

KEY CONTACTS:

Club Officers 2026-2027
President Laurie Herman
1st Vice Pres. Kim Young
2nd Vice Pres. Jackie Wilson
Secretary Joan Plautz
Treasurer Kelli Langley
2nd Year Director Chris Hanses
1st Year Director Pam Vernon
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



In this Issue

President’s Message P.1
International Days P.2
Meeting Summaries P.2,7
Committees, Accent P.3
Upcoming Events P.4
Prayer List, B-days P.4
Altrusa Gets \$1,600 Grant P.4
Birthday Books P.5
Book Boxes P.6
Tribute to Veterans P.8

Serving with

President’s Message – Laurie Herman



The Serving with logo was born last year. It coincides with the District Eight theme for 2025-27 of “Let’s Make Some Waves, Altrusans Volunteer and Eagerly Serve.”



My wish is to see us continue to serve our community and enjoy doing it. We have a wonderful new team put together this

year to help us do just that! Last year’s Board members have been working to ensure an easy transition so that our new Board members feel confident in their responsibilities and ready to guide us in service. June is packed with a great deal of administrative paperwork for Board members and committee chairs. Once we get past that, we can look forward to doing the thing we do best, serving our community. As an example, my year-end report to International will have more than 7,200 Club service hours this year. I’m so proud of you! Our Service Projects are the heart of our organization, with fundraising a close second. Without Service and Finance working hand in hand, it would be very difficult to maintain the level of

service we have provided. Please keep that in mind throughout the year when we are asking for volunteers – if we all do a little bit, together we can do a lot!

We continued our Service in May with the delivery of books and magazines to shelters and recovery centers around the Hot Springs area, and our Boys & Girls Club. Read on to see how many books we distributed! Let’s not forget we also initiated another member! Welcome Suzi Poulsen. Plus, we helped the VFW and DAR with the Memorial Day service. I know the summer months bring many opportunities for travel and visits from family and friends. Please remember that we don’t take the summer off. June 5-7 is the Belk Charity Days fundraiser, where we need members to work short shifts. On June 23, we will once again be thanking the POA staff and the Fire and Police departments for everything they do for all of us. We’ll also thank SCAT volunteers, who provide a valuable transportation service for Village residents. The U.N. Public Service Day is celebrated nationwide! This is any easy one – just bake cookies and deliver them. It’s great seeing all their smiles! I can’t wait to get started to see where this year leads us! Thank you for all you have done!

Laurie

Featured Picture

Newest Altrusan

Suzi Poulsen was initiated on May 7. Taking part in her initiation were (from left) President Laurie Herman, sponsors Melanie Pederson and Lynda Grasse and Membership Development Chair Mary Kramer.

June International Days: U.N. Public Service Day June 23 and World Food Safety Day June 7

By Kathy Jervis

The United Nations Public Service Day is celebrated on June 23 of every year. This year, Altrusa of HSV again will be baking cookies for those dedicated people who staff the POA, the Police and Fire Departments, and SCAT. We'll deliver the cookies on Tuesday, June 23. (See Service Committee on Page 3 for details.)

Public Service Day was designated by the U.N. General Assembly on Dec. 20, 2002, to "celebrate the value of public service to the community." The date was chosen to mark the anniversary of the Convention on Labor Relations. During this time, the U.N. also launched the U.N. Public Service Awards. The U.N. Public Service Awards promote and reward innovation and excellence in public services. More than 250 initiatives have received the prestigious award, ranging from promoting gender equality to improving health services.

World Food Safety Day

The UN established World Food Safety Day in 2018 to raise awareness of the importance of food that is free of contaminants. The 2026 theme is "From Burden to Solutions – Safe Food Everywhere."

Spearheaded by the World Health Organization, the campaign focuses on highlighting the global impact of food borne illnesses and translating data into science-based solutions. The 2026 theme emphasizes how data can help governments, food businesses, and consumers prioritize risks and implement interventions.

Celebrated annually on June 7, the day unites farmers, food handlers and consumers to champion safe food practices. Food borne illnesses remain a major global burden, affecting health, livelihoods, education and economies. These illnesses are largely preventable.

Altrusa Business Meeting Summary for May 7 and Board Meeting Summary for May 18

The Business Meeting of Altrusa of HSV was held May 7 at McGraw Realtors HSV with 23 members in attendance of a total active membership of 36 and three Club Guests present, Jan Lindsey, Kayla Nobles and Caprice Waller.

