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# Carroll County Chatter



## President's Message

### Happy Holidays to all!

Wow, what a season we have had! Can you believe 2026 will be here in just a few days? This year flew by exceptionally fast!

As you will see in this newsletter, we had a successful few months, despite the holiday chaos we all probably felt. It is because of all us, that we have made such a wonderful impact on our communities. A big "thank you," from myself to all of our members, our guests, and our regulars, who are not quite members yet. Even if you could only participate in one event this year or you completed a task to help a neighbor, whatever it may be, you have made a difference.

Please read the newsletter, answer the question Cathy asked, as it will help all of us to know the answer, and review the areas where volunteers are needed.

We have a couple exciting meetings coming up, with guest speakers. I personally know Lisa DuFault, very well. She's known me since I was a toddler! Feel free to have questions ready for our speakers, as they do a lot of great work, and could be great resource for us.

Another item I want everyone to think about is a project we can expand or a new one we can work on. Cathy covers this in depth from Fall Workshop.

President's message continued...

Anything else we want to add, change, or expand this year? It's a big one for us! We'll celebrate twenty years! I am looking forward to our birthday party and all the exciting opportunities we have coming up.

I hope you all have a wonderful and safe New Year's.

Thank you for always supporting each other (especially me!), encouraging, and for all the hard work every one puts in.

XO  
Jess



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## District One Service Bulletin

The DSB (District One newsletter) was sent via email to all Altrusa club members in District One. The newsletter is sent from Altrusa International. It is important that International has your correct email address so that you can receive this newsletter. In January the Information about District One Spring conference will come via email. Be on the look out! The December DSB was emailed on 12/19/2025

If you did not receive the DSB, please reach out to Cathy B, I checked all of your emails on the International website and I believe they were all correct. But let me know if you didn't receive the DSB.

A lot of work goes into newsletters and communication as both the club, the district and International work hard to keep everyone informed. As a member your responsibility is to be curious and read the Altrusa news and to stay informed. Thank you for making the effort. Cathy B

## Meeting Schedule (January to June)

<b>Board of Directors meetings last Monday of month 4:30 - Madison Library</b>	<b>Business Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the month 5:30 - Madison Library</b>
Monday - December 29th -Postponed - Weather	Tuesday January 6th
Monday - January 26th	Tuesday February 3rd
Monday - February 23rd	Tuesday March 3rd
Monday - March 30th	Tuesday April 7th
Monday - April 27th	Tuesday May 5th
Monday May 25th	Tuesday June 2nd -
Monday June 29th - subject to change	

### Meetings planned for winter months

An agenda will be sent out a few days prior to each meeting, but right now we have a lot of fun things planned to keep us busy through the winter months.

#### **JANUARY 6th, Meeting**

- Guest speaker for the January meeting is Lisa Dufault (MWV Promotions) and Miss Teen MWV, the scholarship competition is in April and we will learn about all of the hard work that goes into that program. Our own Pat M is currently a judge.
- Installation of our newest members -
- Brown Bag Auction - This has become an annual event that gives us a few laughs. This is a fundraiser for the club (not our foundation). The money collected helps us host our membership meeting and support members in attending workshop and conference. To participate, bring an item (unwanted Christmas Gift, duplicate book, no longer needed household item, that one silly gift that just makes no sense, or something nice). The point is to re-gift or re-use the item. Place the item in a bag. Put some kind of a label on the bag that gives a hint of the contents. Our auctioneer will reveal hints of contents and encourage higher bids. A couple of years ago we had a thigh master in one bag, an assortment of jigsaw puzzles in another bag. a ten pin bowling pin. You just never know!
- BRING MONEY - items usually start at around \$5 and go up in bids from there.
- Come prepared to have a laugh or two... members even traded at the end.

#### **FEBRUARY 3rd, Meeting:**

- Guest Speaker will be Emily Caulderwood from MWV STEM Expo. (March 18th) She will be looking for volunteers to help set up the event and also Judges and Tutors. It's a wonderful program which encourages all students to explore Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.
- We'll be assembling cookie trays to take around to thank our first responders, DPW, etc. when we participate in the Random Acts of Kindness week which is Feb 8th to the 14th in 2026.

#### **MARCH 3rd, Meeting**

- Tentative speaker from Waystation
- Details still in planning stage

## Summary of November 4th - business meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Jess. Two guests were introduced, This was their 2nd meeting.

