



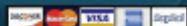
Photo above:
Cavett Kids of Oklahoma

Altrusa Foundation at the 2021 Charlotte Convention

Volume 6 | June 2021

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

Donate Now



Support your Foundation
with a tax-deductible gift today.

THE INAUGURAL HOFMEISTER LAMPLIGHTER RECEPTION

Join us for a Celebration of YOU, our loyal Foundation supporters, for the inaugural presentation of the *Hofmeister Lamplighter Award*, hosted by the Foundation Board.

The reception will take place on Thursday, July 29, from 5:45 to 7:00 pm in The Lakeview Room. Beverages and light snacks will be served. Invited guests are limited to: Lamplighters, District Liaisons, and Past and Current International Foundation Board Members. The event is limited to the first 50 people who register. Registration must be made no later than July 2.

[Click here to register for The Inaugural Hofmeister Lamplighter Reception.](#)

SILENT AUCTION AND WORKSHOPS

Don't forget to bring lightweight, packable items for the Silent Auction benefitting the Foundation.

Join us at one of the following

workshops to ask all your grant-related questions, plus learn how fundraising dollars are vital to support the Foundation's mission.

Thursday, July 29 2:15 - 3:15 PM
Saturday, July 30 9:00 - 10:00 AM

Fundraising competition ends June 30!

- All contributions from individuals, districts, and Altrusa Clubs are included from April 1 - June 30
- Gifts may be designated to the Foundation program of your choice
- Contributions of \$100 or more will receive a custom medallion
- Contributions of \$50 or more will receive a custom face mask
- Gifts of \$150+ will receive both!
- Luci lights (with no USB port) are \$23 each, Luci with USB port are \$35, and Luci string are \$42
- [Click here to make a contribution and order your Luci lights!](#)

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

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

Spotlight of outgoing Trustees

SANDI MILLER, PAST FOUNDATION CHAIR
SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA | DISTRICT ELEVEN

Sandi Miller, below

Sandi joined Altrusa International of Santa Maria in District Eleven in 1993 and has remained a member of the Santa Maria Club for 28 years. She served her club as President and went on to run for the District Eleven Board of Directors. Sandi served as District Eleven Governor from 2011-2013.



Sandi became the District Eleven nominee for the Foundation Board Trustee in 2015 and was elected to serve at International Convention. Her first job on the Foundation Board was to handle the Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award. She received all of the applications and select a panel of three non-Altrusans to rate each application based on the award requirements. She announced the panel's decision during the Foundation Luncheon at the 2017 International Convention.

"I decided to run for the Altrusa International Foundation Board of Trustees because I thought it was a two year position and why not give it a try. I was very pleased to learn it was a four year and in some cases a six year position." -Sandi Miller

From 2017-2019, Sandi served as the Foundation Chairperson. "Being able to work as chair with an amazing group of members was an incredible experience and being able to determine grants for clubs and the emergency disaster relief grants was a very rewarding job." She chaired all of the meetings and served on each of the four committees: finance, grants, Anna H. Settle Award, and marketing. As part of the job, she was an AD Hoc member of the Association Board.

Sandi stayed on from 2019-2021 as a board member in an advisory capacity and served on the grants committee. She served as District Eleven Governor from 2011-2013.

DEBBY WEBER, PAST FINANCE CHAIR
DOWNTOWN DALLAS, TEXAS | DISTRICT NINE

Debby Weber, a member of the Downtown Dallas Club, was elected to the Foundation board at the 2015 International Convention representing District Nine. At the time, the Foundation did not engage in fundraising. From the start of her term as a Trustee, Debby set out to change this, even campaigning on her development strengths. She not only encouraged active fundraising, she came up with great specific fundraisers. She introduced District Nine's "envelope fundraiser" during International Convention and encouraged District Liaisons to use it at District Conferences. Debby also had the idea to sell Luci Lights as a fundraiser, an ongoing success at Conventions and Conferences. The Hofmeister Lamplighter (to be introduced at the 2021 International Convention), was her innovation to encourage members that fill their Lamplighter pin with an incentive to continue giving.

At Altrusa's 100th anniversary celebration, Debby launched the ASK4\$100 in her role as a member of the Education, Marketing and Development Committee. With prizes for those who donated \$100 or more, the successful incentive increased donations at International Convention.



Debby Weber, photo above

Debby convinced the Foundation Board (due to the increase in donations) to give \$100K in grants (up from \$75K) in honor of the 100th anniversary of Altrusa International. She served as Finance Chairperson of the International Foundation Board from 2017-2019 and proposed the Grants budget be increased, first to \$150K, then to \$200K. The Grants budget has since grown to \$350K a year which was made possible by successful fundraising campaigns.

