

# ALTRUSA HOUSE

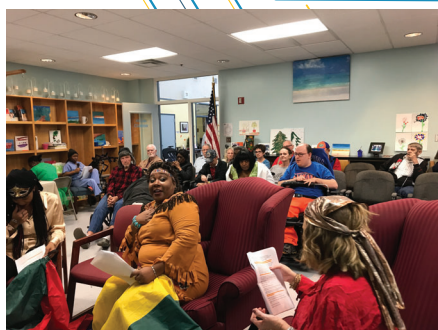
The signature project of Altrusa International of Gainesville



CELEBRATING  
**ALTRUSA**  
ANNIVERSARIES

October 19th, 2018  
Commemorative Booklet

# What makes Altrusa House special for you?



**"All of Altrusa House is special. People to laugh with and talking with everyone is special for me."**  
- Barbara Caley

"I enjoy walking and watching people walk the track at Kiwanis Park. Also, I enjoy that I have a quiet place to read."  
- Jerry



**"Altrusa House is beautiful. There is so much to do and see everyday. It makes me smile!"**  
- Irma Bell

"I love everything about Altrusa House! The people, the activities, and the exercises all keep me busy."  
- Edgar Moring



**"Altrusa House is uplifting! In a world that is pessimistic, Altrusa House is a safe and caring environment."**  
- Roger Schofield

"I really enjoy the fellowship at Altrusa House."  
- George Holston

"I really enjoy all the people and seeing everyone happy makes me happy. Altrusa House makes life interesting."  
- Eva Pringle



# Evening Program

## WELCOME

Karen Wishart, President, Altrusa Int. of Gainesville  
Nancy Hult, President, Altrusa House  
Ilene Silverman, Emcee

## RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

## ALACHUA COUNTY PROCLAMATION

Carl Smart, Assistant County Manager, Alachua County, FL

## ALTRUSA ANNIVERSARY 60 YEARS OF SERVICE

Donna Johnson, Past Int. President, Altrusa International, Inc.  
Intro by Beverly Hardy, President-Elect, Altrusa International, Inc.

## THE STORY OF ALTRUSA HOUSE

Dr. Justine Vaughen, Past President, Altrusa House  
Barbara Scott, Past President, Altrusa Club and Altrusa House  
Donna Sorensen, Founding President, Altrusa House  
Susan Davis-McCarter, Architect

## COMMENTS

Easterseals of Florida

## CAREGIVER MESSAGE

Bonne Evans, Vice President, Altrusa House

## FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

Grant Presentation On Behalf Of Charles Sperrazza  
by Robert and Mary Milie and John and Michelle Rafferty

## SPECIAL PRESENTATION TO DEBORAH BUTLER

Accepted by Mary Reichardt, Corporate Director of Marketing  
Presented by Myra Morgan, M.S. and Alison Gerenscer, J.D.

## CELEBRATORY TOAST

## RAFFLE

## LIVE AUCTION

Ilene Silverman, Emcee

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

The Silent Auction will close at 7:15 PM when the Live Auction begins

# Altrusa International

The first club of Altrusa International was founded in Nashville, Tennessee on April 11, 1917, as Altrusa Institute. Dr. Alfred Durham, a member of Kiwanis, organized clubs throughout Louisville, KY, and Dayton, OH, before he moved on to Indianapolis, IN, where he met Mamie L. Bass. The Altrusa Institute became a classified service organization for women. Later, Mamie L. Bass created the Principles of Altrusa which defined Altrusa as a builder of women and an organization based on merit and accomplishment. The Principles were officially adopted in 1921.

By 1922, Altrusa had 20 clubs. On September 1, 1935, Altrusa became international when the first club in Mexico was organized. Since then, Altrusa moved into Puerto Rico, Chile, Ecuador, India, Korea, Russia, Ukraine, Ireland, Great Britain, Bermuda, Canada, and New Zealand. In 1962, Altrusa International established the Altrusa International Foundation, which is dedicated to improving economic well-being and quality of life through a commitment to community to community services and literacy.

Altrusa International of Gainesville has a long history of support, encouragement, and leadership in community services and educational and vocational training opportunities for women.

