



The Ambassador

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

2024-25 Issue 1

June 2024



Welcome to the New Club Year, 2024-2025.

My apologies for the delayed Ambassador. This was harder to write than I expected. I'm so honored that you've elected me to be your President. This is a role that I never considered for myself. If it weren't for the support that the Club and Molly showed me last year, I wouldn't believe I'm ready for this.

My strength lies in getting the details right. I put together the project, and someone else presented it. Now, I must stretch my skills and trust in the people surrounding me to make my vision happen.

I am so thrilled with the Board, Foundation Board, and Committee Chairs we have for this Club Year. We are going to continue to focus on the Strategic Plan presented last year.

As was stated in my installation, "Altrusa is a service club, and that you [me] are its servant". As a servant to the Club, through coordination with my Vice President, Brenda Williamson, and the Service Committee, we are going to connect the Program Meetings to the Service Committee Meetings. Once an organization presents at a Program Meeting, the next Service Committee Meeting will involve a volunteer opportunity at that organization.

Agendas and reminders are my comfort zone. I will work hard with the Committee Chairs to include as much information as possible in the agendas sent prior to the meetings. Take a peek at June's Business Meeting Agenda for an example.

Finally, I want to thank every lady who came up and chatted with my guests. It was amazing to have the most important people at my installation. I love each and every one of you.

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June Meetings

Thursday, June 6th
Business Meeting
Noon at Minnetrista

Thursday, June 13th
Committee Meetings

Thursday, June 20th
Program Meeting
Isaiah 117 House
Noon at Minnetrista

Thursday, June 27th
Board Meeting
Noon at Minnetrista
All Altrusans are welcome



Birthdays

4th – Mary Louise Buck

5th – Ann Wilkerson

9nd – Katie Upp

14th – Kelli Petroviak

Anniversaries

1996 – Mary Louise Buck

2006 – June Kramer

2014 (rein 2016) – Molly Harty

2017 – Kathy Benz

2023-2024 Award Recipients

Membership Sponsor Recognition

This recognition is given to the following members for sponsoring or co-sponsoring a member between June 1st and the business meeting of the current club year.

Michelle Badders
WaTasha Barnes Griffin
Angela Beck
Mary Burford
Mare Castner

Anne Condran
Della Gregory
Molly Harty
June Kramer
Nancy Norris

Karon Nowakowski
Susan Polcz Volbrect
Stacy Wheeler
Brenda Williamson

New Member Award:

This nominee is an active member of the Communications Committee. On this Committee, she actively strives to keep our website updated and is always looking for ways to help our members stay informed. She is also the District Six Communications Chair & Website Committee Chair 2023-2025. Additionally, she has also served on the District Six Conference Committee and attended District Six Conference in 2023. The recipient is:

Vicki Winegar

District/International Award:

This nominee has held nearly every office possible at the club level, and, this year, she has expanded to the international level. While serving as Membership Assistant Chair for the Club, she has thrown herself into offering those same talents to Altrusans far and wide. She is the current International Membership Committee Vice Chair. If you follow Altrusa Membership Development on Facebook, you will be blessed with seeing the welcoming spirit that makes her so important to our club, going out to the world at large.

The recipient is:

Nancy Norris

Community Service Award:

Not only has this nominee served as Assistant Chair to the Service Committee this year, she has also served as a community connector in her role within the Club and as the Director of Classroom Connections. She leads the charge every year as the Little Red Wagon Brigade distributes books during the Ball State Homecoming Parade. The Brigade has grown from 4 community partners to 10 this year.

Stacy also supports the Essay Contest with an incredible bag of books and supplies for each of the students. The recipient is:

Stacy Wheeler

Distinguished Member Award:

This recipient is the epitome of a distinguished member. Searching the database for her involvement is its own lesson in Altrusa history. She has steadily managed to chair or be a member of not only nearly every committee we currently have, but also committees that were past club year standards. She has been President of the Club and held several positions on the Foundation board. Her legal advice has helped keep both safe and strong. She has proved that Altrusa is in the genes as she has followed in the footsteps of her mother, Linda, and proven that Altrusa truly is a family in every way you can imagine.

The recipient is:

Mary Louise Buck

President's Award:

This nominee took on a huge responsibility this year. How do you entertain, celebrate, and remember 100 years of accomplishments in 20 minutes? She had a great idea to do just that. First, she introduced us to the Notable Women of Muncie team and, as we talked and got to know each other, the Remarkable Altrusan presentation for the Centennial Celebration was born. The Celebration took the efforts of nearly every member of the Club, and everyone deserves a round of applause, but the heart and soul of the night was the Remarkables coming to life. New members, past members, and community members were all speechless as they learned just a few details about women they knew, loved, or have heard the names of over the years. She was at the helm and made the night a true celebration. The recipient is:

Sandra Hoover

Muncie Altrusa Foundation



President: June Kramer
Vice President: Susan Polcz-Volbrecht
Secretary: Kailee McKnight
Treasurer: Colleen Cooper

Directors 2024-2025:
Jennifer Johnson
Stephanie Clark
Tiffany Kerrigan

Directors 2024-2027:
Angie Rogers-Howell
Kelli Petroviak
Leigh Edwards

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



MISSION STATEMENT

The Altrusa Club of Muncie is committed to improving our community through service and support, with an emphasis on literacy and education.

We invited the new Chairs and Assistant Chairs to participate in May's Board Meeting. Leadership Binders were updated with Standing Rules and Bylaws. We are so excited to begin the work for the new Club Year.

To cancel or add guests to your standing meeting reservation, contact
Mary Louise Buck by noon the Tuesday prior to meeting.
marylouisebuck@comcast.net

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

Altrusa International of Muncie, IN, Inc

President: Megan 'Mo' Orbin
Vice President: Brenda Williamson
Secretary: Kathy Benz
Treasurer: Cathy Stewart
Director (2023-25): WaTasha Barnes-Griffin
Director (2024-26): Beth Kroehler
Past President: Molly Harty

Contact Information

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Committee Chairs for 2024-25

BRRR:	Chair – Angie Rogers-Howell Co-Chair – Sue Whitaker
Communications:	Chair – Amber Burress Co-Chair – Tiffany Kerrigan
Fundraising:	Chair – Karon Nowakowski Co-Chair – Karen Dall
Literacy :	Chair – Molly Harty Co-Chair – Marilyn Davis
Membership:	Chair – Nancy Norris Co-Chair – Lorraine Tomlin
Reservations:	Chair – Mary Louise Buck Co-Chair – Linda Barb
Service:	Chair – Stacy Wheeler Co-Chair – Blayne Umansky

