

BRAZOS BYLINE



ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF THE BRAZOS

August 2009

Dates to Remember:

- 8/5 Board Meeting—
Clifton Robinson Tower,
Ste. 540
- 8/12—Business Meeting—
Lake Brazos
- 8/26—Program Meeting—
Program Meeting
- 9/2 Board Meeting—
Clifton Robinson Tower,
Ste. 540
- 9/9—Program Meeting,
Lake Brazos
- 9/23—Business Meeting,
Lake Brazos
- 9/30—Orientation Meet-
ing, Lake Brazos

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Hello Altrusans,

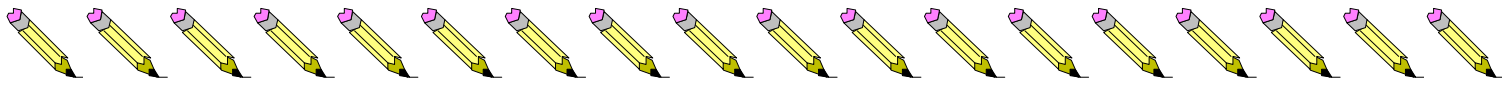
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July and August have been and are busy months. It is hard to believe that summer is almost over. The committee chairs met in July to prepare for the year and we had a productive meeting. Hopefully all of the committees have met at least once by this time. I would like to meet with each of the committees in September to go over your progress, so committee chairs, please schedule a meeting with your committee and send the date and time to me. A social in July included dinner at Olive Garden and the movie "The Proposal" and a good time was had by all. Both the food and the movie were very good. Our Service Committee prepared the July Orientation meeting and described the different service projects for the year, which was informative for our newer members and a great refresher for us seasoned members. On the last Saturday of August, several members attended an orientation at Talitha Koum Institute, which is required before one can volunteer to work with the children of the Institute. On the same day, the Waco Club hosted an ALFF (Altrusans Love Fun and Friendship) party which was a regional social with clubs from Austin, Waco, The Brazos, Temple, Copperas Cove and Central Texas Clubs invited. The name was appropriate because we had lots of fun with our Altrusa sister friends. August was be over before we knew it and September, too. Hopefully cooler days are in the near future.

~Lori~

Altrusa Birthdays

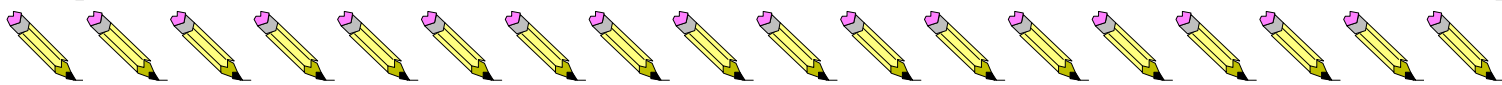
Aug 10—Aurora Reyes-	Sept. 9—Maggie Harbaugh
Mignosa	Sept. 15—Lori Southern
Aug 18—Marilyn Goodman	Sept. 30— Judie Ridley
Aug 24—Carol Leitzell	
Aug 31—Susan Duecy	



Communications Report

Remember to make your reservations for the meetings by Friday before the meetings.

Special thanks to Linda Cobbs for an extraordinary job keeping communications flowing during trying times for our members.



SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

Apartment 5 has some needs: 4 Bath Towels; 1 bath mat; 2 hand towels, plumbers helper, serving spoons (2 or 3), canister sets, serving bowls or set of mixing bowls which could also be used for serving; 2 pot holders, tall trash can, measuring cup.



Treasurer's Report

The approved budget is included on page ____.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

One of our new President's goals for FY 2010 is to retain our current members and to encourage attendance so members stay connected and informed.

As you make plans to attend meetings during the coming year, please remember to invite guests that you think would enjoy becoming Altrusans, and who would embody the Altrusa spirit.

5k Run & 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk

KICK OFF

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2009



**All Altrusans Meet
4 P.M. at the Site**

5 p.m. caravan to

Lake Brazos Steakhouse

Dinner on the Patio

**Bring your family and friends!
casual dress**

**For Additional Information Contact:
Judie Ridley (h) 254-756-5182
(o) 299-8096 or cell 716-4951**



Let's Get Cookin'!

From the Guv'na's Blog:

July 21, 2009— Altrusa International Grant applications are due September 15th, and the maximum amount clubs can request is \$2,000.

July 22, 2009 —District Nine has added twelve new members since June 1, 2009!

