



**Altrusa International
of Lexington, Kentucky**

***MEMBERSHIP
GUIDE***

MOTTO

Patriotism
Efficiency
Service

VISION STATEMENT

Develop leadership through opportunities for service and fellowship in our community in partnership with District Six and Altrusa International Inc. goals.

MISSION STATEMENT

ALtrusa International Inc. of Lexington, KY. provides time, talent and resources to improve literacy and quality of life in our community.

COLORS

Blue and White

ALTRUSA KEY

A-Amity
L-Loyalty
T-Talent
R-Reciprocity
U-Unity
S-Service
A-Achievement

ALTRUSA'S GRACE

For this food before us spread,
For our steps in safety led,
For thy favor on our way,
Lord accept our thanks today.

ALTRUSA'S BENEDICTION

May we go forth with high ideals,
To greet our fellow man;
Be true to all Altrusa aims,
Until we meet again.



History of Altrusa

The first Altrusa club was founded on April 11, 1917 in Nashville, TN. It became the first national organization of business and professional women. The Lexington Altrusa Club was established in 1923 by Miss Jessie O. Yancy.

Why join Altrusa?

In a recent query, Lexington Altrusa Club members gave these reasons for joining:

- To give back to the community through volunteer hours and service.
- To establish a new network of diverse friends and resources
- To develop skills and leadership not possible through the workplace.
- To do something rewarding for people in need.
- To have fun!

No matter, the reason most people feel better about themselves by becoming more altruistic—by showing unselfish devotion to the interests and welfare of others.

Cost of Membership

Each year members (or in some cases their employers) pay dues. The dues are split among the local club, district and national entities. Dues for new members are \$110. Renewing members pay \$100.

Meetings

The dinner and business meeting is held on the third Thursday of each month opening at 5:30 pm for registration and socialization, with the meeting getting underway at 5:45 pm. The meeting location is currently the Crowne Plaza located at the corner of Harrodsburg and Mason Headley roads.

Members pay for their own dinner from a pre-selected menu that consists of 4 to 5 entrees ranging in price from \$12 to \$25. Dinner is NOT mandatory.

OPTIONAL MONTHLY COSTS (Club fundraisers)

At the close of most monthly dinner meetings there is the opportunity/option to address the group with a brag or brags. Each brag costs \$1.

Members are asked to bring a wrapped gift (value \$10-15) to the dinner meeting on the month of their birthday. Members then may purchase raffle tickets to win this gift. Tickets are \$1 each or 3 for \$2.

SPONSORSHIP, ACCEPTANCE, ORIENTATION AND INITIATION

To be considered for membership in Altrusa, one must be sponsored by an existing member. A Recommendation for Membership form is completed by the sponsor and is submitted to the Membership Committee.

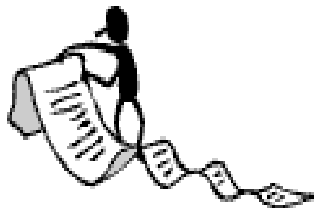
The Board of Directors will review the application. If accepted the new member will begin attending meetings. Shortly thereafter they will spend time at an orientation. Current members discuss all aspects of the club, expectations and responsibilities of membership.

Either before or after orientation the new member will be initiated at a monthly dinner meeting and presented with an Altrusa pin.

ALTRUSA OF LEXINGTON

The officers of the club include the president, vice-president, treasurer, recording secretary, and immediate past president. There are also four board members and a foundation treasurer.

Current membership number: 51.



COMMITTEES

Communications: responsibilities include the FOCUS newsletter, press releases, yearbook preparations, and also the Sunshine member who sends cards to members.

Finance: responsible for fundraisers, annual budget, and assisting the treasurer.

Membership: responsible for new member recruitment, retention, revitalization, and leadership development.

Service: responsible for planning and executing community service projects. This will include coordinating the "baskets" at several of our monthly meetings members bring items to be donated to charitable organizations.

Nominating: responsible for selecting the slate of candidates for elections.

Program: this committee is chaired by the vice-president and is responsible for meeting programs, and special meeting arrangements including the annual picnic and Christmas party.

WEBSITES

<http://www.altrusalexky.com>

<http://www.altrusa.com>

NEWSLETTER

A local newsletter is published monthly and distributed via email to all current members. Our newsletter is called the *FOCUS*. Additionally District Six's *In Touch* Bulletins and International's *Altrusan* newsletters are mailed to members throughout the year.





FORMAT OF DINNER MEETINGS

Meetings generally last about 2 hours and begin at 5:45. Officers and Board Members are well aware that each member's time is valuable and try to be as succinct as possible.

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to order and welcome-President

Introduction of guests

Minutes of previous meeting-Secretary

Financial report-Treasurer

Vice-President's report

Altrusa Grace (dinner)

Speaker/Program

Report of Board actions and
recommendations

Committee reports:

Communications

Finance

Membership

Programs

Service

Business

Old Business

New Business

(Initiation of new members)

Brag Box

Birthday Raffle

Altrusa Benediction

STRUCTURE OF ALTRUSA

All Altrusa Clubs are governed by Altrusa International, a corporation with both elected and appointed officers and a chairperson. Under the International umbrella there are fifteen (15) Altrusa Districts throughout the world. The Lexington Club is in District Six. District Six incorporates Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. Each district has its own Governor and Board of Directors.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Altrusa of Lexington is involved in numerous community service projects, providing the membership with varied opportunities to make the Bluegrass a better community in which to live.

Mighty Moms: Provides moms who care for children with severe developmental disorders a fun and relaxing weekend.

Brains and Bellies: This is a regularly scheduled night of reading and fun for children age 4 with an accompanying caregiver. Each child receives a book and snack.

Monthly Service Projects are also scheduled throughout the year providing opportunities for personal service. These include: Florence Crittenton, HUGS (hats, underwear, gloves and socks), Humane Societies, God's Pantry, Ronald McDonald House, Salvation Army, Partners for Youth, KET telethons, Center for Creative Living, the Detention Center, Hope Center and many more.



"Vision without action is a Day-dream; Action without vision is a Nightmare!"

Japanese Proverb

**Altrusa International Inc.
of Lexington, KY.**

2007-2012 Operations Plan

Goals:

1. Broaden, increase and retain membership in age and diversity.
2. Achieve recognition and have influence through engaging and educating our members and community.
3. Increase value of Altrusa membership.
4. Increase community awareness of Altrusa through service.



Produced by:
the *Membership Committee* of
Altrusa International of
Lexington, Kentucky