

# Altrusa Initiations

*Note: To go directly to an initiation ceremony, click on 'Bookmarks' and then on the initiation.*

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ASTRA

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Mamie L. Bass

Obligations of Membership, Version 1

Obligations of Membership, Version 2

Principles, Version 1

Principles, Version 2

Purpose of Altrusa

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Rays of the Sun

Spring Flowers

## ALTRUSA CHARTER

I would like for all those who are to be initiated as Charter Members of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_ to come forward and stand to my left (*adjust as needed for room*).

This is a very special night – a once-in-a-lifetime experience for a newly organized Altrusa club. An experience that cannot be taken away from your memories. As you grow in understanding of Altrusa and the Principles and Ideals that inspire all members to develop to their fullest excellence, you will become an Altrusan. As you become involved in the activities of the club, you will find yourselves moving to a higher plateau of more abundant living. Being a member of Altrusa will provide you with opportunities to use your talents and stretch your abilities. You will have opportunities to grow in leadership, and by association with Altrusans in District \_\_\_\_\_, as well as Altrusans around the world, you will expand your knowledge of other career fields. Service projects that your club chooses to undertake will give you satisfaction. One of the Principles that guides all Altrusans is:

***“Altrusa believes it is not enough to be good; Altrusans must be good for something. Each member must be doing the piece of work that is hers, in a way that puts her in the front ranks of accomplishment.”***

Altrusa came into being in 1917. The first club was organized in Nashville, Tennessee, on April 17, 1917. We celebrated our \_\_\_\_\_ anniversary in 20\_\_\_. Altrusa was the first classified service organization for women. We have a rich heritage. Our first president, Mamie L. Bass, wisely said that our work will never be finished, because there will always be challenges to meet and ways in which we can serve our communities. Our motto is PATRIOTISM, EFFICIENCY, SERVICE.

Altrusa is not a social club whose membership is made up of people chosen for their wealth or social position. Altrusa is not a lodge whose members work diligently to progress from one degree to the next. Altrusa is not a sorority – where clubs are chapters – with secret meetings and rituals. Altrusans are a group of executives or professionals who are considered the leaders in their field.

You are joining Altrusa. You are becoming an Altrusan as you accept all the challenges and obligations of membership. Be an involved member – attend meetings regularly – take an active part. It is experiencing fellowship at meetings and working together on projects that enriches our members lives. Accept committee assignments and be willing to assume a leadership role, if asked – this will give you a chance to learn and grow. Be supportive of club officers and chairmen. Think of new ideas for the club. Expand a service project. And share Altrusa by recruiting members. The last obligation of a member is to have fun in all your activities.

If you promise to uphold the high standards of Altrusa and accept all the obligations of membership, please say, “I do”. You will now be presented your membership pin by your sponsor. Wear it proudly – it indicates that you are a member of an international organization whose purpose is service to others.

Governor \_\_\_\_\_, I present to you the newly initiated charter members of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

# ALTRUSA CRUISE

## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

Madam President and members of Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_, I would like to present the members to be initiated today. Will the initiates and their sponsors please come forward as I call your name. And sponsors, please give us a brief introduction to your new member.

\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

We invite you to board the ship "Altrusa" for the cruise of a lifetime. Bring some extra luggage, for you will receive momentos, experiences, and tokens that you will cherish forever. This is a high adventure "in service to others". The first memories begin today upon your accepting the Altrusa theme, "Leaders in Service".

To accept initiation means that you will take the first step of your journey. The journey will include sharing your leadership in meaningful service to the community; sharing your talents, your time, and your resources for service; accepting the challenges as the needs arise; and through working together, develop some of the most lasting friendships with other members, members like yourself, who are leaders in classified fields. Locally, our endeavors are recognized as serving a diverse population, and through the total efforts of our crew, we unite to bring a sense of meaning to the word "service".

The first Altrusa cruise originated in 1917. That first crew of women joined together because they believed in themselves; they believed that executive, business, and professional women would be a great power for constructive service. The ship "Altrusa" became the first-of-its-kind, entering port just soon enough to hold its first convention in 1918. The first national admiral was Mamie L. Bass.

Mamie charted the trip with a new itinerary, stopping at the Port of Twelve Principles; logging the bylaws; publishing the first Altrusa magazine; and charting the ten areas established as Districts. The port of departure and return was established in Chicago. A major trip was scheduled, and in 1935, the ship "Altrusa" entered international waters by establishing a port in Mexico City. Since then, the cruise line includes stops in Australia, Bermuda, Canada, Chile, El Savador, England, Ecuador, Guatemala, Korea, India, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Russia, Scotland, and the Ukraine. While some of these ports have since closed, the "Altrusa" still sails in international waters.

On \_\_\_\_\_, our Altrusa club received its charter, and has supported numerous projects, including \_\_\_\_\_. Projects are introduced to the membership through committees.

It is important to know that you do not join Altrusa, your become an Altrusan. Altrusa is a way of life. Will you at this time state that you fully accept the obligations, as well as the rewards, of membership in Altrusa, by saying, "I will". *Wait for their responses.*

Your uniform includes an Altrusa pin. Will the sponsors please complete our new members' uniforms by presenting them with their pins. Only crew members are privileged to wear this pin. It signifies that you are a member of an International Organization whose purpose is service to others.

Madam President and members, I am proud to introduce \_\_\_\_\_, the newest crew member(s) of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

# ALTRUSA FLOWERS

*Props include a vase, a blue carnation, a snapdragon, a daisy, a tulip, an iris – real or silk - for each new member. Other seasonal flowers can be used and the script adjusted as needed.*

## **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

Madam President and members of Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_, I would like to present the member(s) to be initiated today. Will the initiate(s) and her(their) sponsors come forward as I call your name.

\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

Sponsors, please give a brief introduction of your new member.

In spring and summer, our flower gardens are filled with a rainbow of colors. As our flowers bloom, so does our club, with the initiation of these new members today. Springtime is a sense of a new beginning, a brighter day, and a feeling of wonder as everything around us awakens from a long winter's sleep. Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_ experiences this wonder each time we initiate new members. New members bring bright ideas, new friendships, and a willingness to help improve the world we live in.

As a new members of Altrusa, consider yourself a vase into which we will place flowers that represent different aspects of Altrusa. (*Hand each new member a vase.*)

*(Five members of the Membership Development Committee are seated randomly in the room. Each member represents a flower. As the Membership Development Chair calls the flower, the committee member stands and recites her part. When she is finished, she places the flower in each new members vase.)*

Our first flower is the blue carnation.

## **FIRST COMMITTEE MEMBER:**

The blue carnation is the most important flower in the Altrusa garden, as it is the official flower of our club. Although fragile in appearance, the carnation is known for its hardiness and endurance. The color blue symbolizes loyalty. As you bloom in the Altrusa garden, strive to become a blue carnation.

## **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

Our second flower is a snapdragon.

## **SECOND COMMITTEE MEMBER:**

I would like to present each of you a snapdragon. The snapdragon symbolizes a gracious or caring person, and snapdragons come in all sizes and colors, just like Altrusans. One of the many traits all Altrusans have in common is their concern for others. As an Altrusan, you will have many opportunities to show your concern for others through our many service projects, such as \_\_\_\_\_ (insert projects here) \_\_\_\_\_. Altrusa is committed to the philosophy of unselfishness, the joy of giving, and helping to improve the world we live in.

## **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

Our third flower is the daisy.

## **THIRD COMMITTEE MEMBER:**

As new members of Altrusa, I'd like to welcome you and present you with these daisies. Daisies represent loyal love, and the second letter in the Altrusa Key means loyalty. To our members, self-realization means, first of all, loyalty to one's own ideals. Next, it means loyalty to one's friends, to one's work, to one's country, and to all mankind. Altrusa stimulates loyalty.

## **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

Our fourth flower is a tulip.

*FOURTH COMMITTEE MEMBER:*

No flower in our bouquet presents a more gorgeous spectacle or greater variation in form and color than the tulip. We associate warmth and sunshine with the tulip. As you become involved in the activities of the club, and work with other members, you will see the reflection of the beauty of Altrusa, the warmth and sunshine of Altrusa through service. Becoming an Altrusan will give each of you an opportunity for service and personal growth. As our newest members, you may be fragile in your knowledge of Altrusa, but full of dedication to its ideas and ready to grow and to bloom. Sometimes hundreds of dollars have been paid for a single tulip bulb. You will soon learn that a dedicated Altrusan is priceless.

*MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:*

Our fifth flower is an Iris.

*FIFTH COMMITTEE MEMBER:*

One of the most imaginative and hardy flowers is the iris. Irises are valued for their beauty and adaptability. Irises also stand for friendship with fellow Altrusans. Confucius said, "Friendship with the upright, friendship with the sincere, and friendship with the man of much information – these are advantageous." I doubt if Confucius realized he was describing friendship with an Altrusan.

*MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:*

We have just presented you examples of some of the flowers in Altrusa's garden. As you enjoy the sight and smell of these flowers, remember the Ideals and Principles of Altrusa, which inspire us to be the best we can be.

