



President's Report by Roberta Hoey



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Greetings to everyone as we start 2010. We look forward to hopefully seeing some members who have not been attending meetings on a regular basis in the past. One of the events planned for June, 2010, is the Club's 35th Anniversary celebration. Dusty Gavels is currently working on this and will announce details at a later date.

Ginny Spaven and Lorie Bollig are working out the details of the annual Spring Luncheon which will be March 20 with the theme of "Garden Party". If any member is planning to decorate a table please contact Irene Means to get on her list. Bonnie Eakin is Fashion Show Chair and Marge Keehfuss Ticket Chair and both will be asking for volunteers. Judy Copeland is the lady to talk to about Vendor info. All of the above listed members are very dedicated and will do their utmost to make the event a success so please assist them in any way possible.

We have been notified that we are the recipients of two nice grants to help replace the 46 Lifeline units that will be outdated in December, 2010. More on the grants in other articles in this newsletter. Thank you to Dena Brooks for writing and submitting the many grant applications this year.

Final figures are in for the Holiday Festival and Gifts and what a great year. The Club made \$14,776 on the Festival! Many thanks to Tracy Frank and her co-chairs for the many, many hours they dedicated to make this a success. **We do need some bright ideas on how to improve the prices we receive for our decorated items. Please be thinking about this and talk it over with friends, etc. as it is discouraging for people to see items sell for less than is invested in them.** Any other thoughts would be appreciated also. Nancy Morton-Kaiser will be the person to share these ideas with.

I want to use this opportunity to thank the members who step up to the plate so regularly to assist with our many projects. That is what makes it such a pleasure leading and working with this group. Committee Chairs have been especially great in their organizations skills.

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ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF MONTROSE, CO BUSINESS MEETING, NOVEMBER 17, 2009

President Roberta Hoey called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tracy Frank, Holiday Festival chairman, gave a brief update of the upcoming event on November 20. Judy Copeland, Food chair, thanked everyone for signing up to bring food and help with the food tables. Participating Altrusans will not be charged the \$10 entrance fee if they are helping with the Holiday Festival.

Lynda Wareham, Bell Ringing chair, passed around a sign-up sheet for the bell ringing event on December 5.

Lorie Bollig, Literacy committee member, told of the collection of used children's book for our annual Season's Reading.

Michelle Gottlieb, Holiday party chairman, has a sign-up sheet going around for the party on December 15 at the Holiday Inn. Members are asked to bring canned food for our food baskets that are given to needy families.

Literacy Committee is having a raffle for a beautiful vase that will be raffled off during the December 8 meeting.

DATE TO REMEMBER:

November 22 - ASTRA Club to cut boughs
November 29 - ASTRA making wreaths - need decorations
December 1 & 16 - Season's Readings book tying
December 8 - Literacy Committee Raffle
December 15 - Holiday Party at Holiday Inn

NO MEETINGS FROM 12/15/09 - 01/05/10

MINUTES of the previous business meeting were filed as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE by Jeanne Kuchynka. Two separate thank you letters were received from Bosom Buddies thanking Montrose Altrusa for our \$500 cash donation and for members volunteering their time and help under the direction of Marge Keehfuss at the recent Bosom Buddies Walk/Run event. Centennial Middle School thanked Altrusa for the very successful "bike challenge", the weekly gift certificates and the two bikes that were given away. Other correspondence received was a letter from the City of Montrose stating that they are unable to provide financial support for our club in 2010 due to difficult financial times. We received an update from Hospice & Palliative Care of Western Colorado on the status of building a hospice facility in Montrose and to tell us that the new inpatient center in Grand Junction is up and running well.

TREASURER'S REPORT by Bonnie Eakin. October financials and bills/deposits were reviewed and filed as presented.

FOUNDATION REPORT by Becky Wolford. Approved as presented.

PROGRAMS by Kaye Hotsenpiller.

