

KEY CONTACTS:

Club Officers 2025-2026
 President – Laurie Herman
 1st Vice Pres – Jackie Wilson
 2nd Vice Pres – Diane Shaw
 Secretary – Amanda Allen
 Treasurer – Kelli Langley
 2nd Year Director – Kathy Jervis
 1st Year Director – Chris Hanses
 Immed. Past President -
 Melanie Pederson
 BRR Chair - Diane Bielanski
 Parliamentarian – Jackie Wilson
 Contact:
 Club email
altrusahsv@gmail.com

Altrusa HSV Website

<https://districteight.altrusa.org/hot-springs-village/>

2025-2027 District Eight

Governor – Sarah Akin
 Club Liaison –
 Jennifer McKeown

District Eight Website

<https://districteight.altrusa.org>

Altrusa International, Inc.

1400 E Touhy Ave,
 Suite 410
 Des Plaines, IL 60018
 Phone: 312-427-4410
www.altrusa.org

Featured Picture

Valentine's Social: Altrusans and their guests made 80 Valentines for Mt. Carmel Community's assisted living residents during the Feb. 6 membership recruitment social that originally was scheduled during HSV's memorable snow/ice storm. More photos on Page 7.



In this Issue

- President's Message P.1
- International Days P.2
- Meeting Summaries P.2
- Committees, Accent P.3
- Int'l, District News P.4
- Upcoming Events P.4
- Prayer List, B-days P.4
- 4.0 GPA students P.5
- Pizza Anyone? P. 6
- Be My Valentine P.7
- Literacy in Action P.7

Serving with 

President's Message – Laurie Herman

Happy March – a Month of Hope!
 Hope the first day of Spring brings us warmer weather!
 Hope that we are electing new officers that will serve as an outstanding 2026-27 Board of Directors!
 Hope that the Spring Fling Italiano is a big success! The numbers look good with 165 tickets sold.
 Hope that our first of two 4.0 GPA events is a successful luncheon and scholarship presentation! We delivered invitations to 126 students last month and will give \$750 scholarships to 13 seniors who maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout high school.
 We have District Eight award submissions due this month. Our Officers and Committee Chairs are working very hard to properly depict the time and effort we put into our service projects.
 We should all be very proud of the work we do in the community.
 Our ongoing work in schools to promote literacy continued with Birthday Books (distributed in February) and Altrusans Read at Mountain Pine Elementary



School every month. The kids are so excited to pick their birthday books and have visitors to read stories to them in their classrooms.
 Jessieville Middle School is now the recipient of healthy snacks with funds coming from a grant that Melanie Pederson submitted to the Community Foundation.
 Our efforts to restock school classrooms with supplies for teachers and students also continues, and the Club fulfilled the wish list of Mountain Pine Elementary School teachers in February (see Page 7). They were so thankful.
 My final hope for all of us is that our members stay healthy and safe while serving our community.
 My quote for the month comes from Mark Twain: **“The Secret of Getting Ahead is Getting Started.”**
 As a Club, we have gotten a lot of things started, so let's keep it all going!

Laurie

March Days to Observe: World Water Day March 22 and International Women's Day March 8

By Kathy Jervis

World Water Day is an annual United Nations observance day held on March 22 that highlights the importance of fresh water. The day has been observed since 1933 to advocate for sustainable management of freshwater resources.

The theme each year focuses on topics relevant to clean water, sanitation and hygiene. The annual observance raises

awareness of the 2.1 billion people living without access to safe water. It is about taking action to tackle the global water crisis. Relevant issues include water scarcity, water pollution, inadequate water supply, lack of sanitation, and the impact of climate change. The theme for 2026 is "Water and Gender" accompanied by the campaign slogan, "Where water flows freely, equality grows." This focus highlights the critical connection between water, sanitation, and gender equality; aiming to address the disproportionate impact of water scarcity on women and girls.



