A WORD FROM OUR GOVERNOR – CALL TO CONFERENCE
By Germaine Vonderhaar-
District Five Governor
Welcome to our spring 2016 edition and our Call to Conference District Five Newsletter. The Mansfield members are very busy planning “The Great Escape” – the theme for our 2016 District Conference. I hope your calendars are marked for Friday, April 22 through Sunday, April 24, 2016. The weekend will be informative with all the workshops that are being planned. We will also have a fun filled event at the Ohio State Reformatory on Saturday for our luncheon as well as many other interesting activities.

Our International President Elect, Leanne Milligan, will join us at our Conference as our International Representative. Along with her many responsibilities as President Elect, she is the Chair for the Centenary Committee that will be “heading up” the celebration plans for Altrusa’s 100 Anniversary at the International Convention in 2017. There will be more information to come from this Committee.

I also want to thank all of the clubs that submitted their information for the annual report. The clubs that will be receiving their “Distinguished Club” patches are Akron, Branch County, Dayton, Mansfield and Troy.

I hope to see many of our Altrusa members along with this year’s new Altrusa members at our District Five Conference.

Mansfield Service Project – Source: Richland SOURCE
Reading can be, and is supposed to be fun. That was the message Altrusa International Inc. of Mansfield and the Dewald Center wanted to convey to a group of youngsters.

The two local organizations sponsored a Family Literacy Fun morning that included reading activities and a craft session.

"It's one of the neatest things we've ever done," said Barbara Huston, an Altrusa member. "We put on a skit of the Big Bad Wolf and worked crafts. It was such a fulfilling day."

According to its website, Altrusa International of Mansfield is known within the community for its hands-on approach to community service. One of the primary service projects is Tools-For-Schools. In this instance, the value of reading is a project the Dewald Center is trying to emphasize.

"There were 12 Altrusa members there to assist Brenda Nelson (Dewald Community Center Director) with the program, encouraging them to read more," Huston said.
After the skit, the elementary-age youngsters worked on a craft that turned a pumpkin into one of the book characters. The final session was creating an origami bookmark using a monster theme.

Altrusa also presented a $400 check to Nelson in support of the Dewald Center's goal of staging two more reading programs in 2016.

According to its website, the Dewald Community Center at The Salvation Army is preparing the way in a faith-based Christian environment for individuals of all ages to make positive life choices through the development of quality relationships. It is located at 47 South Main Street, Mansfield.

Altrusa is an international organization (founded in 1917) of business and professional leaders who volunteer their energies and expertise in projects dedicated to betterment of their community, its website states. Membership in Altrusa International, Inc. is an honor and granted by invitation only from a club based in the local community. Locally, there are 48 members listed at the Mansfield chapter of Altrusa website. Mansfield is located in Altrusa's District Five, which includes Ohio and Michigan.

International Foundation Grant Given!
The Altrusa International Foundation has approved a $2000 grant to Altrusa International of Mansfield, Ohio; Inc. Altrusans know that education transforms lives. According to the club, the economic climate in Richland County has made drastic changes in numerous lives leaving many without a regular dwelling and causing the children to fall behind in school. If the children move, they do not have the necessary tools they need for successful learning in the classroom. International has approved the project "Tools for Schools backpacks - Lifting up Homeless Students" thereby helping to reach the goal: Education - Elevation – Transformation, by improving the quality of their lives in the Mansfield community.

Pictured are Laura Anliker, Co-Chair for Community Service and the grant writer, presenting the check to Barbara Huston, President, Altrusa International of Mansfield, Ohio.

UPDATE ON DOROTHY
Dorothy Renegar, previous District Five Secretary, is now in Spectrum Health-Butterwork Hospital undergoing a bone marrow transplant and will be there for the next 30 days since her immunity has been reduced with the chemo treatments.

If you wish to send her a card or two please send to her home address: 261 Deer Run, Ada, MI 49301 as cards cannot be sent to her while in the hospital.

Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.
Member Spotlight!

