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Our newly installed 2019-2021 District Officers

## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Pat Zoller

### ***"Believe – Begin – Become!"***

Three powerful words and the theme for this biennium.



Let's use those words to make our clubs and District Eleven better than ever.

**BELIEVE** that your club can increase its membership during this biennium, which in turn will strengthen District Eleven and Altrusa International.

**BEGIN** by inviting one new person to each of your meetings or expanding your service projects to include non-members and give them the opportunity to learn more about Altrusa and what we do. Who knows, they may want to become a member

of your club, just waiting to be invited. So, invite!

**BECOME** the Altrusa club that everyone in your community knows about because of all the great things you do, leading to a better community.

I look forward to the new biennium and to continue the momentum that past Governor Melanie Hodges and her board started with new club building, club revitalization and membership. I want to personally say "Thank You" to Melanie and her board for their support and words of encouragement and for their many great ideas in helping each club become their best. Thank you to each one who has stepped up take on a district leadership role this biennium; board members, appointed officers and committee chairs. For those of you who are new club presidents or continuing for another year – Thank You! It's going to be an exciting, fun-filled biennium. Just watch us grow in clubs and membership.

***"Surfing into Service" Conference*** this year in San Diego, California provided lots of opportunities to learn more about how to reach out to our communities, how to increase our membership and how to use social media to inspire, inform and expand our brand. A special thank you to the Altrusa Club of San Diego for hosting the 2019 Conference and to the Chula Vista, San Diego North County Coastal and Oxnard clubs for all

their assistance in making this a truly memorial conference. I hope those members who attended Conference returned to their clubs with enthusiasm and a wealth of information that they shared with other club members who were unable to attend. You were missed.

**Awards! Awards! Awards!** Congratulations to the Anaheim Club for winning the *Mamie L. Bass Service Award*, the Long beach Club for the *Letha H. Brown Award*, and the Anaheim Club for the *Dr. Nina Faye Calhoun International Award*. A synopsis of each of these winning projects is included on page 7 of this issue of the DSB. These projects have been sent to Altrusa International for consideration at the Convention in Reno, along with those club projects that were award winners at the Tucson Convention. Fingers crossed we will hear one or more of our club's names announced at Convention, as an award winner. It's not too early to start thinking about your club projects to submit for these awards at next year's District Eleven Conference in Oxnard, California.

Special congratulations to *Dottie Miller of the Altrusa Club of Chula Vista*, the recipient of the *Marilyn Attwood Award*. This award was established by the District Eleven Board of Directors in memory of Marilyn Attwood, a member of the Antelope Valley Club and a former District Eleven Chair. The award is given on an annual basis to an active member of an Altrusa club for extended and unsung service to their local Altrusa club. Each year clubs are encouraged to submit the name of a club member and brief explanation of their extended service to their club.

(Read more about Dottie on page 7.)

**The International Convention in Reno** in July is fast approaching. It's not too late to register via email or snail mail, for that matter. Included in this issue of the DSB is the Convention registration form and hotel registration information. There are lots of things planned for the Convention, including a bowling tournament on Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> inside the Grand Sierra Resort. Does your club have its bowling team organization, a name picked out and its cheerleaders selected? There will be prizes for the top 3 teams, best team name and best cheerleaders! On Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup> we will be "Reaching Out in Service" with three buses taking us off site to lend a helping hand to local charities; the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, the Ronald McDonald House, Spread the Word and Discovery Children's Museum. For those who choose to stay at the hotel there are several hands-on service projects planned and of course, a myriad of workshops for all of us to attend.

We're also planning a special District Eleven get together on Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> to meet the members of the Altrusa Club of Reno/Sparks that will soon be chartering and to renew friendships with all club members. Included on page 8 of the DSB is a flyer with all the details about this event. I would ask each of the club presidents to share this information with all their members as another incentive to attend Convention.

I look forward to seeing all our clubs represented at the International Convention and meeting each one of you that are there. I'll have special buttons for those attending Convention so seek me out if I don't happen to see you first.

In Altrusa Service, Pat



## **DISTRICT ELEVEN'S WEB INFORMATION**

Leslie Johnson  
Webmaster

My workshop for District Conference included a tour through our District

Website and our International Website. It was designed to make it easier for members to find forms or information that they needed. My handouts and power point presentation are on the district website: [www.altrusadistricteleven.org](http://www.altrusadistricteleven.org) News Page and scroll down to Conference to find them. I will post all of the presentations and handouts that I receive.

