



# Ocean Breeze

## Altrusa of San Luis Obispo County

May 2026

### Altrusa International of San Luis Obispo County

#### Co-Presidents

Cici Wynn & Robin White

#### Vice President

Becky Lorenzo

#### Secretary

Margaret Walker

#### Treasurer

Raine Ross

#### Director

Edna Tinsley

#### Newsletter Editor

Beth Lorenzo

Meetings 2nd Tuesdays  
of each month  
Social at 5:00  
Meeting at 5:30

Altrusa International of San Luis Obispo County, Inc.

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[altrusa.sloco@gmail.com](mailto:altrusa.sloco@gmail.com)

[altrusasloco.org](http://altrusasloco.org)

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

### President's Message:

Just as April showers bring May flowers, May brings us to a close of our fiscal year. But that doesn't mean we're idle. There is much happening this month.



Several members will be attending the Annual District Eleven Conference in Avondale, AZ, May 1-3. The conference will have a focus on Service. Because our Literacy committee has done such a fabulous job of collecting and stamping books, (almost 3000!!), we will be able to donate quite a few to the Conference Service Project - Migrant Head Start.

We are pleased to be partnering again with the Oceano Elks Club & the Frosty Memorial Volunteer Scholarship (in memory of Connie Wood's dad) to provide scholarships to deserving high school seniors. The awards will be presented at the Oceano Elks Club on May 6. Altrusa is awarding three \$1000 and two \$500 scholarships.

As we have for several years, we will again be supporting Camp AG Jamboree on May 17 by providing kids books and a hands-on experience with planting seedlings. It's always a hit!

This will be our final joint message as Co-Presidents, because on May 24, a new Board will be installed at Ventana Grill (12:30pm). Two new members will also be initiated at that time; Rane Aguilar and Victoria Ghilarducci.

With that being said, we'd like to thank our current Board, Becky Lorenzo, Vice President; Margaret Walker, Secretary; Raine Ross, Treasurer; Edna Tinsley, Director; and Beth Lorenzo, Immediate Past President for their dedication and service to our club this past year. Also, a big thank you to the Chairs of the Club committees, without who's leadership, **nothing** would get accomplished!

Service: Koni Shaff  
Literacy: Beth Lorenzo & Jo-Anne Zubiri (Co)  
Communication/Social Media: Becky Lorenzo  
Newsletter: Beth Lorenzo  
Celebration of Trees 2025: Beth Lorenzo  
Membership: April Smith

We are all familiar with the phrase "It is not enough to be good; Altrusa must be good for something". We believe we've achieved that this past year with our service to our community.

In the Spirit of Altrusa,  
Cici & Robin



# Upcoming EVENTS

- May 5 **Cinco de Mayo**
- May 10 **Mother's Day**
- May 17 **Camp AG Jamboree**  
11:00am - 4:00pm

Save the Date - Oceano Library Crafts Day is on Thursday, June 11th, 3-4pm



## MEMBER MEETINGS

May 12 - 5:30pm (5:00 Social)

Business Meeting  
Blacklake Community Room

May 24 - 12:30 pm New Board Installation & Member Initiation @ Ventana Grill PB

May 28 - 5:30pm COT Meeting@Clubhouse at Rancho del Arroyo Mobile Home Park



## May Birthdays

- Gayle Harbert May 6
- Koni Shaff May 17
- Robin White May 20
- Becky Lorenzo May 21



February  
Total Service  
Hours by our  
members

248

COMMUNITY

## MAY REMINDERS

Every day can be the beginning of something beautiful

You are capable of blooming like May flowers

Celebrate your wins, big or small

There are days you harvest and days you plant the seeds

Embrace your uniqueness and let your light shine

OurMindfulLife.com

## Parent Participation Learning Pods - First 5

### Focus on Literacy:

Thanks to our club's foundation, we were able to provide 58 book bags filled with new books that focused on yoga empowerment, music/movement, and sensory play for South County Youth Coalition.



