

# C MPASS



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Dear fellow Altrusans,

I trust this finds you all happy and well. The start of a new biennium is always an exciting time and I hope those of you able to join us in Charlotte for our International Convention felt the excitement experienced there and brought some back to share with your fellow club mates. Excitement is contagious so let's keep it going by passing it on.

The newly elected International Board of Directors met this month and has already hit the ground running. Board meetings will be held quarterly so if you have any issues you feel should be brought before the Board please let either myself or our Executive Director know.

If you've had the opportunity to go to the International website you will find our 2021-2023 Program Team. If you haven't done so, please check them out. Remember this group is ready and eager to help you navigate through all your questions, suggestions, and/or concerns. You only need to reach out.

Our International Staff continues to work from home and will do so until we deem it is safe for them to return to the downtown office. But regardless of where they are located, they are always available to work with you and to answer or address any of your questions or concerns.

I trust you all observed International Literacy month in September and then of course Make a Difference Day was October 23rd and I look forward to hearing about all the wonderful and inspirational events you participated in for MADD as well as your literacy projects. Please share your photos and stories with us. Remember my vision is for all clubs to develop a strong literacy project and I am anxious to hear about your signature projects and your future plans.

Remember **United We Can** achieve much!



Kathy Folley  
International President  
Altrusa International, Inc.

## Growing ASTRA and Our Future Altrusans

*Lorraine Brewer, International ASTRA Committee Chair*

*Scott Tice, International ASTRA Committee*

The Altrusa International ASTRA Committee led two workshops during the recent Altrusa International Convention held in Charlotte, North Carolina. We celebrated the benefits of service through ASTRA membership for the youth in our communities and for the Altrusa Clubs sponsoring and mentoring those ASTRA members. It was a gift to have some ASTRA members from the new ASTRA Club of Charlotte, North Carolina, join us in service at the convention and in our workshop to answer questions and share their ASTRA enthusiasm.



We explored together the basics, the resources and support for Altrusans desiring to help charter a new ASTRA Club, and how ASTRA members can continue to meet, recruit members, communicate well, and serve our communities during a pandemic. We shared ideas on how to reboot after the restrictions of COVID-19, to re-energize our current ASTRA Clubs. We discussed ways to encourage collaboration and growth as we mentor our ASTRA members and partner in service. Ideas were shared on how to overcome the key obstacles that can prevent a successful transition to Altrusa enabling us to facilitate that ASTRA to Altrusa transition.

The handouts and the PowerPoint presentation will be posted on the Altrusa International website soon. We encourage you to check out all the helpful information there and to reach out to our committee. We are eager to help you grow ASTRA during this new biennium!



## Navigating the Web...

- Important websites to know!
  - [www.altrusa.org](http://www.altrusa.org) (click Member Login in the upper right)
  - [login.altrusa.org](http://login.altrusa.org) (go directly to the members area)
  - [www.altrusastore.com](http://www.altrusastore.com) (purchase Altrusa branded items including pins and banners)
  - [www.altrusaservice.org](http://www.altrusaservice.org) (browse and share your club's service projects)
- Give us some feedback and share your thoughts on improving Altrusa with the [Suggestion Box](#).
- If you have forgotten your password to the site please send an e-mail to [Altrusa@altrusa.org](mailto:Altrusa@altrusa.org) or call the International Office for assistance.

### IN MEMORIAM:

Joyce Dalabar  
International President  
1993-1995

*"On angel's wings you were taken away,  
but in our heart you will always stay."*

## Important Dates

- October 23 Make a Difference Day
- October 24 United Nations Day
- November 25 International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- December 1 Half-year Dues Take Effect
- December 3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- December 10 Human Rights Day

## 2021 - 2023 International Board of Directors



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Kathy Folley  
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Linda K. Smith  
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## Communications at Convention

*Jennifer Gatlin, International Communications Committee, Chair*

Greetings from your 2021-2023 Altrusa International Communications Committee! I am Jennifer Gatlin, committee chair, from District Four, Jack, Alabama, and it is my honor to serve in this capacity over the next biennium. We have a wonderful team, several of whom were able to attend the convention in Charlotte in July and assist with the communications workshops.



Our team presented two workshops, “Call Me” and “Social Media – What can we do with it?”. “Call Me” detailed information regarding alternative ways of communicating with your members. In-depth information was given about Zoom, Google Meets, FreeConferenceCall.com, and much more. “Social Media – What can we do with it?” showed how this is a great tool to reach your audience and an effective tool for communicating with your members. We learned how your club’s social media presence can help you bridge the gap between Young Professionals, members from around the world, and our Altrusa membership in general. We all left this workshop knowing that we could all be cooler online!

