



Altrusa Accent

June 2024

President's Note

Hello my fellow Altrusans!

I'm thrilled to deliver my first ever President's note to you all. As many of you know, I joined this club in 2022, sponsored by my late aunt Julie Lamb. I have had the honor of serving on your board as Director alongside Amanda Dey. Under the leadership of Chris DeVlieger and Donna Gable, Amanda and I had the distinct pleasure to witness the hard work and dedication of both these incredible women. They truly embody the core values of Altrusa and we are beyond grateful for them. As Chris and Donna pass the torch, I am thrilled to be inducted as your President with Amanda by my side as the new Vice President.

If you were unable to join us for our Charter Dinner and night of inductions, check out the photos below! Our club is still looking to grow our membership with dedicated individuals committed to making a difference in our community. Do you know someone who might be a great fit? Bring them to our next meeting to show them what we're all about.

We do hope to see you at our Annual picnic June 19th, which will also serve as our monthly meeting. We will convene at 5:30pm for a brief meeting and light dinner where we will update the club on important news and enjoy each other's company. For those interested, we will then head across the lot for Music at the Mansion at the Ellwood House Museum. Please bring your favorite lawn or camping chair and prepare to be outdoors; the event is held on the lawn of the Ellwood House from 6:30pm-8:30pm. The concert is featuring The PriSSillas and is free of charge. This year we will be spending more casual time together as friends so keep an eye out for some fun and exciting updates!

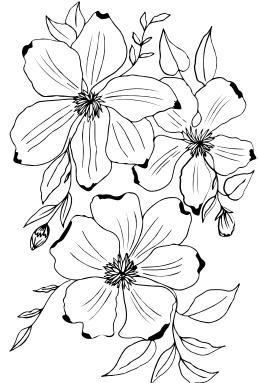
We will also be announcing committees that need your support in the coming weeks. As you explore the newsletter below and prepare for a new year of Altrusa DeKalb Co. IL, I challenge you all to think BIG about what your 2024-2025 Altrusa experience could look like! What are you passionate about? What are you interested in learning? Who is in your network that can support our mission? We welcome any ideas for fundraising events and service projects, networking opportunities and more!

It is a welcome privilege to lead this group to greatness as we continue to make a lasting impact across DeKalb County!

Altrusa love and light,

Asheli

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Asheli".



Club

Gatherings and Events

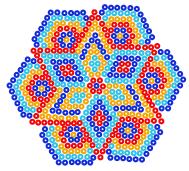
Wednesday, June 5th,
Board Meeting Via Zoom
at 7 pm

Wednesday, June 19th,
Annual Picnic and
Meeting at the 'Music at
the Mansion' event at
the Ellwood House at
5:30 pm

July Board Meeting TBD

Wednesday, July 17th,
Business Meeting at the
Hearthsider Room at the
Ellwood House at 6 pm





Member Spotlight

President Asheli Mann-Lofthouse

DeKalb



Tell us a bit about yourself!

- **What is something you're most proud of?** I am most proud of my children and my education. As a young parent, I didn't follow your typical path; however, my children are vibrant, brilliant and the absolute best. I also never really considered myself a successful learner – until I found out how I learned best! It took my 10 years as a returning college student, working full time, to obtain my first degree. I graduated summa cum laude at 3.98 with a BA in Anthropology in 2022 and continue to be a lifelong learner! Learning is one of my great passions.
- **Birth Month:** November
- **What would you consider your most unique trait?** I am extremely observant; wildly so. I pay attention to many details, big and small, that are often overlooked. My awareness has helped me learn and understand many things throughout my life, career and education!
- **What do you consider your most boring fact?** I collect rocks! I have a rather extensive collective of rocks, crystals and organic matter. Many are found and some I've paid quite a pretty penny for.
- **What is something you've always wanted to accomplish?** I would love to have the opportunity to participate on an archaeological dig! I love ancient civilizations and history. Personally finding material and information from people that lived hundreds and thousands of years ago would be so cool.
- **Tell us about your occupation or profession!** I call myself an Organizational Anthropologist and DEI Practitioner. I recently created a Nonprofit and serve as the President and CEO of CORE Collective NFP. My goal is to provide supports and resources to underserved communities and educate organizations on how they can do the same!

We want to know about your favorite things!

- **Altrusa Service Project:** I recently learned about the Fox Valley Club's project where they visit at risk youth at a local detention center. They make crafts and provide companionship, and help these children understand the benefits of giving back.
- **Book:** Finding Me: A Memoir by Viola Davis. This book was exceptional. It was relatable, riveting and REAL.
- **Movie:** I am a huge movie and TV buff! I don't know that I can even pick a favorite. I really enjoy series and like all genres. My favorites are probably dystopian, fantasy and realistic fiction.
- **Band:** I know many people say this.... But I truly listen to all types of music! Murder by Death is likely my favorite. They are a Midwest Bluegrass, Indie rock band. They incorporate string instruments, and the music is very powerful. I've seen them around 15 times!
- **Food:** I love PASTA! I think one of the main reasons is because you can do anything with it. With pasta alone you can make countless dishes!
- **Volunteer organization:** As a person of service, I love any organization that provides hands-on opportunities to participate! I want to be a part of the movement and getting my hands dirty to provide is my favorite thing. I love the Barb Food Mart, Feed My Starving Children and the American Cancer Society.

Follow me on social media!

Instagram: @asheli_mannhouse and @core_collectivenfp

LinkedIn: Asheli Mann-Lofthouse

Annual Charter Dinner and New Member Installation (x3!)

Our most recent business meeting was also our annual Charter Dinner, and we had the pleasure of not only installing this year's Board but installing 3 new members! We are so glad to have Jan Miller, Mary Love, and Calli Cantrell join us. We had our group photo taken before enjoying a wonderful dinner. Afterwards, Chris helped to install this year's Board of Directors. Congratulations to Asheli Mann-Lofthouse, who will be serving as President, Amanda Dey who will serve as Vice President and Secretary, Donna Gable who will serve as Treasurer and Past President, Carol Sturm who will serve as a director, as well as Emily Shugarman, who will also serve as a director. We are all so excited to see where this year takes us and what wonderful things we can accomplish together.





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To submit items for future editions, please contact us using the provided information.

Keep up with our club on Instagram @altrusadekalbcoil or on Facebook or LinkedIn.