August 24, 2009— A grand olde time was had by all at the Fifty-First International Convention in Indianapolis. There were approximately 35 members from District Nine in attendance and it was great to spend some quality time with everyone. We learned a lot, were inspired a lot, and shared laughs a lot. I wish each and every one of you could have been with us because these are special times to share. Lots of information will be in the September issue of News of Mighty Ninth so please make an effort to read it through. This issue will be available after the first of the month.

News from Altrusa International

Altrusans:

What an exciting International Convention we had in Indianapolis! The speakers and programs were fabulous. The energy generated by each of you as you learned more about branding, heard about our upcoming image building project plans and saw the interim marketing materials for the first time, was absolutely electric. I am so excited and confident in our ability to meet the 2009-2011 Program goals of retaining and recruiting new members, enhancing our image and making the Altrusa name more widely recognizable.

The biennium theme for 2009-2011 is Altrusa: A Great Investment. Members invest their time and energy working in their communities to make them better places. In return, they gain leadership expertise, create lifelong friendships, have fun and develop pride in knowing they made a difference. Altrusa is an investment in ourselves, as well as, our communities. The return is beyond calculation. We're going to stop keeping this our "little secret" and make sure the word spreads far and wide.

The symbolism used in the biennium logo is the acorn and an oak tree. Acorns appear only on adult trees, and so are considered a symbol of patience and the fruition of long, hard labor. The oak is considered by some to be the mightiest of trees and symbolizes strength and courage. As the oak tree is so firmly planted and deep-rooted, it also symbolizes permanency. We have begun planting our seeds of improvement by passing the budget necessary to go forward with the branding project. Altrusans have the strength and courage to do what needs to be done to insure the permanency of Altrusa. It's going to be a great two years.

Here's my predictions for August 1, 2010. The total number of active Altrusans on July 31, 2010 will be 50 more than the number recorded on that same date in 2009. Eight new Altrusa clubs will have been chartered. One in 10 clubs will have an active speaker's bureau that reaches out to other community organizations to tell the Altrusa story. Let's find a way to make it happen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donna C. Johnson".

Altrusa International, Inc. of The Brazos
Business Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 8, 2009, Lake Brazos Steakhouse

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by President Lori Southern. There were sixteen members present.

There were no guests present at this meeting.

Lori opened the floor for brags. Linda Cobbs bragged that her daughter, Leigh, is officially a Ph.D. and that she herself is retiring from Baylor on July 31, 2009. Phyllis Blackwood announced that she has a new grandchild on the way and it is due around January 2010.

Terry Lechler led us in the Grace, Pledge and Accent. The accent was on "The Importance of the Social Aspects of our Club." Socials help relieve stress and manage the stress we all do have in our lives. With our club meetings being one hour, at noon, we don't have time for a social hour like the Waco club, therefore we are going to increase the number of SOS's (Sister's Outstanding Socials). There is a social activity planned for July 10. Lori will e-mail details this afternoon. Terry hopes we can all make it. She pointed out that when we are all in a rest home, we won't be talking about the business meeting or fundraisers, we'll be talking about the social activities and the fun we had. (so have some!)

Minutes of the Previous Meeting were reviewed and accepted as submitted.

Committee Reports:

Service: Ovida Williams presented a new project for this year. Talitha Koum, a mental health therapeutic nursery. The agency has many needs. In fact, the needs are overwhelming, and there are some that we can't help them with. We must concentrate on the ones we can help with. The capacity of the center is 25 and they are at capacity. Ovida gave a brochure about Talitha Koum.

Talitha Koum will have a volunteer orientation on August 1 from 9-10:00 a.m. at Talitha Koum (13th and Webster). There will be a fee of \$2 for a background check and \$44.50 for fingerprinting (for those who want to work with the children). For Altrusans who want to do things other than have direct contact with the children, you don't need a fingerprint or background check.

We will continue with Hope House as a service project. Our resident will be graduating July 9 and members are encouraged to attend the graduation ceremony and bring a canned good or staple item to help get her started in her new home.

July 23 is the annual apartment host meeting. Ovida and Julia will attend this.

We will continue to help at Gospel Cafe, and Nursing Home Bingo. We will do a monthly food donation to either Caritas or Talitha Koum. And, we will also assist the McLennan County Veterans Association. Kathleen Morley is on the Board of Storybook Christmas and will continue to accept books for this cause. It is a worthy cause.

August 4 will be a fundraising event for Gospel Café at Central Christian Church. Altrusa was listed as one of the sponsors. A local author will be holding a book signing that evening and sponsors are encouraged to bring snacks to donate and work for the event. Proceeds from the book signing will be donated to Gospel Café.

Communications: Two of our Altrousers, Jack Tompkins and Larry Leitzell are ill and therefore Juanita and Carol are having difficulty attending meetings. They will come when they can, but we all understand that their husbands have to come first.