I would like to remind all Altrusa members here today that we are all caretakers of this garden, and it is our responsibility to see that these flowers prosper and grow.

I would like our new members to understand that our club will grow by utilizing your talents, as well as the talents of all of our members.

It is now my pleasure to ask your sponsor to present you with the official member's pin. I would like to present you with your New Member kit.

Will you at this time state that you fully accept the obligations, as well as the rewards of membership in Altrusa by saying "I will"? *Wait for response.*

As our flowers bloom, so will Altrusa's garden. Madam President and members, I am proud to introduce \_\_\_\_\_, the newest member(s) of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

## ALTRUSA HANDS

*(Props include SHEET OF POSTER BOARD. In the center, place a membership certificate with ribbons extended in six directions. As each person gives her part, she will place a hand representing her topic at the end of a ribbon.)*

### **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

Hands are a wonderful gift from god! Today we place great emphasis on the hands. Hands are joined in marriage. Hands are clasped in bargains. Hands are placed on a Bible when taking an oath. Hands were also emphasized in the early days. To lift up the hand indicated power. To extend hands meant to swear friendship. To be at the right hand signified to protect or to support. The right hand denoted powerful strength.

Our hands tell a great deal about us. Look at your hands. What do they tell about you? Is it doubled into a fist, with an attitude of a hurting hand, or is it opened halfway, wanting to receive but never give. I believe an Altrusan's hand is opened all the way, ready to give. Altrusa has many hands and I have asked some of the Membership Development Committee to show us some of them.

**FRIENDLY HANDS:** An Altrusan's hand is a friendly hand. She seeks to be warm and kind, not only to fellow Altrusans, but also in the every day world, on the job, at home, or wherever she might be. We extend to you a friendly hand to draw you into the circle of warmth and love that we have for each other.

**DEDICATED HANDS:** An Altrusan's hands are dedicated hands – dedicated to the high ideals of Altrusa, to be true to the purpose set forth for Altrusans. Dedicated hands are working hands and we challenge you to get really involved in Altrusa work and experience the joys of service.

**REACHING HANDS:** It can truly be said that an Altrusan's hands are reaching hands, for we reach out in many directions – through learning, through service to the community and around the world, and in reaching out for new members, so that other women may become a part of this great organization. Our hands reach out to you, and encourage you in turn to reach out to others.

**GENEROUS HANDS:** Altrusan's hands are generous hands with time, talents, and possessions. Time is given in committee activities, as well as in regular meetings. Talents are needed along the way for programs and other activities. We raise funds to be distributed to those in need of our help. We would urge your hands to be generous to all of these.

**BUSY HANDS:** An Altrusan's hands are busy hands. What an understatement! Busy on the job, busy in Altrusa work, busy at home and at church, keeping up with children's school functions. Someone has said, "If you want something done, get a busy person to do it." Surely they must have been talking about Altrusans. You, too, will have busy hands as you become a part of Altrusa.

**GUIDING HANDS:** Altrusa hands are certainly guiding hands. It is no secret that Altrusa Clubs are leaders in their communities, wherever they are. We lead in service and commitment, in not only recognizing the needs of our community, but in doing something about them. Although Altrusa is not a social club, we believe you will find our club to be a leader in togetherness, fun, cooperation, and concern for each other. We also believe that your hands will be guiding hands as you become one of us.

All hands are beautiful. Some may be rough and not soft or beautifully shaped like others; some may not have the long, graceful fingers others possess; some may no longer have the strength or quickness once known; but all hands are beautiful, if we use them to serve mankind.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initiates), what is in your hands? In a few minutes you will be given a New Member Kit. This Kit is not meant to be put away in a drawer and never used. It is meant to be a tool in your hands. And if you study these materials, they will help make your hands beautiful in friendship, dedication, reaching, generosity, and leadership. These things encompass our motto: Patriotism, Efficiency, Service. As an Altrusan you are asked to subscribe to the high ideals and standards of performance as expressed in this motto. If you do so promise, will you signify by saying "I do".

I now ask your sponsors to pin on your new pin and present you with your New Member Kit.

Madam President, members, I am proud to welcome our newest members.

## ALTRUSA KEY

(Props include wooden block letters to spell out A-L-T-R-U-S-A, an Altrusa emblem, and three candles)

### *PRESIDENT:*

Tonight we have the pleasure of conducting an initiation ceremony for \_\_\_\_\_. At this time the sponsor will escort her initiate to the front and present her for membership by giving us her classification and a short introduction.

### *SPONSOR:*

I am happy to present \_\_\_\_\_ for membership in Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_. Her classification is \_\_\_\_\_ and I want to tell you a little about her qualifications, which include \_\_\_\_\_.

### *PRESIDENT:*

You do not join Altrusa – you become an Altrusan. Altrusa is a way of life. As you share your fullest measure of the Altrusa motto - Patriotism, Efficiency, Service -- with us, our club will be enriched in such measure as you give of your time, your talents, and your interest. Your personal life will be fuller and more satisfying to you, as Altrusa and all it represents become a part of your life.

### *MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:*

On behalf of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_, I deem it a privilege to greet you and welcome you to our organization. You are this day becoming an Altrusan, which carries with it a responsibility, a trust, and an opportunity. The KEY TO ALTRUSA, which will bring the realization of happiness, contentment, success, and satisfaction, we now entrust to you:

*(Committee Member places wood block letters in sequence as chair talks.)*

- “A” AMITY .....Opens the door to friendship – a gift of God to make life happier.  
*Altrusa offers AMITY.*
- “L” LOYALTY Comes from within – standing by, never losing faith, believing. It is intelligent use of the best in our heart and mind and soul – fidelity to Altrusa, allegiance to our country, and devotion to God.  
*Altrusa stimulates LOYALTY.*
- “T” TALENT Needs recognition, understanding, encouragement, and interest.  
*Altrusa encourages the expression of TALENT.*
- “R” RECIPROCITY Will bring us much happiness as we share with others and make their needs our concern. This is an opportunity to benefit others.  
*Altrusa gives impetus to RECIPROCITY.*
- “U” UNITY Is the forgetting of ourselves for the good of all – without thought of self, without consideration of credit to be given, with only the determination to do the job.  
*Altrusa develops UNITY.*
- “S” SERVICE Is the cornerstone of Altrusa. In our thinking, our planning, and our doing we demonstrate efficient, unselfish service.  
*Altrusa means SERVICE.*
- “A” ACHIEVEMENT Through united effort, loyalty, use of our talents, sharing with others, and unstinted service, we achieve our right to become an Altrusan.  
*Altrusa brings ACHIEVEMENT.*

**PRESIDENT:**

The official colors of Altrusa are blue and white. The emblem of Altrusa International, Inc., to which all our clubs belong, is the world encircled by our motto: PATRIOTISM, EFFICIENCY, SERVICE. *(hold up logo-emblem)* The principles of conduct by which Altrusans are guided are based on our motto:

*(Membership Development committee member lights the three candles as the president says.....)*

We light this candle as a symbol of PATRIOTISM.

We light this candle as a symbol of EFFICIENCY.

We light this candle as a symbol of SERVICE.

**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MEMBER:**

The obligations of membership are as follows:

- To make the effort to put into practice the objectives of Altrusa
- To acquaint yourself with the provisions of the Altrusa ByLaws and Policies, the Altrusa Encyclopedia, and the Classification Guide
- To attend meetings conscientiously
- To take part in the activities of the organization
- To pay dues promptly
- To make a sincere effort to carry out the aims of Altrusa
- To develop and reveal your abilities more fully
- To hold the desire to see clearly, to deal fairly, and to recognize wholehearted merit and accomplishment

As an Altrusa, you are asked to subscribe to the Altrusa Ideals and Principles, and to abide by the Obligations of Membership.

**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

Your sponsor will now present you with your Altrusa pin and New Member Kit. You are charged with the responsibility of studying this material, for we believe that a good Altrusan is an informed Altrusan.

As you wear your Altrusa pin and learn the significance of its symbol, you will realize that you are a part of an International Service Organization, for every Altrusan is affiliated with Altrusa International.

**PRESIDENT:**

We welcome you into Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_, and I present you with your Certificate of Membership.

INITIATION CEREMONY FOR  
ASTRA CLUB OF \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Good morning. I'm \_\_\_\_\_, a member of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_, and *(state Local or District Office or Committee Chair title)*. Would all those who are to be initiated as Charter Members of the ASTRA Club of \_\_\_\_\_ please come forward and stand to my left *(adjust to the room)*.

This is a very special event – a once in a lifetime experience for a newly organized ASTRA club. This experience cannot be taken away from your memories. As you become involved in the activities of the club, you will find yourselves becoming more involved in your community. Being a member of ASTRA will provide you with opportunities to use your talents and stretch your abilities. You will have opportunities to grow in leadership. Service projects that your club chooses to undertake will give you satisfaction.

ASTRA is an acronym.

The first A is for Ability – to know that within us all lay special talents to share in fellowship and understanding.