Our goal with the district website is to provide our visitors an easier way to learn about Altrusa and to provide our membership easier access to needed documents and materials. It offers quick and easy access to important information needed by our club members. The mission was to create a clean uncluttered design with improved functionality to let visitors know about our clubs and for our members to be able to find necessary information. The website has been launched. It is broken down into seven pages: **HOME, ABOUT, CLUBS, NEWS, RESOURCES, ASTRA and CONTACT**. Clubs are invited to send pictures, newsletters for posting and to have their own page. The site contacts most of the documents used by members and clubs are invited to request other documents and share their own.

The **HOME** page gives an overview of Altrusa and talks about service, literacy and fundraising. It offers testimonials from three active members. The home page also gives reasons to join Altrusa and provides answers to Frequently Asked Questions. Each page has the District Eleven logo at the top along with a link to the District Eleven Facebook page. Members are invited to share their own testimonials (along with a picture) or to ask their own questions.

The **ABOUT** page discusses the origin of Altrusa and District Eleven. It is followed by an introduction of our District Board members and email addresses where they can be reached. District Chairs along with email addresses to reach them come next. Members are encouraged to send their questions or concerns to either board members or the appropriate chairperson. Visitors can reach out if they have interests or recommendations and members have a name and face with whom to reach out for questions or concerns.

Locations of each club on the California or Arizona map follows on the **CLUB** page. California clubs have the sun with sunglasses icon whereas Arizona clubs have the cute cactus. Each club has a group picture and lists on which day of the month it holds its business meeting (such as 4th Monday or 3rd Tuesday). It lists the name of the club president and provides a generic email address in case a visitor has an interest in the club or perhaps knows of a community need. There are also links to the club website, Facebook page, and an information page. Clubs are invited to submit club pictures for their site. The information page is currently linked to the old District Eleven information page on the International website or if desired, I can assist a club in building their own information page.

The **NEWS** page contains information regarding the District Eleven Conference. There are links to Conference Handout materials that have been submitted. There is also information about the upcoming International Convention in July of 2019. Clubs may also submit their monthly newsletter for posting. Please add me to your newsletter distribution list. There are also the last two years of the District Eleven DSB and the International Compass.

The **RESOURCES** for the District and International Awards are listed at the beginning of the resources page. The **forms**, due dates and tips for entering a project for an award are listed. A **membership** section follows with membership forms, where forms should be sent, guide for the membership committee, ceremonies for members and installation, new membership kit, ASTRA information, club revitalization and new club building. The section on **Marketing** contains card template, ASTRA brochure, newsletter template, press release forms, newsletter templates, International Media Guides and Business cards. There are also Altrusa Brand books, the elevator speech and logos for each District Eleven club as well as the District Eleven logo and the ASTRA logo. Written descriptions of the District Eleven Board of Directors and Chair positions are listed in the **LEADERSHIP** section along with the Club President's Handbook, Incoming President's guide, and tips for Presidents, Service Development Manual, Club Treasurer's guide and how to pay International dues. The Policy section contains the 16 individual District Eleven Policies along with an index. There is also a District Eleven Policies complete document.

The **ASTRA** section contains a description of an ASTRA club. It also lists each ASTRA club in District Eleven, the name of the club, when it meets, a link to its Facebook or website, a generic email to its designated contact and a map of its location. The ASTRA clubs may also submit pictures and its descriptions of its projects to be displayed on this page.

The **CONTACT** page allows visitors or members to email the Webmaster with questions. We hope you find the new website fresh and easy to navigate. We worked hard to make sure it contained valuable information to assist you and your clubs. The

link to the website is [www.altrusadistricteleven.org](http://www.altrusadistricteleven.org). Please feel free to submit pictures and any improvement suggestions and other information required that is not found on the website. All clubs are welcomed to contact me regarding building their own information page. Communications Chair, Ann Strohm and I are here to assist you with construction Facebook pages and websites.

For each Club – please send me pictures for the website, newsletter or any information that should be posted on an information page. If you have suggestions for other pages that would benefit our clubs and the membership, please talk with me about any ideas. Any Altrusan is welcome to contact me to discuss ideas.

Email: [leslie.johnson2@roadrunner.com](mailto:leslie.johnson2@roadrunner.com)  
Phone: (714)686-1934.



### **PRESIDENT'S WORKSHOP**

Melinda Aguirre, Governor Elect & and Pat Zoller, Governor

The workshop was well attended by 13 Altrusans. Most of them were new, incoming presidents. The discussion was on the following (read below) and there were great questions asked at the end of the workshop. From the President's Handbook the most important pages and a calendar was provided and necessary information was given to pave the way for a successful year! Pat shared her secrets to putting together a club strategic plan. Thank you, to all that attended the workshop.

