

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - OCTOBER 2009

As I write there is much needed rain bouncing on the roof. I've just spent 4 days in Auckland where it rained almost non stop, so it's not too nice to come home to.

Spring has sprung , the garden is lovely, the blossom tree the best it has ever been, but the feather duvet is back on the bed. It has been a cold winter and just when we thought the weather was warming we are back to square one.

Jann Tresadern, her niece and myself went to the Young Musician of the year award, a most enjoyable night, the talent in H.B. abounds. My choice of the talent came third, I learnt later that the young lady had left her music behind and had relied on her memory.. Her accompanist found it very difficult to keep with her. The young man who won had a lovely personality and was very humble with his achievement.

It would be great if everyone could bring a friend to Leanne's meeting this month.

The sausage sizzle went off a treat. Thank you Eleanor for pulling a few strings and making that a monthly project for us.

The Duffy Book award afternoon was well worth going to, the young lady presenting the books stirred the children up no end. I'm sure the teachers were pleased when the end of that day came. The faces on some of the smaller children were a picture, some shy, some wide eyed, almost without exception very polite and displaying good manners.

Please work to getting a group together for the Trivial Pursuit night, they are always enjoyable.. The more the merrier.

I'll leave you with his thought

“Over time wealth is the good we do in the world”

Karen

Seen during a conference:

***FOR ANYONE WHO HAS CHILDREN AND DOESN'T KNOW IT,
THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE FIRST FLOOR.***

EDITORIAL

Like most people I just couldn't believe the weather we had last weekend. Saturday, so Summery and warm, then back to a very, very cold winter. From our house we look over to the kaweka's and Mungaharuru, and we can't remember when the snow has been so low on our side of the mountains. They say it is the heaviest snow fall in our area in twenty-five years!! I hope none of our members were trapped in the snow - it must have been a very unpleasant experience for those who were.

Ann is back from her visit to Indianapolis and has written about her experience at her first International Convention. She has brought back a lot of information and ideas about membership which I hope we will be able to put to good use as we sure could do with a few more to swell our ranks.

I was sorry to hear that no-one from our Club attended the IFF Day in Palmerston North as it is always a most enjoyable day and a chance to get to know Altrusans from other Clubs, and meet up again with those you know. I think this is the first one I have missed for about 10 years, but hopefully will be able to go again next year.

I hope we have a full attendance next Tuesday for our visit by District Governor Leanne, and it would be a good opportunity to bring along any prospective members, as Leanne is a very enthusiastic Altrusan and an inspiration to us all.

Shirley

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday 13 th October	Business Meeting & Dinner MS House - 6 pm - Dinner at 7 pm
Sunday 25 th October	'Make a difference' Day
Thursday 29 th October	Trivial Pursuits Night 7 pm start
30 th April/2 nd May 2010	District Fifteen Conference - Auckland

BIRTHDAYS

No Birthdays this month!!

SUNSHINE LADY

The Sunshine Lady for October/November will be Shirley

BUSINESS & DINNER MEETING - 13th OCTOBER

Visit by District Governor Leanne Milligan
Business Meeting will commence at 6 pm sharp
Dinner at Approx. 7 pm

\$15.00 per person.
All members are please requested to attend

ALTRUSA ACCENT:

Lucky people are skilled at creating, noticing and acting upon chance opportunities. They build and maintain a strong network, adopt a relaxed attitude to life, and are open to new experiences.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION:

On leaving Home of the 4th Aug, 25 hours later, but arriving before I even had left home, I arrived at my hotel room. I felt like going for a walk but one part of my body said 'sleep' and the other said 'it's not bedtime yet'. I had a few hours sleep. got up and went down stairs for a coffee and something to eat. Yes I found StarBucks and it brought back memories of when I was in the USA with a girlfriend way back when..., having Frappe Java Chip (ice coffee with big morsels of chocolate and a heap of whipped cream). Waist line Here I come.. Taking my coffee outside I sat down and along came this lady and sat down beside me.. Face look familiar but could not put a name to it.. During our conversation the penny dropped... this petite lady was non other than Zelda Perez-Mendez, the International President of Altrusa... she was taking a break from a meeting. She had been here for a few days with plenty of meetings and looking very tired (not for me). Later on that day, slowly, one by one the New Zealanders arrived and I was not the lost sheep any more.. My room mates had also arrived and the protocol was in place now.. With two who know Altrusa well the journey was just beginning. This was an experience I would not change for anything in the world. Thanks Rosemary and Chris. The saying "what goes on tour stays on tour" except I had them on one morning about trying to brain wash me with sleep talking about Altrusa and going up the ladder????