The S is for Service – to improve the lives of those less fortunate at school and within the community.

The T is for Training – to grow as a young adult, personally and professionally.

The R is for Responsibility – to learn the art of planning, fundraising, and project/program implementation.

The second A is for Achievement – to experience success; to know that together a group can accomplish so much more than any well-intentioned individual.

The purpose of ASTRA is four fold:

- To provide opportunities for personal development, career planning and preparation, leadership training, and citizenship development;
- To foster the concept of service through practical application in school and/or community;
- To sponsor social and cultural activities; and
- To promote fellowship and better understanding among all people.

If you promise to uphold the high purposes of ASTRA and to strive to maintain those purposes through your ability, service, training, responsibility, and achievement, please say, "I do".

*(present any other gifts at this part of the ceremony.)*

Congratulations!

May I present the charter members of the ASTRA Club of \_\_\_\_\_.

## CHAIN OF SERVICE

*(Props include three candles, membership chain, and new links for each new member.)*

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

Today we have the special opportunity to initiate \_\_\_\_\_ into Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_. Would the initiates and their sponsors please come forward.

It is on such occasions as this that we should all be reminded of our own commitment and obligation to Altrusa membership. Altrusa is a worldwide service association of business, executive, and professional women and men, united in personal development and fellowship. To be invited to become an Altrusan is a high honor indeed, and one that should be cherished. Remember that you do not join Altrusa, you become an Altrusan, because Altrusa is a way of life.

The name Altrusa is derived from "altruism", which is the unselfish concern for, or devotion to, the welfare of others. In Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_ there are plenty of opportunities to practice altruism.

As you become an Altrusan, you take the first step towards sharing your leadership in meaningful service to the community through the channel of this club. Hopefully, you are proud of what it means to become an Altrusan, and you are also aware of the demands your membership places on you.

These three candles represent Altrusa's motto – PATRIOTISM, EFFICIENCY, SERVICE. Becoming an Altrusan means sharing your power, your talents, your time, and your resources for service to your community, your country, and the world. As a new member, you will be expected to assume your responsibilities in Altrusa, for only by so doing can we increase Altrusa service.

This club recognizes your abilities, and we are delighted to see you initiated into membership. We believe you will find opportunities to further develop your talents and personality through your contribution to Altrusa and with those whom we aim to serve.

\_\_\_\_\_, Altrusa asks much of you, for the responsibilities of membership are many. We wish to assure you, however, that the rewards of membership are great. We work hard, but there is fun and fellowship, too.

Your sponsor will now present to you a New Member Kit. A good Altrusan is a knowledgeable Altrusan. Read the material carefully. In it is a wealth of information for you to assimilate.

I want to now ask your sponsor to present you with the official pin. Only members are privileged to wear the Altrusa pin. Wear it proudly, always over your heart, as it indicates that you are a member of an international organization whose purpose is "service" to others.

I also want to take this opportunity to remind all the members of Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_ that you each have a responsibility to this new member and to our club. It takes individual links in our chain of service to make a strong lengthy chain of commitment to the community. A current member of \_\_\_\_\_ makes our chain strong and full – yet incomplete. Would each of the new members place their link on our Altrusa chain?

Today we added \_\_\_\_\_ additional links. As members of Altrusa, welcome our new links. Be friendly. Take time to learn something about them and get to know them. Set a good example.

On behalf of all members, let me be the first to welcome you into the membership of Altrusa. May your link add commitment and purpose to our "Chain of Service".

Madam President, I am proud to introduce \_\_\_\_\_, the newest members of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

## CHARGE TO INITIATES AND SPONSORS

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

As the names are called, will the sponsors please bring our new initiates forward and tell us a little about them.

\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

You have been asked to become an Altrusan, and you have responded to that invitation. Membership in Altrusa is unique. It is extended to women and men classified as achievers in many different fields and who have in common, besides success, a strong sense of responsibility toward the human family. Altrusa coordinates leadership talents and exemplifies individual efforts into a significant volunteer force to improve the quality of life. Altrusa asks that you give of yourself, but Altrusa offers much in return.

### AS NEW ALTRUSANS, I charge you:

- To make the effort to know and practice the ideals, principles, and objectives of Altrusa
- To know the basic rules, bylaws, and policies, and keep informed
- To attend meetings regularly and take an active part. It is the fellowship experienced at meetings and working together on projects that enriches our lives
- To accept committee assignments and be willing to assume top leadership roles in the club
- To be concerned with club problems and participate in seeking club solutions. Let your convictions be known at the meetings, not discussed afterward in a critical manner
- Do not be intimidated. Stand up and let your views and ideas be known
- To be supportive of club projects once they have been adopted by a majority vote of members
- To be supportive of club officers and chairmen, so they can fulfill their assignments
- To be aware of club progress toward its goals and be ready to join in action when needed
- To think of new ideas for the club that can add to the impact of a program meeting, increase membership, or expand a service project
- To share your ideas and your enthusiasm
- To experience the total scope of membership by attending the conferences and workshops at the District level, and attending the convention at the International level
- To have fun being a member, and not hesitate to have a sense of humor

Do you accept these charges I have given you? If so, please indicate by saying, "I do".

### AS SPONSORS, I charge you:

- To maintain close contact with your new member. Make sure she has a way to the meeting and does not have to come and sit alone. We may all be successful women and we may all be extroverts, but we do not like to sit alone.
- To call your new member if she misses a meeting, and let her know she is missed.
- To help her become familiar with the tools of Altrusa, such as the Encyclopedia, Yearbook, and Bylaws.
- To encourage her to become a sponsor herself, and to assist her in the process of becoming a sponsor.

Do you, as Sponsors, accept these charges I have given you? If so, say "I do".

I will now ask every other member of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_ to please stand. As members, I would charge each and every one of you to be co-sponsors to this new member. Do you, as members, accept these charges? If so, please say, "I do". The members may be seated. I now ask that each sponsor pin on your new Altrusa pin. (*As the pins are being put on*) The Altrusa pin is worn over the heart, never on the right side, never on the collar, never to secure some ornament. Remember to wear your pin to all meetings, and it is hoped that you will wear it daily with pride.

Congratulations! We know that you will enjoy being an Altrusan and Welcome to Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

## CIRCLE OF CLOCKS

*Props include varying wind-up clocks for each new member. Hand a clock to every initiate prior to the ceremony, letting the new member know that they are to bring the clock with them when the initiation ceremony begins.*

It is always a highlight event when we have an initiation to perform. The initiation ceremony expresses the worth we place on membership in our club and the commitment we expect. By starting this clock, we symbolize the on-going strength of District \_\_\_\_\_, and in particular, the enduring and on-going strength of the Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_ club.

To have a successful club, each member must work with ALL members in a cooperative manner. As each new member becomes an Altrusan, it is as if another clock is added to our circle. It is our privilege to welcome \_\_\_\_\_ to an international organization of some \_\_\_\_\_ (overall number) women including the \_\_\_\_\_ (number) in our club. To be invited to become an Altrusan is a high honor indeed, and one that should be cherished. Remember -- you do not join Altrusa, you become an Altrusan.

An Altrusan's objective is to pledge herself to the betterment of our community and of human conditions. You become a member of Altrusa International as you become a member of our club. To be initiated is "taking your first step". As a member, you will share your leadership talents in service. As the hands on this clock always move, so do the hands of an Altrusan – hands always ready to help, social hands, hands-on organizing fundraising events. Hands helping others help themselves in our community. At this time will the sponsors please bring your new members forward (carrying their clocks).

As an Altrusan, make every effort to know and put into practice the ideals, principles, and objectives of Altrusa. Know the basic rules, Bylaws, and Policies. Read our Encyclopedia, which is included in your membership kit, and other publications.

Attend meetings regularly and take an active part in your club's activities. It is the fellowship experienced at meetings and working together in service that brings full value to our membership. Participate in committees and be willing to accept responsibilities in the club. We should always look ahead in time, for as time progresses, so too will your participation in Altrusa and what you will gain from your involvement.

Whenever possible, experience the total scope by attending District Conference, Workshops, and International Conventions. Help achieve club goals and plans, and be ready to support club officers and chairmen in fulfilling these goals.

You will notice that all the clocks are ticking at different times; like Altrusans, they are all individuals. These clocks also differ in shape, color, form, and the sound they produce. So too, are our members, who offer different talents, skills, and personalities. Each has a contribution to make.

Will you - \_\_\_\_\_ (names of new initiates) complete our membership circle? Will you accept the obligations of membership, involvement in our projects and activities, and attend meetings regularly? If you do, say "I will".

Sponsors, please present the new member(s) with their Altrusa pins. Only members are privileged to wear the Altrusa pin. Always wear it proudly over your heart. The pin signifies that you are a member of an organization dedicated to service, Altrusa International, Inc. Sponsors, please wind the clock of your new member. As these clocks start ticking, so, too, does your tie with Altrusa begin. Sponsors, please give a short profile of the member you are sponsoring.