International Women's Day

International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8, commemorating women's fight for equality and liberation along with the women's rights movement.

The day gives focus to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women.

The day has its origins in labor movements in Europe and North America in the early 20th century. We celebrated IWD on March 8 especially because of a pivotal strike by Russian women in 1917 demanding "bread and peace," which helped spark the Russian Revolution and led to women's suffrage.

For 2026, there are two prominent themes. The global theme is "Give to Gain," emphasizing reciprocity and support, while the United Nations theme focuses on "Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls," urging action against discriminatory laws and practices.

Altrusa Business Meeting Summary for Feb 5 and Board Meeting Summary for Feb. 23

The Business Meeting of Altrusa International of HSV was held Feb. 5 with 23 members in attendance of an active membership of 35 and three Club Guests -- Elaine Williams & Caprice Waller, who were invited by Diane Shaw; and Lee Duckfield, invited by Doris Michaelson and Diane McMillan.

ACCENT: Presented by Valerie Derryberry on mentoring.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nominating Committee Chair Lynda Grasse said the committee had a slate of officers to present to the Club, and she thanked Committee members Amanda Allen, Melanie Pederson and Diane Shaw for their work. The Club will take nominations from the floor and vote on officers at the March Business Meeting; officers will be installed at the May meeting. She asked Secretary Amanda Allen to read the slate:

Altrusa of HSV Foundation, to be elected to two-year terms:

Vice President: Joanna Horton, and Treasurer: Diane Shaw.

President Melanie Pederson and Secretary Gail Dann will serve the second year of their terms.

Altrusa of HSV Club Officers:

President: Laurie Herman (her second term, 6/1/2026 through 5/31/2027).
First Vice President: Kim Young (her first term, 6/1/2026 through 5/31/2027).
Second Vice President: Jackie Wilson (her second term, 6/1/2026 through

5/31/2027).

Secretary: Joan Plautz (her first term, 6/1/2026 through 5/31/2027).

Treasurer: Kelli Langley (her second term, from 6/1/2026 through 5/31/2027).

First Year Director: Pam Vernon (her first term, from 6/1/2026 through 5/31/2028).

Second Year Director: Chris Hanses (her second year as a director, from 6/1/2025 through 5/31/2027).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Laurie Herman welcomed the Club's guests. She announced the Altrusa International Convention will be held in Columbus, OH, in 2027, on July 21-24. She encouraged members to consider attending. Laurie reminded members that the District Eight Conference is even closer, in Bentonville, AR, April 24-26. She asked for a show of hands of those planning to attend, and six people raised their hands. The Call to Conference with details on workshops and events is expected to be published in early February.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Jackie Wilson asked members to sign up to volunteer at the Loan Closet.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Diane Shaw said that she had developed new forms for service hours and for reporting of donations or expenses. After those forms

are approved by the Board, they be uploaded on Google Drive and will become the official forms to use; they will have a 2026 date on them. Melanie Pederson also said the Foundation has new forms, also dated 2026, and they will become the official forms to use.

Diane also updated the Club on Spring Fling Italiano ticket sales. She has about 200 tickets distributed to members, and she collected money at the meeting from members who had sold their tickets; she did not have a total of confirmed sales. A few days later, she provided these totals: 59 tickets paid (\$2,950); 60 tickets out to be paid (\$3,000); sponsorships and donations totaling \$4,400; total income if those tickets are confirmed sold, \$10,350.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of the Jan. 7, 2026, Business Meeting were approved and will be filed on Google Drive. Amanda Allen read a note from a former Altrusa of HSV President, Sue Spurgin, who now lives in Texas. She also sent a donation to the Altrusa Foundation of HSV.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kelli Langley reviewed Club financial accounts for the period ending Jan. 31. The Club had assets of \$10,746.66, including \$5,531.26 in a CD. The report will be filed subject to audit.