Source: Altrusa International of Hamilton, OH

Janet Miller was born in Pittsburgh, Pa, the eldest of two siblings. For 18 years, I lived there until a move to college in Erie Pa. After graduating from high school in Pittsburgh, I attended Edinboro University in Erie, Pa. That is where I met my husband, John, and then it was a whirlwind of different domiciles: living in Allen, Texas; Denver, Colorado; Kokomo, Indiana; and finally Hamilton Ohio. We did not stay there long. We moved to Trenton Ohio, where we had a mini farm, then on to West Chester, Ohio and finally Liberty Township, where we have resided for the past 17 years. I completed my BA at Indiana Wesleyan University and obtained a Master’s degree in Health Planning and Administration at the school of Design, Architecture and Planning at the University of Cincinnati. I started my career at Grissom Air Force Base in Civilian Personnel. I transferred to the Social Security Administration where I had a wonderful career for 41 years. It was there I developed an affinity for helping the elderly which led to a six-year stint on the Board of Directors of Council on Aging, where I was president for two years. After that, I moved on to another six-year stint on Butler County Elderly Services Board. My immediate family is my husband of 47 years, and three Keeshonden, Hunter, Holly and our show boy, Harry. While all three are AKC registered, it is only in the last year that I have started to show Harry in conformation. My passion was and is animals, and I volunteer for Keeshond Rescue Club and belong to Ohio Buckeye Keeshond Club. I also did cat rescue and at one time sheltered as many as 32 cats on the mini farm in Trenton. When I need to reflect, I turn to my garden. There I find peace and beauty, with over 500 different cultivars of daylilies. When not gardening, I collect Tiffin Glass and belong to Tiffin Glass Museum and Tiffin Glass Collectors Club. During the
holidays, I put up 32 trees of various sizes in the house at last count, all with lights. It takes three days to decorate. I enjoy reading the series of books by Patricia Cornwell about Kay Scarpetta, a Medical Examiner. My husband and I enjoy going anywhere in Virginia. It is a state filled with History, and we also enjoy Virginia Beach, where we can just watch the surf or do some fishing. I became an Altrusian in 2011 through Bobbi Hesselgrave. The opportunity to help others, especially seniors and animals, is what appealed to me. The best part about the club is the members. When working or even going to dog shows, there is always tension and competitiveness. At the club, it is pure camaraderie and it doesn’t get any better than that!

**Add an Altrusian Day-Month**

*Source: International Altrusian February 2012*

Add an Altrusian Month is rapidly approaching! Add an Altrusian Day was formerly held during one day in January every year, but was moved to the month of April as a part of the 2010-2015 Long Range Strategic Plan. No longer just one day, an entire month can now be geared towards bringing in new members and promoting your club. Hopefully your club is currently making plans to host membership drives, or hold other membership recruitment events during April.

You might be thinking that 40 sounds like too many, but typically, only half the guests you invite will be able to attend the event, so it’s important to invite more than you anticipate. Many factors affect a person’s ability to attend an event, so don’t be disappointed if certain people aren’t able to participate—they might want to the next time!

**Altrusa of Marion, OH**

Altrusa International Inc. of Marion, Ohio was recently involved in two donations to the Boys & Girls Club of Marion. Members collected or handmade 64 pairs of gloves, 70 hats, 3 scarves, 3 headbands and 1 hat/scarf/mitten set. They were presented to Maggie Breeding and Sean Dewitt on Thursday, December 10th, and will be distributed through the rest of the winter season to members of the Club.

Ken Belk and nearly a dozen Altrusa Members were on hand Thursday to donate 35 age appropriate K through 8th grade books to the Boys & Girls Club. Ken was there to represent Altrusan Margaret Lee (recently deceased) who made the donation in memory of her sister-in-law, Maryellen Ryan Lee Hiti. The 35 books donated by the Altrusa Foundation of Marion will be given as a reward to children working on the STRIDE program in the BG Club computer lab. The total donation of books has a value of nearly $1000.

*Pictured are (front row) Diane Cooper with her grand-daughter, Keilana; Shelley Rush; Ken Belk, representing Peggy Lee; Representative from Boys & Girls Club; Roselyn Fullmer; Phyllis Hendrix. (Back row) Lynda Williams; Karen Ruth; Grace Teel, Norma Castanien.*
Celebrating a Centenary of Service
By Karyn Evans, Governor-Elect
President Silvia Silverman has appointed a Centenary Committee who has been charged with coordinating Altrusa’s 100th Birthday celebrations. April 11, 2017 is a special day and we are hoping that clubs and districts will look at ways that Altrusans around the world can celebrate this achievement. Each district has a representative on the committee, which is chaired by President Elect Leanne Milligan. The District Five representative is Karyn Evans, Governor-Elect.

The Centenary Committee members are working on a tool kit with resources that clubs and districts can use. Work is underway on developing a range of anniversary merchandise, as well as a coffee table book celebrating 100 years of service. The committee does need your help! If anyone has graphic design, copy writing, or editing skills and would like to help with the coffee table book and other documents, please let our Governor know.

Also, the committee is seeking photos/documents celebrating service and events from the past 100 years that could be included in the coffee table book or other promotional materials for the tool kit. If you would like to submit something, please email it to kevans@sscc.edu. Submissions need to be made electronically with the highest resolution that you can get for photos, scanned photos/documents. We would like you to keep the originals.

