



July, 2017

## A PERFECT BEGINNING TO A NEW ALTRUSA RICHARDSON YEAR

What a great start to a new Altrusa Richardson year! All committees are full steam ahead with plans for very productive and busy months. There will be plenty to keep us all involved with hands-on service, as well as working on plans for our terrific club-wide fundraiser, Outstanding Women of Today Luncheon.

I want to congratulate all the committee chairs/co-chairs for getting their budgets in on time. The Finance Committee has met and worked out budgets for both Administration and Foundation (Service). The draft was presented to the club Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, June 22, and with a few minor additions, was approved. The Finance Committee will get another looksee and the final draft will be presented to the membership at the Business Meeting on July 6.

The dinner meeting in June was presented by our Retention Committee. What a wonderful evening celebrating our rich heritage with "Altrusa: The First 100 Years." The program was a blast with Mamie L. Bass (aka Susan Fischer), Teddy Roosevelt (aka Laura Trainor-Collins) and Eleanor Roosevelt (aka Bobbi Klein) all in attendance sharing our history from the very beginning. Hats off to Retention for a great start to our program meetings this year.

If you have not signed up for a committee, do so as soon as possible. Believe me, you will not want to miss one minute of the exciting things planned as we begin our new year.

By the next deadline for *Tidings*, we will just be getting back from International Convention in Nashville, TN. I will file my *Tidings* article from the road. While I am away, our President Elect, Sarah Nesbit, will be presiding at the July Dinner Meeting. I hope all that are in town on Thursday, July 20 will come to that dinner meeting. Go online and read all about the program, it is one you do not want to miss.

HAPPY SUMMER!

*Sue McElveen*, President, 2017-18  
[suemcelveen@yahoo.com](mailto:suemcelveen@yahoo.com)



### Upcoming Events:

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

- |            |                                      |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| July 6     | Business Meeting (7p)                |
| July 6     | Retention Committee Meeting (6p)     |
| July 6     | Tools for Schools Collection         |
| July 10    | Pet Respirator Donation to Fire Dept |
| July 12    | SENIORS - Atria Bingo (6p)           |
| July 20    | Dinner Meeting - (7p)                |
| July 21-24 | International Altrusa Convention     |
| July 24    | RETENTION - AWCLS Book Club (6p)     |

*Seniors Committee*

**Altrusa Salutes Older American Month-Community Initiative**

By Lynn Solomon, Senior Committee Co-Chair

As part of our Community Initiative project, the Seniors Committee held a two-day event at the Senior Center in Richardson as a salute to “Older American Month”. The purpose of this event was to assist Older Americans in becoming better informed about services offered by the City of Richardson as a free service to residents. The event was held on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 to 1:00 pm and on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> also from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The event impacted about 80 seniors who stopped by to either pick up information or to register for the programs offered. Representatives from the following programs were there to offer their help and assistance:

- Lock Box Program ( Police Department)
- SNAP Program ( Emergency Management and Homeland Security)
- Vial of Life Program (Fire Department)
- Companion Pets from Animal Shelter (Animal Services)

We had lots of help by our Altrusa volunteers! Volunteering on Wednesday were Robin Smith, Nancy Rohm, Jan Flesch, Janet McCulloch, Christine Hart, and Lynn Solomon. Friday’s volunteers were Bobbie Klein, Sue McElveen, Jo Leeper, Alma Benoit, and Lynn Solomon. Beth Owens, Program Manager for the Richardson Senior Center, was very pleased and hoped that Altrusa would sponsor this event again next year. The Seniors Committee voted to do just that at our organizational meeting for the new year.



Gloria Sandoval, Lynn Solomon, Jo Leeper, Sue McElveen, Bobbi Klein, Alma Benoit



*Ability House*

**Altrusa Presents Sound System!**

By Mimi Tanner

Several Altrusans and Nancy Rohm's grand-daughter, Emma, gathered at Ability House to surprise the residents with some fun gifts on a hot June afternoon. The big gift was a new sound system so they could all enjoy music. Jane Merz, the co-chair for Ability House, had researched this request so there was an iTunes card, iPod, and Bose speaker. Justin Banta, the Development Officer, was the Ability Connection executive present and he knew how to set it all up so there were many happy faces as the residents listened to the music. Jane noted that everyone has to eat, so were gift cards were provided to Spring Creek Bar-B-Que and other favorite restaurants and there were many more happy smiles from the six Ability House residents. It won't be long until we begin celebrating the residents' birthdays. For all his Altrusa friends: Robert wants you to be sure to remember that his birthday is in August!