See Meeting Summaries, Page 6

Committee Highlights

Finance

Diane Shaw, Chair

The Committee has been working on Spring Fling Italiano and gearing up for the Club's Spring fundraiser.

Here are some updates:

Spring Fling Italiano: 165 tickets have been sold and we're expecting a great turnout.

Spring Fundraiser: The Club decided to sell frozen pizza and Croissant Crowns this Spring instead of bread and cookies. Gail Dann will be leading the fundraiser, April 6-21. (Story on Page 6)

Next Committee meeting is 11 a.m. March 26 at mFORCE Capital.

Membership

Mary Kramer, Chair

The ice storm temporarily derailed our membership recruitment social but did not eliminate it. The change of date to a Saturday, a different location and time, was unfortunate and caused many people to change their plans to attend. We ended up with half as many guests and two-thirds as many members. But the beautiful Valentines made and given to the residents of Mt. Carmel Assisted Living were a huge success. Thank you to all who attended.

I'd also like to thank the members of the Membership Committee. I sent out a notice of duties to host the March Business Meeting. Within minutes, all were filled. What a great team!

Service

Patti Geiser, Valerie Derryberry Co-Chairs

Our projects for the year will basically be completed at the end of April. We have delivered 106 dictionaries. For the 4.0 GPA Student Recognition and Scholarship Program luncheon we will honor 126 students and award 13 scholarships. Since 2006-2007, we have given out 500 Comfort Kits, and we need to make more. Doris Harder will be letting us know when supplies arrive and we can assemble more kits. We are waiting to hear from Dr. Wilbur Smith about our Pill Bottle Project

We will make at least one more delivery for the Snack Fairy project to Jessieville and have one more Birthday Books distribution. In April, Book Boxes will be restocked in shelters and at the Boys and Girls Club. National Park Nursing Scholarships also will be awarded in April. A committee is being formed to revise our Birthday Books and Altrusans Read projects and recommendations will be presented to the Board and the Club.

Communications

Amanda Allen, Chair

With so many simultaneous fundraisers and service projects, it's hard for the Committee to keep up! We're doing publicity on 4.0 invitations, Valentine's cards, Altrusans Read and Birthday Books, and getting ready to publicize the Spring fundraiser selling Bella Napoli frozen pizza and Croissant Crowns.

This Month's Accent by Valerie Derryberry, from the Mentoring Guide for Altrusans

Mentoring New Members Matters, to the Mentor, the Mentee and to Altrusa of HSV

As the new club year for Altrusa approaches and leadership roles change, many of our members are being asked to consider accepting positions as officers and committee chairs. I call your attention to the Mentoring Guide for Altrusans (on the Altrusa.org website) regarding the importance of mentoring others. Most of the mentoring done in our Club is less formal but meant to achieve the same goals as those in the guide.

Altrusa mentoring is a relationship in which an experienced Altrusan (Mentor) assists another Altrusan (Mentee) in developing skills and knowledge that will enhance the less experienced Altrusan's personal growth.

The guide is for new Altrusans and those who are ready to continue their journey as leaders in our dynamic organization. It is also for those "seasoned" Altrusans who want to help these emerging leaders on their journey. Our organization will be stronger because of the effort from those Altrusans engaging in this mentorship program.

Goals of the program are:

*Develop a better community through engaging new members and increasing the retention rate of current Altrusa members achieved through connections with members and the community.

*Help Altrusans develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to pursue leadership opportunities in Altrusa.

*Create an environment that encourages Altrusans to accept leadership roles.

*Share experiences on how building leadership skills helps in personal growth, both in the Club and their work and/or clubs and church activity.

Benefits to new members are many. We share the experiences and knowledge of the senior members. It helps the new members to realize their potential, not only in our Club but in their other endeavors. It gives the newer members an opportunity to get to know others in the Club. This is a safe way to share their ideas and expand their horizons while receiving encouragement and support. For the seasoned members mentoring will enhance your skills. It gives you the opportunity to contribute to the success of Altrusa. It really makes a difference for everyone. It creates a legacy for you and for the Club. It validates that you have acquired leadership expertise. It also revitalizes your connection with Altrusa.

