



The Altrusa Announcer

Altrusa International of Branch County
P.O. Box 631, Coldwater, MI 49036

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President Rosene's Message



FROM THE PRESIDENT

The new year has started off with a bang. The 2009 Altrusa Golf Outing I know will be considered a huge success. This is no small feat with the economy as it is and many other circumstances, yet we had a record number of teams, great sponsors, and wonderful door prizes. In talking with attendees...everyone seemed to have a great fun time. This is thanks to all of the membership as you are the ones that help make this event such a success.

The coming year will be both a challenge and a

reward for me and you. We will be using our strategic plan to make sure we are on target. Membership and attendance at meetings will be a priority. Working together we can make this a fun and fulfilling year.

Don't forget that one of our first "Social Events" is coming up on July 9th...the opening of Leading Ladies at the Tibbits. This should be a great show and a kick-off of our Special Events. Chris Delaney will have a sign up sheet for those interested which will include a special dinner at Martell's. We are including spouses and/or significant others for this event .. if you want.

Barb

Calendar:

JULY 1
PROGRAM MEETING
12:00 NOON—ELKS
PROGRAM TO BE
ANNOUNCED

JULY 15
BUSINESS MEETING
12:00 NOON—ELKS

JULY 29
5TH WEDNESDAY SOCIAL
TO BE ANNOUNCED

AUGUST 5
PROGRAM MEETING
12:00 NOON—ELKS
PROGRAM TO BE
ANNOUNCED

AUGUST 19
BUSINESS MEETING
12:00 NOON—ELKS

2009/2010 Committees

SERVICE COMMITTEES –Megan Angell

COMMUNITY SERVICE/HANDS ON – Amy Galliers, Co- Chair

Shirley Bailey, Chris Hilton, Tammy Brown, Genelle Welsh, Julie Stratos, Alicia Cole, Laura Shemel

Happy Feet -- Hands On – Connie Winbigler, Co-Chair

Sue Crabtree, Vicki Kibiloski, Chris Hilton, Patty Rockey, Mary Feller, Sandy Mancino

LITERACY – Katherine Cousino, Chair

Patt Male, Mary Jo Kranz, Sherry Haylett, Valorie Vaughn, Rebecca Duke, Lisa Dotson

VOCATIONAL SERVICE – Jessica Handy, Chair

Becky Murfin, Chris Hilton, Laura Shemel, Rebecca Duke

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS – Cindy Wakeman, Chair

Chris Delaney, Rhonda Ives, Patty Rockey, Cheryl Moore

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES -- Chris Delaney

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION/CLASSIFICATION – Mary Jo Johnson, Co-Chair

Classification – Susan White, Co-Chair

Karen Pierce, Caroline Lowe, Patt Male, Mary Jo Kranz

ATTENDANCE/SERVICE HOURS – Sue Crabtree

Sandy Mancino

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**MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING
AT THE ELKS OF COLDWATER
12:00 P.M. May 20, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Barb Burkhardt at 12:13 p.m.

GUESTS: Rochelle Denney was introduced by Shirley Bailey

ANNOUNCEMENTS/HAPPY BUCKS: Patt Male thanked Shirley Bailey for the nice table settings for today's installation of new officers.

Alicia Cole gave a Happy Buck for passing her test to become a financial planner.

Cindy Wakeman thanked those who called or sent a card during her recent illness. Cindy also announced who made the list for this quarter's perfect attendance. They were Alicia Cole, Chris Delaney, Amy Galliers, Julie Stratos and Carrie Welsh.

Chris Delaney gave a Happy Buck on behalf of her son who will be next year's Drum Major at Coldwater High School.

Barb Burkhardt announced that Chris Hilton and Cynthia Bordner will co-chair this years auction dinner purchased by Remus Rigg.

COMMUNICATIONS: Cindy Wakeman received thank you letters for recent club contributions from the Branch County Literacy Council, Branch County Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Coldwater Board of Education and American Legion Auxiliary. Cindy McRill from District V also sent a thank you regarding her April 1st visit to our club.

FINANCIAL REPORT: As of April 30, 2009 the total in checking and savings is \$22,233.64. A disbursement for the District V raffle brought the Rainy Day Fund to a balance of \$515.84.

BARB BURKHARDT'S WRAP UP: Barb thanked the club for the opportunity to act as club president this past year stating that this club knows how to come together to "get the job done". Barb also stated that not only is our group of women good to work with but they are also a "good group of friends".

COMMITTEE REPORTS: For Membership Development, Megan Angell reported that she has received an application for membership from Rochelle Denney. The club also received a resignation letter from member, Gail Doerr.

