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<b>Eva Salas</b>	Altrusaga Editor

*Vision:*

*"Leaders in Service, building bridges that elevate, connect, and empower our communities."*

**Meeting**

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. online

## President's Message

Dear Altrusa Family, November was a month of giving thanks, and I would like to especially give thanks to all of you who have made it possible for our club to bring a little bit of sunshine into the lives of many of our most needy community members through your drive, generosity, and kindness. Without you, none of our work would be possible. Thank You!

On November 7, our district held a leadership workshop with a focus on membership. Those of us who attended gained many valuable insights from the various presentations. One of our favorites is called the "Lollipop Moment" – this is a special shout-out to a member by another member. It takes only a minute to acknowledge and brighten up someone's day. I encourage you to join us for the Literacy & Service Workshop in February.

During our November Business Meeting, we were enlightened and inspired by our guest, Ginny Scharbarth, Executive Director of Kathy's Legacy Foundation, which serves families of domestic violence victims in San Diego, specifically children whose lives have been forever changed as a result of their loss of a parent and also pets that have witnessed the horrific acts of violence against their beloved owners. I invite



you to visit their page and learn more about their Silver Lining and Lady's Legacy programs: [www.kathyslegacy.org](http://www.kathyslegacy.org).

In the spirit of giving, many of our members

contributed funds to purchase Thanksgiving meals. On November 24, we delivered eight meals to three families from the McAlister Institute shelter and five families from the Chula Vista Elementary School District facing housing insecurity. They were all very thankful for the generosity of Altrusans who made this gift possible.

Our ASTRA clubs have been working on several projects and have a fundraiser coming up on December 2 and 3 at R & B Tea in Otay Ranch. As we come to the end of another year, I invite you to participate in our upcoming events. Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy reading a children's book at our next Reading Legacies recording session at the South Chula Vista Library on December 4, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm.

I look forward to seeing you at our Holiday Tea on Sunday, December 5. Bring your fancy hat! And before the holiday eating begins, get some fresh air and exercise at our next park cleanup at SDG&E Park on December 11, 10:00 am.

I wish all of you a safe and wonderful Christmas holiday in the company of family and friends. May the year ahead bring us renewed energy and enthusiasm as we continue to serve and empower our communities.

*Happy Holidays!*

*"It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace."*

~ Agnes M. Pharo



# Mission:

Altrusa International of Chula Vista, Inc. is an organization of professionals dedicated to a more literate and educated community. This is accomplished by providing direct service and financial support to organizations in the South Bay.

# Club Updates

Club Chairs for 2021-2022	
<b>ASTRA</b>	Jan-Marini Pacleb & Sharon Brower
<b>Communications</b>	Isis Perez
<b>Membership &amp; Hospitality</b>	Ceci Garcia & Sharon Brower
<b>Service</b>	Rasha Roshdy
<b>Ways &amp; Means</b>	Juanramón Castel & Danielle Robello

December		
Month of Giving		
calendar	1	Board Meeting Mid-year review of strategic plan and evaluation of the Club Revitalization funds Holiday Tea Mary Thigpen Month of Service
	5	Holiday Tea
	10	Human Rights Day
	11	Park Clean Up, SDG&E Park 10:00 am - 12:00 pm



December 10

Happy Birthday  
may all your wishes come true

December Birthday Month

- Ceci Garcia
- Rebecca Garcia
- Shauna Stokes
- Lillian Leopold

DECEMBER HOLIDAYS

- Winter Solstice 12/22
- Ramadan 12/19-1/18
- Chanukah 12/19-12/27
- Christmas 12/25
- Kwanzaa 12/26-1/1

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Chula Vista, CA 91909

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www.altrusacv.club

**Say What?!**

- Join our SUPER challenge and help each club donate at least 500 books or 500 hours of community service over the biennium! The simple gift of a book to a child who has never had one can help eradicate illiteracy and give these children a chance to succeed in life.
- Our challenge is to distribute **ONE MILLION** books or devote **ONE MILLION** hours of service to our communities in the next biennium!!
- TOGETHER, WE CAN DO IT!**

# ANAHEIM'S FESTIVAL OF TREES 2021

Submitted by Iracsema Quilantan



On Saturday November 13 we kicked off the Christmas season by driving to Anaheim. The Quilantan Sleigh was filled with cheer as Altrusans Shauna Stokes, Jeri Gustafsson and Iracsema Quilantan listened to Christmas music and enjoyed a recap of 2021.

At the Anaheim Club Festival we were greeted by fellow Altrusans with treats and an opportunity ticket. We purchased additional opportunity tickets to win beautifully decorated Christmas trees each with it's unique theme. While we did not win a tree we were delighted to learn that all the trees were made and donated by Anaheim Altrusans and funds will be used for charity. There was also a silent auction where Jeri out bid a very competitive crowd to win box tickets to the Ducks game in 2022 making husband Tom very happy! Homemade jams purchased at the event will be shared by the Quilantans at Thanksgiving. Christmas magic was captured in the photo with Santa and



Mrs. Claus illustrating we are never to grown to be merry and bright!





