

**2013-2014
Board of Directors**

President

Pam Kovacs

President-Elect

Gloria Sandoval

Vice-President

Sue McElveen

Recording Secretary

Marsha Peters

Corresponding Secretary

Gerry Carron

Administrative Treasurer

Jenn Rohm

Foundation Treasurer

Courtenay Tanner

Directors

Kay George

Jo Leeper

Linda Korn

Cindy McIntyre

Immediate Past President

Kimberly Kierce

Parliamentarian

Carolyn Swanson

President's Message

THE SEASON OF GIVING

This is the time of year that many view as the season of giving. As the holidays approach, there becomes that once-a-year focus on the giving of gifts, purchasing food and toys for those in need, spending time with seniors and children with medical problems, and making annual charitable donations. For an Altrusan, our season of giving begins each year on June 1st and continues for the next twelve months.

It is often said that it is better to give than to receive. But, can one give without receiving? In fact, there is actually some debate among philosophers and psychologists whether "true" Altruism is even possible. Pure Altruism would mean that some sacrifice—time, energy or financial resources—would be made with no expectation of benefit.

Honestly, for all of us—certainly any Altrusan—when we are sharing, helping, or giving, we do receive much personal gratification. Who doesn't support a club project with their heart, hands, or another personal contribution knowing how wonderful it feels to do good works? Even when we venture out of our comfort zone and volunteer for a new project that we might think we're not going to enjoy, we still experience a lot of happiness. It just feels good to do "good".

Members make the decision to become an Altrusan for a variety of reasons. Most of us joined simply because we have caring hearts and the desire to give. A favorite quote from Mother Teresa states, "It's not how much we give but how much love we put into

giving." Altrusans give a lot and love every minute of it!

Each year, our twelve month season of giving continues to give back to us a great deal of pleasure. For each and every one of you, I wish you the joy, love, and peace you freely give to others throughout the year. Thank you for all you do to make me so proud to serve as your President.

With love and blessings for the holidays!



Pam Kovacs

President, 2013-2014
pamkovacs@friendsplaceads.com

"You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give."

— Kahlil Gibran

"Don't wait for other people to be loving, giving, compassionate, grateful, forgiving, generous, or friendly... lead the way!"

— Steve Maraboli, **Unapologetically You: Reflections on Life and the Human Experience**

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"Leading Loudly, Serving Proudly!"

Special Report

DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the January business meeting, we will elect the Nominating Committee who will develop a slate of officers for 2014-2015. Anyone interested in serving on the Board of Directors should contact the chair of the Nominating Committee. Before volunteering or agreeing to serve, you should review the duties of the board members.

Shown below are the job descriptions included in the materials given to the officers at installation. (Thank you, Nancy Rohm!) The duties are imposed by our Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws and Policies from Altrusa International, Inc., our own Policies, Robert's Rules of Order, the State of Texas, and the Internal Revenue Service.

Some of the tasks may change before the beginning of the new club year, as we modify our defining documents in compliance with state and federal laws for nonprofit organizations.

**The President shall:**

- ◇ Preside over all meetings of the Club.
- ◇ Prepare an agenda for each meeting.
- ◇ Be chairman of the Board of Directors and an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee.
- ◇ Vote only to break ties. Be a leader and delegate to others.
- ◇ Know the club's policies.
- ◇ Be a signatory of the Club along with the Administrative Treasurer, Foundation Treasurer and Immediate Past President. Any of these four signatories on an account will be authorized to sign checks for amounts under \$500. Two signatories will be required for any checks of \$500 or more. Checks will not be pre-signed by the second signatory.
- ◇ Oversee the funds in The President's Discretionary Fund and authorize the use of those funds as you deem appropriate. This fund was established to allow members who desire training but can't afford it the opportunity to participate in the training (i.e. District Conference.)
- ◇ With approval of the Board, appoint such special committees and standing committees, except the Nominating Committee, as you deem necessary.
- ◇ Arrange for a professional photo of our club at conference (if one is desired.)