Membership: Billie and Sandi were not present. Their budget was submitted to Kathleen.

Finance: Service Committee will submit its budget the afternoon of July 8. Communications and Membership will leave their budgets as is.

New Business:

Carol Leitzell has resigned as a Director due to her husband's illness. Cindy Dougherty will act in her stead.

The program meeting on July 22 will take place at El Tapatio at 6:00 p.m. Pam will do the Grace, Pledge and Accent. Susan Wright will do the Friendship and Hospitality.

Lori suggested we invite the Waco club to our meeting on August 26 to hear Scott Drew, head Basketball coach for Baylor University.

The Waco club has invited us to an ALFF social August 1 at 11:00 a.m.

Old Business:

Budgets were discussed.

SOS—July 10, Dinner and a movie. We will eat at Olive Garden at 5:45 and go see The Proposal.

Turkey Trot—Keep Trotting!

Joker's Wild—No winner

We had the benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Duecy
Secretary

**Altrusa International, Inc. of The Brazos
Program Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 22, 2009, El Tapatio Restaurant**

The meeting was called to order at 6:17 p.m. by Vice- President Phyllis Blackwood. There were twelve members present and one guest, Rose Youngblood!

Phyllis opened the floor for brags. Kathleen Morley bragged that her baby brother got married the previous weekend. Her last act of mothering him was to take him and his new bride to the airport the morning following the wedding—after she took him to pick up his luggage. Also, Kathleen has joined Facebook.

Susan Wright has gotten the transfer to a new job she has been hoping for. She will be a Nurse Educator in Temple. She assured us that she is not leaving our club.

Phyllis's had just celebrated her mother's 88th birthday and family reunion, at which 75 people attended. She was happy to see cousins and even her old babysitter.

Gladys was happy that July 23rd would be her 83rd birthday and that she could still remember. (we are too, Gladys)

Pam Barron led us in the Grace, Pledge and Accent. The accent was on why she was excited to become an Altrusan. Altrusans do things for others in need.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting were reviewed and accepted as submitted.

Announcements and dates were reviewed per the agenda.

Gladys brought the quilt she has made for the Turkey Trot. We discussed the price of tickets for the quilt raffle. Tickets will be 3 for \$10 and will go on sale beginning with the next meeting and continue to be sold until the business meeting before the Turkey Trot. The quilt is beautiful.

We had the benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Duecy
Secretary

**Altrusa International, Inc. of The Brazos
Business Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 12, 2009, Lake Brazos Steakhouse**

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m. by President Lori Southern. There were fourteen members present. There were no guests present at this meeting.

Lori opened the floor for brags. Susan had two five dollar brags. She bragged first that her son, Colin, is getting married 9/9/09 to Lindsay Petersen. Her second brag was that a grant she wrote for Salvation Army, Caritas, and Catholic Charities was funded for \$999,980 and received the highest score in the state.

Julia Bugh led us in the Grace, Pledge and Accent. The accent was the poem “The Dash”—How are you living the time between the time you were born and the time you die? It was very thought-provoking.

Minutes of the previous Meeting will be presented at the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

Service: Ovida Williams reported that Compassion Ministries had another successful graduation. Apartment 5 has some needs: Serving bowls, a canister set, a large trash can, wooden spoons, serving spoons, 4 bath towels, 1 bath mat, hand towels, and a plumber’s helper. A visit to Compassion Ministries Apartment 5 is scheduled for August 15 at 10:30 a.m. for members who have never seen it or for members who have not been there.

Communications: A big “thank-you” to Linda Cobbs for the e-mails regarding our members in need and the illnesses and deaths in their families.

Membership: Billie had nothing to report. Lori mentioned membership brochures to her and will send some to her.

Finance: nothing to report.

New Business:

2009-2010 Budget—Kathleen explained the budget and Susan made the recommendation from the Board that the budget be approved. Julia expressed concern that with costs going up, the funds allocated for Compassion Ministries may not be sufficient.

Grant Proposal to Altrusa International—Due September 15, 2009. We will write the proposal using Talitha Koum as our project.

There has been a change of routine for our Business and Program Meetings. The September 9th meeting will be the Program meeting and the 23rd will be the Business meeting.

Old Business:

Turkey Trot—We have received \$250 from MCC, \$100 from Lone Star Tires, and \$250 from the Spa at Canyon Oaks.

