

DISTRICT TEN AltruNews February 2024



*Altrusa
International
District Ten*

*Leading to a
Better
Community*

Maintaining a Growth Mindset

—Call to Conference in Albuquerque, NM—

Hello Perfect Ten!

I hope you are ready for our Destination District Conference! The Conference Committee has been busy at work getting all of the details finalized and getting everything perfect for the 2024 District Ten Conference, May 2, 3, and 4. In this edition of the *AltruNews*, you will find the Registration Form and all of the details about what we have planned for this year.

We are so excited to host Conference in Albuquerque, NM. Not only is it centrally located within our District, making it easier for travel, Albuquerque is a hub of activity and culture. Whether it is your first time or your fiftieth, we are sure you will enjoy your visit.

Our host hotel and the location of ALL activities is the Sheraton Uptown. It is a beautiful hotel in an excellent location. They have been kind enough to extend the Altrusa rate for a few days before and after Conference, so you can bring your family and make it a vacation! Check out the hotel information on the Registration Form.

While this year's Conference will cost a little more than those in the past, we are hoping to have taken every need into consideration and with that in mind, offering amenities and experiences that make it all worthwhile.

This year's Conference theme is "Maintaining a Growth Mindset." With the promise of new clubs on the horizon we want to keep the momentum going and keep spreading the joy of Altrusa. I would love to see the return of twenty-seven Clubs to our beautiful District, it just takes one at a time. We are focusing on taking the leap and stepping into the bright future of Altrusa and District Ten, whether it is through Club building, ASTRA participation, fundraising, leadership or simple acts of kindness.

I hope to see you all there, where we will sow the seeds of Altrusa and watch a beautiful future blossom throughout our District.

Yours in service,

Ashley Mason
District Ten Governor
2023-2025



"Vision is not enough. It must be combined with venture. It is not enough to stare up the steps; we must also step up the stairs."

— Vaclav Havel

Mission

*Altrusa International
District Ten, Inc. works with the
International organization to
support clubs within our District
by encouraging community
service, providing guidance in
leadership development,
promoting membership growth
and communicating information.*



<http://districtten.altrusa.org>

"I love Conference time!"



Dear Altrusans,

My favorite time of year is fast approaching! I love Conference time! This is a great opportunity to us to gather as Altrusans to celebrate our accomplishments for the past year, see friends we haven't seen since the last Conference, and have a chance to make new Altrusa friends.

I encourage all Altrusans to make an effort to attend a District Conference. The Districts all have great workshops on not only Altrusa topics, but many Districts also offer other topics as well. This is a chance for you to get new service project ideas, find out about other club fundraisers, and gather new ideas for membership recruitment and retention. Keynote speakers are always inspirational so do not skip out on those presentations. Soak it all in!

Each District will have an Altrusa International Representative (either an officer or director) in attendance at their Conference. I encourage you to take the time to visit with them. They are there to not only share about Altrusa but also to meet you and share any concerns you may have with the International Board.

I send best wishes for an outstanding Conference.

Altrusans R.O.C.K. – Creative Opportunities, Create Kindness

Linda K. Smith

Linda K. Smith, President
Altrusa International, Inc.



Individuals who believe their talents can be developed (through hard work, good strategies, and input from others) have a growth mindset. They tend to achieve more than those with a more fixed mindset (those who believe their talents are innate gifts).

— Carol Dweck

EXAM STUDY
EXPERT

ExamStudyExpert.com/growth-mindset-quotes

Linda K. Smith has been an Altrusan since 1990. She has been active on all levels of the organization. She first served as local President in 1992 and completed a second term in 2017. Linda has held most local offices and committee chair positions.

On the District level, Linda has served as New Club Building Chair (2000-2001), Membership Chair (2001), Director (2002-2004), First Vice Governor (2004-2006), Governor-Elect (2006-2008), Governor (2008-2011), and Immediate Past Governor (2011-2013). She has also served several Governors as Parliamentarian. She served four terms as DSB Editor.

On the International level, Linda served as International Service Development Chair (2011-2013), International Nominating Committee Chair (2013-2015), Convention Function Coordinator for the 2015 International Convention in Kansas City, and District Eight Representative on the Altrusa International Centennial Committee. Linda served as International Director, International Vice President, and President Elect. She was installed as President of Altrusa International at the Convention in San Antonio in July 2023.

