

President's Comments:

July is my favorite month of the year. It is the birthday of my mom, one of my four nephews, both my half-sisters, one of my sisters-in-law, one of the uncountable number of my uncles, and my birthday.

The Summer Olympics also usually begin in July [shout out to Ashley Surpas for matching Altrusan birthdays with famous Olympians].

The Communications Committee sent out a survey; continue reading to see the results, and after a conversation with Chair Amber Burrell, I wanted to speak on a few things.

First, making the newsletter more proactive instead of reactive encourages our Club to look ahead. I'm excited to contribute to the "looking ahead mantra." Vice President Brenda Williamson has the Program meetings set. Look at the end of this article.

Secondly, according to our Standing Rules, the Communications Committee is responsible for preparing the Ambassador and sending it out before the 1st of the month. All club members are responsible for sending content. If you believe the newsletter looks a little bare, it is on us as a Club

to beef it up. Having a newsletter gets us precious points towards being categorized as a Distinguished Club.

This isn't a lecture, and I'm not your mama. This is a much-needed reminder. We are all volunteers and we are all **Altrusans**. We are all service-minded individuals and pretty cool cats if I say so myself.

I challenge every member to contribute an article, spotlight, or recap to an Ambassador in the next nine months.

Program Meetings:

- Sept 19 - Animals!
- Oct 17 - 101 Birthday Party
- Dec 12 - Holiday Party
- Jan 23 - Red Cross
- Feb 20 - Women Panel
- Mar 20 - 4th Grade Essay Contest
- May 15 - Annual Meeting

[gosh, time flies!]

IN THIS EDITION

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UPCOMING

Thursday, August 1st
Business Meeting
Noon at Minnetrista

Thursday, August 8th
Committee Meetings

Thursday, August 15th
Program Meeting
Recovery Cafe
Noon at Minnetrista

Thursday, August 22nd
Board Meeting
Noon at Minnetrista

Thursday, August 29th
No Meeting

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays:

8/2 Jane White

8/4 Cindy Sollars

8/18 Ashlee Anderson

8/24 Mary Burford

Anniversaries:

2008 Ashlee Anderson

2022 Karen Dall

2020 Susan Volbrecht

FEATURED ACT OF SERVICE

Present: Loretta Parsons, Barb Baker, Blayne Umansky, Jane Sharkey, Sunni Matters, Kelli Petroviak, Susan Volbrecht, Stacy Wheeler, Beth Kroehler, Marilyn Davis, and Jane White

The Muncie Altrusa Club members packed sack lunches for the Soup Kitchen of Muncie, a local nonprofit that feeds the hungry of the Muncie Community with dignity and respect regardless of race, gender, sexuality, or religious preference. The Service Committee conducted their meeting beforehand.

*“Membership’s rewards are in proportion to the loyalty, the unselfishness and character of the member herself.”
—excerpt from the Principles of Altrusa, 1921*



From Left to Right: Beth Kroehler, Jane White, Jane Sharkey, Susan Volbrecht, Marilyn Davis, Kelly Petroviak (in the back), Sunni Matters (squeezed in there), Barb Baker, Lorette Parsons (in the back), and Blayne Umansky!


COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

An email was sent out last week with a survey link about the Ambassador.

A total of 32 people responded to that survey. Thank you to all who responded! Overall, the results revealed that the Club likes the Ambassador and believes it is an important communication tool that should be continued. We also received a lot of good ideas on how to improve the Ambassador. Thoughts on adding articles about Altrusa's history, member spotlights with photos, future plans, good news dollars, etc., are absolutely wonderful, and I truly hope they will see fruition.

If you would like something to be communicated to the Club or community (as an article in the Ambassador, a social media post, or a press release), please submit your completed content to the munciealtrusa@gmail.com address with "Altrusa - Communications" in the email title and please mention how you would like your content to be communicated.

- Amber Burress, Chair




*"The rise or fall of
the Ambassador is
in the hands of the
club."
- Molly Harty*

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The Committee will meet via Zoom at noon on Thursday the 8th.

We are planning the spring auction and entertaining other fundraising ideas. If any Altrusans have ideas, please contact Karen Nowakowski at k2no@aol.com.



*"It is not enough to
be good; Altrusa
must be good for
some thing."
- excerpt from the
Principles of
Altrusa, 1921*

LITERACY COMMITTEE

The Committee will meet at the Community Foundation office at noon on Thursday the 8th.

As we work on plans for the upcoming year, we're also working to refresh and restock our Little Free Libraries. If anyone has books they are ready to part with, please bring them to Business or Program meetings, and we'll distribute them for you!

SERVICE UPDATE

The Committee will meet at Meals on Wheels at Ball Memorial Hospital from 10:40 am until noon on Thursday the 8th. For more information, contact Blayne Umansky at bbbaza1@aol.com.

Other Service Projects Include:

September 12th: Noon - 1:15 pm @
Recovery Cafe

October 10th: Noon - 1:15 pm @
Classroom Connections of ECI

October 26th: 7:30 am - Noon, BSU
Homecoming Parade, Joint Literacy
Float!

November 7th: Information about
Giving Tree @ Muncie Altrusa
Business Meeting

November 14th: Noon - 1:15 pm @
YMCA Mitchell Early Childhood &
Family Center

December 5th: Giving Tree gifts due
@ Muncie Altrusa Business Meeting

December 12th: Noon - 1:15 pm @
Second Harvest

MUNCIE ALTRUSA FOUNDATION

The Altrusa Foundation's new grant year has begun. The grant application is on our website.

Eligible organizations must be 501(c)(3) nonprofits in Delaware County that request educational, scientific, and other charitable funding.

Funds may be used to develop new programs or fund existing programs. Partial funding may be awarded. As a general policy, an organization will receive no more than \$2,000 or less than \$250 within a given year.

Funds will not be awarded for operating expenses, budget deficits, fraternal organizations, special events and dinners, advertising, annual campaigns, lobbying, multi-year commitments, conferences, research, or professional fees.

We hope your or a friend's organization will apply through our online grant. We look forward to hearing from you!

<https://munciealtrusa.org/scholarships-and-grants/>

SHOUT OUT

If you know anyone who may be interested in the New Castle Altrusa club, please feel free to check out their Facebook page by clicking on the link: [New Castle Altrusa](#). Spread the word!

REMINDERS

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 August Ambassador deadline is July 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

Altrusa International of Muncie, IN
PO Box 656
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Website: <http://munciealtrusa.org>
Email: munciealtrusa@gmail.com

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