**Secretary Report:** Approval of October minutes and thank you notes from End 68 hrs of Hunger and Once Upon a Story Time

**Treasurer reports:**

Both Club and Foundation are well funded. Summary of half year activities will be available at the January meeting

**Committee Reports:**

- **Communications:** Yearbook Photos are postponed as both photographers were absent.
- **Membership:** Flatbread member information meeting was announced for November 13th. Summary of the event is in the newsletter
- Member survey and discussion groups - summary will be sent under separate email.
- **Community service**
  - Shoppers needed for TCCP Chopping - Cathy Baybutt
  - Servers for Gibson Lunches - Pat McCoy
  - DCYF - party date December 13th - Shawn and Tina are lead - contact them FMI
  - Final call for Soldier Christmas cards and Thank you notes- Cathy Baybutt

After the business part of the meeting was finished. Pat M handed out a member survey that had been created. We've been most fortunate to have many new members in the past year it seemed to be a thoughtful idea to ask all members where their interests lie and what things they would like to do.



Everyone took about 10 minutes to write down their answers to the survey questions. Then we were divided into 4 groups, randomly and asked to discuss some of the answers to the questions. It was also an opportunity to get more

connected between the newer members / guests and the seasoned members. The surveys were collected at the end and will be summarized and used for future activities. Members seemed to enjoy the opportunity to spend time together in conversation.





## Summary of December 9th meeting: Christmas Party



Thank you Lorraine for hosting us for another wonderful Christmas party. Although we have gathered at your house for many years, each year is special. This year our food choices were concentrated on salads, appetizers and desserts. There was such a wonder variety of sweet and savory. Options. Pat M and Tina organized a fun game in an effort to get to know each other better. What Olympic Sport would you like to have participated in? The answers were interesting. LOL. We had time to visit with each other.



Last spring we had partnered with the Cook Memorial Library Friends group and held a raffle. One of the prizes was the offer of Christmas music for your holiday party. Lorraines' sister in law won that prize and gave it to Lorraine. So Becky Riley played on her key board most of the evening and we even had a carol sing-along. It had been many years since any of us had done that!

We had 20 members and 4 guests (Soon to be members) in attendance. The only business that we conducted was to remind everyone about the Tuckerman Brewery Dine to Donate on Thursday night and to remind everyone about the details of the DCYF FOSTer Family party on Saturday. We all went home with full bellies and warm hearts. Merry Christmas to all.

## DISTRICT ONE - GOVERNORS MESSAGE



### December Governor's Message

Hello everyone!

I want to extend a huge shoutout and thank you to the Altrusa of Northeastern CT club for hosting the 2025 Fall Workshop. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and I am glad so many of you were able to join us for an exciting day in what turned out to be a beautiful day in Storrs, CT.

The Board, former Governor's and I are working on the 2026 spring conference agenda. Please mark your calendars for May 1 – 3, 2026 to join us in Nashua NH. We are looking to focus on Altrusa and how to help all clubs get out of their comfort zone.

The other District Governor's have heard from some of their clubs about starting a sibling club program. I would like to ask each of you to fill out this form [Altrusa Sibling Club Interest Form](#). Even if your club is not interested, we would like to know that so we may gauge how broadly there is an interest for a program like this.

I know many clubs take this month off or dedicate themselves to enjoying each other's company. Whatever your club decides to do, I wish all of you the warmest wishes and the Happiest New Year!

I am looking forward to what we will accomplish in District One!

In service,

Susan



### Read the Governor's Message..

Let Jess or the board know ASAP.. if you think it would be fun to have a sibling club? We don't have details, I am guessing we could make it what we wanted.



# Fall Workshop - UCON



The two Cathy's attended fall workshop which was held on the University of Connecticut Campus. As always it was a fun time.

A variety of topics were presented. The service committee presentation was about how Service can light the way. Cards were given out to members and you were asked to find someone with a different color card and then see if you could see the possibilities of new service projects. Mine was STEM and Chris (from NECT club) was children. It was a perfect Segway to discuss the already formed STEM Expo coming in March and how Altrusa could participate with this child centered project. It was perfect.

