

**2012-2013
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President's Message

Kimberly's Adventures

District Conference: A Great Adventure Close to Home

Annually, District Nine conducts business and celebrates and educates Altrusans across Texas at District Conference. This year, Conference will be held close to home in Frisco, just a few minutes north of Richardson. Conference celebrates everything about Altrusa.

Conference is a great way to meet new and old friends and hear about all the great projects Altrusans are performing in their communities across Texas. Also, Conference is for everyone! Not just board members and/or committee chairs. Everyone benefits from Conference. If you have attended before – you know how much fun it is! If you have not attended, what are you waiting for? Conference is a “must-do” for every Altrusa members. It brings the work we do to a whole new level. It brings everything we do to a grander scale. We can see the impact we have in small ways right in our back yard through the service we perform and lives we touch. But, when you see that impact in community across community all over Texas, it makes you proud to be one of the 910 Texan Altrusans and it makes you very proud to be a Richardson Altrusan.

Top 10 reasons to attend District Conference:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Fabulous Fun with Friends! | 6. Friendly International Visitor |
| 2. New Friendships and Memories | 7. Inspiring Keynote Speaker |
| 3. Sensational Service | 8. Exciting Awards Ceremony |
| 4. Remembering Loved Ones | 9. Friday Fun Night |
| 5. Educational Workshops | 10. SkipBo (if you have to ask then you <u>definitely</u> need to attend conference) |

The camaraderie at Conference is contagious - Be a part of it! Conference is a great adventure you don't want to miss!



Adventurous Richardson Altrusans attending 2007 District Nine Conference in Amarillo; this photo appeared in *neighborsgo*.



Discover Altrusa!

Kimberly D Kierce
2012-2013 President
Kimberly.Kierce@cor.gov
972.744.4502

Discover Altrusa: Your Passport to Adventure

Nominating Committee Report

ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR MARCH 7 ELECTION ARE AVAILABLE NOW

By Susan Frensley, Nominating Committee Chair

Election of officers for 2013-2014 will be held during the March 7 Business Meeting.

If you want to vote absentee for next year’s slate of officers, please request a ballot from Susan Frensley. To be counted, your absentee ballot must be returned to her by Wednesday, March 6. Ballots received on election day, Thursday, March 7, will not be counted. All absentee ballots must include the voter’s printed name. For more information, log on to our website, and see Club Policies in the Member-only Access section of our website, in Yearbook—Richardson.

The nominees are as follows:

President-Elect	Gloria Sandoval	Vice President	Sue McElveen
Recording Secretary	Marsha Peters	Director 2013-2014	Cindy McIntyre
Corresponding Secretary	Gerry Carron	Director 2013-2015	Jo Leeper
Administrative Treasurer	Jenn Rohm	Director 2013-2015	Kay George
Foundation Treasurer	Courtenay Tanner		

Pam Kovacs, current President-Elect will be our President. Linda Korn will return for her second year as Director.

The Nominating Committee was chaired by Susan Frensley. Committee Members were Rose Daughety, Norma Hammerlund, Mary Beth McLemore, and Ginger Tonne.

Congratulations...

The Richardson City Council thanks all the outstanding, adventurous members of Altrusa who help chart the course to improve our community.

Council Members pictured from left to right: Steve Mitchell, Mark Solomon, Scott Dunn, Mayor Bob Townsend, Amir Omar, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Maczka and Kendal Hartley.

Discover Altrusa, your passport to adventure for 45 years.

Altrusa Accent

DISTRICT VISITOR

Altrusa International policies require that each club be visited at least once a year by a District Officer or Director. Governors visit each club at least once during either the District biennium or their term of as Governor-elect. Club visits are the direct link Districts maintain with their clubs. Functions of District Visits to Clubs are:

- ◇ Share Altrusa knowledge and enthusiasm with the club’s Board of Directors and general membership
- ◇ Provide advice, clarify bylaws and policies, and share what they have learned about Altrusa while visiting other clubs
- ◇ Become the club’s District conduit and, as such, a valuable liaison between the club and International through the year

Each year we encourage our District Visitor to join us for our February Dinner/Program meeting to help us celebrate our club’s birthday. On February 21, 2013, District Nine Director Linda Moore was the District Visitor at our birthday party.

