

EDITH DeBUSK PRESIDENT'S AWARD

(Include 3 copies of each of the following)

CLUB ACTIVITY REPORT FORM

And

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL CLUB REPORT

Altrusa International, Inc. of CARIANO

Patty Weiss

President's Signature

MEMBERSHIP:

Our objectives were to increase our members to 25 by June of 2008 and encourage member participation. Going into the 2007-2008 year we had 18 members and were able to add eight new members by January. We held two membership events: One at our September dinner meeting which was our birthday celebration. We sent invitations to all former members and all of our past presidents were there. We had many guests in attendance, including Kathaleen Bauer, the District Nine Membership Committee Chair. We were able to add five new members from this event. Our second event was a style show with Coldwater Creek held at our dinner meeting in October. We had 45 in attendance and eight of our club members modeled for the event. This was also a fundraiser for the club and we raised \$250 for our foundation budget as well as two additional new members from this event. We held two new member orientations during the year and encourage all new members to get involved with a committee immediately. We have formed a Program Committee for next year to plan interesting and entertaining meetings for the coming year and are also recognizing birthdays and special events of our members through cards in the mail and mentions in our newsletters.

At the end of this year, we did lose five members: one to illness, three to not enough time to devote to Altrusa, and one to not being the right club for her. However, we already have two more ladies wanting to join and we will be entering our new year with 21 members and 2 potentials early in the year.

SERVICE:

We have five major service projects in Altrusa of Garland. I am proud to say we expanded on two of them and added an additional service program (TAKS tutoring) during the year.

FROG (Future Readers of Garland) Statistics published in Texas revealed a 40% drop out rate for Spanish speaking students in high schools. One rationale behind this dropout rate is students cannot read well enough in English to be successful in high school classes. Our goals were to encourage the students to read and comprehend English, pass their TAKS tests and establish good reading habits to benefit their future school careers.

We expanded our FROG Reading Program this year to Heather Glen Elementary and continued it at Daugherty Elementary School. The FROG program is a four phase program which began in October, 2007 and ended on April 20, 2008 and benefits a primarily Spanish speaking population. In phase one, members read books aloud to 300 Kindergarten and first graders each week at both schools for a total of 181 volunteer hours.

Phase two of the FROG Program utilizes Heifer International's Read to Feed Program where volunteers teach low income families around the world to use farm animals as a source of income to improve their own well being. Several members initially heard about this program from the Oprah Winfrey Show and were impressed that people in low income areas were learning how to help themselves. After further research our club members thought it was a great reading incentive program. After meeting with the school principals, the second, third, fourth, and fifth grades from Daugherty and the third graders from Heather Glen participated in this program. They watched a video about the program and received a brochure to share with their families about Heifer International and how reading books would contribute to this program. Altrusans signed up to participate in specific phases and tasks for the project. The students were monitored by the library resource aids, who e-mailed the community service and project chairs, updated point and book tallies each six weeks which were reported to the club at meetings and in the monthly newsletter. The 366 students read 17,521 books, passed 13,898 tests to earn \$1,740.00 of the \$2,150 budget. The students voted by grade level on groups of animals to fit their budgets. They were able to purchase three water buffalos, five goats, one trio of rabbits, three honey bee hives and twelve flocks of chickens to be delivered by Heifer International. Special recognition prizes will be given to the top three readers at each grade level at their end of the year award ceremonies. A local company donated 15 reading medals and certificates to the 15 top readers. Each grade level will receive a certificate with their Read to Feed animal choices to display in the school library. In phase three the Annual FROG Fair was held

May 2nd at Daugherty Elementary and on May 9th at Heather Glen Elementary. Kindergarten through fifth grades participated at Daugherty with 400 students and Kindergarten through third grades participated at Heather Glen with 440 students. Each of the 840 students received a cookie, a frog reading pal and their own book. Local grocers and girl scout Moms donated the cookies and Half Price Books donated the gently used books. We had a FROG Fair budget of \$300 and actually spent \$80.00 on the FROG reading pals.