### Books, Books, Books!

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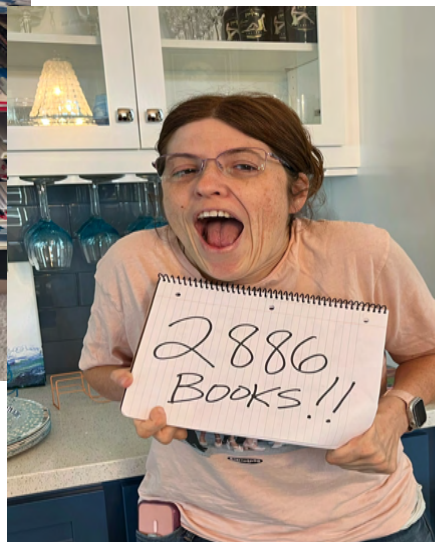


Pictured from left to right, members Beth Lorenzo, Lisa Guy, Edna Tinsley, Carol Somerville, Donna Cettolin, and Koni Shaff stamped and counted new and gently used children's books that were donated by Bishop's Peak Elementary in SLO.

We would like to thank 3 community volunteers, Lisa M. for lifting and moving heavy boxes of books, and for Kathy and Honey for sorting hundreds of books.

### Focus on Literacy:

On behalf of our organization, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Bishop's Peak Elementary for your generous donation of children's books. Your thoughtful contribution will make a meaningful difference in the lives of young readers by expanding access to stories, knowledge, and imagination.



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More children will have the opportunity to discover the joy of reading, build essential literacy skills, and grow in confidence as learners.

- **Book Donations:**

We are always looking for new and used children's books. These books would then be distributed to locations within our community. Let us know if you can help.

- **Book Distributions:**

Continued distributing new children's books to Oceano CHC and used children's books, as well as, used adult books to New Life U-Pick Pantry.

- Continued distributing new and used adult books to community (5CHC, Prado shelter, Veterans Clinics, Senior Convalescent Homes, Grover Beach Library or Friends of the Library).

- **Recommendations/Issues to be considered:**

Meeting with local libraries and schools to discuss future projects (book readings/give-away, craft projects)

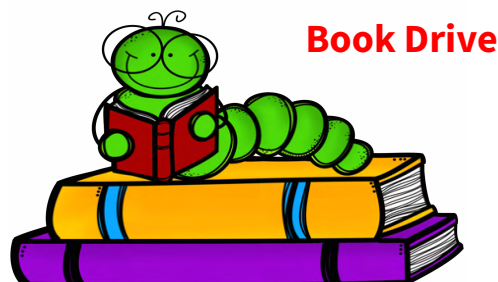
**WE DID IT!!! WE MET OUR GOAL AND EVEN WENT OVER BY 586 BOOKS! THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS**



**Reading is a gift that lasts forever. We have distributed approximately 5586 books to children in our community since July 1, 2025. With your help, we reached our goal of 5000 books.**

**Here is the link to our Amazon Wishlist. Let's share the joy of stories all year long.**

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/3BQB768KHG5L7>



## Focus on Service:

Service is the very first thing that stood out to me when I first heard about Altrusa. Time and time again, I heard people say, “The Altrusa gals will help,” and it made me curious. Who was this group of women who so willingly showed up to support others? Service has always been close to my heart, so I knew I wanted to learn more about these incredible “gals.”

When the opportunity came to join Altrusa, I didn't hesitate—I jumped at it. From the very beginning, I was drawn in by the warmth, kindness, and genuine joy these women radiated while serving others. There's something truly special about people who find happiness in giving, and I knew right away I had found a place where I belonged.

Since joining, I have loved getting to know these amazing women (Clint will come later) and working alongside them on as many service projects as I can. Each project brings its own purpose, its own impact, and its own moments that stay with you long after the day is done.

One project that especially touched my heart was the 5CHC Empty Bowls event. Before this, I had never experienced anything like it, and now it holds such a special place for me. It's incredible to see how many moving parts come together—so many hands, so much teamwork, all to create something meaningful. While I helped in a few areas, the most powerful moment for me was watching people choose their bowls. They took their time, carefully and thoughtfully searching for the one that felt just right. Seeing their smiles when they found their perfect treasure filled my heart to overflowing. Knowing that their purchase would help support 5CHC's mission made those moments even more meaningful.