Linda is single and lives with her twin sister in Salina, KS, where they are both very active in community, state and national organizations. Linda served as President of the local hospital auxiliary for four years and continues to serve as Scholarship Chair. She has also been President of two state-wide organizations, served four years on a national board, and recently completed a term as Chair of Humanities Kansas. She spends much of her time volunteering to make her community better! Professionally, Linda retired on March 31, 2023, from the Eisenhower Presidential Library after 51 years of federal service.



Workshops!

We heard your cries and reviewed your feedback
Officer Training and District Workshops are back!

On Friday, May 3, Conference participants will have the opportunity to engage in three rounds of workshops. Rounds 1 and 2 will feature back-to-back officer training for those who need to attend more than one training workshop for their Club. Those not participating in officer training will have the opportunity to attend a leadership workshop or a parli pro workshop, put on by our VERY knowledgeable District Officers and Committee Chairs. After the workshop rotations, we will reconvene for an All-Conference Workshop and some fundraising fun with International Service Committee member Danielle Robello. Please see descriptions of workshops in this edition of the *AltruNews*.



**Sheraton ABQ Uptown
 Albuquerque, NM**

AGENDA

Wednesday - May 1

5:30 - 7:30 *Pre-Conference Board Dinner

Thursday - May 2

8:00 - 8:45 District Budget Meeting
Breakfast for District Board

9:00 - 1:00 Pre-Conference Board Meeting and Lunch

Noon - 1:30 **Past Governors Luncheon

2:00 - 4:30 Set Up Show & Sell, Altrusa Store, Silent Auction

3:00 - 5:45 Registration and Credentials Check-in Open

4:30 - 5:30 First Timers Orientation

4:45-5:45 Shop at Show & Sell, Altrusa Store, Silent Auction

5:15-5:45 Flag and Opening Ceremony Rehearsal

6:00 - 6:30 Opening Ceremony

6:30 - 8:00 Opening Reception

Locations

* Los Poblanos

** TBD

*** NM Dream Center, Albuquerque

**** Sheraton Hospitality Suite

Friday - May 3

7:30 - 8:45 Breakfast & Registration Open

9:00 - 11:00 All Conference Business Meeting

11:00-11:30 Memorial Service

11:30 - Noon International Report

12:15 - 1:30 Foundation Luncheon

1:30 - 2:00 Break

2:00 - 3:00 Workshops Round 1

3:00 - 4:00 Workshops Round 2

4:00 - 5:00 All Conference Workshop

5:30 - ??? Cocktails, Food, Fun, & Mystery - Friday Fun Night

Saturday - May 4

7:00 - 7:50 Elections (if needed)

7:30 - 8:30 Breakfast

8:30 - 10:45 Guest Speaker

11:00 - 12:15 All Conference Business Meeting

Announce Silent

Auction Winners

12:15 - 1:30 Awards Luncheon and Closing

Pay/Pick Up Auction Items

2:30 - 4:30 Collection of donations for NM Dream Center

***Set up room for NM Dream Center

Sunday - May 5

9:00 - 11:00 ****Post-Conference Board Meeting

What to Bring



- Door Prizes

- \$1 and \$5 bills for First Timer Raffle

- Silent Auction items

- Service Project - NM Dream Center

- Show & Sell Goods

- Club Display Boards

- Your fellow Altrusans!



District Ten Conference 2024



Show and Sell

Free booth registration!
Bring your goods and Club fundraiser items!

FUN NIGHT

Friday, May 3, 2024



Cocktails, Food, Fun
and MYSTERY

Begins at 5:30 p.m.

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

Everyone's a suspect

Can you figure out who did what?

Friday Fun Night
2024 District Ten Conference

THE DINNER DETECTIVE'S WEBSITE

<https://www.thedinnerdetective.com/albuquerque/>





2024 Conference Service Project

Their Mission

The mission of NMDC is to provide a 360° strategic approach to address human trafficking in New Mexico through prevention activities, outreach to victims, services for survivors and a support system for clients in their self-determination.

Their Story

In 2010, Shelley Repp had a series of encounters that exposed her to human trafficking. Shelley worked with a young refugee who was trafficked by her sponsor family. That same year a family friend adopted twins. The twin's biological mother had been and was still being sexually exploited.

Shelley began to learn about the dangers of human trafficking, through research and news articles. However, human trafficking, sex trafficking in particular, became much more personal when she discovered

that a family member had become entangled with the commercial sex industry.

Shelley did not remain silent about this crime. In 2011, she started an outreach ministry to women working in strip clubs. Through this work, she began a ministry called Spoken For. Its mission was to provide resources and services to women who had survived sex trafficking. In 2016, Shelley was invited to become a part of the New Mexico Human Trafficking Task Force. She gained knowledge and experience that helped her ministry, Spoken For, become an independent nonprofit. This journey led her to another person who was a sojourner as well.