In phase four we added TAKS tutoring for students in the FROG program this year. Three Altrusans who are retired teachers spent 74 hours of math and reading tutoring time with 17 at risk of failing, third graders. 90% of these students passed their TAKS tests.

Members not able to participate at school scheduled three book pick up dates from Half Price Books and sorted and labeled books and solicited donations for cookies. We had 92% club participation for the FROG project with a total of 401 member service hours. We had a total of 124 hours for ways and means for the poinsettia sale which helped fund the FROG project. We also received a \$500.00 grant from International. The 840 participating students each received their own book and Half Price books donated an additional 270 books at Christmas time for Daugherty's second through fourth grade students for a yearly total of 1,110 books. The 366 students in the Read to Feed Phase read 17,521 books. Overall there were 840 students helped by this project and 24 International families received the animals. These families are required to pass on offspring and training to more families in their villages so a cycle of learning and giving will continue. We received positive feedback from teachers and parents to continue and expand this reading incentive program next year. We had a press release in the Garland News, Dallas Morning News and in the Garland Federation of Clubs Newsletter. We also received the Club of the Year Award from the Garland Federation of Clubs for our reading projects.

JONATHAN'S PLACE The Community Service Committee developed this project after an Altrusan read in the local paper that Jonathan's Place (JP), "A Shelter From the Storm", needed volunteers. After speaking with the JP Volunteer Coordinator we determined that we could provide book fairs for the residents. The facility houses children (age newborn to 17 years) removed from their homes (often in the middle of the night) because of domestic violence, drugs, or some form of abuse. Over the last two years, Jonathan's Place has been temporarily sheltering siblings to try to keep the children together because in many instances, siblings are split up into separate foster care homes. Jonathan's Place campus has two cottages. One cottage houses babies and toddlers up to four years of age and the other youth cottage houses residents age five to seventeen years old. We felt we needed to give the residents something of their own and some personal attention. Reading takes the children outside of their problems so we thought it was important that each resident have their own book. Many arrive at Jonathan's Place with just the clothes they are wearing.

We expanded the program this year to six, sixty minute books fairs for July, August, December, January, February and March. We also included two special outings to Books and Boo at the Zoo in October and the Shriner's Circus in April for those over five years of age for a total of eight events. The \$700 budget came from our annual poinsettia sale and we used \$357.00 this year. Altrusans signed up for volunteer times in either the toddler or youth cottage or for the special outings. The project coordinator emailed the list of names to the JP Volunteer Coordinator the Thursday before each event for security purposes. We kept a written record of volunteer hours, activities, books and animals donated and crafts for each event. Members not able to attend the book fairs picked up books donated by Half Price Books and labeled the books and also purchased supplies for the book fairs. Some members donated Bennie Babies and acquired other stuffed animal donations from members of the Garland community. We used hand made teddy bears for the toddlers that were donated by the local Hug A Bear Society.

At each book fair we provided each resident with their own book, a reading buddy stuffed animal, one craft project, an activity book with crayons/markers, and a snack of juice and cookies. The toddler cottage involved holding and hugging the residents, playing with puppets, reading books, sing-a-longs, coloring and playing. We planned activities at the youth cottage such as reading stories, decorating baseball caps and

book bags with paint markers, making Christmas stockings and ornaments and creating book marks. In October for Books and Boo at the Zoo we arranged for the Jonathan's Place staff to meet us at the Dallas Zoo entrance. Altrusans paid for their own zoo tickets and we provided the zoo entrance fee and monorail tickets to the residents. We toured the zoo, rode the monorail and then had lunch. Jonathan's Place packed box lunches for the residents and two Altrusans packed sandwiches for the volunteers. We had a book fair and each resident received a book, a zoo bcanic baby reading buddy, an activity book and a My Visit to the Zoo book to personalize with their own experiences of the day. One of our members made up the My Visit to the Zoo books for each resident to draw in, color animals and write their personal zoo story. Then we went trick or treating with the residents through the rest of the exhibits and had a wonderful day. Most of these children had never been to the zoo before so they had a great time and this was a wonderful Make A Difference Day Project for us.

