



***PROSPECTIVE MEMBER
INFORMATION
PACKET***

WELCOME! To become more familiar with Altrusa International, Inc. of Ocala, we would like to share this information with you. We hope that this information clearly defines the obligations and commitment that you will be making should you decide to apply for membership. Please feel free to ask questions of your prospective sponsors, or any Altrusan.

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF OCALA
P.O. Box 4228 Ocala, FL 34478-4228

www.altrusaofocala.com

***A Service Organization of Executives and Professionals
Dedicated to Personal Growth and Community Service.***

PRINCIPLES OF ALTRUSA

1. Altrusa is a builder of women.
2. Altrusa is an expression of the search for the best in character, in business, and in citizenship.
3. Election to Altrusa is an evidence of confidence which imposes upon the recipient the obligation to strive to be true to the highest standards of life in her personal and business relations.
4. Altrusa in the very derivation of its name is committed to the philosophy of unselfishness, of the joy of giving rather than getting, and to the search for that happiness which is based upon spiritual worthiness.
5. Altrusa is practical idealism. Its service consists not in saying great things, but in daily earnest practices of its principles.
6. Altrusa commends to its members an active interest in public affairs, realizing that the State is but the individual writ large.
7. Altrusa develops true leadership, concerned with accomplishment and not with recognition.
8. Membership carries with it no obligation to transact business with other members. It makes no promise of returns in any commercial species. Its rewards are in proportion to the loyalty, the unselfishness and character of the member herself.
9. Altrusa expresses good will for all mankind. It emphasizes the good and lets the evil sink into the oblivion it merits.
10. Altrusa is democratic; it knows no class, no favorites, but is founded upon merit alone.
11. Altrusa believes that the way to progress lies not in emphasizing the faults of men and their failure to give proper recognition, at times, to women in business, but rather in arousing women to their responsibilities and possibilities so that their accomplishments will blaze the trail for greater things.
12. Altrusa believes it is not enough to be good; Altrusans must be good for something. Each member must be doing the piece of work that is hers in a way that puts her in the front ranks of accomplishment.

.....Mamie L. Bass
Altrusa's first national president
Established 1921

INFORMATION SHEET

Altrusa International, Inc. of Ocala meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month for a noon luncheon at the Elk's Club, located at 702 NE 25th Avenue. Our business meeting is held on the 2nd Thursday, and our program meeting on the 4th Thursday. Each member is required to be active on at least one committee. Committee meetings are held monthly. Please consult committee chairs for meeting times and locations.

Dues and Fees for new members:

<u>April 1 to November 30</u>	<u>December 1 to March 31</u>	
\$ 55.00	\$ 27.50	International dues, which include a subscription fee for our International Altrusan Magazine
10.00	10.00	One time International Altrusa affiliation fee
35.00	35.00	Local dues
35.00	35.00	One time initiation fee, which includes New Member Kit and Altrusa pin
<u>20.00</u>	<u>20.00</u>	District dues
\$155.00	\$ 127.50	Your refundable application fee is due with your signed application

You will be obligated for luncheon fee of \$60.00 (\$10.00 per lunch) each quarter, to be billed by our treasurer. The full amount is due even if you missed luncheons. Altrusa International Inc. of Ocala uses forfeited luncheon fees to supplement our operational expenses.

District dues are \$20.00 no matter when you join. Annual dues are billed for June 1 each year. Local dues are billed quarterly. New members joining April 1 thru May 31 receive 14 months for the price of one year.

To avoid having constant small fundraisers, Altrusans chose to have one primary event each year to raise funds for our literacy and community service projects. Each Altrusa member is responsible for obtaining a minimum \$200.00 sponsorship. We encourage sponsorships to be solicited from the community. However, if due to business conflict or some other reason, you are unable to get a sponsorship from an outside source, you can give a personal sponsorship in the name of your choice.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP

A member who freely shares knowledge, experience and talent in Altrusa finds the dimensions of life richly expanded. The rewards of Altrusa membership are derived from the open acceptance and practice of the following member responsibilities:

1. Expect the most from membership by making a firm commitment to it.
2. Make every effort to know and practice the Ideals, Principles and Objectives of Altrusa.
3. Know the basic rules (by-laws and policies) necessary to meaningful participation and keep informed on the organization and its program by reading all local, district and international publications.
4. Attend meetings regularly and take an active part. It is the fellowship experiences at meetings and the working together in service that brings full value to Altrusa membership.
5. Accept committee assignments and be willing to assume top leadership roles in the club, district and international when invited.
6. Be concerned with club problems and participate in seeking their solutions.
7. Pay dues promptly.
8. Experience the total scope of membership by attending district conferences and workshops and international conventions and by supporting the international programs of the Foundation and the association.
9. Be supportive of club officers and committee chairs so that they can fulfill their required assignments.
10. Be aware of club progress toward its goals and be ready to join in whatever action is needed at each stage of the way.
11. Develop new ideas for the club that can add to the impact of a program meeting; recruit members; expand a service project; and, in general, achieve satisfaction in being an Altrusan.
12. Enjoy being a member and don't hesitate to share a sense of humor. It makes membership a relaxing, enjoyable, stimulating activity.

