

ALTRUSAGA

Altrusa International, Inc. of Chula Vista, California

Volume 63, Issue 10

March 2026

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: Welcoming the New Year with Growth, Friendship, and Leadership

What an awesome Senior Project in honor of our very own Mary Thigpen, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Chula Vista, benefiting Akaloo PACE Center—truly a wonderful collaboration!

As promised, I have sent out the Altrusa International District Eleven DSB to all members, giving you quick and easy access to everything you need regarding the 70th Annual Conference, including registration details. The conference will be held April 30 – May 2 in Avondale, Arizona. Please be sure to register by March 31 to avoid late fees.

This month, we also celebrate two very meaningful occasions:

- Read Across America, reminding us of the power of literacy and lifelong learning
- International Women's Day, honoring the achievements, leadership, and impact of women around the world

Both celebrations align beautifully with Altrusa's mission of service, education, and empowerment.

I hope to see many of you at our upcoming fellowship events:

- Friday, March 13 – Trivia Night hosted by the Rotary Club of Chula Vista

- Saturday, March 21 – Bingo Bling hosted by the Altrusa International of San Diego Foundation



Please be on the lookout for a survey to help with the planning of this year's Holiday Party. Your input is greatly appreciated!

I had a fantastic meeting with our Hospitality Committee. We've decided to hold our next three Business Meetings at three different restaurants. This will give everyone the opportunity to share feedback as we determine the best meeting location for the upcoming Club Year.

Our first restaurant meeting will be:

Jalisco Cafe in Bonita
Wednesday, March 18

5:30 p.m. Social

6:00 p.m. Meeting

Thank you all for your continued dedication, energy, and support. I truly look forward to seeing many of you soon.

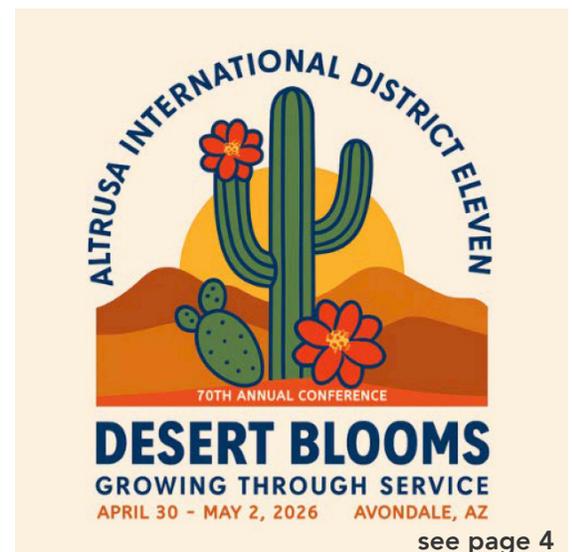
Reminder: We are still seeking a volunteer to serve as Club Secretary beginning in June. If you're interested or would like more information, please reach out.

*With gratitude,
Your Honored President,
Lina Cestero*

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



March 8, 2026



see page 4

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	Patti Rahiser Helyn Sloan
Webmaster	Jessica Velasquez

March Birthday Month 

10 Sharon Brower (emeritus)

MARCH: READ ALOUD MONTH	
1	District Awards Application due
2	Board Meeting - 5:30 pm at Italgo Pasta Bar Read Across America
6	First Friday Breakfast
8	International Women's Day
15	Grant application is due to International Foundation; ASTRA scholarship applications available due to International ASTRA Chair and End of Year Report draft due June 1
16	Business Meeting - 5:30 pm Social 6:00 pm Meeting at Jalisco Cafe - Bonita
20	Submit articles to Altrusaga Editor

March 4, 2026
Board Meeting
5:30 p.m.
 Italgo Pasta Bar
 635 Broadway,
 Chula Vista, CA 91910

March 18, 2026
Business Meeting
6:00 p.m.
Social 5:30 p.m.
 Jalisco Cafe - Bonita
 4026 Bonita Rd
 Bonita, CA 91902

Ways & Means Committee Meeting
 Library Conference Room
 Monday, March 9, 2026
 at 5:00 p.m.