### **"THE FIN MANEUVERS THE BOARD"** Conference Workshop for Presidents

Thought for the day-"No one ever volunteers to do a bad job."

Now that you are going to be President Oh, my goodness! What did I get myself into? What's next? What do I have to do? When or where can I get some help?

### What Did I Get Myself Into?

You have agreed to serve a term as your local club president. You will hold the club's most challenging position. At the same time, the office of the club president offers the most reward as it is the office most able to move the club forward. With the help of the board and individual committee members, you can help the membership attain exciting new service achievements as well as gain greater community recognition for the club. In addition, presidents develop the type of leadership skills that are needed and drawn upon by the District when slating officers and appointing committee chairs and by International when making committee appointments.



#### Your responsibilities-

- Assume the leadership role of president.
- Prepare a written agenda for all club meetings.
- Preside with enthusiasm at meetings.
- Express appreciation for club achievements.
- Follow approved parliamentary procedure.
- Make sure your club has a strategic plan and that it is being implemented and monitored yearly.
- Share District and International communications involving members.
- Share pertinent information from District and International mailings with officers and committee chairs as soon as possible.
- Oversee the proper functioning of club committees.
- Sign all membership certificates.
- Serve as the club's community representative, attending functions where Altrusa should be represented, or appointing another member to serve as the club's representative.
- Chair Board Meetings.



#### **FIRST TIMERS WORKSHOP "CATCH YOUR FIRST WAVE"**

Melinda Aguirre  
Governor Elect

Amazingly, we had 17 first timers attend. They were all enthusiastic members wanting to know all about Altrusa and how it works. The workshop went over the program and what role the first timers played during conference. I hope the conference was a memorable one to all the attendees and they will come back next year for more Altrusa Fun!



#### **2<sup>nd</sup> VICE GOVERNOR REPORT**

April Smith

Hope everyone who attended the 2019 District Eleven Conference in San Diego this past May enjoyed the experience. For those of you unable to join us I hope your club members take the time to share their experiences, workshop information, and the District and International information that was presented.

We elected a great Board of Officers who will lead our District for the next two years. I learned so much as the District Secretary the past two years and I am ready to now handle my duties and responsibilities as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Governor. One of my main responsibilities will be to oversee what is referred to as the BRRs, which is an acronym for Bylaws, Resolutions and Recommendations.

During the BRR section of the Conference Business Meeting there were two items that were submitted for consideration. One was a proposed "Bylaw" change and one a proposed "Tradition" change. Our immediate past, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Governor, Bonnie McPherson presented the proposed recommendation changes which were discussed and voted on and each passed. Both will now be voted on by the delegates at the International Convention in Reno in July. These items are listed in the International Convention Altrusan as Items 19.09 and 19.25 for your review.

At the International Convention I will be a delegate and will be following all twenty-five proposed recommendations to be voted on and the decisions that will be made. All the information on these items is available for review in the International Convention Altrusan which was emailed out to everyone mid-April. For those of you who have been delegates before you know this can be a tedious but important part of convention. If you will be a delegate or alternate, I really recommend you look through all these proposals and be prepared. If you are confused or have any questions about some of them, please talk with your club officers for guidance on how to vote. I am also happy to talk with you at convention if you need further clarification. This is an important part of the democratic process that our organization follows, not only at the International and District level but also at the club level.



#### **TREASURE'S DATES FOR FISCAL YEAR END 5/31/2019**

Leslie Johnson

- \*Dues to International and District - 6/15/2019 – *Late Fees will be charged after the 15<sup>th</sup>.*
  - \*Local Club Foundation Report to Altrusa Intl Foundation - 9/30/2019
  - \*Only if your LCF is under the umbrella of Altrusa Intl Foundation IRS Form 990 or 990-N Online Postcard - 10/15/2019
  - \*California FTB Form 199 or Online Postcard 199-N - 10/15/2019
  - \*California Dept. of Justice RRF-1 - 10/15/2019
  - \*California Secretary of State SI-100 Variable
  - \*Bi-annual filing, due date determined by your incorporation date
  - \*Arizona Corporation Annual Report Variable
  - \*Annual filing, due date determined by your incorporation date
- If your club is not yet incorporated, you may be unable to file with the IRS and/or your state until you have completed the process. These filing requirements apply to both clubs and local club foundations.



