

# Altrusa Tiffinette

## Upcoming events

### Tues., December 1

3:30 - Seneca  
County Youth  
Center for crafts

6:30 - Board mtg.  
at the Shawhan

7:00 - Meeting at  
the Shawhan

### Tues., December 15

7:00 Christmas  
party with  
spouses at  
Amvets on Rte.  
100

### Thurs., December 17

6:30 - Seneca  
County Youth  
Center for games

### Sat., December 19

ringing Salvation  
Army bells at  
Krogers

## President's Message

November 11, 2009

Dear Members,

What beautiful weather we are having. Today is Veterans Day and I hope we are all remembering our veterans in some way. I know Opal has sent out cards to the Seneca County Veterans at the Veterans Home in Sandusky. Opal and her daughter and sister do a nice job of making cards and sending; it's a real family effort.

Sunday, November 8th the weather was wonderful and I hope many of you were able to support Barb Vogel's family in their hard work. Sunday was the fifth "Harvest of Hope" Hobo Stew event the Vogel's have done. I have had the pleasure of volunteering for four of those five years, and so have many of our other members in one way or another. Some members were there at 5 a.m. peeling potatoes; others worked the event or brought baked goods or both. It is so great to see our members pull together to help one another as well as our community whenever we are needed.

The profits from the event are given to F.A.C.T (Financial Assistance for Cancer Treatment) each year. This event has raised thousands of dollars for this very worthy organization, and the funds stay in Seneca County to help our Seneca Co. patients.

This event came about because the Vogel's son developed cancer and F.A.C.T. helped with the expenses. Dean Jr. has been one of the lucky ones and if you see him he looks great and has a very big heart as well as does the rest of the family. He wanted to do something to pay back the goodness of F.A.C.T. and Harvest of Hope was started. Each year it just gets bigger and bigger. In fact they had to move from the place they were at and find a larger area and now also has expanded to two serving lines. If you have never gone, you are missing a great event with wonderful food and many other events going on. It was so great to see our members pull together and help in any way they could.

This goes to show that we can and need to help out with hands on projects in our community or for one of our own members that may need helping hand. Did you ever notice when you work with your friends as a group how much faster you get done, have a good time and when you're done, it did not seem like work; it was fun and rewarding?

Many of our members have been working with Friends of the Library this month too in getting ready for their annual book sale. In fact I had a message on my voice mail that tonight's event was cancelled as they are way ahead of schedule, isn't it wonderful they had so many volunteers.

November is a very busy month for us and as President of Altrusa I just want to say how very proud I am of our members and all you do, your ideas and enthusiasm for Altrusa and the Community.

In closing, I want to wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy your family and friends as you sit and enjoy your dinner please share with those around you what you are thankful for. I know times are tough right now, but when we look at other countries and places, we are blessed.

Love to All and Happy Thanksgiving!!  
Carol



# November

## a month for working the library's Book Sale & Harvest of Hope



*Left:* Harvest of Hope helpers stop for a group shot. *Above right:* Nancy Steinmetz helps out at Friends of the Library's annual book sale. *Below:* Another shot of Harvest workers in action.



## **Altrusa International of Tiffin met Tues., Nov. 3, 2009 at Autumnwood Care Center**

- Preceding the business meeting, members played bingo with the residents.
- Carol Hammer called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Seventeen members repeated Pledge of Allegiance and Altrusa Club Collect.
- Opal Sendelbach took the roll call, with members giving volunteer hours since the October 6 meeting.
- The minutes of the last meeting were approved as distributed. The Service financial report is available on line.
- Carol thanked Karen Knaur for providing another outstanding newsletter. Karen asked that news articles be submitted at the second meeting of the month to allow timely publication, and members should send her their biography to be published.
- Carol asked members to review the Strategic Plan as printed in the program booklet, and be prepared to make suggestions/ comments at the next meeting.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Community Service** – Vickie Ziegler presented a bill for bingo prizes and Make a Difference Day supplies. Joyce Lather made a motion to pay, seconded by Rayella Engle and the motion carried.

-The Salvation Army requested we adopt a day to man the kettles. We decided on Saturday, December 18, at Kroger and a sign up sheet was passed around.

-The Relay for Life committee requested a donation of \$50 for sponsor fee. The Altrusa name will be placed on the back of the relay T-Shirt. The Board made a motion we do this, seconded by Nancy Frederick and the motion carried.