Service Committee Meeting
 Library Conference Room
 Monday, March 23, 2026
 at 5:30 p.m.

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

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calendar

Welcome New Members!



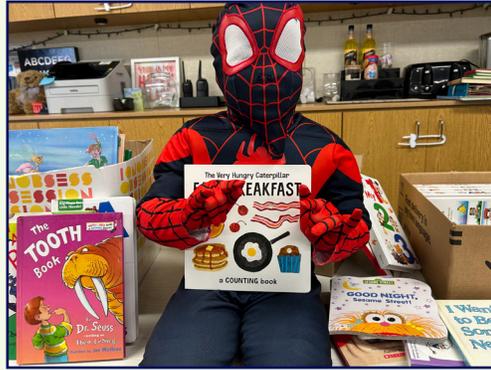
Altrusans celebrating



New member Barbara Everett and husband Grover celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary with a dinner and a beautiful backdrop in Mission Beach. Congratulations to the Love Birds.

Kellogg's Feeding Reading Submitted by Hillary Sloan

In October, Altrusa of Chula Vista generously donated books from the Kellogg's Feeding Reading program to South Bay Community Services Therapeutic Preschool Mi Escuelita. The donation reflects Altrusa's longstanding commitment to supporting Mi Escuelita, a partnership that has positively impacted local families for decades. The books were distributed during the preschool's fall festival, where a Mi Escuelita student and his father were photographed receiving the gift. Through continued community collaboration, initiatives like this help foster early literacy and create meaningful moments for children and their families.



About the meeting

Hospitality Chair Helen Nosal announced:
To end our year with a bang, the hospitality committee will have an opportunity drawing for each of the upcoming business meetings. Members attending in person or virtually will receive a raffle ticket. A special treat will be given to the winning ticket holder.

VOTE 2026 – 2027 Slate

Club Board

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| President | Lina Cestero |
| Vice President | Eva Salas |
| Treasurer | Kristi Phillips |
| Secretary | Open 1 year |
| Director | Patti Rahiser (1 year left) |
| Director | Lisa Johnson (2 years) |
| Director | Diane Trailer (2 years) |
| Parliamentarian | Open |
| Immediate | |
| Past President | Glenda Hogg |

*Opportunity
to
Volunteer!*

Foundation Board

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| President | Lillian Leopold |
| Vice President | Isis Perez |
| Treasurer | Barbara Everette (1 year) |
| Secretary | Betty Waznis (1 year) |
| Director | Helyn Sloan (1 year left) |
| Director | Shauna Stokes (1 year left) |
| Director | Irasema Quilantan (2 years) |
| Immediate | |
| Past President | Carmen Richardson |



DISTRICT SERVICE BULLETIN "Call to Conference" February 2026

DISTRICT ELEVEN
CALIFORNIA, ARIZONA, NEVADA, HAWAII
& BAJA CALIFORNIA MEXICO



DESERT BLOOMS
GROWING THROUGH SERVICE
APRIL 30 – MAY 2, 2026 AVONDALE, AZ

CONFERENCE TIPS for First Timers

Registration & Dress Code

- Mark that you're a **First Timer**
- You can attend one (**Partial**) or both days (**Full**)
- You can **bring a guest** - just pay for their meals
- **Judy Sharp Scholarship** available
- Book your **hotel room** by **April 9**
- **Business casual** & Banquet **music costume**

Networking & Friendships

- **Thursday** night Meet & Greet
- **Friday:** First Timers meeting & Market Place
- **Saturday:** Fun & Fitness & Receptions before & after Banquet

Learning Opportunities

- **Service & Literacy:** Starting & growing a young author contest for your club
- **Communications:** Making AI your club's ally
- **Leadership & Membership:** Growing club membership & cultivating leadership

Giving Opportunities

- **Altrusa International Foundation**
 - Silent auction
 - Fun & Fitness
 - Foundation Luncheon
- **Service project:** Donate toddler blankets & books for migrant Head Start students

HOTEL INFORMATION



Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix/Avondale
11460 West Hilton Way, Avondale, AZ, 85323, US

Altrusa District Eleven Conference
April 30 – May 2, 2026

\$149.00 Standard Guest Room Rate
Two queen beds or one king bed
(Plus, applicable taxes and Tourism Fees)

Check-in is 3:00 p.m.

