

ALTRUSAGA

Altrusa International, Inc. of Chula Vista, California

Volume 63, Issue 3

August 2025

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

Club Board	
Lina Cestero	President
Eva Salas	Vice President
Carmen Richardson	Secretary
Kristi Phillips	Treasurer
Elsie Aguirre Simpson	Director
Kathy Lightbody	Director
Patti Rahiser	Director
Glenda Hogg	Immediate Past President
Eva Salas	Altrusaga Editor
	Parliamentarian

President's Message

Dear Altrusa Club Members,

It seems we have gotten into the swing of the new club year with both feet planted on the ground and running! This month, we had our very first Mixer of the year, where we celebrated the vibrant energy of our club and welcomed Barbara into the Altrusa family. I am thrilled to see our community expanding and the connections we are building.

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to those stepping up into vital roles. A huge thank you to Eva Salas and Elsie Aguirre-Simpson for taking on the Service Committee; your leadership will be crucial in guiding our service initiatives this year. I also want to extend my appreciation to Glenda Hogg and Helyn Sloan for taking on the Membership Chair positions. Your efforts to engage and support our members will greatly enhance our club's growth and cohesion.

We have so much to look forward to this month! I'm excited about Bunco with the San Diego Club, which promises to be a fun-filled afternoon of laughter and camaraderie. Additionally, we will kick off our first Service Project of the Year with the Kellogg's Book Drive, providing an excellent opportunity for us to give back to the community and promote literacy among children.



Lastly, congratulations to the Altrusa Club of Chula Vista for being awarded the Distinguished Club for 2024 – 2025! This achievement is a testament to our dedication, hard work, and commitment to service. Let's keep this momentum going as we embark on an exciting year ahead!

Don't forget that ticket sales will begin on August 15, 2025, for our Second Annual Tea's the Season Fundraiser. A special thank you to all the members of the Ways and Means Committee whose hard work is sure to make this event even larger and more successful than last year.

Thank you all for your enthusiasm and participation. Together, we can make a significant impact in our community and foster a supportive environment for each other.

Warm regards,
Lina Cestero
President, Altrusa Club of Chula Vista

Foundation Board	
Lillian Leopold	President
Isis Perez	Vice President
Helyn Sloan	Secretary
Carmen Richardson	Treasurer
Helen Nosal	Director
Shauna Stokes	Director
Pat Upton	Director
	Immediate Past President



August 12

Mission:

Altrusa International of Chula Vista, Inc. is dedicated to improving the South Bay community by providing services and financial support, developing leadership, fostering education, and encouraging fellowship through an international network of dedicated volunteers.

Club Updates

Club Chairs 2025-2026

ASTRA	Lillian Leopold
Communications	Isis Perez
Hospitality	Helen Nosal
Membership	Glenda Hogg Helyn Sloan
Service	Elsie Aguirre-Simpson Eva Salas
Ways & Means	Carmen Richardson Helyn Sloan
Webmaster	Jessica Velasquez

calendar

AUGUST WELLNESS MONTH

1	First Friday Breakfast
6	Board Meeting at the Civic Library
12	International Youth Day
20	Business Meeting - Service committee report on Service plan and budget; Recommend club contribution of \$210 to Club 21; Encourage individual member contribution; Treasurers Report on Membership renewals.
25	Submit articles to Altrusaga Editor
	ASTRA Meeting- every Thursday

August 6, 2025 Board Meeting 5:30 p.m.

Chula Vista Civic Library
365 F Street
Chula Vista, CA 91910

August 20, 2025 Social 5:30 p.m. Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Chula Vista Civic Library
365 F Street
Chula Vista, CA 91910



August Birthday Month

Lily Ramirez
10 Patti Rahiser
17 Kristi Phillips
18 Eva Salas

*In-person Ways & Means Meeting
August 11, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
Civic Library, StorytimeRoom*

Altrusaga is published monthly for
Altrusa Club of Chula Vista

Mailing address:
PO Box 6225
Chula Vista, CA 91909

Foundation EIN #33-0463922
www.altrusacv.club



Aloha!
you're invited to a
**BUNCO
FUNDRAISER**
**Altrusa
San Diego
Foundation**
*Saturday
Aug 9th 1-4pm \$35
2257 Calle Tiara, La Jolla*
RSVP
SanDiegoAltrusa@gmail.com
Contact Kathy
619-993-9441

Cash or Check
Pay at the door.

Lots of snacks
and beverages!