November 24 - Program by Dusty Gavels on "How to Report Service Hours"
December 1 - Program by Dr. Hanley and Leann Tobin from Montrose Memorial Hospital on the new Robotic DaVinci Assisted Surgical System
December 15 - Altrusa Holiday party at Holiday Inn
January 5 - Program by Patricia Byrd on Reclaim Kids

MEMBERSHIP by Diane Winger. 80 members - no new applications or resignations.

SERVICE by Linda Riba. The following donations were recommended by the Board and approved by the Club:

- 1) 2010 Montrose Senior Graduation Party \$300
- 2) Montrose High School choral singers trip to sing at Carnegie Hall \$500



NOVEMBER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES—(continued)

OLD BUSINESS

Carolee Hawkins has been added to the ASTRA committee to assist with their projects.

Altrusa Montrose has been requested to obtain names for the International Nomination Committee nominee from District Ten and nominee as Trustee of the International Foundation from District Ten. Both of these positions have to be past club presidents.

NEW BUSINESS

The Altrusa International Marketing Fund has requested each club to pay \$5 per member, or \$400, to go towards the world wide new branding effort. It was presented that we could assess each member a one time \$5 assessment fee or we could do a fund raiser that would need to raise at least \$400. It was voted to assess each member a \$5 fee that would appear on the May 31, 2010 dues invoice.

It was decided to have an outside vendor, Sweet Bites, provide lunches at our weekly club meetings. Sweet Bites will bring the prepared lunches to our meetings and members will pay cash for these food items.

Sticky-notes will be placed on the tables for each meeting where members can jot down their ideas, questions or concerns and then those requests will be addressed at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:08 pm. Jeanne Kuchynka, Secretary

BIRTHDAYS! BIRTHDAYS! BIRTHDAYS!

The Courtesy Committee thought it would be nice to include a Happy Birthday wish in the newsletter each month for the members with birthdays coming up in the following month. That way, in case you (or they) miss a meeting, you can share birthday wishes personally!

February Birthdays:

Janet Elder	February 7
Rita Maser	February 10*
Roena Frank	February 12
Becky Wolford	February 18

* As of press time, Rita Maser is still in Valley Manor so a short visit, call or card would be appreciated! (1401 S. Cascade, Montrose or 249-9734)



**DON'T FORGET TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FOR UPDATED EVENT INFORMATION,
CLUB FORMS AND SIGN-UP SHEETS!**

altrusa.blogspot.com

Environmental Committee Update

By Janis Marcha

The Environmental Committee has gotten off to a very productive start in 2009-10. The following is a list of projects that we have accomplished with the help of some very dedicated Altrusans:

- We started off our year with the first annual Kids on Wheels Bike rally and Bike Challenge. Altrusa's **1st Annual Kids on Wheels** event started off with a bike safety rodeo, licensing of bicycles, bike tune-ups, and free goodies for all the kids who attended. Altrusa teamed up with Kiwanis and held the event at Jeans West-erner. Then a month-long bike challenge was held that rewarded students from both Columbine Middle School and Centennial Middle School to ride their bikes to school to help the environment and create better health. This contest ran from September 21 through October 16th. With the students who won being presented with their prizes on October 16th.
- On October 17th we held a **Bulb Planting in Cerise Park**. Six Altrusans came together with shovels and gloves and a bit of muscle to plant over 80 bulbs in the park to enhance our previous plantings.
- The Environmental committee joined forces with the Literacy Committee and ASTRA for a two-part **Make a Difference Day** project. On October 24th. Volunteers collected and sorted trash along stretches of Hwy 90, 6100 Rd. Oak Grove Rd. and Dave Wood Road. The committee coordinated the second part of this Make a Difference Day Event on November 19th—when ASTRA Members and Altrusans presented sets of three books about global warming, carbon footprint and green living to all RE1-J District middle school and high school libraries as well as the Montrose Library and the Boys and Girls Club. These books came were donated by the Literacy and Environmental committees. (photo at right)



Our committee will continue the year with several more projects. In April we will be holding our Zero Waste luncheon in celebration of Earth Day. We also have two E-waste recycling grants to be awarded to two not for profit agencies to encourage recycling and defray the cost of recycling of electronic waste. The ASTRA club has asked that we join them to plant a tree for Earth Day, which is a project in the works.