In April the Jonathan's Place staff met us at Reunion Arena for the Shriner's Circus. A local business donated 30 circus tickets (\$300 value) for the Jonathan's Place residents, staff and Altrusans. Each resident received a snow cone and choice of popcorn or cotton candy. Some Altrusans arrived early to save seats for the group so we were able to keep everyone together. For two hours these children did not move out of their seats. They were fascinated by the circus acts. We gave each resident a circus coloring/story book as they left for home. We had a total of 135 toddler and youth residents that participated in the eight events. We donated 249 reading and activity books, 93 boxes of crayons, 111 stuffed animals, 135 juice boxes and snacks, 76 baseball caps and book bags, two dozen Christmas stockings to decorate plus all the goodies to fill them and countless hugs. We had 96% club participation and a total of 240 Altrusa service hours for this project. We reported JP project results at club meetings and in our newsletter. We emailed our donation lists to the Jonathan's Place Volunteer Coordinator. We had an article in the Garland Federation of Clubs Newsletter and an article in the Garland Neighbors newspaper. This was our club's favorite project and we will continue next year.

BOXES TO BAGHDAD - Altrusa's motto is Patriotism, Efficiency and Service. To honor this motto we established the Boxes to Baghdad program and expanded it this year to include six shipments to either Iraq or Afghanistan. We use the website any soldier.com and find soldiers with "wish lists" that we can help. We shipped 264 pounds toiletries, snacks, magazines, books, and writing materials this year. The value of good was \$1,696 and it cost \$294.21 to ship. Two of our members had their first grade classes make cards to send as well. We brought the products to our business meetings and boxed them up for mailing after the meeting. Individual members were assigned the responsibility of mailing the boxes each time.

Next year we are adding two "Greet the Troops" days to this program. Soldiers come through DFW Airport every Saturday on their way to two week furloughs and we go out and to greet and thank them for serving our country.

RELAY FOR LIFE - For the third year in a row Garland Altrusa had a team walking in the Relay for Life, benefiting the American Cancer Society. We had a team of eight club members, plus various friends and family walk from 6pm to 6am. We raised \$1,813 last year and are repeating this event again this June.

ABC BOX - Our box is built and ready for placement. It will be on site and collecting books by the end of June!

COMMUNICATIONS: We have a couple of projects that will carry over until next year and those are developing the club brochure for membership/fundraising and researching the idea of developing a website. We did distribute an electronic newsletter eleven times this year and an updated yearbook in the fall.

FINANCE AND FUNDRAISING: We had comprehensive budgets prepared by the end of June for both Operating and Foundation income and expenses. We had a \$4,133 balance for the foundation and held two fundraisers. We earned \$2,872 on a budget of \$2,000 for our annual poinsettia sale and \$225 on a budget of \$500 for our style show. We also received \$50 each as rewards at conference for Nina Fay Calhoun and Mamic Bass. Our Foundation budget for 2008-2009 will be \$4,656. We spent \$2,524 in 07-08 with the rest of the expenses coming from member donations.

Our operating budget was \$7441 for the year and we spent \$7,364. We will go into 2008-2009 with a balance of \$1,230.09 after dues are paid to International and District Nine. This is based on 22 members.

Our plan is to have our club brochure ready by the end of July to use to solicit corporate donations in addition to our poinsettia sale and style show to earn money for our future foundation budget.

MEMBER BENEFITS: Encouraging member's personal growth and leadership skills is an ongoing goal of our club. We had four members attend the Leadership Training Conference in Richardson this fall and 13 members attended the annual conference (5 for the first time). We were recognized at conference for having the highest number of first timers there. All of the first timers said they would go again. Several of our members also hold board positions on the Garland Federation of Clubs as well as Altrusa.

We will be sending out an evaluation to all club members which will cover our dinner programs, community service involvement, membership growth and retention. The input we receive back will help us to continue to make Altrusa of Garland a vibrant and contributing service group in the year(s) ahead.