Made with PosterMyWall.com

About our July meeting.....

July Submitted by Eva Salas

We had an Italian Feast! Thank you Helen Nosal for organizing the assortment of foods and desserts and the beautiful centerpieces. It made it all festive at the spacious Norman Park Senior Center. We also took our club picture that will appear in our upcoming yearbook cover and you can take a sneak peak at it on our website. Thank you Lily Ramirez for your photo skills. We also welcomed Barbara Everett, sponsored by Eva and Elsie to the club with an initiation remony of letters and candles. She is looking forward to an exciting year!



Save the Date! November 15, 2025
 Tickets go on sale
 August 15, 2025!

Tea's the Season
 for Literacy

\$75.

Sweetwater Woman's Club
 3855 Sweetwater Road,
 Bonita
 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

ALTRUSA Leading to a Better Community®
 International Chula Vista, CA

www.altrusacv.club

501(c)3 Tax ID: 33-0463922

Club Announcements

August	Wellness Month
Club Mixer	See the flyer on page 9 for the Burgers & Brews Mixer. Bring a board game, bring a friend, come and have some fun with Altrusa
Committee Chairs	All Committee Chair positions have been filled, please make sure that you are signed up for at least one committee.
Tea's the Season Foundation Fundraiser November 15	Tickets will go on sale on August 15, 2025. Please see Maureen's update article on sponsorships on the next page. The list is looking spiffy!
Table Decorators	Thanks to all who have volunteered to decorate a table - there is still one table available to decorate. Contact Sharon Vega to claim the last table.
Silent auction baskets and raffle donations	We still have a ways to go, we have a gift certificate to Old Town Trolley, Google Home White Slate One Size, Smart Speaker Google Assistant, Google Home Hub, Chula Vistaopoly. Sharon is working on Bonita Golf Course and Murietta's. Eva is working on Brigantine, South Coast Rep and The Nail Spot. Buddy Group 2 is working on "12 of Christmas Basket". What else can we add to the list?
August Meetings	August 11 - Ways & Means August 25 - Service

Membership

MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by Glenda Hogg

Members of Altrusa International of Chula Vista let us introduce the new co-chairs for the Membership Committee. Helyn Sloan, a past President of the club who has also been in other positions on both the club and foundation board, been a District Chair for a couple of committees on that level including being on the District Board for a short time, the mother in law of our current District Eleven Governor, Hillary Sloan and most importantly been an Altrusan for over twenty years. Along with her is the other co chair, Glenda Hogg who is currently Immediate Past President for a second time, did two stints as a District Chair and been a member for just over sixteen years.

Why did we take on these roles? To begin with no other members seemed to want to do this task and secondly we both felt that sometimes we forget that our newest members are overwhelmed with "all of the stuff" that comes with being a member. We work closely with the Club Treasurer to make sure new members get added to Group Tally. Yes that is an odd thing but basically it's the information given to the International office on who you are, what club you belong to and with that how many years of service you have attained.

We don't plan mixers as our great Hospitality Committee does that. We do plan initiation ceremonies for new members, contact those who have applied to make sure they get all of the basic information they need in order to become a member. We also develop a list of responsibilities that their sponsor should use to help the new member become comfortable.

What can you as members do to help make our job easier? First of all do your best to recruit new members by inviting them to a fun event, fundraiser events and to our meetings. Secondly help us with suggestions on what we can put into the swag bag that each new member receives. Lastly ask those questions that may still be confusing to you because "The only dumb question is the one you forget to ask!"

We hope to hear from you very soon.

Service

Service Committee Meeting Submitted by Eva Salas

The first Service Committee meeting was called for Saturday, July 26, 2025 by co-chairs Elsie Aguirre- Simpson and Eva Salas at Eva's home. Sixteen members gathered for coffee and breakfast to discuss their project ideas.

The projects on on the agenda were discussed for the 2025-26 slate and some new ideas as well. Below is the list of the projects - we will detail the projects once the boards and membership approve the slate. Leadership to be confirmed and still needed on some of the projects:

Project	Lead
Middle School Drone Project Camp	
Middle School Girl's Female Robotics Camp	Lillian
Teacher Grants for Literacy	Elsie
Kindness Week Service Project	Elizabeth
Reading Program via Kellog Cereal	Shauna
Tijuana Orphanage International Project	Jeri
Kiwanis of National City Bike Project	Elsie
Astra Service Project	
Mary Thigpen Service Grant Project	Lisa
"Loving You Through It" Service Project	Helen

The committee approved the slate of projects to move forward.

