



The Altrusa Announcer

Altrusa International of Branch County

Volume 1, Issue 9

February 18, 2009

President Burkhardt's Message



Dear Altrusans,

President Barb is recuperating at home after shoulder surgery. She's doing fine, but finds it difficult to

type or email. She thanks the Board members who have stepped up to help her out while she's been out. She hopes to be back soon. In the meantime, she feels certain all club members will carry on as usual.

Calendar:

FEBRUARY 18
BUSINESS MEETING
12:00 NOON—ELKS

MARCH 4, 2009
PROGRAM MEETING
12:00 NOON—ELKS
CYNTHIA MCRILL
DISTRICT 5 REPRESENTATIVE

MARCH 11
BOARD MEETING
12:00 NOON—ELKS

MARCH 18
BUSINESS MEETING
12:00 NOON—ELKS

APRIL 1
PROGRAM MEETING
12:00 NOON—ELKS
"FLOWER POWER"

Submissions Made for District Awards

As always Altrusa International of Branch County has submitted applications for several District 5 awards to be announced at the District conference in April. Connie Winbigler worked on the Mamie L. Bass award with Lola Taylor assisting. The Barb Burkhardt and Connie worked together to pull it together in a winning package. The subject matter was Teen S.H.A.R.E. Everything from our club being the originator to getting involved in saving it was covered. All the items given Teen S.H.A.R.E. throughout the year and the fact we had been able to get the noon Rotary club to work with Altrusa on various projects was discussed. Photos were submitted of Altrusans shopping, providing towels for the houses, and the headlines of the paper about Altrusa supporting them and leading the way in seeing that homeless teenagers had a place to stay during these cold winter months. Several other applications were submitted including the newsletter and yearbook. Now it's wait and see!

Former Branch County Altrusan Contact Information:

Michele Guglielmino
6233 Solitaire Ln., Columbus, OH 43231 614-330-1331

Altrusa Golf Scramble

You could have your business name and logo on the front of this year's Altrusa Golf Scramble brochure and on all advertising for only \$500! Help us surpass last year's Community Service Budget and assist many worthwhile causes in our community.



Contact Ginger Kesler at 278-1532 or Alicia Cole at 278-1569 if you or someone you know is interested. Let's make this our best year yet!

ALTRUSA Golf Scramble

altrusabranchncounty.com

BRONSON GOLF CLUB Friday May 22, 2009

Sponsored by:

YOUR NAME & LOGO HERE
&
YOUR NAME & LOGO HERE

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Minutes of the November 19 Business Meeting

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF BRANCH COUNTY
BUSINESS MEETING AT THE ELKS OF COLDWATER

12:00 P.M.

MINUTES January 21, 2009

Becky Murfin has been proposed for membership. Her initiation will be held in March.

Thank yous were received from Tibbits and BCCADV for Altrusa's donations to these organizations

The Nominating Committee for the 2009/2010 Board was elected with Mary Jo Johnson and Amy Galliers co-chairing.

Altrusa International of Branch County will submit several District Five award applications.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President, Barb Burkhardt at 12:20 p.m.

GUESTS: Mary Guthrie introduced Becky Murfin. Becky will be brought into membership at a future meeting. Karen Pierce introduced Tracy Kelley, Financial Advisor with Edward Jones Investments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/HAPPY BUCKS: Chris Delaney announced "Parrots of the Caribbean" a Jimmy Buffet tribute band whose performance will be held at Tibbits this Saturday at 8p.m. Chris also mentioned that construction will begin soon on the dome at Tibbits. This is one of the original features to be included in the restoration of the Tibbits facade.

Alicia Cole will send around a Golf Scramble sign up sheet during today's meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS: Barb Burkhardt received a couple of thank you notes from the Branch County Coalition Against Domestic Violence for recent donations of food and Christmas gifts. Barb also received a thank you from Tibbits for our donation of dinner for 8 that brought the Tibbits \$400.00

FINANCIAL REPORT: Pam Stratos reported that the December and January financials will be available in February. Pam has been on vacation and apologized for the delay. Pam also stated that she is expecting the final numbers for the Diamond Raffle from that committee. Also \$90.00 has recently been received for the sale of the cookbooks.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Barb Burkhardt reported that the Healthy Family Fun Fair will be held on February 26th at the Branch Area Career Center from 5-7 p.m. The club donated \$50.00 to be used for T-shirts that will be given to participants. The shirts will bear our club name.

