



President's Message
EVERY DAY IS A CELEBRATION!

It's Birthday Month and you know we love to party! Altrusa of Richardson will celebrate her 51st Birthday at the Dinner/Program meeting on Thursday, Feb. 16. The Recruitment Committee, working with the Retention Committee, is assigned the responsibility of this meeting. Our Program will be our District Nine Governor, Sylvia Zamora. It will be the perfect meeting to invite guests and friends. Or perhaps you know someone who is no longer an Altrusan - Please invite her too!

Governor Sylvia belongs to the San Antonio Club. This is the second year of her two-year term as our Governor. One of her responsibilities during her visit is to attend a Club Board Meeting. The Board will meet with her prior to the Dinner/Program meeting.

At the February Business Meeting Jo Leeper will present the report from our Nominating Committee. Thanks to everyone who stepped up to lead our club next year! Also at this meeting we will talk about Conference. President-Elect, Sue McElveen, has the responsibility of helping coordinate roommates for Conference. Please check with Sue if you have questions. It's not far to Waco; we need a large group from Richardson to attend. Bobbi Klein will help us with what we wear on Friday Fun Night at the Conference. We will also initiate two new members at this meeting.

On Saturday morning, February 25, our Leadership Committee has planned a wonderful speaker and a luncheon for us at the Canyon Creek Country Club. This event counts as a make-up meeting. It's always empowering to learn something new about leadership. Sign up online and give your \$25 check, payable to Altrusa to Ginger Tonne.

Have you turned in your Volunteer Hours lately? I keep track of mine on a calendar, but I confess I'm not as good as I should be about calculating the total for each month and turning it in. I promise to catch up soon!

Upcoming Events:

See online calendar for event details, location, and sign-up at <http://altrusarichardson.com>

- Feb 2 Monthly Business Meeting (7p)
- Feb 8 SENIORS Atria Bingo (6p)
- Feb 9 Foundation Meeting (6:30p)
- Feb 10 Lunch Bunch – Desperados (11:30)
- Feb 16 Dinner / Program Meeting (7p)
- Feb 18 Richardson Library Book Rotation (10am)
- Feb 18 ABILITY House Vera's Birthday (1:30p)
- Feb 20 Tidings Deadline (NOON)
- Feb 20 AWCLS – (6pm)
- Feb 25 Leadership Luncheon (11:00am)
- Feb 28 Taco Night (6pm)

There is a form online to use in reporting your volunteer hours.

Together we accomplish great things.

Every day is a Celebration!

Service, Leadership, Friendship

Nancy R. Rohm, President, 2016-17



Club Board Actions – January 26

Jo Leeper, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the proposed slate of nominees for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Mimi Tanner attended as the representative from the Foundation Board. The club board reviewed the Proposed Policies for the Foundation. The suggestions from the board members will be shared with the Foundation Trustees. The Board previously approved the Application for Membership for Mary Shiroma by email. They approved the Application of Coarlie Miller at the meeting. Both will be initiated at the Feb. Business Meeting. The Board voted to waive the club portion of the half-dues for anyone who joins in February and March. (Beginning in April new initiates pay full dues which includes the next fiscal year.) The next board meeting will be held on Feb. 16 prior to the dinner meeting.



Spotlight on Altrusans

Pam Johnson and Ann Turner

Interviewed each other for the January 5th Meeting

Pam Johnson grew up in San Antonio. She loves to read and usually has multiple books of different types going at the same time. Regarding the guests at her fantasy dinner party, Pam would want 10 dinners so she could spend lots of time with each person. She would invite mostly family members, but also Mamie Bass and Mother Theresa. Pam started Friends Place, which has fulfilled a lifelong dream to give back, in 2005 following several jobs and education that prepared her for this very obvious nudge from God. Pam has been married to Mike for almost three years. She has two sons, five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. One son and grandson are local and all the others live in Phoenix. Pam has been a member of Altrusa since December 2007 thanks to Nancy Rohm and says she found her altruistic home as she is inspired by acts of kindness. Her words to live by: "It's not enough to be good; one must also do good."