The committee is also collating information on Altrusans who have achieved outstanding recognition outside of Altrusa, in their professions and communities. As part of the celebrations, we would like to recognize these Altrusa leaders. If you have a brief bio/photo on current and past Altrusans that we could recognize, please also forward these to kevans@sscc.edu.

At Conference, we will be presenting an update on the Centenary Plans and also will be providing updates in future issues for the DSB. So now is the time to start planning. What is your club going to do? Let me know so that we can include your event on the Centenary Celebration Calendar.

SERVICE PROJECT FOR NEWBORNS!
By Linda Geise
The Altrusa Club of Chillicothe is proud to announce that we provide a baby book (between 1000-1100 books annually) to each newborn’s family in Ross County! We have been able to provide an ABC or nursery rhyme book for many years to our newborns, but for the last seven years we have added a hand-sewn (using awls and heavy duty thread) tag board book with ideas for how to relate to your babies when you introduce them to the world.

Our committee has also acquired help from my husband as he does our shopping (Ollies) and often delivers the books to the hospital nursery for Altrusa.
We had to switch to discounted books when prices for paperbacks reached $3-$5 at our previous sources. Our club voted to create a partnership with the Director of Jobs and Family Services to create a unique addition to our Newborn Books Literacy and Service Project.

The additional hand-sewn tag-board book (using awls and heavy duty thread) is loaded with ideas for how to relate to your babies when you introduce them to the world. Many of the rhymes and activities are so easy and clever that we felt they might actually be used (even in the hectic and haziness and fatigue of the first few months) with new parents. Here are a couple of suggested activities:

**FEEL THE BREEZE** Use a straw or toilet paper tube to slowly blow air onto different parts of your child’s body. Does he enjoy the unexpected sensations? This helps your child learn to recognize gentle touch.

**BATH TIME SPLASH** Place water toys – such as a small sponge, cup or floating objects – in the tub with your child. Bath time will become play time as he uses the objects to scoop, pour, and catch. Expect her to discover the fun of splashing, too! Here is a poem you can say: “When I’m in the tub, my hand is a fish. See it wiggle, wiggle, wiggle, Swish, swish, swish!”

Job and Family Services provided the cloth and ribbons so that we could also sew drawstring bags at several of our meetings each year. We divided into three groups – cutting and sewing the bags, threading the drawstrings, and making the tag-board booklets. We had fun creating this unique presentation and were able to get our books (with identifying Altrusa sticker labels) to every baby born in Adena Regional Medical Center Hospital in Ross County on our severely limited budget of $500.

Inside each Peek-a-Boo bag are three items: a newborn book, a small stuffed animal, and the hand-sewn ideas' booklets.

We have continued our project by delivering about 600 books on Make-a-Difference Day for Oct. 2015. I also have that many books in my basement ready to be labeled and delivered this February 2016. The photos show stickers we used, members working on labeling and me delivering 600 books on Make-a-Difference Day of 2014.

**From the Archives**

In 186 clubs, 4,528 members celebrated Altrusa’s Silver Anniversary in 1942, during Altrusa’s Birthday Week. On April 11th, from dawn to sunset, clubs sent anniversary telegrams, each sending personal club greetings to a preassigned club. The telegrams began in the East and ended in the West, forming a complete circle of Altrusa friendship at day’s end. Altrusa’s first international grants program, Grants-in-Aid, was initiated in 1944.
Altrusa Accent – Club 21
By Suzanne Cline – First Vice Governor

Club 21 provides a way for all members to make a difference beyond the work we do for our individual Altrusa Clubs. It was given the name Club 21 to emphasize the interest that the Altrusa Foundation has regarding international health concerns in the 21st Century. Your annual contribution of $21 or more provides the Altrusa Foundation with a means for assisting children of disease. Clubs are able to participate for a contribution of $210.00.

Currently, Club 21 supports the following initiatives:

- Youth Futures International
- Ghana Health & Education Initiative
- Camp Sunshine of Aurora Ohio
- Camp Dreamcatcher of Kennett Square, PA
- Cavett Kids of Oklahoma
- Camp Dreamcatcher of McLane Children's Hospital

As an individual member of Club 21 you will receive the special gold and white Club 21 Pin. Club-level members will receive a specially designed medallion to display on the Club's banner.