For Service, Connie Winbigler reported that the Happy Feet program has given out 26 boots and shoes in the past 3 weeks. Connie also made us aware that the Teen Share shelter house is in need of items such as shampoos, laundry soap, alarm clocks and gently used towels and bed linens.

For Vocational Service, Jessica Handy reported that a meeting of her committee is scheduled for next week.

Regarding Membership Development, Barb Burkhardt reported that MaryJo Johnson has scheduled an orientation lunch with prospective member Becky Murfin and her initiation will be held in March. It was also reported that Cindy Wakeman completed a quarterly attendance report which will be made available to all members by e-mail as suggested by Jill Smoker.

For Programs, Rhonda Ives announced our next program meeting for February is titled "Pure Pleasure in Every Bite".

Amy Galliers has the 2008 Policies completed. Copies will be given to all members.

NEW BUSINESS: Nominating Committee Election: Barb Burkhardt reviewed the rules for selecting the nominating committee. The committee will consist of at least 5 members. 2 will have been past presidents. The other 3 will be members who have served at least 1 year on the Board of Director's. The nominating committee will then meet and determine the slate of officer's for the upcoming year. Nominations for the committee were open from the floor. The following nominations were made:

(Continued from page 2)

Julie Stratos moved to nominate Cindy Wakeman; Connie Winbigler seconded.

Jessica Handy moved to nominate Alicia Cole; Patty DeGroot seconded.

Amy Galliers moved to nominate MaryJo Johnson; Chris Delaney seconded.

Chris Delaney moved to nominate Amy Galliers; Rhonda Ives seconded.

Jill Smoker moved to nominate Sara Roper; MaryJo Johnson seconded.

Julie Stratos moved to nominate Norma Wojak; Amy Galliers seconded.

Norma Wojak moved to close nominations. Patty DeGroot seconded. Hearing no further discussion the motion passed.

Chris Delaney and Valorie Vaughn counted the votes. Having a tie, Barb Burkhardt then cast the deciding vote.

The following were voted as our nominating committee. Cindy Wakeman, Alicia Cole, MaryJo Johnson, Amy Galliers and Norma Wojak.

MaryJo Johnson and Amy Galliers having received the most votes agreed to co-chair the committee.

In other New Business, Barb Burkhardt announced the District Five award list along with those who will prepare them. They are as follows:

Mamie L. Bass Award, we will enter this year's Teen Share efforts, prepared by Connie Winbigler, Barb Burkhardt and Lola Taylor.

Letha H. Brown Literacy Award, prepared by Mary Jo Kranz, Mary Feller and Barb Burkhardt.

Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award prepared by Cindy Wakeman and Barb Burkhardt.

Miriam V. Wolf Award for the Altrusan who best shows the spirit of Altrusa, prepared by Barb Burkhardt along with Connie Winbigler's help. Connie will be entered for this award.

Springfield Elizabeth E. Powelson Career Achievement Award given to the Altrusan who distinguishes herself in her chosen career. Prepared by Barb Burkhardt with Julie Stratos' help. Julie will be entered for this award.

Hamilton Award for the highest average in club attendance, prepared by Cindy Wakeman.

Ruth B Emmons Award for the best newsletter based on criteria found in the Altrusa encyclopedia. Julie Stratos will select 3 different newsletters for this award.

Mary Shanks Award, for the best yearbook based on criteria found in the Altrusa encyclopedia. Barb will send 3 copies to the judges for that award.

50/50 RAFFLE: Vicki Kibiloski won \$22.50

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 1:05p.m.

Altrusa Supports Community Projects



Mary Jo Kranz presented Renate Brenneke (left), the Education Coordinator for Branch ISD Head Start with a check covering over half of the local support needed for our area Head Start students to

be eligible for the Reading is Fundamental Program. RIF will provide up to four books for 385+ families involved in Head Start in Branch County. Renate noted that with each book delivery, a literacy workshop is held that involves the parents as well as children.