Debby made it easy for Altrusans and others to give: she first introduced social media crowd funding in the ASK4\$100 campaign; she got the Foundation Board to approve credit card readers for use at District Conferences; and she was instrumental in making MobileCause available for the Districts to use for donations and purchases. MobileCause relieves the pressure on the District Treasurers and the Foundation Office. It processes and tracks all contributions, sends receipts and creates a database for the Foundation.

In 2020, during the pandemic and when District Conferences had to be conducted virtually, Debby took the District Nine Linda Nichols Foundation Award Competition concept to the International Foundation Board.

"Debby makes it easy for Altrusans and others to give." -Martha Hardwick Hofmeister

The second round of this fundraising competition is ongoing with *SPRING BACK INTO THINGS*. This competition gives service grants to the clubs who give the most money to the International Foundation within a given time period. It incentivizes giving even when Conferences are virtual or during non-Convention years.

Martha Hardwick Hofmeister
Legal Advisor
Altrusa International Foundation

SHERRAL NELSON, GRANTS CHAIR

TIDEWATER, VIRGINIA | DISTRICT TWO

Sherral served as the District Two Liaison to the International Foundation for five years. Her Governor asked if she would be the district nominee to run for a position on the Board of Trustees.

Sherral was elected to the International Foundation Board at the 100th Altrusa International Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. She served as Chair of the Grant Committee from 2017-2021. Grants Committee members read and score each grant except the ones submitted from their



Sherral Nelson, Left

own district. There are ten questions of varying points that total one hundred. As the Grants Committee Chair, Sherral collected the score sheets from all committee members and averaged all of the scores together divided by the number of readers.

A grant earning eighty points is funded providing funds are available. Sherral's experience from being in charge of the Letha H Brown award for her district came in handy as she had to organize a committee to read and score the award submissions.

"It was meaningful to see what we could do and being able to increase the amount of the club grants was touching. Altrusa Clubs adopt such meaningful and worthwhile projects."

Sherral has been a member of the Altrusa Tidewater Virginia Club since 1991. She was invited to visit the Tidewater Club during their hospitality night at the District Two Conference. She also visited their local Bazaar and as an artist she was hooked. She loves making and sharing crafts. Sherral raised two daughters while her husband, Kenneth, served in the U.S. Navy. They have been married 50 years.

"I am sad that my time on the Foundation Board is ending but I am so proud of what the Board of Trustees has accomplished." -Sherral Nelson

2021-2023 Board Nominees

Three nominees will be elected at the Charlotte Convention to serve the Foundation Board

PHYLLIS CORMAN | DISTRICT TWO

CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Phyllis became an Altrusan in 1978 joining Altrusa International of Centre County, PA. She has served her local club in various offices and committee chairs, including that of Club President from 1982-1984. On the District level, Phyllis served as Governor of District Two in 1992-1994. At that time District Governors also served on the International Board and during that biennium she was appointed to serve on the 1993 International Strategic Planning Committee.

During the 1995-1997 biennium Phyllis was elected as International Treasurer and in addition participated on the International Restructure Committee. In 1997-1999 she was elected First Vice President, and then was elected as International President-Elect in 1999-2001. During this biennium she also served as the Association Representative to the International Foundation. She then served her term as International President for the 2001-2003 biennium. In 2003-2005, she continued to serve on the International Board as the

Immediate Past International President and was appointed as Chair of the International Vision In The Future Committee, and again served as the Association Representative to the International Foundation.



Phyllis Corman, above

Phyllis is retired from banking where she was employed for thirty-nine years rising to the office of Assistant Vice President in the Commercial Lending Division. For ten years she was a member of the Bellefonte Intervalley Area Chamber of Commerce, holding the office of President, 2007-2009. Phyllis has volunteered for the Centre County United Way, The Aids Project of Centre and Clinton County, and Centre County Youth Aid Panel. In 2011, Phyllis was honored to receive the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award in recognition of her volunteer work both with Altrusa and her community.

A life-long resident of Bellefonte PA, she shares her home with her partner, Sindy and their four kitties. She has one brother, one sister-in-law, one niece, three great nephews, two great nieces, and one great, great niece (and they all are great!!) Besides staying quite active in her Altrusa Club, Phyllis is active in her church, loves gardening and traveling, and camping at Camp Pink Flamingo in her back yard.

KAREN ROBINSON | DISTRICT THREE

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA

I've been an Altrusan since 2002. I hold a Master of Arts, Political Science, from the University of Central Florida. I'm currently retired. My professional experience includes Former Assistant Commissioner, State of



Karen Robinson, above

Georgia with responsibility for federal funds for nutrition and early care and education (\$144 million); Executive Director, Partnership for Workforce Development, Inc., a private not for profit organization with responsibility for employment and training services in a two county area; Assistant Executive Director with Volusia, Lake, Flagler Workforce Development Board, Inc., a private not for profit organization that administered employment and training funds.