## **BEST PRACTICES FOR ALTRUSA CLUB FOUNDATION**

Andrea Shallcross, past District Treasurer,  
current District Director

Your club has successfully raised funds that now reside in your local club foundation! Excellent! Now what? Do your club members have a voice in how those funds are distributed? Is there good communication between club and foundation? In order to keep those funds flowing through the hard work of Altrusans, the answer should be a resounding YES! In the interest of promoting a healthy relationship between your club and your foundation, consider some of these ideas, as presented by Becky Wood, District Eight Past Governor.

Have an annual service plan – every June, club members participate in choosing projects for the coming year and determine the funds required. Also known as a BUDGET, it provides a guide for the coming year. Club members should each have a copy.

Club members raise funds to support the planned service projects – it's easy to raise money when you can share with your community where the funds will go.

Have regular communication between the club and foundation boards. For transparency and inclusion, it's important to have representation on each other's boards. At least one club member (more is great) on the foundation board, who reports between the club and the foundation.

If the above planning and communication is not happening, or if the foundations policies are too restrictive, perhaps the foundation's bylaws need to be reviewed and updated to incorporate the desired Altrusan attributes of Clarity, Flexibility, and Inclusion, with the important addition of Transparency. Remember that the foundation should be a close complement to your club; a separate entity, but with close ties and identification with its local club, not an entity with entirely different goals.

To quote Becky Wood, "At the end of the day, we are all Altrusans for the same reasons: community service and friendships. If we keep this in mind and practice transparency in our clubs and foundations, everyone wins."

## **NEW CLUB BUILDING**

Gail Swain

The New Club Building Workshop at our District Conference was fun and informative. Sue Larkin led the workshop with reports from Melinda Aguirre about her efforts to start a club in Buellton, CA, as well as Gail Swain with the status of the club in formation in Reno/Sparks, NV.

Bonnie McPherson will be working with Sue Larkin to revitalize the Phoenix club. Aggie Kurzyna, new member and President of the Los Angeles club, will be working to revitalize Los Angeles.

The club in Reno/Sparks currently has nine members and is working hard to get 15 members so they can charter. At the workshop it was unanimously decided to bring back an old tradition to help this club and to send them some goodwill. The tradition? Seed money.

***Please, as a club or as an individual send a \$10.00 donation. Send your check made out to:***

*Altrusa International of Reno/Sparks,  
c/o Courtney Vogt,  
946 Ephedra Lane,  
Sparks, NV 89436*

*If you can, please put your club check or personal check in a fun card signed by you and your members. They do not know about this and will be totally surprised!*

As you know and have heard many times, membership is everyone's job, whether you are building a new club or keeping your club revitalized. Bringing in new members is an ongoing process and it is up to each of us to invite, empower, and engage. Do you have an idea or yearning to start a new club somewhere?



## **INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Leanne Milligan

The start of the new Altrusa year is upon us with new Club and District Board's installed and raring to go.

Conference season was a great success with members around the organisation provided a great opportunity to learn, share and celebrate with each other. The talking points shared by the International Representatives are being shared with all club presidents so that you can share these with your members. With so much happening across the organisation it was probably quite hard to take it all in.

At the International level the biennium will draw to a close at the Reno Convention in July. President Elect Beverly Hardy and her programme chairs have been working hard to provide a wonderful array of workshops for members and we have many inspirational speakers programmed as well. Added to this we have lots of opportunity to serve, have fun together and learn from each other. I hope that you will be able to join us. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as your International President this biennium and I look forward to seeing Altrusa continue to thrive as we work together to make a difference in our communities.



## **District Eleven Altrusans Reaching Out to Light the Way in Our Communities and Around the World**



### **Margee Neer Leadership Chair**

This year as International President Leanne Milligan completes her biennium, the International Foundation initiated a special project using her theme of Reaching Out. This project focuses on Disaster Relief and providing solar powered lights called LUCI lights as well as funds to areas impacted by natural disaster. If you are interested in participating this will be available at the convention or by contacting the International Foundation office. In District Eleven we were able to participate at the Annual Conference in San Diego. As usual, our members were very generous in supporting all of the foundation projects. We also revealed that our clubs were awarded 5 grants for a total of \$17,000.00 from the Foundation. Thank you to all the Altrusans who gave this year at conference and throughout the year.