Committee Report

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE HAS BEEN BUSY ALL OVER TOWN

By Sue McElveen, Community Outreach Committee Co-Chair

The Outreach Committee has had several worthwhile endeavors this past year. We have provided school supplies to Network, and donated money to Project Safe Haven through the Richardson Police Department to give temporary shelter to those in need. We have provided ushers for the Richardson Reads One Book program, and helped serve a dinner at Camp Summit. With leadership from Past President, Bonnie Perry, we provided 100 coloring books and boxes of crayons to the waiting area at Medical City Children’s Hospital where children who are receiving cancer treatments wait for their treatment, and we delivered books to Methodist Richardson Medical Center waiting room for children receiving chemo and radiation for cancer. Our Committee has had a great year working on all these projects. Our spring “hands-on” project has just been completed; see the “Chili and Tote” story elsewhere in this issue.

Project Preview

AWCLS PLANS PASSOVER CELEBRATION; EVERYONE IS IN-

Even if you don’t regularly attend our book club meetings, this one should be on your calendar! We will be celebrating a special modified Passover Seder dinner, during which the story of Passover is passed down from generation to generation. If you have ever wondered about how Passover is celebrated here’s your opportunity to get an idea!

On Monday evening, March 25, (the first night of Passover) at 6:00 pm, we will meet at Friends Place for a special “Women’s Seder”. Using our own “Altrusa Haggaddah”, we will go through our own seder meal. We will discuss Passover, the two different haggaddahs and other facets of the seder.

The word “seder” means “order” and the haggaddah is the name of the “book” which is used to help us tell the story in the right “order”. For our March book club selection, we will read a traditional Passover Haggaddah, which can be read straight through in about a half hour. A copy of the traditional *Haggadah* is attached to the Seder event on the Altrusa website.



Reservations will be necessary. The cost will be \$2 plus everyone will be asked to bring an item to contribute to the meal. Reservations can be made via the website and a sign-up list will be available at the business meeting, with suggestions for items you can bring, or Bobbi will let you know what is needed before March 22.

Project Preview

ADVENTURE ON A CAROUSEL!

By Liz Luthans, Leadership Development Committee Co-Chair

You’ll want a ticket to ride on Saturday, March 23, from 9:30 to 12:30, at Altrusa of Richardson’s Spring Leadership Development Event. The Leadership Development Committee is partnering with the Membership Retention Committee to focus on fostering engagement, energy, enrichment, and excitement among all our club members.

- ◇ We have activities planned to *engage* you.
- ◇ We’ll have food to *energize* you.
- ◇ We expect the discourse to be *enriching*.
- ◇ We hope our *excitement* surrounding this event is infectious.

The Spring Leadership Development Workshop will be held at Friends Place, 1960 Nantucket Drive in Richardson. We anticipate data gathered from workshop participants will be used by committees to improve club experiences. Sign up on our website or notify Sue McElveen or Kay George by email. Please come and help make a difference!

SPRING LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT
PRESENTED BY ALTRUSA OF RICHARDSON



**TAKE A RIDE ON
CAROUSEL ALTRUSA!**

COME JOIN US TO EXPLORE NEW IDEAS
TO BRING TO OUR CLUB

ENERGY	ENTHUSIASM	ENGAGEMENT	ENRICHMENT
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2013			
Time: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm <i>Coffee and pastries served during social time from 9:30 am – 10 am</i>			
Place: Friends Place , 1960 Nantucket Drive, Richardson <i>(off West Campbell Road)</i>			
RSVP: by Wednesday, March 20 Online (Events at www.altrusarichardson.com) or send email to <i>Sue McElveen</i> or <i>Kay George</i>			

Project Preview

ALTRUSA MARKETPLACE TO SUPPORT OUR ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

By Bobbi Klein, Membership Retention Committee



The Altrusa Marketplace is nearly here...bigger and better than ever! Be sure to mark your calendar now: May 4, from 10 am to 3:00 pm at Friends Place. There will even be a band playing out front from 10 am - 12 noon!