ACCENT: Presented by Altrusa Foundation of HSV President Melanie Pederson on a busy year of service.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:

Membership Committee members led an installation ceremony for 2026-27 Club officers using a theme celebrating women's contributions to the founding of the United States 250 years ago. Club officers installed are President Laurie Herman, Second Vice President Jackie Wilson, Secretary Joan Plautz, Treasurer Kelli Langley and Second Year Director Chris Hanses. (First Vice President Kim Young and First Year Director Pam Vernon will be installed at the June 4 Business Meeting.)

The Committee carried the 250th anniversary theme to the installation of Altrusa Foundation of HSV officers, with short bios of other women who were instrumental in the founding.

Foundation officers installed are President Melanie Pederson, Secretary Gail Dann and Treasurer Diane Shaw. (Vice President Joanna Horton also will be installed at the June 4 meeting.)

THANKS TO 2025-26 BOARDS: Laurie gave heart-felt thanks and presented small gifts to officers who had worked for the Club in 2025-26 and will be

leaving the Board: Second Vice President Diane Shaw and Secretary Amanda Allen. (Director Kathy Jervis will receive her gift and recognition at the June 4 meeting.)

Melanie thanked Foundation Board members for their work over the past year and presented a piece of her heart to Immediate Past President Irene Keith, Secretary Gail Dann and the departing Club liaison to the Foundation Board, Diane Shaw. The new liaison will be Club President Laurie Herman. Foundation Treasurer Dorothy Fager, who also is leaving the Board, was traveling and will receive her recognition later.) (See photo on Page 4)

INITIATION: Membership Chair Mary Kramer initiated Suzi Poulsen into Altrusa of HSV. Her sponsors are Lynda Grasse and Melanie Pederson. Suzi will serve on the Service Committee.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Laurie Herman

- Laurie welcomed guests and noted that Kayla and Caprice's sponsors had submitted Recommendation for Membership forms.

- She announced that the Club received five awards the District Eight Conference: Third Place for the Club Yearbook and for the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award for our Birthday Books and Altrusans Read projects; Second Place for the Communications Award and for the Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award for our Pill Bottles Project, and Honorable

Mention for our Conference centerpiece.

- She said sign-up sheets were on the Opportunity Table for members to help the Daughters of the American Revolution in HSV to place flags on the graves of veterans at Cedarvale Cemetery and assist the VFW with the Memorial Day service.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Jackie Wilson asked members to be vigilant when storms are predicted and to call and check on members if severe weather impacts the Village. She said she still has a few slots to fill for Loan Closet volunteers and asked members to sign up.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Diane Shaw said the Club had not contributed to Altrusa International's Days for Girls project this year and she made a motion to contribute \$500 to the project; Martha Smither seconded the motion.

After discussion and consultation with Foundation President Melanie Pederson about available funds, the motion was approved.

Diane put on her other hat as Finance Committee chair and announced that Belk Charity Days would be June 5-7, and the Club had been guaranteed one of two positions for nonprofits at the front door to sell \$5 coupons. She asked members to sign up for available time slots.

See Meeting Summaries, Page 7

Committee Highlights

Communications

Amanda Allen, Chair

May has been a busy month for the club, with installations for new Club and Foundation officers, initiation of a new member (welcome Suzi Poulsen!) and book deliveries to shelters and the Cedar Mountain Boys & Girls Club through the Book Boxes Project. All are being publicized through the Village Voice and our social media sites. The Communications Committee worked on its budget at its last meeting, and made some changes, recommending that annual expenses for Zoom and Online Membership Directory be moved to the Club expenses category, which the Board of Directors later endorsed. While the Committee uses Zoom and has responsibility for maintaining the Directory, both of the technologies are used by the entire Club membership and can be paid for directly from the Treasurer. The Committee also decided that the 2026-27 scrapbook will be assembled digitally, then printed, at essentially the same cost as the current three-ring binder scrapbook. The Board also approved this idea.

Membership

Mary Kramer, Chair

The Membership Committee is happy to welcome Kayla Nobles, who is expected to be initiated at our June meeting. We will then be welcoming Caprice Waller at our July meeting.

It is exciting to have them join us. I hope you will take the time to meet and mentor them. Our various service opportunities and socials are such a great way to get to know one another better!

