



The Ambassador

The Newsletter of Altrusa International Muncie, IN, Inc.
Leading to a Better Community®

2023-24 Issue 4

September 2023



At the International Convention, President Linda Smith announced her theme for the Altrusa 23-25 Biennium.

Altrusans R.O.C.K. – Realize Opportunity, Create Kindness

Linda is continuing the work started with three initiatives launched during the 2021-23 Biennium.

- International project of Days for Girls
- 1 million books donated during the biennium
- 500,000 literacy service hours

In addition, Linda has announced her new **Intentional Acts of Kindness Initiative**. Linda is asking each Altrusan to commit one intentional act of kindness each week of the biennium. The acts can be simple or complicated – you choose. Meeting this challenge will result in over 300,000 intentional acts of kindness each year of the biennium.

I'm excited to announce that we'll be adding this to our monthly report. Just like the acts themselves, you can report as simply or as in depth as you'd like. There will be a simple yes or no question asking if you performed an Intentional Act of Kindness every week of the month. There will also be a space for you to share about any acts that you were really touched by or enjoyed doing. I'd love to use these to start a List of Acts in the Ambassador that might inspire someone else. Don't worry - they'll be anonymous. Nobody is going to "monitor" you - so please be **KIND** to yourself about this report.

Why am I excited to add this? I'm doing this for a couple of reasons. First, in case we're asking to report progress but most importantly - for you. Kindness creates waves of change but often we don't realize our individual power to start the ripple. You deserve a moment to intentionally be kind to yourselves every month and to remember that even when we think we can do more - being YOU is enough.

"No kind action ever stops with itself. One kind action leads to another. Good example is followed. A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves." – Amelia Earhart

Need ideas?? Click here <https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/printables> for an entire year's worth of kindness Calendars from The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation!

Molly

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Calendar of Events:

Business Meeting
Thursday, September 7th
Noon at Minnetrista

Committee Meetings
Thursday, September 14th

Program Meeting
Soup Kitchen of Muncie
Thursday, September 21st

Board Meeting
Thursday, September 28th
Noon at Minnetrista



Birthdays

1st - Beth Kroehler

3rd - Michelle Badders

8th - Loretta Parsons

22nd - Megan Smith

Anniversaries

1994 - Della Gregory

2009 - Brenda Williamson

2019 - Kelli Petroviak

Committee Updates

“Teamwork divides the task and multiplies the success.” -Anonymous

ASTRA

The ASTRA Committee oversees the growth and development of the ASTRA Club at Ball State University. Did you know ASTRA offers a scholarship?

BRRR

The BRRR Committee retains By-laws and standing Rules, Resolutions, Recommendations, minutes, correspondence, attendance records, financial records, president’s speeches, special recognitions, memorial services, ceremonies, histories, scrapbook, yearbooks and the Ambassador. The BRRR Committee is responsible for soliciting nominations for annual awards as well as selecting and presenting the winners at the annual meeting. The BRRR Committee is responsible for reviewing the by-laws yearly keeping them in sync with any changes implemented by International.

Communications

The Communications Committee is responsible for creating and maintaining the Altrusa International of Muncie website, managing all social media, crafting press releases, monitoring the Club email, coordinating photos, and producing the monthly Club newsletter, the Ambassador.

Please continue to share your committee information to [Muncie Altrusa email!](#) Remember, the communications committee can only pass on information that we have.

Fundraising

The fundraising committee is supporting the Centennial Celebration Planning Committee by engaging local businesses in sponsorship opportunities. If you or a business would like more information about sponsoring this event, please reach out to Ashlee Anderson at ashleeanderson1010@gmail.com.

A date for the Spring Tea & Auction has been set! The event will be Sunday, April 7th, 2024 1pm at the Delaware Country Club. A more formal save-the-date will come out soon!

Literacy

We have been coordinating with Muncie Community Schools and United Way to start collaborating with their Charlotte’s Web initiative for all 3rd and 4th graders, and they are in the process of securing materials. We are hoping to have the boots on the ground soon!

Membership

The Membership Development Committee provides a smooth transition into the club for new members, prepares new member packets, and distributes and updates the name badges for meetings. The committee is also responsible for sharing the news of members, both good and unfortunate. In addition, they assist in the personal and professional growth of the Club as well as help in the recruitment and retention of its members.

The August Membership Committee meeting was a volunteer project for this month. We went to Second Harvest Food Bank and learned their purpose and toured the facility...then they put us to work. We packed chicken and put labels on 90 boxes of wipes for diapers. It was a fun time!



Reservations

The Reservations committee has made their work schedule for the Club year. We appreciate all member's assistance when checking in for meetings and canceling reservations if unable to attend. We will meet again this fall to plan our December Holiday Party scheduled for December 21st. If you have any suggestions for the party, please let me know. The Centennial Gala committee is planning our 100th Birthday celebration and reservations can be made with Nancy Norris or on Eventbrite.

Service

ALL CLUB SERVICE Project
Friday - Sept 22 - Soup Kitchen - Sack Lunches
Contact Loretta Parson Directly if interested.

