



# The Ambassador

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

2021-22 Issue 7

December 2021



Happy December Fellow Altrusans!

As I look back on Thanksgiving, I can truly say we have much to be thankful for. Health, Happiness, and Families come to mind, obviously. But the little every day things as well. Our club and committees are doing great work in the community and I'm so thankful to being a small part of it.

Now that we're in full the Holiday swing of things, I'm looking forward to playing "Santa" for my littlest - she's 8 and very inquisitive so the jig might be up after this year! But even if she figures it out like she did the Tooth Fairy this year, I want to be sure to focus on the magic of the season no matter who is responsible for the gifts under the tree. I'm so glad we can help give a little bit of magic in this world as a club too. We've written letters to soldiers and now we're collecting gift cards for Veterans and giving books to kiddos. If that's not playing "Santa" and spreading holiday cheer, then I don't know what is. I'm looking

forward to celebrating together as a club this month. As the hustle and bustle of the Holiday season comes upon us like it always does, let's all remember to spread a little magic along the way!

In Altrusa Service,  
Angie Rogers-Howell

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**Calendar of Events:**

Business Meeting

Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> Noon  
at Minnetrista

Committee Meetings  
Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

Holiday Party

Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> Noon  
at Minnetrista

Board Meeting

Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup> 9am @  
Farmhouse Creative



# DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

## Birthdays

Janice Engstrom – 3<sup>rd</sup>

Barb Baker – 6<sup>th</sup>

Qiana Clemens – 14<sup>th</sup>

Haley Brocki – 27<sup>th</sup>

Cathy Dowd – 31<sup>st</sup>

## Anniversaries

Cathy Stewart - 1981

Cindy Sollars – 2001

Erika Hayes - 2014

Molly Harty (reinstated) - 2016

# Service Projects

## Gift Cards for Veterans

First, we are continuing to collect \$10.00 gift cards for veterans in the community to help provide support for groceries and other basic needs over the holidays. A representative from the VA office will be speaking at our December Christmas Party/Program Meeting in which we plan to provide them with our donation of gift cards for families in need. Altrusans can purchase gift cards at any grocery store and bring to meetings leading up to December 16<sup>th</sup>. Our goal is 50 gift cards.

## Chemo Blankets

Altrusa Service Committee is assembling chemo blankets for Little Red Door Cancer Agency. We have a goal of assembling 30 fleece blankets before the end of the club year. If you are interested in assembling one or more of these blankets, please reach out to Tiffany Kerrigan ([tk@abwservices.org](mailto:tk@abwservices.org)) and she can ensure you receive your kit.

## Snack Attack

Altrusa Service Committee is meeting at Altrusa on December 9<sup>th</sup> at noon in the large conference room to assemble Snack Attack bags for students at two local school during winter break. If your committee is interested in volunteering to assemble Snack Attack bags, please reach out to Cindy Sollars ([clsollars@hotmail.com](mailto:clsollars@hotmail.com)) to confirm your attendance so we can plan accordingly.



# From the Literacy Committee

## Altrusa International Literacy Challenge - One Book at a Time

Something big is in the works and we want you to be a part of it. International President Kathy's passion from a very young age has been reading. So, we coupled her love of reading with her love of Altrusa and the Literacy Challenge was born. Our ultimate goal is to enhance the lives of others ONE BOOK AT A TIME! The challenge is for Altrusans to distribute one million books and/or devote one million service hours to our communities during the 2021-2023 biennium. So how can you participate?

- Develop a signature literacy project (or expand on an existing one) that will continue to grow and develop into the future. Large and small clubs alike can participate in this challenge.
- Assign a record keeper to keep track of the number of books you distribute AND/OR the number of service hours you spend (for example reading to children, the elderly, participating in a book exchange ... something that works for you, your club and your community).
- Carry the project over through the next club year.
- Send your numbers (for both years) to the International Service Committee before June 1, 2023.
- Sit back and relish in the fact that you are making a difference .... **ONE BOOK AT A TIME.**

Remember the end goal is to enhance the lives of others. And the simple gift of a book to a child who has never had one can help eradicate illiteracy and give these children a chance to succeed in life. Will you accept the challenge and join our movement? UNITED WE CAN ... make a difference! UNITED WE CAN ... change the lives of others! UNITED WE CAN ... help develop a passion for reading that will last a lifetime!

The challenge is out there ... will you take it?

Taken from the [Service Page on the International Website](#)

The Literacy Committee of the Muncie Club is taking the Challenge, but we need every club and ASTRA member to participate over the next two years in our literacy project: Today a Reader—Tomorrow a Leader. The objectives of the project are to:

- **Place** books into the hands of each of the 3,430 PreK--5<sup>th</sup> grade students in the target schools
- **Involve** 90% of our active Altrusa and ASTRA members in the various project activities
- **Contribute** at least 500 service hours toward the various literacy project activities
- **Create** awareness of the project through various promotional efforts
- **Evaluate** the success of the project through surveys of various stakeholders

The proposed activities for this year include:

- Maintain the Altrusa Little Free Libraries
- Provide books to K-5 Students in Muncie Community Schools
- Participate with the Service Committee to distribute books with the December and March Snack Attack distribution
- Participate in the BSU Homecoming parade to distribute books
- Sponsor the 2022 4<sup>th</sup> grade essay contest



