

Altrusa Tiffinette

Upcoming events

Tues., April 6

3:30 - Seneca County Youth Center for games

7:15 - Meeting at Autumnwood - Bring hand sanitizers for district conference

Thurs., Apr. 15

6:30 - Seneca County Youth Center for games

Tues., April 20

6:30 - meeting with Findlay Altrusa at Tiffin AMVets - Reservations must be in to Joyce Lather by April 11

Fri., Apr. 23-25

District Five Convention, Dublin, OH

President's Message

Dear Ladies,

Welcome Spring... Well, at least it is trying to poke its head out. As I hear clients in my office talk about the weather this year, I think most all feel they've had enough winter this year, and are so ready for spring and the warm sun.

Looking back we have had a good year in our club. Our bus trip turned out better than we expected due to Dawn's determination to do what she could to bring the cost down. Our Bridal Fair was good too. I heard a lot of comments and was offered some suggestions which we will take in consideration, plus the weather that day was not bad. It is always hard to predict what the weather will do in January.

Some of our members will be going to Sandusky, OH to the Soldiers and Sailors Home to have an Easter get together. Karen Knaur took baskets out to the Seneca County Youth Center to have them decorate the baskets for the residents from Seneca County. They will be going on March 31, so if you would like to take part in this adventure please contact Karen for the time and place to meet. We have also signed up for baked goods to take, if you were not at the last meeting and want to provide something for the baskets, get in touch with Karen.

I am very excited about our next new venture, the Bob Evans Community Fun Night. The date was changed to May 3, 2010 and we have the flyers already. This should be a pretty easy fundraiser as we just need to get those flyers out to everyone you can think of. Put some in your car, take them to work, have a few in your purse, so when you see someone give them one, if you can put them in the lunch room where you work or on the bulletin board at work. It is as easy as that. Dawn will have a supply of them at Something Special and you can pick them up there soon. She will put out an email when she gets them printed and then you can stop at the shop and get them and will have at the next meeting too.

Our Chicago Bus Trip is booked for Sept. 25th and 26th. We are only taking one bus, so if you plan on going get your tickets, because I think those seats are going to fill up fast.

Above were the happy notes, but as you all know our members- Barb Vogel's husband and Tami Staib's father, Dean Sr., lost his battle with cancer last week. I want to say how proud I am of our Altrusa Sisters. It was heartwarming how so many came forth to help the family in anyway. Some helped Tami at the store, so Barb could stay with Dean and not have to worry about her business. Some members took meals out, sent cards, called, and kept them in their prayers, it all helped. The family knew we were there. One thing I have found in members of Altrusa, they are members with very big hearts not only there for our community to help, but we are there for each other in anyway we can help. I thank you and I know Barb, Tami and the rest of the family thanks you many times over.

Carol





From The International President Donna C. Johnson, Gainesville, Florida

To all Altrusans: We are so close to meeting our International membership goal for this year I can almost taste it. We need only 689 new members between now and May 31, 2010 to claim success. That's just 50 members per district. (Of course we'll need a few more than that to cover for current members who move or leave for other reasons, but let's keep it simple.) You may recall that when we approved our International budget for 2009-2011 we took the unprecedented (in recent years) step of declaring that we **would** end the first year of the biennium with **no net loss of members**. I decided to restate this slightly to **"We will end the year with one more member than we had at the same time a year ago"**. And now we're coming very quickly up to the finish line for meeting our commitment to Altrusa. And as we all know, the hallmark of Altrusans is we can find a way to accomplish anything to which we set our minds. So now you know why my taste buds are tingling at the prospect of success. Our goal is within reach. Make this your mantra. **It's all about asking. Share Altrusa now.** We've got April to make our big push and Add an Altrusan Day



(May 2-8) to top it off. Meeting our membership goal is important to demonstrate we are committed to stabilizing our membership as we go forward with revitalization, rebranding and a new marketing strategy. I know how easy it is to think someone else will do it or to make all kinds of excuses. I've done it myself. But, I'm stepping up right now to introduce Altrusa to several new people in order to do my part and I'm counting on you to do the same. **Here's to +1 by May 31**

Committee Reports

Literacy by Sandy Yarbrough

The Altrusa Group was busy making up more buddies and bears for the hospital. Once these were done, it was decided at the last meeting that we would need to purchase additional books for the hospital project. It was decided that we should do some books for the younger children and some word find game type books for the older children. Karen volunteered to see what she could find. Thank you Karen.

We also will again be helping the Sentinel school with the GED program. We will be giving \$500.00 toward transportation, so that anyone wishing to take GED classes may do so without worrying about transportation.