The President Elect shall:

- ◇ Know the club's policies.
- ◇ Spend this fiscal year planning for the next year when you will be President; acquaint yourself with the duties of President and prepare to assume them.
- ◇ Observe strengths and weaknesses within the Club.
- ◇ Serve as President in the absence of the President.
- ◇ Assume the office of President at the expiration of the term of the incumbent, or upon the inability of the incumbent to complete her term.
- ◇ In spring, near the end of your term as President-Elect, attend the District Conference, and encourage your leaders to attend.
- ◇ At the above district conference, assign Richardson attendees to workshops for training.
- ◇ Notify the President if you do not plan to attend a Board meeting.

(Continued on page 3)

Duties of the Board of Directors *(Continued from page 2)***The Vice-President shall:**

- ◇ Know the club's policies.
- ◇ Assist the President in her work.
- ◇ Act for the President-Elect in her absence or her inability to act.
- ◇ Assume duties that may be assigned by the Club Board of Directors or requested by the Club President.
- ◇ Notify the President if you do not plan to attend a Board meeting.

The Recording Secretary shall:

- ◇ Know the club's policies.
- ◇ Record minutes of the meetings of the Club and the Board. Deposit approved minutes of the Club on the Altrusa Richardson website monthly. Place files in a folder marked with the appropriate year. Club records must be maintained according to the records retention schedule.
- ◇ Reflect approval of new members by the Board in the Board minutes. Keep Membership Recommendation forms in a designated folder on the Altrusa Richardson website and update this folder annually.
- ◇ Keep the official attendance of the club.
- ◇ Assigned Laptop be maintained and contain the backup of all club files created and maintained by your position. Laptop must be turned over by the end of the year to Laptop Administrator for system updates and file backups.
- ◇ Complete attendance cards for visitors from other Altrusa Clubs.
- ◇ Notify any members who have achieved almost perfect attendance and may be eligible for Perfect Attendance Recognition, 3 months before the end of the fiscal year (in late February.)
- ◇ Notify the President if you do not plan to attend a Board meeting.

The Corresponding Secretary shall:

- ◇ Know the club's policies.
- ◇ Prepare and send letters and notes as directed by the Board of Directors and the President on club letterhead for all Administration and Foundation matters.
- ◇ Assigned Laptop be maintained and contain the backup of all club files created and maintained by your position. Laptop must be turned over by the end of the year to Laptop Administrator for system updates and file backups.

- ◇ Issue invitations to new members approved by the Board, coordinating with the Membership Recruitment Committee.
- ◇ Acknowledge memorial donations for deceased members and immediate family members at the same time the Foundation Treasurer submits the club's annual donation to the International Foundation.
- ◇ Read correspondence at the Board and Business meetings.
- ◇ Maintain a file of important papers and documents.
- ◇ Notify the President if you do not plan to attend a Board meeting.

All Directors shall:

- ◇ Attend meetings of the Board of Directors.
- ◇ Know the club's policies.
- ◇ Assume duties that may be assigned by the Board of Directors or requested by the Club President.

The Immediate Past-President shall:

- ◇ Serve on the Board of Directors bringing your experience as Chief Executive Officer the past year.
- ◇ Know the club's policies.
- ◇ Be a signatory of the Club along with the Administrative Treasurer, Foundation Treasurer, and President. Any of these four signatories on an account will be authorized to sign checks for amounts under \$500. Two signatories will be required for any checks of \$500 or more. Checks will not be pre-signed by the second signatory.
- ◇ Organize and lead a Committee of all members who joined in the most recent year (when you were president) on a project.
- ◇ Assume duties that may be requested by the Club Board of Directors or requested by the club President.
- ◇ Notify the President if you do not plan to attend a Board meeting.

The Administrative Treasurer shall:

- ◇ Serve as a member of the Finance Committee.
- ◇ Know the Club's policies.
- ◇ Assigned Laptop be maintained and contain the backup of all club files created and maintained by your position. Laptop must be turned over by the end of the year to Laptop Administrator for system updates and files to be transferred to the Audit Committee.
- ◇ Keep an accurate roster of the entire membership.