I've served Altrusa as Past President, Altrusa Club of Atlanta, GA; Vice President, Altrusa Tampa Bay; Committee Chair, Atlanta Club. Currently, I'm serving as trustee and co-secretary of the Wilma B. Hogan Foundation, Altrusa Club of Tampa Bay, Florida. At the district level, I've served as Immediate past Chair, Altrusa District Three Foundation; former Secretary, Altrusa District Three Foundation; former District Director, Altrusa District Three during my tenure as Chair over \$10,000 was raised to fully fund grants so these resources would be available to District Three Clubs in perpetuity. Also, during this time, the Foundation's Lucille Spillers Alexander ASTRA Service award was redone to be consistent with the International award furthering coordination and support with our fellow Altrusans. My last professional achievement was the system redesign of the Child Care Resource and Referral system in Georgia. This resulted in a savings of over \$3 million dollars to the State while increasing services to the residents. This work was recognized by a Governor's Achievement Award.

Other organizations I've belonged, or held office, includes the Riverview Florida Friends of the Library; Tampa Bay Camera Club; Photographic Artists and Models Association; and Tampa Bay Strobists. While not currently serving on any community/professional boards, in the past, during my professional career, I served on numerous boards including those providing literacy services, services to high school dropouts, State education committees, and served as the former President of the Daytona Beach Rotary West.

In addition to my love for Altrusa, I want to be a Trustee for the Altrusa International Foundation because I would like to be a part of this valuable work and believe that my experience and skills make me a good candidate for this position.

JANE HART | DISTRICT EIGHT

GREATER KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

I am running for election to the Board of Trustees of Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. as a long-time supporter of the Foundation. I'm a Past Governor of District Eight. I served as Legal Advisor to the Foundation from 1984-87



Jane Hart, above

and was a member of the Board of Trustees during that time. I have an in-depth knowledge of the workings of local club foundations, as I worked with outside counsel to obtain the IRS ruling authorizing LCFs to be treated as 501c3 organizations under the Foundation's umbrella. I have served on the Board of Directors for our local club foundation, serving as president from 1985-2019. I have consistently supported the Foundation financially-I received the first Lucente Lamplighter award. I have written grants successfully for nonprofit organizations and served on our local United Way committee evaluating grant requests from civic and nonprofit organizations. I have served on the boards of several local nonprofit organizations and provided legal advice to many more. My background is as a corporate attorney, retired after 39 years of practice in Kansas City, MO.

I view the Foundation as a wonderful asset for all Altrusa Clubs and all Altrusans and ASTRA members and I want to ensure the Foundation continues well into Altrusa's future. I have ample time to serve on the Foundation Board of Trustees and would consider it a great honor. I ask for your strong consideration.

DONA GARRETSON | DISTRICT TEN

GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

I became an Altrusan in 1985. I've served the club level as 2nd Vice President 1990-1991, 1st Vice President 1991-1992, President 1992-1993, and Past President 1993-1994. At the district level I've served as District Ten Secretary 1993-1995, Second Vice Governor 1995-1997, Vice Governor 1997-1999, Governor-Elect 1999-2001,



Dona Garretson, above

Governor 2001-2003, Immediate Past Governor 2003-2005, District Ten Parliamentarian 2013-2017, and District Ten Parliamentarian 2019-2021. At the International level I've served as District Ten Governor Board Member 2001-2003, International Director 2003-2005, International Treasurer 2005-2007, International Vice President 2007-2009,

International President-Elect 2009-2011, International President 2011-2013, Interim Association Manager - January 2013-October 2013, International Immediate Past President 2013-2015, and International Leadership Development Chair 2019-2021. My business/professional/civic activities include retired Certified Public Accountant – 30 years in practice, member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, active member in ACBL (American Contract Bridge League), and HOA Treasurer for two years.

I'm a proud mother of two daughters and their wonderful husbands. It's a blessing to be a part of the lives of four beautiful grandchildren (4,6,8,10 years old). Altrusa has been an integral part of my life for over 35 years. I believe in what both the International Association and the International Foundation stand for and in our mission throughout the world. I also understand that these are two separate entities and must be respected as such. At the club level I was a part of the origination of the Grand Junction, Co. Foundation and served as it's first Chairman. During my time of service on the International Board of Directors, I had the opportunity to serve as Association Representative to the Foundation Board of Trustees during two separate biennia. This allowed meaningful time to increase understanding of the importance and uniqueness of the two entities. We are facing a critical time in life where growth, communication, and financial stability are important necessities at all levels. I feel that my professional background and understanding of our organization can be a positive influence in moving the Altrusa International Foundation forward.

RHONDA HAUTER | DISTRICT TWELVE GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON

Rhonda has a long history of Community Service both in New Zealand and The United States. She joined Altrusa International in New Zealand in the late 1980's and after moving to The United States she rejoined Altrusa again in Gig Harbor, WA., where she has been a member for 19 years.

