



# Reflections from Governor Robin

April/May 2011  
Volume II, Issue 11

## Monthly Communication to Altrusa International, Inc. District Three Club Presidents [Govrobin@comcast.net](mailto:Govrobin@comcast.net) (Serving clubs in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina)

This will be the last issue I send to you as your Governor. It has been an honor for me to serve you during the past two years and I've enjoyed working with all of you. I will forever hold fond memories of the years I was allowed to serve as your Governor.

### **Importance of Training Your Incoming Leadership:**

During the month of May, your club will have new officers in leadership positions. People will be more willing to serve if they know they'll receive training to help them in their positions. With the rebranding changes that will be happening at the international level, it's of utmost important that are club leaders receive current training.

At Conference, our District Board has organized workshops based on the goals of our District Strategic Plan. These workshops will be available immediately following the Friday Foundation luncheon. Leadership topics include president/treasurer training and succession planning. Membership topics include new club building, club revitalization grants, and social networking. Service topics include cool ideas and foundation partnerships. A personal development workshop is on the living spirit art of squiggleism. Many thanks are extended to the presenters for their time and effort in coordinating the workshops. (Below: Incoming District Consultant Training at Conference.)



**Why do we call them chairmen anyway?** Ever wonder why we use the words chairman, chairwoman or chairperson? The words seem meaningless to us today, but centuries ago, they made perfect sense.

Back then, chairs were still uncommon. They were rare and expensive commodities. People who attended meetings generally sat on roughly made benches. The person who presided over the meeting was often, out of respect, given a chair to sit on. That made the presiding officer the chairman. That is how the name originated and is still used today. – Adapted from *That Takes the Cake*, by R. Brasch.

### **Introverts vs. extroverts - How to motivate both:**

Every club has a mix of people with different skills, experiences, and attitudes. One combination you'll find as a leader is the mixture of introverts and extroverts. How well they blend together depends on you. It starts with knowing whom you're dealing with.

Introverts tend to be reflective, rehearsing and thinking through what they want to do and say before taking action. They tend to be quiet, dislike interruptions, and prefer direct communication that gets right to the point without chit-chat.

Extroverts are usually talkative and like to think out loud; they share their opinions easily, enjoy social interaction, adjust quickly to interruptions, and prefer to work and generate ideas in a team.

Of course, few people are completely one way or the other, so keep that in mind when you're working with them. Below are some tips to help you effectively lead your club.

- **Communicate with your introverts in writing.** This gives them time to process your message and think about how to respond or carry out your instructions.
- **Assign extroverts to interactive tasks.** They'll be more eager to make presentations and plan your service project events.

- **Monitor Meetings.** Extroverts may tend to dominate meetings even though they don't necessarily mean to shut anyone out. Make a point to encouraging everyone to speak so introverts get a chance to contribute.
- **Exercise and encourage patience.** If you're an extrovert yourself, you may sometimes grow frustrated by introverts in your club who need more time to think things through. Try to slow your pace a bit so you don't discourage anyone from sharing ideas and contributing. To avoid conflict and misunderstandings, make sure your members respect each other's styles.—Adapted from the *Puget Sound Business Journal*.

**Conference Reminders:** Please let me know if you have any agenda items for the pre-conference board meeting. If you have any Emeritus requests, send them to me by April 8.

**Conference Reminders:** Conference will be here in less than one month. If you haven't already registered, please do so now. Conference fees will increase by \$20.00 after April 22, 2011. It's also time to make your room reservation because they book up fast. This is a great opportunity to receive training and network with other Altrusans. This is an importance conference because you'll hear about rebranding and you'll elect your 2011-2013 board. It's strongly encouraged for your incoming president to attend conference. *Please remind your delegates and alternates to bring a photo ID to the credentials table so they can vote.* If you haven't already made your room reservations, it's time to contact the Embassy Suites Charlotte-Concord Golf Resort and Spa. They can be reached by phone at 704-455-8200 ext. 2028 or by Fax: 704-454-1719 or [www.embassysuitesconcord.com](http://www.embassysuitesconcord.com). *A great way to meet new people is to exchange stickers. As part of representing your club, please plan to bring stickers to conference.*

**Club Officer and Committee Rosters:** As you club prepares for the 2011-2012 year, please electronically complete your Club Officer Roster and send the information to incoming Governor Beverly Hardy at [beverly\\_hardy@comcast.net](mailto:beverly_hardy@comcast.net). Please also mail a hard copy to: Altrusa International, Inc.; 332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1123; Chicago, Illinois 60604-4305

**Club Activity Summary Report:** In early May, the incoming Governor-Elect will be sending you a club activity summary report to be completed by May 31, 2011.

