



Gram.21/22

These are exciting days as a new school year begins and students gather again to learn together and to serve their communities together through their engagement in ASTRA! Your Altrusa International ASTRA Committee applauds the members of our ASTRA Clubs as they plan and implement amazing service in their communities and grow in their leadership abilities as they do so.

We are here to support you and to encourage your efforts, so please let us know how we can help. Congratulations to our newly chartered clubs as you begin your service and to those assuming new leadership roles in their clubs! Please let us know how we can encourage Altrusans as they sponsor new ASTRA clubs in their communities and reenergize clubs that struggled during the pandemic.

Isn't it exciting to emerge from the restrictions of a pandemic, to meet in person again, to serve in person again? Let's celebrate all we've learned during those days and how our ASTRA members continued to share their compassion and determination to serve those whose needs only intensified during that unique moment in time. Please read on in this [ASTRAGram](#) and let it inspire you to greater service in this new academic year.

With great anticipation for what lies ahead as we head into autumn and a new year of service together,

*Lorraine Brewer
ASTRA International Committee Chair*



September 2022

**YOU DON'T
WANT TO MISS
THIS!**

Altrusa International Foundation Grants

Altrusa and ASTRA Clubs chartered September 1, 2019 or later may receive a one-time grant up to \$2,000 to begin service in their communities.

The application must be received within one year of the charter date. The grant recipient is obligated to use the grant award for the intended purpose and must file a report within one year after the grant is awarded.

See page **6** for more information about foundation grants.

What's Happening

Be sure to send us information about newly chartered clubs and activities that are going on in your club!!!



**Email to Editor Jan Storrs,
Altrusa Int'l Club of
Branch County, MI
jlstorrs47@hotmail.com**



SEPTEMBER:

Membership Co-Chairs: As school starts back, this is a great time to establish a membership goal for the coming year, actively recruit new ASTRA members and update membership records. Some ASTRA Clubs hold their Officer elections in the fall, or elect additional Committee Co-Chairs in the fall.

- ❖ Some ASTRA Clubs have their Treasurer's collecting dues as club meetings resume in the fall. Planning Committee Chairs set their committee goals and timelines for the year.
- ❖ Service Co-Chairs: Discuss which service ideas you want to pursue during the upcoming year and create a calendar and timeline; assign project co-chairs to share leadership opportunities with various committee members.
- ❖ Plan a Make a Difference Day project for October. ASTRA can create its own project or help with the planned Altrusa project.
- ❖ Plan a fun fall membership activity.
- ❖ Fundraising Co-Chairs: Analyze need for fundraisers to support club projects and create a fundraising plan with timeline.
- ❖ Service Co-Chairs: September 15th is the deadline for the first round of Altrusa International Foundation grants for ASTRA service projects. Plan an ASTRA Service project that you can submit for the District ASTRA Service Award. The application typically is due in March, but may vary by District. Program Co-Chairs will schedule speakers for the year and your ASTRA Advisors can help.

For a complete list of "Monthly Reminders" for the rest of the calendar year, please visit our website at altrusa.org and click on the ASTRA page.



There are over 70 ASTRA Clubs!

Recent Clubs Chartered
Lake Belton ASTRA - Chartered in May.
San Antonio ASTRA – Chartered In August





- **Meet** the new ASTRA Club of Escuela Antonio Acarón Correa of Cabo Rojo, P.R. The activity was at the school library.

The new club acquired its charter for its 18 members, on Friday, March 4, 2022 during an emotional initiation memorable for all. The mayor of Cabo Rojo, Hon. Jorge A. Morales Wiscovitch, the District Fourteen Altrusa International, Inc. governor, Virginia Caballero Santos, the representative of the school principal, teachers, librarian, ASTRA counselor, Olivia Santana Acosta, Altrusa members and very important, a large group of mothers, grandmothers and fathers who constantly support us, were present.

They received the support of the Altrusa advisors who guided them and collaborated to initiate knowledge about ASTRA . Some ASTRA members participated in the initiation program.

Finally, the board was installed, which is composed of the following ASTRA members.

Genesis O. Rivera Surita-President

Jeremy Loor Rivera- Vice-president

Alondra Mercedes Rojas- Secretary

Carlos D. Natal Padilla Subsecretary

Michael González González Treasurer

Briana D. Franqui Rivera- Subtreasurer



Jeremy Loor,
club vice
president was
the master of
ceremonies



From left to right, Calos Natal,
Alondra Mercedes, Génesis Rivera,
Jeremy Loor, Michael González y
Briana Franqui. The ASTRA Board.

New ASTRA Club



ASTRA Members Offer Their ASTRA Oath and
Commitment During the Initiation.



ASTRA club member
Carlos Natal offers
the reflection in the
installation
ceremony at the
school library.

But Wait...
**THERE'S
MORE!**



First orientation about ASTRA to the group of students interested in been part of the ASTRA Club



During the orientation a team work dynamic

Some of the ASTRA members who participated at the ASTRA District Fourteen get together activity.

