

April 2023



Gram.22/23



Dear ASTRA Members and Altrusans,

Please enjoy reading this new ASTRAGram. It is packed with important information and great news of service provided by students thanks to engagement with their communities through ASTRA. It's been exciting to charter new clubs and to receive news of incredible service by ASTRA members in their communities. We want you to celebrate with them and to be inspired by them as you read this newsletter.

Altrusans, we encourage you to continue to engage with the students in any ASTRA Club you sponsor, inviting them to join with you in your spring celebrations and service. They will enjoy getting to know you even better as they join you for your district conferences, too! We look forward to learning about the ways your district involved them at your 2023 conferences

If your club hasn't yet sponsored an ASTRA Club, we are here to serve you as you begin that process. There is much helpful information on the ASTRA website to get you started, including a terrific video to introduce ASTRA to school and/or community leaders. It is an amazing journey on which you'll embark with some compassionate and creative youth and young adults as you work with them in service to our communities and beyond. We are working on a leadership training power point to help ASTRA Club leaders as they transition from one leadership team to the new one for the next academic year.

Please be in touch with us if you have any needs as we serve together with these emerging leaders!

Lorraine Brewer
Altrusa International ASTRA Committee Chair



Thanks to this month's contributors:

- Lorraine Brewer, Int'l Chairman
- Ileana Pacheco (Fourteen)
- Jeraldyn Rivest, (Three)
- Grace Cleavenger (Eight)
- Jan Storrs (Five)

Is your club doing any special projects to help the victims of Ukraine? Please let us know so we can highlight them in our next issue.. Thanks.



Email to Editor Jan Storrs,
Altrusa Int'l Club of
Branch County, MI
@ jlstorrs47@hotmail.com



Clubs are Rewarded for their Practical and Active Planning

ASTRA members from clubs sponsored by Altrusa International of San Sebastián, P.R., Inc.



District Fourteen, in its ASTRA Meeting activity, celebrating its forty-third meeting, recognized the planning work of ASTRA clubs.

96 ASTRA members from the clubs of San Sebastián, Cabo Rojo, San Lorenzo, and San Germán attended together with their advisors and parents.

The first place award of the participants was given to the ASTRA Club of the Ernestina Méndez Schools, the second place to Patria Latorre Ramírez School, and the third place to the Carmelo Serrano School, all of them sponsored by Altrusa International of San Sebastián, P.R., Inc. Clubs are rewarded for their practical and active planning.

It was an excellent activity of great benefit to the youth. Under the motto "ASTRA raising your quality of life," they participate in workshops, dynamics, a Talent show, and Goofy Games for the knowledge and enjoyment of all. From their evaluations, it was the same great happiness and pleasure for all.

Group of students to be chartered as a new ASTRA Club, sponsored by Altrusa International of Cabo Rojo, P.R., Inc.



Group of students to be chartered as a new ASTRA Club, sponsored by Altrusa International of San Germán, P.R. Corp. are seen participating in the Goofy Games.



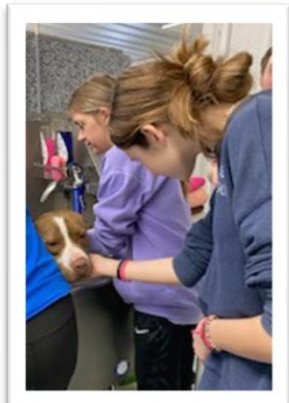
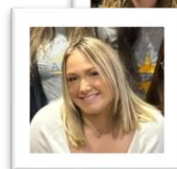
ASTRA members sponsored by Altrusa International of San Lorenzo, P.R., Inc.

DISTRICT EIGHT



Astra Moberly visits Mexico Astra along with past president, Molly Grace Cleavinger. They discussed ways to build membership, service project ideas, and team building ideas.

Moberly Astra had a day of service with some at the local animal shelter and others at the community kitchen. They also gave out over 35 bags of personal care items to individuals in need.



United We Read



Branch County District Five – Coldwater and Quincy High School ASTRANS read to elementary students as part of the community United Way **United We Read** Program.