<b>Total Foundation Donations raised</b>	<b>\$ 14,736.00</b>
Auction/Raffle	\$ 1,917.00
Fitness walk/yoga event	\$ 1,415.00
<b>Designated funds:</b>	
Club 21	\$ 1,697.00
Grants	\$ 3,834.00
Disaster Relief	\$ 2,750.00
LUCI lights	\$ 2,184.00
Endowment	\$ 379.00
Where Needed Most	\$ 560.00
Expenses - copying	\$ (220.00)
Money raised prior to conference, (Club 21/Fun Run)	\$ 1,134.00
<b>Total taken in at Conference</b>	<b>\$13,382.00</b>

There is a special designation of **Lamplighter** for Altrusans who give \$500.00 or more within the fiscal year. In addition, if an Altrusan has been a lamplighter 10 or more times, she is designated a Josie Lucente Lamplighter. This year our outgoing Governor Melanie Hodges acknowledged our two Lucente Lamplighters with a special gifts called Mandalas that represent "Gratitude." A mandala is a spiritual and ritual symbol in the Indian religions of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism represent the universe.

**Judy Tharp** has been a Lamplighter 19 times.

**Tammy Fournier** is a Lucente Lamplighter and has continued yearly to raise funds for the foundation.

She has used this as a way to honor Altrusans who have given of themselves.

*Congratulations and thank you to these generous ladies!*

This year at conference there were **15 new or renewing Altrusans who became Lamplighters.**

Betty Adams, Phoenix	Marion Porch, Phoenix
Ann Banwell, Tucson	Linda Puchi, Phoenix
Leona Doidge, Santa Maria by club	Andrea Shallcross, Eastern Sierra
Denice Gilb, Anaheim	April Smith, San Luis Obispo
Sheila Huginin, Tucson	Shauna Stokes, Chula Vista
Leslie Johnson, Anaheim	Freya Verduzco, Santa Maria by Tammy and Betty
Catherine McDaniel, Phoenix	Pat Zoller, San Diego
Dorothy Miller, Chula Vista (Marilyn Atwood winner)	

Thank you for your contributions.



## **AWARDS! AWARDS! AWARDS!**

**Mamie L. Bass Award:** Anaheim Club – “JOYA Scholars” JOYA partners with Altrusa International of Anaheim to support low-income junior high and high school students and their working-class immigrant families in their quest for higher education. The program assists these students through one-on-one mentoring, academic tutoring, educational workshops, parent academy campus visits, SAT presentation materials and classes and college scholarships.

**Letha H. Brown Award:** Long beach Club – “Fifth Grade Essay Contest.” The Long Beach Club initiated a writing contest at two Long Beach Unified School District elementary schools with the “My Favorite Book and How it Changed My Life” in partnership with District Four City Councilman, Dan Supernaw. The goal was to engage students in an authentic reflection of how literature can affect one’s outlook on life.

**Dr. Nina Faye Calhoun International Relations Award:** Anaheim Club – “Sharing Our Bounty, Globally” A collaboration between one international and two local organizations was created. The purpose was to share a common vision of assisting sexually abused/battered women and children in Tijuana to rebuild their lives by providing clothing, shoes, bedding, and financial assistance for counseling, education, and shelter.



**Marilyn Attwood Award:** Chula Vista - Dottie Miller is celebrating 39 years as an Altrusan and recently turned 91. Dottie was president of the Chula Vista Club four times, and held all board positions, except Secretary. She did serve as Secretary on the Foundation Board and served annually on our Ways & Means Committee, which raises funds for service projects.

Dottie tirelessly promotes Altrusa at the City of Chula Vista’s monthly First Friday Breakfasts. She never misses a chance to tout the work Altrusans do. She encouraged the club to join the Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce which now makes the club better known in the community and increased membership and sponsorships.

Thanks to Dottie’s persistence, motivation, and encouragement to members. Sponsorships went from none to \$13,500 in only 10 years.

Dottie was responsible for the rejuvenation of the Chula Vista Club. With her drive and determination she contacted businesses, school superintendents, and other community groups and brought in new members from all walks of the community, who then brought in more members. Soon the club was back well above charter strength. She is a model Altrusan and deserving of Marilyn Atwood award for being such an inspiration to all club members and to all who meet her.

### **First Timer’s Perspective, Tiffany Lau, Eastern Sierra President**

First I’d like to say why this was my first time attending Conference. I hadn’t attended before because I wanted to save my money and vacation time for visiting family. The “scarcity/starvation” mindset was so deeply imbedded in me that I never stopped to check if I \*could\* afford to take unpaid time off. I also felt guilty if I took too much time off and let my work pile up. And frankly, I didn’t want to use my limited resources to spend time with a bunch of strangers.

I had my priorities wrong. Firstly, although I liked my coworkers, I didn’t feel like my work was making the world significantly better, at least not in the way I wanted to contribute. And secondly, I wasn’t invested enough in the organization that allowed me to do meaningful work: Altrusa. And I wouldn’t be meeting strangers; I would be getting to personally know my allies.