Both workshops conveyed useful information to the many workshop attendees and there was a great deal of interaction and awesome ideas from the audience as well. Please be sure to see the two slideshows that will be uploaded to the international website if you were unable to attend the convention.

In addition to myself, our communications committee members include Emily DeVlieger, co-chair, District Six; Violet Sims, District One; Suzanne Cline, District Five; Amanda Purdy, District Nine; Holly McCoy, District Nine; and Maria Mackay, District Fifteen.

Our committee biennium goals include maintaining the international website in order to provide our membership the tools they need to maintain and grow their clubs; determining more effective ways of communicating with our members; looking at alternative ways of reaching our members through social media; and educating membership on ways of staying connected when meeting in person is not possible.

I look forward to serving all of our membership over the next biennium as your communications chair as well as working with the other wonderful ladies on the committee. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with questions or concerns and if I cannot personally give you an answer, I’m sure there’s another one of our team members who can.

The Altrusa Compass

## **EXTRA, EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!**

*Hillary Sloan, Service Program Development Committee, Chair*

Oh, the places we will go... all the way to Charlotte, North Carolina for the Altrusa International Convention. As many of you know I am your 2021-23 Second Vice Governor for District Eleven. I am also the 2021-23 International Service Chair. I was over the moon to present two workshops for our wonderful Altrusa members. This biennium Kathy Folley would like the clubs to focus on Literacy projects, a club signature literacy projects along with sustainability for the projects. The Service Committee would love to have all club participation in this movement for the next to year.



In order to keep clubs motivated, the Service Committee has created two challenges. The first challenge is one million books or one million service hours for 2021-23. One million breaks down to 500 book or 500 service hours with in the next two years. A super easy task for us Altrusans to complete! At the 2023 International Convention club recognitions will be presented. Our second challenge involves the Altrusa International Facebook page. Three times a year, in this biennium, the Service Committee will present a theme to the clubs. For example, Clubs will post to Facebook a project for Literacy. Altrusa members (who are Altrusa Service Facebook members) will vote on their favorite project. The members will vote by tapping on the heart or “liking” the post. The Service Committee will then recognize the winning club at an International level.

Our final destination was surfing the Altrusa International website, [www.Altrusa.org](http://www.Altrusa.org). The workshop was a great refresher for all members. The workshop reviewed the Service Project Data Base, ABCs of Altrusa Project Guides along with the Community Assessment Tool. Linda Dorr reviewed Altrusa International Service Page and reminded members to ask to join the page. Remember to answer the Service Page question “What Club Do You Belong To?”!

## **Leadership Workshops at Convention - What Did You Miss?**

*Nancy Kuenzig, Leadership Development & Training Committee, Vice Chair*

Leadership Workshops at Convention – What Did You Miss?

Nancy Kuenzig, Vice Chair Leadership Development & Training Committee

The Leadership Committee was busy at Convention presenting 2 workshops at Convention. The first was “Planning Your Club’s Future”.

Planning Your Club’s Future was a workshop on using the Brand Drivers: Clarity, Flexibility, and Inclusion to help your club be successful growing its membership as well as retaining the members the club already has. A great deal of depth went into each brand driver and how best to use them as a leader in the club. Without a plan for the future the clubs will not survive. Please check out the whole workshop located on the Events tab on the International Website.

The second workshop was “Conflict Resolution”. This was an interactive workshop where the five styles of conflict resolution were discussed: Accommodation, Avoidance, Compromise, Competing and Collaboration. Each of these have pros and cons when conflicts in the club arise. An example of each was presented. No one style works in all situations and some if used too often can make a leader appear weak or cause more conflict within the club. To learn more about this workshop please check out our workshop located on the Events tab on the International Website.

The Leadership Committee is here to help you as a leader be more successful. Feel free to contact us at [Leadership@altrusa.org](mailto:Leadership@altrusa.org). Altrusa International, Inc. Leadership Development Committee 2021-2023.



## United Nations: New Focus, Name Change

*Kathy Schrein, Chair*

*Altrusa Representative to the United Nation's*

*Department of Global Communications, Civil Society Unit/NGO*

During the 2021 Altrusa International Convention, the number one question to Altrusa's United Nations NGO Team was—"just exactly what is Altrusa's role in this international organization??" In this Part 1 of 2 articles, let's review our role as a NGO (non-governmental organization).



According to Altrusan Audrey Braver, our long time UN historian and former representative, Altrusa had Observer status since 1946. Altrusa International withdrew their membership as an NGO member of UN at some point and did not renew it again until 1978. This oversight was discovered and corrected in 1978. During this lapse in participation after 1949, the rules to be a UN observer changed. Therefore, the UN counts our participation from 1978 when we rejoined as a roster (observer) NGO. We are observers only, occasionally giving an opinion on social or economic issues.