Rob Thomas was awakened several nights in a row with

a recurring dream about starting an outreach ministry to the poorest and most vulnerable people in Albuquerque. He started the nonprofit, New Mexico Dream Center in 2016 and began to build financial support for his mission. Rob and Shelley had connected several times about their like organizations and Shelley had shared her heart about the connections she had discovered between unhoused youth and sex trafficking. She was driven to find a way to create a low-barrier resource for these vulnerable teens to help them not fall so easily into the trap of sex trafficking. Rob and Shelley decided to combine their resources of Spoken For and New Mexico Dream Center to create a stronger and more supported

nonprofit. In 2018, they merged the two nonprofits and Shelley stepped into the role of executive director for New Mexico Dream Center and Rob shifted his role to become the president of the board for their joint efforts. Soon after this merger, they located a building that was in the perfect part of town to open up the low-barrier resources Shelley felt so strongly about. The Harbour opened its doors in June of 2018 to begin providing outreach and services to young people struggling with survival on the streets of Albuquerque.

Today the New Mexico Dream Center continues to provide services to survivors of human trafficking and unhoused youth. It is an agency that believes that every human life is valuable to God and therefore to us.

Our Mission

We have the opportunity to partner with the Dream Center and provide necessary materials for those they serve. Governor Ashley and District Eleven First Vice Governor Danielle are working with their Outreach Coordinators, Shanteyl and Birga. We are hoping to have the opportunity to decorate and provide necessary supplies for their teen drop-in center. There may also be the opportunity to decorate and paint a house for one of the families they serve. As these needs are finalized, Governor Ashley will be communicating the details with District Ten. Keep an eye out for specifics and their Needs Wish List to come!

In the meantime, check out more about the organization here!

[Click here!](#)

**NEW MEXICO DREAM
CENTER EXISTS TO END
HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN
NEW MEXICO.**



SHERATON

Albuquerque Uptown

Stay in Style at the Sheraton Uptown located off the historic Route 66 highway, Sheraton Uptown is nestled in the premier shopping and dining district of Albuquerque. Local attractions include Historic Old Town, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Expo New Mexico, Petroglyph National Monument, ABQ BioPark, Zoo and several recreational areas just minutes from the hotel. They offer complimentary self-parking and have electric vehicle (EV) charging stations available for a fee and offer touch free check-in. Their flagship ABQ Grill & Lobby Lounge offers local favorites and award winning, micro-brew draft beer. Enjoy a Starbucks® coffee and grab & go options at the Sol Cafe. It's the perfect location for those traveling through New Mexico and traveling to District Ten Conference. Bring your family, bring your Club members, bring your adventure.



***A block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel.
Register online at: <https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1706730539135&key=GRP>
or you can call directly at (888) 226-8206. Be sure to say you are a member of Altrusa when you call to reserve your room.***

Individuals are responsible for making their own lodging reservations.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

REGISTER ONLINE

<https://districtten.regfox.com/2024-conference>

OR

Mail payment and completed Registration Form (see *next page*) to:

Bonnie Jones, District Ten Treasurer
705 W Mescalero Rd, Roswell, NM 88201
Phone:575-626-0567 Email: altrusa.d.ten@gmail.com

Make CHECK payable to: *District Ten Conference*

NOTE TO CLUBS: If paying for several registrations with one check, include a completed Registration Form for each attendee.

The **FULL AMOUNT DUE** must be enclosed with all Registration Forms.

REFUND POLICY: No refunds will be made for cancellations or changes made after April 20, 2024.

Registration Deadline

Due to catering needs, **NO** registrations will be accepted after the end of day on April 12, 2024.

PLEASE NOTE: Option D is **ONLY** for GUESTS or Partial Registrations. Full registration includes Saturday Awards Luncheon

Hotel Registration

Sheraton Uptown Hotel, 2600 Louisiana Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

<https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1706730539135&key=GRP>

A block of rooms is saved at the hotel. Say you are an Altrusa member when you call.

Individuals are responsible for making their own lodging reservations.

Continued on following page...

Club Spotlight



Altrusa International of
Montrose, CO

The Montrose Club is full of busy bees, accomplishing various projects for our community.

Our Environmental Committee kept the Montrose Altrusa Park weeded and watered throughout the summer and in June they held a fun “Seeds for Change” project for children, making mud seed cakes to take home and watch grow.