As Altrusans, we look forward to supporting the International Foundation each year at our Annual Conference. The raffle baskets that each Club provides are donated as a means for raising money in support of the International Foundation. Along with the Club 21 effort, the International Foundation gives back to Altrusa by providing grants twice each year. This past fall, two District Five Clubs were awarded money for projects they submitted. Congratulations to Mansfield for submitting and being awarded $2,000 for their “Tools for School Backpacks” project (see Page 2 for an article about this service project); and Youngstown for submitting and being awarded $1600 for their “Plant the Seed to Read” project. Established in 1997, the Club 21 Program is committed to supporting programs or children affected by disease. As members of Club 21, Altrusans are given an opportunity to extend a hand to these children and their families.

NEW ALTRUSANS!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLUB</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>SPONSOR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dayton</td>
<td>Peggy Spurlock</td>
<td>Susan Sanders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Branch County</td>
<td>Jan Storrs</td>
<td>Christine Delaney and Carol Hodson</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keely A Beemer</td>
<td>Genelle Welch and Shirley Bailey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Battle Creek</td>
<td>Bobbie Zull</td>
<td>Jane Ratner and Judy Montych</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bucyrus</td>
<td>Rachel Bakies</td>
<td>Nancy Delaney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youngstown</td>
<td>Gwen Shipsky</td>
<td>Pat Skornecka</td>
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<td>Betty McKendry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Patricia McCully</td>
<td>Patty Culcasi</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandra Kurdziel</td>
<td>Patty Culcasi</td>
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Mansfield invites you to plan your

GREAT ESCAPE to the 2016 District Five Conference
April 22 – 24, 2016 at Holiday Inn Mansfield

Expect riots of fun as you learn new ways to serve time in your community, identify new “cellmates”, and find ways to promote your Club’s mug shots and experience time in a historic slammer!!!

A Friday afternoon opportunity includes “hands-on service” helping with the Mansfield Altrusa Tools for Schools community service project. Any donations of 2” wide three ring binders, index cards, 5 subject spiral notebooks or zippered pencil pouches for binders are welcomed!

Community excursions to “Experience Downtown Mansfield” with visits to the Kingwood Center Gardens (tulips/daffodils should be in full bloom), Richland Carrousel Park (ride a figure carved and painted in Mansfield), antique shops, art gallery, book store, The Phoenix Brewing Company, Martini’s on Main and Cypress Hill Winery, all located within two miles of the hotel, are recommended local spots for Friday adventures!

Opening session will feature a speaker from Camp Sunshine of Aurora, Ohio, an Altrusa International Foundation sponsored camp through the Club 21 Program. Entertainment will be provided by “Strut Your Stuff,” a senior tap dance group with members ranging in age from 66–82!

Saturday offers a variety of workshops and sharing on topics of membership, community service, website design and management, use of Facebook and social media to promote your Club, and creative program ideas!

Saturday lunch will be served at the historic Ohio State Reformatory. A historian will share the rich history of the prison that was fully operational until 1990 and houses the largest free standing steel cell block in the world (6 tiers high). This Mansfield gem was featured in the movie Shawshank Redemption. Take a guided tour of this fascinating landmark after lunch.

The Saturday evening Banquet will take on the theme of glamourous, glitzy old Hollywood! For your entertainment after dinner, enjoy the harmony of the Fun Center Chordsmen.

All Clubs or individuals within our district are welcome to host a vendor table to sell items. The cost for a table is $10.00. Contact Susie Harlan at 419-756-4321 to reserve a table. (Space limited).

“The Great Escape to Better Our Communities”
District Five Conference at a Glance

Friday, April 22, 2016

1:00 - 7:00
Registration and Credentials Open

• Drop Off Club Banners

1:30 - 4:30
Special Events

• Hands-On Service Project: Tools for Schools
• "Experience Downtown Mansfield" Community Excursions

1:30 - 4:30
President’s and Treasurer’s Training Sessions

5:00 - 7:00
Altrusa Store, Altrusa Foundation Raffle and Exhibits Open

• Altrusa Facebook and Website Sign-Up Center Open
• A special surprise for all attendees can be picked up in the “Prison Commissary” (Altrusa Store)

6:15 - 6:30
Orientation for Delegates and First-Timers

7:00 - 9:00
OPENING Session

9:00 - 10:00
Altrusa Store and Foundation Raffle Open

9:00 - 11:00
Hospitality Room Open

Saturday, April 23, 2016

7:00 - 8:00
Registration and Credentials Open

• Face Book and Website Sign-Up Center Open

7:45 - 8:00
Orientation for First-Timers

7:00 - 8:00
Breakfast

8:00 - 9:45
General Business Session

9:45 - 10:00
Break/ Registration and Credentials Open

10:00 - 11:00
Continuation of General Session

11:00 - 11:15
Voting

11:30 - 12:00
Board Buses to the Historic Mansfield Reformatory
(featured in the film Shawshank Redemption)