My favorite part of Conference was spending time with members from different Clubs. Vivian Goo (Oxnard) graduated from the same Hawaiian high school as my dad. Aggie Kurzyna (Los Angeles) truly lives “the only constant in life is change,” moving cross-country and signing up as President of the Los Angeles Club. Melanie Hodges (San Luis Obispo County) can really cut a rug.

Conference is also packed full of informative workshops and speakers. My favorites: Melinda Aguirre and Pat Zoller giving resources and best practices for dealing with the challenges of Presidency, from presiding over meetings effectively to member retention and engagement. Keynote Speaker Jacqueline Townsend Konstanturos showing us the difference between brand (who we are) and logo (the signature of our organization). Chuck Kossuth at the social media workshop emphasizing that—no matter what social media platform we use—our content should entertain, educate, and empower our audience.



# REACHING OUT JULY 17-20, 2019 RENO, NV

## ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



Registration is open (Link below)

<https://altrusainternational.regfox.com/altrusa-international-inc-2019-convention>

Registration now through June 15th will be \$350. Late registration made after June 15th will be charged \$375.

Where: The Grand Sierra Resort and Casino – 2500 E. 2nd Street, Reno, NV.

Hotel reservations: <https://book.passkey.com/event/49718199/owner/16854/home>, available through June 27th.

Check out the International Altrusan for details on special events and Off-site excursions to lend a helping hand to local charities.

**Bring Donations for “Days for Girls”**  
**Washcloths, hotel soaps, girl’s panties (size 10 - to 16), and Ziploc Gallon Freezer bags.**

### Come Meet and Greet Reno/Sparks

All District Eleven Members are invited!

Friday, July 19, 3:45pm

**Crème Cafe**

18 St. Lawrence Avenue, Reno, NV

\$10 pay at the door, No Host Bar, Appetizers included

Please join us for a fun event with the members and potential members of the Reno/Sparks Club information.

Meet in the front lobby of the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino at 3:30 to car pool and or Uber depending on the number of people attending.



## **Chula Vista Club Member and Previous Southwestern College ASTRA Member Wins 2018 California Journalism Award and is Recognized as a 2019 Finalist for a Pulitzer Prize in Journalism**

By April Smith with Excerpts from Columnist Diane Bell, San Diego Tribune



**Bianca Quilantan**, member of the Altrusa Club of Chula Vista, who attended Southwestern College, where she served as President of the ASTRA Volunteer Club, then transferred to California State University Chico has added the 2018 California Journalism Award for Print Division as well as Pulitzer Prize Finalist to her short work resume at the age of 23. She was on the tiny staff of reporters, editors and photographers at the Chico Enterprise-Record who covered the Camp Fire in Paradise, California last November. It was her first salaried journalism job. The Chico newspaper, in collaboration with the Bay Area News Group, was named one of two finalists in the Pulitzer's Breaking News Reporting category for 2019. The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette won the award for its synagogue massacre coverage.

Along with her news reporting, Bianca's Dec. 18 story, "I want my mom back - Camp Fire survivor recounts final moments with mother," was the closing piece in Chico's 10-part entry package. After several interviews, she wrote her article while at the college campus library studying for final exams. Bianca learned about Christina Taft by sifting through post-fire GoFundMe appeals for help. Christina, also a Chico State student, needed a place to stay, food and financial aid. Her mother had been her sole support.

"**Christina Taft** fled Paradise with tens of thousands of others who managed to escape the path of deadliest and most destructive fire in California's history. Her mother, **Victoria Taft**, stayed. It was the last time they would see each other." Bianca explained how Christina tried to talk her mother into fleeing but, because no official evacuation alert had come, her mother refused. Finally, Christina left, only to later learn the inferno devoured their duplex less than two hours later. When she returned to the ashes, she found yellow caution tape marking the spot her mother's body was found in what used to be the living room.

When describing her reaction to being a Pulitzer finalist, Bianca called it bittersweet. "The first feeling I had was not one full of happiness. I cried a lot. I was very glad to be a Pulitzer finalist, but it took me back through the entire story package, and all those people who lost their lives." It was the last story she wrote for the Chico Enterprise-Record. She moved on to take her first full-time journalism job in Washington, D.C., as a web producer for Politico. Her career goals are to continue to tell stories about ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances and to continue telling stories that need to be told " Oh, and, yes, a Pulitzer Prize is still on her to-do list.

Bianca's mom is Iracsema Quilantan, a long time Altrusa member of the Chula Vista Club. You may also remember Bianca from the 2014 District Eleven Conference in San Diego where Bianca, a senior in high school at the time sang a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem at the Opening Session.