Many of our activities as a Club informally enhance our mentoring. The Fifth Friday get togethers are an opportunity to get to know each other in an informal setting. We are frequently mentoring without realizing it. Our committee meetings give members an opportunity to increase their skills and knowledge of the workings of the Club. The social time prior to our actual Business Meeting each month gives us an opportunity to get to know our newer members and vice versa. Be sure to avail yourself of that opportunity. Please consider accepting a leadership opportunity when our new officers ask for your help.

Upcoming Events

In Our Prayers

Diane Bielanski
 Karen Brines
 Velma Coolidge
 Irene Keith
 Carole Thompson
 Eyvonne Whipple
 Jackie Wilson

March Birthdays

Joanna Horton 1
 Doris Michaelson 5
 Diane McMillan 13
 Chris Hanses 21



March 5: Business Meeting, McGraw Realtors HSV, 1060 DeSoto Blvd., hosted by Membership Committee. Social at 4 p.m., meeting at 4:30 p.m. to allow time for a speaker; 2026-27 officers will be elected.

March 7: Spring Fling Italiano, dinner, dancing and entertainment by Ken Goodman and the TEF Combo, Coronado Community Center, 5-8:30 p.m. Setup and decoration is noon-2 p.m.

March 8: International Women's Day

March 10: Membership Development Committee, home of Mary Kramer, 9:30 a.m.

March 11: Communications Committee, via Zoom, 3:30 p.m.

March 18: 4.0 GPA Student Recognition and Scholarship Program luncheon, Clinton Presidential Library and Museum, 11:30 a.m.

March 23: Board meeting, 11 a.m., McGraw Realtors HSV.

March 25: Loan Closet, 1-4 p.m. Volunteers: Amanda Allen and Diane McMillan.

March 26: Service Committee, 9:30 a.m., home of Valerie Derryberry.

March 26: Finance Committee, mForce, 412 Ponce de Leon Dr., Suite A, 11 a.m.

March 27: World Water Day.

April 2: Business Meeting, McGraw Realtors HSV, 1060 DeSoto Blvd., hosted by Past Presidents. Social at 4 p.m., meeting at 4:45. The Club will celebrate the 22nd anniversary of its founding.

April 6-21: Altrusa of HSV's Spring fundraiser; members will sell Bella Napoli frozen pizzas and Croissant Crowns. Orders will be delivered before Mother's Day.

April 8: 4.0 GPA Student Recognition and Scholarship Program luncheon, Clinton Presidential Library and Museum, 11:30 a.m.

April 24-26: Altrusa District Eight Conference, Bentonville.

April 27: Board meeting, 11 a.m., McGraw Realtors HSV.

May 13: Military Fishing Day.

Club 52: A New Chapter in Caring

At the Business Meeting on Thursday, March 5, HSV Club members will see a short video on Club 52. Here's some background information from the Altrusa.



International News

International Foundation, on how Club 21 evolved into Club 52: The name Club 21 was chosen in anticipation of the 21st century, which began soon after Club 21's launch. Now, we celebrate the 30th anniversary of this powerful initiative.

Over the past 30 years, Club 21 has grown from a single camp for children with AIDS/HIV to supporting a wide range of programs for children facing physical, mental, and emotional disabilities, cancer and blood disorders, and other medical and socioeconomic challenges.

With this growth, the need – and the cost – has naturally increased. What was once a meaningful \$21 donation in 1997 is equivalent to nearly \$50 in 2025.

At the 59th International Convention, Club 21 was officially transitioned to Club 52; 274 Altrusans attending the convention became Charter Members. This new Club invites everyone to contribute \$1 per week for 52 weeks – or a one-time donation of \$52 – to continue and expand the legacy we've built together.