Altrusa of Branch County has been a sponsor of the Women's Health Fest for several years. Shown is Connie Winbigler presenting a check to Julie Stratos, one of the Women's Health Fest planning committee members. The Women's Health Fest was formed for the purpose of providing free information to women about issues related to physical, spiritual and mental awareness. The event, which hosts about 300 participants each year, will be held at the Branch Area Careers Center on Saturday, March 7 from 8:30am to noon.



Greeters' Schedule

February 18

**Mary Jo Johnson
&
Sue Wieglos**

March 4

**Jessica Handy
&
Lynnette Wintersteen**

March 18, 2009

**Mary Feller
&
Chris Hilton**

April 1, 2009

**Lola Taylor
&
Mary Jo Kranz**

April 15

**Amy Galliers
&
Carrie Welsh**

April 29

**Kellie Talbot
&
Susan White**

May 6

**Rhonda Ives
&
Barb Faulkner**



Altrusa International of Branch County



Patriotism. Efficiency. Service.

President: Barbara Burkhardt
Editor: Julie Stratos
P.O. Box 631
Coldwater, MI 49036

Member Spotlight



Patty Rockey

Patty Rockey, maiden name Smith, was born and raised in Coldwater. Her parents, Gerald and Shirley Smith, owned Smith Heating and air-Conditioning. They were one of the first in the area to buy and build what is now Coldwater's industrial park.

She has an older brother, Ken Smith, and a sister, Diana Bregg. In 1977 she replaced her sister at Kiess Jewelry as she was moving to North Carolina with her new husband. Patty feels very fortunate to work and have worked with Altrusa's own president, Barb Burkhardt. In 1978, Brad Rockey interviewed for a job at the jewelry store. He was hired and the rest is history.

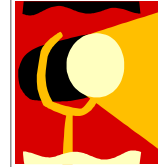
In 1982, Brad and Patty were married. They have two wonderful children, Cody, age 26, and Cheyenne, soon to be 18!

Cody was married New Years Eve 2007 to Nicole Anderson, daughter of Barb and Scott. Cody graduated from U of M with his BA in Economics. He is currently at Harvard Law School, second year. He also teaches the economics class at Harvard. Nicole is a Dr. in Pharmacy. They currently reside in Cambridge, MA.

Cheyenne is a senior this year. She was on the girls' varsity golf team, flag captain of the CHS marching band, and very involved with school activities. Cheyenne was one of the candidates chosen for Girls State with the generous help of Altrusa International of Branch County. This fall she is college bound.

Patty is a member of our local Beta Sigma Phi sorority. She is currently the president of the Xi Zeta Gamma chapter. Brad and Patty have been with a card group for 26 years! They really enjoy the lake and motorcycle riding.

In 1990, Brad and Patty purchased Kiess Jewelry. In 2004, they purchased Fiebig Jewelers in Sturgis. They feel very blessed to have wonderful friends who support them.



Committee Spotlight

Altrusa Club Information

Committee Members:

(Chair) Kathy Cousino

(Board Representative) Megan Angell

(Members) Kathie Barone, Chris Delaney, Rebecca Duke, Jill Smoker, Norma Wojack

Current Committee Projects and Goals:

- Updating of Altrusa club brochure
- Keeping membership current about information at local, district, and international levels.

What One Thing Will You Remember Most About Working on this Committee?

This is the first committee I chaired. Meeting and working with other Altrusa members and getting to know them better.

Classification

Committee Members:

(Chair) Susan White

Committee History and Past Achievements:

The committee reviews new membership applications, uses the Altrusa classification guide to assign classification, then the Board reviews and accepts the application.

What One Thing Will You Remember Most About Working on this Committee?

It's exciting to review new members' applications to see the great qualified gals who are interested in joining Altrusa.

We're on the Web!
www.altrusabrandh.com

To review
the 2008 updated
Club Policies,
go to our website at
[http://
www.altrusabrandhcountv.com](http://www.altrusabrandhcountv.com)
Go to "Member's
Page", sign in, and
click on Altrusa Local
Club Policies.

Correction

Barb Burkhardt's name was omitted from the perfect attendance list for having attended 24 out of 24 meetings. Congratulations, Barb!

Needed

Teen S.H.A.R.E. is in need of health and beauty aid items, such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc. Bring them to any meeting, and they will be delivered to the homes. Thanks!