Here is a link if you would like to read Bianca's original story:

[https://www.daily\\_democrat.com/2018/12/18/i-want-my-mom-back-camp-fire-survivor-recounts-final-moments-with-mother/](https://www.daily_democrat.com/2018/12/18/i-want-my-mom-back-camp-fire-survivor-recounts-final-moments-with-mother/)

*As a Side-note: Altrusa International Foundation sent a \$4000 Grant to assist victims of the Camp Fire Disaster this past year.*

### ***Around the District***



**ASTRA Club of Allan Hancock  
Chartered November 1, 2018  
Voted Best New Club by the College  
Congratulations!!!**

## ***Recent Installations***

### **Altrusa of Golden Valley**

Board members - Kathy Telleria President, Linda Cordero - Vice-President, Deanna Jones - Secretary, Diane Araujo -Treasurer, Jaine Gutierrez –Director, & Absent - Elizabeth Soltero -Director



New Members - Club President with of the six ladies who are joining our club.  
They will have their Initiation at a future Club meeting date

### **Altrusa International of San Diego, Inc.**

Kathy Girard – President, Diana Ramsey – Vice President, Secretary – Sandy Pfefferkorn, Treasurer – Susannah Berning, Directors – Linda Kennedy (not pictured, thanks to Velisa for standing in), Carol Miller, & Barbara Hill, & Betty Baran - Immediate Past Governor



### **Altrusa Intl of Anaheim**

President - Leslie Johnson, First VP - Denice Gilb, Second VP - Reon Boydston Howard,  
Secretary - Charlene Bowden, Treasurer - Beth Pelfrey, Immediate Past President - Pat Hansmeyer,  
Directors - Judy Gunderson, Lisa Clark, Pam Krey & Kay Spence  
Club Member Peggy Immerman installed our new board.  
Peggy Immerman received her 15 years of service certificate.  
Carol Latham received her 25 years of service certificate



Congratulations are also extended to Tiffany Lau – Eastern Sierra and Susan Spears – Santa Maria who were or will be installed as new Club Presidents!

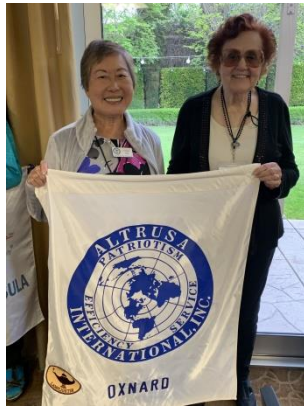
## “Surfing into Service”

### District Eleven 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference



### Parade of Flags at Opening Ceremonies



















## Friday Night Motown Fun with the Corvelles





## Project Linus Service Project



In one hour, our fabulous Altrusans produced  
16 fleece blankets for Ronald McDonald House, San Diego



## Days for Girls Service Project

178 Washcloths

771 soaps

747 Ziploc Bags

1 very large bag of fabric

202 panties

\$565 Cash, checks, and gift cards

**You can bring the same things to our Reno Convention as part of their Service Project**

"Thank you so much for including Days for Girls in your conference. It was a pleasure to be able to share with you the work that we do and how you can be involved. If you are interested in contacting a team in your area please visit our website: [www.daysforgirls.org](http://www.daysforgirls.org).

We appreciate the wonderful donation that you collected. Thank you for Changing Lives with us!"

Days for Girls Escondido  
Jeana Nash Escondido CA Team Leader  
1-760-300-9241



We hope you had a fun time at conference.

The San Diego Altrusa  
“Surfing into Service” Gang!



