before we're up to 100 degrees so enjoy the beautiful weather while it's here.



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Altrusa Birthdays

April 14—Joyce S.

April 24—Sandi J.

Meeting Summaries

February 13 Business Meeting Summary

Linda Cobbs presented the Leadership Development segment and fielded the question, "Who is Altru-Sue?" As Altrusans of The Brazos, we all are. Linda described Altrusa publications at the International, District and local level. International produces the International Altrusan, as well as International Bylaws, Encyclopedia, and Altrusa Foundation calendar. At the District level, we receive via an email link the News of the Mighty Ninth. The Brazos produces the yearbook, the electronic newsletter Brazos Byline, and sign-up sheets to facilitate our activities. Hard copies are available for those who do not have email.

Under Old Business, Cindy Dougherty presented the report from the Nominating Committee with the following Altrusans recommended as the slate of officers for 2008-2009:

President – Susan Wright
Vice President – Lori Southern
Secretary – Cindy Dougherty
Treasurer – Evelyn Hupp
Director – Maggie
Director – Crystal Robinson
Director – Bess Tucker
Past President – Kathleen Morley

Also under Old Business, Kathleen reviewed the follow-up report of our District Nine official club visit by Laura Trainor which was very positive.

In New Business, Susan Wright and Lori Southern were elected to serve as delegates to District Conference. Judie Ridley and Terry Lechler were elected as alternates.

February 27, 2008 Program Meeting Summary

Susan Wright distributed the tabulated results of the Mid-year Evaluation and unedited comments. Susan led a discussion of the evaluation noting that most members agreed upon the type of programming, community service projects and the Turkey Trot as our signature fundraiser. Several Altrusans commented upon the good suggestions for speakers and programs next year. During the discussion regarding membership, several ideas were presented including:

Conduct exit interviews with non-renewing Altrusans (District Nine has a form)

Have a planning retreat for the next year after committee chairs have been assigned (time and location are at the discretion of the incoming President)

Susan revealed what she is considering as her theme for 2008-2009: Altrusans Networking Toward Community Goals.

Service Committee Report...

We delivered a great batch of cereal to Caritas last month that brought a smile to the warehouse coordinator. She thanked us so much for donating cereal and mentioned that they normally have to purchase large quantities every month. So every bit of cereal we bring in really makes a difference--great job everyone! Feel free to bring in cereal donations throughout the month of April if you want, but remember that the Service Committee does have money budgeted to purchase cereal.

It is getting close to the time of year where our service hours need to be counted and turned in, so please work on those. Remember that you can turn in a hard copy from your yearbook, or you can log your hours in online. Our website is www.altrusawacotexas.com and the password is brazos.

Also, remember to keep bringing in your can tabs for cancer treatment. We filled up a gallon not too long ago and Crystal reminded us of how grateful Rapoport is of those donations. Look forward to our club sponsoring another day at Rapoport this month and hopefully we will have another date scheduled for Gospel Cafe!

Altrusa International, Inc. of The Brazos

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MEETING INFORMATION

April 23—Program Meeting—Noon—Lake Brazos Steakhouse. Review and evaluation of strategic plan. Charbroiled chicken breast, mashed potatoes, salad.

Accent—Ovida

F&H—Aurora

April 30—Orientation Meeting—Noon—Lake Brazos Steakhouse. Chicken Fried Steak, mashed potatoes, salad.

Accent—Cindy

F&H—Phyllis

May 1—Board Meeting, Robinson Tower, Noon.

May 14—Business Meeting—Noon—Lake Brazos Steakhouse. Baked potato, salad, mud pie.

Accent—Susan W.

F&H—Susan D.

May 28th—Program Meeting—Noon—Lake Brazos Steakhouse. Installation of officers. Charbroiled chicken breast, mashed potatoes, salad, cheese-cake.

Accent—Kathleen Mo.

F&H—Terry

May 28th (Tentative)—Carolyn Thomas Event, MCC Conference Center.

Don't forget! If you are scheduled for the Accent or Friendship/Hospitality and are unable to attend the meeting, make arrangements to trade with someone else.

Altrusa International is an international association of professional women and men who volunteer their energies and expertise in projects dedicated to community betterment.

Club meetings are held the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays of each month at 12:00 noon. The meetings are located at the Lake Brazos Steakhouse, 1620 N. Lake Brazos Dr. in Waco. For lunch reservations, please contact Linda Cobbs (710-4538) by noon on Friday before each mtg.

Other Meetings—Altrusa International, Inc. of Waco Meets 2nd, 4th, and 5th Thursdays at Hamilton House, 1521 Austin Ave. Dinner is at 6:00 and the meeting starts at 7:30 p. m.

For reservations or more information, call Helen Jones at 666-1207 or e-mail helenj@hot.rr.com.

Board meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 12:00 noon. The meetings are located at the Robinson Tower, Suite 540, 700 S. University Parks Drive. All members are welcome to attend.