Quincy ASTRA Club

in collaboration with Altrusa International

is collecting items for an ongoing service project, "Tools For Schools"

Please drop off items to the QHS office donation box. All items will be split between our high school and others, to be brought to the annual District Five Conference in April to further be utilized within schools.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 4x6 lined Index Cards (50pack) | Markers |
| Dry Erase Markers (Wide) | Scissors (7-inch) |
| Crayola or Crazy Art 24 count crayons | #2 Pencils |
| Dry Erase Markers (narrow) | Sticky Notes |
| | Pocket Folders |
| | College Ruled Notebooks (Single Subject) |



DISTRICT FIVE

GOWNS FOR GALS & TIES FOR GUYS



Coldwater & Quincy High School
Astra Clubs present
Gowns for Gals & Ties for Guys Event!



Come shop a **FREE selection** of gently used gowns and ties for Snowball!




WHEN
Saturday, March 18th 10am - 2pm

WHERE
Vested Risk Strategies
62 W. Chicago St., Coldwater

WE ARE STILL ACCEPTING GENTLY USED GOWNS!
Please drop off any gently used gowns at the Coldwater High School Main Office.

For more information, please contact:

Michelle Scheetz 517-317-2691	Janelle Warner 269-808-0907	Heather Hyliard 517-677-0741
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Open to ALL Branch County Students!



Coldwater and Quincy ASTRA club members joined together to help Branch County students “shop” for their upcoming proms. Thanks to the generous donations of the community, students had dresses, shoes, suits, ties, etc. to take for the asking. With more than a hundred items to choose from, most everyone went away with something. Thanks ASTRANS for offering the “Gowns for Gals and Ties for Guys” program each year. Thanks to Vested Risk Strategies for allowing the use of their bldg. to house their “store”.

Club advisors include Emily Heffner from Quincy and Julie Stratos, Janelle Warner, Michelle Scheetz, Heather Hyliard, and Jan Storrs from Coldwater. District Five – Branch County Altrusa



DISTRICT THREE

ASTRA Club of Cabarrus County Home School Association Charlotte, North Carolina



I am pleased to share a couple of photos from the Charter ceremony we held last Friday, 3/17/23 for the ASTRA Club of Cabarrus County Home School Association hosted by the Altrusa Club of Charlotte, NC Inc. It was exciting to charter District Three's first Home School Club. Family and friends joined in the ceremony and enjoyed a lunch celebration following. There were 14 students in attendance with a few not able to attend. The ASTRA Club of Charlotte donated the ASTRA banner and ASTRA pins to the founding members.

In attendance...

From the Altrusa Club of Charlotte, NC:

- Past District Three Governor and current Club President - Christy Bryant
 - ASTRA Co-Sponsor: Josie Frieser
 - District Three ASTRA Committee Chair and ASTRA Co-Sponsor: Jeraldyn Rivest
 - Services Co-Chair: Cindylu Brubaker
 - Fellowship Chair: Rey Thompson-Wilson
 - Ways & Means Chair: Yolander Hunter
- District Three Governor Shannon Schell joined us through Zoom and delivered her speech remotely. Letters were received and read aloud by Josie Frieser from Altrusa International President, Kathy Folley and one from Lorraine Brewer, International ASTRA Committee Chair.

The founding officers of the ASTRA Club of CCHSA include:

- President - Austin Sorensen
- Vice President - Navaeh Tuck
- Secretary - Wyatt Stapleton
- Treasurer - Christian Davis





DISTRICT FOURTEEN

Two new ASTRA Clubs sponsored by Altrusa International of San Lorenzo, PR, Inc, have been activated. One is at the José Campeche High School and the other is at Generoso Morales Middle School.

During this year, they have been sharing a lot of information about some holidays among ASTRA youth, parents, guardians, teachers, and other students in the school community.

They have carried out activities to celebrate the days No More Violence Against Women, World Health Day, Animals Day, Make a Difference Day, and Peace Day, among others.



Initiation & Installation Ceremony of José' Campeche Hi School



Initiation & Installation Ceremony of Generoso Morales School



Astra members are receiving orientation about bullying.



Peace Day Activity



End of the Year Reminders

ASTRA Graduation Cord Request

Congratulations to your graduates. Allow them to represent their participation in ASTRA with cords to wear over their gowns as they walk across the stage at graduation. Cords are provided free of charge.