As my last Dogwood Blossom submission, I'd like to thank Amanda Allen for keeping me on track and the members of the Membership Committee for their willingness to always step up.

New Altrusa Year, Fresh Start! Reporting your Altrusa service hours is important to help our organization maintain its 501(c)3 status. Please keep them current this year by reporting monthly to Chris Hanses, and please continue to report them by categories listed and defined in your Yearbook – Altrusa Service, Member Service and Community Service.

Service

Patti Geiser, Valerie Derryberry Co-Chairs

The Service Committee voted to celebrate the United Nations' Public Service Day on June 23 with cookie deliveries to the Property Owners Association office, and the Police and Fire Departments.

This year, we also are taking cookies to SCAT volunteers. Though the U.N. observance honors public service employees, SCAT's volunteer drivers, schedulers and mechanics also provide an important community service.

Sign-up sheets for baking cookies, sorting and packing them into boxes and delivering them will be on the Opportunity Table at the next Business Meeting June 4.

The next Service meeting is 10 a.m.

Wednesday, June 10, at Lynda Grasse's home – note the new committee meeting day is the second Wednesday of the month.

Finance

Diane Shaw, Chair

The Finance Committee meeting for June 25 has been cancelled, and business will be handled by email.

We'll meet again at 11 a.m. July 23 at mForce Capital.

This Month's Accent by Melanie Pederson

Altrusa HSV Reflecting on Remarkable Commitment and Meaningful Accomplishments!

As we gather this afternoon, we take a moment to reflect on a truly remarkable year – one defined by service, friendship, and meaningful accomplishment. Together, we have shown what is possible when caring hearts unite with purpose.

Through our literacy projects, community partnerships, volunteer efforts, and countless acts of kindness, we have made a lasting impact – both seen and unseen.

We celebrated the joy of sharing Birthday Books with children and supporting students through scholarships, and strengthened our community through service, patriotism, and collaboration with other organizations.

Each effort, big or small, contributed to something greater.

- The smile of a child receiving a new book,
- The gratitude of a family supported during a difficult time,

- The friendships deepened through shared service,
- And the pride we feel in making a difference – together.

This year reminded us that Altrusa is more than an organization – it is a circle of friendship, compassion, and commitment.

Each member brought unique talents and energy that helped our Club flourish.

As we look ahead, may we carry forward this momentum with renewed enthusiasm, continuing to build on our success and deepen our commitment to service and literacy.

Today, we also celebrate our newly elected officers, welcome a new member into our Altrusa family, and honor all that we have accomplished together.

Thank you to every HSV Altrusan for making this year truly unforgettable.

In Our Prayers

Diane Bielanski
Karen Brines
Carole Thompson
Evyonne Whipple
Jackie Wilson

June Birthdays

Patti Geiser **June 28**
Tara Santillanez **June 4**
Martha Smither **June 18**



Upcoming Events

Below are the upcoming events for this month. Please reference the link to the [Altrusa HSV Calendar](#) for any real-time updates that may occur during the month.

June 4: Business Meeting, McGraw Realtors HSV, 1060 DeSoto Blvd., hosted by Altrusa Service Committee. Social at 4 p.m., meeting at 4:45 p.m.

June 7: World Food Safety Day

June 8: Membership Development Committee will not meet.

June 10: Service Committee, 10 a.m., home of Lynda Grasse, 36 Galeon Way; all Club members invited.

June 10: Communications Committee, via Zoom, 3:30 p.m.

June 22: Board meeting, 11 a.m., McGraw Realtors HSV.

June 23: U.N. Public Service Day.

June 23: Service Project celebrating U.N. Public Service Day: The Club will deliver cookies to the POA staff, the Police and Fire Departments, and SCAT.

June 24: Loan Closet, 1-4 p.m. Volunteers Jackie Wilson and Joanna Horton.

June 25: Finance Committee, meeting cancelled and any business will be handled by email. Next meeting is 11 a.m. July 23 at mForce Capital.

July 2: Business Meeting, McGraw Realtors HSV, 1060 DeSoto Blvd., hosted by Communications Committee. Social at 4 p.m., meeting at 4:45 p.m.

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

Plan Ahead

Oct. 8: Military Fishing Day was postponed until Oct. 8 because of the Lake Balboa water level.

Thank You, International Foundation for Supporting Our Literacy Program!