ASTRA

- A – Ability** – To know that all of us have special talents to share with others.
- S – Service** – To improve the lives of those less fortunate in the community.
- T – Training** – To develop leadership ability and potential.
- R – Responsibility** – To learn to accept obligations and know the satisfaction of carrying projects through to a successful conclusion.
- A – Achievement** – To experience success; to know that a group can accomplish so much more than any one individual.

Upcoming Dates:

- September 8** - International Literacy Day
- September 17** – Constitution Day
- September 21** - International Day of Peace
- October 10** – Columbus Day
- October 16** - World Food Day
- November 11** – Veteran's Day
- November 25** - Int'l Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- December 10** - Human Rights Day
- December 17** – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



"ASTRA and Altrusa Clubs of Charlotte, NC joined forces to help a local pet rescue, "Forgotten Now Family Rescue" during their adoption event this past March. Members snuggled with and showcased the pups to potential adopters."



"Our ASTRA Club of Charlotte, NC donated pencil cases filled with school supplies to all 50 of students at Centro Educativo Batey Verde during a recent spring break to Dominican Republic. The students at this K-8 school were Haitian children whose parents worked the sugar cane fields outside of La Romana and were as excited to meet us as we were them. We hope to continue our international reach as other ASTRA members visit countries with students in need."



One Book at a Time
International Book Challenge
from President Kathy
*Changing one million lives,
one book at a time.*

Go to:

astra.altrusainternational.org
for more information

Welcome
BACK to
SCHOOL
are you ready?!





ASTRA Clubs are eligible for Altrusa International Foundation Grants for their community service projects!

- **The Project Grant Applications must be emailed by the due date to foundation @altrusa.org.**
- Do **not** mail applications to the Chicago office. A confirmation email will be sent to you when the application is received. Questions about grant applications may be directed to Shawna Kaiser, Foundation Director. You will receive an email confirmation, to the member listed on your application, upon receipt at the International Foundation office. Phone: (312) 427-4410 Fax: (312) 789-4416 shawna@altrusa.org or www.foundation.altrusa.org
- **There are two funding cycles each fiscal year:**
 - Cycle 1: Applications due **September 15**
 - Cycle 2: Applications due **March 15**
- **In addition, Altrusa and ASTRA Clubs chartering now may receive a one-time grant up to \$2,000 to begin service in their communities. The application must be received within one year of the charter date.**
- The Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. reserves the right to make the final decision on all applications. The grant recipient is obligated to use the grant award for the intended purpose and must file a report within one year after the grant is awarded.
- Altrusa Clubs, **ASTRA Clubs**, and Districts may apply for one service grant per cycle in the fiscal year, and all applicants must agree to the terms of the grant. If an application is not awarded Foundation funds, the Club or District may reapply in the next cycle.

NOTE: This application can be submitted electronically up to midnight of its due date.....so get it done!!!

"Altrusa believes it is not enough to be good: Altrusans must be good for something.

Each member must be doing the piece of work that is hers in a way that puts her in the front ranks of accomplishments."

Mamie L. Bass





District Liaisons

DISTRICT **ONE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Linda Dysart lindadysart2010@gmail.com
ASTRA Chair: Patricia(Tish)Maxim campnaples@fairpoint.net

DISTRICT **TWO** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Lorraine Brewer lobrewer@uark.edu ASTRA
Chair: Dawn Aubrey daubrey@illinois.edu

DISTRICT **THREE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Scott Tice scottaltrusa@gmail.com ASTRA
Chair: Jeraldyn J. Rivest jeraldyn@hotmail.com

DISTRICT **FOUR** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Ileana Pacheco
ipacheco2019.2021@gmail.com
ASTRA Chair: Britley Parker 1-334-897-5143

DISTRICT **FIVE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Janice Storrs jlstorrs47@hotmail.com ASTRA
Chair: Kathy Carmack kathycarmack52@gmail.com

DISTRICT **SIX** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Vici Giltner jgiltner@netins.net ASTRA Chair:
Kathy Benz benzkb@comcast.net

DISTRICT **SEVEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison and Chair: Vici Giltner jgiltner@netins.net

DISTRICT **EIGHT** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Lorraine Brewer lobrewer@uark.edu ASTRA
Chair: Heather Cleavinger h_cleavinger@yahoo.com

DISTRICT **NINE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Traci Squarcette tsquarcette@umhb.edu
ASTRA Chair: Sylvia Zamora szamora.altrusa@gmail.com

DISTRICT **TEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison and Chair: Linda Dysart
lindadysart2010@gmail.com

DISTRICT **ELEVEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Scott Tice scottaltrusa@gmail.com ASTRA
Chair: April Smith aprilboat@gmail.com

DISTRICT **TWELVE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Janice Storrs jlstorrs47@hotmail.com
ASTRA Chair: Teresa J. Taber tjtaber50@gmail.com

DISTRICT **FOURTEEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Ileana Pacheco
ipacheco2019.2021@gmail.com ASTRA Chair: Britley Parker mikebritkin@hotmail.com

DISTRICT **FIFTEEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Traci Squarcette tsquarcette@umhb.edu
ASTRA Chair: Pam Hayes president.tauranga@altrusa.org.nz

**Altrusa Int'l ASTRA Committee
Liaisons and District Chairs.**