Ann Turner especially liked reading books by Cherry Amos growing up because she wanted to be a nurse. Although Ann is now retired, she ended up being a software specialist, working for many years for both Raytheon and TI. During that time, she worked with Carolyn Swanson and was looking forward to seeing her again as an Altrusan. Interestingly enough, both of her adult daughters, Amy and Kim, are in fact nurses. In addition to her two daughters, Ann and Doug, her husband of 27 years, enjoy having a total of 6 grandchildren between them. She is also very involved with the care of her almost 93 year-old mother who lives close by. Cindy McIntyre inspired (maybe that was pestered) Ann to join Altrusa. For many years Ann has been an active volunteer in her church, Canyon Creek Presbyterian, as well as an eleventh hour volunteer for Faith Hospice. Ann's guests at her fantasy dinner party would be a special cousin, Becky, who was very spiritual, and the family historian, and both her grandmothers. She would also invite Jesus since she says she has lots and lots of questions for him. Her words to live by are "Just Go Do It!"

Program Meeting Highlight – January Holocaust Remembrance

Barbara Berthold

NEVER AGAIN – 2017 Holocaust Remembrance

International Days of Observance are dates officially recognized by the United Nations. January 27 – the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp – is designated as an annual International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and UN Member States are urged to develop educational programs to instill the memory of the tragedy in future generations to prevent genocide from occurring again (Read more [HERE](#)). Altrusa Richardson invites all club members to take out some time to observe the UN International Days of Observance. And on January 19, 2017 we held our commemoration.

As many of you know, I was born and raised in Germany. So, this program had a very special meaning to me as it was highlighting THE most horrific chapter in German history. Thus, I was very honored to be introducing Sarah Valente, our speaker, who provided a brief historical background and shared new insights gained through her research at UT Dallas Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies. Sarah took us along on her visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau, the former Nazi concentration and extermination camp in Poland and opened up new perspectives through her sharing personal impressions as well as providing us with insights on how the Holocaust is remembered in survivor testimonies, works of literature and poetry.

Sarah's presentation showed how important it is to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive so such brutalities never happen again...



Nominating Committee Report

Proposed Slate of Officers

Jo Leeper, Committee Chair

The Nominating Committee composed of Betty Bruce, Pam Johnson, Jenn Rohm, Gloria Sandoval and Jo Leeper, Chair was elected at our November Business Meeting. The committee has worked very hard and presents the following slate of officers for 2017 – 2019 year:

Club (Administrative Board)

President-Elect: **Sarah Nesbit**, Vice-President: **Gayle Ingle**, Treasurer: **Jean Stuart**, Recording Secretary: **Toni Garrett**, Corresponding Secretary: **Laura Trainor-Collins**, Directors (2-year terms): **Sandy Martin** and **Nancy Crowe**. Our Current President-Elect, **Sue McElveen**, automatically moves into the President Position, Our Current President, **Nancy Rohm**, automatically moves into the Immediate Past President Position. Two Current Directors, **Brenda Boston** and **Ginger Tonne** stay on the board to serve the 2nd year of their two-year term.

The committee was also tasked with nominating Four Trustees to our Foundation Board of Trustees. All Trustees serve two-year terms. Three Trustees will remain on the Foundation Board next year to serve the second year of their term: Cindy Murray Bonnie Perry, and Mimi Tanner.

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of trustees to serve 2017-2019:

Julianne Lovelace (who will serve a second, two-year term), **Deb Bourland**, **Jane Tucker**, and **Janice Swallow**.

The election for the above positions will be held at the March Business meeting. Provisions for Absentee voting per our club policies are: Request an absentee ballot from Jo Leeper anytime between now and February 24. Jo will arrange for you to receive an absentee ballot with your name printed on it. The ballot must be received by Jo on or before Wednesday, March 1, 2017 in order to be counted.