(Continued on page 4)

Duties of the Board of Directors *(Continued from page 3)*

- ◇ Maintain the Administrative money in a depository in the name of the Club, and keep an accurate record of the account.
- ◇ Be a signatory of the Club along with the Foundation Treasurer, Club President and Immediate Past President. Any of these four signatories on an account will be authorized to sign checks for amounts under \$500. Two signatories will be required for any checks of \$500. or more. Checks will not be pre-signed by the second signatory.
- ◇ Deposit funds and submitted checks into the Club Administrative account within 45 days from receipt. (Post-dated checks must be deposited within 45 days from the date on the check.)
- ◇ Disburse money from the Administrative Account to pay bills authorized by the Club Board of Directors.
- ◇ Maintain back-up copies of the budgets to prevent loss and also place on the Richardson Altrusa website for permanent record.
- ◇ Present a report at each regular meeting of the board and a report to the membership quarterly.
- ◇ Collect all dues, fees, fines and President's Discretionary Fund contributions. (The President's Discretionary Fund is a budgeted line item, set by the Finance Committee as a part of the Administrative Budget. Any disbursement of funds will be confidential and at the discretion of the President. These funds will be kept on this line item for the entire fiscal year. At the end of the year, remaining funds will be rolled over into surplus funds for the start of the next year. If the incoming Board elects to discontinue the President's Discretionary Fund, monies will be transferred to the International Convention Reserve.)
- ◇ Notify Active members of any failure to pay dues or late charges as required by the Bylaws.
- ◇ Send the annual membership dues report on forms provided by International together with the annual per capita dues required by International and District respectively, to the International Office and the District Treasurer on or before the date established by the International Board of Directors each year.
- ◇ Receive and reimburse all requests submitted (a) within 60 days of the expense but no later than May 31, on a "Request for Reimbursement" form supported by invoices and/or receipts.
- ◇ Remind club members they must cash the reimbursement check within 60 days or the check shall be null and void.
- ◇ Save all invoices and receipts for audit.
- ◇ Foundation funds may not be transferred into the Administrative Budget. The foundation may reimburse the Administration for budgeted items, i.e. dinners for scholarship recipients and their guest.
- ◇ In March, order the President's Pin. This will be the club's gift to the outgoing President in May. (Ask which type pin she wants.)
- ◇ Carry over all Funds remaining in the Administrative Budget at the end of any fiscal year to the next fiscal year.
- ◇ Submit your Treasurer's End of Year Report for Financial Audit within 45 days (or less) of the Club's year-end.
- ◇ Notify the President if you do not plan to attend a Board meeting.

The Foundation Treasurer shall:

- ◇ Serve as a member of the Finance Committee.
- ◇ Know the club's policies.
- ◇ Assigned Laptop be maintained and contain the backup of all club files created and maintained by your position. Laptop must be turned over by the end of the year to Laptop Administrator for system updates and files to be transferred to the Audit Committee.
- ◇ Maintain the Foundation money in an interest bearing depository in the name of the Club, and keep an accurate record of the account.
- ◇ Be a signatory of the Club along with the Administrative Treasurer, Club President and Immediate Past President. Any of these four signatories on an account will be authorized to sign checks for amounts under \$500. Two signatories will be required for any checks of \$500 or more. Checks will not be pre-signed by the second signatory.
- ◇ Deposit funds and submitted checks into the Club Foundation account within 45 days from receipt. (Post-dated checks must be deposited within 45 days from the date on the check.)
- ◇ Use a zero-based budget for the Foundation (Zero-Based Budget is a method of budgeting in which all expenditures must be justified as to need and cost each year as opposed to only explaining amounts requested above or below the previous year's funding.)
- ◇ Maintain back-up copies of the budgets to prevent loss and also place on the Altrusa Richardson website for permanent record.
- ◇ Present a report at each regular meeting of the board and a report to the membership quarterly.
- ◇ Disburse money from the Foundation Account to fund club service.
- ◇ Serve as Treasurer of our OWT fundraiser,

(Continued on page 5)

Duties of the Board of Directors (Continued from page 4)

- depositing, disbursing and accounting for all funds.
- ◇ Encourage club members making Foundation purchases on behalf of the Club to use the tax ID # to eliminate paying of sales tax.
- ◇ Receive and reimburse all requests submitted (a) within 60 days of the expense but no later than May 31, on a "Request for Reimbursement" form supported by invoices and/or receipts.
- ◇ Remind club members they must cash reimbursement checks within 60 days, or the check shall be null and void.
- ◇ Save all invoices and receipts for audit.
- ◇ Make a memorial donation to the International Foundation in January for the previous calendar year, in the memory of the loss of members, their spouses, or immediate family members.
- ◇ Foundation funds may not be transferred into the Administrative Budget. The Foundation may reimburse the Administration for budgeted items, i.e. dinners for scholarship recipients and their guest.
- ◇ Follow IRS regulations for filing of the then applicable form by the 15th day of the 5th month after the Foundation accounting period (ends October 15.)
- ◇ Carry over all Funds remaining in the Foundation Budget at the end of any fiscal year to the next fiscal year.
- ◇ Submit your Treasurer's End of Year Report for Financial Audit within 45 days of the Club's year-end-sooner if possible.
- ◇ Notify the President if you do not plan to attend a Board meeting.

