



The Impact

Photo above:
Campers take a
break while working
on their physical goals at
Camp Dreamcatcher in Kennett
Square, Pennsylvania.

Volume 5 | February 2021

The Altrusa International
Foundation, Inc.
newsletter supporting
Altrusans in service
and leadership to their
communities

Get ready to Spring Back Into Things

Through your continued support, the Foundation programs provide assistance to Altrusans leading in their efforts to better their communities.

“Since you get more joy out of giving joy to others, you should put a good deal of thought into the happiness you are about to give.”

-Eleanor Roosevelt

Join us in giving back by putting the *Spring Back Into Things!*

All contributions received from April 1st to June 30th will be counted towards a spring fundraising challenge.

Service grants will be awarded to the top three Altrusa Clubs with the largest gifts, and top three Altrusa Clubs with the largest gift per capita - to give our smaller clubs a fair chance at winning!

Spring Fundraiser Details

- All contributions from individuals, districts, and Altrusa Clubs are included from April 1 - June 30
- Gifts may be designated to Grants Program, Disaster Relief Fund, Endowment Fund, Club 21, or Where Needed Most.
- Contributions of \$100 or more will receive a custom medallion
- Contributions of \$50 or more will receive a custom face mask.
- Luci lights are available! Basic lights (with no USB port) are \$20 each. Luci lights with USB port are \$35 each.
- [Click here to make a contribution and order your Luci lights!](#)



Support your Foundation
with a tax-deductible gift today.

First Place winners receive \$1,500
Second Place winners receive \$750
Third Place winners receive \$500



Luci Lights are solar-powered, lightweight,
portable, inflatable, and waterproof.
Get yours today!

Spotlight an Altrusan

Margaret C. Albin | Altrusa International of The West Valley, Arizona, District Eleven

Mrs. Margaret Chapin became an Altrusan in Springfield, Illinois around 1951. She worked for the Social Security Administration for 35 years before retiring in 1972. She was at one time the President of the Altrusa Club of Springfield, Ill. Margaret was a good friend of Ethel Blanco, also of the Springfield club, who became the Governor of District Six from 1959-1961. Both Margaret and Ethel began visiting Sun City, Arizona to live during the winter months and both attended meetings at the Altrusa Club of the Sun Cities Area (now known as the Altrusa Club of the West Valley in District Eleven). After her husband passed away, Margaret married Earl Albin who owned Albins Furniture in Sun City.

Margaret and Earl continued to spend their summers in Illinois so Margaret would not accept a Board position with the Sun Cities Club, but she was very active on various committees. She served on the Altrusa Information Committee every year which allowed her to share her knowledge and experiences of Altrusa. Margaret also spent several years on the Fashion Show committee. The fashion show was the main fundraiser of the Sun City Club in the 1990s and early 2000s.

The future West Valley Club supported a domestic violence shelter known as Faith House. To raise funds, Faith House held a Gala dinner and silent auction for a couple of years at an upscale Phoenix venue. Margaret joined us as a "runner" at the silent auction. Her husband Earl and my husband Don would come with us in case we needed extra help. Don remembers fondly how Earl would share his opinions on a variety of topics!



Margaret Albin, far right, enjoyed her time with Altrusa for over fifty years.

Margaret worked on the Literacy committee for 3 years. In 1990 the committee procured a grant of \$750 from the Altrusa International Foundation. The funds provided an after school tutoring program for a local community center in a Latino neighborhood.

In addition to Altrusa, Margaret was a member at various times of the League of Women Voters, Common Cause and Environmental Defense. She and Earl had the opportunity to travel throughout the world. I do not recall when Earl passed away. Margaret was unable to attend meetings starting in the mid-1990s. She passed away in 2006. We were notified a year or two later that she was leaving \$10,000 to our club and that there would be a bequest to the Springfield Club and the Altrusa International Foundation as well. I was very surprised as I had never heard her mention her intent to leave a bequest to Altrusa. Margaret was a kind and soft-spoken woman but very helpful in our efforts to provide Altrusa service to our community. Only three in our current club were around when Margaret was in our club, Dawn Mortellaro, Leslie Fountain and I.

"Margaret exemplifies the Altrusa Key: Amity, Loyalty, Talent, Reciprocity, Unity, Service and Achievement. She is an inspiration to every Altrusan, both longterm and new." -Sue Larkin

Margaret left over \$155,000 to the International Foundation. Her bequests were marked for the Endowment Fund and were invested with Wells Fargo. The monies will be used for future grant request by our Altrusa Clubs. She believed in the Altrusa International Foundation and the support it gives our clubs and our communities world-wide.

Sue Larkin,
President Altrusa International of The West Valley

Leslie Johnson,
Foundation Board Trustee

ANNA H. SETTLE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award is a \$2,000 contribution to the project or program conducted by the winner. If the project is completed, the award may be designated to a local charity of the winner's choice.

The Anna H. Settle Leadership winner will be presented in July at the Charlotte, North Carolina Convention.

You may find nominee guidelines and cover page by clicking. Nominees must be emailed by May 15th to foundation@altrusa.org

Today we state; "Altrusa historically has been, and still is, a community service organization with a focus on literacy and other local needs." Anna H. Settle provided the leadership and structural foundation for the development of today's community service organization. We tend to think of Mamie L. Bass as the "heart and soul" of Altrusa and must remember Anna H. Settle as its "head and hands."