All who donate through May 31, 2026, including at Spring 2026 District Conferences, will be recognized as Charter Members of Club 52. Clubs and Districts contributing \$252 or more during this period will also be recognized as Charter Members and will receive a Club 52 patch for their banners as a symbol of their commitment and impact.

Please plan to bring your checkbook to the March or April business meeting if you wish to join Club 52.

-Amanda Allen

Call to Conference: Book It To Bentonville April 24-26 For Fun, Education, Service



District Eight News

It's time to get excited about our 2026 District Eight Conference! The conference is in Bentonville, AR, April 24-26, and we will all have a weekend of Service, Leadership, and Patriotism as we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the United States.

Members interested in attending the Conference will need to let the Club know by March 23 so we can pay the Early Bird registration price of \$225. Our Club will pay registration for six members (three voting and three alternates).

This Conference is a fun way to learn more about Altrusa and meet a lot of other Altrusans within our District Eight. The only cost to the member is the travel and hotel expense (\$139 per night at Four Points by Sheraton in Bentonville) and members share a room.

Conference highlights Include:

- *Parade of Patriots Fun Night
- *Leadership Luncheon featuring Marine veteran Aaron P. Mankin
- *All-Conference Workshop: Membership and Service – Hand in Hand
- *Hands-On Service Project benefiting female veterans
- *Governor's Banquet and Awards
- *Club Displays, Marketplace, and Silent Auction
- *Young Adult Meet and Greet
- *Altrusa International Foundation Club 52 Introduction

Conference organizers are urging clubs to “bring at least one additional member or guest from your club and help make this conference our strongest District Eight gathering yet.”

-Diane Shaw

Altrusa Will Award 13 Scholarships, Honor 126 High-Achievers at Annual 4.0 GPA Luncheon

Thirteen graduating seniors at four area high schools will be receiving \$750 scholarships from Altrusa International of Hot Springs Village, AR, Inc. this year.

The service club will be awarding the scholarships to seniors who maintained a 4.0 GPA all four years of high school and honoring 126 students in grades 9-12 who have achieved a 4.0 GPA in the 2025-26 school year.

These students, at Cutter Morning Star, Fountain Lake, Jessieville and Mountain Pine high schools, and their parents will be attending the 4.0 GPA Student Recognition and Scholarship Program luncheons to receive their awards. The luncheons will be at 11:30 a.m. March 18 and April 8 at the William J. Clinton Presidential Library and Museum.

Seniors who will receive scholarships are:

Fountain Lake: Emma Lawhon, Addison Moore, Christian O'Neal, Allie Overton, Meagan Tillery, and Sophia Wyatt.

Jessieville: Abigail Akers, Makenzie Chance, Nash Fendey, Elli Graves, Amberly Humble, Jimena Pineda and Nicholas Pye.

Additional students in grades 9-12 who will be recognized for their 4.0 GPA achievements this school year are:

Cutter Morning Star

9th Grade: Jude Lloyd, Cannon McCone and Madison Stevens. **10th Grade:** Ella Cain, Preslie Dobbs, Seidi Dominguez, Makinzi Fustin, Ellee Hood, Emily Jahner and Logan Taylor. **11th Grade:** Aailyah Borra, Stephen Cross, Aiden Ferrantino, Jackson Ford, Laurie Jo Hilton, Johnathan Hooper and Matthew Wheat. **12th Grade:** Emily Calvi, Haley Campbell, Kyndal Hawthorn, Maggie McGlone, Gabriella Resendiz, Andrew Whisenhunt, William Whisenhunt and Valerie Wimsett.