Sponsors, remember - you have a responsibility to keep the new members' clocks ticking. Please add your clock to our clock circle. We enlarge our circle with your membership. As your clocks symbolize the joining with Altrusa, so, too, do the Altrusans present extend hands in friendship. And, since a pendulum only swings when balanced, let Altrusa add balance to your lives.

Madam President and members, I present to you \_\_\_\_\_, our newest members. They have accepted our invitation to be members. Please make them welcome in all club activities.

## CIRCLE OF LIGHT

*(Props include candles and holders for each new member)*

### *PRESIDENT:*

It is always a highlight event when we have an initiation to perform. This act expresses the worth we place on membership in our club and the commitment we expect.

### *MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:*

To have a successful club, each member must work with ALL members in a cooperative manner. As each new member becomes an Altrusan, it is as if another candle is added to our circle. It is our privilege to welcome new members to an international organization of over \_\_\_\_\_ (overall number) women including the \_\_\_\_\_ (number) women in our club. Will \_\_\_\_\_ and her (their) sponsors please come forward.

Our objective is to pledge ourselves to the betterment of our community and of human conditions. You become a member of Altrusa International as you become a member of our club.

To be initiated is "taking your first step". You will share your leadership talents in service.

To do Service means to work on causes as well as solutions. As an Altrusan, you will be expected to accept Altrusa as a way of life. The following responsibilities apply:

- Make every effort to know and put into practice the ideals, principles, and objectives of Altrusa.
- Know the basic rules necessary for participation. These are found in the Bylaws and Policies. Read Altrusa's Encyclopedia, which is included in your membership kit, and other publications.
- Attend meetings regularly and take an active part. It is the fellowship experienced at meetings and working together in service that brings full value to our membership.
- Accept committee assignments and be willing to assume top leadership roles in the club if invited.
- Be concerned with club problems and participate in seeking solutions.
- Experience the total scope by attending District Conference, Workshops, and International Conventions. Support the International Foundation and its programs.
- Support club officers and chairmen to help fulfill assignments according to club expectancy.
- Be Aware, especially as to goals. And be ready to join in whatever action is needed at each stage of the way.
- Think of new ideas or suggestions to bring to the club that can add to the impact of a program meeting. Recruit members, expand a service project, and in general achieve greater satisfaction in being an Altrusan.
- Have fun! Share humor! This makes for enjoyable, relaxing activity.

### *MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:*

Will you - \_\_\_\_\_ (names of new initiates) - complete our membership circle? Will you accept the obligations, involvement in committee work, and regular attendance? If you do, say "I will".

Will the sponsors please pin on the new members' pins, present the membership kit, and then light their candles.

### *PRESIDENT:*

Only members are privileged to wear the Altrusa pin. Wear it proudly over your heart. You now become a leader among leaders in this oldest pioneer of women's service clubs. With our newest members, our circle of light is expanded. Welcome to Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

## CIRCLE OF LIGHT VERSION 2

*(Props include green candles and holders for each new member. Prior to the initiation ceremony, hand each sponsor a candle for their new initiate, to be brought up with them.)*

### **PRESIDENT:**

It is always a highlight event when we have an initiation to perform. This initiation ceremony expresses the worth we place on membership in our club and the commitment we expect. By lighting the Altrusa candle, I bring the strength of District \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ club. *(light the center candle)*

### **PARTICIPANT ONE:**

To have a successful club, each member must work with ALL members in a cooperative manner. As each new member becomes an Altrusan, it is as if another candle is added to our circle. It is our privilege to welcome \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to an international organization of some \_\_\_\_\_ (overall number) women including the \_\_\_\_\_ (number) Altrusans in our club. *(light one candle or ¼ of total number of candles representing the club membership)*

### **PARTICIPANT TWO:**

To be invited to become an Altrusan is a high honor indeed, and one that should be cherished. Remember - you do not join Altrusa, you become an Altrusan. Our objective is to pledge our selves to the betterment of our community and of human conditions. You become a member of Altrusa International as you become a member of our club. To be initiated is "taking your first step". Like a small flame that slowly grows into a strong light, you will share your leadership talents in service – for that is our motto "Leaders in Service." *(light one candle or ¼ of total number of candles representing the club membership)*

### **PARTICIPANT ONE:**

Would the sponsors please bring your new members forward (carrying their candles)

### **PARTICIPANT THREE:**

As an Altrusan, make every effort to know and put into practice the ideals, principles, and objectives of Altrusa. Know the basic rules, Bylaws, and Policies for Altrusa. Read our Encyclopedia, which is included in your membership kit, and other publications. Attend meetings regularly and take an active part. It is the fellowship experienced at meetings and working together in service that brings full value to our membership. *(light one candle or ¼ of total number of candles representing the club membership)*

### **PARTICIPANT FOUR**

Participate in committees and be willing to accept responsibilities in the club. One small candle gives out only a flicker of light; many together will illuminate the way. Whenever possible, experience the total scope of Altrusa by attending District Conference, Workshops, and International Conventions. *(light one candle or ¼ of total number of candles representing the club membership)*

### **PARTICIPANT TWO:**

Help achieve club goals and plans and be ready to support club officers and chairmen in fulfilling these. "Remember - many candles make light work."

Now we have all our candles lit. Like us, they are all different. The candles differ in shape, color, form, and the light they produce. So too, our members offer different talents, skills, and personalities. Each has a contribution to make.

*PARTICIPANT ONE:*

Will you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, ... complete our membership circle? Will you accept the obligations of membership, be involved in our projects and activities, and attend all meetings regularly? If you accept, say "I will".

Will the Sponsors please present the new members with their Altrusa pin.

*PARTICIPANT THREE:*

Only members are privileged to wear the Altrusa pin. Wear it proudly over your heart. The pin signifies that you are a member of an organization that is dedicated to service - Altrusa International, Inc.

*PARTICIPANT ONE:*

Sponsors – please light the candle for your new member and hand it to them. These candles are green, symbolizing new life and fresh ideas. They are for our newest members, who bring to our club growth, strength, and vitality. Sponsors give us a short profile of your new member.

Sponsors – remember, you have a responsibility of keeping the new members' lights burning. New members, place your candles within our Altrusa Circle. We enlarge our circle of light with your candles.

I present our newest Altrusans. They have accepted our invitation to become members, because they are service-minded and want to associate with an organization that will use their talents. Please make them welcome in all club activities.

## CONCENTRIC CIRCLES

*(Props include a large Altrusa emblem (divided into the three concentric circles), three candles for the parts of the motto, and a candle for each new member.)*

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

As I call your name, will our initiates and their sponsors please come forward?

\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

You were invited to become an Altrusa because of your classification, the position you hold in the community, your occupation, and your personal qualifications. You will be associated with a group who represent a wide variety of occupational fields, but all with similar civic and altruistic motives, working together to promote worthwhile projects in the community and making contributions to help mankind throughout the world. Always remember, you do not JOIN Altrusa, you BECOME AN ALTRUSAN, because Altrusa is a way of life.

Altrusa International is a nonpartisan, nonsectarian, nonprofit association of members united to achieve its purpose, objectives, and service programs.

The name Altrusa comes from the word “altruism”, defined as the “the principle or practice of unselfish concern for or devotion to the welfare of others.” The Purpose is people serving.

Altrusa is further expressed in its official emblem, which features three concentric circles. A polar depiction of the world, symbolizing Altrusa’s international scope and interest, comprises the center circle. *(Place the center circle.)*

This is surrounded by a second circle with Altrusa’s motto: PATRIOTISM, EFFICIENCY, SERVICE. *(Place second circle.)*

PATRIOTISM is love of country or devotion to the welfare of one’s country. The responsibilities of patriotism, therefore, mean that Altrusans must be ready at all times to speak up for our country or community, and to be an example of good citizenship. Through love of one another we teach patriotism. \_\_\_\_\_, will you light the candle of Patriotism.

EFFICIENCY is performance in the best possible and least wasteful manner. This means that to be effective, we must have and use the necessary knowledge, skill, and industry as we pursue our purpose of people serving. Having a varied membership helps us in being effective, as we bring different skills and interests to our endeavors. \_\_\_\_\_, will you light the candle of Efficiency.

SERVICE is our purpose, and the glue that holds it all together. We provide Service to individuals and our community through *(list a few local club projects)* and many other projects. And through acts of unselfish service to others, we gain fulfillment ourselves. \_\_\_\_\_, will you light the candle of Service.

I will now ask each of you to light your candle, first from the light of Patriotism, then the light of Efficiency, and finally from the light of Service, signifying your desire to become an Altrusan and your acceptance of the responsibilities of membership in this service club. Then, please place your candle in one of the holders.

*(After all the candles are lit and placed)* Finally, we add the third circle, which bears the name Altrusa International, Inc. *(Place the circle.)*

Will the sponsors please present the New Member Kits and club pins to their initiates? Please study the materials in your Kit, and feel free to ask questions of your sponsors or any club member. As you receive your pin, you will recognize the same three concentric circles as in the official emblem.