-First Call for Help made annual plea for funds for two projects – Christmas gift certificates for low income teens, and Emergency Heating Fund to provide up to \$175 per household to prevent loss of heating during cold months. Board made a motion to give \$100 to Teen Christmas project and \$175 to the Emergency Heating Fund. Nancy Steinmetz seconded this motion and it carried.

**Fundraising** – Chicago bus trip made a profit of \$1673.70. Dawn Riedel recommended we do this again next year on the last weekend of September.

Teresa Hoschar spoke about a possible fundraiser with a percentage of dinner sales at Bob Evans.

**Sunshine** – Open reported Veterans Day cards are ready and Halloween cards were sent to Seneca County residents at the Ohio Veterans Home, Sandusky.

**Club Communications** – Elva Aller is getting better response to emails on attendance at meetings.

**Scholarship** -- Joyce read a thank you note from Megan Thompson for the \$1000 scholarship.

**International Relations** – Elva spoke about the International Dinner. The food was great, the students enjoyed the evening, and we enjoyed hearing about the students' experiences in Tiffin. Harriett requested a donation of \$25 to Hospice for use of their meeting room. This request was approved by the Board, seconded by Nancy Frederick and carried.

**Newsletter** – Karen Knaur suggested we apply for a grant to help pay for craft supplies at the Youth Center.

Nancy Frederick volunteered to work on grant writing, along with Karen Knaur and Kathleen Howard.

Under old business, Make a Difference Day project was a success. Carol will work with Nate to get pictures added to web site. Carol reminded members of the Harvest of Hope fundraiser Sunday, November 8. We are in charge of the bake sale, and should take items to Meadowbrook after 8:30 a.m.

**New business** – Gloria represented our club at the Community Council meeting and shared flyers from several upcoming events. Highlightss are the annual Festival of Trees fundraiser for Community Hospice, Friday, November 20, and a Sock Hop at Seneca House on Saturday, November 21.

The next meeting will be at the Commission on Aging building, Riverside Drive, on Tuesday, November 17.

Pin fines and happy dollars were collected. The raffle was brought by Teresa and won by Rayella. The meeting adjourned at 8:25.

## **Altrusa International of Tiffin met Tues., November 17, 2009 Business Meeting**

President Carol Hammer called meeting to order with 17 out of 23 present. **Minutes** of 11.03.2009 meeting was approved. Our Tiffin Website has been updated by President Carol and Nate Lucius and is looking great thanks to their work.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Community Service** is looking in to another time to man the **Salvation Army** Kettles and to request a shorter schedule. We do not have the members to serve from 9:00a.m. - 9:00p.m. Date was for **December 19th at Kroger's**.

**Literacy** Gloria, Joyce, Nancy Steinmetz, and Mary Lou assisted with the annual Books 4 Sale at Tiffin-Seneca Library with some leftover books given to us to be used in our Literacy projects. Books and Buddies project is doing fine with no need for more bags until we check into them.

Teresa spoke on the idea of a Bob **Evans Fundraiser**. It involves a one night benefit with percentages of the sales to be given to the club. February 2010 is the date Teresa will check into and report back at the next meeting.

**Bridal Fair** letters were mailed out last week according to Carol for the January 2010 event.

**Special Events** committee will be meeting this coming week to review the Christmas Dinner at the Am Vets plus a program. Joyce will give a report at the December 1 meeting.

**Newsletter** Editor Karen Knaur stated she needs more bios.

**SCYC** schedule for 11.21.2009 are Nancy Frederick and Karen Knaur.

**January 5, 2010** members are to bring food items for Joyce to deliver to the Salvation Army.

**February 16, 2010** This meeting was suggested as a Membership Event with more to be planned before this date.

(Review of Strategic Plan continued on page 4)

## EVALUATION OF OUR STRATEGIC PLAN mid-year review

President Carol Hammer went through each goal with the members and asked for both positive and negative responses. This is to be done annually by the membership.

### GOAL I

Sustain high quality of membership by retaining existing members is being done by the club.

### GOAL II

- Have developed new recruitment brochure
- Website very positive
- February 16, 2010 program is being worked on for potential members
- Discussion on changing meetings to (1) afternoon meeting and (1) evening meeting thought to bring in new members.
- A committee of (3) Gwen, Nancy Steinmetz and Vicki were approved by vote to look into this. Motion by White, seconded by Harrison carried.