ASTRA



Your Club Activity Report And Review For The Long Range/Strategic Plan

Altrusa's Long Range/Strategic Plan, adopted at the 1999 Seattle International Convention, contains goals that are directly related to the work of all Altrusa Clubs:

- A. *Membership growth* – recruitment, retention, orientation, new clubs
- B. *Service* – projects, fundraising, collaborative projects, awards
- C. *Member benefits* – planning, leadership development, personal satisfaction
- D. *Image* – internal and external communication

Note: The letters in parenthesis () at the end of each item in the Club Activity Report refer to these.

Thanks to you and your club for taking the time to complete the Club Activity Report for 2005-2006.

Your report provides valuable information to Altrusa as we work in partnership to achieve the objectives set out in our Long Range/Strategic Plan. This report will assist in measuring Altrusa's success in the realization of its goals.

We can only succeed with the involvement of each club and its members.

Remember – It's Time to Get on Board!

Time for Service

Time for Leadership

Time for Communicating

Let's share the gift of Altrusa with others and strive for a better world as we walk through time!

Your International President and
2005-2007 International Program Team

Altrusa International, Inc.
Club Activity Report 2006-2007

Altrusa International, Inc. of Garland Texas District Nine
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The Club Activity Report facilitates planning, provides awards information and Long Range/Strategic Plan monitoring for three important groups:

1. **Your Club.** The report summarizes all of your club's activities for the last year. It can be used by the next administration of your club as a planning tool and will help you access your club's participation in the Long Range/Strategic Plan. You can also use this report to apply for various awards, eliminating the need to fill out additional applications.
2. **Your District.** The report helps the District know and understand what must be done to help strengthen your club, its work and its involvement in Altrusa's Long Range/Strategic Plan. The report also is designed to provide information pertinent to District awards.
3. **International.** The report, when compiled by the District Membership Development Chair or other person designated by the Governor, gives a valuable profile of the District's activity. International prepares a profile report on our progress towards the successful achievement of the objectives identified in our Long Range/Strategic Plan.

Important: It is important for your club to complete this report - there are no "right" or "wrong" answers. Your club's individuality is what makes Altrusa an integral part of your community.

Club presidents are to submit this report to your District Membership Development Chair or Governor's designee by May 31, 2007 (see details below).

Instructions

1. Complete this report with the assistance of your club's assigned chair.
2. Please submit only this report. Keep your answers as pertinent, concise and brief as possible.
3. Mail a copy of the report to the person designated by your District before **May 31, 2007**. Send a copy to the incoming president of your club, so your club may build on the history of your year.
Clubs-at-Large: Please mail your reports to the International Office, 332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1123, Chicago, Illinois 60604-4305.
4. **If you want your club to be considered for the Distinguished Club Award, send an additional copy of this report to Altrusa International by May 31, 2007. Your club must be at Charter Strength (20 members) to be eligible for this award.**

Service Hours (Optional)

If your members track this information, please complete the information regarding service hours. This information will be used for statistical information on the District and International levels. Those clubs completing this section will receive a 5 point bonus toward the Distinguished Club Award.

1. Approximately how many Community Service Hours did you club give during the year?
(Community Service Hours can be defined as service projects and activities sanctioned by Altrusa, as documented in a club's minutes.) Service Hours include time spent planning, fundraising to support service projects, preparation and execution of the projects. ASTRA and New Club Building are service projects. (B,C) 1046 hours
2. Approximately how many Member Service Hours (include services such as production of newsletter, leadership training workshops, International Representation at Conferences, etc.) did your club members give? (B,C) 1806 hours
3. Approximately how many Other Volunteer Hours (member participation in non-Altrusa community service activities includes volunteer work in hospitals, schools, libraries, not-for-profit organizations and activities such as mentoring, tutoring, etc.) did your club members give?
581 Hours

(Refer to Policy #1, Activity Reports for clarification of service hours.)

