

Your latest news in a flash!

Altrusa Tidings eNEWS Edition

Sept 2016



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Calendar of Events

President's Message

EVERY DAY IS A CELEBRATION!

When I arrived early to prepare for the August business meeting, I heard laughter and people talking and exchanging ideas. Three committees were meeting at the same time; working on future plans and activities. As the committee meetings ended, the members came into the meeting room for the business meeting. People continued to talk, laugh and have fun being together. I'm so honored to be part of a group whose members do good for others but also laugh and have fun together.



During the meeting an announcement was made about the Mini-Conference in Palestine on Saturday, Nov. 5. It's just a 2 hour drive from us; I thought members might come early on Sat. morning and I'm sure some Richardson Altrusans will also. But from those Altrusans who went to dinner after the meeting, several said they were going on Friday to have fun together shopping and looking around, then spend the night before the Leadership Training. So I reserved a room! I hope several of you will do the same. If you have questions about this, please ask a seasoned member or your sponsor to learn how you can be a part of this event.

The Community Initiative Process has moved to Phase 2. The Community Leaders who were interviewed separately (Phase 1) came together with the President, Immediate Past President, Service's Committee Chair, the Altrusans who did the interviews, and the Co-Chairs of the Education, International, Seniors, and Community Outreach Committees. These Altrusans will meet at the end of August. Then they will have information to share with you about some exciting new service possibilities.

Together we can accomplish great things.

Everyday is a Celebration!

Service, Leadership, Friendship

Nancy R. Rohm

2016-2017 President
nancyraltrusa@gmail.com

Board of Directors Meeting Update

Action from the Board

by Nancy Rohm

At the July 28 board meeting, the following actions were taken:

The board agreed to accept a donation for our Foundation from Heritage Risk Advisors.

The board discussed the logistics of accepting dinner reservations for our Sept 15 meeting from other nearby clubs; allowing those Richardson Altrusans who can attend first choice and then accepting as many Altrusans from other clubs as the RWC can handle in Founders Hall.

Altrusa Richardson Foundation News

Foundation Donation from Heritage Risk Advisors

At our August Business meeting we received a donation to the Altrusa International Foundation of Richardson, Inc. Kim Stallings and Shawn Heiser, of Heritage Risk Advisors presented the "large check" above and also a "real" large check! They set aside money from every referral and give it to a worthy charity at the end of each quarter. We thank them for this gift!

Heritage Risk Advisors handles Business and Personal Lines of Insurance needs; especially hard to place risks. Anyone who is interested in learning about their services can find their contact information online under "Heritage Risk Advisors". (Kim Stallings was an OWT Nominee-winner last year in our Women of Tomorrow category.)



Accent

What is Club 21?

by Mimi Tanner

Have you noticed many members wear a white circular pin with a "21" on it on their Altrusa ribbons? They have made an annual contribution to the Altrusa International Foundation of \$21 for Club 21. These monies are used to support children who are the victims of disease around the world. In the late 1990s the focus was on children with AIDS/HIV and camps called Camp Safe Haven. Last year, the Ghana Health and Education Initiative, Youth Futures International, and camps in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Oklahoma received funding. This is a way for us individually to make a difference in children's lives. Clubs can contribute \$210 to join and get a special medallion for the club banner.

If you want to participate, please send your \$21 to: Altrusa International Foundation, Inc., One N. LaSalle St. Suite 1955, Chicago, IL 60602 or give online: [Club 21 Contribution Page](#)

Individual and club renewal date is after March 15. Up until that date your gift will count for awards at Conference. Mimi Tanner has pins; make your

contribution to International and ask Mimi for a pin. Questions? Call Mimi Tanner, 972-234-4458.

Member Reminder

Reimbursement Procedure



If you want to be reimbursed for money spent on behalf of Altrusa here is the procedure: Login to our website. Click "Member-only Access" and select "Financial Reports". The first item is "Check Request Form". Print the form.

Complete the top section. Check the box for the type of expense, Foundation or Administrative; check the project/line item the money is to come from. Sign and date the form at the bottom as the Submitting Member. Ask the budget chair of your committee to sign and date. This process will ensure your committee stays within its budget. The co-chairs designated one person as "budget chair" at the beginning of the year.