**Challenge #1:** Each club is asked to create a new SERVICE Project this biennium. I asked if we could expand current projects (as I know there are several opportunities in the works)

**Challenge #2:** Each club was asked to submit at least one project for District Awards. These presentations are always inspiring to other clubs and generate lots of creative ideas,

<https://districtone.altrusa.org/files/2025/11/Service-Committee-presentation.pdf> (copy and paste)

We were also given two challenges. This presentation is uploaded on the District One webpage for all to review. Have you taken the time to check out the International Website. They've worked hard to update and offer ideas

and connections between all of the Districts and clubs.

The photo on the left is the collection of socks that Northeastern CT had and will distribute to those in need. The photo on the right is the "deal" we did in the parking lot. **BOOKS..** the Portland club has a great partnership with BAM books and they receive 100's of books each year. They use these books with their ABC



reading program. But they often have more books than they have students so they offer them to others. Our books will be given to the children at our Foster Family Christmas party.



# Altrusa Accent

## Mamie Bass- Who was she?



Mamie Bass was a foundational organizer of Altrusa. The Altrusa Institute was founded in 1917 by Dr Alfred Durham who saw a need for women's civic organization. He met Mamie Bass in Indianapolis where she was a partner in her brother's architectural firm. When Altrusa held its first convention in 1918 it was due to Mamie's influence that Altrusa became a classified service organization for women. She served as its first President.

In 1963 the International board of directors established the Mamie L. Bass Community service award (later change to the Mamie L. Bass Service award. Each year clubs are encouraged to submit a service project. These projects are judged by the district with the first-place winner being entered to compete in the International Award.

Submitted by Beth Wheatley Dyson

## 2026 Looking ahead...

Future plans for the winter and spring projects which will be discussed in the new year:

- MWV STEM expo - march - guest speaker - February
- MWV Miss Teen scholarship competition- guest speaker - January
- International Project - in Haiti in exploration period
- Planning the Tri-Club 20th Anniversary Party
- Exploring other fundraising opportunities - Dine to Donate
- Exploring a few "fun" events for members
- Member survey - completed at November meeting - Tina will distribute summary in separate email
- Sewing book bags for Babies -winter project
- Community Cookies for the Random Acts of Kindness week. - February meeting
- Waystation - Guest speaker in March







## Community Service

Chairman: Pat Kehoe & Cathy DiGiampietro

Members: Cindy Hyatt, Sue Battles, Theresa Jones,  
Pat McCoy, Donna West, Cathy Baybutt,  
Judy Keane, Shawn Flanagan Rogers,  
Kristi McNulty, Julie Van Dyne  
Lorraine Streeter, Tina Craig, Pat Hoffman

### Update from community Service

Many volunteer projects are on going. The list below includes dates and contact person. If you'd like to volunteer or would like to know more about each of these events/activities contact the person listed as leader.

***The community service committee will meet in January to review and evaluate fall projects and look towards winter and spring service projects. Time and Date TBD***

If you would like to attend this committee meeting, reach out to Pat K and she will add your name to the list for notification.

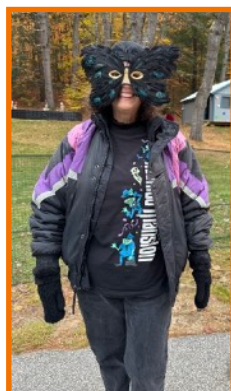
If you have ideas for service projects, this is the committee to present the ideas to.

Current Projects	Leader
Gibson Center Lunch (2nd Tuesday each month)	Pat McCoy & Donna West
End 68 Hrs of Hunger - 4th Thursday - 10 AM - Middle School	Pat Kehoe
Habitat for Humanity - Lunch program - 1st Thursday May to Nov	Cindy Hyatt - club coordinator
Starting Point Comfort Bags - Comfort Closet - as needed	Cathy Baybutt
Starting Point Birthday Bags - as needed	Jess Theberge
Christmas cards & Thank you cards to soldiers - as needed	Cathy Baybutt
Halloween Town - Laura Foundation for Epilepsy & Autism	Pat Kehoe & Cathy DiGiampietro
Foster Family Christmas Party with NHDCYF - December 13th	Shawn Rogers - Tina Craig
Tamworth Community Christmas Project - shopping - December	Cathy Baybutt
Community Appreciation Cookies - random acts of kindness week	February 15th - 20th - TBD

Once a month

On going / as needed

Once a Year



## Halloween Town Presented by Camp Tohkomeupog & Purity Spring Resort

Saturday, October 25th, 2025

## A benefit for the Laura Foundation for Autism and Epilepsy



Halloween Town has been designed with the desire to offer kids an opportunity to enjoy... what some of us remember from childhood... Traditional Halloween Fun. By that I mean, the ability to walk around a “neighborhood” and visit houses in trick-or-treat style. Tohkomeupog has a number of rustic cabins which were theatrically transformed in preparation for this truly unique event. Thank you Governor Susan (and family) for joining us.