Service

1. Did you club initiate a new service project this year? (B) Yes No
If yes, please describe? TAKS Tutoring and ABC Book Collection Box
List ongoing or yearly service project conducted by your club:
a. FROG (Future Readers of Garland) and Read to Feed _____
b. Boxes to Baghdad _____
c. Jonathan's Place _____
2. What project did you submit for the Mamie L. Bass Service Award? (B) _____
Jonathan's Place
3. What project did you submit for the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award? (B) _____
FROG and Read to Feed
4. Did your club submit an entry for the Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award? (B)
xx Yes No
5. List any community service awards or recognition your club received during the past year. (B,C)
a. Garland Federation of Clubs Outstanding Club of the Year
b. _____
c. _____

6. Does your club sponsor an ASTRA club? (B) Yes No
7. Did your fundraising effort support your projects? Yes No

What is your most successful fundraising project? Holiday Poinsettia Sale

Is this an annual fundraiser? Yes No How much was raised this year? \$2,822

8. Did your club participate with other agencies, local service organizations or Altrusa clubs in a community service project? (B) Yes No

If yes, describe the project and the name of the other agency, club or organization: _____

Eight club members, plus various friends and family, participated in the Garland

Relay for Life all night walk and raised \$1,813 for the American Cancer Society.

Garland Federation of Clubs which awards three scholarships totaling \$2,500

Rotary Club of Garland – we donated 250 books (junior high and high school level) to help with their Books to Africa program, benefitting schools in Africa.

What was your most successful service project? (B,D) Read to Feed where we expanded to a second school. A total of 17,521 books were read, 13,898 tests were passed, 6,927 points earned and \$1,740 spent on three water buffalo, five goats, two honey bee hives, one trio of rabbits, and twelve flocks of chickens. These animals were distributed to 24 different families in third world countries.

What was the project's purpose? Develop English reading skills in schools where the primary language at home is Spanish. Encouraging "giving back" in the form of buying farm animals for third world countries with the number of books read and points earned.

Estimate the number of persons benefitting from this project 366 students in two elementary schools were in the program and 24 families were recipients of the farm animals

Promotion/media coverage: Press release submitted to Dallas Morning News (8/4/07)

9. Did you participate in Make A Difference Day? Yes No

If so, what was your project? Jonathan's Place Boo at the Zoo. Ten club members took ten children from Jonathan's Place to the Dallas Zoo for the day. We had lunch, gave each child a book, a reading buddy, a set of crayons, and a personal My Visit to the Zoo to write their own stories. 80% participation and 99.25 service hours from our club members.

Programming

1. Does your club have a written Long Range/Strategic Plan? Yes No
2. Is this plan reviewed each year? Yes No
 - a. If no, what was the last date that the "plan" was reviewed by the club? _____
 - b. If you do not have a plan now, would you like the District Trainer to contact you to help develop one? Yes No
3. Does your club evaluate all programs at least annually? (C) Yes No
4. How often does your club meet? (C) Once a month Twice or more per month
5. Does at least 60% of your membership attend your meetings regularly? Yes No
 - a. Do you hold business and program meetings Separately Together
6. Does your club set goals in all program areas? (C) Yes No
 - a. Did your club develop action plans to meet its goals? Yes No
 - b. Did your club meet its program goals? Yes No

Membership

1. Total number of members as of May 31, 2007 (A) 21 May 31, 2008 26
 From June 1, 2007 to date that this report was sent, indicate the number of:
 New Members 8 Reinstated 0 Resignations 3 Transferred 0
 Dropped for Cause 0 Deceased 0 Moved From Area 0
2. Did your club establish a membership goal for this club year? (A) Yes No
 - a. What was your goal? 25 members by end of year

3. Does your club conduct regular orientations? (A) Yes No

- a. What techniques do you use for your orientations? (Check all that apply)
- Lectures Panels Games Other (specify) Membership chair meets with new members to give them basic information and policies for Altrusa , our Garland service projects and a Q&A to address any questions they have.
4. Did you club charter a new club within the past year? (A) Yes No
- a. What community (or communities) in your area is a good location for an Altrusa club? Laura Trainor brought up seeding a club jointly with the Greenville club in the Rockwall area, but we did not move forward on that idea.
- b. Is your club planning to organize a club in the community your listed? Yes No
5. Did your club participate in "Add An Altrusan Day?" Yes No
- a. Describe your event and the success of the event We had Carolyn Rash, immediate past president for District Nine, speak on "Why Become An Altrusan". We had 5 guests in attendance.
6. What other membership recruitment procedures are used by your club? (A) We had a style show sponsored by Coldwater Creek and invited several guests. We used 8 of our members to model their clothes and put an upcharge on our normal dinner fee. This was very successful and we plan to repeat it this year.
7. What methods did your club use this year to retain members?.(A)
- Check all that apply**
- Telephone follow-up when members miss meetings
- Ongoing orientation
- Interesting and varied programs/meetings
- Service projects that meet members' interests
- Strong partnerships between member and sponsor

xx Other We conduct club surveys at the end of the year to gain feedback on our programs and service projects and to see what we can improve on for the club.