With more than 25 vendors you should be able to find what you're looking for... and maybe things you will discover you can't do without!

Jewelry....Books...Clothes....Accessories...Baby Goods...Wood Crafts... Stained Glass... Handbags...Toffee...Pampered Chef...BeautiControl...Home Décor and more!

Leland's Gold & Diamonds will be purchasing old gold and precious metal again this year. The vendors will be contributing a portion of their sales back to our club and Leland's was our largest contributor last year. Bring your old jewelry...maybe you can make some extra money to spend at the Marketplace and bring in a little extra money to the club this way, too!

The Retention Committee has been working hard to bring you an event worthy of the Altrusa name. Remember that funds generated from this event support our Administration Budget and the Bake Sale benefits the Sister's Fund. Start planning now what you can contribute to the Bake Sale. The more goodies we make, the more \$\$ we can make!! Sign-up sheets will be distributed soon.

Flyers and blurbs to send to your friends will be coming soon, too. So, spread the word!!

Project Preview

ON YOUR MARK, GET READY, BAKE!

By Jane Tucker, Membership Retention Committee

On May 4, 2013, as part of Altrusa Market Place, our Club will be hosting a bake sale to end all bake sales! The bake sale will start at 10 A.M. and continue through 3 P.M. at Friends Place at 1960 Nantucket, Richardson, Texas 75080.

Here are some tips on how to price your donations.

- Cookies, Brownies, and Bar Cookies \$1.00 - \$2.00 depending on their size
- Cupcakes, Muffins, and Larger Cookies \$2.00 - \$3.00
- Small Loaf Breads \$5.00
- Cakes & Pies \$10.00
- Candies \$1.00 - \$2.00/bag

By adding cute gift tags, ribbon, or other decorations, the item can be turned into a gift and thus will bring a higher price. If the baked good contains ingredients that are expensive such as nuts or involves a lot of time to prepare, it can also justify a higher price. If you bake a recipe by a local celebrity or from a well-known person or place in our community, that too can also make for a popular baked item. There are some types of items such as cookie ingredients in a jar, or homemade granola in decorated jars that can be prepared ahead of time. Please remember not to bring items that need refrigeration. Some people might buy gluten free items or sugar-free items.

We also hope to add a spark of fun by having an hourly baked goods chance drawing for different donated items.

In the Media

Page 6

Richardson Today, February 2013

Altrusa Richardson celebrates 47 years

Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson will celebrate its 47 years of service to the Richardson community with a birthday dinner at 7 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Richardson Woman's Club.

Altrusa was honored as the Outstanding Group organization by Helping Agencies Serving Richardson for its work with Terrace

Elementary children. Altrusa was also recognized with the Ability Connection Outstanding Organization Award for its work with Ability House, a group home in Richardson for people with disabilities.

For more information about Altrusa of Richardson or to attend the birthday celebration, visit altrusarichardson.com.

Project Report

SPRING ORIENTATION/REORIENTATION TEAMS BUILD MARDI GRAS FLOATS!

By Bobbi Klein, Membership Retention Committee

Anyone who knows Altrusa Richardson knows we have the “*laissez les bons temps rouler*” spirit of **Mardi Gras** and the Spring Orientation/Reorientation, “Altrusa...More Fun Than Mardi Gras” was just more fun! It was held on Saturday, February 16 at Friends Place, and fifteen Altrusans, including two wonderful guests, enjoyed beautiful Mardi Gras decorations (thanks to Lynn Solomon). And great food? Absolutely! (Thanks to our great Committee!) We even had a Mardi Gras King’s Cake!

And the fun continued even while we learned and shared vital information about our club and Altrusa International in general. But the highlight of the morning was the challenging Leadership/Team Building activity. We divided up into 4 teams and each team was given a mystery bag containing items like pasta, pretzels, gum balls, tacks, foam sheet, construction paper, stick on gems and letters. Each team was instructed to use the items in their bags to build an Altrusa inspired Mardi Gras float. The catch was that there was no glue or tape! HMMMMM....interesting!