## Monthly Volunteer projects

### Gibson Senior Center



November and December have been very busy for the Blue Apron Ladies.

In November the regular luncheon wasn't served as Gibson was closed on November 11th, but there

were two special Thanksgiving lunches served in one week. So Altrusa volunteers were very busy. December members served their usual date of 2nd Tuesday of the month but then had two Special Christmas meals. It's interesting how things work out. End 68 Hrs is usually once a month on the 4th Thursday of the month, but those were both canceled because November was Thanksgiving Day and December was vacation week.



**End 68 hrs of Hunger** was changed as well. From Thursday to Wednesday. Altrusans are flexible and a crew showed up on a days notice to back the 150+ weekend bags. Thanks to all who stepped up and made it happen.

### Habitat for Humanity - lunches

Our final lunch of the year was served to the volunteers at the habitat for humanity house. The house is nearly completed and the family is hoping to move in before Christmas. Thanks to members Deb (and her husband - chef) a hearty beef stew was delivered the the crew. We heard it was delicious and a very big hit on a very cold day. The stew warmed the bellies and the thank you's warmed our hearts. Next May we'll start delivering meals at the new HFH House.





# Soldier Cards - Christmas and Thank you

On going / as needed



For several years Altrusa club members, families and friends have written thank you cards and Christmas cards to deployed soldiers. We partner with [soldiercarepackages.org](http://soldiercarepackages.org) at the First Baptist Church of Hingham, MA. As you can see from the two large packages, we had a lot of cards to send.

Julie, one of our newest members works at the K.A. Brett School in Tamworth and thought it would be wonderful to include the children in this project. As you can see there were a lot of creative designs and notes written. Julie also volunteers at the Adult Day Center and they were having a Veterans Day program so she brought cards to those veterans attending the service. Thanking them for all they did while serving in the Military.

Her colleague, Donna, from the Freedom Elementary School thought this too would be an opportunity for their students to say thank you to Veterans and to those soldiers (sailors, marines, coast guard) who are deployed. So many cards were written and included in these two packages.

Our Altrusans (friends and family) had nearly 175 cards to include. We are so thankful to those who took the time to write a note and show appreciation. Thank you to the patrons of the Madison PO, they completed cards and we included them as well.

One thing that was brought to light, is that many of the young students didn't actually understand that we have soldiers who currently serve. So it was a teaching moment to talk about and appreciate.

The boxes were filled with small items like chapstick, playing cards, pencils, paper, word search, crossword, sudoku books that could be tucked into a larger package.

We'll plan to collect Thank you Cards in the Spring. All are invited to write a few cards and we'll be happy to send them along.







Once a Year



## Tamworth Community Christmas Project (TCCP)

TCCP provides warm winter clothing and footwear to children from Tamworth. This year we had 10 Altrusa Club members volunteer to shop for these children. From the bags I got to deliver, those kids will be warm and cozy and have some nice outdoor time. Especially as winter has come early this year.

[tamworthchristmas.org](http://tamworthchristmas.org)



## DCYF - Foster Family Christmas Party - Sat - Dec 13th

Pictures tell the story more than words. Santa, Mrs Clause, Marion the Elf, Aaron, Moose with a Uke, Books, Hats, stuffed animals, members to set up, members to serve, members to clean up, dancing, time with Santa, Face Painting, Food, Cookies from Dave's Bagels and quiet time with a new friend playing chess. Perfect! Thanks to all who helped, who baked, who donated time and talent. Merry Christmas.









# Community Grants Committee:

Lorraine S, Cindy H, Pat K, Pat M, Donna W, Cathy B.

## Community Grants

The Laura Foundation.

