



The Ambassador

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

2023-24 Issue 5

October 2023

You've all heard me say at this point that we have three ways to give: **Time, Talent, and Treasure.**

I was in a seminar today that also used these buckets and had wonderful conversations with some other people about their importance. We talked a lot about how the "T you can give" changes through the seasons of your life. We also talked about how important all three aspects are to you and to the organizations that are counting on you and Altrusa to help. Giving of your time, talent, and treasure is a powerful way to make a positive impact on the world and enrich your own life in the process. This concept highlights three ways that we can all make improvements to our community and beyond:

Time: Giving your time involves volunteering and dedicating your hours to various causes and organizations. Whether it's helping at a local soup kitchen, reading with students, participating in community clean-up efforts, or serving as a mentor, your time is a valuable resource that can directly benefit others.

Benefits: Volunteering not only helps those in need but also provides a sense of fulfillment and purpose. It strengthens community bonds and can lead to personal growth and new experiences.

Talent: Your unique skills, expertise, and talents are valuable assets that you can share with the world. Whether you're a skilled writer, artist, musician, teacher, engineer, or any other professional, your talents can be used to inspire, educate, or solve problems.

Benefits: Sharing your talents allows you to make a meaningful contribution in areas where you excel. It can lead to innovation, creativity, and positive change in various fields.

Treasure: The financial aspect of giving is often referred to as donating your treasure. This includes making monetary contributions to charities, nonprofits, and causes that align with your values and priorities.

Benefits: Financial donations provide critical resources to organizations, enabling them to carry out their missions effectively. It allows you to support causes that may not be feasible for you to personally address with your time or talents.

Remember that we, as Altrusans, have dedicated ourselves to "Leading to a Better Community". Ultimately, whether through time, talent, or treasure, your service is a powerful way to create lasting change.

Now, just remember to report all that time :)!!
Molly



Calendar of Events:

Business Meeting
Thursday, October 5th
Noon at Minnetrista

Committee Meetings
Thursday, October 12th

Centennial Celebration
Tuesday October 17th

Program Meeting
Thursday, October 19th

Board Meeting
Thursday, October 26th
Noon at Minnetrista

In This Issue:

- 1 - President's Comments
- 2 - Calendar of Events
- 2 - Altrusa Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 3 - Committee Updates
- 4 - Committee Updates, cont'd.
- 5 - Muncie Altrusa Foundation
- 6- Literacy Project Hello Dear
- 7- Board News
- 7 - Volunteer Opportunities cont pg 8
- 8 - Altrusa Officers & Committee Chairs



Birthdays

1st - Carolyn Scruggs

4th- Julie Mason

5th - Amber Burress

10th - Catherine Swift

11th - Marilyn Nathan

14th- Linda Barb

15th-Jennifer Johnson and Karon Klem Nowakoski

Anniversaries

1987 -Joan McKee

2018- Megan Smith

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

See page 6 for the fun we had reading *Some Pig* By E. B. White to the Kindergarten classes. Please see a Literacy for more information about reading with the fourth and fifth graders throughout the school year.

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.

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

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.

Program Meeting

In case you were unable to attend the September Program Meeting here is a summary of what we learned....(With this being our 100th Year Anniversary of the Muncie Club, I am asking the Program Presenters to follow along with that mentality.)

How does The Soup Kitchen of Muncie support Muncie, Delaware County?

The Soup Kitchen has been feeding the hungry in our community for 29 years, without regard to race, gender, religion, or sexual preference. Five days a week, we offer a hot meal and a take-home sack lunch to every person who walks through our doors.

We serve between 150 and 200 people a day. In 2022, we served 65,000 meals to Muncie's most vulnerable population. We also have partnerships to provide meals to the YWCA and Recovery Café. The Soup Kitchen operates in one of Delaware County's several food deserts. In 2020, Feeding America reported that 17,320 individuals in Delaware County were food insecure, which is a 15.1 percent food insecurity rate.