Great news! The Grants Committee of Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. has selected Altrusa of HSV to receive a



Cycle 2 grant of **\$1,600** in support of our **Birthday Books/Altrusans Read Project**. The Birthday Books project benefits Mountain Pine Elementary School students, who each receive the gift of a book on their special days, and Altrusans Read to classroom at the school every month.

The Foundation's Executive Director Katrice R. Rose shared, "Your commitment to service and community impact is greatly appreciated, and we commend you for supporting this meaningful project. We look forward to seeing the positive outcomes of your project come to life."

This year, Altrusa HSV's Grants Committee has raised \$8,647 through grant submissions to support our service projects and community outreach efforts. If you are interested in serving on the Grants Committee, please contact Melanie Pederson, melped53@yahoo.com. (Please note that Foundation grants include specific reporting requirements. We are responsible for submitting a six-month interim report, as well as a final evaluation upon completion of the project.)



It's Time to Follow the New Leaders! Altrusa of HSV Installs Club and Foundation Officers for 2026-27

New officers for 2026-27 for Altrusa International of HSV and the Altrusa International Foundation of HSV were installed on May 7. New officers for the Club (from left) are Treasurer Kelli Langley, Second Year Director Chris Hanes, Second Vice President Jackie Wilson, Secretary Joan Plautz and President Laurie Herman; for the Foundation, officers are (from left) Secretary Gail Dann, President Melanie Pederson and Treasurer Diane Shaw. Club First Vice President Kim Young and First Year Director Pam Vernon were traveling and will be installed in June; Foundation Vice President Joanna Horton also was traveling and will be installed in June.

Happy Summer Reading! Mountain Pine Students Are Excited to Select Their Birthday Books

Five Altrusans put smiles on Mountain Pine Elementary School students on May 13 with the final distribution of Birthday Books for the 2025-26 school year.

Project Leader Joan Plautz (center), along with Altrusans (from left) Tara Santillanez, Elaine Schroeder, Jackie Wilson and Diane McMillan, helped students pick out their very own books, those they might enjoy reading or rereading. Each student also received a bookmark. This year, the Club distributed 255 birthday books and has purchased \$985.65 worth of books for Mountain Pine students for next school year.

--Joan Plautz



Diane McMillan and Joan Plautz help the students with their Birthday Books selections.



Diane McMillan and Elaine Schroeder help kids select their bookmarks.



Team members Elaine Schroeder, Joan Plautz and Jackie Wilson get the books ready.

Altrusa Fundraising at Belk Days Needs Volunteers – Can You Spare a Couple of Hours?

Belk Charity Days are Friday through Sunday, and selling the store coupons is easy fundraising money for Altrusa of HSV. Finance Chair Diane Shaw, who is coordinating volunteers, still has openings and three members are covering multiple time slots and would willingly give up one to another volunteer. Here's the current schedule:

Friday, June 5

10 a.m.-Noon Valerie Derryberry, Irene Keith (coming late), Elaine Schroeder

Noon-2 p.m. Patti Geiser, Amanda Allen

2-4 p.m. Dorothy Fager, Mary Kramer, Joanna Horton

4-6 p.m. Diane Shaw

Saturday, June 6

10 a.m.-Noon Valerie Derryberry, Lynda Grasse

Noon-2 p.m. Terry Bayes, Kim Young

2-4 p.m. Diane Shaw, Amanda Allen

Sunday, June 7

11 a.m.-Noon No Coverage

Noon-2 p.m. Valerie Derryberry, Laurie Herman

2-4 p.m. Diane Shaw, Amanda Allen

Altrusa HSV Service Project - Another Year for the Books

Everyone who loves books also loves an epilogue at the end that adds more context to the book or the characters. It might explain what happened to some of the characters later or what happened because of action in the book. Here's the epilogue for Altrusa of HSV's Book Boxes Project for the 2025-2026 Altrusa year, June 1-May 31: The Club delivered more than almost 500 books and 215 magazines to three area shelters and to the Cedar Mountain Boys & Girls Club.

Project Leader Beth Annen worked hours and hours sorting books donated by members and supporters for the October and May deliveries, choosing books appropriate for adolescents or adults, and boxing them up for the appropriate shelter. Then she arranged for delivery times with the shelters and lined up Altrusans to transport them.