While your sponsor is “pinning” you, will the club members please join me in welcoming our new members? *(Applause)*

*(When pinning is finished)* To close our initiation ceremony, I’d like to read something that former International President Stella T. J. Nyhan has written: “The Altrusa pin signifies that the wearer is a person of stature who is actively engaged in a career with time to lovingly give to the service of others. To fellow Altrusans, the pin is an instant bond of friendship. As important to others, the pin says that we are confident, involved persons, worthy of recognition as leaders!”

# FRUITS OF ALTRUSA

*Props include a basket, a peach, a pear, an apple, a plum, a banana, an orange, and cherries for each new member. Ahead of the meeting, designate seven Membership committee members or club members to each designate one of the fruits. As each fruit is mentioned during the initiation, the designee for that fruit should stand so the new members can come and gather their fruit basket.*

## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

Madam President and members of Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_, I would like to present the members to be initiated today. Will the initiates and their sponsors come forward as I call your name. Sponsors, please give a brief introduction of your new member.

\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_

In late spring and early summer, we experience the blessing of enjoying the “fruits” of the orchards and vineyards. Not only is their taste pleasant and satisfying to our palate, but their vitamins and minerals also give us new strength and vitality. Each fruit is unique, with its own special characteristics, pleasures, and benefits. One may be best utilized in a fine pie, another’s taste is glorified as a nice glass of juice.

An Altrusa club is also an orchard, and each of the fruits that it offers us is also unique, with its own special characteristics, pleasures, and benefits.

As new members of Altrusa, consider yourself a basket into which will be gathered these unique fruits. Today, we are going to give you an idea of some of the fruits waiting for you.

*(Hand each of the initiates a basket)*

Now you are going to have to gather these fruits yourself. As I mention the fruits in the orchard, club members will stand. You will gather the fruits and place them in your basket.

**OUR FIRST FRUIT IS PEACHES:** Peaches are keen, and Altrusans are keen on sharing their leadership in meaningful service to the community through the channel of their club. As our name indicates, Altrusa is committed to the philosophy of unselfishness. Now isn’t that just peachy?

**OUR SECOND FRUIT IS PEARS:** Pears don’t like to do things alone, and Altrusans know that several people can accomplish much more than one can. By combing our talents and sharing our ideas, we can think of new ideas for the club or make an impact on a program meeting or expand a service project. Altrusa provides the channel through which leadership talents are coordinated and individual efforts are expanded into a single significant volunteer force to improve the quality of life. You and another Altrusan make a “pear”.

**OUR THIRD FRUIT IS APPLES:** Apples like to keep the doctor away, and Altrusans know the best way to keep from getting sick or bored with Altrusa is to stay active and informed. We do this by attending meetings regularly and taking an active part – by accepting committee assignments and assuming leadership roles – by being concerned with club problems and participating in seeking club solutions. By doing this, you will be the “apple of our eye”.

**OUR FOURTH FRUIT IS PLUMS:** Plums are happy, and Altrusans are “plum happy” when they experience the total scope of membership. They do this by attending District Conferences, workshops, and International Conventions, and by supporting the Altrusa International Foundation.

**OUR FIFTH FRUIT IS BANANAS:** Bananas like a bunch, and Altrusans know that strength lies in numbers and nothing is stronger than a “Bunch of Altrusans”. Altrusa’s greatest resource is its members. One of our highest priorities is “building Altrusa’s membership”. It is every member’s responsibility to assist in this growth by “going bananas” and inviting prospective members to meetings.

OUR SIXTH FRUIT IS ORANGES: Oranges are glad, and Altrusans are glad they have so much fun being a member. Altrusans do not hesitate to share a sense of humor. The laughs and the fellowship that we share while working on projects and serving on committees become precious memories that we can recall while reminiscing or when we can no longer participate in Altrusa. Nothing makes an Altrusan smile bigger than to hear someone say, "Orange you glad you are an Altrusan?"

OUR SEVENTH AND LAST FRUIT IS CHERRIES: Life is a bowl of cherries, and Altrusans express good will for all mankind. Altrusa emphasizes the good and lets the evil sink into the oblivion it merits. And this makes "Cherries Jubilee".

Your fruit basket now contains an example of some of the fruits of Altrusa. As you make use of these fruits, you will find yourself moving to a higher plateau or more abundant living, because you subscribe to the Ideals and Principles of Altrusa that inspire all of us to develop ourselves to our fullest excellence.

But this is a two-way street. Altrusa will grow and prosper by utilizing the fruits of your personal vineyard.

Last, but not least, always remember you do not join Altrusa, you become an Altrusan, because Altrusa is a way of life.

It is now my pleasure to ask your sponsor to present you with the official member's pin. I would also like to present you with your New Member Kit.

Will you at this time state that you fully accept the obligations, as well as the rewards, of membership in Altrusa by saying "I will"?

Madam President and members, I am proud to introduce \_\_\_\_\_, the newest members of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

## HOLIDAY

*Props include small Christmas tree with lights already strung, a garland, doll ornament, ball ornament with circles, Santa ornament, package ornament, Candy Cane, horn ornament, rocking chair ornament, kettle ornament or something denoting food, Altrusa pin, blue ball ornament, silver ball ornament, gold ball ornament, star for the top of the tree.*

I would like our new initiates and their sponsors to come forward as I call your names.

\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

Everyone loves a Christmas tree. The eyes of the smallest child lights up when they see one, and to the elderly, a Christmas tree can bring back many memories. In fact, most of us fondly remember special holiday decorations we helped to make or buy sometime in our lives.

In other countries and in different parts of the United States, holiday decorations take different forms. Trees in the East and in Europe may be hand cut with just a quick trip to the forest. In California and elsewhere, tree farms can avail this same opportunity. In desert areas, anything can be decorated – such as tumbleweeds and cactus. In Mexico, fanciful, brightly painted decorations frequently are made out of clay or metal. Whether your holiday decoration is traditional or unusual, homemade or purchased, to the child within it is beautiful.

Tonight we have a (kind of tree) tree. It is a lovely little tree, but it doesn't look very Christmassy, does it? And, as yet, it doesn't really carry out the purpose for which it was designed. Altrusa is quite like this tree. The name Altrusa is a very pretty name and has a beautiful meaning. It was partly derived from the Latin work "altra", meaning others. However, if that were all it amounted to, the word "Altrusa", like this tree, would not be fulfilling its purpose. So we are going to put real meaning into the tree and Altrusa by thinking of what Altrusa really is.

First of all, when we start decorating our tree, we put on a basic touch, which for us is a garland. The first thing we must have in order to have an Altrusa club is members – busy people, active people, people whose thoughts and actions will be for others.

We will begin to place our ornaments, the first being a doll from another country. This tells us that Altrusa is an International Service Organization. There are fourteen Districts, ours being District \_\_\_\_\_, which includes \_\_\_\_\_.

Look for something special on our next ornament. You will see that this one has circles around it. As you become active in this club, you will find yourself being drawn into a circle of warmth and friendship – a circle of compassion, cooperation, and reaching out to draw others within this circle.

What do Altrusa and Santa Claus have in common? To some people, we are somewhat like Santa all year, for we help sponsor so many projects. There's \_\_\_\_\_, and many more. Yes, I'd say we kind of look like ole Santa himself.

And, of course, there's a nice package sent to Altrusa International every year, to help support the Altrusa International Foundation.

And we must add a candy cane, for we are the sweetest bunch of people you will find anywhere.

Toot our own horn? Certainly! Every chance we get! We talk Altrusa and get all the publicity we can get. Of course, we always want it to be the right kind of publicity. We never want it to be anything that would cheapen or degrade the ideals of Altrusa.

On our Altrusa tree, you'll find something that Altrusa is NOT. Altrusa is not a rocking chair club. We work in many different ways. On committees, programs, service projects, fundraising, and every way we can to make our club the kind we can be proud of.

Altrusa is food. Pots and pots of it. *(this can be omitted if your club does not help with food drives of any kind.)*

An ornament our Altrusa tree could not do without is the Altrusa pin. Always wear your pin proudly.

Altrusa International's motto is PATRIOTISM, EFFICIENCY, SERVICE. These three balls represent this motto – true blue for patriotism, silver for efficiency, and gold for service. This motto, if taken seriously by us, can change our lives into the best both in the club and out.

We must put a star at the top of the tree. As the rays of a star reach out through the darkness, the rays of our Altrusa star reach out through service, District conferences, International conventions, new club building, and in each member doing her very best to be true to the aims and purpose of Altrusa.

Now we have a real Christmas tree. But yet there is something missing. Yes, I know what it is, every time we get new members like you, our hearts light *(at the word "light", plug in the lights.)* up just like this tree, which is now complete.

As Altrusans, you are asked to subscribe to high standards of performance as expressed in our motto. If you so promise, will you please signify by saying, "I do".

Now I will ask the sponsors to present the initiates with their New Member kits and pin.