## District Leadership and Membership Workshop

At our District Leadership and Membership Workshop on November 7, we learned about a new membership policy change. Instead of dual membership, we now have Primary and Non-Primary club members. Members who join a second club are considered Non-Primary members of their second club. This is a very important change for clubs in formation or under charter strength, as they may have up to seven non-Primary members who will count towards charter strength. Additionally, Non-Primary members can also hold board positions in their secondary club. A new form, called Non-Primary Membership Application, has been added to Membership Forms on the Altrusa International website, [www.altrusa.org](http://www.altrusa.org). We also learned from each other on ideas for member recruitment, such as:

- **Always wear something related to Altrusa, thus encouraging people to enquire about it**
- **Don't be afraid to re-ask someone to become an Altrusan. Circumstances change and the person may be interested in a new project or just in a better position to join.**
- **Hold fun events, like Bunco Night and wine tasting, and attending non-Altrusa events where you can meet potential members and invite them to one of our events or meetings.**

These are just a few of the highlights of this workshop that was full of great information. If you were unable to make it to this workshop, I encourage you to join us for the Literacy and Service Workshop in February 2022



## Holiday Tea

We look forward to seeing you at our Holiday Tea on Sunday, December 5, at 1:00 pm, at **My Cup of Tea** in Third Avenue Village, Chula Vista. This will be a fun-filled event. We will have a fancy hat competition, silent auction, 50/50 drawing, plus beautiful art and jewelry for sale. You can enjoy a great time with friends, a delicious cup of tea, and get your Christmas shopping done all in one place. For those of you who are unable to join us, don't worry – you too will have the opportunity to go shopping for your favorite gifts. Be on the lookout for more details coming to your inbox soon.

# Southwestern College ASTRA

Our Southwestern College (SWC) Club has done two food and menstrual product distributions, attended a couple of our park cleanups, and they have a few more activities coming up before the end of this year. Their November service project was collecting donations for South Bay Community Service Domestic Violence Response Team bags.

Their December project is fulfilling Christmas wish lists of young victims of human trafficking sheltered in Baja California, Mexico. If you wish to support their efforts, please click on the Amazon link below. If you would prefer to purchase the items through a different vendor, you may also reach out to Danielle to arrange a pickup time and date or mail the items to our P.O. Box. at

PO Box 6225  
Chula Vista, CA 91909

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3ESWXJKCHS1WA?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3ESWXJKCHS1WA?ref_=wl_share)

They also have an upcoming Fundraiser: December 2 & 3, 11am - 10pm, at R & B Tea at the Otay Ranch Town Center. If you would like to support this effort, please make sure to bring the flyer or show it on your phone when you visit R & B Tea on those dates.



## ASTRA Jag kitchen fundraiser

Proceeds will be used for service projects. Please bring a flyer/digital copy and mention ASTRA Jag Kitchen Fundraiser when paying

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R & B Tea Otay Ranch Mall  
2015 Birch Road  
Chula Vista, Ca 91915  
Join us for two days of  
'fun'draising  
December 2 | 11am-10pm  
December 3 | 11am-10pm

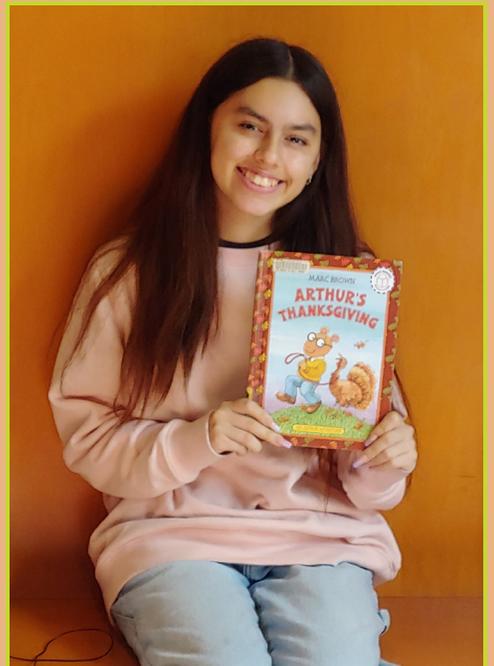


# Community ASTRA Club



Our Community ASTRA Club members are actively recruiting for new members, and they participated in their first Reading Legacies video recording, on the same date we held our first official meeting. They are currently working on a toy drive to donate to the same children our SWC Club is supporting. If you would like to donate a toy for a boy or girl ages 10 to 17, please contact Julie at [jrobello.altrusa@gmail.com](mailto:jrobello.altrusa@gmail.com) to schedule the pickup of your unwrapped toy(s) or mail the items to our P.O. Box at

PO Box 6225  
Chula Vista, CA 91909





[www.kathyslegacy.org](http://www.kathyslegacy.org)

## Kathy's Legacy A Tragedy Turned into a Blessing for Many

At the end of February 2011, Kathy moved out of the home she shared in Fallbrook with her boyfriend. She was scared for her safety and for that of her 13-year-old daughter. His behavior had become volatile and frightening. Kathy indicated he was erratic, forceful, and threatening.