### GOAL III.

- Public awareness is increasing with the excellent Altrusa articles and photos in our local paper and community service projects
- Discussion followed on working with the Chamber and other organizations to provide a "Professional Awareness" event somewhere in the area.
- Teresa will check with the Chamber and Harriett with Karen Kraft at Tiffin Mall.

### GOAL IV

Service projects are normally re-evaluated by each committee when the project is done.

### GOAL V

- Try again the "buddy system" on calling another member
- Bios in the newsletter is being done
- Fun activities also.

### GOAL VI

Developing a manual for each fundraising project and keeping one for the committee and one for the President's files.

### GOAL VII

Work on establishing an ASTRA Club in our school(s).

Adjournment followed by a 50/50 Raffle. Harriett White, Secretary



## *To my fellow "Old Dogs:"*

*One day the old German Shepherd starts chasing rabbits and before long, discovers that he's lost. Wandering about, he notices a panther heading rapidly in his direction with the intention of having lunch.*

*The old German Shepherd thinks, 'Oh, oh! I'm in deep trouble now!' Noticing some bones on the ground close by, he immediately*

*settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat. Just as the panther is about to leap, the old German Shepherd exclaims loudly, 'Boy, that was one delicious panther! I wonder, if there are any more around here?'*

*Hearing this, the young panther halts his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror comes over him and he slinks away into the trees. 'Whew!' says the panther, 'That was close! That old German Shepherd nearly had me!'*

*Meanwhile, a squirrel who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the panther. So, off he goes, but the old German Shepherd sees him heading after the panther with great speed, and figures that something must be up.*

*The squirrel soon catches up with the panther, spills the*

*beans and strikes a deal for himself with the panther.*

*The young panther is furious at being made a fool of and says, 'Here, squirrel, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!'*

*Now, the old German Shepherd sees the panther coming with the squirrel on his back and thinks, 'What am I going to do now?', but instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet, and just when they get close enough to hear, the old German Shepherd says...*

*'Where's that squirrel? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another panther!'*

### **Moral of this story...**

*Don't mess with the old dogs.... age and skill will always overcome youth and treachery! BS and brilliance only come with age and experience.*

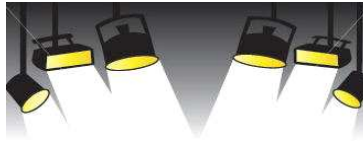
*If you don't tell this to five 'old' friends right away, there will be five fewer people laughing in the world.*

*Of course, I am in no way insinuating that any of you are old, some are just more 'youthfully challenged'.*

*-submitted by Mary Lou Harrison*



# Spotlight on Gloria Fraley



I have been an Altrusa member since 1995 and my classification is computer-office manager. I am married to my husband, Bill and we have 5 children, plus 16 grandchildren and 1 goofy dog. In between kids, kids and more kids, I have worked for a computer repair company in the Tiffin area for the last 19 years. During that time, I have also joined and worked with various non-profit organizations to volunteer my time.

Besides Tiffin Altrusa, I am active in the 1976 Antique Club, the weekly Tiffin/Seneca County Red Cross Bingo, the Tiffin Mayor's Task Force to reduce homelessness in Seneca County, the Trinity UCC Church office, the Harvest of Hope Fund Raiser for FACT (Financial Aid for Cancer Treatment) and Seneca County Community Council.

I represent Tiffin Altrusa at the Seneca County Community Council, which is a group of agencies and organizations that work together to provide appropriate community resources to help those in need of health, welfare and education. While I have worked on numerous committees within the various clubs, I

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Harrison, Vickie Zeigler 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>

truly enjoy working with the council, in that they help to coordinate resources and activities from numerous organizations to meet the needs of the community. The council helps to direct people in need to the correct organization and thus eliminating duplicate services, this enables the organizations to work more effectively and to deliver more services with less waste. In lean years, this allows our valuable resources to be spent more wisely in the community.

As for Tiffin Altrusa, I have been a past chairperson for all our committees and a past president from 2007-2009. Tiffin Altrusa is a very active club that helps financially and volunteers for numerous organizations, and awards several scholarships each year to worthy students in Seneca County. I am proud to be a member of such a worthwhile club that brings so much joy and relief to so many people.



**Don't miss our annual  
Christmas  
dinner party**

**Tuesday, December 15  
6:30 pm**

**at Amvets  
on Route 100**