### District Eleven Club Information

	<b>President</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Meetings</b>
Anaheim	Leslie Johnson	<a href="mailto:anaheim@altrusadistricteleven.org">anaheim@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday
Arcadia	Beau Stocking	<a href="mailto:arcadia@altrusadistricteleven.org">arcadia@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday
Buellton	TBD	<a href="mailto:Buellton@altrusadistricteleven.org">Buellton@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	
Central Coast	Lupe Maldonado-Alvarado	<a href="mailto:centralcoast@altrusadistricteleven.org">centralcoast@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday 6 pm
Chula-Vista	Danielle Robello	<a href="mailto:chulavista@altrusadistricteleven.org">chulavista@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
San Luis Obispo County	April Smith	<a href="mailto:slocounty@altrusadistricteleven.org">slocounty@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
Eastern Sierra	Tiffany Lau	<a href="mailto:easternsierra@altrusadistricteleven.org">easternsierra@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday Dinner 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday noon program
Glendale	Barbara Crawford	<a href="mailto:glendale@altrusadistricteleven.org">glendale@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday
Golden Valley	Kathy Telleria	<a href="mailto:goldenvalley@altrusadistricteleven.org">goldenvalley@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday
Indian Wells Valley	Beth Gordon	<a href="mailto:indianwellsvalley@altrusadistricteleven.org">indianwellsvalley@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
Los Angeles	Aggie Kurznya	<a href="mailto:losangeles@altrusadistricteleven.org">losangeles@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, noon
Long Beach	Marie Cady Drummond	<a href="mailto:longbeach@altrusadistricteleven.org">longbeach@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday/varies
Monterey Peninsula	Marsha Leadingham	<a href="mailto:montereypeninsula@altrusadistricteleven.org">montereypeninsula@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday
Oxnard	Katharine Raley	<a href="mailto:oxnard@altrusadistricteleven.org">oxnard@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday
Phoenix	Linda Puchi	<a href="mailto:phoenix@altrusadistricteleven.org">phoenix@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	
Reno-Sparks	TBD	<a href="mailto:reno@altrusadistricteleven.org">reno@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	
San Buenaventura	Bev Mueller	<a href="mailto:sanbuenaventura@altrusadistricteleven.org">sanbuenaventura@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 11:30 am 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday, 6 pm
San Diego	Kathy Girard	<a href="mailto:sandiego@altrusadistricteleven.org">sandiego@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 6 pm
San Diego NCC	Jan Riggins	<a href="mailto:sdncc@altrusadistricteleven.org">sdncc@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 6pm
Santa Maria	Susan Spears	<a href="mailto:santamaria@altrusadistricteleven.org">santamaria@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday
The West Valley	Leslie Fountain	<a href="mailto:westvalley@altrusadistricteleven.org">westvalley@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday
Tucson	Nancy Cowden	<a href="mailto:tucson@altrusadistricteleven.org">tucson@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Lunch & evening (5:30)

### **District Eleven Board 2019-2021**

Governor	Pat Zoller	San Diego	<a href="mailto:governor@altrusadistricteleven.org">governor@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Governor Elect	Melinda Aguirre	Central Coast	<a href="mailto:governorelect@altrusadistricteleven.org">governorelect@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
First Vice Governor	Bonnie McPherson	Tucson	<a href="mailto:firstvicegovernor@altrusadistricteleven.org">firstvicegovernor@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Second Vice Governor	April Smith	SLOCo	<a href="mailto:secondvicegovernor@altrusadistricteleven.org">secondvicegovernor@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Immediate Past Governor	Melanie Hodges	SLOCo	<a href="mailto:immediatepastgovernor@altrusadistricteleven.org">immediatepastgovernor@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Director	Andrea Shallcross	Eastern Sierra	<a href="mailto:director@altrusadistricteleven.org">director@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Treasurer	Leslie Johnson	Anaheim	<a href="mailto:treasurer@altrusadistricteleven.org">treasurer@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Secretary	Hillary Sloan	Chula Vista	<a href="mailto:secretary@altrusadistricteleven.org">secretary@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Parliamentarian	Pat Young	Tucson	<a href="mailto:parliamentarian@altrusadistricteleven.org">parliamentarian@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Training Chair	Melanie Hodges	SLOCo	<a href="mailto:trainingchair@altrusadistricteleven.org">trainingchair@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>

### **District Chairs 2019-2021**

ASTRA	Kathleen Telleria	Golden Valley	<a href="mailto:astrochair@altrusadistricteleven.org">astrochair@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Communications	Katharine Raley	Oxnard	<a href="mailto:communicationschair@altrusadistricteleven.org">communicationschair@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Leadership	Margie Neer	Eastern Sierra	<a href="mailto:leadership@altrusadistricteleven.org">leadership@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Literacy	Sandy Pfefferkorn	San Diego	<a href="mailto:literacychair@altrusadistricteleven.org">literacychair@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Membership	Aggie Kurzynn	Los Angeles	<a href="mailto:membershipchair@altrusadistricteleven.org">membershipchair@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
New Club Building	Gail Swain	Eastern Sierra	<a href="mailto:newclubbuildingchair@altrusadistricteleven.org">newclubbuildingchair@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Service Chair	Glenda Hogg	Chula Vista	<a href="mailto:servicechair@altrusadistricteleven.org">servicechair@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
DSB Editor	Kathy Girard	San Diego	<a href="mailto:dsbeditor@altrusadistricteleven.org">dsbeditor@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>
Webmaster	Leslie Johnson	Anaheim	<a href="mailto:webmaster@altrusadistricteleven.org">webmaster@altrusadistricteleven.org</a>