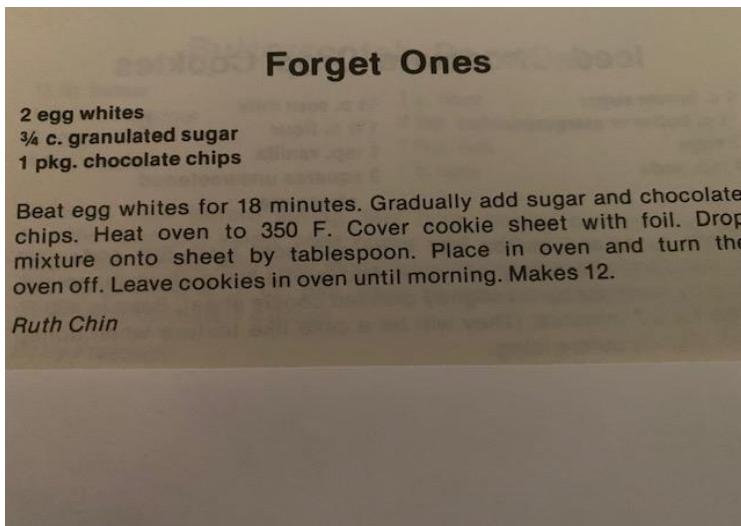
There will be various opportunities throughout the year to participate in literacy activities. Be aware of committee announcements during our meetings and emails. As you participate in the various projects you will need to keep track of your literacy service hours. These will be reported directly to the Literacy Committee using the following reporting form. (These hours are in addition to those Altrusa and other service hours you report to your committee.)

Name:

Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Total

Send your hours to Literacy Committee Member Sue Whitaker at [shwitaker@bsu.edu](mailto:shwitaker@bsu.edu).

## From the Membership Committee



A recipe used for “Taste of Altrusa.”

This first submission is in honor of Ruth Chin.

# Muncie Altrusans

**Here's how you can help make our local Veterans' Holidays Happy**

**Donate: \$10 gift cards from Target, Walmart, Meijer or Payless or cash or card donations and the Reservations Committee will buy gift cards for you. Bring them to any meeting and add them to the sleigh at the Reservations table.**

**Cards will go to the local VA for distribution during the holidays to Veterans needing assistance.**

**Join: our Holiday Party at noon, December 16<sup>th</sup> at Minnetrista. The new Veterans Services officer, Tommy Goul, will be our guest speaker. Bring guests and make their reservations before December 14<sup>th</sup>.**



# Muncie Altrusa Foundation

The Foundation's mission is to assist organizations in Muncie/Delaware County, Indiana area for educational, literary, and charitable purposes. The organization strives to uphold its commitment to unselfish, unbiased giving.

**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

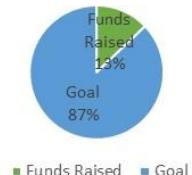
\*Board meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 9am at the Farmhouse Creative conference room



1 International Service Project

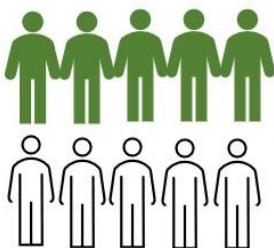


Fundraise \$20,000



## 2021/2022 Club Goals

10 New Members



Cloud-Based Recordkeeping



50% Service Project Participation





To cancel a meeting reservation email  
Linda Barb by noon the Tuesday prior to meeting.  
[lsb21820@gmail.com](mailto:lsb21820@gmail.com)

### Email Correspondence:

When emailing Altrusa sisters with club matters and happenings, the first word in the subject line should be “Altrusa”

Examples: Altrusa – service project question  
Altrusa – for ambassador

This helps to ensure emails don’t get missed or sent to spam. Thank you!

## Altrusa International of Muncie, IN, Inc

President: Angie Rogers-Howell  
Vice President Kathy Benz  
Secretary: Megan 'Mo' Orbin  
Treasurer: Molly Harty  
Director (2019-22): Brenda Williamson  
Director (2020-22): Carolyn Scruggs  
Past President: Erika Hayes

### Contact Information

Mailing Address:  
Altrusa International of Muncie, IN  
PO Box 656  
Muncie, IN 47308-0656  
Website: <http://munciealtrusa.org>  
Email: munciealtrusa@gmail.com



## Committee Chairs for 2021-22

ASTRA:	Chair – Haley Brocki Co-Chair – Susan Volbrecht
BRRR:	Chair – Beth Kroehler Co-Chair – Nancy Norris
Literacy :	Chair – Anne Condran Co-Chair – Vacant
Communications:	Chair – Lorraine Tomlin Co-Chair – Colleen Ulrich
Membership:	Chair – June Kramer Co-Chair – Shannon Bryan
Reservations:	Chair – Linda Barb Co-Chair – Mary Louise Buck
Service:	Chair – Tiffany Kerrigan Co-Chair – Kelli Petroviak
Fundraising:	Chair – Mo Orbin Co-Chair – Jan Engstrom



The January Ambassador deadline is December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Please send information & pictures to [MuncieAltrusa@gmail.com](mailto:MuncieAltrusa@gmail.com)