Madam President, I am proud to introduce \_\_\_\_\_, the newest member(s) of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

## INVESTMENT IN ALTRUSA

\*\*\* NOTE: Additional file titled "Investment Stock Certificate" is a template for a certificate that could be used

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

Good evening. Tonight I would like for you to imagine that this is the Stockholders' Meeting of a sound, well established, and very successful corporation. This corporation is known as A. I. insert name of club, Inc. This corporation is \_\_\_\_\_ years old this year, and its parent organization is celebrating \_\_\_\_\_ years of service to worldwide communities. Each of you, as interested and active stockholders in the corporation, is here tonight to welcome a (some) new stockholder(s). Tonight is (her)their initiation. I would like to commend the sponsors who recommended this investment in the future of A I insert name of club, Inc.

As the names are called, will the sponsors please bring the new stockholder forward and tell us a little about her.

\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

As a new stockholder, I'm sure you are concerned with such matters as your responsibilities, investments of A. I. \_\_\_\_\_, Inc., dividends received from investments, and who the beneficiaries or recipients of these dividends will be. After tonight's meeting, my hope is that these concerns will be laid to rest and you will leave ready to give service and participate in the upcoming activities of A. I. \_\_\_\_\_, Inc.

As an Altrusan, your responsibilities include attending meetings as regularly as you can. The program meetings will help you learn more about the individual committees as they present each program, and these meetings also will help you learn more of our community needs. The business meetings allow you to take part in the decisions on what investments we are involved with and how your volunteer time and efforts can help ensure the success of our investments. It is the fellowship experienced at meetings and the working together in service that bring full value to being an Altrusan. Accept serving on committees. Help with our fundraising to help raise the capital needed for the investments we choose. Be aware of the corporation's progress toward its goals, and be ready to join in whatever action is needed at each stage of the way.

The time and talents you give will determine the size of your investments. The individual dividends returned will be relative to the investments made in District \_\_\_\_\_, which includes \_\_\_\_\_, and local investments, such as \_\_\_\_\_ (name local club projects). The time and money committed to these investments have paid off by attaining dividends that enrich the lives touched and our own lives. By working in unity for Altrusa through our motto, "Patriotism, Efficiency, Service", and pooling time and assets, you will enrich yourself and others and increase the dividends paid to you, the other stockholders, and the community. Work with us at A. I. \_\_\_\_\_, Inc. and this year will be another successful one.

It is my pleasure to welcome you as a new member and stockholder of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_. I present you now with your stock certificate and most recent prospectus (New Member Kit). Please read the prospectus thoroughly. I'll ask your sponsors now to pin on your membership pin. Wear it proudly, and always over your heart.

Madam President, and Altrusa Members, I present to you, your newest member(s).



## STOCK CERTIFICATE

Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_  
Incorporated under the laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*(club's street address)*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*(club's city, state, zip)*

This is to certify that

**Member Name Goes Here**

Is the owner of one fully paid share of  
Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_ Common Stock,  
Par value is priceless and dividends are endless.  
This Certificate is valid for the rest of your life.  
Witness the signatures  
of the duly authorized officers of the Corporation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Membership Chair

## JEWELRY BOX

*Props include a jewelry box, pearls, green jewelry, multi-colored jewelry, tarnished jewelry, and Altrusa pin.*

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

It is with great pride that I officially welcome our new members into Altrusa. To be invited to become an Altrusan is a high honor indeed, and one that should be cherished. Remember that you do not join Altrusa, you become an Altrusan, because Altrusa is a way of life.

Will the initiates and their sponsors please come forward as I call your names.

\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

Most women love jewelry. Tonight, this jewelry box represents Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_. The jewelry placed inside will represent the opportunity you have to make Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_ more beautiful.

### PEARLS:

How many times have you gone to your jewelry box for something special and somehow the ever-faithful pearls seemed just right. Faithfulness as an Altrusan is very important, too – your faithfulness to the regular meetings, committee meetings, areas of service, and the ideals of Altrusa. I place the pearls of faithfulness into the jewelry box to remind you that faithfulness does come first.

### GREEN:

Growth is necessary in all areas of our lives, and this certainly applies to our life as an Altrusan. We grow in knowledge, in friendship, and in our work together, and our club grows as we seek out new members. I add this green jewelry for growth, as a reminder of things in store for you as an Altrusan.

### MULTI-COLORED:

A life with just one interest soon becomes humdrum and commonplace. But that is not true when we become an Altrusan. There are so many things to do that the big problem is getting them all done. Our service opportunities include \_\_\_\_\_ (list service projects and other important activities), just to name a few. This necklace of many colors tells you you'll never get bored as an Altrusan.

### TARNISHED:

It is a sad experience to look into your jewelry box for a favorite piece, only to find it tarnished. This piece (*hold up tarnished jewelry*) is badly tarnished, perhaps by neglect, or it may never have been really important to the owner. But it reminds you that being an Altrusan can be tarnished, too, by neglect, by not caring enough, or by not being true to the purpose of Altrusa.

### PIN:

Our jewelry box cannot be complete without an Altrusa pin. The insignia on this pin is composed of three concentric circles. A map of the work symbolizing Altrusa's international scope and interest fills the center circle. Surrounding the map is a second circle bearing Altrusa's motto: PATRIOTISM, EFFICIENCY, SERVICE. And the outer circle bears the official name of the organization – Altrusa International, Inc. Wear your pin proudly!

With all the bright colors, the Altrusa jewelry box is beautiful, isn't it? And with your cooperation and service, our club will be more beautiful.

As an Altrusan, you are asked to subscribe to high standards of performance as expressed in our motto. If you so promise, please signify by saying, "I do".

Now I will ask the sponsors to present the initiates with their New Member kits and pin.

Madam President, I am proud to introduce \_\_\_\_\_, the newest member(s) of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

## MAMIE L. BASS

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

I am pleased to ask \_\_\_\_\_ and her (their) sponsor(s) to come forward.

Membership in Altrusa is unique. Membership is extended to professionals classified as achievers in many different fields, people who have in common, besides success, a strong sense of responsibility toward the human family.

Altrusa coordinates leadership talents and amplifies individual efforts into a significant volunteer force to improve the quality of life. Altrusa asks that you give of yourself. In the words of our first National President, Mamie L. Bass:

“Altrusa believes it is not enough to be good, Altrusans must be good for something. Each member must be doing the piece of work that is hers in a way that puts her in the front ranks of accomplishment.”

As a member you don't just join Altrusa, you become an ALTRUSAN... for it is a way of life.

You have been asked to become an Altrusan, and you have responded to that invitation.

list new initiate(s) name(s), will you accept the obligations and rewards of membership in Altrusa by saying, “I will”? *Wait for response.*

Congratulations! You are now an Altrusan.

Your sponsor will present you with your pin and your co-sponsor will present your membership kit.

We are very fortunate to have you as a member of Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_.

Madam President, it is my pleasure to present to you our newest member(s), list new initiate(s) name(s).

### PRESIDENT:

*[welcomes new member(s) and presents her(them) with a rose.]*

## OBLIGATION MEMBERSHIP (Version 1)

**PRESIDENT:**

Tonight is a very special night for our club, for we are about to initiate \_\_\_\_\_ (number) new members. It is good for us all, on such occasions, to be reminded of our own initiation and the full scope and obligation of Altrusa membership. Altrusa is a worldwide service association of business, executive, and professional women and men, united in personal development and fellowship. The International organization has approximately \_\_\_\_\_ members in \_\_\_\_\_ countries, and we in Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_ are proud of our group of \_\_\_\_\_ (number), among whom I know our new members will find many friends.

The name Altrusa is derived from "altruism", which is unselfish concern for, or devotion to, the welfare of others, and in our club, there are plenty of opportunities for practicing altruism.

I now ask our sponsors to bring our new members forward for initiation as I call their names.

\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR**

Every Altrusan is a person of ability, and a recognized leader in her own field. She gives of herself and her talents for the benefit of others, in the true spirit of our organization. This club recognizes your abilities, and we are delighted to see you initiated into membership. We believe you will find opportunities to further develop your talents and personality through your contribution to Altrusa and through your contact both with fellow Altrusans and with those whom we aim to serve. Altrusa asks much of you, for the responsibilities of membership are many. We wish to assure you, however, that the rewards of membership are great. We work hard, but there is fun and fellowship, too!

Your sponsor will now give you your New Member Kit. I ask you to read the material carefully. A good Altrusan is a knowledgeable Altrusan, and there is a wealth of information here for you to assimilate. We are all learning something new all the time – it is an on-going process, and we help each other as we work together.

**PRESIDENT:**

The Altrusa pin, with the world at its center, symbolizes Altrusa's International scope. It is an outward sign of an inward commitment. Altrusans wear this pin proudly. Club members, will you re-affirm your commitment to Altrusa and show your unity, support, and friendship to our new members by standing together as they make their pledge, after which the sponsors will put on their pin.

Will you please stand? (*members stand*)

(*Question for new members*) Will you accept the obligations of Altrusa membership by pledging regular attendance, involvement in committee work and service projects, and acceptance of leadership roles when asked? If so, please answer, "I will".

**NEW MEMBERS:** I will.

**SPONSORS:** *Please pin on the Altrusa pins and welcome your new member.*

**PRESIDENT:**

On behalf of the members of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_, I warmly welcome you into the membership of Altrusa.

