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# Altrusa Tidings eNEWS

## Membership Special Edition May 2016



Altrusa Richardson is proud to welcome and introduce a few of our newest members whose friendship, talents, and passions will enhance our club - Leading to a Better Community!

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My name is **Betty Bruce**, a new Altrusan in Richardson, TX. I grew up in Houston and moved with my family to Richardson when my father was transferred to Dallas in 1962 while I was still in college. I attended the University of Texas in Austin and fell in love with the city, the hills, and the University. To say I am a loyal and long term Longhorn fan is an understatement. Larry, my husband of 48 years, is from Iowa and attended Iowa State, received his Masters at The University of Iowa and PhD work at The University of Wyoming but he became and remains to this day a Longhorn fan. We held season tickets to the football games for over 25 years. Having tickets to the games was a great way to visit our son, Barrett, while he was at UT working on his BS in Economics. He then went to Texas Tech Law School for his law degree but we couldn't quite yell for the Raiders even though it has a terrific law program. I guess you can say we, all three of us, are real orange bloods.

Although a recently retired professional Interior Designer, I still design residential projects which take much less time than my larger commercial endeavors such as hospitals, long-term-care facilities and such. It's nice to keep creative juices flowing and the extra time allows me to engage in other worthwhile activities such as Altrusa, thanks to my sponsors **Gloria Sandoval** and **Alma Benoit**.

I am a founding member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and have been actively involved since its inception in 1976 with numerous activities and various leadership roles.

My four grandchildren are my great joy and keep me enthralled with their varied personalities, achievements and activities. Life is full and exciting with them.

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**Camille Garcia**  
*Where born and raised:* I'm a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Californian – but after living 2 years in Austin and now 2 years in Dallas, my husband and I are convinced we've found "home".

*If not native Texan, what brought you here? How long ago?* State Farm asked me to transfer to Texas, from California, 4 years ago!



*Current occupation:* I work for State Farm in Public Relations. I've been with State Farm for 18 years, in PR for 12 of those years.

*Other types of jobs you have held:* I was in Public Relations for Fashion Institute in Los Angeles prior to joining State Farm. However, my first job with my current employer was as a homeowners claims adjuster. I climbed roofs and crawled under houses – it was one of the best jobs I've held!

*How did you meet the Altrusan who sponsored you?* **Nancy Rohm** and **Ginger Tonne** sponsored me. Since they are both very active in the community, I inevitably crossed paths with these two wonderful women! Nancy invited me to attend the Annual Awards lunch and I was so surprised and impressed by the joy, sisterhood and impact that Altrusa demonstrated.

*Why did you want to become an Altrusan?* I wanted to be part of the joy that was shared – which included supporting our community.

*Types of volunteering you enjoy:* I tried to work in animal shelters – seeing as how I love dogs, but I left after a short while since I fell in love with each little dog. I enjoy mentoring students, and new employees – and as a board member of Richardson Adult Literacy Center, I enjoy being a front line supporter as well as a behind-the-scenes kinda gal!

*Pets—names and descriptions:* I have 5 rescue dogs (mostly mutts) Hilton (she found me while I was on business travel in the parking lot of a Hilton Hotel), Lady, Kevin, Buddy and Pepito and 1 cat, also a rescue, Smokey.

They are all small pups with some big attitudes. In my lifetime I've had over 60 dogs – love 'em all! I am writing all their names and hope to craft a small little back yard memorial for them in our retirement home.

*Pet peeves:* Lack of accountability in our world.....

*Favorite movies:* Sleepless in Seattle, Elf

*Favorite past time:* spending time with family

*Favorite time of year:* Winter and Christmas – I begin playing Christmas music in October

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**Gayle Ingle** was born and raised in Midland, Texas. Her love of West Texas was, and still is, very strong. As graduates of Texas Tech, Gayle and her husband, Rusty, continue their support of the Red Raiders by traveling each fall to all of the Tech home football games. When September rolls around, the "Red and Black" is always on Gayle's mind!

With a degree in Elementary Education, Gayle taught first grade in the Houston area for five years until her first child, Laura, was born. Rusty who was working for General Motors at the time, was then transferred to Shreveport, Louisiana, and Gayle's teaching career was put on hold as her second child, Andy, was born. After nine years in Shreveport, Gayle and Rusty were transferred again, this time to the Dallas area where they ultimately settled in Richardson. After being a stay-at-home mom, Gayle decided to go back to work at a direct mail and printing company. Retirement came after 20 years, but Gayle is busy, maybe even busier than she was when she worked 40+ hours a week, and she loves every minute of her volunteer work!