Project Report**SHELLEY'S BIRTHDAY PARTY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS—AS USUAL!**

By *Ginna Coffer, Ability House Committee Co-Chair*

We celebrated Shelley's birthday on Saturday November 2nd at Ability House. Ann Payne brought a beautiful cake and ice cream, which everyone enjoyed. Shelley had fun opening her presents: a pink hoodie and a silver and gold necklace with her initial 'S' on it. Also everyone got a small bag of candy for Halloween. Fun was had by all!

Ability Connection Texas (ACT) provides caring, family-style living environments for adults with disabilities through its residential services program. Ability House is one of seven homes operated by ACT throughout the North Texas area. These homes, sometimes referred to as group homes, allow individuals with disabilities to live with as much autonomy and independence as possible.

In addition to birthday parties, Our Ability House Committee holds holiday celebrations for the residents. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Ginna Coffer and Janie Jaquier are Co-Chairs of the committee.

**International Foundation News****TWO ALTRUSA FOUNDATIONS? YES, ONE FOR INTERNATIONAL, ONE FOR US**

The **Altrusa International Foundation** is a not-for-profit, philanthropic corporation established in 1962 by Altrusa International, Inc., a worldwide volunteer service organization devoted to contributing to human well-being through the development and implementation of effective local community service programs. The Altrusa International Foundation is dedicated to improving economic well-being and quality of life through a commitment to community services and literacy.

Our local foundation was created in 1992, when Articles of Incorporation for **Altrusa International Inc. of Richardson,**

Texas Foundation were filed with the Secretary of the State of Texas on July 18. The Corporation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, literary, and scientific purposes within the meaning of sections 170 (c)(2) and 501 (c)(3) of the internal Revenue Code.

Two of the Incorporators are still Altrusans: **Jo Leeper** and **Julianne Lovelace**. The eleven members of the original Board of Directors included **Jan Belcher, Mary Osentowski, and Jo Leeper**.

Member Highlights

NEW MEMBER DONNA BUHR

Donna Buhr grew up in a rural Arkansas farming community where she developed her devotion for church and family, appreciation for nature's beauty, and her love of gardening and the environment. In addition to gardening, Donna enjoys cooking, traveling to new places, reading a good book and watching a beautiful sunrise and sunset. Donna is married to James Buhr, and has one daughter. Donna is a Product Engineer for Esri Corporation, where she has worked for 17 years.

Donna's long history of supporting and serving the community began in her small hometown where she served on many clubs, organizations and fund raising events to support local causes. She worked with United Way, volunteered for Special Olympics, and many other acts of volunteerism, such as volunteering at the local museum, and working with special needs schools, housing and work organizations. Donna currently serves as co-chair of the Berkner Park Neighborhood Association, (BPNA) Beautification Committee, chair of the BPNA Creative Planning Group, and block captain for Eastpark Drive Crime Watch. Her favorite quotes concerning volunteerism is "Never doubt that a small group of

thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." –Margaret Mead, anthropologist.

Donna states, "I would like to thank my amazing sponsor, Kay George and mentors, Joe Leeper and Gerry Carron for their tremendous support; they are three of the most wonderful caring individuals and I am so fortunate and grateful to have had their wisdom and guidance while becoming an Altrusan. I look forward to the opportunity to help Altrusa serve the community through personal responsibility, meeting new friends, and greater opportunities to help the world I live in by 'Leading Loudly and Serving Proudly'".



Member Highlights

NEW MEMBER JANET SHEPPARD

Janet Sheppard is a native New Yorker and she and Jim, her husband, came to Texas 25 years ago when JC Penney relocated its headquarters and 2,500 employees from New York. Janet and Jim have a son and a daughter and this summer welcomed their first grandson and first granddaughter within 6 weeks of each other. Janet recently retired as Associate Dean of Continuing Education at Collin College. Janet and her husband love cruising and recently returned from a Transatlantic cruise. While Janet was in Ireland, she was excited when they passed by an Altrusa location in Cork, Ireland!