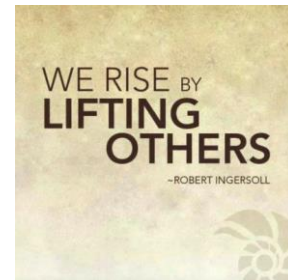


Accent

Excerpts from Aspirations of an Altrusan by Mamie L. Bass

Let me be always open-minded, that I may recognize good for Altrusa wherever it may be. Let me be ready always to put aside my personal opinions for the greater good, for the greater number. Let me see principles and not personalities, and, discerning them, let me serve them wholeheartedly through every cloud of doubt and discouragement.

Let me be patient in defeat and humble in success. Let me seek not for rewards, for appreciation, or even for understanding, but let me seek rather to do the work that lies before me, and to find in the right doing of that work the joy and satisfaction that passes understanding, until too I may say, 'I know what pleasure is, for I have done good work.'



Altrusa International News

100 FOR 100 Challenge is Exceeding Expectations!

Nancy Rohm

As of November, Richardson Altrusa donated 552 books to our community. We are well on our way to our goal; however, we need to stay on task! Altrusa International reports that Altrusa St. Augustine, Florida, membership challenged themselves to celebrate Altrusa International's Centennial by collecting and donating "1,000 Books for 100 Years of Service" and coordinated this effort with Literacy Day! So far this year their club has donated 1,188 books. These books came from many parts of the country from friends and relatives as they made requests on Facebook through their program "Pleading for Reading".

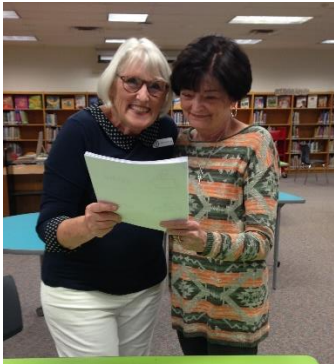
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Education Committee

Teddy Bear Time!

Linda McCollum

Teddy Bear Time was held at Richardson Terrace Elementary. Richardson Altrusa provided funding for the books to make these seven sessions possible. Betsy Meggs and Linda McCollum organized the materials for the weekly lessons. They were assisted weekly by different Altrusans. Deb Bourland, Cindy Murray, Gerry Caron, Jo Leeper, Amalia Palmer, Mary Osentowski, Genevieve Hamulak There were 10 pre-kindergarten students who were chosen by the teacher, Mrs. Sandy Saucier, to participate. The students must apply to be in the pre-kindergarten class and must meet the following criteria: limited English proficient, family meets the criteria for free and reduced lunch, family is homeless, active military or child is or has been in foster care.



*Gerry Carron,
Linda
McCollum and
Betsy Meggs
sharing at
Teddy Bear*

These amazing students came each Wednesday evening with a parent and participated in our Teddy Bear Time activities. Altrusans modeled how to read along with their child and created activities to extend the story and increase their understanding. Each child went home with a copy of the book that we read that evening and the craft that we completed. The next day, Mrs. Saucier asked the students to retell the story to the rest of the class, reinforcing their comprehension of the story. Sharing with these parents and students was a joyous experience!

Community Outreach, Recruitment and Retention Committees Report

Sweet Dreams Memorial Pillowcase Project

Jane Tucker

On Saturday, January 28th, 2017, Altrusans and their guests gathered at Friends Place for a Pillowcase Making Project as a memorial tribute to Carolyn Swanson and her mother, Earnestine, who both loved making pillowcases for Abuse Shelters, Hopes Door and New Beginnings. This event, jointly planned and choreographed by the Recruitment, Retention, and Community Outreach Committees, also allowed new members, guests, and potential members a hands-on experience helping with a club project.

The event started with mimosas and brunch – including a toast to reminisce about all the work Carolyn and her mother did over the years. After the brunch members proceeded to work stations to cut, sew, and iron pillowcases, then fold and tie them up with a ribbon and attach a “Sweet Dreams” encouragement card. Over 50 pillowcases were made and donated along with 61 new pillows to Hope’s Door and New Beginning. Beth Leos, Volunteer Coordinator for both emergency shelters, picked up the donation and was thrilled to meet our members and take part in our pillow case project by helping iron.