Altrusa is especially interesting to Gayle because of the many service opportunities, but not forgetting the closeness of the group which she felt immediately on her visits before joining. **Cindy Murray** and **Brenda Boston**, her Altrusa sponsors, were instrumental in convincing Gayle that joining would be a good idea, and these ladies continue to be great mentors!

Gayle likes to visit her grandchildren, Cade (7) and Janie (2), read, play tennis, and of course, be a volunteer! She anticipates a very full year with Altrusa, and also as President of the Richardson Woman's Club. Gayle looks forward to working in our Community with a wonderful group of women!

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**Betty Mastick**

I was born, raised, married and had my three children in Springfield, Illinois. My husband's IBM career took us to Chicago and later to Jackson, Tennessee.

While there, I managed a radio station. I had the distinction of being the first woman radio station manager in Tennessee. I later founded an accounts receivable firm, which I managed until retirement. During the 32 years I lived and worked in Jackson, I became a member of Altrusa and served as president. I also served on many community and civic boards.

In 2007, we moved to Texas to be close to our daughter. I enjoy playing duplicate bridge and competing in tournaments. Reading and gardening are also long time hobbies.

**Cindy McIntyre** and I met at our church. She invited me to Richardson Altrusa. I am excited and proud to once again be a member of Altrusa!

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Hello, I'm **Linda McCollum**. My husband, Allen, and I moved to Richardson, TX, three years ago after spending most of our lives in Norman, OK. We graduated from the University of Oklahoma, as did our three amazing sons, Paul, Brad and Lee.

I taught for twenty-one years in Norman, after completing my degree at age forty. I was a stay at home mom until my boys were all in school. I taught second grade for eight years and 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade math and science for the remaining years. I would still be there teaching if Allen had not gotten a wonderful job in Ft. Worth. The great job ended and retirement started.

We followed our boys to Texas. Lee and his wife, Brooke, and their two little boys and Paul and his wife, Elley, live in north Dallas. So surprise, surprise, when retirement rolled around we moved to Richardson, TX. Our Brad and his wife, Laura, have two beautiful little girls and live in New Jersey.

Luckily, when we finally found our Richardson home, it was across the street from **Genieve Hamulak** and around the corner from **Jane Merz**. What a joy they have been. They introduced me to Altrusa, which has opened doors to volunteer work that I didn't know was available to me.

I am very happy with the life I have led and very excited about what the future holds.

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**Sharon Nash** was born in Commerce, Texas, but grew up in Corpus Christi, returning to the North Texas area to attend Texas Woman's University where she first studied fashion merchandising and earned scholarships by being selected the first runner up in the National Miss Make-It-With-Wool Contest. She met and married her husband of 49



years while at TWU and they have a daughter, a son, and three granddaughters.

Sharon later completed her degree, majoring in Business and Computer Science, and was hired by Texas Presbyterian Foundation in 1987 to computerize their office. She will retire later this year after serving as an executive for 30 years during which she has had several responsibilities in addition to Information Technology including Accounting, Trust Administration, Fund Raising, Communications, Human Resources & Benefits, Governance, and Property Management. She currently serves on the Board of Managers of the Presbyterian Mission Center, which is owned by Texas Presbyterian Foundation and two other Presbyterian agencies.

Sharon met her incredible sponsors, **Betsy Meggs** and **Cindy Murray**, as a member of the same Sunday School Class at First Methodist Church of Richardson. Sharon's long history of volunteering began as a teen with church and children's organizations and has continued with numerous clubs and community organizations including fundraising for the Juvenile Diabetes Association.

Having grown up with a father who was a home builder, Sharon has lived in over 30 different homes, seven of them in the Dallas area, so she has had a lot of experience with decorating and enjoys the challenge of new surroundings.

Sharon and her husband, Dick, love traveling and photography and are planning a trip to Hawaii soon. She has had a passion for reading since she was a child when the "Bookmobile" brought stacks of library books to her doorstep in her rural south Texas neighborhood. Her other passion is flower gardening and, as Dick says, when she wants to relax, she can be found outside "digging in the dirt."

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Check out our next Special Edition when we introduce more of our newest members.

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