Our Make A Difference Day project this year was “Make a Senior Smile” and we visited 20 different seniors and gifted them with treats, sundries and conversation. This project was continued with us delivering Christmas cards to all the residents of the Homestead (a VOA-run senior living center) and to our other independent living residents we contacted during our MADD project. Members plan on keeping in touch with those seniors throughout the year.

Our Literacy Committee designed and executed a huge project to get addition and subtraction flashcards for each of our 410 second graders in the Montrose School District (consisting of 6 elementary schools and 18 classes) to be used in their classrooms to advance their math skills.

Our Service Committee has been busy with community grants for local events, including this year, Cottonwood Elementary School’s planned Spring Garden, Mrs. Claus for a Cause project to help indigent families, Cobble Creek Angel Tree, Montrose Adult Education Center, Hispanic Affairs Cultural Festival, Juvenile Diabetes 5k walk, Children’s Museum exhibit, Habitat for Humanity local event “Rock the Block”, and Golden Circle Seniors grant to help them purchase fresh vegetables and fruit.

Continued on following page...

Club Spotlight

Altrusa International of Montrose, CO

In December we put together and delivered our annual gift bags for 49 senior residents of Anciano Towers, a low-income apartment complex.

We continue to recognize Montrose School District teachers and staff with our monthly Apple Awards and will soon be seeking high school and vocational scholarship applicants for graduating seniors.

On January 13, 2024, our Haven House Committee refreshed 13 rooms/suites in a transitional living facility, helping 24 people (including 11 adults and 13 children (seven of those children were aged five and under), with new bedding, bath supplies, and small furnishings.

We held our first fundraiser in September, which was our 3rd Annual Trivia night event, with 102 players who made up 14 teams. We provided refreshments and challenging questions for our participants, and all had great fun. The New Year challenge will be planning and organizing our 34th Annual Spring Luncheon to be held on Saturday, March 23, 2024 and our theme is "Women of the West."

We are happily keeping busy and are blessed to have active members.

Debra Davis, President



Trivia Night Fundraiser



Continued from previous page...

Club Spotlight

Altrusa International of Montrose, CO



Growth is growth
no matter
how small



INTERNATIONAL AWARDS CLARIFICATION

Please be advised some changes are being made to the International Awards application:

1. All three should read the same in the area about supplemental information:

"the District Chair will remove all pages beyond the first six pages."

The Mamie L. Bass Award has been corrected.

2. The words "before sending the packets to the judges" has been added to the end of that sentence for clarification, now reading:

"the District Chair will remove all pages beyond the first six pages before sending the packets to the judges."

These changes are for clarification only and will not impact the application completion or scoring.

Club 21 Program Happenings

The Club 21 Program serves 21st century health concerns of children and their families.

In 2022-2023, Club 21 grants supported five domestic camps based in the United States and three International projects including: Camp Dreamcatcher, Baylor Scott & White Foundation, Camp Sunshine of Aurora, Cavett Kids Foundation, Sherwood Forest Camp, Royal Family Kids Camp in the U.S. and Andando Foundation, Ghana Health & Education Initiative, Medicine for Mali abroad.

The 2023-2024 Cycle 1 grants were awarded in October, and included \$86,413 in grant funding to 37 clubs and 3 International organizations (see *The Impact* for the full article). Two clubs were awarded Club 21 grants. One of the three Club 21 grants awarded to international projects was to the Ghana Health and Education Initiative. The GHEI has received more than one Club 21 award since it started in 2004. The GHEI was awarded in the 2022-2023 grant cycle and in 2023-2024. The GHEI envisions a future where children, free from illness and illiteracy, can realize their full potential. They see a future where healthy, educated young people have the power to lead their communities out of poverty. It is our hope that the grant funding provided will help the GHEI and empower young people of Ghana to continue their mission and work.

Each year, Cycle 1 grants focus on international projects, and Cycle 2 grants focus on domestic Club 21 projects. During 2023-2024, Cycle 2 grant applications are due to the Altrusa International Foundation by March 15, 2024. Grant applications and guidelines can be found here. [Grants Programs and Awards – Altrusa International Foundation](#)

Your support of the International Foundation and Club 21 is greatly appreciated.



Montrose High School ASTRA Club

The Montrose High School ASTRA Club began their school year in August with a booth at the school-wide fair for all of the high school clubs. They signed up a lengthy list of students interested in joining ASTRA.

Members made a scarecrow in October for the Montrose Botanical Society's annual Scarecrow Festival fundraiser.

