

# Altrusa Club of Central Coast

## Mark Your Calendar

June 20 Birthday - Dayna DeBernardi Watson

June 23 Birthday - Bea Goyette

June 26 Birthday - Leticia Kossuth

June 27 National Bingo Day

July 2 Foundation Meeting (Scholarships) July

July 4 Independence Day

July 7 Board Meeting

July 7 Conference 2021 meeting

July 10 Birthday - Norma DeBernardi

July 13 Business Meeting

July 19 Birthday - Tyler Dickinson

July 23 Gorgeous Grandma Day

July 27 NO PROGRAM MEETING

August 4 Board Meeting

August 10 Business Meeting

August 16 Tell a Joke Day

August 24 Program Meeting

August 26 Birthday - Samantha Van Patten

August 29 Birthday - Joyce Ellen Lippman

September 6 Birthday - Lorene Dyson

## **President's Message**

Happy Summer To All!

Due to Covid 19, all our summer events have either been postponed for further dates or canceled to 2021.

Such as " Kids Day in The Park " in August and "Literacy Day "in The Mall .

We look forward to our Fall 2020 events..." The Patch."

Kudos to RHS ASTRA for Fundraising in Masks Donations to be shared among our local communities.

As President, I have continued to donate 10-15 toiletries bags to shelters( homeless, women, family)representing our club.

Have contacted Boys and Girls Club to donate 25 masks( Astra)to their Summer Kids Program .

We Will Continue To Serve Our Communities Safely...

Keep Safe, Keep Healthy, Keep In Touch!!!

Lupe Maldonado  
President

# Service

Leticia is receiving items for our club DFG project. She received a donation of material and sent it to Jean Howard, SB Chapter of DFG. If you have hotel bars of soap, must be small, or girl's black panties (sizes small, med, large or 12 thru 16) please drop them off to Leticia through- out the year. She will make sure Jean Howard receives them. Thank You Leticia! Another project form was created for club files.

Days for Girls is still one of our major service projects. Our International President Beverly Hardy picked this service project during her biennium. Not sure what project the incoming 2021-2023 International President has chosen. Our club adopted Santa Barbara Chapter Days for Girls. They are a group of three amazing women who meet to sew and package the kits. They did apply for a grant last year and received it. This year they did not have to apply since they are not in need of materials because of the numerous donations they have received from the other Altrusa clubs in our area, Altrusa Santa Maria, and Altrusa Golden Valley.

Here is an update on DFG taken from their website to refresh our memory:

Days for Girls began in 2008 when Founder and CEO Celeste Mergens was working with a family foundation in the outskirts of Nairobi, Kenya where she began assisting an orphanage. In the wake of historic post-election violence, the population at the orphanage had swelled from 400 children to 1,400.

As she was getting prepared to return to Nairobi, Celeste went to bed with the devastating situation weighing heavy on her mind. In the middle of the night, she woke up with a nagging question: "What are girls doing for feminine hygiene?" Seeking an answer, she ran to the computer and sent an email to the Assistant Director of the orphanage. He replied right away, "Nothing. They wait in their rooms."

Celeste learned that girls were sitting on cardboard for several days each month, often going without food unless someone would bring it to them. This set-in motion her first intervention - disposable pads. But Celeste and her team quickly discovered a major problem - without any place to dispose of the pads, this was neither a viable nor a sustainable solution. It was time for Plan B: a washable, long-lasting pad.

The first Days for Girls Kits were quite different from the design in use today. Each of the 28 iterations that followed would be informed by extensive feedback and designed to meet unique cultural and environmental conditions in communities throughout the world. What would eventually become clear in the years following Days for Girls' beginning was just how much of a difference, hygiene solutions would make in assisting women and girls to break the cycle of poverty and live lives of dignity.

Today, Days for Girls has reached more than **1.7 million** women and girls in **125+ countries** with DFG Kits and menstrual health education. This translates into over 115 million days of dignity, health, and opportunity.

Submitted by Melinda Aguirre

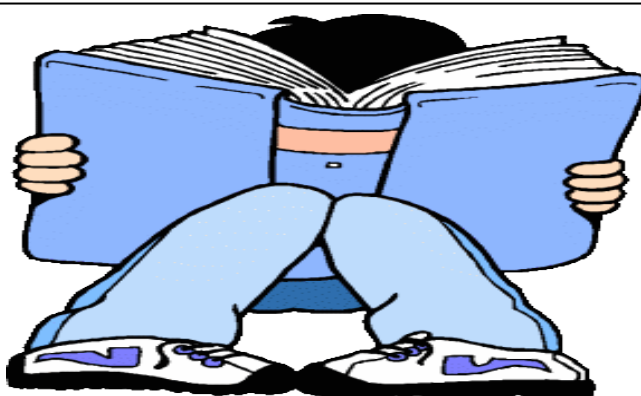


It's a new Altrusa year and we all get the opportunity to go out and find new members. We usually find our prospective members when we volunteer at community events. Since there are no community events happening at this time each member will need to reach out to friends, family, and co-workers so our club can continue to be in the "charter club" status. Club charter status is 15 or more members, per the Altrusa District Eleven Policy. So, let's start recruiting!

As membership chair I have the honor of planning membership social events, installations/initiations and member orientation. I have heard that we are allowed to "move around" with a mask starting in July. I think we will be able to continue to use Betty's home for our meetings. It is spacious enough so we can spread out.

Willa and I will be working on planning a social event at **Foley Winery** as soon as its allowed. Members will be notified of the date and time and let's remember to invite a potential member.

In the meantime, let's look for different ways to help and serve our community. If you have any ideas contact the board members or President Lupe.