As of October 2017, Altrusa has around 8,000 members in 313 clubs from 13 countries, including Canada, New Zealand, and the United States.



# Altrusa House

Altrusa House serves a distinctive adult population in the Gainesville community. Without the existence of Altrusa House, these adults would not have a safe place to gather and engage in rehabilitative activities.

Fundraising for the Altrusa House of Gainesville started with Altrusa International of Gainesville over an eight-year planning period. Thanks to Altrusa International, the City of Gainesville, and the Gainesville community, Altrusa House of Gainesville was able to raise more than \$400,000 and acquire the land required to build the facility. Altrusa House of Gainesville opened in October 1998, built upon the land donated by the City of Gainesville, alongside Green-tree Park.

While members are under Altrusa House's care, family members are able to return to work, run errands, or make appointments with the peace of mind that their loved one will receive quality care in a safe, stimulating environment. Our programs at Altrusa House are designed to enhance the overall well-being of our members.

Altrusa House is proud to cooperate with the Veterans Administration to serve a large and growing number of local veterans, providing them with the care and dignity they deserve. Altrusa House is also proud to work alongside Easterseals for 20 years to better the Gainesville community.

# Altrusa Club

## The Dreammakers



**Saturday, May 31, 1958:** The Altrusa Club of Gainesville is founded with a welcoming address by the president of the Altrusa Club of Jacksonville, sponsor of the new club.

**1963-64:** Altrusa Club of Gainesville begins its first service project, the booklet entitled "Gainesville Services and Activities for Retired Citizens"

**1972-73:** The club began a tradition of serving coffee to new citizens following their Naturalization Ceremonies at the U.S. District Courthouse.

**1976-77:** The Altrusa Club of Ocala was chartered under Altrusa Club of Gainesville's sponsorship. The Gainesville Club began a program at Santa Fe Community College to provide scholarships for women over age 25 who are seeking new career opportunities.

**1978-79:** Altrusa of Gainesville was instrumental in the sale of Camp Crystal and encouraging retention of the camp as part of the Alachua County educational program.

**1981-82:** The club established an Altrusa Club in Lake City. Our club was given an award by the local Voluntary Action Center for our continued support of Camp Crystal.

**1983-84:** Altrusa Club of Gainesville became the first organization from Alachua County to sponsor a booth at the Florida State Fair in Tampa

**1985-86:** A three year project began with the Gainesville Girls Club to supply \$5,000 for the capital building fund designated for the library.

**1991-92:** Altrusa Club of Gainesville sponsored a new club in Starke. The Alachua County Distinguished Service award was presented to our club for our ongoing Alachua County State Fair exhibit. Altrusa Club of Gainesville extended an Altrusa Club into Novorossiisk, Russia, a Gainesville Sister City. Our club was recognized by the Rotary Club and the Volunteer Center with the Volunteer of the Year Award for Outstanding Civic Club.

**1996-97:** The first annual Altrusa Read-In for Literacy brought volunteers to every public elementary school in Alachua County. The volunteers read a book to each kindergarten and first grade class and served as role models on the importance of literacy and the joys of reading.



## 20 years in partnership with Easterseals of Florida



**1997-98:** The Santa Fe Community College Scholarships for non-traditional students became an endowed fund, which continues today. The ASTRA Club, an offshoot of Altrusa for students, was established at the University of Florida.

**2004-05:** The membership approved the "Fashion Cents" proposal which was later renamed "Trading Closets" as a new club fundraiser.

**2005-06:** The first annual "Stuff the Bus" project kicked off with a \$5,000 check to the Alachua County School Board to start an emergency fund to provide assistance to the "Children at Promise" program for homeless school children.

**2007-08:** Altrusa Club of Gainesville celebrated its 50th anniversary with a luncheon attended by current and former members, community leaders, as well as Ouida Fay Paul, a charter member.

**2009-10:** Our club won the Alachua County "Work of Heart" Award as the Outstanding Civic Organization for positively impacting the community through volunteerism.

**2011-12:** Donna Johnson's term as International President rebranded Altrusa, marked by rolling out the new logo, and focusing on the concepts of flexibility, inclusion and clarity, and a strong push to expand our membership. As part of the membership goal, an evening meeting was added to provide a recruiting tool, helping those who were unable to attend luncheon meetings.