**International Convention:** It's time to register and make your hotel reservations for the International Convention in Rapid City, SD. For information, go to: [www.altrusa.com/convention2011/conventionInformation.aspx](http://www.altrusa.com/convention2011/conventionInformation.aspx). Below is a picture of Incoming President Dona Garretson (Top row, 4<sup>th</sup> from the left) and the 2011-2013 International Committee Leadership.



**Sponsors:** Since March 1, **Frances Alguire** sponsored new members **Jane Hauser** and **Lucia Powe** (Chapel Hill, NC). **Mary Harris** sponsored new member **Cherri Johnston** (Gastonia, NC). **Lynn Jimison** sponsored new member **Ashley Peterson** (Gastonia, NC). **Jan Turberville** sponsored new member **Pam Cochran** (Starke, FL). **Linda Henderson** and **Wendy Bice** sponsored new member **Becky Munden** (Gainesville, FL). Many thanks are given to these members for their recruitment efforts.

**Altrusa International Foundation:** April is the month to remind your members about the programs provided through the International Foundation Endowment. Over the past two years, clubs in our District have received grants to assist with local community service projects. The Foundation also assists with providing funds for disaster relief.

Now is the time to become a member of Club 21 or to renew your membership. For a \$21 donation, your members will provide assistance to kids with HIV/AIDS. For a \$500 contribution, your members can become a lamplighter. This money supports the efforts provided through the International Foundation. Below are e-news updates from the Foundation.

**New Zealand Earthquake Relief Efforts:** *The District Three Conference will be supporting a Christchurch fundraiser.* However, if you are unable to attend conference or if you wish to make a contribution directly through the International Foundation, please refer to the Altrusa website and go

to the Foundation tab. Click on the “Make A Contribution” tab and follow the instructions. It is suggested that the contributions be made to Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. rather than sending it to the New Zealand Red Cross. The International Foundation will forward one hundred percent of each contribution received to this agency.

The review committee of the Foundation’s Disaster Relief Fund also approved a grant of \$1000 (US) under the Club Disaster Recovery Service Grants be sent to Altrusa International, Inc. of Christchurch in response to their application for funds to assist them with their relief efforts in the community. Remember that the Foundation is a 501 (C) (3) and therefore, contributions will be tax deductible. Also keep in mind that individual checks to New Zealand will incur a currency conversion cost and will probably take longer to be received by those who are desperately in need of this assistance.

**Japan Relief Efforts:** Altrusa and the International Foundation’s concern for the well-being of the world around us, prompted the International Foundation to also approve a contribution in the amount of \$500 (US) which was sent to the American Red Cross specifically for the relief efforts being conducted in Japan as a result of the devastation that has followed the recent earthquake and tsunami that struck in that country.

**E-NEWS –[www.altrusa.com](http://www.altrusa.com) and click Login. Enter your e-mail address, password, select membership:**

1. I’m so excited! President Donna is encouraging you to attend conference and convention.
2. Did You Know? – Electroplate president’s pin is available, Executive Director search closes on April 8, and two new ASTRA clubs were sponsored in Texas.
3. ASTRA Photo Essay – ASTRA grew by six new clubs in 2010.
4. Creating a High-Commitment Volunteer Culture – Your mission should offer a pay-off that feels good. People don't want to make a contribution—they want to make a difference.
5. Booth Space – For a \$100 fee, booth space is available at convention in the exhibit hall.
6. Parade of Club Banners – Please bring your club banner to convention so you can participate in the “Parade of Altrusa Club Banners”. The event will take place at the Friday, July 22, 2011 Opening Banquet in Rapid City, SD.