If your request is for Administrative Funds, send or give the completed form and receipt(s) to **Jean Stuart, Administration Treasurer**. If your request is for Foundation Funds, send or give the completed form and receipt(s) to **Cindy Murray, Foundation Treasurer**.

Dinner Meeting Preview: September 15 , 2016

Suzy Humphreys – Laugh Yourself to Happy

by Nancy Rohm, Program Committee



Professional motivational and inspirational humorist **Suzie Humphreys** will present the program at our September 15, 2016 Dinner Meeting. Richardson Altrusans are encouraged to make reservations early for themselves and their guests. If space in Founders Hall allows, we want to invite other nearby Altrusa Club Members to attend. We asked Suzie to bring her books and CD's to sign and sell. The title of Suzie's new

book is Laugh Yourself to Happy.

[Register NOW to attend!](#)

Membership Retention Committee Update

AWCLS: Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society (Book Club)

Christine Hart, Membership Retention Committee Member



Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society broke its record for attendance this month with 27 wonderful women joining a lively discussion led by Mary Beth McLemore about the Richardson Reads One Book, *Spare Parts*. It is inspiring how much heart each person brings to our book club each month. It never ceases to amaze me how many insights are offered

 up by so many. Thank you to everyone who has invited guests. They give so much positive feedback, and of course, the best feedback is when they come back the next month and the next! We have met so many new, interesting women through book club.

All are welcome at book club- AWCLS (Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society). If you have any questions, please contact Christine Hart at christinehart1000@gmail.com.

Next Month: The Boston Girl

[Register NOW to attend!](#)

Membership Retention Committee Update

SAVE THE DATE!

Retention Committee Annual Book Swap

Laura Trainor-Collins, Membership Retention Co-Chair



Our wonderful Pam Johnson has agreed to host the Annual Book Swap party at her home on Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 5 to 7 pm. Hot dogs, buns and condiments will be provided and members are asked to bring side dishes and drinks. We will have a sign up for food items and attendance on the website after the Retentions Committee meeting on August 4th. Please bring your books to swap with each other and any extra books will be used in club service projects. Feel free to bring a guest, spouse, potential member, etc. to this fun event.

[Register NOW to attend!](#)

Membership Retention Committee Update

What else is happening with Membership Retention Committee?

by Laura Trainor-Collins, Co-Chair

September 26, 2016, 6:00 - 7:30 pm, **Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society (AWCLS)** Monthly Read: Boston Girl by Anita Diamant... register online.

October 8, 2016 10:30am. The **Urban Flea** is an irreverent group of artists featuring vintage goods, pretty things, found objects, rescued & repurposed items and hand crafted wares. The Urban Flea is located one block off the Square in Garland next to Resurrected Designs on 7th Street between Main and Avenue A. There are food trucks, restaurants, and antique shops so let's plan on shopping and then have lunch. Register on the club website. Meet up place TBD as members sign up.

2017 Events, Registration will be available online.

Painting with a Twist Party, January 24th, 7 to 10 pm, \$45 Location TBD

Altrusa Taco Night at Desperados, Tuesday February 28, 2017. Warm up this winter with Desperados Chicken or Beef Tacos, \$7.99 and \$3.50 Margaritas. More Details to follow.

Altrouser Event....**Lakewood Brewery Tour/Tasting Event** Saturday, March 11, 2017. Tours are available at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm. Tours are 15 to 20 minutes and convenes 5 minutes before tour by the merchandise booth. Laura to coordinate. Food Trucks are available early afternoon. (March 12th starts NCAA March Madness.) Time TBD

Ability House Committee Update

Happy Birthday, Robert!

Altrusans gathered at Ability House on August 6, 2016, to help resident Robert celebrate his birthday. He is the person who counts the months until his big day, and lets us know how much longer he has to wait. His gift from Altrusa was a restaurant gift card, and a happy face balloon adorned the gift bag. He had requested yellow cake with chocolate icing and chocolate ice cream and managed to eat several pieces of cake. Altrusans who attended were (l-r below) **Janie Jaquier, Mimi Tanner, Jo Leeper, Jane Merz, Jan Swallow, May Osentowski, Ann Payne, Gayle Ingle**, Ability House Resident Healthcare Staff member, **Cindy McIntyre, Genevieve Hamulak** and (not pictured but taking picture) **Altrouser John Hamulak** .



Senior Committee Update

Altrusa at Atria Bingo!