**2017-18:** The Altrusa Club of Gainesville Literacy Committee chose Terwilliger Elementary School as the focus of several literacy projects throughout the year. There are hopes this program will become adopted club wide after the project's first year.



## \$400,000 fundraised to build the Altrusa house



# Altrusa House

## The History of a Dream



**1991-92:** Altrusa Club of Gainesville's long term goal to open an adult day health care facility in Gainesville was established, with Donna Sorensen as project committee chair. Altrusa club of Gainesville raised more than \$60,000 toward the goal to establish Altrusa House as a future adult day health care center.

**1994-95:** An agreement was negotiated with the City of Gainesville to transfer the property at Greentree Park for the construction of Altrusa House.

**1995-96:** The ground-breaking ceremony for Altrusa House was held on November 19th, with construction scheduled to begin in 1997.

**1997-98:** In February club members attended an "Open House" for Altrusa House and a time capsule was sealed to be opened 20 years later.

**1998:** Altrusa House opened its doors to accept clients on October, 1998.

**2009-2010:** A gazebo was constructed at Altrusa House in honor of Donna Johnson who served as the 2009-2011 Altrusa International President. This was made possible by the efforts of Altrusa Club's Vocational Committee and a generous donation by Dot Brock of North Carolina.

**2015-16:** A granite monument for veterans was designed and commissioned to be installed in the gardens at Altrusa House. The dedication ceremony, attended by veterans, dignitaries, Altrusans, board members and Altrusa House clients, was a moving experience, especially to Altrusa House's veterans.

**2016-17:** Nancy Hult and Altrusa House Board of Trustees Emeritus member, Ray Jones, developed a Veteran's Oral History Project at Altrusa House. This project provides a written and video record for families to save and cherish. The histories are also submitted to the Library of Congress and to the Samuel Proctor Oral History Project at the University of Florida.





## Charter Members

Helen Alford  
Frances Bartoszek  
Ann Bromley  
Rosann Brooks  
Eleanor Browne  
Eleanor Crom  
Gracy Fordyce

Maxine Gaddum  
Clara Gehan  
Hulda Grobman  
Winifred Hyde  
Elise Jones  
Elsie Lackey  
Katherine Lewis

Edythe Nonemacher  
Ouida Fay Paul  
Nancy Rood  
Katherine Schaeffer  
Audrey Schumacher  
Dorothy Smith

## past presidents

Grace Fordyce  
Eleanor Body Browne  
Ouida Fay Paul  
Anita Sievers  
Ann Bromley Eastwood  
Clara Gehan  
Joan Lowe  
Georgia Herbert  
Madelyn Kafoglis Lockhart  
Elise Jones  
Charlotte Campbell  
Beth Dane  
Freddie Dobson  
Reta Matthews  
Ruth Sawyer

Nancy Hess  
Elizabeth Turlington  
Margaret Hass  
Ann Emerson  
Molly Springfield  
Mable Dorsey  
Esther Morgan  
Jane Sterrett  
Mary Ann Green  
Elizabeth Jones  
Sarah Brown  
Miriam Kimball  
Dorothy Maher  
Glenna Brashear

Linda Henderson  
Mary Britt  
Donna Johnson  
Norma Hoffman  
Patricia Kilby  
Elisabeth (Lisa) Renner  
Barbara Scott  
Elaine Carson Funk Spencer  
Linda K. Mealiea  
Judith Davis  
Lalitha Ganesh  
Carolyn Morgan  
Alise Moss Vetica  
Elaine Muther

Catherine Boyett  
Dixie Campen  
Myra Morgan  
Laura Gunter  
Kimberly Browne  
Nancy Kirkland  
Angela Perry  
Corrine Greenberg  
Mary Jean Davis  
Wendy Bice  
Bennye Alligood  
Sara Freeborn  
Joan Suchorski  
Karen Wishart



## Charter Members

Donna Sorensen, President  
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Lee Johnson, Secretary  
William Andrews  
Mitzi Austin