THEN, just what is Altrusa's role at the UN?:

1. Observer, first of all as mentioned
  2. Occasionally giving expertise in a single topic (i.e., literacy)
  3. Help monitor and implement international agreements including Agenda 2030 and 17 Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDG)-a topic to be addressed in future Compass issues.
  4. Promote UN observation dates and international years as set by the General Assembly-our Clubs do a great job in listing these dates.
  5. Be part of the Department of Global Communications (the section under which NGOs are grouped) as a valuable link to engaging people in current topics
  6. Help NGOs gain access to and disseminate UN information. Raise awareness and spotlight issues in our newsletters/Altrusa International's Facebook.
  7. Help plan annual DGC/NGO conferences-last one was Aug., 2019 in Salt Lake City. "Days for Girls" was a featured NGO organization. Next Conference is planned for Oct 5-7, 2022 at Utah Valley University.
  8. Participate and contribute to NGO briefings. Our team has been able to use facebook/Zoom to attend DGC CHATS!! The most recent was 6/17//2021-a 9am-4 pm comprehensive orientation to DGC. Another one 5/20/2012 focused on Global Communication of the 17 SDG.
  9. Work with other NGOs-partnerships such as the Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Institute (future goal)
  10. Use DGC Resource Center located on 45th St., NYC.
  11. Bring UN work to our communities. "Get the news out"
  12. Attend UN Open General Assembly and committee sessions. (Attended one 3/2019 on the SDG of Water.)
- Finally share knowledge, work with media, and participate in UN website/live briefings.

Since 3/10/2020, all United Nations facilities, including the DGC Resource Center, have been closed to everyone except UN delegates and specific staff. (Covid-19) As of 9/4/2021, our Altrusa team is anxiously waiting for a reopening which will be decided by the UN's Medical Team.

Be sure to look for our Part 2 article in the next issue of The Compass- considering our UN responsibilities and allowable actions.

## ***Making Membership Marvelous!***

*Judy Porter, MBA, Membership Development Committee, Chair*



At our wonderful International Convention workshop in Charlotte in July, the Membership Committee presented a seven-point outline of how to bring in new members while retaining those already in our clubs. We each shared a story of how we brought in a member by recognizing that:

**A = ALL** are invited to join Altrusa who care about our communities and wish to serve others.

**L = LOOK** for potential members who are different from us by age; cultures; religion, etc.

**T = TALK** about Altrusa: what a joy it is to strengthen communities through service to others.

**R = RESPOND** as soon as possible to new or potential members so they feel a part of our club.

**U = UNDERSTAND** that we each have different gifts; let's discover these and do great service!

**S = SEND** emails, texts, and cards to potential and new members on a regular basis.

And remember:

**A = ACTION**-oriented projects get new members excited; give them tasks to do so they are engaged and follow up with information on the next club service project.

Our second workshop on Saturday morning, “Laugh Your Club Strong,” was about how joyful – and downright funny - service to others can be. Laughter is a sign of understanding and we certainly understood well – and laughed hard – at the antics many of our Altrusans lived through while volunteering together. These joyful memories can be rehashed and laughed about for years to come, providing us with “free” exercise and good endorphins!

Before COVID, I would invite a potential Altrusan to join me and pick her up on my way to a fun service event. The drive gave us time to chat on the way, talk about our lives and Altrusa, and plan to eat lunch or dinner together after the service to discuss how much fun volunteering can be. The time together serving and laughing almost always ended up with an application to join my club.

During this past year of pandemic uncertainty, my Downtown Dallas club stayed connected with club members via Zoom meetings, Zoom Book Club chats, Zoom “Past Presidents” meet-ups, and a lot of Facebook posts, phone calls, and texts. As in-person club meetings, service projects and happy hours begin again, the joy of seeing our club members is keeping our membership strong.

I look forward to the next two years of more fun service projects where I can bring along potential club members, while retaining veterans, to make our communities stronger and better for all.

Your fan in Altrusa!