Children Unlimited



Community Grants	In Support of	Gaming Funds	Regular Foundation Budget
Waystation	Homeless	\$2,000.00	Delivered
End 68 hrs of Hunger	Food insecurity (children)	\$2,000.00	Delivered
Laura Foundation	Special needs programs	\$2,000.00	Delivered
Carroll Academy	Scholarship	\$2,000.00	Delivered
Diaper Depot	Personal care	\$2,000.00	On-going
Tamworth farmers - SNAP	Food insecurity	\$250.00	Delivered
North Country Cares	Assistance (Teens)	\$2,500.00	Delivered
Children Unlimited	Assistance (Families)	\$2,000.00	Delivered
Miss MWV Teen	Sponsorship / scholarship	\$350.00	Delivered
Brown Church	Flood relief	\$2,000.00	Delivered





## Finance Committee

**Chairman: Cathy Baybutt, Foundation Treasurer**

Members: Diane Robinson, Deb Doucet,  
Barb Kennett, Cindy Hyatt,



**Finance Committee involves:**

- Creating budgets (both club and foundation)
- Supporting treasurers with their responsibilities
- Having an annual internal audit done of the accounts
- Assembling information for the accountant
- Helping with Grant applications if applicable
- Filing annual report to Altrusa International Foundation

Foundation treasurer's update: The annual report to Altrusa International Foundation has been completed and emailed to Altrusa International Foundation. Filing date is 12/31/2025  
The required bond has been renewed and paid for. The Altrusa International Foundation is the organization that provides us with our 501(c)3 status.

Fundraisers: The month of October, the Hannaford Ossipee store selected Carroll County Altrusa to receive \$1 for each reusable grocery bag sold as well as their Bloom program. We received a check totaling \$32. We always appreciate this partnership.

For the January meeting, we'll have a half year summary of current accounts, total spent per project, and balances left.

## The mystery of the missing raffle tickets?

We often have a 50/50 raffle at the club meetings. We have had 50/50 raffles at FlatBreads and at Tuckerman's. We were unaware that we required written permission from the Selectman of the town where we are planning to hold a raffle. We did receive approval for Tuckerman's and all is good. But going forward with any event we need to apply to the selectman and have any raffle approved at one of their regular selectman meetings. We've always done that with the calendar raffle in Tamworth.

But the topic of raffle tickets came up.. it was like "where's Waldo? For your information after we use the numbered raffle tickets, they are always returned to our storage box at the Madison Library. We have several storage boxes with paper goods, water, club banner etc. and we keep them at the Madison Library. You can access the storage any day that the library is open, it's down stairs in the back of the meeting room. Just plan ahead.. both by getting approval for a raffle and getting (and returning) the raffle tickets.



# FUN with FUNDRAISING



Sometimes the part of fundraising that is the most fun is getting ready. We had quite a group of crafters who under the guidance of Theresa created some pretty cute refrigerator magnets. These were made to sell at the Madison PTO craft Fair. Nancy, Barb, Becky and Cathy set up the table on Friday night. On Saturday, Diane H and Tina worked the early shift with Nancy and then Becky and Pat M providing 2nd shift support. Thank you Nancy for organizing us and continuing our traditional fundraising. Becky provided some cozy knit socks (using her new sock knitting machine) Diane R put her exceptional hand craft skills to work with elegant beaded Christmas ornaments. We had a few repeats in etched glass and hand knit dish cloths. Nancy crocheted multiple hand towels with holiday themes. And the standby Jams and Jellies (by Cathy B) were available.



Before

After







## Literacy Committee

Co-Chair: Lorraine Streeter & Barb Kennett  
Members: Marilyn Hughes, Judy Workman,  
Sue Battles, Sue Jones, Cathy Baybutt  
Beth Wheatley Dyson, Pat Hoffman



We received a request in the mail from the Sandwich Children's center. They were looking for science and nature books for their preschool program, could we help them out? Last year when we were developing our literacy committee budget for the next year, we had set aside funds for a new literacy focussed program,. This seemed to be a perfect match. Lorraine and Cathy B delivered a check to the Sandwich Children's Center that they could use to purchase the requested books. We

also offered them 3 magazines subscriptions (from **Mail for Me Program**) and Lorraine returned with information bags to hand out to children (and their parents) for the **Make Way for Readers Program**. The Sandwich Children's center partners with the Samuel H. Wentworth Library, as they attend weekly story time. We noticed they had a little free library in front of the school. This is always a good place to donate or swap out a book. It was wonderful to meet Katie, the director of the school as she explained that the school offers programs to 3 age groups, Toddlers (18 mo to 36 mo), Preschoolers (Ages 3-5)) and School Age (Grade k-3) this is also an after school/ summer program. We will stay connected.