Finally, the Environmental Committee will also be partnering with Alpine Bank to sponsor annual field trips for all 3rd grade students in the RE1-J District to visit the Recycling Center and Landfill. We will be giving them the important message: **When you throw it away—it doesn't go away!**

Upcoming Programs - Plan to Attend!

January 26, 2010: Spring Luncheon – Ginny Spaven; Carol Parker/International Committee

February 2, 2010: Valley Symphony Association and GJ Symphony update – Dan McCaslin/Betty Lundgren; Habitat for Humanity – Bill Bond – 240-4563

February 23, 2010: Women's Issues/Women's Rights Day – Marge Keehfuss

March 2, 2010: Danny Hoey – 4H Sports Club – 596-2241

March 23, 2010: International Committee – Carol Parker

Supporting Altrusa When You Shop

Did you know?...

Altrusa members can help generate funds for our local Foundation when we shop at City Market or buy goods and services from Big O Tires.

If you use a **City Market** Value Card, you can designate that a percentage of all of your purchases be donated to Altrusa Club of Montrose Foundation. You don't pay any more for your groceries -- City Market simply credits us with a donation amount every time you shop and scan your card. However, you must register your donation preference. To do that, simply give your name and your City Market card number to Janis Marcha (Treasurer-elect), and she'll take care of the rest. Your friends can also register to have donations made to Altrusa, so spread the word!



Altrusa also benefits when you buy tires or any other products or services at our local **Big O Tires** store. You need to present a special card when you make your purchase at Big O in order to credit Altrusa of Montrose Foundation. These cards are available from Roberta, and you can pick up and use a new card as often as you need one.

Remember that you can also use **Good Search** instead of Google when you want to look up something on the internet, and our Foundation receives a donation as well. There is a GoodSearch button in the left-hand column of our home webpage (altrusa.blogspot.com). Click on it...and when it asks "Who do you GoodSearch for?" be sure "Altrusa International - Montrose CO Foundation (Montrose CO)" is filled in.

Tip: just type "Altrusa Montrose" in the search area, and you'll find our Foundation easily.



22nd Annual Spring Luncheon Committee Report

The Spring Luncheon Committee has held four planning meetings thus far, over the past seven months. Committee Chairs are in place for all committees. Contact has been made with Alpine Bank, Wells Fargo Mortgage and Flower Motors and we're happy to report that all three Signature Sponsors from 2009 will support us again in 2010. We are in regular contact with the Pavilion, meal plans have begun with Montrose Memorial Hospital and the 'Certificate of Insurance' has been ordered from the agency appointed by Altrusa International.

Our budget, which was approved at the beginning of the fiscal year, projected a net income of \$12,600. We have recently learned that several of our costs will increase this year. A proposal recently presented to the board to increase our tickets prices from \$30 per ticket, to \$35, was approved by the board and approved by a vote of the general membership, on Tuesday, January 19, 2010. We anticipate that with the proposed increase we will meet our original net profit target of \$12,600. The Luncheon will be held March 20, 2010 at the Montrose Pavilion and you can see the info at right on ticket sales, which start January 29th.

Ginny Spaven—Event Chair

THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW...

How to apply for one of Altrusa's Service Grants

The following information is also posted on our website (altrusa.blogspot.com) should you need to refer a representative from an organization to our grant application process. Organizations may request a Service Grant from Altrusa for their not-for-profit event or project.

To apply, send a letter to:
Altrusa Service Committee
PO Box 3184, Montrose, CO 81402-3184

Please be sure they include: contact name, phone number, mailing address, funding recipient ("who to make the check out to"), the amount of funding they are requesting, and describe how the funds will be used. We recommend that Altrusa be contacted us at least 6 to 8 weeks *before* the funds are needed.