By Lynn Solomon, Senior Committee Co-Chair



On the 2nd Wednesday of each month, Altrusans set up and call Bingo for the residents of Atria Senior Living in Richardson. This is a much anticipated event for the residents who participate each month. The participants are serious about their Bingo, therefore, it is

important for Altrusans to call loudly and correctly! A huge thank you to Altrusans facilitating these events. Bingo callers for Wednesday, July 13th were **Jan Flesch** and **Betsy Meggs**, and for Wednesday, August 10th were **Jan Flesch** and **Ruth Tinnes**.

Senior Committee Update

Altrusa helps "friends" at Friends Place

By Lynn Solomon, Senior Committee Co-Chair

On August 16, 2016,, Altrusans presented Pam Johnson and our "friends" at Friends Place with 2 large boxes of fiber fill used in making pillows.

Since opening in 2005, ladies that attend Friends Place have enjoyed making special pillows that were donated for patients in two of the hospitals in Plano. To date, they have donated in excess of 7400 pillows. These women, much like each of us, greatly benefit personally from the opportunity to be able to be of service to our community.

Our special thanks to Seniors Committee member, Alma Benoit, for facilitating this event by purchasing the fiber fill and setting up the photo session with Friends Place!



(Altrusans Pictured on back row l-r) **Alma Benoit, Jane Tucker, Pam Johnson, Jan Flesch, Lynn Solomon, Susan Fischer, and Gloria Sandoval** along with (on front row l-r) Dolores, Francis, and Netti Jo

Community Outreach Committee Update

Network and the Counseling Place Receive Altrusa Richardson Donations

In August 2016, Richardson Altrusans held a back to school drive benefitting both the Network of Community Ministries Tools4Schools program as well as the journaling program at the Counseling Place.

Hundreds of school supplies were delivered to the Network in August to assist with their Tools4Schools program. These donations help families send their children back to school with new backpacks filled with fresh school supplies. It is so important for all children to start the school year ready to learn with the needed school supplies and Altrusa of Richardson is extremely pleased to help in this endeavor.

Altrusa Richardson also collected composition books for the Counseling Place in Richardson. The Counseling Place utilizes hundreds of composition books each year as they work with clients on various writing and journaling activities. The donation of almost 50 composition books as well as Highlights and other magazines is a huge help to the organization as they provide needed services to their clients.



Donation to NETWORK by (Pictured at left L-R) **Robin Smith, Network Volunteer Coordinator Guadalupe Maldonado, Cindy McIntyre, and Jane Tucker**

Donation to The Counseling Place (pictured below L-R) Executive Director Deborah Walsh Dobbs, **Robin Smith, Youth Programs Director Irene Peugh, Gloria Sandoval, and Jane Tucker**



Membership Retention Committee Social Event

AIR Time with Richardson Read One Book

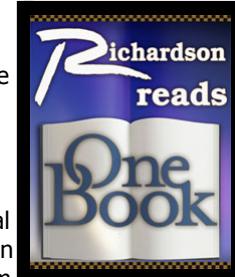
by Jenn Rohm



Season 7 of AIR Time presented by AIR (Arts Incubator of Richardson) kicks off on September 14 at Alamo Drafthouse in Richardson, at 7:00 p.m. as we interview Dr. Robert Gregg—Assistant Professor of Bioengineering and Mechanical Engineering and the Director of the Locomotor Control Systems Laboratory at the University of Texas at Dallas. His research concerns the control mechanisms of human

locomotion with applications to high-performance prosthetic and orthotic devices.

This special Season 7 opener for AIR Time is in partnership with the Richardson Reads One Book program where the focus is on encouraging an entire community to read the same book then come together to discuss it, share ideas and experience a presentation by the author. This year's selection is Spare Parts by Joshua Davis. The book centers on four Latino teenagers in Arizona who enter a national underwater robotics competition. The movie selection is the movie version of the book, SPARE PARTS, from 2015 (114 min) starring George Lopez and Jamie Lee Curtis.



Following the interview (7:00-7:45pm), guests are invited to stay for the movie. Admission is FREE, but when reserving a seat online you must purchase a \$5 food voucher which can then be used at the event. Ticket information will be available at this site closer to the event: <http://drafthouse.com/dfw/richardson>

Ad Hoc Committee - Community Initiative Update

Community Initiative Project

The Community Initiative Project moved forward with a breakfast reception and roundtable discussion with the interviewees at First United Methodist Church.