For the first time this Spring, the club partnered with the HSV Rotary Club, who also donated 52 books and more than 100 magazines for the Spring distribution and participated in the deliveries. Altrusa's Book Boxes Project began in 2014, and the HSV Rotary also has provided books to shelters for years and has built a book box outside the Boys & Girls Club. In October, the Club delivered 210 books and 103 magazines. Here's the rundown for the latest deliveries in May, totaling 285 books and 112 magazines donated by both clubs:

Boys & Girls Club: 75 books and 8 magazines.

Potters Clay: 54 children's books, 42 adult books and 32 magazines

Hope Movement: 47 books and 32 magazines

Shalom Recovery Center: 67 books and 40 magazines

That's a year for the record books!

Posing with some of the books that Altrusans and members of the HSV Rotary Club collected are (from left) Diane Shaw and Melanie Pederson (representing both the Rotary Club and Altrusa), who delivered to the Boys & Girls Club; Project Leader Beth Annen, who sorted and organized all the books and book deliveries; Valerie Derryberry and Mary Kramer, who delivered books with Kelli Langley (not pictured) to Potters Clay; and Doris Michaelson, who delivered books to Shalom Recovery Center.



Kelli Langley (center) delivers donations to Victoria Stone and Kim Huynh at Potters Clay.



Diane Shaw and Melanie Pederson delivered books to the Boys & Girls Club.



Patti Geiser and Laurie Herman (center) deliver books and magazines to Hope Movement.

Meeting Summaries

Continued from Page 2

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Amanda Allen

- Minutes of the April 2, 2026, Business Meeting were approved and will be filed in the Club's digital archives on Google Drive.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kelli Langley

- Kelli gave the Treasurer's report. At the end of April, the Club had a total cash balance of \$9,205.35, including the Club's CD of \$5,585.48.

- Kelli reminded members that Altrusa dues need to be paid by June 1, and she thanked members who have already given her checks for \$105. She explained the option of paying the \$5 monthly meeting fee in advance with a check for \$55.

- She asked members who have expense vouchers for this Altrusa year to please get them to her as soon as possible so she can close out the books for the year.

FIRST YEAR DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Chris Hanses

asked members to please get all of their Altrusa volunteer hours to her for the 2025-26 year by May 13. She passed around a sheet so members could see what hours she had recorded so far.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: Mary Kramer

- Mary urged members to attend the Fifth Friday Social, which will be at 3:30-5 p.m. May 29 at the Sunset Grill.

- She asked for a show of hands from members interested in attending a Travelers baseball game, and about 10 members raised their hands. The committee will look into dates.

- She thanked Committee members for their work for the past year and for their willingness to take on any Committee assignment. Mary is stepping down as chair this year and Diane McMillan volunteered after the meeting to be the new chair for 2026-27, assisted by Irene Keith.

Service: Valerie Derryberry and Patti Geiser

- Valerie said the Service Committee meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. May 21 at Doris Harder's home to begin looking into all the Altrusa records stored downstairs. The records will need to be moved in the next few months.

- She said projects for the year are finished, except for the last distribution of Birthday Books at Mountain Pine

Elementary School on May 13 and one last distribution of books to Book Boxes at area shelters and the Cedar Mountain Boys & Girls Club.

- Valerie encouraged members to help with flag placement and removal at Cedarvale Cemetery and to help the VFW with the Memorial Day service.

Finance: Diane Shaw

- Gail Dann, project leader for the Spring fundraiser selling Bella Napoli frozen pizzas and Croissant Crowns, reported that 106 items were sold, 75 Croissant Crowns and 31 Bella Napoli Pizzas. Total sales were \$2,173 and the Club's fundraiser profit will be \$869.20. She said she would send a follow-up email to purchasers to see how they liked the new products.

ALTRUSA FOUNDATION OF HSV:

Foundation President Melanie Pederson presented a Foundation financial worksheet covering each quarter of the year, through April 28, to help members get a better understanding of income and expenses. The financial picture is healthy with cash on hand of \$19,638.58 and \$15,094.22 in a CD. The Grants Committee has requested \$12,900 in grants for 2025-26 and received \$7,047 thus far.

Board Action

- **New Members:** The Board voted earlier via email to approve a Recommendation for Membership for Kayla Nobles, whose sponsors are Amanda Allen and Kim Young, and for Caprice Waller, whose sponsors are Elaine Williams and Diane Shaw. Kayla is expected to be initiated at the June 4 Business Meeting; Caprice will be out of town and is expected to be initiated at the July 2 Business Meeting.

