

District Three  
Make a Difference Day Projects

<u>Club</u>	<u>Project</u>
1) Statesboro Christine Talmadge <a href="mailto:mct@frontiernet.net">mct@frontiernet.net</a>	The Statesboro Altrusa Club decided to combine the Make a Difference Day with our annual rummage sale. Proceeds are used to fund scholarships for Georgia Southern University and Ogeechee Tech College. This year we held the sale on October 3 and the final count was \$420.00.
2) Mariana Kathy Sloan <a href="mailto:sloank@hotmail.com">sloank@hotmail.com</a>	Altrusa International of Marianna collected magazines for an elderly housing complex. The residents were very excited to have so much new reading material. We also are partnering with Chiploa College in collecting items (including books for literacy project) to send to our soldiers overseas.
3) Orlando-Winter Park Linda Wright <a href="mailto:lwright@cfl.rr.com">lwright@cfl.rr.com</a>	We visited a foster care facility, Great Oaks Village. We invited Greg Dawson, the author of "Hiding in the Spotlight". He told the story of his mother, who was a piano prodigy and survived the Holocaust by hiding her identity and performing for the Nazis. He showed a short film of his visit to the Ukraine to trace his mother's history. The children were so attentive and very interested. After a question and answer period, we served refreshments while Mr. Dawson signed a book for each child. The books were purchased with a donation from a member.
4) Charlotte Linda Atz <a href="mailto:atzie521@yahoo.com">atzie521@yahoo.com</a>	Here is what the Altrusa of Charlotte Club did on Saturday. Altrusa of Charlotte teamed-up with the Siskey/Hemby YMCA's Howl'o'ween and Yappy Hour event on Sat. Oct. 24th from 10am-2pm for our 2009 Make-a-Difference Day project. We distributed free children's books geared to pre-school aged children and promoted Altrusa with our new marketing brochures.
5) So. Marion Carolyn Ruhe <a href="mailto:carolynruhe@att.net">carolynruhe@att.net</a>	From So. Marion County Florida club - we are a VERY small club. We hosted a storytime/read-in at a local library. We read stories to two groups - K-3 and 4+5. Two of our readers were NOT Altrusans - but volunteers from friends and acquaintances. We gave children books to take home and held a text-message translation contest (in which spelling counts). We had cooperation from the librarians - as well as two local elementary schools.
6) Caldwell County Angie Ashley <a href="mailto:ccah@charter.net">ccah@charter.net</a>	On Friday, October 23 <sup>rd</sup> at 2pm, Margaret Cannon, Wini Harding, and Thea Helderman delivered 4 garbage bags of men's clothing and 3 boxes of books to the Hudson prison in Lenoir, North Carolina. Several other members donated items for these ladies to deliver. Our club chose Friday because the prison does not allow for any visitation on Saturday. Teresa Jardon, employee at the prison, has been crucial in allowing us to accomplish this mission. Caldwell County Altrusans developed this idea last year, and decided to facilitate it again this year. Our club has also discussed making this an ongoing project.

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7) Starke  
Cheryl Canova  
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The Altrusa International of Starke contributed \$500 to the Bradford High School Library for the purchase of magazines. The school's budget was cut and they did not have the funds to purchase them this year. Not only do the students enjoy the magazines, but the teachers use these to help get students ready for the FCAT.

8) Lake City  
Margaret Collins  
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During Literacy Month in September, twenty Lake City Altrusans gave free books to 412 children at the Lake City Mall. To extend their literacy efforts for *Make a Difference Day* on October 24<sup>th</sup> Altrusans delivered a library of 50 books to the Guardian Ad Litem program for visiting toddlers up through fifth graders--offering the children books to relax and read in their new safe playroom.

9) Raleigh  
Jane Gray  
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Some of our members visited the Open Door Clinic in Raleigh where we donated new children's books for the clinic waiting area. Many were in Spanish since the clinic serves many Latino families. We volunteer monthly at the registration desk for the evening clinic and noticed that the children's books were worn out. Frankly, many end up going home with the children! So, Henri had the idea to buy some new ones and we did.

10) Spartanburg  
Pat Smith  
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Altrusa of Spartanburg received two awards to help support a project at Park Hills Elementary School. Both grants, a \$1,000 grant from the Altrusa International Foundation and a \$600 grant from the District Three Foundation, were used to help each child who attends Park Hills begin a personal library at home. In celebration of "Make a Difference Day," members of Altrusa distributed books to Park Hills students. The books were collected over several months; some were donated and some were purchased. The Park Hills students chose from a range of age-appropriate titles. For the past three years Altrusa of Spartanburg has worked with Park Hills to provide rewards to encourage students to attend school regularly and to improve their academic work. Rewards for the student have ranged from small gifts and popcorn parties to helmets and bicycles.

11) Monticello  
Linda Alexander  
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Make a Difference Day was celebrated by the Altrusa of Monticello/Jefferson Co FL at the Monticello New Life Center. New Life is a secure high-risk program under the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice for females ages 14 to 18. It is designed as a behavioral program providing academics and GED preparation, counseling, substance abuse intervention, vocational and self-sufficiency services. There are currently 28 in this program. 14 Altrusans participated in the event as well as approximately 10 staff members. Our Club provided 3 sets of inspirational books for them to read and discuss, similar to a book club group. The books provided were: All God's Children Need Traveling Shoes by Angelou, Copper Sun by Draper and Standing Against the Wind by Jones.

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12) Statesville  
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The Statesville, NC Club collected new and gently used books at the Signal Hill Mall for a new library we will be building at Pressley Alternative School. So this Make a Difference Day project is just the beginning.

13) Tampa  
Cathie  
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On Saturday, October 24, 2009 held our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Altrusa Int'l of Tampa Bay's Make a Difference Day at St. John's Learning Center in Tampa Florida. The Day's activities included Story Telling, Crafts, Pumpkin Carving and more for 44 underprivileged children of the West Tampa Community. Partnering with Early Learning Matters and Borders Book Store, club members read age appropriate stories, made craft projects relating to the stories, carved pumpkins, and served lunch to the children. Each child went home with an age appropriate book, their Halloween pumpkin, and a big smile on their face!

14) Ashville  
Paula Arenault  
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Altrusa of Asheville, Make a Difference 2009 .  
The Altrusa of Asheville club Made A Difference in 2009 by holding a shoe drive. We collected 102 pairs of shoes and donated them to Soles 4 Souls, an organization that facilitates the donation of shoes, which are used to aid the hurting worldwide. For more information, please visit [www.Soles4Souls.org](http://www.Soles4Souls.org).

15) Gainesville  
Angela Perry  
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The project that Altrusa of Gainesville chose was Stuff the Bus. This project has been held several years now but none like this year. The project is about gathering items necessary for making school better for the nearly 1000 homeless children in Alachua County Florida. Partnering with the liaison at the Alachua School Board, Altrusans work with the community to collect things such as new school supplies, personal hygiene, new clothes, gift cards, cash, etc. The number of volunteers is numerous. Here is a list of volunteers: The students at Santa Fe College; volunteers from UF; local schools used the Stuff the Bus event to work with students as a project for fulfilling volunteer hours necessary for scholarships; Bright futures; the ASTRA's from UF; Girl Scouts, and of course our own Altrusans.

How does this project contribute to literacy? If a child does not have a backpack to carry home the books checked out from the library, no reading can be done. Without the assistance of cash donated, their electricity may get turned off, thus no reading can be done. Giving a child the items needed to fit in, can give that child the confidence to put forth the efforts to study...and read!