Lynn Solomon, Robin Smith, Janet McCulloch, Christine Hart and animal shelter friend, Jan Flesch and Nancy Rohm



Justin Banta –  
Development Officer  
at Ability House

Seniors Committee

**Richardson Public Library Book Rotation**

By Lynn Solomon, Senior Committee Co-Chair

On June 10, 2017, eight Altrusans along with five members of the Richardson Exchange Club volunteered to help with the Richardson Public Library Book Rotation project. This project involves taking large print books on a rotation basis to several participating assisted and non-assisted living facilities in Richardson.



Altrusans participating in this event were Coralie Miller, Dean Burroughs, Ann Turner, Marta Gomez-Frey, Lynn Solomon, Alma Benoit, Toni Garrett and Helen Bate.



Pictured in order starting from top row left back; Marta Gomez-Frey, Helen Bate, Toni Garrett, Dean Burroughs, Ann Turner, Lynn Solomon, Coralie Miller, and Alma Benoit. Others pictured and not named are members of the Richardson Exchange Club.



**Membership Retention Committee Meeting**

July 6, 2017 at 6pm before the Business Meeting



Where: Sunroom, Richardson Women's Club

We will be planning the new member party in August, the Book Swap in September and the Secret Sister Kindness Ninja Program.



Seniors Committee

**Grand Opening at Twin Rivers Assisted Living and Memory Care**

By Lynn Solomon, Senior Committee Co-Chair

On June 8, 2017, several Altrusans attended the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of Richardson's newest assisted living community! Twin Rivers Assisted Living & Memory Care is located at 1720 N Plano Road in Richardson. Altrusans attending the lovely event were Jan Flesch, Helen Bate, Kay George, Carol Ruskowski, Barbara Cornelius, Alma Benoit, Dean Burroughs, and Lynn Solomon.

The Executive Director of Twin Rivers, Chris Heinger, will be our speaker at the September dinner meeting.



(pictured l-r) Jan Flesch, Helen Bate, Kay George, Carol Ruskowski, Barbara Cornelius, and Lynn Solomon. Also pictured are City of Richardson Mayor Pro Tem, Mark Solomon and Lynn and Mark's grandchildren Cassidy, Caroline, and Reed Robertson.



*June Program Meeting*  
**Altrusans Celebrate First 100 Years**  
by Laura Trainor-Collins, Retention Co-Chair

Richardson Altrusans enjoyed an entertaining 100 year Altrusa history lesson at the June 15 dinner/program meeting. Surprise guests included Mamie L. Bass (Susan Fischer), Mr. Alfred Durham and District Nine narrator (Karen Tate), Eleanor Roosevelt (Bobbie Klein), Teddy Roosevelt and skit creator (Laura Trainor-Collins), ASTRA member and Altrusan (Gloria Sandoval), and narrator extraordinaire Cindy McIntyre.

The program ended with a champagne toast to the past, the present, and the next 100 years with all the members joining in and shooting off party poppers to salute Altrusa. Special thanks to Mary Shiroma for the centennial Altrusa stickers around the patriotic center pieces on each table.



Pictured from the top: Laura Trainor-Collins as Teddy Roosevelt, Karen Tate as Alfred Durham, Bobbi Klein as Eleanor Roosevelt, Gloria Sandoval as a teenage Astra member, Cindy McIntyre served as main narrator and Susan Fischer as Mamie L. Bass

*Grant Committee*  
**Altrusa Grant Applications Now Open**  
by Cindy McIntyre



Applications are now being accepted for grants to qualifying IRS area non-profits. Grants typically range from \$500 - \$1500. Monies must be used for a specific project benefitting the community and disbursed no later than May 31, 2018 unless otherwise reported.

A fillable application form is available on the club web site at [www.altrusarichardson.com](http://www.altrusarichardson.com).

Deadline for submission is close of business on August 31, 2017. Decisions on funding will be made in the fall and all applicants will receive notification of results prior to October 31, 2017.

If you know of a organization who would be interested in applying for one of our grants, please contact them and direct them to our web site.

If you need more information about the grant submission process, please contact Janet Vance at [janetlvance@gmail.com](mailto:janetlvance@gmail.com).

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**2017 Convention - Nashville, TN**



2017 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Altrusa International, Inc. We'll be celebrating throughout the year, with the

highlight being our Centennial Convention held July 21-24, 2017 in Nashville, TN. More information can be found in the Altrusa International Centennial Celebrations toolkit. Historical documents, 100 4 100 challenge information, centennial newsletters, and much more have been posted! Please consider donating to the Centennial fund to help Altrusa's 100-year dreams come true.

Safe travels to all of our Richardson Altrusans who will be attending Convention this month!

Seniors Committee

**Annual Event "Tie One On For Father's Day"**

By Lynn Solomon, Seniors Committee Co-Chair

Friends Place Adult Day Care held its annual "Tie One On For Father's Day" event on June 16, 2017. It's traditional for the entire staff and Altrusa volunteers to wear ties to this event in honor of fathers everywhere.

