

Name of Project: "*Altrusa is Global*"

Nomination for Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award

May 29 2008

**Altrusa International, Inc. of Greenville, Texas
P.O. Box 115
Greenville, TX 75403
USA**

District Nine

Altrusa International, Inc.

Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award

Entry Form

Name of Club: Altrusa International, Inc. of Greenville, Texas

Address: P.O. Box 115
Greenville, TX 75401
U.S.A.

District: Nine

Date of Entry: May 28, 2008

Club Membership: 54



International Relations

Project by



"Altrusa Is Global"

(1) Our club dedicated three Altrusa meetings to International Relations.

- We invited a local speaker to tell about "Growing Up In Guam".
- At one of our Golden Agers events (service project) we took our senior citizens on an imaginary "Cruise To Canada" to meet our Sister Club in Nanaimo, B.C.
- We also devoted a make-up meeting to write encouraging post cards, which were mailed to more than 50 women who belong to Altrusa clubs-at-large in England, Ireland, India, and other countries.

(2) Our most outstanding program was "Cruise To Canada"; it raised awareness of our Sister Club. One of our monthly service projects is "Golden Agers." We pick up senior citizens and treat them to a night out including a meal and activities that fit the night's theme. One evening, at a local seafood restaurant, we took our Golden Agers on an imaginary cruise. Our destination was Nanaimo, Canada, which is on an island near Vancouver, B.C. Using maps and props we told them about Nanaimo. This program resulted in increased awareness of our Canadian sisters as we ourselves learned more about Nanaimo.

Last July at Altrusa's International Convention in Orlando, Florida, we finally met face-to-face one of the Nanaimo Altrusans. She described Nanaimo explicitly and made us want to visit, for real, not just an imaginary cruise. Having visited Texas before, she said she would love to see more of it. As a result we are currently putting together a

"Member Exchange" program. Our club has extended an invitation to home-host some of their members and show them the sights of Texas and they will reciprocate.

To help our Canadian Sisters, we sent them some of our club cookbooks, cookbooks published by our local newspaper as well as copies of "903" our local magazine. The Nanaimo Altrusa club will use these items for their silent auction in conjunction with their "Burgers and Beer" fund-raiser to benefit their service project.

(3) Promoting International Relations has been observed in several ways through our "Altrusa is Global" project:

- Twice this year we sent "care packages" to U.S. Troop serving overseas. We located troops from our area and focused on them. The care packages included toiletry items, music CDs, snack treats and most important cards and letters from our club members and youth members of our Boys & Girls Club. We also sent a box of books to Captain Workman in Iraq for his platoon.
- To help reach the "English as a second language" students, we provided readers and books in Spanish and English as part of our "Reading Rodeos" at local elementary schools. Each student was allowed to select a book, a local hero read the book with the student who was allowed to keep the book and enjoy refreshments before returning to class.
- The post cards we sent to Altrusa clubs-at-large members resulted in a pen-pal relationship for several of our members.

- At International Convention in July we finally met face-to-face with one of our Sister Club members. This made them "real" to us, we brainstormed and decided to start a member exchange program, develop a joint service project as well as exchange e-mails and newsletters to keep in touch.

(4) We observed all the following international dates this year:

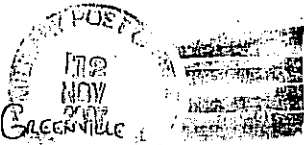
- a. Women's Rights Day, March 8 - Article in club newsletter
- b. World Health Day, April 7 - Article in club newsletter
- c. World Literacy Day, September 8 - Article in club newsletter
- d. International Peace Day, September 16 - Article in club newsletter
- e. United Nations Day, October 24 - Article in club newsletter and verbal accent at meeting
- f. Human Rights Day, December 10 - Article in club newsletter

(5) Our club is aware that Altrusa has a United Nations Representative.