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL INC. OF OCALA POLICIES

Policy (1)

An applicant for membership will be required to accept or reject an approval of membership within 21 days of notification.

Policy (2)

A leave of absence, for up to one year, will be granted at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Such request must be made in writing. Any member electing to take a leave shall be responsible for paying dues and for any lunches that are attended.

Policy (3)

Members whose quarterly billings for dues and/or luncheons remain outstanding for more than thirty (30) days from the statement date will be sent a warning letter and assessed a late charge of 10% of the delinquent balance owed over 30 days. After ninety (90) days, if fees are still owing, the member will be dropped from the membership and will not be allowed to re-join the Altrusa International Inc. of Ocala.

Policy (4)

If a voting member of the Board of Directors misses two (2) consecutive meetings with unexcused absences, Board action may be taken to remove the member from the Board of Directors. Unexcused absence to be defined as a member's failure to advise the President, or other presiding officer, of the absence prior to the meeting.

Policy (5)

Each member on the club roster (membership list) sixty days prior to our major fundraiser is responsible for an annual two hundred (\$200) dollar monetary commitment.

Policy (6)

The Altrusa International Inc. of Ocala membership list and/or mailing labels (including mailing address, phone numbers and e-mail addresses) shall be released for club related business only.

Revised 5/2009

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF OCALA

First Altrusa Club Organized Nashville, Tennessee	April, 1917
Altrusa became International	June, 1935
Altrusa Club of Ocala, Florida Installed	May, 1977

MOTTO

Patriotism, Efficiency, Service

THEME

Unity Through Service

COLORS

Blue and White

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL INSIGNIA

Altrusa's official insignia, or emblem, features three concentric circles. The first, or center circle depicts a polar view of the world, symbolizing Altrusa's international scope and interest. The second circle bears Altrusa's motto, "Patriotism, Efficiency, Service," while the third, outermost circle read, "Altrusa International, Inc." The current insignia has been in use since 1949 when it was modified to reflect Altrusa International's extension into England.



As the outward sign of an inward commitment, an Altrusan always wears her pin proudly over her heart, affixed directly onto a dress, blouse, sweater or suit lapel. Out of respect, the pin must never be worn elsewhere on the person or as a garment decoration.



ASTRA, an acronym formed from the first letters of “Ability”, “Service”, “Training”, “Responsibility”, and “Achievement”, is the official name Altrusa International, Inc. has designated for youth groups sponsored by Altrusa clubs as part of their community service program.

Altrusans have always recognized that we could make significant contributions to our communities by providing vocational guidance for young people. To further that goal, Altrusa International, Inc. of Ocala sponsors ASTRA clubs at Forest High School, Vanguard High School, Westport High School and Dunnellon High School. Each year Altrusa scholarships are awarded to outstanding ASTRA club seniors. Members of ASTRA in Marion County are serving the needs of others and have been recognized internationally for their achievements.

MAMIE L. BASS SERVICE AWARD

Authorized by the International Board of Directors, July, 1963, as a memorial to the first national president of Altrusa. We are pleased to have received this distinctive honor over the years at our district conference.

Objectives

- To stimulate interest in developing action programs in the community that fall within the scope of Altrusa’s program of service;
- To encourage members of local clubs to participate actively in service projects designed to meet specific local needs;
- To recognize outstanding club achievement in service to the community.

CONVENTIONS

International conventions are held in the odd numbered years. Representation from each district and local club is on the basis of membership. The theme of each biennium is chosen by the Board of Directors and guidelines and suggestions for implementation are published in the Altrusan; the official publication of Altrusa International.

The names of the national officers and committee chairpersons are printed on the inside cover of the Altrusan. The term of office is for two years.

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT

Ten districts were established in 1930 to meet the needs for closer coordination of clubs on a regional basis. This number was increased to twelve in 1955 and to thirteen in 1965. We are presently at fifteen, with fourteen active districts.

The district plan provided for Governors and for inclusion of District members on the International Board of Directors.

The organizational plan of the district parallels that of the International organization. The term of office for officers and committee chairpersons is for two years.

District conferences are held each year in the spring. The various states host the convention from year to year and all clubs within the host state participate in preparing for the convention.

Our club is in District Three and includes Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

FIRST INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND CHARTER MEMBERS

The installation Banquet of the Altrusa Club of Ocala, Florida, was held Thursday, May 26, 1977, at the Lamplighter Restaurant in Ocala with Margaret Hass, President of the Altrusa Club of Gainesville, presiding.

Molly Springfield, the President-Elect of the Altrusa Club of Gainesville, gave the invocation. The Extension Committee Chairman of the Gainesville Club, Betty Price, presented the following initiates of the new club:

Sara Connell Arnette
Doris Bastel
Janet Behnke
Alberta Brown
Florence Burton
Marguerite Chappell
Juanita Cunningham
Donna Draves
Frances Ferguson

Ann George
Elsie Guynn
Jan Harris
Peachie Jackson
Edna Jordan
Alice Rae Liles
Roanne Moreno
Doris Neisler
Martha O'Dell

Mary Dale Owen
Thelma Parker
Barbara Reid
Cloteen Ross
Mildred Stephenfield
Alice Stewart
Mary E. Tillman
Frances E. Tompkins
Carol Trow