## **OBLIGATION MEMBERSHIP (Version 2)**

### *MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:*

It is always a highlight event when we have an initiation to perform. The act of initiation expresses the worth we place on membership in our club and the commitment we expect to your membership.

Madam President, members, I present to you \_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_ . Will the initiates and their sponsors please come forward.

I consider it a very special honor to be the one to officially welcome you to Altrusa. You do not join Altrusa, you BECOME an Altrusan. When you receive an invitation to become an Altrusan, you can be sure that you were chosen for your personal qualifications, as well as your being a representative of your chosen vocation.

For each benefit of pleasure you receive as an Altrusan, there is an obligation to use it and to pass it on to others. Therefore, Altrusa also has its obligations. It becomes the duty of each member upon entrance into the club:

- To make the effort to know and put into practice the objectives of Altrusa
- To acquaint yourself with the provisions of the Altrusa By-Laws and Policies, the Altrusa Encyclopedia, and the Classification Guide
- To attend meetings regularly and take part in all activities of the club
- To accept committee assignments when asked
- To pay dues promptly
- To recognize every sincere effort to carry out the aims of Altrusa
- To encourage members to develop and reveal their abilities more fully
- To hold the desire to see clearly, to deal fairly, and to recognize merit and accomplishment wholeheartedly
- To extend your interest beyond your own club by attending Workshops, Conferences, and International Conventions as often as possible

It is a privilege of the sponsor of each new member to extend to you a friendly welcome, from herself and all Altrusa members, by pinning on your Altrusa pin. This pin is the Altrusa insignia, so wear it with pride over your heart, for we are confident that you will always uphold the high ideals and principles of Altrusa.

Your New Member Kit contains your membership card and club yearbook. It also contains the Altrusa Encyclopedia. Study this carefully, so that you will be as competent in the world of Altrusa International as you are in the world of work.

Congratulations! We know that you will enjoy being an Altrusan. Welcome to Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.

# PRINCIPLES OF ALTRUSA (VERSION 1)

*(Props include candles and holders for each new member, plus one candle for membership and one for each new member for the motto)*

**PRESIDENT:**

I am always happy to be able to announce the initiation of a new Altrusan. Today I have that opportunity. Will the Membership Development Chair please introduce the new members?

**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

Madam President, members, I present to you \_\_\_\_\_. *(Light candle and tell something about the member.)*

**PRESIDENT:**

It is my privilege to welcome you to an international organization of some \_\_\_\_\_ (overall number) women, including \_\_\_\_\_ (number) in this club who have pledged themselves to serve for the betterment of the human condition. You become a member of Altrusa International as you become a member our club. Let us now proceed with the initiation.

**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

The work "INITIATE" means to take the first step. With this initiation, you take the first step toward sharing your leadership talents in Altrusa service to help shape a better world and to help people help themselves in our community, the kind of service that works on causes of problems, as well as solutions to them. As an Altrusan, you will be expected to accept Altrusa as a way of life. Altrusa Principles 2, 3, 5, and 7 define Altrusa so exactly that I now ask \_\_\_\_\_ to read them.

**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MEMBER(S):**

Principle 2: Altrusa is an expression of the search for the best in character, in business, and in citizenship.

Principle 3: Election to Altrusa is an evidence of confidence, which imposes upon the recipient the obligation to strive to be true to the highest standards of life in her personal and business relations.

Principle 5: Altrusa is Practical Idealism. Its service consists, not in saying great things, but in daily earnest practice of its principles.

Principle 7: Altrusa develops true leadership, concerned with accomplishment and not with recognition.

**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

The full set of 12 Principles of Altrusa, the Key to Altrusa, and Altrusa Ideals are inspiring codes to live by. You will find them in the Altrusa Encyclopedia included in your New Member Kit, which we will present to you. We ask that you study everything in the kit, so as to understand the true scope of your membership. *(Light candle)* The motto of Altrusa is Patriotism, Efficiency, Service. Patriotism is loyalty and devotion to your nation and community. Efficiency is the ability to produce the desired effect in our relationships with others. We work to improve conditions in our community, nation, and world. Service is participation in activities that benefit others. We dedicate ourselves to this kind of Service. \_\_\_\_\_, if you pledge to work with us in Altrusa Service, indicate it by lighting your candle. I now ask your sponsor to present you with your club member pin and New Member kit. *(As the sponsors pin the pins)* Only members are privileged to wear the Altrusa pin. Wear it proudly over your heart. It identifies you as an Altrusan by virtue of being an outstanding representative of your career field. It proclaims you a leader among leaders in this pioneer of women's service clubs. Will you now accept the obligations of Altrusa membership by pledging regular attendance, involvement in committee work and service projects, and willingness to accept leadership roles when asked. If you do, please say, "I will".

**NEW MEMBER:** I will.

**PRESIDENT OR MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

Welcome to Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_,

## **PRINCIPLES OF ALTRUSA (VERSION 2) (Patriotic Holidays)**

*(Props include one large blue candle, one large red candle, and one large white candle, and small blue candles and holders for each new member)*

**PRESIDENT:**

It is a very special event when we have an initiation service to perform, for the act of initiation expresses the worth we place on membership in our club and the commitment we expect of it. \_\_\_\_\_, as representative of the Membership Development Committee, would you introduce the new members and their sponsors? As the names are called, would the sponsors bring the new members forward?

**MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE:**

Madam President, members, I present to you \_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

Would the sponsors give us a short profile on the new member?

I consider it a very special honor to be the one to welcome you into Altrusa officially. You do not join Altrusa, you become an Altrusan. The work "INITIATE" means to take the first step. With this initiation, you take the first step toward sharing your leadership talents in Altrusa service to help shape a better world and to help people help themselves in our community; the kind of service that works on causes of problems, as well as solutions to them. For each benefit or pleasure you receive as an Altrusan, there is an obligation to use it and pass it on to others. Therefore, Altrusa also has its obligations. Altrusa, as a way of life, is defined so exactly by Altrusa Principles 2, 3, 5, and 7 that I would like to share them with you.

Principle 2: Altrusa is an expression of the search for the best in character, in business, and in citizenship.

Principle 3: Election to Altrusa is an evidence of confidence, which imposes upon the recipient the obligation to strive to be true to the highest standards of life in her personal and business relations.

Principle 5: Altrusa is Practical Idealism. Its service consists, not in saying great things, but in daily earnest practice of its principles.

Principle 7: Altrusa develops true leadership, concerned with accomplishment and not with recognition.

The full set of 12 Principles of Altrusa, the Key to Altrusa, and Altrusa Ideals are inspiring codes to live by. You will find them in the Altrusa Encyclopedia included in the New Member Kit, which we will present to you.

Summer brings two special holidays – Memorial Day honoring those who came before us, especially our service men and women who gave their lives for country's freedom, and the Fourth of July, when our country received its independence. Today, we have chosen our country's colors of red, white, and blue for your initiation. The blue candle represents Altrusa, the white candle is for efficiency, and the red signifies the love and service Altrusa represents. The American beauty rose is another symbol of freedom. Put them all together and they spell patriotism. If you will accept the obligations of being an Altrusan, please light the small club candles from the Altrusa Candle, as a pledge of your loyalty and service to Altrusa.

It is the privilege of the sponsor of each new member to extend to her a friendly welcome from herself and Altrusa members by presenting you with your Altrusa pin. This pin is the insignia of Altrusa, so wear it proudly. Study your New Member Kit, so as to better understand the true scope of Altrusa.

Congratulations! Madam President and Altrusa members, I present to you your new members.

**PRESIDENT:**

Welcome to Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_,

## PURPOSE OF ALTRUSA

*(Props include one large white candle and one large blue candle and small candles for each new member.)*

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

Altrusa is a classified, International service organization for professional or executive women and men. It is nonpartisan and nonsectarian. The purpose of Altrusa is:

- To provide a main channel through which executive business and professional women and men, representing a wide variety of occupational fields, can work together; thereby making possible the promotion of their common interests and more effective contribution of their combined services to civic, national, and international understanding and betterment, and
- To extend the field for friendships and contacts among professional women and men beyond the bounds of their own professional groups

It is always a highlight event when we have an initiation to perform. The act of initiation expresses the worth we place on membership in our club and the commitment we expect to our club. Since Altrusans feel that it is a privilege and a great responsibility to help build our club's membership by sponsoring outstanding persons for membership, I charge the sponsors to fulfill your obligation to the club and the new members. The enjoyment each new member receives and service that she (or he) gives our club is your responsibility. Sponsors, will you please bring forward and introduce your prospective members?

\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

I consider it a very special honor to be the one to officially welcome you into Altrusa. You do not JOIN Altrusa. You BECOME AN ALTRUSAN. When you received an invitation to become an Altrusan, you can be sure that you were chosen for your personal qualifications and also as being a representative of your vocation.