For the next ten months her ex-boyfriend called, emailed, texted, and badgered her. When she began dating someone new the contact became relentless day and night, and the stalking began.

On Nov. 17, 2011, Kathy was granted a temporary restraining order. It was immediately violated. He left streaming voicemails, texts, and emails. A neighbor of Kathy's reported seeing him hiding in some bushes near her property. On Thanksgiving Eve, November 23, Kathy walked her new friend to his car at 11:30 p.m. While she was outside, her ex snuck into her residence, laid in wait, and strangled Kathy when she returned.

On November 24, 2011, Thanksgiving Day, her 34th birthday, Kathy was murdered. Kathy's birthday would be her death day. This tragedy has left parents without a daughter, siblings without a sister, and a daughter without a mother.

We look forward to working together with Kathy's Legacy Foundation representatives as we connect, elevate, and empower this special community.



## Thanksgiving Adopt a Family Meals

On November 24, Danielle and Julie personally delivered meals to both families in the McAlister Institute shelter and displaced families from the Chula Vista Elementary School District. It was very heartwarming to see the smiles of the recipients' as we handed them their Thanksgiving box full of delicious food. Every single one of the families expressed their great appreciation and thankfulness for the kindness and generosity of the Altrusans who made this gift possible.



Embricie Tapia, Michelle Kveen and Julie Robello delivering turkey meals at McAlister Institute.

## Chula Vista District Turkey Meals Distribution



## Lou Ann Vogler Grants Program

Last year, the Altrusa Club of Chula Vista, Inc. Foundation granted \$10,000 to Reading Legacies and \$5,000 to Meals on Wheels San Diego County (MOWSDC) to BREAK DOWN BARRIERS for the underserved. Our \$10,000 to Reading Legacies will be supporting the implementation of a pilot of their *Book Bridges* program at Donovan State Prison. With COVID restrictions still in place, only promotional efforts have been made at Donovan with participants already identified. Upon implementation, participants will receive books and materials to connect with their families through reading. In partnership with Donovan this summer, Reading Legacies participated in the celebration of in-person learning in San Diego County by donating children's books for their backpack and school supply distribution to children in need, as identified by school counselors and police officers.

Our \$5,000 to Meals on Wheels MOWSDC provided 2,222 meals to vulnerable, homebound low-income seniors in the South Bay, allowing them to remain independent with affordable nutritious meals while also breaking isolation and identifying health risks sooner through wellness checks during meal deliveries. Meals on Wheels exceeded their annual goal, serving 840 seniors in the South Bay with over 140,000 nutritious meals and have a vision to *Reach More and Do More* by increasing their number of routes and volunteers and offering more wrap-around services.



## PARK CLEAN-UP

On November 13th, we had a great turnout. We had Altrusans, and their guests and ASTRA members work together to beautify Hilltop Park. They all enjoyed a great time while at the same time making sure the community has a clean park to enjoy. Be on the lookout for the next Park Cleanup Event flyer coming to you from Juanramón soon.

WE ❤️ OUR MEMBERS



## 2022 Conference - Creating Waves of Change

Our 2022 Conference planning is underway! Our Ways & Means Committee needs your help! We need all hands on deck to sell ads for our program. Download the **FILLABLE FORM** online and share it with our local business owners.

Did you know... members can already book their room for Conference at the Paradise Point Resort & Spa? If you know an Altrusan who will be staying at the Conference Hotel, send them to our **RESERVATION WEBSITE** or they

can call the hotel **(855) 463-3361**.

Conference attendees can come early or stay later to enjoy all that San Diego has to offer. The discounted Conference room rate is available 3 days before and after Conference. To get the discounted rate, reservations must be made by **MARCH 28, 2022**. Credit cards will not be charged until hotel check in next year.

**SAVE THE DATE FOR CONFERENCE APRIL 29 - 30!**



## TECH TIP

Rather than deleting letter by letter delete an entire word by pressing **ctrl + backspace**

## Amazon Smile

Remember that using AmazonSmile is an easy way for you, your family, and your friends to support Altrusa Club of Chula Vista Inc. Foundation. Every time you purchase something at **smile.amazon.com**, you will be buying the same items with the same discounted prices, but with the added bonus of a portion of the purchase price being donated to our foundation. If you have not yet selected us as your preferred organization, now is the perfect time. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases.

*Thank you*



The Eastlake Self Storage has been supporting Altrusa International of Chula Vista for over five years. Thank you for being our partner, saving us **\$7,535** and allowing us to focus our funds on the needs of our community.

## Monthly Business Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83605320086?pwd=L1RISnVjRkxkxZnFJSnpXRUpaRVpJQT09>