Check-out is 11:00 a.m.

FREE PARKING!

Breakfast Included in Room Rate (Gratuity Not Included)

Rooms include a mini fridge, coffee/tea maker, microwave located near the lobby,
and complimentary wireless internet.

The Garden Grille & Bar is open for Breakfast and Dinner, with a bar and an outside patio

To make Reservations and receive the Altrusa group rate

Call: **(623) 882-3351**

Reference: Altrusa International District Eleven

Online Reservation Link:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctvhocn=PHXAVGI&groupCode=90F&arrivaldate=2026-04-30&departuredate=2026-05-03&cid=QM.WW.HIL.TON.LNK.EN.DirectLink&fromId=HIL.TON.LNK.DIRECT>

The hotel will hold rooms at these rates until APRIL 9, 2026

CALL TO CONFERENCE



70th ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Altrusa International District Eleven

April 30 - May 2, 2026 – Hilton Garden Inn - Avondale, AZ

Full Name: _____ Preferred First Name on Badge: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Altrusa International of _____

**DEADLINE: April 1, 2026
Late Fee: \$25**

Current Status ending 5/31/2026 - Circle all that apply:

- District Board District Chair Past Governor International Rep First Timer
- Current/Past Club President/VP Current/Past Club Treasurer Lamplighter ASTRA

IMPORTANT: SUBMIT SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH ATTENDING MEMBER

FULL REGISTRATION FEE – ENTIRE CONFERENCE \$200.00 \$ _____

Includes Friday/Saturday Luncheons, all Sessions, Saturday Evening Banquet

DISTRICT BOARD/INT'L REP REGISTRATION FEE \$0.00 \$ _____

Includes Friday/Saturday Luncheons, all Sessions, Saturday Evening Banquet

PARTIAL REGISTRATION

Friday Only-All Sessions, Workshops & Luncheon \$100.00 \$ _____

Saturday Only-All Sessions, Workshops & Luncheon (NOT Banquet) \$100.00 \$ _____

Saturday Only-All Sessions, Workshops, Luncheon, AND Banquet \$175.00 \$ _____

- I plan to attend the President's Workshop on Friday, May 1, 2026, 10:15-11 am
- I plan to attend the First Timers Workshop on Friday, May 1, 2026, 10:15 am-11 am

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET MEAL CHOICE – Indicate number of meals ordered:

Tuscan Chicken W/Penne _____ Beef Brisket _____ Tuscan Penne Pasta Primavera _____

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, including vegetarian requests for meals:

GUEST MEALS

Friday – Luncheon Only (Guests) # _____ @ \$55.00 \$ _____

Saturday – Luncheon Only (Guests) # _____ @ \$55.00 \$ _____

Saturday – Banquet (Guests and Members) # _____ @ \$75.00 \$ _____

DISTRICT ELEVEN 70TH CONFERENCE COMMEMORATIVE PIN: # _____ @ \$10.00 \$ _____

PROGRAM HANDBOOK: no charge digital copy e-mailed to registrants prior to the Conference.