The benefits of Altrusa are many and varied. For each benefit or pleasure you receive as an Altrusan, there is an obligation to use it and pass it on to others. Therefore, Altrusa also has its obligations. Altrusa, as a way of life, is defined so exactly by Altrusa Principles 2, 3, 5, and 7 that I would like to share them with you.

- Principle 2: Altrusa is an expression of the search for the best in character, in business, and in citizenship.
- Principle 3: Election to Altrusa is an evidence of confidence, which imposes upon the recipient the obligation to strive to be true to the highest standards of life in her personal and business relations.
- Principle 5: Altrusa is Practical Idealism. Its service consists, not in saying great things, but in daily earnest practice of its principles.
- Principle 7: Altrusa develops true leadership, concerned with accomplishment and not with recognition.

The Principles of Altrusa, the Key to Altrusa, and Altrusa Ideals are inspiring codes to live by. You will find them in the Altrusa Encyclopedia, which is included in the New Member Kit, which we will present to you. We ask that you study everything in the Kit, so as to understand the true scope of your membership.

It is the privilege of the sponsor of each new member to extend to you a friendly welcome from herself and Altrusa members by presenting you with your Altrusa pin. This pin is the insignia of Altrusa, so wear it proudly. We are confident you will always uphold the ideals and principles of Altrusa. If, for any reason, you should cease to be an Altrusan, you will return the pin, as it is the property of the club.

*Hand each initiate a candle.*

Symbolizing the colors of Altrusa are these two candles. The white one symbolizes Altrusa International, and the blue one represents our local club. If you accept the obligations of Altrusa membership by pledging regular attendance, involvement in committee work and service projects, and a willingness to accept leadership roles when asked, please light your candle from the white candle.

*(presentation of kits and pins)*

Congratulations! We know you will enjoy being an Altrusan and our club will be strengthened by your membership. Madam President and members, I am proud to welcome our newest members. Please make them welcome and help them grow in the world of Altrusa.

## RAINBOW

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

A rainbow glows far off in the sky, spreading its glorious array of colors for all the world to see. Its beauty, with the rays of sunshine, brings joy and hope for us. New members are a ray of sunshine to our club, an all-new color, who bring new ideas to Altrusa.

As your names are called, will the sponsors please bring the new member forward and tell us a little about her.

\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_

I consider it a very special privilege to be the one to officially welcome you to Altrusa. You do not join Altrusa, you become an Altrusan. The word initiate means to take the first step. With this initiation, you are taking the first step toward sharing your leadership talents in Altrusa service to help people in our community help themselves.

The rainbow can be a constant reminder of the seven keys of Altrusa.

RED reminds us to leave unspoken those unkind words and represents our first key – AMITY.

ORANGE is the sunshine of warm friendship and signifies our second key – LOYALTY.

YELLOW, the color of gold, signifies learning, and is the third key – TALENT.

GREEN, in our modern age, means “go,” and stands for the fourth key – RECIPROCITY.

The BLUE of our sky, that spreads all over, reminds us that we can spread a message to all by being a perfect example of friendliness toward our fellow man and promoting our fifth key – UNITY.

INDIGO is a deep color, as deep as the ocean, and just as deep should be our feeling for one another - to share each other's joys and also to share each other's cares. Our sixth key is SERVICE.

Last is VIOLET, the warm glow that mellows and soothes and blends with all the colors, as we reach our common goal, the key of ACHIEVEMENT.

Let the rainbow, revealing the colors of the spectrum, make your life a brilliant array of iridescent color and a thing of Altrusa beauty, for others to share and to remember.

As an Altrusan, you are asked to subscribe to high standards of performance as expressed in our motto: PATRIOTISM, EFFICIENCY, SERVICE. If you so promise, please signify by saying, “I do”.

It is the privilege of each new member's sponsor to extend a friendly welcome from herself and all Altrusa members by presenting her with her new Altrusa pin. This pin is the insignia of Altrusa, so wear it proudly over your heart. Your New Member Kit contains additional information about Altrusa. Study this information and become as efficient in Altrusa as you are in your work world.

Congratulations! We know that you will enjoy being an Altrusan as much as our club will be strengthened by your membership.

Madam President and members of Altrusa, I present to you your new members.

## RAYS OF THE SUN

*(Props needed include candles for each new member)*

### **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:**

Today (tonight) Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_ continues its journey down the path of sunshine. The brightest rays from this sun symbol are our new members. It is through new members that we acquire new ideas, new strengths, and new outlooks. The act of initiation expresses the worth we place on membership in our club and the commitment we expect to it.

I consider it a very special honor to be the one to officially welcome you to Altrusa. You do not join Altrusa, you BECOME an Altrusan. When you receive an invitation to become an Altrusan, you can be sure that you were chosen for your personal qualifications, as well as being a representative of your vocation.

The word "initiate" means "to take a first step". With this initiation, you take the first step toward sharing your leadership talents in Altrusa service to help shape a better world and help people in our community help themselves, the kind of service that works on causes of problems as well as solutions to them.

As your names are called, will the sponsors please bring our new members forward and tell us a little about them.

\_\_\_\_\_, sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_.

Before you is a candle, symbolic of the sun and its rays. If you accept the obligations of Altrusa membership by pledging regular attendance, involvement in committee work and service projects, and willingness to accept leadership roles when asked, light one of the candles, representing a ray of sunshine, as a token of your acceptance.

For each benefit of pleasure you receive as an Altrusan, there is an obligation to use it and to pass it on to others; therefore, Altrusa also has its obligations. Altrusa, as a way of life, is defined by the Altrusa Principles. These principles, the Key to Altrusa, and Altrusa Ideals are inspiring codes to live by. These are found in the Altrusa Encyclopedia that is included in the New Member Kit, which is now being presented to you. We ask that you study all of the material in the kit, so as to understand the true scope of your membership.

It is a privilege of the sponsor of each new member to extend you a friendly welcome, from herself and all Altrusa members, by pinning on your Altrusa pin. This pin is the Altrusa insignia, so wear it with pride, for we are confident that you will always uphold the high ideals and principles of Altrusa. If, for any reason, you should cease to be an Altrusan, you will return the pin, as it is the property of the club.

Congratulations and Welcome to Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_. May your ray of sunshine candle be your guiding light and lead you to greater opportunities.

Madam President, and Altrusa Members, I present to you, your new members.

## SPRING FLOWERS

*Props include a vase, an ivy, a rosemary, a daffodil, a hyacinth, and a pansy – real or silk - for each new member. Other seasonal flowers can be used and the script adjusted as needed.)*

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:

The highlight of any meeting is when we have an initiation to perform. Madam President and members of Altrusa International of \_\_\_\_\_, I would like to present the members to be initiated today. Will the initiates and their sponsors please come forward as I call your name. Sponsors, please give us a brief introduction to your new member.

\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_

The word INITIATE means to take the first step. As you become an Altrusan, you take the first step towards sharing your Leadership in Service to the community through the channel of this club. The members of the Membership Development Committee are going to share in this ceremony.

Spring brings new life to the world. For many, it is a new beginning. As you become an Altrusan, may this be the beginning of a new life for you.

Hand each new member a vase.

*(Five members of the Membership Development Committee are seated randomly in the room. Each member represents a flower. As each flower is introduced, the committee member stands and recites her part. When she is finished, she places a flower in each new member's vase.)*

### FIRST COMMITTEE MEMBER:

IVY stands for friendship. May your progress and growth in Altrusa be with friendship entwining, as the ivy symbolizes.

### SECOND COMMITTEE MEMBER:

ROSEMARY is for Remembrance. Remember to attend meetings, projects, and fundraisers. Remember to always wear your pin over your heart. Remember that others depend on you. But most of all, remember to enjoy Altrusa.

### THIRD COMMITTEE MEMBER:

"I wandered lonely as a cloud that floats on high o'er vales and hills, when all at once I saw a crowd, a host of golden DAFFODILS." We trust that your future will be as golden as the daffodil, and that you will never be as lonely as that cloud. As an Altrusan, there is no loneliness.

### FOURTH COMMITTEE MEMBER:

HYACINTHS denote constancy. We hope that you will be constant in your Altrusa activities.

### FIFTH COMMITTEE MEMBER:

PANSIES are for thoughts. May you as an Altrusan think of other people and other ways to help our community, and be ever thoughtful of your fellow Altrusans.

*MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CHAIR:*

The Altrusa pin bears the Altrusa insignia, which comprises three concentric circles. The center circle depicts the map of the world, which symbolizes Altrusa interests. The second circle surrounding the center bears the Altrusa motto: Patriotism, Efficiency, Service. The outer circle bears the official name – Altrusa International, Incorporated. As an Altrusan, you are asked to subscribe to the high ideals and standards of performance expressed in our motto. If you so promise, please signify by saying, “I do”.

The membership kit contains very important information including the Altrusa Encyclopedia. This Encyclopedia contains the answers to those questions you many have about Altrusa. The rule is twenty minutes bed-time reading every night.

Will the sponsors please present the member pin and New Member Kit.

Madam President and members, I am proud to present our newest members of Altrusa International, Inc. of \_\_\_\_\_.