Clients and their families were greeted by a terrific classic car show in the parking lot as well as other fun activities inside. Altrusans Kay George, Ann Eisemann, Jan Flesch, Sue McElveen, Helen Bate, Jane Tucker, and Lynn Solomon arrived early to help escort clients out to stroll around the parking lot to take a closer look at the cars....and vote for their favorite one! They also assisted the clients with other fun activities and helped set up the tables for lunch. A delicious lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs was served along with strawberry shortcake for dessert. Mary Osentowski and Gayle Ingle added their assistance to complete the lunch service, clear the tables, and get clients settled in to enjoy a delightful swing band who provided the entertainment!

As always, Friends Place provided a first class event for these wonderful senior members of our community. It was an honor for Altrusans to be a part of it. A special thanks goes to Roger Flesch who showed up to help - complete with his bow tie!



Sue McElveen, Helen Bate, Kay George, Mary Osentowski, Ann Eisemann, and Gayle Ingle



Jan Flesch enjoying the beautiful day with a friend!



Helen Bate, Gayle Ingle, Sue McElveen, Kay George, Jane Tucker, and Lynn Solomon



Altrusa Presidents Luncheon  
**Honoring President, Sue McElveen**  
By Mimi Tanner

Seventeen of our club's Past Presidents gathered at Mary Osentowski's home on June 3 to honor our new President, Sue McElveen. This is an Altrusa of Richardson tradition. Lunch was served and each person had an opportunity to give advice to President Sue. Of course, the Past Presidents also offered their support and assistance...and a few funny stories to encourage Sue in her new position.



Front Row L to R - Cindy Murray, Marsha Peters, Incoming President Sue McElveen, Janice Swallow, Mimi Tanner. Back Row L to R - Mary Osentowski, Pam Johnson, Deb Bourland, Nancy Rohm, Bonnie Perry, Brenda Boston, Laura Trainor-Collins, Jan Flesch, Mary Beth McLemore

Community Outreach Committee  
**2017-2018 Project Update**  
by Gloria Sandoval, Co-Chair Community Outreach

Your Community Outreach Committee met on May 31, 2017, to plan its events for 2017-2018. We hope you will be as excited as we are for the Club's involvement with the old and new projects planned to help our Richardson community. The following is a list of projects planned for this year. Stay tuned for more information or please reach out if you would like to volunteer to help with any of these projects!

- **Children's Advocacy Center of Collin County (CACCC)** – Holiday Shop
- **Network of Community Ministries (Network)** – TOOLS4SCHOOL, Santa Toy Collection, Tooth Fairy, Toiletry Collection, Food Drive and Coats for Kids
- **Hope's Door/New Beginnings (Recently merged)** – Pillowcase Party, Blanket Kits, Kids Art Supplies and Book Collection, Baby Items and Toiletries Party
- **The Counselling Place** – Composition Book collection, Adult Coloring Books/Pencils for teens, Recent Magazine collection, Gift Cards

**Other Projects:**

Richardson Reads One Book, Friends of Richardson Library Book Sale, Richardson Christmas Parade, Methodist Richardson Hospital, Pop-top Collection, Richardson Police Department assistance, Boys and Girls Club, Cards for deployed military.

The Community Outreach Committee is excited about our projects and thanks you for all you do for Altrusa Richardson and our community.

**PLAN AHEAD RETENTION EVENT – BOOK YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!**

**THE DALLAS WOMAN'S FORUM 2017 HOLIDAY EUROPEAN TEA ROOM**



**WHEN: DECEMBER 9, 2017 AT 12:00 NOON**  
**Where: Alexander Mansion Located at 4607 Ross Avenue Dallas, Texas, 75204**

Capture the joy of the holidays with an afternoon tea, enjoy the historic C.H. Alexander Mansion when it is transformed into a tearoom with elegant decorations, sweets and treats, tea and sparkling champagne. This is a lovely event and perfect for daughters, granddaughters, friends and family. Proceeds benefit Birdie Alexander Elementary School, Landauer Child Care, Alley's House and The Alexander Mansion. \$20 of the ticket is tax deductible. **CATERED BY THE CHOCOLATE ANGEL, TICKETS \$50 (TEA, CHAMPAGNE, & GRATUITY INCLUDED)**

WE HAVE 50 TICKETS RESERVED FOR OUR CLUB. ALTRUSANS PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE CLUB WEBSITE, INCLUDE YOUR GUESTS AND GIVE YOUR CHECK, MADE PAYABLE TO THE DALLAS WOMAN'S FORUM, TO LAURA TRAINOR-COLLINS. **THE RESERVATION DEADLINE IS JULY 31, 2017.** THE MANSION OPENS AT 11AM FOR SHOPPING WITH THE VENDORS ON THE SECOND FLOOR OR YOU CAN TAKE A MANSION TOUR.