**2011 Conference:** Held April 28 – 30 at the Embassy Suites in Concord, NC.

**2011 International Convention:** Held July 22 – 25 at the Ramkota Hotel & Conf. Center, Rapid City, SD.

**2012 Conference:** Held April 19 – 21, 2012 at the Hilton Suites in Sandy Springs, GA.

**2013 Conference:** Held April 25 – 27, 2013 at the Doubletree Biltmore Hotel in Asheville, NC.

***April Calendar:***

April 1, 2011:

- + Begin work on Club Activity Report
- + New members pay full dues which covers them through 5/31 of following year
- + Incoming President appoints committee chairs
- + Elect delegates and alternates to International Convention and send names to International
- + Consider sending donation to support the International Foundation’s Endowment Fund

April 7, 2011:

- + World Health Day

April 11, 2011:

- + Altrusa’s Anniversary and Altrusa Awareness Day

April 10, 2011:

- + Audit committee report to Governor

April 15, 2011:

- + International sends dues statements to club treasurers

April 27, 2011:

- + Pre-Conference Board Meeting, Concord, NC
- + Pre-Conference Foundation Meeting, Concord, NC

April 28-30, 2011:

- + District Three Conference “Light Beams on Altrusa” Concord, NC

## May Calendar:

May 1, 2011:

- ✚ Incoming President plans meeting of old and new directors
- ✚ Begin work on club activity report
- ✚ Finalize plans for annual meeting and installation of new officers
- ✚ International Foundation Community Leadership Award due to International Office
- ✚ Send out bills for local, district and international dues
- ✚ Appoint Audit Committee to audit books for past year
- ✚ Plan to have conference delegates and alternates present a District Conference Report

May 10, 2011:

- ✚ Report names of new committee chairs and officers to District and International
- ✚ Send new District Board and Chair information to International on forms supplied by International
- ✚ Letha H. Brown Award to International
- ✚ Mamie L. Bass Award to International
- ✚ Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun Award to International

May 15, 2011:

- ✚ District Service Bulletin Articles Due
- ✚ Finalize proposed budget for upcoming club year
- ✚ Report proposed bylaw amendments coming from conference to International BRR chair within 15 days of conference.
- ✚ Annual reports of outgoing club officers and committee chairs due
- ✚ Nominations for Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian

Award due to International Office  
International Day of Families

May 31, 2011:

- ✚ Club Activity Reports due to Governor-Elect and Altrusa International
- ✚ May 15, 2011 con't.:  
✚ Entry for ASTRA Club Service Award due to International Office
- ✚ End of Club fiscal year
- ✚ All local records should be transferred to new officers and committee chairs
- ✚ District Service Bulletin mailing

## June Calendar:

June 1, 2011:

- ✚ Club fiscal year begins, President & Treasurer sign new bank signature cards
- ✚ Present annual budget to club for approval
- ✚ Schedule all club and board meetings for club year
- ✚ Deadline to submit District and Int'l Dues to District Three Treasurer
- ✚ Pay International Convention Fee
- ✚ Review Strategic Plan for new year planning

June 15, 2011:

- ✚ Treasurer notifies members of unpaid dues and advises of late fees winners sent to District Awards Coordinator

**Overall District Three Goals** are: Beacon to Club Revitalization and New Club Building.

### Individual Club Goals:

1. Illuminate Membership Development
2. Our Light Shines Bright Service Project (Service Project and Photo in DSB)
3. Life Preserver to the Environment

4. Light Keeper Sister Club Project, "Make A Difference Day" (MADD) Cool Ideas on the District Three Website.

**E-Mail:** DSB Articles and Photos to **Sandy Furches**,  
**DSB Editor**, [sandyfurches@me.com](mailto:sandyfurches@me.com).

**E-Mail:** Membership Examples to **Angela Perry**,  
**Membership Development Consultant**,  
[Angela.perry@cba.ufl.edu](mailto:Angela.perry@cba.ufl.edu)

**E-Mail:** Cool Ideas to **Cathie Schanz**, **Service  
Program Development Consultant**,  
[cathies627@gmail.com](mailto:cathies627@gmail.com).

Thank you for your commitment to Altrusa. Words cannot express the joy I've experience during the past two years as I've visited with you and your members. I leave you with these words: *"The purpose of life is to matter, to count, to stand for something, to have it make some difference that we have lived at all"*. (Leo Rosten) Altrusans make a difference! Keep on bringing in new members, retaining current members and providing the much needed services in your communities.

God Bless and Yours in Altrusa Service,

*Robin Hall, Governor*

*822 NW Scenic Lake Drive*

*Lake City, FL 32055*

*Altrusans in Action: Our Light Shines Bright!*