Janet's hobbies are cooking and crafts. Cookies are her specialty and has won 1st place in Dallas Morning News Holiday Cookie Contest two times and has won 2nd

and 3rd place four times. Janet has a small business selling handmade baby hats and hopes to participate in Market Place this year.

Janet and her husband started taking Bridge lessons through Collin College's SAIL program and met Cindy McIntyre's husband Curt. After Janet and Cindy finally met, Cindy invited Janet to the Altrusa Dinner when the scholarship awards were presented. After hearing the recipient's speeches and meeting some of the Altrusans, Janet decided that Altrusa would be the perfect place for some of her volunteer hours in retirement. While at Collin College, Janet participated in the scholarship committee and looks forward to serving on the Scholarship Committee for Altrusa Richardson.

**BOARD ACTIONS:**

- ◇ Reviewed new Policy from International: In order to be on the Nominating Committee, the member must have previously served on the Board of Directors
- ◇ Reviewed attendance records; Board members will contact those who have missed multiple meetings

Member Highlights

HASR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINEES INCLUDED ALTRUSANS

The Helping Agencies Serving Richardson Awards Luncheon was held on November 13, 2013. A large contingent of Altrusans attended to cheer for our members who were nominated for the prestigious awards, including **Hazel Weathers** (Education), **Jane Tucker** (Humanitarian), and **Courtenay Tanner** (Community Leadership). Courtenay was winner of the 2013 HASR Community Leadership Award.

Kay Hopper, recently retired as CEO from The Warren Center, was the recipient of The Dot McCalpin Award. Dot, an Altrusan, was a leader and active volunteer in the Richardson community for more than 45 years.

The keynote speaker was Mayor **Laura Maczka**.

Photographs are by Rick McGarry.



Kay Hopper



Courtenay Tanner



Jane Tucker



Hazel Weathers



Project Preview

ANOTHER ASSEMBLY PARTY, MORE OF THE FAMOUS FIDEO

By Bobbi Klein, Community Outreach Committee

If you missed sampling Bobbi Klein's "famous" Fideo in October, you'll have another chance! The Community Outreach Committee will be assembling "**Personal Emergency**" bags for NETWORK on **January 28th, at 6:30 pm** at Bobbi's house, (if you want to learn to make Fideo come at 6:00 pm). We'll have a "Fideo & Fixin's Supper", work on the bags, and be done by 8:00 pm.

The "Personal Emergency" bags, like the "Emergency Lunches" we did in October, will be for homeless clients who come to NETWORK and are in need of these items. Unlike the lunch bags, these bags will be gender specific (male & female) and contain soap, shampoo, deodorant, tooth paste & tooth brush, socks, and female personal hygiene items. We would also like to include mittens or gloves, since the bags will be delivered the end of January.

The Committee has budgeted money to purchase items for the bags, but if you wish to supplement the project, we will collect items at both of the January meetings. We've determined to use the personal care items that have been collected by the Committee so far in the bags, rather than just as a lump donation from the club. So **don't forget to snag those little bottles when you travel this holiday**. We'll put them to good use!

Looking ahead, our April NETWORK project will be strictly utilitarian! We've decided to donate items that are often



Altrusans assembling Emergency Lunches for NETWORK after feasting on Fideo & Fixin's at Bobbi Klein's home.

Committee Report

STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW POSTPONED

By Kay George, Strategic Plan Committee Co-Chair

The Strategic Planning Committee, co-chaired by Kay George and Jean Stuart, was supposed to review our 2013-2014 Strategic Plan in November. Due to numerous conflicts with other events, the Committee could not find a date to meet for the review. The next meeting will be scheduled after the holidays.

Members of the Strategic Planning Committee are Barbara Berthold, Susan Frensley, Toni Garrett, Bobbi Klein, Laura Maczka, and Claudia Tatum.

overlooked, but decidedly necessary; toilet paper, diapers, and female hygiene products.

FIDEO RECIPE (Columbian Spaghetti) ...in case you can't make it to the party...