At our October 17th program meeting a member gave a report outlining the history of the United Nations, its official languages and locations of its five headquarters. She went on to explain that in 1946 Altrusa became the first international classified service club of women to have an observer appointed; Margaret Stadler is our main representative at present.

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ALTRUSA INT. OF GREENVILLE
P.O. Box 115
GREENVILLE, TX 75403

11 Nov 07

DEAREST FRIENDS AND PATRIOTS OF ALTRUSA INT.
INTERNATIONAL OF GREENVILLE

AS I WRITE ON THIS ELEVENTH DAY OF THE
ELEVENTH MONTH I THINK OF THE VETERANS WHO
HAVE PRECEDED ME IN SERVING TO OUR BELIEVED
COUNTRY. I AM HONORED TO UPHOLD THE TRADITIONS
OF SO MANY GREAT WARRIORS. I AM HUMLED WHEN
I CONSIDER THE MAGNITUDE OF THE SACRIFICES
THAT HAVE BEEN MADE THAT ALLOW US TO ENJOY
OUR FREEDOM. MY GREATEST PROFESSIONAL AMBITION
IS TO BE WORTHY OF THE GREAT SOLDIERS WHO
WORE THE UNIFORM BEFORE ME.

I APOLOGIZE FOR TAKING SO LONG TO WRITE
TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS AND THOUGHTFUL
PACKAGE. SUCH USEFUL TOUCHES OF HOME MAKE
LIFE HERE MUCH MORE PLEASANT THAN THE SPARTAN
EXISTENCE WE WOULD OTHERWISE LEAD. KNOWING
THAT CARING PEOPLE FROM HOME ARE THINKING OF
US AND ARE WILLING TO GIVE OF THEIR TIME AND
RESOURCES MEANS A LOT TO US.

I AM NOT SURE HOW MUCH INFORMATION YOU

HAVE ABOUT MY TEAM'S MISSION HERE. I AM THE
LOGISTICS ADVISOR (S-4) FOR A MILITARY TRANS-
ITION TEAM. WE ARE AN ELEVEN-MAN TEAM
CHARGED WITH COACHING, TEACHING, AND MENTORING
A BATTALION FROM THE IRAQI ARMY. WE WORK
WITH THEM TO HELP THEM IDENTIFY, LOCATE, AND
PROSECUTE ELEMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ. IT IS AN ODD CONCEPT
FOR US, AS AMERICANS, TO WORK WITH THE
ARMY IN PURSUING ENEMIES WITHIN THEIR OWN
COUNTRY. PART OF MY OATH OF OFFICE OBLIGATES
ME TO FIGHT AGAINST "ALL ENEMIES, FOREIGN
AND DOMESTIC," BUT WE ARE BLESSED WITH A
COUNTRY THAT CAN HAVE DISAGREEMENTS BUT NOT
PRODUCE "DOMESTIC ENEMIES."

WE CAN KNOW THAT WE LIVE IN A BLESSED
COUNTRY FOR THE EXISTENCE OF GROUPS OF LIKE-
MINDED CITIZENS WHO WORK TOGETHER FOR THE
GOOD OF OTHERS, LIKE ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL.
THANK YOU FOR BEING WILLING TO GIVE OF
YOURSELVES AND YOUR SUCCESS TO HELP OTHERS.
GROUPS SUCH AS YOURS REPRESENT AMERICA AT
ITS FINEST - SELFLESS DEDICATION TO THE

ASSISTANCE OF OTHERS.

ON BEHALF OF ALL SERVICEMEMBERS DEPLOYED
HERE AND AROUND THE WORLD, AS WELL AS THOSE
SERVING ON THE HOMEFRONT, THANK YOU FOR YOUR
THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILIES AND US.
KNOWING THAT THE OPINION POLLS AND NAYSAYERS
DO NOT REPRESENT EVERYONE'S OPINION OF OUR
MISSION MEANS A GREAT DEAL TO US.

SINCERELY,

AARON T. WORKMAN
CPT U.S. ARMY