Leadership

1. Does your Board of Directors meet monthly? xx Yes No
 - a. Are committee chairs and members invited to attend board meetings? xx Yes No
2. Do your program committees meet at least one time a month? Yes xx No
3. Does your club hold a joint training session for retiring and incoming officers and committee chairs, which includes the passing along of files? xx Yes No (This is done on a one on one basis.)
4. Does your club use your District's annual workshops or leadership training session to help in training officers and chairmen? (C) xx Yes No
5. Did your club send its full complement of delegates to the last District Conference? xx Yes No
6. Did your club send its full complement of delegates to the last International Convention? xx Yes No
7. If your club does not regularly attend District Conference or International Convention, what are the reasons? (B,C) We had 13 members go to conference this year, but it was held in our area. Location and money plus amount of time do keep some members from attending. But we had five first timers this year and they all said they would go back.
8. What topics would you like to see addressed at District Conference and/or International Convention related to training? Ways to engage and maintain new members and even to get renewing members to take on more leadership roles. Maybe a workshop on interesting and relevant program ideas. I think Altrusa is doing a pretty good job on this already though.

Communications

1. Does your club publish a newsletter? (D) xx Yes No
 - a. How many times per year? 12
2. To whom did you send your newsletter (D)

Check all that apply

- International Office
- International Officers All Selected
- International Chairs All Selected
- District Officers All Selected
- District Chairs All Selected

3. Did your club publish a yearbook? (D) Yes No

4. Does your club have a page on the World Wide Web? (D) Yes No

a. What is the main objective of your web site?

Communications Publicity Other _____

b. Is the club newsletter sent electronically by e-mail? Yes No

c. Please give the address of your club's Web Site: _____

5. Does your club publish a brochure? (D) Yes No, but working for next year.

If yes, what is the primary purpose of the brochure?

General Image Building Promote Membership

Promote Service Project Promote Fundraiser

Other This is in the process, but not completed by the end of the year.

6. What is the total number of times Altrusa public service announcements and/or paid advertisements were aired on all radio, television stations, including cable? (D) 0

7. How many club-related articles and/or paid advertisements were published in your newspaper?
(D) One on August 4, 2007 and another submitted after Conference this year, but it has not been published as of this date.

8. Do you submit information about your club's activities to the International Office for Altrusa publications? (D) Yes No

9. Do you regularly report information from District and International in your publications: (D)

Yes No

10. Suggest areas in which your District or International could be more help to your club:

I think reminders of when certain fees are due to International would be helpful. Our club missed the Endowment Fund, District Visitor, and International Convention donations (which we had budgeted) because we didn't think to send them in. Maybe a list of the deadlines for the year would be good.

11. Do your committees give reports: (D)

At business meetings

For club newsletter

At each Board meeting

Only when called on

International Foundation

1. Did your club contribute to any of the Foundation's funds? (B,C)

a. Grants Fund Yes No

b. Endowment Fund Yes No

c. Disaster Relief Fund Yes No

2. How many members of your club belong to club 21? 10

3. Did your club apply to the International Foundation for a grant? Yes No

Was the grant awarded? Yes No How much was received? Don't know, was never notified one way or the other.

a. How were these grant funds used? In the past to fund our Read to Feed programs.

4. Did your club hold a specific fundraiser for the Foundation? Yes No

5. Did your club participate in the District Foundation fundraiser at Conference? Yes No

6. Did your club participate in the International Foundation fundraiser at Convention? Yes No

This concludes the Club Activity Report. This information will be most helpful in monitoring the success of our clubs.

Thank you for your participation.