*Anna H. Settle
(1922-1924 President)*

Spotlight an Altrusa Club

Altrusa International of San Sebastian, Puerto Rico, District Fourteen

"This international organization helped me in many ways. Thanks to their help, I was able to buy food, be prepared in my home, and get to the University. I learned so much in each meeting. Their conferences were very useful and educational. Again, my thanks to Altrusa of San Sebastián for their great help!" Damiana Ramos, Science of Nursing student, EDP University.

The hometown to many members of the San Sebastian Club has a university campus which the club has established an alliance. It came to the club's attention that some students do not have enough resources to have a nutritious meal, thus creating a problem for them to concentrate on their education. This need was presented to the club members during a business meeting and it was a unanimous vote in favor of supporting the "Good Nutrition for Success" project.

"Serving college students was a different experience. It was both energizing and rewarding at the same time."

-Sahilis Troche, the San Sebastian Club Project Chair

"Good Nutrition for Success" provides low-income college students the opportunity to receive monthly non-perishable nutritious food, or food access, so they can focus on their studies to become professionals. On a monthly basis, Altrusans met with participants at the university and gave each of them a \$50 local supermarket food voucher. The students were instructed to purchase food, not other personal items, and submit their grocery receipts.

The San Sebastian Club also conducted food drives and reached out to their community, restaurants and supermarkets for contributions.

Every month, the club held educational workshops to raise student's spirits and encourage them to succeed. The first workshop was about "Good Nutrition and Intelligent Food Selection", and another focused on "Packing for Emergencies".

In December, Altrusans took the students to visit "Tesoros de Amor" (Treasures of Love). This is a foundation dedicated to helping young students and mothers in need. The students were able to choose clothes, shoes and other articles they needed at no cost. The university even offered to cover transportation! It was a great "no cost shopping day" for Christmas and a wonderful experience for both the students and Altrusans.

The club members worked tirelessly coordinating the workshops, finding appropriate meeting locations, preparing agendas and scheduling presenters of suitable topics, and organizing snacks for the workshops.

"Seeing the gratitude and humbleness in the students receiving food vouchers was an overwhelming experience because we can never imagine how much we're impacting the lives of others."

-Mabel Acevedo, San Sebastian Club President

Others members of the club were in charge of coordinating the logistics of the food drives, including collecting, sorting and preparing food vouchers for the students.

Students received their vouchers on January 28, 2020 after the impact of an earthquake in December. The vouchers for February and March were purchased but delivery was delayed due to the government curfew caused by Covid-19. Although their plans were delayed, the Altrusans remained committed to their students. In May, the university was closed so the San Sebastian members handed out vouchers in the university parking lot following mask wearing and social distancing guidelines. Their final delivery was made on July 7, 2020 in the university parking lot. The students continued to attend their classes virtually. During the delivery, Altrusan, Zaida Serrano, gave a workshop on how to apply for "Becas ALVA" (Altrusa Local Vocational Aid) next year. The students also received a bag full of snacks and goodies.

Lastly, the San Sebastián members worked together to organize a special Thanksgiving lunch for the students.

The \$4,000 grant received from the Altrusa International Foundation in 2019 helped pay for food supplies, workshop materials, Thanksgiving lunch and microwaves for the "student pantry." The administration of the University and Faculty were very enthusiastic with the success of the program and plan to continue it in future years.



Altrusa supports EDP University students with clothes, food vouchers, and educational workshops.

Please send nominations for *Spotlight an Altrusan*, or *Altrusa Club*, to foundation@altrusa.org

GRANTS PROGRAM

Email Altrusa Club grant applications to foundation@altrusa.org by March 15

The Grants Program provides assistance to individuals and Altrusa Clubs carrying out independent programs of community service. Funds are designated for literacy, community service, graduate school assistance, and vocational assistance projects sponsored by Altrusa Clubs. Grants range from \$250 to \$4,000, based upon need, funds available, and are subject to specific selection criteria.

You may find grant applications and guidelines by clicking here. Due to ongoing mail delivery issues, please do not mail applications to the Chicago office.

CLUB 21 PROGRAM

Applications for children's camp organizations must be emailed to foundation@altrusa.org by March 15

Do you know of a local children's camp? Established in 1997, Club 21 provides a wide array of services to children, and their families, affected by disease and disabilities. The grant application and guidelines may be found by clicking here.

2021-2023 TRUSTEE NOMINEES

Three nominees to be elected in July at the Charlotte International Convention

Phyllis Corman
District Two | Centre County, Pennsylvania

Karen Robinson
District Three | Tampa Bay, Florida

Jane Hart
District Eight | Greater Kansas City, Missouri

Dona M. Garretson
District Ten | Grand Junction, Colorado

Rhonda Hauter
District Twelve | Gig Harbor, Washington

IN MEMORIAM

The Board of Trustees expresses their condolences for the loss of Ms. Claudia Speakman from the Altrusa Club of Columbus, Ohio in District Five. She will be greatly missed for her dedication to Altrusa and her community. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Altrusa Foundation of Columbus, Ohio at PO Box 1181, Columbus, Ohio, 43216.

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Altrusa members login: www.foundation.altrusa.org



Thank you for your support.