For Financials, Alicia Cole reported that 30 teams have signed up for the Golf Scramble and she predicts that we should end up raising more money than last year scramble.

An audit of the financial books will be done in the next couple of weeks by Caroline Lowe and Valorie Vaughn.

COMMITTEE CHAIR EXCHANGE: Past committee chairs had a few moments to exchange responsibility descriptions, notes and any suggestions to the new committee chairs.

NEW BUSINESS: The convention will be held on August 8 and 9. The cost is \$150 per person. Those who made commitments to attend are Shirley Bailey, MaryAnn Ford, Julie Stratos, Caroline Lowe and Barb Burkhardt.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: The installation was performed by Mary Jo Johnson who did a beautiful job pointing out the qualities each woman had and how that quality made her a perfect candidate for her position. The new board being installed were Barb Rosene, President; Megan Angell, President Elect; Rhonda Ives, 1st Vice President; Chris Delaney, 2nd Vice President; Barb Burkhardt, Past President; MaryAnn Ford, Director I; Cynthia Bordner, Director II; Sara Roper, Treasurer; Jill Smoker, Recording Secretary; Sue Crabtree, Corresponding Secretary.

50/50 RAFFLE: \$33.00 went to Valorie Vaughn.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Alicia Cole paid a Happy Buck for passing her test to become a financial planner.

Chris Hilton and Cynthia Bordner will co-chair this year's Tibbits auction dinner purchased by Remus Rigg.

An application for membership has been received from Rochelle Denney.

The 2009/2010 Officers were installed with the qualities each woman had pointed out and how that quality made her a perfect candidate for her position.

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEES --
Mary Ann Ford**

NEWSLETTER – Julie Stratos, Chair
Cindy Wakeman, Shirley Bailey, Mary Ann Ford,
Nola Baker

YEARBOOK – Alicia Cole, Chair
Chris Hilton

PUBLIC RELATIONS/ARCHIVES – Carrie
Welsh, Chair
Norma Wojack, Sandy Mancino (Historian)

FINANCES COMMITTEES – Sara Roper
Alicia Cole, Caroline Lowe, Pam Stratos

DIAMOND RAFFLE – Ginger Kesler &
Paulette Porter, Co-Chairs
Susan White, Cynthia Bordner, Tammy Brown,
Barb Faulkner

GOLF SCRAMBLE – Alicia Cole & Cynthia
Bordner, Co-Chairs
Paulette Porter, Genelle Welsh, Susan White,
Chris Hilton, Pam Stratos

PROGRAMS COMMITTEES – Rhonda Ives

MEETING ORGANIZATION – Ginger
Kesler,
Co-Chair

Greeters – Susan White, Co-Chair
Christine Delaney, Paulette Porter, Valorie
Vaughn, Jill Smoker, Vicki Kibiloski, Rebecca
Duke

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP EVENTS – Altrusa
Board of Directors

SELECT COMMITTEES – Cynthia Bordner
By Laws – Barb Burkhardt, Chair
Megan Angell, Kathy Cousino, Amy Galliers

ASTRA – Mary Jo Johnson, Chair
Mary Feller, Connie Winbigler, Cheryl Moore,
Nola Baker

Park Project – Mary Guthrie, Chair
Becky Murfin, Genelle Welsh, Chris Hilton,
Megan Angell, Cynthia Bordner

New Club Building – To be assigned as needed



2009/2010 Board Installed

Altrusa of Branch County installed its 27th Board of Directors on May 20, 2009. The warmth and support for the new Board permeated the room. Immediate Past President Barbara Burkhardt and incoming President Barbara Rosene each received a standing ovation, Barbara Burkhardt in gratitude for her willingness to step up to the plate in accepting the presidency for the second time. The first time was 1992-1993. She deserves kudos from all of us for her leadership. Being president is a tough, time-consuming task.

Our new president surely has a whirlwind schedule, many irons in the fires, and is certainly multi-tasked and multi-talented. Still she graciously agreed to serve as our president in 2009/2010. Being the leader of 50+ women, all of whom are leaders in their own fields and each with their own ideas, can indeed be a challenge. Barb will serve with efficiency, the words so much a part of true Altruism.

So in the years ahead, when your nominating committees ask you to serve on the Board of Directors, remember the officers who have served and are now serving did not opt out saying they were too busy. Being an Altrusan comes with the obligation to serve and continue to keep our great club strong and cohesive.