Why do I want to participate in service projects? Because service connects us. It reminds us that we all have something to give, no matter how big or small. It brings joy not only to those receiving help, but to those giving it as well. It allows me to be part of something bigger than myself—a community of people who care, who show up, and who make a difference.

And that is a feeling I never want to live without.

**Donna Cettolin**



**Focus on Literacy:**

For years now I've often thought about the transformative nature of books. . . knowledge is power, and the ability to read competently and have access to books is one of the greatest gifts we can give to our children.

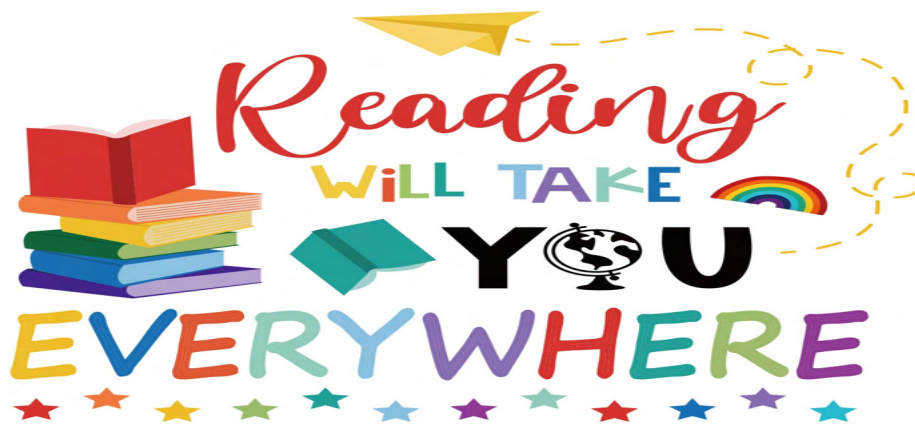
In this age of technology, physical books are becoming a thing of the past, and reading anything other than short social media messages is fading away as well. One of the things which drew me to Altrusa, was the mission of promoting literacy in our community. Beth Lorenzo, our Literacy Chair, understands the importance of books and reading, as she's raised three children and worked many years as a teacher.

It's been such a joy to be a part of the book cart program, bringing beautiful new book carts to a number of local food pantries and clinics, and watching the excitement of the staff and children as the carts are filled with colorful and interesting children's books!

A teacher from Bishop's Peak Elementary reached out to me a couple of weeks ago to say that part of their campus was being demolished and boxes and boxes of books were being thrown in the dumpster. Three car loads of books later (all delivered to Beth's dining room and garage), the Bishop's Peak books were saved and will soon be moving out into the community where they can work their magic.

I am so grateful to be a part of Altrusa, and our fabulous Literacy Committee!!!

Lisa Guy





## Club Committees



We have several service projects coming up, as well as, some new ones that we will be exploring in the next few months. We are always looking for volunteers to help us. If interested, email us at altrusa.sloco@gmail.com, message us on our Facebook page, or talk to one of our Altrusa members.



Our Committee is always looking for new service projects to partner with in our community.

### Communication

- **Email Marketing:** Continue to subscribe friends/family to MailChimp.
- **Social Media:** Follow us for updates on Facebook @altrusa.sloco and Instagram @altrusaofslocounty.
- **Club Website:** Your source for updates on what we're doing in the community and how you can help.
- **Membership:** Thank you to those of you that attended our St. Patrick's Bunco Party on March 10th.
- **ASTRA:** Follow-up with committee to discuss and plan to contact school staff at Lopez HS and possibly reaching out to other schools about promoting an ASTRA Club.

