Ocean Breeze

Altrusa of San Luis Obispo County

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026



President
Cici Wynn

Vice President
Connie Wood

Secretary
Debby Volz

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Gayle Harbert

Directors
Alana Reynolds
Donna Cettolin

Newsletter Editor
Gayle Turner

Meetings 2nd Tuesdays
of each month.
Social at 5:00 pm.
Meeting at 5:30 pm.
Blacklake Community Rm.
498 Colonial Place
Nipomo, CA 93444

President's Message

Fall is one of my favorite seasons, along with Spring. I love the changing weather, beautiful colors and the many events that keep us engaged here on the Central Coast and within Altrusa.

This year, as we have done for the last several years, we're donating our time and helping hands to the 5 Cities Homeless Coalition and their "Empty Bowls" fundraiser. We'll host painting parties that are open to the public and will paint over 80 ceramic bowls. We also will help on the day of the event to assist attendees to select a bowl to be filled with delicious soup donated by local restaurants and served by local celebrities.

Along with all our regular activities, we are full speed ahead with preparations for the upcoming Celebration of Trees. We are soliciting donations of trees and vignettes, items for the Silent and Live Auctions, program ads and special donations for the Altrusa Tree. Monetary donations are also, of course, greatly appreciated. There is much to do! Schedules are being developed , centerpieces are being created, food and beverage plans are being finalized, and room arrangements and volunteer assignments are coming together. It's a very busy time for all our members, but it's also an exciting one.

All of this hard work will allow us to continue doing what Altrusa does best – helping our community. We are grateful for the enthusiasm, time, and generosity of our members and supporters who make these efforts possible.

Altrusa International of San Luis Obispo County, Inc.
P.O. Box 1202, Pismo Beach, CA 93449

altrusaslocounty.org
altrusa.sloco@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook and Instagram
@ Altrusa of San Luis Obispo County

UPCOMING ALTRUSA EVENTS

Thursday, October 1	11 am-1 pm	5 Cities Homeless Empty Bowls Fundraiser
Saturday, October 3	10 am-12 pm	Fall Workshop (A.I.) – Zoom (see flyer, pg.8)
Tuesday, October 6	5:00 pm	COT Meeting (Now begin weekly meetings)
Tuesday, October 13	5:30 pm	Business Meeting (5:00 pm social time)
Saturday, October 10		Make-a-Difference Day
Tuesday, October 20	5:00 pm	COT Meeting
Friday, October 23	1:30-4 pm	Crafting at Oceano Library (open to the public)
Tuesday, October 27	5:00 pm	COT Meeting
Friday, October 30	5 – 8 pm	Grover Beach Trunk-or-Treat (16th & Mentone) (a Rotary Club public event)
Weds., November 4	**5:00 pm**	**COT Meeting – Note day of week change.**
Weds., November 10	5:30 pm	Business Meeting (5:00 pm social time)
November 12 -14	TBD	Event setup
November 14	5 - 9 pm	***Celebration of Trees –*** So. County Regional Ctr.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Cambria Scarecrow Festival

The Cambria Scarecrow Festival features hundreds of scarecrows throughout Cambria, San Simeon and Harmony from **Oct. 1 - 31.** Created by local youth and businesses, you'll get a festive wallop of local color just by taking a spin around the area.

Harvest Wine Month in Paso Wine Country – October 1-31, 2026

The entire month of October is Harvest Wine Month. The month-long celebration will feature individual experiences at area wineries, including specialty tours, winemaker dinners, grape stomps, extended tasting room hours, music events and more.

Central Coast Railroad Festival

The annual Central Coast Railroad Festival, is hosted **Oct. 2-4** throughout the region. Marvel at these spectacular feats of engineering with exhibits at the SLO Railroad Museum, Oceano Depot, Paso Robles Pioneer Museum, and Dana Adobe, among other SLO CAL locales.

Octoberfest at Madonna

If you're looking for a taste of SLO CAL's diverse brews paired with authentic German grub, this **Oct. 3rd event held from 1-6 p.m.** at the Alex Madonna Expo Center should be on your fall itinerary. Loosen up with live music, stein hoisting, hula hooping, fun contests, prizes and more.

Boo-tanical Garden Free Family Day – October 18, 10-2. Bring kids in costume for a trick-or-treat scavenger hunt and nature crafts at San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden.

Note: Please check all events prior to going for times and locations or in case of changes.

Community Service

ALTRUSA OF SLO COUNTY IS SERVING OUR COMMUNITY!

Paint Parties - One, Two, Three...Let's Go! We had a GREAT time getting our community involved in helping us paint 84 bowls to be donated to 5CHC Empty Bowls fundraiser in October. Altrusa purchased the bowls, paints & supplies and sponsored 3 Paint Parties, 5CHC provided overcoat glaze, and adults and children in 5-Cities area provided their artistry...amazing talent and it was FUN!