Fountain Lake

9th Grade: Kylee Eudy, Kalan Johnson, Joselyn Morgan, Joslin Taylor and Trip Yingling. **10th Grade:** Adalee Blee, Alicia Blocker, Evie Casey, Sophie Chaney, Jaycee Culbreath, Garison Gale, John Hardin, Addison Howell, Anabella Kirkpatrick, Mia Makin, Abby Morgan, Sullivan Obenchain, Julia Richardson, Amelia Weisman and Kassidy Wilhite. **11th Grade:** Kinley Barber, Tristan Berry, Lukas Blomkvist, Cooper Buss, Aiden Carter, Peyton Harwood, Baylee Hedges, Olivia Jenkins, Ella Millard, Lesli Ramirez, Ethan Shaffett and Julianna Tubridy. **12th Grade:** Abigail Burden, Faith Hannah, Samuel Howard, Anabelle Kramarenko, Faly Rhoden, Anne Richardson and Eli Schrader.

Jessieville

9th Grade: Marli Denger, Emmalyn Durrence, Sierra Rudnicki, Holland Sarver and Katherine Spangler. **10th Grade:** Harmony Clayton, Isabella Funderburk, Josiah Gentry, Grace Huneycutt, Collin Mitchell, Morgan Noles and Blakeley Packard. **11th Grade:** Abbi Bean, Serenity Bendix, Jackson Bradford, Ethan Carmichael, Briar Carpenter, Lake deSomer, Noah Fendley, Breanna Greer, Trace Hughes, Treyson Jones, Annabelle Martin, Madelyn Misenheimer, Natalia Pineda, Kara Polk, Adeline Robertson, Lili Sarver, Raegan Snyder and Gary Walls. **12th Grade:** Abiah Butler, Lillyann Burow, Lesly Vasquez, Olivia Wihite and Dylan Wilt.

Mountain Pine

9th Grade: Austin McGregor. **10th Grade:** Maximus Alderman. **11th Grade:** Helana Clos, Laney Griffin, Ryley Hamilton, Lynniece Johnson, Raegan Moreland, Cade Staten, and Warren Smith. **12th Grade:** Sabrina Brown, Cheyenne McWhirter, Asher Rivera, Corbin Theriot and Austyn Walden.

-Amanda Allen



Clockwise, from left: Fountain Lake, Mountain Pine, Jessieville and Cutter Morning Star students received invitations to Altrusa's 4.0 GPA Student Recognition and Scholarship Program luncheon at the Clinton Presidential Library and Museum.



Who Doesn't Love Pizza and Croissants?

Spring is in the air, and it seems time for the Altrusa's Spring "Butter Braid Bread and Cookies" sale. But this time, we are changing things up a bit.

Our fundraising company is offering two new products we would like to introduce for the Spring fundraiser.

The first is "Croissant Crowns," which are individually wrapped pastries (six per package), similar to the Butter Braid bread but in individual sizes. The Crowns come in four dessert selections, Strawberry Cream, Apple, Blueberry Cream and Cinnamon, and two protein selections – Ham & Cheese and Breakfast.

The second product is a frozen 12-inch Bella Napoli pizza with six varieties, Beef Taco Pizza, Cheese Pizza, Meat Lovers Pizza, Pepperoni Pizza, Supreme Pizza, and even Breakfast Pizza, with eggs, onion and sausage.

(Don't worry, we will still offer our tried and true "Butter Braid Bread/Cookies" in the Fall).

The fundraiser starts April 7, running through April 21, with orders delivered just in time for Mother's Day.

-Gail Dann

(Project leader Gail Dann will have order forms and other information at the March Business Meeting.)



Meeting Summaries

Continued from Page 2

FIRST YEAR DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Chris Hanses reminded members that service hours are due. She urged members to attend the Club's delayed Fifth Friday Membership Recruitment Social.