### Literacy

Here are some ways to celebrate words, books, and reading this month -

### May 2026

Get Caught Reading Month	4 - National Black Authors Day
Mystery Month	5 - National Cartoonists Day
National Share a Story Month	5-11 - Children's Book Week (also November 3-9)
Latino Book Month	7 - Make a Book Day
1 - Mother Goose Day	12 - Limerick Day
2 - International Harry Potter Day	16 - National Biographer's Day
2 - Free Comic Book Day	22 - Sherlock Holmes Day
3 - World Press Freedom Day	31 - National Speak in Complete Sentences Day



## Scholarship Review Committee

Our Scholarship Review Committee had the privilege of reviewing applications from many remarkable local high school seniors. The talent, leadership, and dedication shown by these students made the decision incredibly difficult. After much thoughtful discussion, the committee was able to select three deserving recipients for the Altrusa Leadership Scholarship program. The committee also recommended scholarships for two Lopez HS students.



## FOUNDATION BOARD FOR 2025-2026

President - Beth Lorenzo  
Vice President - Jo-Anne Zubiri  
Secretary - Koni Shaff  
Treasurer - Sally Dunbar  
Director - Becky Lorenzo  
Past President - Judy Sorensen



## Reminder on navigating the web...

Where can you find more information about District Eleven?  
[districteleven.altrusa.org](http://districteleven.altrusa.org)

Where can you find more information about Altrusa International?  
[altrusa.org](http://altrusa.org)



Coming up this month...



**3rd Annual**  
**Strawberries through Grover Beach Festival**

**May 17, 2025 • 11 am - 6 pm**  
**16th Street Park in Grover Beach**

**LOCAL CRAFT & FOOD VENDORS • KIDS' ZONE STRAWBERRY TREATS • AND MORE!**

**LIVE MUSIC ALL DAY**  
 BOMB CYCLONE UNIT • B & THE HIVE  
 BIG SIERRA • SOUL FYAH IN DA MIX  
 WITH RAS DANNY'S REGGAE ALL STARS

**FEATURING OKUI FARMS STRAWBERRIES!**

**POURING MANROCK BREWING**

**KICK OFF PARTY!**  
 Friday, May 16 • 4-7 pm  
 at Grover Station Grill  
 Enjoy a rocking evening with live music by Seams and The Wavebreakers free and open to the public.



You're Invited to the Camp Arroyo Grande Jamboree! Join us for a fun-filled Community Open House at Camp Arroyo Grande — a day to explore, connect, and celebrate all the amazing things happening in our community!

**Browse & Shop**  
 Discover unique, handcrafted goods from local vendors — perfect for gifts or something special just for you. Featured vendors include A Dog's Life, Fox and Fern, Barn Boy Furniture and more.

**Meet Local Organizations**  
 Connect with inspiring groups like Altrusa, Turtle & Tortoise Rescue, 4-H, Girl Scouts, the AGHS Robotics Club, and many more!

**Free Lunch!**  
 Thanks to the 5 Cities Men's Club, enjoy a FREE hot dog lunch served from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM (while supplies last).

**Live Music**  
 Get ready for an unforgettable afternoon of live music at the Camp Arroyo Grande Jamboree featuring the high-energy sounds of Brass Mash—a crowd favorite known for their bold brass, funky rhythms, and dance-worthy grooves!

Bring your friends, bring your family, and come experience the beauty and community spirit of Camp Arroyo Grande. Whether you're curious about what we offer or just looking for a great day out — this is the place to be!  
 Camp Arroyo Grande  
 Sunday, May 17, 2026  
 11am – 4pm  
 We can't wait to see you there!



**Open the blue door to Great Summers.**

Our Summer Camp provides a fun, safe, and enriching environment where youth can learn, grow, and thrive. The program features daily activities, exciting weekly field trips, and inspiring guest speakers from various fields.

June 8 - August 7, 2026  
 Monday - Friday 7:00am-6:00pm  
 Open to all current Tk-6th Graders

Camp will be at:  
 Oceano Elementary  
 1851 17th Street, Oceano  
 805-481-7399  
 MyClubHub@bgcslo.org

Online Enrollment Opens  
**April 14 @ 10am**  
 bgcslo.org/breakcamps

Join the Club for only  
**\$150.**  
 per week