- **Snack Fairy:** The Board approved a Service Committee recommendation to expand the Snack Fairy Project in 2026-27 to include snacks for the Cedar Mountain Boys & Girls Club, to be delivered quarterly.

- **Club Credit Card:** The Board discussed obtaining a Club credit card to handle recurring expenses such as annual Zoom and Online Membership invoices; currently those invoices are paid by a personal credit card, and that the Club then reimburses individual. A Club card would simplify the process on recurring bills, with the

Club being billed directly. Melanie Pederson and Diane Shaw will write guidelines for use of a Club credit card, and the Board will consider approval at its June 22 meeting.

- **2026-27 Club Budget:** The Board looked at the budget draft that Treasurer Kelli Langley is working on and made a few tweaks. The budget draft totals about \$10,900 in expenses, about \$1,000 higher than the 2025-26 budgeted expenses. The Board will vote on the revised budget at its June 22 meeting and present the budget for approval at the July 2 Business Meeting.

- **Yearbooks:** The Board agreed to print two Yearbooks for soon-to-be members Kayla Nobles and Caprice Waller and to offer full new Yearbooks to members who want them and will pay the printing cost. Melanie is getting the per image cost from mForce and Joanna Horton, who has been printing them for the Club. Laurie will have sign up sheet for the Yearbook at the next Business Meeting. (The sections on the HSV Altrusa club and Foundation have the 2025-26 budget documents. Those will be updated by September, along with committee chairs and members and new Club members added.)

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- **Scrapbook:** The Board discussed converting the Club scrapbook to a digital version with a printed copy. The board asked Pam Vernon to investigate what online company to use and to proceed; cost is expected to be around \$50, about the same as the current scrapbook.

- **New Member Procedures:** Treasurer Kelli Langley and Membership Chair Mary Kramer tracked down the Recommendation for Membership forms that had missing information, completed the forms and they are in the process of being uploaded to Google Drive.

- **Gift Card:** When Gracie Geiser generously donated her time and materials to make Valentines for Mt. Carmel Community residents, the Board gave her a \$50 gift card as a thank you. Board members discussed whether to make an additional donation to First Step but decided the \$50 gift card was enough.

Hot Springs Village and Altrusa Pay Tribute to Fallen Veterans in Memorial Day Ceremony

An estimated 250 people gathered for the Memorial Day remembrance service at Cedarvale Cemetery in Hot Springs Village on May 25, and the day and the service could not have been more beautiful.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10483, with assistance from the American Legion Post 0123, presented a moving tribute to fallen veterans led by VFW Acting Commander Robert Langley.

The ceremony included a cemetery flag retirement ceremony, a compelling speech by Lieutenant General Jeff Lofgren, a three-volley salute and playing of "Taps," and beautifully rendered selections from Voices Rising of "O, America," "God Bless America," "Song for the Unsung Hero," and "Heal Our Land."

The service concluded with a Memorial Roll Call by Quartermaster Russ Allen for five VFW members who passed during the year, Lewis E. Ake, Jack E. Balcon, Tom Lawrenz, J.R. Mote and James W. Oliver; and three American

Legion members, Kenneth Narug, Donald Haroldson and James Bowels.

Six members of Altrusa of HSV, Amanda Allen, Adrienne Cohen, Laurie Herman, Melanie Pederson, Elaine Schroeder and Diane Shaw, and members of the Daughters of the American Revolution of HSV directed traffic, handed out programs and assisted with seating. The Hot Springs Village Republican Women's Club also assisted with the service.

Members of the Village Christian Church provided cookies and refreshments after the service.

Another group of Altrusans earlier helped the Daughters of the American Revolution of HSV placed flags on all of the graves of veterans and DAR members at Cedarvale. Participating in the placement were Amanda Allen, Gail Dann, Melanie Pederaon, Diane Shaw, and Jackie Wilson and her husband, Bob.



Altrusans who assisted with the service are (from left) Adrienne Cohen, Elaine Schroeder, Melanie Pederson, Laurie Herman, Amanda Allen and Diane Shaw.



Lieutenant General Jeff Lofgren delivers a moving speech; to his right are VFW Acting Commander Robert Langley, Quartermaster Russ Allen and American Legion Commander Mike Williams.



The Honor Guard performed a three-volley salute to fallen veterans, followed by the playing of "Taps," with Melanie Clark.



Voices Rising delivered beautiful arrangements of four patriotic songs.