Printed program may be ordered here # _____ @ \$15.00 \$ _____

LATE FEE: REGISTRATIONS POSTMARKED AFTER APRIL 1, 2026 \$25.00 \$ _____

TOTAL CHECK (your check is your receipt) \$ _____

Mail check and registration to: Lina Cestero
333 Corte Nación
Chula Vista, CA, 91910

**Make check payable to:
Altrusa International
District Eleven**

**Refund requests handled by the District Board post-Conference

TO REGISTER ONLINE (you can choose to pay by check):

districteleven.altrusa.org

Altrusans in the community



Altrusans were in the community at the recent ribbon cutting for Deepti and sister Deepa's new home care business, ComForCare. From left is Deepa, Elizabeth, Kristi, Deepti, and Carmen.

Bonita Area Book Club



Altrusans Barbara Everett, Elsie Aguirre and Eva Salas met for dinner at Bud's Louisiana Cafe with their book club to discuss James by Percival Everett. The meal was delicious and topped off with complimentary beignets.



Practicing Kindness in the Community Submitted by Shauna Stokes

Altrusa Member and creator of The Kindness Club, Elizabeth Cox, was one of the presenters from the non-profit sector, and health, finance, and business fields at the "2026 Wealth, Wellness & Social Purpose: A One-Day Experience" held on Saturday, January 31 in Chula Vista. Her presentation, "From Doing to Being: Choosing Kindness", was about making kindness a daily practice and gave the audience "simple yet meaningful tools to support emotional regulation, presence, and overall well-being."

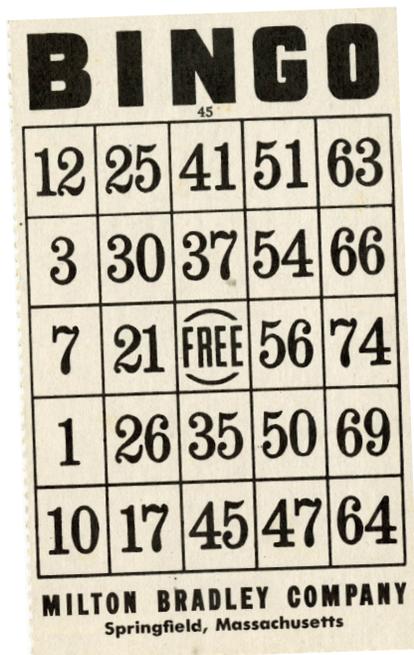
Elizabeth talked about how kindness is a strength and that it is just as important to be kind to yourself as to others. Intentional acts of kindness strengthen empathy, and can improve our emotional, mental, and physical health.

She asked the audience, "What happens when your worth is tied to output?" You can get stressed, grind your teeth, have an upset stomach, and the list goes on. Rarely does your brain get the message that "I am safe" under those conditions. She offered a prescription to "micro-DOSE" kindness, which helps our bodies release feel-good hormones including dopamine, oxytocin, serotonin, and endorphins. Elizabeth invited everyone to write down a 7-day kindness commitment and to practice intentional, deep belly breathing so that our nervous systems can receive the message, "I feel safe."

Kindness Matters.

Altrusa International of San Diego Foundation Presents...

Bingo Bling



**Saturday
March 21, 2026**

Prizes! 1:00 p.m.

**2257 Calle Tiara \$30 for 2 Cards
La Jolla, 92037 \$40 for 3 Cards**

Lots of snacks, desserts, drinks and adult beverages

Mail checks by March 17 to:

Charlotte Perry
6685 Caminito Lindrick
La Jolla, CA 92037
858 213-7798

**Touchstone
Crystal**
A Swarovski Company

Lori Sheldon, Consultant
Cash, Check, Zelle, and Venmo

15% of jewelry sales go directly to
our club.

Membership

Conference Versus Convention Submitted by Glenda Hogg

These two events, Conference and Convention can be confusing for newer Altrusa members so let's try to make it easier for you.

Each Spring the various Districts get together for an annual District Conference. Recently members received the Call to Conference email and in it was the registration form and lots of other information on what is going to happen for our District Eleven Conference (yes the number is spelled out rather than in numerals). This year the Conference is going to be in Avondale, Arizona which is just outside of Phoenix. It changes yearly depending upon what the District board can find. Clubs in the area help with the daily stuff like centerpieces for the luncheons and banquet, registration, helping with the workshops, greeting guests so they can find their way around the site. It is truly a ton of fun and you can learn so much from other clubs about their service projects, how they get new members and even about themselves. It's a great way to see how Altrusa truly builds a better community.