*Nancy Crow and soon to be new
Altrusan Coralie Miller!*

In addition to making pillowcases, attendees also worked on fleece blankets which will be donated to the Methodist Richardson Medical Center’s Neonatal Unit’s annual one year birthday party for the babies born prematurely at the hospital. Members also stopped to make greeting cards to send to emeritus member Jan Skinner. All and all it was a wonderful day in the neighborhood for Altrusa serving our community.



Mary Beth McLemore, Jackie Scrivener and a wonderful Altrusa visitor!



Leadership Committee Report

Spring Leadership Event



“Communication with a Purpose”

Speaker – Erica Yeager

Luncheon and Program

Sat, Feb. 25, 2017

11:30am – 1:00pm

Canyon Creek Country Club

Cost is \$25 - check payable to Altrusa International of Richardson. Checks should be given to/mailed to Ginger Tonne. Registration and program details on the website.

Registration due by Feb. 17.



Retention Committee

Altrusa Taco Night!

Laura Trainor Collins

Join us on Tuesday, Feb. 28th, from 6-8pm at Desperados Mexican Restaurant for Altrusa Taco Night. Desperados is located at 3443 W Campbell Rd # 550 Garland, TX 75044. Warm up this winter with Desperados Chicken or Beef Tacos, \$7.99 & \$3.50 Margaritas. Friends and family are welcome. Please register online.



Altrusa Recruitment Event

Painting with a Twist

On Tuesday, January 24, almost 20 Altrusans and friends participated in the Retention Event, “Painting with a Twist”. The participants gathered at the facility and enjoyed the snacks and beverages before painting. Then the artist began her step-by-step instructions, showing those in attendance how to paint a “masterpiece.” The painting being copied was Van Gogh’s “The Starry Night. As we painted we also moved and danced to the music and laughed and had fun. Although some participants were not pleased with their artistic abilities, everyone agreed it was a fun event!



District Nine News
Governor's Call to Conference, April 21-23, 2017

Dear Altrusans,

On behalf of the District Nine Board of Directors, I am excited to cordially invite you to attend our Sixty-First Annual Altrusa International District Nine Conference at the Waco Convention Center to be held in Waco, Texas on April 21-23, 2017. The theme of our Conference is "Deep in the Heart of District Nine." This event will be hosted by Altrusa International of Temple, Texas, Inc. I am confident you will find this conference amazing and vital (KEY) to the success of Altrusa. Make plans today to attend and re-energize your enthusiasm for Altrusa. I assure you, Conference will be a fantastic and memorable event. Workshops, events and activities are being planned to cover a broad range of interests. We encourage each of you to bring your spouse, significant other, family members, potential new members and guests to experience the beauty of our organization. We have special events planned for everyone! If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of our Conference committee.



Warmest regards,

Sylvia Zamora Governor, Altrusa District Nine

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United Nations Celebration February 20
World Day of Social Justice

The World Day of Social Justice is on February, 20, 2017. It was initiated by the U.N. General Assembly as an International Day to focus on guaranteeing fair outcomes for all through employment - decent work in decent conditions, social protection, social dialogue, and fundamental principles and rights to work. It promotes gender equity and access to social well-being and it points out the inequality between the richest and the poorest.



Altrusa International Foundation News
Club 21



In 1997 the Altrusa International Foundation established Club 21. The name was chosen to emphasize the Foundation's commitment to international health concerns in the 21st century. Through an annual contribution of \$21, an individual can become a part of the effort to support children affected by disease. The annual renewal date is March 15. Mimi Tanner is our representative for Club 21 this year.

The current reach of Club 21 is: Ghana Health and Education Initiative, Youth Futures International, Camp Sunshine of Aurora, Ohio, Camp Dreamcatcher of Kennett Square, Pa., and Cavett Kids of Oklahoma. To learn more about these efforts, look on the International website under Foundation then under Club 21.



"Celebrate who you are in your deepest heart. Love yourself and the world will love you." —

Amy Leigh Mercree

"Celebrate Yourself. You are Unique!" —

Izey Victoria Odiase

"Celebration has many different outfits but she always wears the same beautiful dancing shoes." —

Mary Anne Radmacher