Preference is given to grants for a specific purpose rather than general funds for an organization. Service Grants will *not* be made to benefit a single individual.

ASTRA PROJECT NEEDS DONATIONS

MHS ASTRA Club has an exciting new project! It's called Curtis' Cases, named for the Eagle Scout who started the project in Delta. The Delta ASTRA Club has been providing the cases and has found there is a tremendous need in Montrose, as well as, Delta.

For this project, ASTRA members will be collecting backpacks, small duffels and small carry-on size suitcases to fill with personal items. These "cases" will be provided to Montrose Social Services and the Police Department to give to children in drug related, abuse or domestic violence situations. This provides the children with a place to keep their own personal items, books and toys while they are in a transitional living stage. ASTRA needs your donations of the usable canvas or nylon "cases" mentioned above as well as hotel/motel-size items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste and lotion.

ASTRA will also be making blankets to put in these "cases," so any donations of fleece type blanket material are needed as well. Bring to Club meetings and Lori Michaels will collect them for ASTRA. Thanks!

Luncheon Tickets Going On Sale January 29!

Altrusa International of Montrose Presents

Garden Party

The 22nd Annual
Altrusa Spring Luncheon

SATURDAY, March 20, 2010

MONTROSE PAVILION

Exclusive Shopping Boutique —9:00—3:00

Luncheon Table Viewing—9:00—12:15

Luncheon Seating—12:15

***PLUS* — FASHION SHOW, ENTERTAINMENT,
LIVE AUCTION & DOOR PRIZES**

**Tickets are \$35 per person and available by mail only! Send
check or money order, a self-addressed, stamped envelope and**

Attendee's name for each ticket ordered to:

Altrusa Luncheon, PO Box 3184, Montrose CO 81402

For ticket information, please call Marge Keechfuss at 249-8298

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:

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Altrusa International of Montrose Foundation is a non-profit 501(c) 3 foundation
and your support continues to make a difference in our community.

LIFELINE RECEIVES GRANTS

Lifeline - then and now

One of the largest line item expenditures for service from our organization, is **Lifeline**. Lifeline units are placed in the homes of the elderly or disabled to provide access to emergency help if they are sick or hurt. A special emergency button can be worn on the wrist or as a necklace, so that a person who is unable to get to a phone can still call for help.

This project began in March 1983, when Altrusa of Montrose held fundraisers and got financial support from other members of our community, including ASTRA, Jazzercise, Kappa Phi Sorority, San Juan Living Center, First United Methodist Church, Power Operations Center members, and United Bank who all helped raise over \$12,500 needed just to purchase a base unit, plus additional funds for the individual home units. Lifeline committee members install and test each unit at a person's home.

By June 1985, Altrusa had purchased 15 units, and installed them in individuals' homes. Now, 25 years later, Altrusa currently serves over 100 local residents with Lifeline units.

The current cost of a Lifeline unit is approximately \$750 and Altrusa will need to replace over 40 Lifeline units by 2010 because the company will no longer support the older units. Altrusa plans to purchase replacement units as funds are available and will use the Montrose Community Foundation grant to do that. However, additional funds are needed to reach our \$20,000 goal.

Lifeline is fortunate the Dena Brooks has made grant applications with a number of funding sources—and as of this month the committee has received \$3,000 in grants. A check for \$2,000 has been received from the Montrose Community Foundation.

\$1,000 was also recently received from Altrusa International Foundation, Inc..

Shown left to right below, Jeanne Kuchynka, Roberta Hoey & Dena Brooks receive Montrose Community Foundation check January 29, 2010.



Lifeline Committee Member, Alice Vest (left) and five year Lifeline customer, Mary Robinson.



If you would like to make a donation to help us provide these units to members of our community, please visit <http://altrusa.blogspot.com> then click on the Lifeline tab and then the "donate" button.