Every odd numbered year is Convention. This is a huge event held around the world in various countries. Next year in 2027 it will be in Columbus Ohio. Other Conventions have been in Australia, Quebec, Canada, Nashville, Tennessee, Charlotte, South Carolina. This event attracts members world wide. It's a much longer event filled with workshops, decision making at the global level, awards to clubs that entered their project at the District level and came in first place. In the past our project, Kindergarten Boot Camp, which helped get three and four-year-olds ready for Kindergarten. Former Mayor Cheryl Cox, Elizabeth Cox's mom, helped the City Library and Altrusa to make this happen. Having been a teacher she knew that children would be able to succeed in reading and writing if they were exposed early. It was a great project and worthy of the award.

As the Membership Committee we highly recommend as many members as possible attend Conference and even Convention if you can. We guarantee you will come away enriched with ideas and energy along with having made new friends.



Be a Buddy!

Service

Congratulations and Thank you

Elizabeth and Lillian for completing the Grab & Give Project

Irasema and Lisa for completing the Mary Thigpen Service Grant Project



Altrusa Service Projects Continue to Support the Community

Submitted by Elsie Aguirre-Simpson & Eva Salas

After completing 9 projects (with many components!) in the fall of 2025, the winter and spring of 2026 will keep the momentum going with 4 additional community service projects:

Grab & Give Project - Completed

The Mary Thigpen Service Grant Project - Completed

Loving You Through It - Helen to provide information on next steps

Teacher Literacy Grants - In progress. Irasema Quilantan and Carmen Richardson taking the lead on the project with applications posted for the Chula Vista Elementary School District. Teachers will be the focus for solicitation of applications. Applications have entered the review and score stage and will be finalized this month. Team of Barbara, Kristi, Diane and Irasema are reviewing. After the supplies are ordered and sorted, Altrusans will have an opportunity to assist with school visits to present the school supplies to teachers in late March/early April. As in the first round, there is a \$2,500 budget for this project.

International Mexico Orphanage Project - The international project with leads IQ and Jeri, will focus on two orphanages. The Tijuana orphanage project, Los Angelitos, was the Phil Collum Reading Corner project that was completed last year. There is a need for additional reading lighting, but there are limited electrical outlets. Club President Lina and husband Alex, an electrician, have offered to assess and update their electrical sources in the reading room at Los Angelitos pro bono. In addition, the international project will take us to another orphanage, Esperanza, which will include one, possibly 2 reading corners. The plan is to begin the project this spring, but may be continued through summer/early fall. Our Chula Vista Altrusa coordinates our international efforts with the Los Angeles based Corazon De Vida organization.

Healing Connections Through Reading- Little Libraries Project - Hillary and Eva have great plans to incorporate 3 Little Libraries in key private community locations that serve as residences and shelter for women and children in need. The plan is to have the little stand-alone libraries assembled by volunteers and then have the residents of the shelters paint the little libraries and make them "their own". Chula Vista Altrusa is currently waiting on grant awards that will be announced this month.

2026 Service Committee Meetings

- Monday, January 26, 5:30 pm
- Monday, February 23, 5:30 pm
- Monday, March 23, 5:30 pm
- Monday, April 27, 5:30 pm

REPORT YOUR SERVICE HOURS

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdlRjZG9Z6m-SPFdVJAY-9ICNK0Nrrb6-Q2FaY8RvPYv1ffvyg/viewform>



Setting the Slate - 2026-27 Projects

Submitted by: Elsie Aguirre Simpson and Eva Salas,
Service Committee Co-Chairs

All Atrusans are part of the Service Committee. Our designated project leads coordinate the resources for the projects and coordinate the time in addition it takes all of our membership to complete the volume of volunteer hours to complete the projects. While we have welcomed additional members this year, we are still limited by time, energy, and other commitments as to how many projects we can take on as a club. Keep in mind that as we work we should mentor members along the way. We want to make sure that projects receive that time and energy that each deserves. With that in mind, the service committee will:

(subject to change)

Request for Project Proposals - Please submit the Google Form that was sent out the week of February 22nd to all members if you wish to have a project considered for the 26-27 club year. Deadline is March 26, 2026
Proposal Google Form

March Business Meeting - Update on February service meeting.