Please request at least 2 weeks prior to date of graduation.

Please go to Altrusa@Altrusa.org to complete your order.



Club Annual Report and planning for the new ASTRA year!

MAY :

Altrusa ASTRA Advisor completes and submits the ASTRA Club Annual Report to International by the deadline, typically in June; ASTRA Club Officers may assist with that report.

New ASTRA officers sign the new signature card at the bank, if needed.

JUNE:

This June you'll find a power point on the ASTRA website to help you in your transition meeting between the former officers and the newly elected officers.

Newly elected ASTRA Officers and Committee Co-Chairs schedule a time to start planning a successful new ASTRA year.

See astra.altrusa.org for further information and a sample copy.



That Summer is a GREAT time to sponsor a new ASTRA Club?

Be sure to go to:

astra.altrusainternational.com to learn

“WHY YOU SHOULD START A NEW ASTRA CLUB WHEN THERE ARE PLENTY OF CLUBS AT YOUR SCHOOL”.



Calling all Alumni

Be sure to fill out the ASTRA Alumni Information Sheet on the astra.altrusainternational.org website before you head off for new and exciting adventures. We want to stay in touch with you and know how you are doing. Please take the time to do this now.





International Book Challenge from President Kathy

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

April/May: ASTRA Service Awards will be announced at District Conferences.

April/May: ASTRA Alumni Information survey information needed.

April 15: All scholarship winners announced.

June 1: Deadline for each District to submit ASTRA Service Award winner information to International.

June 15: ASTRA Club Annual Reports are due to International (submitted online by each Altrusa ASTRA Club chair).

**ASTRANS are
always invited.**



One Book at a Time
International Book Challenge
from President Kathy
***Changing one million lives,
one book at a time.***



***Changing one million lives,
one book at a time.***

For more information:
Go to: www.altrusa.org





Altrusa Int'l ASTRA Committee Liaisons and District Chairs.

DISTRICT **ONE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Linda Dysart lindadysart2010@gmail.com
ASTRA Chair: Trish Maxim campnaples@fairpoint.net

DISTRICT **TWO** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Lorraine Brewer lobrewer@uark.edu ASTRA
Chair: Dawn Aubrey daubrey@illinois.edu

DISTRICT **THREE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Scott Tice scottaltrusa@gmail.com ASTRA
Chair: Jeraldyn J. Rivest jeraldyn@hotmail.com

DISTRICT **FOUR** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Ileana Pacheco
ipacheco2019.2021@gmail.com
ASTRA Chair: Britley Parker 1-334-897-5143

DISTRICT **FIVE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Janice Storrs jlstorrs47@hotmail.com ASTRA
Chair: Kathy Carmack kathycarmack52@gmail.com

DISTRICT **SIX** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Vici Giltner jgiltner@netins.net ASTRA Chair:
Kathy Benz benzkb@comcast.net

DISTRICT **SEVEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison and Chair: Vici Giltner jgiltner@netins.net

DISTRICT **EIGHT** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Lorraine Brewer lobrewer@uark.edu ASTRA
Chair: Heather Cleavinger h_cleavinger@yahoo.com

DISTRICT **NINE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Traci Squarcette tsquarcette@umhb.edu
ASTRA Chair: Sylvia Zamora szamora.altrusa@gmail.com

DISTRICT **TEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison and Chair: Linda Dysart
lindadysart2010@gmail.com

DISTRICT **ELEVEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Scott Tice scottaltrusa@gmail.com ASTRA
Chair: April Smith aprilboat@gmail.com

DISTRICT **TWELVE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Janice Storrs jlstorrs47@hotmail.com
ASTRA Chair: Terri J. Taber tjtaber50@gmail.com

DISTRICT **FOURTEEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Ileana Pacheco
ipacheco2019.2021@gmail.com ASTRA Chair: Britley Parker mikebritkin@hotmail.com

DISTRICT **FIFTEEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Traci Squarcette tsquarcette@umhb.edu
ASTRA Chair: Pam Hayes president.tauranga@altrusa.org.nz