Party #1 at Shell Beach Vet's Hall had approximately 30 adults participating (including some Altrusans). Several had helped paint bowls in prior years – and shout out to Grover Beach Rotary's support!
Party #2 at Oceano Library had over 30 young artists (along with some parents and GB Rotarians) - thank goodness the library has air-conditioning!
Party #3 took place in Margaret's garage in Nipomo. Friends and Altrusans gathered to paint the final 12 bowls.

Koni delivered our bowls to Allan Hancock College, who is partnering with 5CHC to fire all bowls donated by the public. Can't wait to see how beautiful these bowls turn out!

UPCOMING EVENTS - Do you want to help?

- **Empty Bowls** - October 1st from 10am-2pm at St. Patrick's Church.
  Altrusans will be placing bowls on tables & monitoring during event, helping with raffle tickets sales and re-boxing bowls/clean-up. For $25, you can also select a beautiful bowl and taste soups donated by local restaurants.
- **Oceano Library Fall Kids' Craft** - October 23rd - 1:30 set-up, event 2-4:30pm.
  We'll be painting Fall scenes or completing Fall coloring pages. The library is celebrating their 4th anniversary at their new site!
- **Oceano Christmas Craft Day** - December 2nd - 1:30 set-up, event 2-4:30pm.
  Kids will make a Candy Train decoration to take home (if they don't eat it!).





Top left:
Artists at the
Grover Beach Vets Hall

Top right:
Getting ready to begin
at the Oceano Library





Bottom left:
Artists at the
Oceano Library

Bottom right:
Sample of a painted bowl
at the Oceano Library



Book Stamping Party #1

This was a book stamping party at Jo-Anne Zubiri's home in early August.

Pictured, left-to right are: Rané Aguilar, Gayle Harbert, Jo-Anne Zubiri, Alana Reynolds, Koni Shaff and Carol Somerville.





Book Stamping Party #2

Another book stamping party was held at Connie Wood's home on August 15th. For all books that Altrusa donates, we put a stamp inside the book that lets the reader or new owner of the book know it is a gift from Altrusa.





Stuff the Bus

Altrusa supported United Way's "Stuff the Bus" campaign on August 8. This is the 4th year we've participated in this event, which was very successful, providing school supplies for under-privileged children in San Luis Obispo county. Pictured: Koni Shaff and Kimberly Lewis.





Food Rescue

On September 15, we completed a food rescue pickup from Berry Man in San Luis Obispo and delivered the donation to New Life. Once there, the food was sorted and distributed among four churches and six local ministries to support community members in need.

In total, **780 pounds** of food were rescued and shared across these organizations, helping extend valuable resources to multiple outreach efforts throughout the area.





Membership



Koni Shaff, Ann Stump, and Kimberly Lewis.



Member sponsors pin new members.



Kimberly Lewis, Cici Wynn, and Ann Stump selecting a book.

Membership Orientation

On September 8th, April Smith and Robin White conducted an orientation for our two newest members, Ann Stump and Kimberly Lewis. Lots of important and useful information was given and questions answered.

After the orientation, and during the regular business meeting, we initiated Ann and Kimberly. Koni Shaff performed the initiation, using a "Books" theme. This fitted perfectly with Altrusa's focus on Literacy. Koni had several wrapped books that all members could pick from... Welcome Ann and Kimberly!

Literacy Challenge

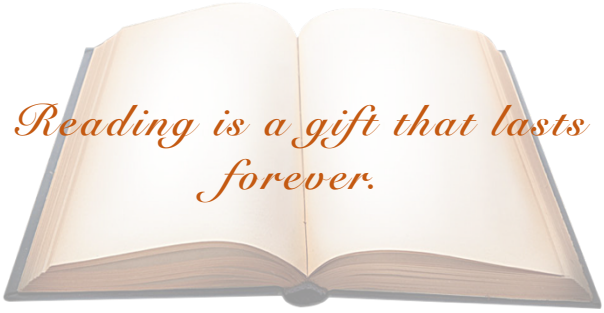
In August, Altrusa International President Christine DeVileger unveiled the new Literacy Challenge. All clubs are being asked to donate at least one book per member between September 1st through November.

At our September 8th business meeting, we met the challenge by collecting over 25 books!



Foundation Board 2026-2027

President..... Robin White
Vice President..... Jo-Anne Zubiri
Secretary..... Koni Shaff
Treasurer..... Sally Dunbar
Director..... Edna Tinsley
Director..... Margaret Walker




ALTRUSA International
Leading to a Better Community
District Eleven
Fall Workshop
Join Us !
Mentorship & AI
Building Relationships,
Embracing Innovation
October 3, 2026
10:00-12:00 PM
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81341394997?pwd=8ggLXrvBjtRJ9rbDPGFNXhZBZVObNq.1
Meeting ID: 813 4139 4997
Passcode: 413424

Tickets on Sale Now!



Celebration of TREES

FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON

Saturday, Nov. 14, 2026

South County Regional Center,
800 W. Branch St., Arroyo Grande, CA

https://altrusaslocounty.org