## Literacy

Willa received a "call for books" from these elementary school teachers. So, she took them to storage and they picked out 100 books each for their classroom libraries. They were delighted to receive these books.

We hope to adopt them for one of our service/literacy projects. We still have lots of books in storage thanks to Dayna's ASTRA club. Because of COVID19 we are not able to distribute books in public places at this time. In May, 50 adult books were taken to Lompoc Bridge House Shelter. Thank you to the person that donated them to our club.





## WOMEN EMPOWERED BUILD STRONG-WEBS

This has been an ongoing project that we adopted last Altrusa year. Stephanie and Bea have done an outstanding job of taking items to the veteran women living in the shelter. Our club provided holiday dinners and Patty donated her magazines to the women. There have been some WEBS organizational changes and Stephanie/Bea will let us know the know the outcome.

### *WHAT IS COMMUNITY SERVICE:*

Community service is **work done by a person or group of people that benefits others**. It is often done near the area where you live, so your own community reaps the benefits of your work. You do not get paid to perform community service, but volunteer your time.

Community service can help many different groups of people: children, senior citizens, people with disabilities, even animals and the environment. **Community service is often organized through a local group**, such as a non-profit organization. Many people participate in community service because **they enjoy helping others and improving their community**.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Our new Altrusa year has started and along with that comes a new Altrusa Calendar. Attached is the calendar.

Norma continues to be our "sunshine gal" sending out birthday, sympathy, and congrats cards or any cards the member would like her to send out.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Membership dues have been submitted for 16 club members. Still waiting for checks from two members. Thank you to club members for submitting their dues in time to meet the submission deadline. The current account balances are: Admin Account \$5,402, Astra Account \$4,279 and Project Account \$12,587. Account balances have been adjusted due to late submission of receipts. Please submit requests for reimbursements promptly so we can keep our accounting records accurate. The budget process is under way and I hope to have something to present to the club at the July Business Meeting. Please email me if you need a reimbursement form.

Submitted by Willa Gustavson

## ASTRA RHS

Righetti ASTRA members took advantage of the prolonged period of quarantine by making a difference and volunteering to make and donate face masks for those in need.

ASTRA member, Benjamin Choi, came up with the idea and chaired this community service project. Members made and donated a total of 123 masks. These masks were donated to a variety of organizations including the local Area Agency on Aging.



Submitted by

Dayna DeBernardi-Watson

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*“Be the CHANGE that you wish to see in the world.” Mahatma Gandhi*

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## District Conference 2021



## Blast into Service

Conference 2021 hosted by us, Altrusa of the Central Coast. An article, the logo, and the call to conference video made by Leticia and Chuck were submitted for the DSB. The conference will be held at The Radisson on April 29<sup>th</sup>-May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Friday night Fun will be a bus ride to Farmer’s Market near Pismo with wine and snacks. Get ready to see Planets and rocket ships in the décor as well as take the opportunity indulge in meals by The Radisson. Our conference service project will be a Gift Card Donation Drive, more details to follow. Excited to blast off with all of you! Samantha and committee. Next meeting July 7, 2020.

Link to Call to conference video:

<https://spark.adobe.com/video/njkZNUpVzE3TZ>

Submitted by Samantha VanPatten



Each year District clubs submit their entries for several awards. These awards are normally awarded during conference during the banquet on Saturday night. Although the conference was canceled due to COVID, the winners of the awards will still be recognized for their hard work and dedication. Thank you to the members that helped submit our club's entries: Leticia, Bea, Willa, and ASTRA student Shelby. Here are this year's winners.

Marilyn Atwood Award – Maria Hoffman, Altrusa Club of Anaheim

Mamie L Bass – *Sleeping Mats for the Homeless* – Altrusa Club of the West Valley

Letha H Brown – *Oceano Library Enhancement Project* – Altrusa Club of San Luis Obispo County

Nina Fay Calhoun – *Sharing Our Bounty, Globally* – Altrusa Club of Anaheim

Most Memberships – Altrusa Club of Golden Valley

## ASTRA – Righetti High School ASTRA Club

Congratulations to Dayna, Samantha and their students for a job well done. Winning entries have been forwarded to International to be considered for awards at the 2021 International Convention in Qubec City, Canada. You can read the winning entries (second and third place too) in the Summer edition of the DSB.

## FOUNDATION

Our next meeting will be held on July 2 at 5:30 pm at Joyce's office board room. The board will be reviewing 52 scholarships that the board members received through email. The foundation board meets about 3-4 times a year.

The foundation board has only one fundraiser, FESTIVAL OF TREES. Our new chairpersons this year are Noe Mahelona and Leticia Kossuth. The club membership helps the foundation with this wonderful yearly fundraiser. With the help of members and husbands (we could not do it without them) we are able to raise approximately \$60,000 each year.

### Foundation Board of Directors

President - Melinda Aguirre  
Secretary – Bea Goyette  
Treasurer-  
Members – Joyce Ellen Lippman  
Noe Mahelona  
Leticia Kossuth  
Dayna DeBernardi-  
Watson



### ASTRA PVHS

This club had nine graduating seniors. They each received their chord that is donated by Altrusa International. They each received a thank you letter from adviser Melinda. We do not know if we will be able to conduct campus club meetings in the next school year.



Altrusa of the Central Coast  
PO Box 5026  
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### Club Board of Directors

President – Lupe Maldonado Alvarado  
Vice President – Patty Elswick  
Secretary – Bea Goyette & Leticia Kossuth  
Treasurer – Willa Gustavson  
Director – Dayna DeBernardi-Watson  
Director - Stephanie Stadtmiller