### DCYF - Christmas Party

We did connect with the Portland Altrusa club who donated about 50 books for us to share with the Foster families at the Foster Family Christmas Party. We're feeling good about that. Thank you to Portland Altrusa Club and their partnership with their local BAM store. The books were great and the kids loved them.

### Book Bags for Babies - Winter Project

At some point this winter, the committee will organize a "cutting" party where we will cut out and assemble all the parts that go in to the Book Bags for Babies. These will be given to those members who enjoy sewing, for assembly. We'll collect them in March and distribute to the Cook Memorial Library in Tamworth and the Freedom Public Library in Freedom.. There has been discussion of adding another library, Madison, so the committee will explore that.



## Membership / Hospitality Committee

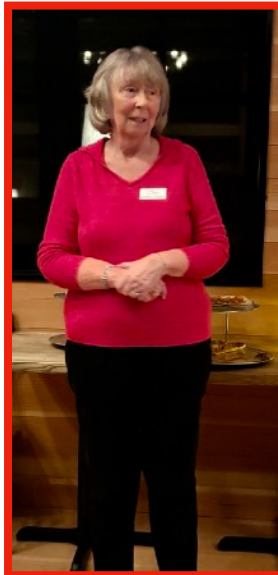
Co-Chair: Barb Kennett & Tina Craig

Members: Nancy Spaulding, Diane Robinson, Beth Wheatley Dyson, Julie Van Dyne, Pat McCoy, Marsha Brown, Janel Maxwell, Pat Hoffman

### Flatbreads Membership Information Meeting

November 13th - Club members and guests gathered at Flatbread Pizza for an evening of fun and information. Pizza was great! The new building and function room were perfect for our meeting. We had 14 Altrusans and 11 guests. Barb acted as our MC for the evening. Jess told us **What Altrusa Is** and why it's important to her, Cathy B reflected on the **beginnings of the Carroll County Club** 19

years ago and what inspired her to become an Altrusan. Pat M then had us do a get acquainted activity which was fun for both guests and members. Cathy D and Pat K explained our **Community Service** projects and how important it is to match your interest with those activities as you choose where to volunteer. Lorraine reviewed all of the **Literacy Committee** programs. We wrapped up with door prizes, new friends, old friends, new volunteers and a couple of new members. Thank you to Barb and her committee for making it a fun evening for all.





## Communication Committee

### **Communications Committee involves:**

Newsletter - Cathy Baybutt  
Creating & Publishing the yearbook, the brochures and business cards  
Facebook updates, - Beth Wheatley Dyson & Cathy Baybutt  
Blog updates - Beth Wheatley Dyson  
Website - under construction - Jess Theberge  
Calendar of activities to community and Storyboard - Cathy DiGampietro

At the Christmas Party, Tina and Pat H took head shots of members and plan to send them to Beth who is working on our club yearbook. This is a time consuming project and we're hoping that the template we use will be easily updated annually. The goal is to distribute a copy to each member..

### **Communication / Membership information**

#1 To all of our guests who received membership packets. The membership committee is planning an initiation at the January meeting. If you have decided to become an Altrusa club member, could you let Barb know that you will be bringing your application and your check to the January meeting (or deliver to her before hand), that would be very helpful. We'd love to celebrate all of our new members together.

#2 In January we will be initiating several new members which is so very exciting. One way that we help each other get to know them is to include a photo and a short biography in the next newsletter. This is also shared with the District Service Bulletin.

**If you are a new member or if you are a sponsor of a new member** please take a few minutes to have a chat and write up a short biography of our new member. Things you might want to include:

- Where did you grow up / family?/ history?
- Education / Career / Job
- Volunteer interests
- What do you think Altrusa will provide you?
- What do you have to offer Altrusa?

Send photo and biography to Cathy Baybutt, editor

### **Question for the raffle drawing at the January meeting.**

If you read this and find the answer in the newsletter, email your answer to [cathybaybutt@gmail.com](mailto:cathybaybutt@gmail.com)  
Please put in the subject line Altrusa - Answer. You will be eligible for a drawing for a small prize when you attend the January meeting.