SECOND YEAR DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Kathy Jervis said she has a speaker lined up for the March meeting, and it will begin at 4:30 p.m. She also has photos for the Club scrapbook and will begin work on that right away.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Service: Valerie Derryberry asked Gail Dann, project leader for the All Star Butter Braid fundraiser to tell the Club about an option for the Spring sale. Gail said All Star has two new products, Bella Napoli frozen pizzas, in breakfast and dinner versions, and Croissant Crowns in breakfast and dessert versions, that the Club can sell instead of Butter Braid bread and cookies this Spring. Club members sampled the products before the meeting. Gail asked Club members if they wanted to continue with bread and cookies sales or try the new products as an experiment for the Spring sale. If the new products aren't as popular, the Club can switch back to bread and cookies in Fall. Chris Hanses made a motion to continue with Butter Braid bread and cookies this Spring; the motion failed with 9 yes and 12 no votes. Jackie Wilson made a motion to try the new products and 15 members voted yes.

Kim Young reported that she has spent all but about \$100 of the \$1,500 grant the Club received from First Electric's Roundup Program buying school supplies for 15 classroom teachers at Mountain Pine. Valerie reported that plans for the 4.0 GPA Student Recognition and Scholarship luncheon are slightly behind schedule because snow and ice shut down schools for a week. She thanked Lynda Grasse and Brenda Walls for all their help this year. Valerie reminded members that they should try to attend one of the luncheons, on March 18 and April 8 at the Clinton Presidential Library and Museum. Cost is \$35 per person, and many Club members also buy a lunch for a student. Parents who attend purchase their own lunches.

ALTRUSA FOUNDATION OF HSV

Foundation President Melanie Pederson said members had received the Foundation's quarterly report electronically and asked if there were any questions. She also reported that the Foundation is setting up a PayPal account to apply for grants made through Walmart's Foundation.

Board Meeting

The Board of Directors met Feb. 23, 2026, and took the following actions:

*The Board voted to update the new member procedure (**changes in red**):

1. Invite the potential Altrusan to a meeting, identifying as a Club Guest.

2. Current Altrusans have five working days to register objections to the Board following attendance by a potential Altrusan at a meeting.

3. The Sponsor is to explain responsibilities of membership including dues, time commitment, participation in service projects and fundraising activities, **and reporting of service hours.**

4. The Potential Altrusan needs to attend two additional Altrusa functions prior to being invited to membership.

5. The Sponsor completes the "Recommendation for Membership" form and submits it to the Membership Committee for approval.

6. The Membership Committee submits the approved recommendation to the Board.

7. Following Board approval, the prospective Altrusan receives a written invitation from the Club President to become an Altrusan.

8. Once the new Altrusan's check is received by the Club's Treasurer, she will create a new member record in Group Tally, verify/complete the "Club Use Only" section of the Recommendation for Membership including the Member Number, and upload the form to Google Drive.

9. The Treasurer will inform the Membership Chair, Online Directory Editor, and Yearbook Editor of the Member Number.

-Amanda Allen, Secretary

Altrusans and Their Guests Got Creative with Valentines at Delayed Membership Social

An ice and snowstorm forced a new date for Altrusa's Membership Recruitment Social, but Club members and guests who were able to attend the event Feb. 7 had fun making 80 sweet Valentines for the assisted living residents at Mt. Carmel Community. Residents loved them, and residents of Mt. Carmel crafted card holders for their doors to hold their Valentines. Below, from left, Altrusan Kim Young, who volunteers at Mt. Carmel, helped make the card holders; Gracie Geiser, card-maker extraordinaire who made assembling the cards so easy and Chris Hanses, who organized the social; and a few of the completed Valentines.



Reading for Fun and Knowledge – What a Life-Changing Skill! Two Altrusa Projects Help Kids at Mountain Pine Elementary

To encourage a love of books and reading, Altrusa gifts a book to a Mountain Pine Elementary student on his or her birthday (top photos), members read to classrooms regularly throughout the school year (below left), and Altrusa used a \$1,500 grant from First Electric Cooperative to buy supplies for 15 classroom teachers at the school, who were all smiles to receive the gift bags (below right).