Shirley Bailey

Greeters' Schedule

July 1

Nola Baker
and
Genelle Welsh

July 15

Susan White
and
Barbara Burkhardt

July 29

Megan Angell
and
Pam Stratos

August 5

Mary Jo Johnson
and
Ginger Kesler

August 19

Kathy Barone
and
Vicki Kibiloski

September 2

Tammy Brown
and
Kathy Cousino

September 16

Mary Ann Ford
and
Paulette Porter

September 30

Sue Crabtree
and
Mary Jo Kranz

Building a Better Future...



**Don't forget to check these
Altrusa websites for
valuable information.**

<http://www.altrusabrandcounty.com/>

<http://www.altrusa.com/>

<http://www.altrusadistrictfive.org>



Altrusa International of Branch County

Patriotism. Efficiency. Service.



President: Barb Rosene

Editor: Julie Stratos

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Member Spotlight

Ginger Kesler

My parents, Marvin and Ann Johnson, married June 12, 1954. I was born Martha Virginia Johnson on 9/4/1964, youngest child of 4 (2 sisters, 1 brother). I arrived home from the hospital to the family home in Tifton, Georgia. With 4 kids, my parents could not be “keepers” so I have little in the way of keepsakes from my childhood; I believe that’s why I’m such a history geek and love photographs today. History doesn’t even need to be my personal history; I’m currently working on the history of Branch County Savings Bank (Century Bank and Trust)!

I was quite the wallflower through my teenage years, but I never really noticed. I lived to be in front of people for any kind of event. Band (tenor sax) and Chorus (2nd soprano) put me on stage; I thought I had to be a performer of some kind. Needless to say, majoring in music didn’t pay the bills so I landed in banking in 1983. From there the story just wrote itself, and as a bonus I still get to be the “live entertainment” from time-to-time. 26 years later and I’m still a banker!

I lived with both of my sisters, first Trina 1983-1986, then Jan from 1986-1991. With Jan gone now I know how priceless those years were. We lost Jan June 12, 2008 due to 28 years of suffering a disease named Sclera Derma and surgical complications. I still copy her on emails and keep her numbers in my cell. She is at peace but those of us she left behind still suffer her loss. ---Jan, you are so alive in my heart. My Brother Earl (3 yrs my senior) was the smart one of all of us, he lived at home with the parents until he was 23 years old. The rest of us seemed in a hurry to move on so we didn’t see how good we had it at home.

I met my husband Rick on a blind date on New Years Eve 1992. We talked about marriage within the first 2 weeks of our relationship. Taylor was delivered to us January 24, 1995; he owns my heart in every way. Our family moved from Georgia to Michigan late 1998 so Taylor doesn’t remember his Georgia home.

I’ve spent a lot of years collecting...collecting what you ask? Cameras, eggs, photos, broaches, beanie babies, baseball cards, antique desk equipment (2 hole punch, writing pens and rulers), guitar lapel pins, old pop bottles, especially Coke, Mountain Dew and Ginger Ale. I’m embarrassed to list it all, but suffice it to say that I’m a collector of a lot of junk!

Coldwater, Michigan has become my second home. Quite similar to my hometown in Georgia, I sometimes feel like I’ve been here forever although it’s only been about 11 years. It’s so comfortable to know the people and have a contact for every imaginable thing. Everything from planning a party to diagnosing the latest illness at my house or to just get a hug. I have come to know such a wonderful town and all that make it up.

I became the self appointed family photographer around age 14, since then I usually self appoint myself as the photographer at any event I attend. Thank goodness for digital technology, I can just delete the junk rather than printing it! One day I will retire and “GingerSnaps” will be my fulltime activity. I collect every photo that relates to me and mine, old or new and scan it for permanent preservation. Scrapbooking has also proven to be a great outlet to tell my stories. It all becomes a part of my history and I’m still telling the story!

Ginger J. Kesler

Revised Categories for Recording Hours

Altrusa Service

- Planning and implementing Altrusa service projects, fundraising and ASTRA projects.
- All Service Committees, Diamond Raffle, Golf Scramble, ASTRA, Park Project, etc.

Altrusa Club Functions

- Planning and implementing Altrusa Club Functions
- Communications Committees, Membership Development Committees, Program Committees, By Laws, Board Meetings, conference attendance, etc.

(Note: this also includes attendance at monthly meetings but that will be calculated from our attendance records.)

Non-Altrusa Volunteering

- Hours members volunteer to non-Altrusa organizations.
- (Note: this stays the same.)

2009 Fourth Quarter Perfect Attendance

Alicia Cole
Chris Delaney
Amy Galliers
Julie Stratos
Carrie Welsh

Congratulations and thank you!