12:00 - 1:30
Luncheon

• Mansfield Reformatory Historian and Tours

1:30 - 2:00
Board Buses to the Hotel

2:15 - 3:15
All Member Session - “Membership”

3:15 - 3:30
Break

3:30 - 4:30
Workshops

• “Serving Time” - Service
• “Tangled Web: Landed You in the Slammer” - Websites
• “Mug Shots” - Facebook and Social Media
• “Inciting a Riot of Fun!” - Program Ideas

4:30 - 6:30
Rest/Relax, Socialize, Network

• Altrusa Face Book and Website Sign-Up Center Open

6:00 - 7:00
Reception for International Representative

7:00 - 9:00
Banquet

9:00 - 10:00
Hospitality Room Open

Sunday, April 24, 2016

8:00 - 8:30
Memorial Service

8:30 - 9:00
Inspiration Service

9:30 - 11:30
Breakfast/Closing Session with Call to Conference (Dayton)
Some of the items that will be auctioned off . . .

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Watch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pictures</td>
<td>Kathleen Howard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wine and Chocolate Basket</td>
<td>District Officers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blueberry Patch Basket</td>
<td>Barbara Huston</td>
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<td>Fairy Garden</td>
<td>Nancy Schwab</td>
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<td>Mimosa Basket</td>
<td>Karen Eliason</td>
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<tr>
<td>Punch Bowl with Revitalization Recipe</td>
<td>Nancy Beers</td>
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REGISTRATION FORM - 61st ANNUAL ALTRUSA DISTRICT FIVE CONFERENCE
Fourth Weekend, April 22 – 24, 2016 - Holiday Inn & Suites. Mansfield, Ohio

Please Print:

Full Name:______________________________________________ Name on Badge: ___________________________

Street Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________________

City:______________________________________________ State: ______________ Zip: ______________________

Daytime Phone: ___________________________________________ Evening Phone: ___________________________________

Email: ___________________________________________ Club: _________________________________________

Emergency Contact: ___________________________________________ Contact Phone #: ____________________________

Tell Us About Yourself (Check all that apply):

___ Member    ___ Guest      ___ Delegate    ___ Alternate    ___ First Timer

___ Club President    ___ District Chairman    ___ District Board Member    ___ Past Governor

___ Do not list the above information for future networking after the conference.

FULL REGISTRATION INCLUDES:  Saturday Breakfast, Lunch, Banquet and Sunday Breakfast

*(Registration Does NOT Include hotel reservations - see hotel information below.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEE</th>
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<tr>
<td>FULL Conference, by March 24, 2016 (meals included)</td>
<td>$135.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>FULL Conference, after March 24, 2016</td>
<td>$155.00</td>
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Note: Registrations received after April 8, 2016 will not include any meals due to requirements of food service.

PARTIAL Conference: (NO Saturday or Sunday meals) $ 65.00

GUEST Meals or Add-on Meals for Partial Registrations

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<td>Saturday Breakfast</td>
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<td>Saturday Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday Banquet*</td>
<td>$ 30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Breakfast</td>
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TOTAL PAID: $_________

Optional Event: Following lunch, a mini-tour of the famous historic Ohio State Reformatory (featured in the 1994 movie The Shawshank Redemption) $5.00 each. Do you plan to “see your cell” on Saturday?  Yes _____    No _______

*Select your Banquet Option: Chicken Cordon Bleu_____ Roasted Salmon_____ Roasted Pork Loin Medallions_____

Conference Payment Information – Please check one of the following options:

___ Enclosed is a check payable to Altrusa International of Mansfield, OH for total amount due of $ ________ 

___ Pay through PayPal (as a Friend / Family) using this email to forward payment: ia7600@aol.com. Please note Altrusa 2016 and list your name/s). Total amount paid through PayPal $ ________

Send this Conference Registration Form with your check or if payment has been verified from PayPal to:
Registration Chairman, Laura Anliker, P.O. Box 1353, Mansfield, OH 44901.
Further contact info: lanliker@aol.com or phone 321-446-9286.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: Register for hotel rooms by calling the Holiday Inn & Suites at 116 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, OH 44902 at 1-419-525-6000. Rooms are blocked under “2016 Altrusa District Five Conference” through Friday, March 24, 2016 at a special conference room rate $89 for two Queens or a King, $99 for one-room suite or $115 for two-room suite Double + sales & room tax. The hotel can be viewed at www.hisuitesmansfield.com