Check out the creative solutions our teams came up with!

**OVERNIGHT BLUEBERRY FRENCH TOAST SERVED AT ORIENTATION/REORIENTATION**

From the kitchen of Lynn Solomon

1 loaf good Italian Bread, torn into bite size pieces
 14 oz. Cream Cheese - room temp
 1/3 cup Confectioners' Sugar
 4 cups fresh Blueberries
 10 Eggs, beaten
 2 cups Milk
 1 tsp. Vanilla Extract
 1/3 cup Maple Syrup

Sauce:

1 cup White Sugar
 2 tbsp. Cornstarch
 1 cup Water
 2 cups fresh Blueberries
 1 tbsp. Butter

1. Spray heavy glass 9 x 13 baking dish with butter non-stick cooking spray. Cream together, cream cheese & confectioners' sugar. Arrange half the bread cubes in the dish, and top with cream cheese mixture. Sprinkle 2 cups fresh blueberries over the cream cheese, then top with remaining bread cubes.
 2. In a large bowl, mix the eggs, milk, vanilla extract and syrup. Pour over bread cubes. (You may need to push bread back down into the liquid a bit.) Cover and refrigerate overnight.
 3. Remove casserole from refrigerator about 30 minutes BEFORE baking. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
 4. Cover and bake for 30 minutes. Uncover and continue baking up to 30-35 minutes longer, until center is firm and surface is lightly browned.
 5. In medium saucepan, mix the sugar, cornstarch and water. Bring to a boil. Stirring constantly, cook 3-4 minutes. Mix in the remaining 2 cups fresh blueberries. Reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes until the blueberries burst. Stir in butter and pour over bread.
- * You may wish to double the recipe for the sauce and serve extra sauce on the side.
 * I used frozen blueberries and they worked just fine.

Project Report

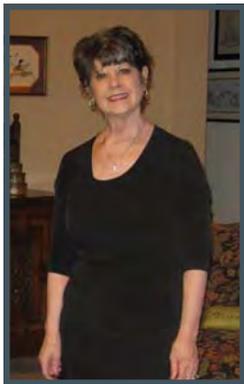
CHILI AND TOTE PARTY PLUS SO MUCH MORE!

By Sue McElveen and Marsha Peters, Community Outreach Committee Co-Chairs

After much discussion and many phone calls, Marsha Peters, Co-Chair of the Outreach Committee, obtained a contact at New Beginnings, an abused woman’s shelter in Garland. The Committee decided on using what was left in our budget to buy toiletry items and maybe a blanket to give to women when they enter the shelter.

We were able to buy enough items to fill 50 Target Recyclable bags and fill each one with a blanket, shampoo, conditioner, razor, deodorant, manicure kit, toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, hand sanitizer, a bar of soap, a pair of socks, and a washcloth. New Beginnings told us that by providing 50 bags we would be helping 50 women as they enter the shelter. Many of the clients that come to the shelter arrive with nothing but the clothes they are wearing, or at best very little in the way of personal items.

The Committee asked the club to volunteer time to put together the bags and to bring a donation of a bottle of lotion to complete the items needed for the bags. Brenda Duckett graciously provided her home as the assembly place. The Committee decided to make it a party and provide food for all who participated. We had a chili dinner, deliciously made by our hostess Brenda. Others on the Committee brought all the other items needed and Jean Stuart made the MOST delicious Texas Chocolate Sheet cake to top off our hard work. A few brought wine and the fun began.



Bonnie Perry volunteered to make coloring book sheets to assemble into coloring books, members brought crayons, and our President Kimberly Kierce designed a cover. So, while some of our volunteer members were stuffing the bags for the moms, others were assembling the coloring books to take for any children that might come to the shelter.