Service by Vicki Zeigler

Bingo Workers needed for American Red Cross Bingo Nights. Each Wednesday at Tiffin Mall volunteers run the canteen and help out. If you can help, call Donna at the Red Cross office 419-447-1424. Be there at 5:45 to set up.



SCYC by Karen Knaur

Last Friday Harriett White and Karen Knaur, along with a friend of Karen's Annette Griffin, went to the SCYC and taught teens how to make polymer clay keyrings. We dropped off some magazines and

stress balls to Rita, who had been asked to create another "wish list" for us.

Those who signed up for the next SCYC sessions are Harriett White and Joyce Lather on Tues., April 6 and Dawn Riedel and Carol Hammer on Thurs., April 22.

Please check and see if you have any of these items that you can share:

- markers
- crayons
- scrapbook paper
- board games (many of theirs have only partial pieces)
- card games
- yarn
- plastic knitting machine/ looms
- knitting tool
- word finds

Finance by Dawn Riedel

I have received word from Bob Evans that our fund-raising request has been approved. Jeff will give Theresa the form Bob Evans requires us to pass out to customers. I hope she will have copies to pass out Tuesday night. We get 15% of all purchases from coupons turned in.

Bus trip is set. It will be Sept. 25 & 26. You already have the details. New price is \$130.00 - Breakfast is included. Must be 4 per room. We can not accommodate 2 per room, because club did not authorize me to set extra rooms back.

(Committee reports continued on page 6)

Altrusa International, Inc. of Tiffin, Ohio
March 16, 2010 Business Meeting American Red Cross Office Tiffin Mall

President Carol Hammer called meeting to order at 7:15 pm in ARC offices and provided by Donna McConahay of the Red Cross. Prayer and Allegiance were repeated followed by the roll. Present Aller, Fraley, Frederick, Hammer, Harrison, Heil, Hoschar, Howard, Knaur, Lather, Sendelbach, Stallard, Steinmetz, White, Yarborough, and Ziegler. Sheryl Holman, owner of FrameWorks, was the guest of Knaur.

Minutes for 03.02.2010 were distributed and approved.

Treasurer's Reports Wendy/ Service- her report was emailed to everyone. A request by President Hammer to move Bridal Fair and Bus Trip (Fundraisers) into a category at the bottom of the report will be done. Sandy /Operating- her report was also emailed to everyone and both were filed for audit.

Update on Dean Sr. Members are helping Tami at Rock Run, Hospice is at their home and family has been called in. Dean passed away on 03.18.2010

Committee Reports

Newsletter- Help is still needed for articles from committees and individuals. A new column titled "Altrusa Annie's Almanac" is being worked on By Harriett with both Kathleen and Knaur helping with scanning the photos.

Scholarships Joyce noted the deadline was changed to April 15th. Letters were sent out by the committee to 13 Seneca County Schools; a change in our Website will be changed by Carol.

Community Service Vicki read letter from American Red Cross Bingo Nights with request the "Altrusa Crew" possibly help with 2 nights a month. Times- 4:45 pm- 9:00 pm at Food Table. Next date for us will be 03.24.2010. It's fun and our name Altrusa is out in the public! Gloria will help coordinate requested dates with Donna McConahay at the ARC.

Soldiers & Sailors Home/Sandusky 03.31.2010 is set for us to go over and present Easter Baskets to Seneca County Veterans (13) and visit. Those to date who are going are White, Fraley, Stallard, Harrison, Knaur and Howard. Baked goods were requested with sign-up sheet passed

Contact info...

Tiffin Altrusa President **Carol Hammer**, (419) 443-1311 or mscshammer@hotmail.com

Altrusa Tiffinette Newsletter Editor Karen Knaur, (419) 435--3131 or LoisLa0303@aol.com

Special thanks to contributors: Mary Lou Harrison, Harriett White and Carol Hammer

The *Altrusa Tiffinette* is published at the beginning of each month. Articles, minutes, inspirational pieces, story ideas, recipes and even jokes are welcome. These are due by the second meeting of each month. Please send them in 12 pt. Arial. Do not use all caps or funky type, please!

Checkout our website at

<http://www.tiffinaltrusa.com>

around. Homes Savings at Westgate will be our pick up location at 12:30 pm.

Special Events April 20th is the date to meet with the Findlay Altrusa Club. Location will be at the Am Vets with table decorations, menu selection, cost, invitation and program will be completed by our next meeting.

Teen Center Knaur asked membership to give thought to helping Tiffin Teen Center. She thought there was a need and spoke to Lee Martin (board member) about what they could do to work something out. It was tabled for the time being.

Seneca County Youth Center. Knaur and Frederick went out on 03.02.2010; White and Frederick 03.18.2010. Teens enjoy educational games that make them think. If anyone has games like Scrabble, guessing games, Pictionary, etc., let committee know. We want to take them out on our scheduled days, BUT bring them back home. Many of their games are missing pieces and need ballpoint pens, pencils. Card games such as Euchre, Canasta, Hearts, etc. also can be played.