In addition to the projects, we will be busy bees finishing up the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren project with the purchase and delivery of electronic tablets.

Carmen Richardson will draft Altrusa International Foundation Grants. Carmen to take the lead in writing and submitting a grant application for the Teacher Grants for Literacy project. Deadline to International is September 2025. Irasema to review grant prior to submission.

Elsie (Co-Chair) will send out a monthly Google form to committee members for tracking service hours.

Books labeling and sorting. The committee finished sorting and labeling donated books that Irasema and Lillian had stored in their homes. Books for future distribution to schools to be stored in the Altrusa storage unit and all other books donated to the Friends of the Library

Calendar/Upcoming Service Meetings:

- Monday, August 25, 6:00 p.m. - Zoom
- Tuesday, September 30, 6:00 p.m. - Zoom

An industrious day for all members who attended the Saturday meeting. Elsie was not present due to illness.





Book Sorting

After the meeting, members sorted books and labeled them with our club logo. President Lina Cestero, Carmen and Eva loaded up the boxes of books with Barbar's help and took them to Eastlake Storage.



FEEDING Reading



An Altrusa Club Act of Kindness

Join the Altrusa Club of Chula Vista by gathering new books for Mi Escuelita preschool in honor of Kindness Week Worldwide, November 8-15.

Your purchase of eligible Kellogg's cereal can earn **free book awards to benefit local schools**. Each person can maximize their participation to earn **10 free books** by purchasing eligible items in **10 separate transactions**. Or buy books from your local bookstore.

Here's how to make the most of your shopping and donating:

- **by September 30:** Make your purchase(s) on *separate receipts* (with one Kellogg's cereal product in each transaction). Kellogg's will not honor more than one book award per receipt.
- **by October 10:** Take a picture of each receipt and upload it on the FeedingReading.com website. Make a note of the email you provide (you'll need it to redeem the book awards). Within 24 hours, you should receive two confirmation emails from WK Kellogg Co (subject: Submission Received) for each successful receipt upload. Within 48-72 hours, you'll receive a book award email (subject: Congratulations) with a redemption link to select the book you want to order.
- **by October 15:** Redeem each book award by clicking the link in each email you receive. Enter the email address that you provided when you uploaded the receipt, select the "Keep your book" option by clicking the "Order Now" button. Our club is focusing on books for students ages 3-7, 4-6, and 4-8.

[View Qualifying Products](#)



Your Grocery Shopping = Children's Books

Donate your books: Kellogg's will ship books to the address you provide 6-10 weeks after you redeem the book awards. Please bring new books to the next Altrusa Club meeting or contact Shauna Stokes to arrange drop-off (sstokes55@me.com). We will add book plates and deliver them to Mi Escuelita. Thank you for your support!



**FEEDING
READING**





**Bring
Friends
and family!**

Club Mixer

BURGERS, BREW, AND BOARD GAMES

**Saturday
September 6**

4:00-7:00 pm

**Bonita Food Market
Monterrey Ribeye Burgers &
Lucky Irish Beer Garden
4070 Bonita Road
Bonita**

**Bring
Your favorite
game!**



**contact:
Helen 619 933-3011
RSVP by September 3**

Ways & Means

A note from Helyn Sloan, Co-Chair

The Ways & Means Committee met on Monday, July 14, at the Chula Vista Main Library and we are finalizing our plans for our Tea's The Season fundraiser on November 15, 2025. We are working on our menu, working with our Table decorators to make sure the tables look fabulous and festive. Our Sponsor Team has done an awesome job, and we now have \$9,250 in Sponsor donations. This is more than we had last year so that is a good thing! If you know of someone, or company, business owner, etc., who you think might be interested in being a sponsor, please forward them to Lisa Johnson or Maureen Roeber. They can make the contact with the person/company to follow up with a sponsorship.

We are looking for donations to this event to be used in our Silent Auction and Raffle. If you have contacted a business to donate (not be a sponsor), please let Eva know so that she can make sure we do not inadvertently contact them again. And let Eva know if you have received a donation, or if you are going to donate towards our event.

Our tickets for this event will go "live" on August 15, via our website. We have uploaded the "save the date" flyer on social media. Please make sure you let your friends and family know about this event. Don't forget to remind them on August 15 to go online and get tickets. The profits from this event will go toward funding our Service Projects for the 2026-2027 Club year. Put it on your calendar and buy your ticket(s) before we sell out. This event sold out quickly last year.