March Service Committee - Finish proposed slate to present at April Business meeting for vote. Send out the proposed slate 1 week before the April business meeting for members to review.

April Business Meeting - Club will vote on the slate. Once passed, the 26-27 Project Slate will be given to the Foundation for approval.

It is imperative to attend the March Service Committee meetings to discuss and give input on projects. Members who have led in the past are needed to share their experience.

In order to maintain the integrity of the Business meetings because time is limited, we must discuss service at our service meetings. We want everyone to feel they have access to the process. Thank you!

Spring Teacher Literacy Grants

Off to a Strong Start

Submitted by Irasema Quilantan

Great news! Our Spring 2026 Teacher Literacy Grant officially opened for Chula Vista Elementary School District teachers on February 6, and the response has been inspiring. Within the first week, we received more than a dozen submissions, a clear sign that teachers are eager to bring new literacy tools and meaningful learning materials into their classrooms.

The grant window will remain open until February 23, followed by our evaluation period, book, and materials ordering, and then the best part delivering these resources directly to classrooms across our community. We aim to complete evaluations by the first week of March, place orders shortly thereafter, and begin distributing awards in late March and early April, just before school spring break begins. This timeline ensures that teachers and students can enjoy their new resources as soon as possible. There is nothing quite like witnessing the smiles of children holding a new book or manipulatives, or hearing teachers express heartfelt gratitude for the expanded learning opportunities these grants make possible.

Our program, launched in 2024, granting teacher wishes throughout Chula Vista and National City and continues to flourish and strengthen our bond to local schools. Fall 2025, we proudly distributed \$2,500 in literacy resources, and we are excited to award another round of teacher literacy grants this spring and this coming fall 2026 thanks to the generous donation of the Optimist Club and new Altrusa International Grant Award. Congratulations to our Altrusa Foundation and especially Carmen Richardson, for writing the successful grant submission to Altrusa International that helps make this continued impact possible.

If you are interested in joining the evaluation team or helping with grant award distributions, we would love to have you participate. This is a hands-on, joyful opportunity to see our mission in action. Please text, email, or call IQ if you would like to be involved.

Carmen Richardson and I are honored to lead the Spring Teacher Literacy Grant Program and look forward to another season of impact, service, and community connection.

Yours in service,
Irasema

*Opportunity
to
Volunteer!*

Mary Thigpen Service Project



Hearts in Action 100+ Gift Bags Delivered to PACE Seniors Submitted by Irasema Quilantan

Rotary and Altrusa joined forces this Valentine’s season to shower our local seniors with comfort, care, and a whole lot of love! Together, our clubs filled more than 100 bags with perishable and nonperishable goodies including blankets, beanies, gloves, socks, puzzles, lotions, toilet paper, paper towels, soups, canned goods, and snacks that brought smiles before they were even delivered.

The lively assembly event on Friday, February 13th was led by Lisa and Mora of the Chula Vista Rotary Club, joined by fellow Rotarians and Altrusans who packed with heart and humor. Our Valentine Altrusa sisters Betty, Glenda, Lillian, Shauna, and Jenny, ASTRA Advisor added their sparkle joined by Jenny’s daughter and friend (both enthusiastic elementary school helpers) and Lillian’s granddaughter, who brought youthful joy to the assembly line. The ASTRA Club also joined us, making this a true multi-generational celebration of service.