Ear plugs were mentioned!!!

So it was time to go to Registration and to see what was on. Once we started talking we seemed to draw people to us asking where we were from. Chris and Rosemary knew a lot of the fellow Altrusans and that friendship was greeted as if it was only last week that they had seen one other.

The convention is different to how our District Conferences are run (look out for the 2013 convention) . With four days of Business, elections, workshops and two guest speakers. Day one. through to Day 4. First Timers Meeting.. Short, straight to the point and then we were all given a piece of paper to get as many signatures by Saturday afternoon.. I seemed to be not doing so well as a with each signature there came a conversation of where I was from, how many in our club, what we do for the community, what about our meetings. so it was from 15 to 20 minutes to get some times 3 signatures. I got in total 78 and 2 USA ladies got 96 and 156 . There were just over 300 at this convention.

Going into the start of the business meeting there seems to be more Delegates and Alternates and not so many ordinary Altrusans. With each subject there come questions and answers which seem to take up a lot of time.

I went to two of the Workshops one on 'Increasing Membership and Building Awareness' and the other was 'Building and getting Astra clubs started'.

With the Membership workshop they gave us a kit on Promoting Altrusa in our community .

This is by a new (1)... Letterhead ,

(2)...business cards ,

(3)... recruiting letters (this is as template),

(4)...Radio Advertising, with a 30 second script.

(5)... Fact cards(a conversation starter and cheat-sheet.)

(6).....Recruiting Brochure, (this gives candidate all the reasons to consider Altrusa membership as an important and valuable choice)

(7).....Membership Application form, clean and clear, here is the form to "close the sale".

(8)... A guide for successful recruiting events is in the making

To follow in the next news letter.....

Guest speakers :- Janice Blades from Bagolitas

Speaker on 'Safe Haven'

Ann

TRIVIAL PURSUITS EVENING:

This is to be held at the Marist Old Boys Clubrooms at Park Island on Thursday 29th October at 7 pm.

Bethne Rouse is again running the evening for us with the usual Heads and Tails and interesting Questions. This is always a fun night.

Remember - everyone knows something, it is the sum of the team that counts - and remember to think of a clever name for your team.

There is will a Raffle as well, so:-

PLEASE BRING AN ITEM SUITABLE FOR THE RAFFLE TO OUR OCTOBER MEETING

Dove H.B. are combining with us for the evening, and the proceeds will be allocated by the number of teams each of us bring in for the night.

Teams of 4 to 6 people (or 5) at \$10 per person.

The Rugby Club members will be operating the Bar for the evening.

WOMEN WHO KNOW THEIR PLACE

Barbara Walters of 20/20, did a story on gender roles in Kabul, Afghanistan, several years before the Afghan conflict

She noted that women customarily walked 5 paces behind their husbands. She recently returned to Kabul and observed that women still walk behind their husbands. Despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women now seem to, and are happy to, maintain the old custom Ms Walters approached one of the Afghan women and asked "Why do you now seem happy with an old custom that you once so desperately want to change?"

The woman looked Ms Walters straight in the eyes, and without hesitation said 'Land mines'.

The moral of the story (no matter what language you speak or where you go)...

BEHIND EVERY MAN THERE'S A SMART WOMAN

CHRISTMAS GIFT EXPO:

This will be held this year on Sunday 22nd November at the Centennial Hall, McLean Park. Ann has already made several Christmas cakes and is preparing for the Jams and flavoured Oil that she and Jann make. Ann asks if anyone has spare jam jars or small bottles suitable for the jams and oils, to bring them to the next meeting.

Please remember this year to cost our your expenses for whatever you are providing as it is important that the items are sold at cost plus % profit. This proved a very successful day last year, so let's do even better this year. The day is again organised by the H.B. Junior Rockers.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

Sunday 25th October is Altrusa 'Make a difference day'. Last year we didn't manage to get anything off the ground, so hopefully this year we will do better. If you have any thoughts or ideas please bring them to the meeting so we can plan the day and make it a success

NOTICES FROM THE CHURCH MAGAZINE

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday : 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours'.