Joker’s Wild—postponed for this meeting

We had the benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Duecy, Secretary

Altrusa International, Inc. of The Brazos
Program Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 26, 2009, Lake Brazos Steakhouse

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by President Lori Southern. There were 17 members present and ten guests, members of the Waco club. The guests were Carole Golden, Karen Rokas, Dorothy Chubb, Mickie Warnell, Vira Hopkins, Kay Berry, Marci Barletta, Caroline Lomax, Madeline Kosler, and Vicky Cohen.

Lori opened the floor for brags. Carol Leitzell bragged about how the club had supported her during the illness and recent death of her husband, also how the Waco club had supported her.

Cindy Dougherty led us in the Grace, Pledge and Accent. The accent was about the Altrusa website and message from the President. "Investing in Altrusa." The new President uses the symbol of an acorn and an oak tree to contrast a new member and a more experienced member. Investing in a new member will result in a thriving, flourishing long-term Altrusan.

Announcements and dates were reviewed per the agenda.

Baylor Men's Basketball Coach Scott Drew was the program for today. After polling the ladies with basketball trivia and giving away some wonderful Baylor memorabilia, he asked every person in the room to turn to the person on their right and tell them one thing they appreciated about them. This was a wonderful activity, resulting in some very touching and sometimes funny revelations. Coach Drew then talked to the group about why giving 99.9% was not good enough. This was an eye-opener.

If 99.9% Was Good Enough ...

Further, a defect or wacky loss scenario may occur only 1% of the time, or even only .1%. A standard of 99.9% effectiveness sounds impressive and -- in many contexts -- it is. But consider that if 99.9% was good enough, then ...

Hospitals would give twelve newborns to the wrong parents daily.

Footwear companies would ship out 114,500 mismatched pairs of shoes each year.

The US Postal Service would mis-handle 18,322 pieces of mail every hour.

The IRS would lose two million documents this year.

Publishers would ship 2.5 million books with the wrong covers.

Two planes landing at Chicago O'Hare would be unsafe every day.

315 entries in Webster's Dictionary would be misspelled.

Doctors would write 20,000 incorrect drug prescriptions this year.

880,000 credit cards in circulation would have incorrect cardholder information on their magnetic strips.

103,260 income tax returns would be processed incorrectly during the year.

5.5 million cases of soft drinks produced would be flat.

291 pacemaker operations would be performed incorrectly.

3,056 copies of tomorrow's Wall Street Journal will be missing one of its four sections.

Judie gave a quick update on the Turkey Trot: We have received a \$500 check from American Bank. She is going to send us an e-mail about doing the Color-Roll for the HOT Fair and Rodeo.

We had the benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Duecy



Altrusa Mini-Accent

The glory of life is to
love, not to be loved,
to give, not to get, to
serve, not to be served.

**Altrusa International
of the Brazos**

P.O. Box 8933

Waco, Tx 76714

President
Lori Southern

Newsletter Editor
Susan Duecy
3401 River Oaks
Waco, Tx 76712

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

Meeting Information

August 8—Business Meeting

August 26—Program Meeting

September 2—Board Meeting

September 9—Program Meeting

September 23—Business Meeting

September 30—Orientation Meeting

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.

Club meetings are held the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays of each month at 12:00 noon. The meetings are located at Lake Brazos Steakhouse, 1620 N. Lake Brazos Dr. Waco, Tx.

For lunch reservations, please contact Linda Cobbs at 254/710-45438

by noon the Friday before each meeting.

Board Meetings are usually held the first Wednesday of each month at 12:00 noon. The meetings are held on the 5th floor of the Clifton Robinson Tower in Ste. 540. All members are welcome to attend.

Other Dates to Remember:

Aug. 2—Friendship Day

Aug. 5—Board Meeting, Clifton Robinson Tower, 5th Floor, ste. 540

Aug. 19—National Aviation Day

Aug. 26—Women's Equality Day

Sept. 7—Labor Day

Sept. 11—Patriot Day

Sept. 21—Int'l. Day of Peace

Sept. 22—First Day of Autumn!!!

Member Highlights

Several members have suffered losses of family members during August. Please keep them and their families in your prayers

Larry Leitzell, Carol's husband, passed away on August 7, 2009.

Floyd Colson, son-in-law of Juanita Tompkins, passed away on August 8, 2009.

Pam Barron's brother-in-law, James Harwell, passed away on August 15, 2009.

Dorothy Southern, Lori Southern's mother-in-law, passed away on August 17, 2009,

Pam Barron has also been experiencing back problems and has been undergoing diagnostic tests.

On a happier note, Susan Duecy's son, Colin, is getting married September 9, 2009. (9/9/09)

(Stay in touch with your club. Share your news, brags, or cares with the club. Send an e-mail to suedue53@hotmail.com)

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