**The question... Where are the Raffle Tickets that we use for 50/50 raffle kept?**

**Next newsletter - February/ March  
Submission Deadline - February 20, 2026**



## Calendar of Events - Save the Dates

December		
December 29th	Board meeting	
January		
Tuesday - 6th	Monthly Meeting - 5:30 -	Brown Bag Auction & Miss MWV Teen - Guest
Tuesday - 13th	Gibson Center - serving lunch	Volunteers needed
Thursday - 22nd	End 68 Hrs of Hunger - 10 AM	Volunteers needed
Monday - 26th	Board of Directors Meeting	
February		
Tuesday - 3rd	Monthly meeting	Cookies - random acts of kindness week & Emily Caldwell MWV STEM
Tuesday - 10th	Gibson Center - serving lunch	Volunteers needed
Thursday - 26th	End 68 hrs of Hunger	Volunteers needed
Monday - 23rd	Board of Directors Meeting	
March		
Tuesday - 3rd	Monthly Meeting	Speaker - from Waystation -
Tuesday - 10th	Gibson Lunch	Volunteers needed
Wednesday - 18th	MWV - STEM Expo	Volunteers needed - sign up directly
Thursday - 26th	End 68 Hrs of Hunger	Volunteers needed
Monday - 30th	Board of Directors Meeting	

There are probably additional meetings and activities but these were the ones that I was aware of at the time of this newsletter.

**This article was taken from the report sent to all from International Foundation.**

At the Quebec Convention this program was introduced to the membership. As a club, our Altrusa of Carroll County has been a Club 21 member for many years, we will have to vote to increase our club donation from \$210 to \$252 to become a Charter Member and transition from Club 21 to Club 52.



## **Introducing Club 52**

### **Honoring Our Legacy, Building the Future**

The name Club 21 was chosen in anticipation of the 21st century, which began just three years after Club 21's launch. Now, we celebrate the 30th anniversary of this powerful initiative. Over the past 30 years, Club 21 has grown from a single camp for children with AIDS/HIV to supporting a wide range of programs for children facing physical, mental, and emotional disabilities, cancer and blood disorders, and other medical and socioeconomic challenges. Our reach now extends even further, encompassing international education and health initiatives. With this growth, the need—and the cost—has naturally increased. What was once a meaningful \$21 donation in 1997 is equivalent to nearly \$50 in 2025.

At the 59th International Convention in Québec City, we officially transitioned from Club 21 to Club 52. Two Hundred Seventy-Four Altrusans attending the Convention became Charter Members of Club 52. This new chapter invites everyone to contribute \$1 per week for 52 weeks—or a one-time donation of \$52—to continue and expand the legacy we've built together.

All who donate from July 2025 through May 31, 2026, including at Spring 2026 District Conferences or via our website—will be recognized as Charter Members of Club 52.

Clubs and Districts contributing \$252 or more during this period will also be recognized as Charter Members and will receive a Club 52 patch for their banners as a symbol of their commitment and impact.

I've included the link to the Altrusa Foundation website that gives a video summary of Club 21 and its transition to Club 52. There is also a link to make your own personal donation to Club 52 and become a charter member. Many of our club members have been members for many years. We usually renew our memberships in March / April. You can donate at any time of the year.

<https://foundation.altrusa.org/giving-programs-2/club-52/>

You'll receive a very nice little Club 52 pin to wear with your Altrusa club pin.



## Meeting Reminders:



- Wear your name tag
- Bring a Friend
- Share your ideas
- Bring blank note cards and birthday cards (for Gibson Center)
- Save your aluminum can tabs - these go to the Shriners
- Bring books to swap
- Read your newsletters - this will help keep you informed and also have a reminder of important dates.

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**Des Plaines, IL 60018**  
**1-312-427-4410**

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Email: [altrusa@altrusa.org](mailto:altrusa@altrusa.org)  
Facebook: **Altrusa International**

**Altrusa International Foundation**  
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Website: [foundation.altrusa.org](http://foundation.altrusa.org)  
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**SPRING CONFERENCE - NASHUA, NH**  
**April 24-26, 2026**  
**Hosted by past District One Governors**  
**Call to Conference will be in the January DSB**

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**Columbus, Ohio - July, 21-24, 2027**

### Missing this month Birthday Celebrations

When I went through the list to update member birthdays I realized that I was missing nearly half of the dates. There will be a sign up sheet at the next meeting. I'd like your birthday month and day.  
Thank you.