Jane Tucker, bless her soul, brought a case of lotion, a doggy nebulizer for children with asthma, and a case of diapers, all from Neil Kocranci of Medline Industries, Inc. He is one of her company’s distributors. In addition to that, almost everyone that came to help with the assembly of the bags and coloring books, brought bottles of lotions and lots of crayons. We are a very generous group! We ended up with 32 large bottles of lotion, plus sixty purse size bottles. Dr. Reid Slaughter, DDS, Sue McElveen’s dentist, from Lakewood Family Dental Care, donated the 50 toothbrushes and 50 tubes of toothpaste.



After all assembly was completed and all the cake was devoured, we loaded up Sue McElveen’s car to the brim. We needed an extra car, so Genevieve Hamulak volunteered to help transport the rest with Sue to the New Beginnings location on Friday, March 1.

Sue and Genevieve met up and called for directions to the center. We had a great tour of the facility, learning much about their operations and left there feeling grateful that there is a place like New Beginnings for those in need because of abuse. The

(Continued on page 7)



CHILI AND TOTE *(Continued from page 6)*

facility holds up to 33 people (they can house up to 36 if there are small infants that can sleep with their mothers). New Beginnings is funded primarily by grants and donations. The clients that are living there are the ones that clean the house, cook the food, and do other chores as deemed necessary. They have a chores list and all must do their part. A large part of their food is bought at the North Texas Food Bank, plus they get donations of fresh fruits and vegetables from local Tom Thumb stores.

New Beginnings provides parenting classes, group discussions that help the clients to understand the circle of violence, how to stop the abuse and prevent it from recurring in the future. They also provide the clients with job leads, job searches, etc. They have a wonderful children’s playroom where they have a male mentor that comes 5 days a week to work with the children. He shows them that not all males are violent or abusive and helps them regain trust in men. This service is provided by a grant from the Jason Witten Foundation. Jason was a victim of parental abuse when he was a small child. Clients and their children can remain at the shelter for up to 30 days, after that they are routed to the Outreach Center where they can receive semi-permanent housing for up to two years in local apartment buildings.

We left knowing that we had helped a wonderful organization. A big thank you to Isabel Camacho, Shelter Coordinator, and Katie who gave us the tour. This was the perfect way to end our Committee’s year. Thanks to all of you wonderful women that helped with this project. Altrusa is truly an organization that gives back to the community.



(above) Katie, of New Beginnings, with Sue McElveen and Genevieve Hamulak

(below) Chili-eaters and tote-bag fillers



Project report

VERA'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED AT ABILITY HOUSE

By Jan Skinner, Ability House Committee Co-Chair

Joining us in celebrating Vera's birthday on February 23, were her sister and husband, and Bill Knudsen, President and CEO of Ability Connection Texas (ACT). We will have two parties at Ability House in March: on the 2nd, for Kathleen's birthday, and on the 30th for and Easter celebration.

We adopted Ability House in 1995. Altrusans visit the residents of Ability House to celebrate birthdays and holidays. The birthday parties are usually conducted on a Saturday afternoon. Volunteers bring cake, beverages and a gift from the club. Residents enjoy our company and all members are encouraged to attend.

ACT provides caring, family-style living environments for adults with disabilities through its residential services program. ACT currently operates seven homes 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.

ACT's residential homes are staffed 24 hours a day. When residents are home, at least two care professionals are there to assist residents with personal care activities such as, feeding, bathing, and personal hygiene, as needed. During sleeping hours, at least one care professional is awake and on duty. ACT's care professionals also clean and maintain homes, cook meals, and provide personal assistance based on each resident's needs and abilities.



Community News

JOIN CAMP SUMMIT IN MARCHING FOR RESPECT



The March for Respect is a *one and a half mile* walk through downtown Dallas created to show all Texans with developmental disabilities that they are not alone, they can achieve and that there's a whole city of people who care for them greatly. The March for Respect makes a difference.

Lets' put together an ALTRUSA GROUP and join the CAMP SUMMIT team to participate in the WALK FOR RESPECT. IT's FREE!! To register go to <http://www.marchforrespect.org> and register under CAMP SUMMIT (Nikki Hastad, captain). Questions? Contact Bobbi Klein 972-484-8900 - Camp Summit phone



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Your Business Ad Can Go Here!