If we all pull together, we can make this event even more fun and profitable than last year.

Sponsorships Update "Tea's the Season"

Submitted by Maureen Roeber

We are happy to report that we are getting closer to reaching the goal of 10K in sponsorship support.

The sponsors listed below have pledged their financial support for the event.

Baldwin and Sons \$2000 Title Sponsor
Glenda Hogg \$2000 Catering Sponsor
Richardson Family \$2000 Double Gold Sponsor
Enterprise Bank and Trust \$1000 Gold Sponsor
Southwestern College Foundation \$500 Silver Sponsor
Koala Financial \$500 Silver Sponsor
Republic Services \$250 Bronze Sponsor
Sharon Vega \$250 Bronze Sponsor
Lisa Johnson \$250 Bronze Sponsor

There is always the opportunity for more members to become sponsors. If you are interested please reach out to Maureen Roeber 619-384-6992 or Lisa Johnson ljohnson@ntcfoundation.org. Any suggestions for potential corporate sponsors are also welcome as we are currently searching for additional support. Let's exceed the goal of 10K for the fundraiser this club year! See below for sponsorship level benefit details.



The Event "Tea's the Season" our 19th major fundraiser will be held on **November 15, 2025** at the historic Sweetwater Woman's Club. We expect to sell out quickly. Don't miss the opportunity to participate as an event sponsor.

SOLD

Title Sponsor \$2000*

- Recognition as an Altrusa supporter on social media, website and print.
- Opportunity to provide promotional materials or samples at the event
- Four event tickets (if desired)
- Co-branding on two Altrusa service projects of your choice
- Logo signage at the event

*This is an exclusive level with only one Sponsor and has already been sold.

Gold Level \$1000

- Recognition as an Altrusa supporter on social media, website and print.
- Opportunity to provide promotional materials or samples at the event
- Two event tickets (if desired)
- Co-branding on one Altrusa service project of your choice
- Logo signage at the event

Silver Level \$500

- Recognition as an Altrusa supporter on social media, website and print.
- Opportunity to provide promotional materials or samples at the event
- Two event tickets (if desired)

Bronze Level Sponsor \$250

- Recognition as an Altrusa supporter on social media, website and print.

On vacation

**BOOK ends
BOOK ends**



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 over **\$10,000** and allowing us to focus our funds on the needs of our community.

Committee Roster

ASTRA

Chair: Lillian Leopold

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair: Isis Perez
Carmen Richardson
Eva Salas
Jessica Velasquez

HOSPITALITY

Chair: Helen Nosal
Kathy Lightbody
Sharon Vega

MEMBERSHIP

Co-Chair: Glenda Hogg
Co-Chair: Helyn Sloan

SERVICE

Co-Chair: Elsie Aguirre-Simpson
Co-Chair: Eva Salas
Lina Cestero
Elizabeth Cox
Barbara Everett
Glenda Hogg
Jeri Gustafsson
Lisa Johnson
Lillian Leopold
Kathy Lightbody
Helen Nosal
Kristi Phillips
Diego Quilantan
Irasema Quilantan
Carmen Richardson
Maureen Roeber
Helyn Sloan
Hillary Sloan
Shauna Stokes
Jessica Velasquez

WAYS AND MEANS

Co-Chair: Carmen Richardson
Co-Chair: Helyn Sloan
Elsie Aguirre-Simpson
Mary Burroughs
Jeri Gustafsson
Glenda Hogg
Lisa Johnson
Kristi Phillips
Irasema Quilantan
Lily Ramirez
Maureen Roeber
Eva Salas
Pat Upton
Sharon Vega
Alana Wilson

ALTRUSA BUDDY TEAMS

TEAM 1

Lead: Alana Wilson
Helen Nosal
Lily Ramirez
Maureen Roeber
Hillary Sloan
Shauna Stokes
Jessica Velasquez

TEAM 2

Lead: Carmen Richardson
Barbara Everett
Jeri Gustafsson
Lisa Johnson
Isis Perez
Eva Salas
Helyn Sloan
Pat Upton

TEAM 3

Lead: Patti Rahiser
Mary Burroughs
Lina Cestero
Glenda Hogg
Diego Quilantan
Betty Waznis
Joy Whatley

TEAM 4

Lead: Elizabeth Cox & Kristi Phillips
Elsie Aguirre Simpson
Lillian Leopold
Kathy Lightbody
Irasema Quilantan
Sharon Vega