8 oz. FIDEO (comes in a yellow box or cellophane bag in the Mexican food section [see substitute below])

1 lb. GROUND BEEF

15 oz. CAN OF DICED TOMATOES

1 med. ONION chopped

4 oz. CAN TOMATO PASTE

15 oz. TOMATO SAUCE

15 oz. CAN KERNEL CORN

2 T. VEGTABLE OIL

1 cup WATER

½ TSP SALT

1/8 TSP PEPPER

½ TSP CAYENNE PEPPER (to taste)

Brown the ground beef in large frying pan. Drain and remove beef. Add oil to pan and lightly brown the onion. Remove onion from pan. Lower heat. Add fideo noodles (substitute thin spaghetti broken into 2-3" pieces). Lightly brown noodles, stirring constantly. Add more oil if necessary. (Careful, the noodles brown quickly.) Add water, ground beef, onions, and rest of ingredients. Stir gently to blend and bring mixture back to a gentle boil. Lower heat and simmer gently uncovered for approximately 20-25 minutes, until sauce is desired consistency. Serve with your favorite red or white wine...because wine goes with everything!

J.W. Clark

J.W. Clark, 92, a lifelong resident of Farmersville, passed away on Nov. 2.

He was an excellent athlete: quarterback of his high school football team and first baseman of Farmersville's only semi-pro baseball team in the late '40s and early '50s.

He was owner of Clark's Texaco Station, followed by 29 years as a postman in Farmersville.

He is survived by the love of his life, Dorothy Nell Truelove Clark; son, Randy Clark of Farmersville; daughter and son-in-law Brenda Clark Duckett and Bert Duckett of Richardson; four granddaughters and their husbands, Joy and Grover Pickering, Christy and Andy Redmond, Lauren and Barrett Bostwick and Keli and Travis Strahm; 10 great-grandchildren, Alison, Will, Madeline, Claire, Bryson Clark, Lila, Halle, Sutter, Nolan and Wesley Clark; and sister, Juanita Colbert of Greenville.

He loved fishing, working in his vegetable garden and spending time with his family. A member of First Baptist Church of Farmersville, "PaPaw" was loved by many and was a legend in his own time.

A reception for family and friends was held at Hurst's Fielder Baker Funeral Home in Farmersville with a private burial the following morning in Blue Ridge. A celebration of J.W.'s life was held at First Baptist Church of Farmersville on Nov. 6.



Meeting Preview

LET'S CELEBRATE "OLD-FASHIONED" HOLIDAY AT DECEMBER 19 MEETING

By Mary Beth McLemore, Membership Retention Committee Chair

Join us for a traditional holiday party with musical entertainment provided by the "MadriGals" on December 19, 2013 at 7:00 pm. The "MadriGals" are a group of women vocalists from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area who, dressed in colorful Renaissance period costumes, sing four-part

arrangements in a style that originated during the Renaissance and early Baroque eras. The MadriGals are all members of the world-famous Rich-Tone Chorus of Sweet Adelines International. We want to thank Altrusan **Genevieve Hamulak** for securing this entertainment for our event.

Project Report

ALL (EXCEPT THE FISH) ENJOYED NOVEMBER LUNCH BUNCH MEETING



Ten Altrusans braved the cold and rainy weather on November 22 to have lunch and fun together at Soulfish Grill in Richardson. The next meeting of the Lunch Bunch will be in

February. **Ann Eisemann** of the Membership Retention Committee will let us know the time and place.

Committee Report

FOUR ENTER "ALTRUSA UNIVERSITY OF SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP"

By Bobbi Klein, Membership Recruitment Committee Co-Chair

November was a busy month for adding new members! At the business meeting, in a new College theme initiation, our club welcomed two new Freshmen: **Cristal Retana**, **Janet Sheppard** and one semi-new member **Donna Buhr**. (When Donna could not attend her scheduled initiation in August, Kay George stood in for her. Donna has been participating in service projects since then, and was eventually able to experience her own initiation at the November ceremony. Please get to know these fascinating new "Freshmen".

Another new "Freshman", **Charlotte Mason** was to have been initiated at the November business meeting, also. Unfortunately, Charlotte had an accident at work and was unable to attend at the last minute. But she didn't want to wait, nor did we want her to, so we had a shortened initiation for her at the November program meeting.