Also in October, ASTRA volunteers served at an annual dinner for members of the Alpine Bank Pioneers Club. Alpine Bank donated \$500 to the club. Their ongoing fundraiser is flamingo flocking @ \$1 per flamingo. There have been several flockings in December and January.

In December the annual wreath-making fundraiser raised over \$400 to support the school's "Stuff the Stocking" (similar to Angel Tree) and gave gift cards to needy families for extra Christmas money.

As a social, members tied flannel blankets and donated them to the Haven House homeless shelter in Olathe. Other social activities included attending a movie together and a pumpkin patch maze.

ASTRA assisted Altrusa with their ongoing Haven House project. In January they purchased furnishings for one of the rooms. After shopping for all of the rugs, bedding, bathroom furnishings, lamps, etc., they also showed up to set up the room and assist Altrusa members with other room set up.

Last year the ASTRA Club focused on animal adoption and partnered with a local shelter for an adoption day. This year their focus will be on the elderly. Recently, the members made Valentine's to be delivered to a local nursing home.

In March, the members will be helping in the kitchen at the annual Altrusa Spring Luncheon. They will also help their sponsors decorate a themed table for the ASTRA high school seniors who will be honored with a ticket to attend the luncheon, possibly with their mothers.

Another community service project in March will be helping with intermission refreshments and cleanup for the Valley Youth Orchestra concert.

Book drives are ongoing to restock the ASTRA little libraries located in several local parks.

ASTRA plans to collaborate with Altrusa on a bullying program to be presented to the community later this year. Other non-profits, such as Peer Kindness will also participate in raising funds for the program.

ASTRA of Delta High School

Over the December holidays, the Delta High School ASTRA Club helped the local mortuary with lighting luminarias for their Memory Event. They also supported a gift giving event for a church in Olathe, CO, by working on a giving tree and delivering the gifts. The Delta High School ASTRA Club also helped out at the local Heirloom's store by wrapping gifts a couple of days a week for two weeks before Christmas.

After Covid, the local club reorganized and has increased their membership to about 20 members. They are currently recruiting membership of younger students.



Altrusa International Foundation

ASTRA High School Scholarship Instructions

These scholarships give the Altrusa International Foundation the opportunity to recognize high school senior ASTRA members who have grown through service in ASTRA. A winning applicant will have demonstrated exemplary Altruism within his or her community.

Applicants must have applied to an institution of higher learning (college, university, tech school, etc.) which they will be attending within seven months of the March 15 deadline for application.

The application is designed to help the applying ASTRA member exhibit their growth in Ability, Service, Training, Responsibility and Achievement through service to their community and sponsoring Altrusa Club. Up to four scholarships will be awarded annually in the following amounts:

- ☐ Two \$2,000 each
- ☐ Two \$1,000 each

Monetary awards will be based upon the points awarded to candidates' applications.

Applications will be judged by a five-judge awards committee, chosen by the International ASTRA Chair and comprised of at least three non-Altrusans.

Applications will be provided through the official Altrusa website www.altrusa.org and ASTRA Advisors at the beginning of each year in January. The deadline for submission of completed applications is March 15th, and should be received by mail at Altrusa International, Inc. - - U . Suite 1 -) h , IL 60 or by e-mail at ASTRA@altrusa.org. Complete applications will be processed by the awards committee and winners will be announced by April 15th. Complete applications consist of at least the information requested in the application including the application and reference forms available from the Altrusa website completed.

Letters of award will be mailed to the scholarship winners, requesting letters of acceptance containing information regarding eligibility including, but not limited to, proof of registration at an institution of higher learning. A notification will also be mailed to the sponsoring Altrusa Club and District Governor, for acknowledgment. An ASTRA scholarship winner may have up to 120 days from the date he or she receives a letter of award to provide the information necessary for funding.

Scholarship funds will be dispersed directly to the educational institution named in an ASTRA Scholarship winner's letter of acceptance. In some cases, primarily in consideration of ASTRA members in District Fifteen, funding may be made as a reimbursement when the requested documents are provided by the ASTRA member.

If all or parts of the scholarship funds are not used by a scholarship recipient for educational needs, such as tuition or books, the Altrusa International Foundation requires that the unused funds be returned to the Foundation.

Additional Conference Information

See the Complete Call To Conference
(2024-02-AltruNews-CTC.pdf)

In the AltruNews folder in
District Shared Files

Awards Entry Information (Appendix K-1-Award Information-2023-25.pdf)

can be found in the District Handbook folder in
District Shared Files