**Lake City FL Club** provides lunch to 120 students at the Richardson Academy.



**Orlando-Winter Park Club** created 32 Birthday in Box kits for UCP students.



**Monticello FL Club** lifting lives in their community by funding Scholarships.



**Raleigh NC Club** sort and pack donated food for Urban Ministries Food Pantry.



**Lake County, FL Club** funded Rimes Early Learning Center reading incentives.



**Starke, FL Club** donates \$1,000 to their local food pantry



**Charlotte, NC** with their **ASTRA Club** remove 300lbs of trash at Stroud Park.



**Gaffney, SC Club** presents a scholarship to a deserving student.



**North Georgia, GA Club** volunteers for Court Appointed Special Advocates



**Gainesville, FL Club** made reading pillows for 4<sup>th</sup> grade at local school.



**Ocala, FL Club** painted and built a Born Learning Trail at Brick City Park.



**Statesboro, GA Club** donates needed items to local Humane Society.

## The Altrusa Compass

### Lawrence, KS

Lawrence Altrusans helped two Veteran mothers and their three children with their Veteran Christmas "Adopt-A-Family". In addition to gifts for each mother and all six children, monetary donations



purchased additional gift cards totaling \$425. The hearts of the Veteran moms were filled with JOY, HOPE, AND APPRECIATION!



### Fort Smith, AR

For more than two decades, Fort Smith Altrusans have partnered with local restaurants and caterers to stage the Taste of Fort Smith. Their Club has donated to more than 40 charities through the years, supporting scholarships, projects for elderly and needy families.



### Jonesboro, AR

Jonesboro Altrusans in their own community but also in many of the smaller surrounding communities. Here members are Stuffing the Bus in Truman, Arkansas with other community volunteers.



### Fayetteville, AR

Fayetteville Altrusans have extended their reach Internationally by donating items to the local Marshallese community. Items included non-perishable food, diapers, and formula. In addition to those items, backpacks and extra school supplies for back to school are provided. Members wrote notes of encouragement that were included in each backpack.



### Sikeston, MO

Sikeston Altrusa and ASTRA Clubs work together assembling gift bags which will be delivered in February to residential homes in the area for their Heart-to-Heart project.

### Springdale, AR

Altrusa of Springdale sold and delivered spring flowers in April and presented a check of \$1600 to the local Meals on Wheels for food deliveries to people in need in 2021.



### Greater Kansas City

On World Literacy Day, Altrusans of Greater Kansas City took their Hear A Book; Take A Book project to Lenexa Public Market. They read to children, listened to children reading to them and gave children books to take home!



### Salina, KS

Salina, KS, Inc. participated in Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sale. They raised \$871.20 for the event. With the theme of J.E.D.I. (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion), our bowlers dressed as Princess Leia and won a trophy for best costume during our session.



### Hot Springs Village

Altrusa's participation in the Arkansas Heritage Festival proved to be a success! Over the two day festival at the Ponce de Leon Center many people took the opportunity to find out more about our club and we answered questions about our service projects.



### Mexico, MO

In support of literacy for children in the community, Altrusa International of Mexico, Missouri, donated \$300 to the Mexico-Audrain County Library. The money was used to expand the collection of biographies in the children's division of the library. Mexico Altrusa provides a dictionary to each 3rd grader in our local communities and will be establishing three "Little Libraries" this year.



***Congratulations to awarded Altrusa Clubs and Club 21 Organizations***

The Board of Trustee’s Grants Committee expedited their review process to ensure Altrusa Clubs receive project funding a full month ahead of schedule. The board approved funding for two new international organizations under Club 21. Without further ado, we are excited to announce the awarded Altrusa Clubs and Club 21 organizations for cycle one 2021.

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A note from Foundation Chair, Leslie J. Johnson  
**Altrusans Rock!!!!!!**

I know you have heard it before but on behalf of the Foundation Board of Trustees, a very special “Thank You” to all Altrusans that participated in our Spring Fundraiser, donated at convention, and supported the Silent Auction. I would also like to thank the many volunteers that assisted with the Silent Auction.

Thanks to the generosity of all Altrusans the Foundation raised:

Spring Fundraiser	\$102,161.69
Convention Donations	\$44,119.00
Convention Silent Auction	\$6,261.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$152,541.69</b>

During the two previous biennia, thanks to the generosity of all Altrusa members, the Foundation awarded:

Programs	2017-2019 Biennium	2019-2021 Biennium
Club 21 Program	\$51,865.00	\$471,622.00
Grants Program	\$345,769.00	\$536,615.00
Disaster Relief Aid	\$41,847.00	\$42,431.00
Awards	\$16,200.00	\$21,100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$455,681.00</b>	<b>\$671,768.00</b>

**Special Announcement**

The Board of Trustees approved a new look for the Lucente Lamplighter pendant. The original pin will be given a polish/sandblast finish from die with a Sunburst Center.

For members that were awarded the original Lucente Lamplighter pendant, and would like to have the new finish, please mail your pendant to Doc Morgan. The cost is \$24.84. Please insure the pendant for \$100.00 when shipping and ship to 108 S. Second Street; St Charles, IL 60174.

Leslie J. Johnson, Foundation Chair  
 Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.