What has the Altrusa Club done in the past to support The Soup Kitchen?

Altrusa Club has provided the food and packed sack lunches for as many years as I have been in the kitchen and before. Once a quarter, the Service Committee and other members of Altrusa have gathered early on a designated Monday morning to make sandwiches and pack other items in sacks to deliver to the kitchen.

What can Altrusans do in the future to continue to support The Soup Kitchen?

Packing sack lunches is really a big help to us. As food costs have risen with inflation in the last several years, your packed lunches have helped further spread our food dollars.

Coming to volunteer to help us cook and/or serve would be a great service to us and also help the club learn more about what we do. Donations are always needed either as a group or individually. Helping us navigate the grant application would be a great asset to us as we seek every possible way to raise funds.

Muncie Altrusa Foundation



Altrusa Foundation of Muncie announces availability of Impact Grant

Beginning October 15, 2023, Altrusa Foundation of Muncie will open a high-impact grant opportunity for one nonprofit in the amount of \$10,000.

“The nonprofit organizations in our community do such outstanding work! As the Altrusa Foundation board of directors considered how to mark 40 years of grant making, we thought

who better to celebrate than our amazing nonprofits that accomplish meaningful work every day, generating lasting impact for Muncie and Delaware County,” said Jennifer Johnson, Grant Committee Chair.

The Altrusa Foundation Grant Committee will begin accepting applications October 15, 2023. Eligible organizations must be a 501©(3) nonprofit organization located in Delaware County requesting funding for educational and other charitable purposes. Funds may be used to develop new programs or to fund existing programs. The application deadline is December 15, 2023. A one-time award of \$10,000 will be awarded to one nonprofit organization. Up to 3 finalists will be chosen to give a 10-minute presentation to the Altrusa Foundation Board on January 16, 2024. Finalists will be notified by January 8, 2024.

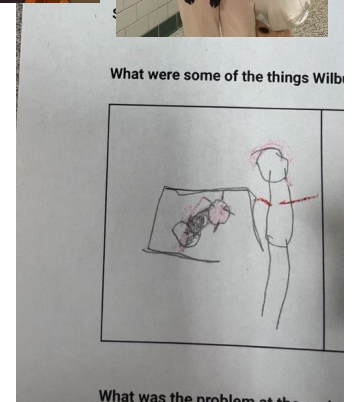
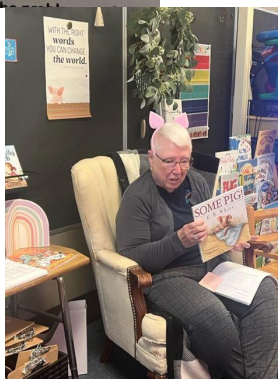
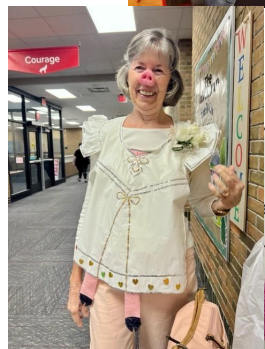
For more information on The Impact Grant:
<https://munciealtrusa.org/scholarships-and-grants/>



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.

Hello Dear Reading Event

The Muncie club volunteered in kindergarten classrooms at Muncie Community Schools. Students participated in a read-aloud of "Some Pig" by E.B. White, and then completed reader responses using drawing, writing, and discussion skills.



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

YWCA's H.E.E.L.S.: Thursday October 19th

Contact Juli A. Metzger

Annual fundraiser to support the YWCA and all the amazing work they do.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-put-yourself-in-her-heels-registration-714926974827?aff=oddtcreator>

BSU Homecoming Parade: Saturday October 21st

Contact Stacy Wheeler

Year 3 of walking the parade route to distribute books. We'll have several community partners with us. The plan is to distribute up to 5,000 books.

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 November Ambassador deadline is October 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