Literacy Forty-three books were packed at Hammer's home on 15th for "Books & Buddies." They will be given to Mercy Hospital Children's ward. There is a need for more coloring books, children's books. A motion made by Chairman Sandy, seconded by Knaur to purchase \$200 worth of new books. Knaur will do shopping where there is store with 50% cost per books on sale. Motion carried. Members are asked to bring ballpoint pens and pencils to place in bags which were purchased recently from Dawn's shop. Ages for books are birth to 12 years old.

GED / Sentinel School Cathe Hammer has requested another \$500 for students and transportation throughout school year. This is second year and we should possibly look into the project for a Literacy Award next year.

District Conference Policy 3 in our Yearbook sets aside \$400 per year for 2 delegates to attend. President Hammer's room will be paid but her registration of \$100 will be paid by the club. President-elect Karen Simonds will have her registration of \$100 paid, but does not want to stay over night so that leaves \$200 left. The \$200.00 will be divided by (6) members going. They are Frederick, Riedel, Lather, Harrison, White, and Fraley. The motion was made to approve the above by Frederick, seconded by Howard and Stallard. Carried.

ASTRA Chairman Fraley spoke on possibility of us sending (2) young adults to Conference for First Annual Youth Leadership. A motion made by Howard, seconded by Ziegler to pay \$15.00 each registration for Charaya Myers and Rachelle Moore. Motion carried. Charaya and Rachelle are Gloria's granddaughters and have helped in many of our projects including Bridal Fair.

Fundraising Update Chicago Weekend will be in Sept. Bob Evans is pending with more on it at our next meeting

New Business

Our new District Five Altrusa Banner is here. Frederick will sew the Awards patch on and Carol is looking into the printing needed. Opal will be the "Keeper of the Banner" Habitat Humanity Luncheon will be on April 3rd. Joyce and Nancy Steinmetz will be in charge.

Next Meeting at Autumnwood on April 6th. 6:30pm Bingo and Board Meeting. 7:15pm Business Meeting. Chairman Vicki will have the Bingo prizes for the 6th.

Raffle by Joyce Lather Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm
Respectfully submitted, Harriett White, Recording Secretary

March Happenings



Top: Treasurers, Sandy Yarbrough and Wendy Stallard, exchange paperwork. **Center:** Members and guests meet at American Red Cross office. **Bottom:** Karen Knaur shares Easter basket items with veteran.





Top left: Volunteer Mary Hale and Nancy Frederick check out some of the items given to vets. *Top right:* Another veteran shares stories with us. *Bottom:* Altrusans and guest pose for a Kodak moment in front of Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky.

Committee Reports

(Committee reports continued from page 2)

Scholarship Committee by Joyce Lather

At the March 2 meeting, the Scholarship Committee proposed that we change the time of awarding scholarships from the end of summer to the end of the school year. This will allow the recipients to be announced at the high school awards ceremonies, and provide greater recognition for Altrusa.

I revised the application form with a deadline of

April 15, and sent copies to 13 high schools in Seneca County. The notice was published in the Advertiser-Tribune on March 28 and the web site has been updated with the revised application form.

As the applications come in, I am sending out reference requests. Shortly after April 15, the committee will meet and select the awardees for 2010.



Recipe for Membership

Combine:

2 cups determination to build a strong club
1 cup committed potential members
1 cup hands-on projects
1 cup communications
1 cup support
2 cups desire to serve our fellow man

Blend with:

1 pint strong leadership
1 gallon FUN

Fold in:

3 tablespoons retention based activities

2 or 3 theme parties to taste
1/2 cup Altrusa accents
1/2 cup member highlights
2 cups vision

Pour into a well-oiled pan, pop into a community that's just waiting to be served and

WATCH THOSE ALTRUSANS COOK!!

submitted by Kathleen Howard

We have it all backwards

by Thomas McKee

Contagious Volunteer Leadership: How the Volunteer Administrator Instills Vision

How many visionary ideas have been left in the clouds because very few catch the passion of the visionary? How many Big Hairy Audacious Goals, to use Jim Collin's description in Good To Great, have been left on a flip chart, a brainstorming list, or in the notes of a speech because no one would follow? Many of these goals were winners, but an idea without passionate follow through is just a dream. Many visionary ideas never get off the ground because we have it all backwards. What do most leaders do when they have a vision? They make a speech, write an article, or try to inspire others to follow them. This process is all backwards. Making a passionate speech is an important step, but two important steps must precede the public presentation. The three steps of contagious leadership are not only important to inspire others, but the order is very significant.