Charlotte is scheduled for surgery this month so please keep her in your thoughts. We hope to see her back in January, so please be sure to introduce yourself and add another new sister to your circle.

Wouldn't it be grand to have another initiation in January or February? So, who do you know that would be a good Altrusan. Invite her to a meeting!



Charlotte Mason



Cristal Retana



Donna Buhr



Janet Sheppard

In the Media

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS FEATURED OWT HONOREES

From November 29, 2013 neighborsgo

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF RICHARDSON

Local women honored



Photo submitted by RICK MCGARRY

Five women were named top honorees at Altrusa International of Richardson's annual Outstanding Women of Today, Builders of Tomorrow awards luncheon on Oct. 25. Honorees named in five categories included: Katie Patterson, Non-Profit; Mary Quiceno, Government; Jane Kovacs, Small Business; Robyn Morton, Outstanding Woman of Tomorrow and Jean Conway, Education. The annual awards luncheon is Altrusa's main fund raiser of the year and benefits the Richardson Altrusa Foundation, which supports college scholarships and grants to such community organizations as The Richardson Adult Literacy Center, Richardson Reads One Book, The Counseling Place, Network of Community Ministries, Camp Summit and other nonprofits.

In the Media

COURTENAY IN RICHARDSON TODAY

From December 2013 edition

HASR recognizes volunteers

Helping Agencies Serving Richardson (HASR) honored 17 Volunteer of the Year nominees in five categories at a luncheon Nov. 12. Award winners were:

Community Leadership:
Courtney Tanner, nominated by Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson

Humanitarian:
Carla Austin, nominated by Chase's Place

Education:
Pamela Tomasello, nominated by Richardson Adult Literacy Center

Group/Business:
Preston Meadow Lutheran Church, nominated by Mosaic Dot McCalpin Founder's Award; Kay Hopper

HASR's mission is to improve the delivery of social services in Richardson through better communication, coordination and cooperation among agencies in the community.

For more information, visit HASR.org.



Pictured left to right: Denny Stephens (representing Preston Meadow Lutheran Church), Courtney Tanner, Carla Austin and Pamela Tomasello.

Committee Report

JANUARY BOOK SELECTED

By Kay George, AWCLS Committee Co-Chair
Altrusa Wine and Chocolate

Literary Society Co-chairs Jan Belcher and Kay George requested and received many suggestions of books to read in 2014. A group of five readers chose books in a variety of genres (history, romance, the classics, non-fiction, etc.). The selections will be announced in late December; Jan will email synopses of the books to anyone who requests them.

The book for January is *The Bookman's Tale* by Charlie Lovett, which will be discussed at the meeting on Monday, January 27, at Friends Place.

REMINDER - There will be no meeting in December due to the holidays.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL AND "HAPPY READING"!

In the Media

RICHARDSON TODAY COVERS OWT

From December 2013 edition

Altrusa Richardson honors "Outstanding Women of Today"



Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson honored five winners as they were named Outstanding Women of Today...Builders of Tomorrow at the 10th annual luncheon Oct. 25. Of the 25 women nominated, the winners were from left: Katie Patterson (Non Profit), Dr. Mary Quiceno, MD (Government), Jane Kovacs (Small Business), Robyn Morton (Outstanding Woman of Tomorrow) and Dr. Jean Conway (Education).

Meeting Highlights

SUPPORTING UNITED NATIONS CAMPAIGN TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

By Cindy McIntyre, Program Committee

On November 21, 2013, Dr. Sarah Feuerbacher gave a moving and informative presentation on violence and abuse against women to a large group of club members who braved a rainy, cold night to learn about this global pandemic. The number of victims is astounding and the saddest part is it is considered a "private family" matter that is not discussed. So, the abuse continues to ensnare women who then cannot escape due to shame, financial insecurity, and guilt. No woman is safe—regardless of social economic group, race, or country of origin! And data shows that 76% of all women will experience some type of abuse (physical, emotional, or mental) at some point during her lifetime.

Dr. Feuerbacher is spearheading a Family Violence Symposium in February 2014, on the SMU main campus which is free and open to the public. Many well-known leaders in our community will sit on the panel. More information will be provided when it's available. This is such an important topic Altrusans should get involved at whatever level is possible. It used to be that rape was never discussed, and there is still some reticence today, but women are beginning to believe that rape is not a function of their looks or behavior and are coming forward. Hopefully, with awareness and community support, progress will be made in the arena of family violence as well.