Lisa and I proudly led the project for Altrusa, and by Monday, February 16th, the beautifully prepared bags were delivered by Rotary’s Bill and Karen, who went above and beyond to ensure every gift reached the seniors at the St. Paul’s PACE Akaloa Center on L Street. Altrusan Eva also joined us for the distribution, adding even more warmth to the day. Opened in 2012, the PACE Akaloa Center serves low-income, medically vulnerable, culturally diverse older adults who need coordinated care to remain healthy, independent, and connected to their community. This year’s project held special meaning as it honored our beloved Mary Thigpen, whose passion for seniors continues to guide and inspire us.

Grateful for the opportunity to help deliver this year’s Altrusa Valentine’s Senior Project lifted by our shared spirit of service and wrapped in Mary’s legacy of love.



Random Act of Kindness Day Submitted by Elizabeth Cox

Members of The Kindness Club — including Altrusans Deepti and Elizabeth, and friend Thelma — visited low-income seniors at the Salvation Army Silvercrest Residence in San Diego on February 17. Each attendee selected a pair of warm slippers or a cozy robe as a token of kindness to brighten their day. Seniors gathered around the “kindness campfire” to enjoy s’mores, share stories of kindness, and acknowledge what they appreciate about each other. It was a heartwarming way to spend a cold and rainy day.



Ways & Means

SAVE THE DATE

October 17 for our annual fundraiser at the Sweetwater Woman's Club!

Our theme will be Literacy as we advocate for reading and education and serving the community. The event will be literacy themed with book titles. Join the brainstorming effort as rename our event now held in October. Some suggestions so far: Once Upon a Tea, Par-Tea for Literacy, Literacy to a Tea. We want to settle on a title so we can start our marketing campaign.

Carmen and Kristi have stepped forward to be Sponsorship Co-chairs and they will be mentored by past Co-chairs Lisa and Maureen. Silent Auction and Table Setters Chairs are open. Reminder: club members are part of the effort to find sponsorships/donations.

Small changes include a new price of \$85. per ticket. A slight increase of about 10%. Very reasonable considering our increase in costs.

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to join the Ways & Means committee as we create another amazing fundraiser. Bring your ideas to the next meeting.

Helyn Sloan & Patti Rahiser
Ways & Means Committee Co-Chairs

*Opportunity
to
Volunteer!*

Club Announcements

<h2>March</h2>	Read Aloud Month
<h2>26-27 Service Slate</h2>	A Projects Slate form is coming your way via email. The form is for each member to submit a proposed project idea.
<h2>Literacy Grants</h2>	The Literacy Grant applications are now under review by Irasema's team of evaluators: Diane, Kristi and Barbara. <i>Opportunity to Volunteer!</i>
<h2>Desert Blooms Growing Through Service</h2>	District Eleven 70th Annual Conference in Avondale, Arizona April 30 - May 2, 2026. Registration now open through March 31, late fee after April 1. Details on pages 4-5.
<h2>Board and Business Meeting</h2>	The March Board meeting on 3/4 will take place at Italgo Pasta Bar, 635 Broadway, Chula Vista, CA 91910. The March Business meeting will take place at Jalisco Cafe, 4026 Bonita Rd, Bonita, CA 91902. See you there.
<h2>Committee Meetings</h2>	Service: March 23, 2026 Ways & Means: March 9, 2026



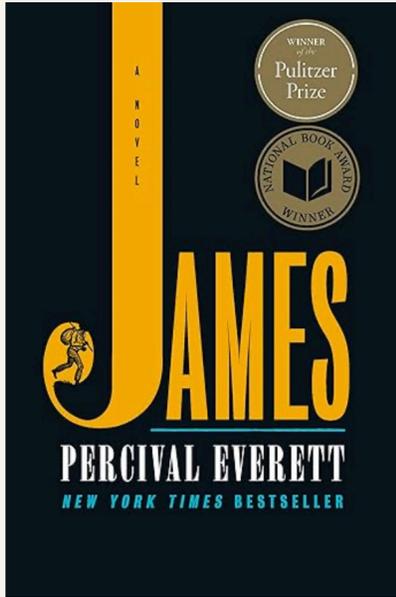


BOOK ENDS BOOK ENDS



Submitted by Eva Salas

PULITZER PRIZE WINNER



The untold story of James, who knew what his perspective would be until it was written into a book. Undeniably entertaining and a fast read. My book club friends liked this book, no boos. We look forward to the movie.