Susan Davis-McCarter  
Leilani Doty  
Polly Doughty  
Elaine Funk  
Alison Gerencser  
Linda Henderson

Norma Hoffman  
Lynn McGilvray-Saltzman  
Linda Mealiea  
Joy Nihil  
Barbara Scott

## past presidents

Donna Sorensen  
Justine Vaughen  
Barbara Scott  
Carolyn Morgan  
Marina Cecchini

Barbara Scott  
Elaine Muther  
Kimberly Browne  
Nancy Kirkland  
Margaret Fields

Wendy Bice  
Carol Meyer  
Fran VanDiver  
Nancy Hult



The Veteran's History Project (VHP) of the Library of Congress American Folklife Center collects and preserves the firsthand interviews and narratives of United States military veterans from World War I through the present. The Altrusa House of Gainesville is a proud contributor to the VHP and proudly supports veterans of the United State military.

Many of Altrusa House of Gainesville's veterans have contributed to VHP by participating in Altrusa House s Veteran's Oral History program. Altrusa House participates in the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program to share our veteran's oral histories with the Smathers Library and the Library of Congress. Altrusa House offers veterans an opportunity to record their story and share it with future generations. Participants in the program are guided through an interview process to make sharing their story an easy and comfortable experience.



1,000 individuals and families have walked through the doors of Altrusa House since 1998





Altrusa House strives to provide a stimulating environment for its members and works hard to provide therapeutic and inviting activities both indoors and out of doors. Altrusa House partnered with the Florida Master Gardeners to enhance the Altrusa House of Gainesville's surrounding gardens and grounds. Thanks to the work done by the Florida Master Gardeners, Altrusa House of Gainesville's members have beautiful spaces to observe nature and enjoy some fresh air. The City of Gainesville Beautification Board congratulated Altrusa House of Gainesville on 20 years of service and the recent enhancements to the facility and grounds by awarding Altrua House with a City Beautification Award in 2018.

\$430,000 contributed  
for Client Support since 1998







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Congratulations Altrusa & Altrusa House  
on your 60/20 Anniversaries!



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The Wyndham Garden congratulates  
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# Congratulations!

60th Anniversary  
Altrusa Club of Gainesville

20th Anniversary  
Altrusa House

Thank you for all you do for our Community

The  
**Ilene  
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Wishing Altrusa Club and Altrusa House  
many years filled with success!

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Your many years of service to the  
community are sincerely appreciated.



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Congratulations to Altrusa International  
of Gainesville on the 20th Anniversary  
of Altrusa House!

Thank you for all your motivation and encouragement you've  
given Altrusa House. May you continue to inspire us for many  
years to come!

Lee & Martha Johnson  
Altrusa House Pioneers

Westminster Presbyterian Church Family

**Total**  **Wine**  
& **MORE**



Thank you to everyone  
for your support!

# Altrusa International Scholarship Programs

As a two-time recipient of the Joey Robison Scholarship awarded through Altrusa District Three and referred by the Displaced Homemaker Program at Santa Fe College, I'm thankful for your significant contributions toward my education. Receiving this award helped with my books and class fees. The work you've accomplished is notable. I believe every student, individual, family, organization, and community you've impacted will in some way reciprocate the empowerment you display to others. Your work is changing the lives of many. Keep towering!

-Ayesha Williams

**"I found myself at a crossroad and I made a decision to get a nursing degree. Through support of my family, I was able to pay for my classes, but not able to pay for books or tests. My instructors told me about the Altrusa Santa Fe College Nursing Scholarship Program and I was selected to receive a scholarship that would pay for my state boards. I am now a nursing director at a local assisted living facility. If it had not been for the opportunity from the scholarship, I would not have experienced the success I have today!"**

**-Tamiria Long-Jones**



"Altrusa and the Santa Fe Displaced Homemaker Program have had a long partnership to assist women in the community. Altrusa has been steadfast in its support of providing access to education. Financial aid for these women is vital for them to become self-sufficient and independent.

Altrusa's women are mentors and offer opportunities to learn, grow, and network in the community.

The community work is essential for all of the organizations touched by our Altrusa of Gainesville."

-JoAnn Wilkes

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