At their November 21 dinner meeting, the women of Altrusa Richardson are pictured wearing orange clothing to join women worldwide in commemorating the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Special Days

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY IS OBSERVED ANNUALLY ON DECEMBER 10

By Janie Jaquier International Relations Committee

Human Rights Day promotes awareness of human rights issues around the world, and highlights the efforts of the United Nations to improve global human rights conditions.

December 10 is the day annually set aside by the United Nations as a global observance of human rights and the importance of upholding these rights throughout the world. It is the occasion whereby people worldwide acknowledge and consider The Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This document was completed by the United Nations High Commission in December of 1948

and for over the last 60 years it has aimed at focusing on the importance of human rights education. Events all over the world are aimed at educating people on their human rights and the importance of upholding these rights in their communities. By definition, human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world.

Altrusans will celebrate this day by watching the movie **Girl Rising** at Jane Merz's home on December 12.



Special Report

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE HOMELESS

By Kimberly Kierce, Immediate Past President

Operation Care International's Christmas Party is being conducted on December 21, 2013. This is the organization we worked with last year for the shoe donation, etc. (Operation Care International was founded in 1993 by Susie Jennings, former Outstanding Women of Today nominee.) This is the tenth anniversary of Operation Care International's Christmas Party for the Homeless and they will be honoring ten WWII veterans at this year's party. Dallas area Altrusa clubs are asked to consider

volunteering to help with this heartwarming event.

Volunteers can sign up on their website: www.opcare.org

Click [here](#) for a grocery list of opportunities for people to volunteer and help out with the event. This is a great way to give back to the community and especially to those less fortunate. Family members are welcome to join in this memorable event.



Special Days

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY

By Jane Tucker, International Relations Committee Co-Chair

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said "If we are to realize the future we want for all, we must hear and heed the calls of the marginalized...Together, we can build a sustainable world of prosperity and peace, justice and equity- a life of dignity for all." The quote echoes the 2013 theme for International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, which is "Working together towards a world without discrimination: Building on the experience and knowledge of people in extreme poverty."

This UN day has been observed since 1993 when the United Nations General Assembly designated the day to promote awareness of the need to eradicate poverty. To bring awareness to this day, the International Relations committee coordinated with BeadforLife a "Wear Your Beads " night to highlight the work BeadforLife does in Uganda to eradicate poverty and create a sustainable economy for its people. As well as wearing jewelry, our members have purchased from BeadforLife, \$35 in donations was also received be donated to BeadforLife in recognition of this UN day to help support the success BeadforLife is having in eradicating poverty.



Jane Tucker presents a beaded bracelet to President Pam Kovacs as part of BeadforLife's Do Good, Get Bangled campaign.

Club Calendar December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Jane Merz bday	5 Pam Fitzgearld bday Business Meeting	6	7 Altrusa Night Out at Symphony
8 Santa's Village	9 Ann Eisemann bday Pat Hansen bday	10	11	12 Santa Project for NETWORK Human Rights Day Board Meeting	13 Santa's Village with kindergarten kids!	14 Ability House Christmas Decorating
15 Santa's Village Janet Vance bday	16	17	18	19 Dinner Meeting and Holiday Party	20	21 Ability House Christmas Party
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Nancy Rohm bday	31				

Business Meetings, 7 PM, 1st Thursday, Clubhouse at the Richardson Woman's Club
 Dinner/Program meetings, 7PM, 3rd Thursday, Founders' Hall, at the Richardson Woman's Club
 Board meetings, 7 PM, 4th Thursday, Friends Place Adult Day Services

Events on this page are copied from our website. See event listings at www.altrusarichardson.com for details of time and place.

If you choose, you may bring a gift (worth about \$5) to the dinner meeting in the month of your birthday. There will be an opportunity to put our names in a drawing (only \$1 per chance!) to win a birthday gift. Proceeds are used for our administration budget.

Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson, Texas
 P.O. Box 832101
 Richardson, TX 75083
 Kimberly Kierce, Newsletter Co-Editor
 Carolyn Swanson, Newsletter Co-Editor
 contact@altrusarichardson.com
 www.altrusarichardson.com