An Amazon Best Book of March 2024: With the same fiery wit, snap, and energy of his previous work, Percival Everett brings to life a retelling of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, as told from the perspective of Jim. When he is threatened to be sold off and separated from his wife and daughter, Jim decides to run away to buy time while he hatches a plan. Landing on an island in the Mississippi, Jim soon discovers another runaway: Huck, who is trying to escape his violent and drunken father. With a bounty on his head, Jim has no designs on shepherding a young white boy north with him. But there is no other alternative, and the next thing you know, the unlikely duo sets off—rafting down the river, dodging the danger that surrounds them. Everett brilliantly unwinds this adventure, revealing with glee the savvy code-switching Jim and his penchant for philosophy, literature, and justice. Based on a classic, Everett has made an entirely new classic, one that is rip-roaringly American, funny, and hard-hitting. —Al Woodworth, Amazon Editor



PERCIVAL EVERETT is a Distinguished Professor of English at USC

*Opportunity
to
Volunteer!*

**Please volunteer to provide next months book review.
Send in your recommendation to Eva Salas
aplombmedia@icloud.com**



TRIVIA Night 2026

Trivia Night 2026 is coming! Hosted by the Rotary Club of Chula Vista, this exciting evening of trivia and teamwork raises funds for local charitable causes.

ENTRY FEE
\$50 PER PERSON
\$400 PER TEAM
OF UP TO 8 PLAYERS

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

@ 6:00 PM

(DOORS OPEN AT 5:15)

THE VENUE AT EASTLAKE

871 DISTRICT PLACE, SUITE 104

CHULA VISTA, CA 91914

REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 10TH

www.chulavistarotary.org/page/trivia

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Teams that have registered /paid in full by February 20 will receive two free mulligans (free answers!) Registration closes at midnight March 6.

TABLE TAILGATE WHILE PLAYING

- Bring your own food & snacks
- Beer and wine will be sold

**NO OUTSIDE LIQUOR
ALLOWED DUE TO
OUR LIQUOR LICENSE**

Questions?

cvrotarytrivianight@gmail.com



Your participation in this fundraiser will benefit the Rotary Club of Chula Vista's Foundation Fund. Proceeds will support local charities. The CV Rotary Foundation Fund is a 501 (c)3 organization and your contributions are tax deductible.

(Tax ID # 33-0544219)



Committee Roster

ASTRA Chair: Lillian Leopold
COMMUNICATIONS Chair: Isis Perez
 Lina Cestero
 Carmen Richardson
 Eva Salas
 Hillary Sloan
 Jessica Velasquez

HOSPITALITY Chair: Helen Nosal
 Lina Cestero
 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
 Jeri Gustafsson
 Glenda Hogg
 Lisa Johnson
 Lillian Leopold
 Kathy Lightbody
 Helen Nosal
 Kristi Phillips
 Diego Quilantan
 Irasema Quilantan
 Patti Rahiser
 Carmen Richardson
 Maureen Roeber
 Helyn Sloan
 Hillary Sloan
 Shauna Stokes
 Jessica Velasquez
 Betty Waznis

WAYS & MEANS Co-Chair: Patti Rahiser
 Co-Chair: Helyn Sloan
 Mary Burroughs
 Lina Cestero
 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
 Diane Trailer
 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
 Amy Bosler
 Deepti Kurup
 Lillian Leopold
 Kathy Lightbody
 Irasema Quilantan
 Sharon Vega

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.

Monthly Business Meeting