Participants included City Council Member Marta Frey, First Assistant City Manager Don Magner, Kay Hopper, Leadership Richardson Executive Kim Quirk, Judge Ray Noah, Senior Pastor of FUMC Clayton Oliphant, Richardson Police Chief Jimmy Spivey, businessman Amir Omar



Committee co-chairs Jean Stuart and Bonnie Perry with Mayor Paul Voelker



Seniors Committee Co-Chair Lynn Solomon with First Assistant City Manager Don Magner

Altrusa International News

United Nations Celebration

International Literacy Day – September 8

The United Nations' International Literacy Day falls on Sept. 8. The goal of this special day is uniting schools, communities and organizations around the world, raising people's awareness of and concern for literacy issues. The theme of this year's campaign is "The Sky's the Limit." The goal is to eliminate the digital divide for students in developing countries and increase student engagement with a digital learning platform.

[International Literacy Day - By The Numbers](#)**International Day of Peace – September 21**

The UN General Assembly has declared this day be devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace within and among all nations and peoples. The theme is "The Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace." Seventeen sustainable Goals were unanimously adopted by the member states of the UN in 2015. The agenda calls on countries to begin efforts to achieve all of these goals over the next 15 years. Basically the goals are to end poverty, ensure prosperity for all and to protect the planet.

**Spotlight on Altrusans**

Christine Hart and Gloria Sandoval
Interviewed each other for the August 4th Meeting SPOTLIGHT

Christine Hart's fantasy dinner guests would include her deceased parents, her sister from New York and her brother from California. Christine who retired after 21 years as a music teacher for the Garland ISD currently gives private piano lessons and enjoys listening to DeBussy and Peter Townsend. Christine has 15 grandchildren, 13 boys and 2 girls. She joined the Altrusa Book Club where she says she is forced to read books she would never normally pick and this has broadened her mind. She is currently reading Spare Parts. Christine loves to travel and lists Italy and Hawaii as her all-time best vacations. Traveling more is on her bucket list and she and her husband are preparing for a trip in January to the Amazon. She joined Altrusa to build friendships, leadership and service to our community.

Gloria Sandoval's fantasy dinner guests would include her father, who was Gloria's idol and her father-in-law who she has great memories of and who taught her to play cards. Gloria read Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys books when she was a child and now enjoys reading Nora Roberts, having just finished her Trilogy. Gloria is very active in St. Josephs Church and has been in charge of their festival for 7 years! She retired from Chase Bank and is now working at St. Joseph's teaching both music and Spanish. Gloria and husband Isaac's two daughters each gave them 3 grandchildren of whom she is rightfully very proud. She travelled to Italy on pilgrimage with her church. Her other favorite vacation was to Hawaii which was a trip to reunite and honor those on the USS Enterprise- the ship that Isaac was on in the navy that caught fire in 1969 off the coast of Hawaii. Her words to live by are "Never stop learning."

**Spotlight on Altrusans**

Brenda Boston and Amalia Palmer
Interviewed each other for the August 18th Meeting SPOTLIGHT



Brenda Boston's favorite all-time children's book is Heidi. She loves to read and authors James Patterson, John Grisham and Jodi Percoult are among her favorites. Her favorite Altrusa memory is the International Altrusa Conference in Puerto Rico where she stayed after the conference with Kimberly Kierce, Cindy Murray and Jean Stuart. Brenda is a retired RISD teacher and is very involved in the community listing Altrusa, Richardson Woman's Club, Retired School Personnel, Leadership Richardson and League of Women's Voters as some of the organizations she participates in. Traveling more is on her bucket list and she lists Switzerland and Alaska as some of her most memorable trips. Cindy Murray got her involved in Altrusa.

Amalia Palmer's favorite "not so childhood" book is Gone with the Wind. Right now she is reading 11/22/63 which is a fiction book by Stephen King about the assassination of John Kennedy and how history could have been changed. Amalia is also a retired teacher having taught Special Education at Terrace Elementary. Her favorite part was working with severely handicapped people. Amalia also loves to travel and especially loved Italy, Germany and Switzerland. Amalia, who is originally from Louisville, Kentucky, has one son and one daughter and on Fridays gets to babysit her 2-year-old granddaughter. She has a border collie named Oreo.

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