Rhonda Hauter, right

Rhonda's past and current Community Service roles have included President, Sales and Marketing Executives International; President, The Gig Harbor Peninsula Area Chamber of Commerce; President, Altrusa International Gig Harbor; Founding President, Altrusa International Gig Harbor Foundation; Founding President, The Gig Harbor Yacht Club Endowment Trust and Governor, Altrusa International District Twelve. In addition, Rhonda served as Chairperson of the Long-Range Strategic Planning and Communications Committee for District Twelve and served as Marketing Liaison for the Rebranding of Altrusa International.



Rhonda's professional career has spanned over 40 years in the Financial Services industry both in New Zealand and The United States where she has enjoyed roles such as General Manager, Admail International; Communications Manager, KPMG Peat Marwick New Zealand and providing financial advice and estate planning services to families and business owners for over 20 years.

In her spare time Rhonda enjoys attending live musicals, enjoying her garden and the beautiful waterways of the Pacific Northwest in their power boat Jericho.

Rhonda would be honored to further serve Altrusa with a nomination to The International Foundation Board of Trustees.

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

Spotlight an Altrusa Club

Altrusa International Club of Nashville, Tennessee | District Four

"I seriously can't tell you how much I appreciate y'all. This is the first time in forever we haven't run out of food before we finished the day. Yay!!!! Thank you so much for all you've done for the Little Pantry." -Stacy Downey, Director of the Little Pantry that Could.

The Little Pantry That Could (The Pantry) provides weekly free food items to approximately 250 individuals and families. The target audience is diverse, including the homeless, community members in less than adequate housing, grandparents raising grandchildren, veterans, underemployed, unemployed, retirees and seniors. Altrusa International of Nashville partners with The Pantry

to supply food. The club members develop a personal connection with the customers as they help them "select" their desired food. The Pantry is in constant need of donations and volunteers to serve the community.

The Nashville Club has developed a strong relationship with Stacy and her staff. "And ... I was getting worried about Saturday, because we just had a group cancel, but now that I know y'all will be there, I'll worry no more."

All members of the Nashville Altrusans club participate in this special project and they recruit their friends and families donating 125 hours each month. One weekend a month on Friday, the club members shop for canned food, take it to The Pantry and stock the shelves. Nashville Altrusans shop one-on-one with each customer and use

Rhoda and Sarah delivered over 1,000 cans to The Little Pantry That Could in December.



Sarah Karpie (Altrusan) and Stacy Downey (Director), Rhoda Scherer (Altrusan) and Stacy

not only receives, but also contributes by becoming a part of The Pantry's Family." - Raikes Anne McCrary – member of Altrusa International of Nashville, TN. The volunteers returned on Saturday to work one-on-one with the customers until COVID-19 restricted their Saturday participation.

The \$4,000 grant received from the Altrusa International Foundation helped to pay for the purchased of much needed cans of fruit, vegetables, soups and other identified items. Grants of \$250 to \$4000 are available through sponsoring Altrusa Clubs from the Altrusa International Foundation to improve the economic well-being and quality of life through the foundation's commitment to community service and literacy. The Nashville Club hosted two fundraising events for their project. They sold pecans and other nuts in the fall and

a "Client Choice" format which assists in eliminating food waste. It allows the Altrusans to make a personal connection with each and every shopper. The shoppers feel "welcomed" and "cared for." The volunteers ensured each person is treated with dignity and respect. "Each shopper is seen as a unique individual who

took orders for gorgeous plants in hanging baskets in the spring. With these funds, they purchased over \$500 worth of canned goods during a six month period. They also were able to donate 6,947 cans of food for \$4,510.59. The club members reached out to their community and received additional donations amounting to \$1,150 for their project. The pantry is always in need of grocery bags



Comment as Altrusa Club of Nashville



The Little Pantry That Could You guys are amazing!!!! Thank you so much Altrusa Club of Nashville, not only for your huge donation but for being amazing volunteers!!!!

as they use over 3,000 each week. The Nashville Altrusans collected and donated well over 10,000 bags in a six month cycle.

"Our club continues to support The Pantry (within our ability) after the conclusion of the grant period. This is such an important organization and does so much good for the disadvantaged of the Nashville community that we are dedicated to future support." Raikes Anne McCrary. Nashville's devastating tornado in March and COVID-10 have only increased this need.

Established as a charitable corporation in 1962, the Altrusa International Foundation is committed to the service of goals and objectives of Altrusa International, Inc. Its sole purpose is to be an avenue through which Altrusans can assist Altrusa Clubs and other worthy organizations throughout the world, to carry out their programs of community service and assistance to those in need.

Leslie Johnson
Altrusa International Foundation Board of Trustees

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC. 2019-2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Susan Carpenter, *Finance & Vice Chair*
District Eight | St. Louis, Missouri

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