ALL CLUB SERVICE Project
Saturday - Sept 23 - Inside OUT - Food Distribution / Food Preparation
Contact Directly - Stacy Ball

Also, the Service Committee decided to do a themed ALL CLUB SERVICE project and will invite all members at our September business meeting to help donate to our collection drive of Blankets, Bears (stuffed animals) and children's books to bring to our Oct 5th business meeting and Oct 19 Service Meeting. The items will go to Huffer and Teddy Bear early learning centers mid-October. Our goal is to collect enough for 200 underserved daycare children. Pro tip: Kohl's right now has each blanket, stuffed animal and book for \$5.

Muncie Altrusa Foundation



Our new foundation officers:

Tiffany Kerrigan, President
Megan Smith, Vice President
Susan Volbrecht, Treasurer
Colleen Cooper, Secretary
Directors – Ashlee Anderson, Jennifer Johnson,
June Kramer, Kailee McKnight, Catherine
Stewart, and Stephanie Clark

**Updated Picture to Come Soon!*

The Altrusa Foundation has awarded two grants as of our August 15th meeting: \$2,000 to Motivate our Minds and \$1,950 to Muncie Civic Theater. A third grant application has been received. Being that this is the Foundation's 40th anniversary, we will be making an announcement about future grant opportunities soon. The website is in the process of being updated with current board members and a recent photo. The fundraising auction planning is underway. We will keep you posted once the details are finalized!



The Foundation accepts charitable gifts to further our mission! Gifts are typically exempt from income, estate and gift taxes. Gifts can be sent to Muncie Altrusa Foundation, P. O. Box 923, Muncie, Indiana 47308.

Board News



The Club Board is currently focusing on Centennial Celebration planning!

***We need books for the Centennial Celebration! Although paperbacks are preferable, small hardbacks are welcome. If books are to be returned after the event, please include that info in the bag of books. (Those not to be returned could go to Literacy Committee for LFLs.)**

The board meets the fourth Thursday of the month, noon at Minnetrista. This meeting is open for any Altrusan to attend. Lunch is not provided and a reservation is not necessary.

Volunteer Opportunities

Muncie Mission
1725 S Liberty St, Muncie, IN 47302



Volunteer Opportunities:

1. Join in serving Community lunch daily Monday - Friday at 12pm to help prepare meals, serve meals from 12:30 pm to 1pm.
2. Help sort donations in our clothing room and sends inventory to our 5 Attic Window Thrift Shops.
3. Serve lunch or dinner to our residents.

Contact Leigh Edwards: ledwards@munciemission.org

Soup Kitchen of Muncie
920 E Charles St, Muncie, IN 47305



Volunteer Opportunities:

- Every Wednesday: 1pm-3pm to prepare food to cook.
Every Friday: 7:30 am - 9:15 am & 9:15 am - 11 am to make sack lunches, serve and cleanup.

Note: Wear close toes shoes also the kitchen gets hot so wear layers of clothing

Contact to Volunteer: Loretta Parsons 765.716.8953 Call or Text

Blood-N-Fire/Inside Out Muncie
300 N Madison St, Muncie, IN 47305

Volunteer Opportunity:

- Every Saturday 3pm - 5:30 pm
1. Help prepare and cook meal
 2. Serve the Meal to 100 people
 3. Help fill pantry boxes for 150 people

Note: Volunteers will be standing most of the time so wear comfortable shoes.

Contact to Volunteer: Stacy Ball 756.215.4744



To cancel a meeting reservation, email
Linda Barb by noon the Tuesday prior to meeting.
LSB21820@GMAIL.COM

The October Ambassador deadline is September 20th.
Please send information & pictures to MuncieAltrusa@gmail.com

Altrusa International of Muncie, IN, Inc

President: Molly Harty
Vice President: Megan 'Mo' Orbin
Secretary: Michelle Badders
Treasurer: Sherrell Bryant
Director (2023-25): WaTasha Barnes Griffin
Director (2022-24): Brenda Williamson
Past President: Kathy Benz

Contact Information

Altrusa International of Muncie, IN
PO Box 656
Muncie, IN 47308-0656

Website: <http://munciealtrusa.org>
Email: munciealtrusa@gmail.com

Committee Chairs for 2022-23

ASTRA:	Chair – Lorraine Tomlin Co-Chair – Jennifer Johnson
BRRR:	Chair – Angie Rogers-Howell Co-Chair – Sandra Hoover
Literacy :	Chair – Susan Polcz-Volbrecht Co-Chair – Katherine Mitchell
Communications:	Chair – Colleen Cooper Co-Chair – Amber Burress
Membership:	Chair – Della Gregory Co-Chair – Nancy Norris
Reservations:	Chair – Linda Barb Co-Chair – Mary Louise Buck
Service:	Chair – Barb Baker Co-Chair – Stacy Wheeler
Fundraising:	Chair – Ashlee Anderson Co-Chair – Cathy Dowd