Step One: Communicate your passion with a hammer



Former president Jimmy Carter demonstrated this step effectively. He wanted people to catch the vision of providing quality housing for the under-resourced people. Rather than giving speeches about his passion, he and his wife Rosalyn picked up hammers, put on overalls and started hitting nails for Habitat for Humanity. After months of embodying his passion, then he started giving speeches. And people listened. How can you not listen to a person who has calluses on his hands?

Step Two: Communicate your passion on a tailgate

When we embody our vision, we can look into the eyes of our friends and potential volunteers and say, "I am giving my time and energy to the fulfillment to this vision. I'd love you to help me. But even if you don't, I am going to do this. One way or another, I am going to make this happen."

("We have it backwards" continued on page 7)

("We have it backwards" continued from page 6)

When the person with callused hands has demonstrated the vision sits on the tailgate of a pickup truck and casts a vision to someone else, look out. The one-on-one communication is focused and powerful. If you ask for help in a crowd of 100, everyone else feels that others will get involved. If you ask for help in a group of ten, people will see other volunteers. If you ask for help one-on-one, it is hard to ignore the vision of the leader. Especially when the leader says, "Tom, will you help us? Jon, we need your truck this Saturday. Joan, I need a senior staff position filled and I believe that you could handle it."

Step Three: Communicate your passion in the bully pulpit

The best speakers are storytellers. They keep an audience on the edge of seats as they tell their success stories. And these stories inspire people to action. People want to be a part of a winning team. What better story to tell than the success of your vision in action already by a small band of volunteers who now join in your vision. Then have a few of them share their excitement about what this vision has meant to them. It is hard to argue with success. Today we have many "bully pulpits." We can speak at our general membership meetings, write articles in our organization publications or newspapers, or speak at local service clubs. If you have a story to tell, people will come to hear you speak.

We have it backwards

We have it backwards. We often make the public announcement first, then ask for volunteers, and then put on the overalls. But when we have demonstrated our passion, recruited a handful of volunteers and then shared the success story look out. Look what has happened to Habitat for Humanity.

Tom McKee is a leading volunteer management speaker, trainer and consultant. You can reach Tom at (916) 987-0359 or e-mail Tom@VolunteerPower.com. Other articles and free resources are available at www.volunteerpowers.com.
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Reprinted from Altrusa International's website

Vodka - Who knew?



1. To remove a bandage painlessly, saturate the bandage with vodka. The stuff dissolves adhesive.

2. To clean the caulking around bathtubs and showers, fill a trigger-spray bottle with vodka, spray the caulking, let set five minutes and wash clean. The alcohol in the vodka kills mold and mildew.

3. To clean your eyeglasses, simply wipe the lenses with a soft, clean cloth dampened with vodka. The alcohol in the vodka cleans the glass and kills germs.

4. Prolong the life of razors by filling a cup with vodka and letting your safety razor blade soak in the alcohol after shaving. The vodka disinfects the blade and prevents rusting.

5. Spray vodka on wine stains, scrub with a brush, and then blot dry.

6. Using a cotton ball, apply vodka to your face as an astringent to cleanse the skin and tighten pores.

7. Add a jigger of vodka to a 12-ounce bottle of shampoo. The alcohol cleanses the scalp, removes toxins from hair, and stimulates the growth of healthy hair.

8. Fill a sixteen-ounce trigger-spray bottle with

vodka and spray bees or wasps to kill them.

9. Pour one-half cup vodka and one-half cup water into a Ziploc freezer bag and freeze for a slushy, refreshing ice pack for aches, pain or black eyes.

10. Fill a clean, used mayonnaise jar with freshly packed lavender flowers and vodka. Seal the lid tightly and set in the sun for three days. Strain liquid through a coffee filter, then apply the tincture to aches and pains.

11. To relieve a fever, use a washcloth to rub vodka on your chest and back as a liniment.

12. To cure foot odor, wash your feet with vodka.

13. Vodka will disinfect and alleviate a jellyfish sting.

14. Pour vodka over an area affected with poison ivy to remove the urushiol oil from your skin.

15. Swish a shot of vodka over an aching tooth. Allow your gums to absorb some of the alcohol to numb the pain.

submitted by Mary Lou

ALTRUSA

**Annual
Findlay & Tiffin**

**Altrusa
Get Together**



Dinner

Tues., April 20

6:30 pm

Tiffin AmVets

1909 South S.R. 100

Dinner includes tossed salad, rolls, herb seasoned chicken breast, rice, Key West blend vegetables. choice of water, coffee, tea (hot or iced), dessert Cash bar available

Cost for meal- \$14

RSVP to Joyce Lather

419 618-2144 or email at soapyjel@yahoo.com

Reservations required by Sunday, April 11