An advertisement in *Altrusa Tidings* is a great way to spread the word about your services or products!

Ads are business card-sized; \$25 for one insertion, \$100 for six consecutive months.

Camera-ready content due by 15th of month; fee must be paid to Treasurer by third Thursday of month prior to publication.

Contact Tidings Editor for contracts and guidelines

Special Report

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY TO BE OBSERVED ON MARCH 8

By Jane Tucker, International Relations Committee Co-Chair

The first International Women’s Day occurred on March 19th, 1911. The inaugural event included rallies and organized meetings in countries all around the world. The date commemorated a day in 1848 when a Prussian king promised to introduce voting for women. Even though he failed to keep his promise, it at least gave hope for women to gain equality. Then, in 1913, the International Women’s Day was moved to March 8th. In 1975, the United Nations drew global awareness of concerns regarding women by calling for an International Women’s Year and the UN General Assembly decided to continue this worldwide phenomenon with events in many countries on every March 8th aimed at helping nations eliminate discrimination against women.

This year, as part of the United Nations celebration of International Women’s Day, the UN Women will launch “One Women: A song for UN Women”, a song featuring more than twenty artists from across the globe. This song is a way to lyrically call for change and celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women. The “One Women” song aims to become a rally cry to inspire listeners about the mission of the UN Women and help others join in the drive for women’s empowerment and gender equality. The song will be available for purchase at <http://song.unwomen.org/> and all common channels like iTunes and Amazon for \$.99. Proceeds will go to UN Women.



ROGER KIERCE



ROGER M. KIERCE, 75, died February 5, 2013, at Methodist Downtown Houston. Born June 16, 1937, in San Antonio, TX. Preceded in death by his parents, Mims and Mary Kierce and brother, Tony.

Survived by his wife of 52 years, Patty Kierce; daughters, Vanessa and Ralph Burzynski, Janet and Robert Kutyba, Cathy and David Rendon, and Kimberly Kierce; 11 grandchildren, 1 step-granddaughter, and 3 great-granddaughters; sisters Bernice and Kerwin Weinheimer and Dorothy and Edward Engelken and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation, vigil and rosary on Friday, February 8, 2013, 6-8 pm at Klein Funeral Home and funeral service, 10:30am, Saturday, February 9, 2013, at Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church, 11507 Huffmeister Rd., Houston, TX 77065. Interment will follow at Forest Park Westheimer Cemetery.

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RICHARDSON, TX**

FOR INFO: 469-323-8510

**ALTRUSA
MARKETPLACE**

25 + Vendors and Bake Sale Goodies!

JEWELRY	BABY GOODS
DÉCOR ITEMS	FLORALS
CLOTHING	CRAFTS
ACCESSORIES	And so much more...

**BRING YOUR GOLD
AND PRECIOUS METAL
TO SELL, TOO!**

MAY 4, 2013
10 am to 3pm

FRIENDS PLACE

1960 NANTUCKET, RICHARDSON, TX 75080

Meeting Highlights

DISTRICT VISITOR PLUS BIRTHDAY PARTY MADE IT A VERY SPECIAL MEETING

By Bobbi Klein, Membership Recruitment Committee

We celebrated our 47th birthday with an International flair! With, great decorations, international cuisine, beautiful cake, visiting dignitary and our own Empress, we did it up right!

Richardson Altrusans and many guests, gathered on Thursday, February 21, to mark the 47th anniversary of the formation of our club in 1966 (we chartered in 1967). Decorating the tables were flags representing countries where Altrusa clubs make their communities better. Thanks to our wonderful catering team, Weddings and Celebrations, we enjoyed dishes from Puerto Rico and India. And, to top off the meal, there was delicious birthday cake.

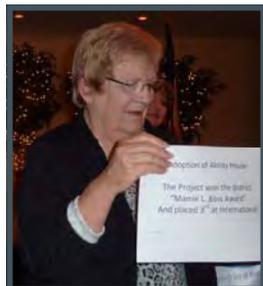
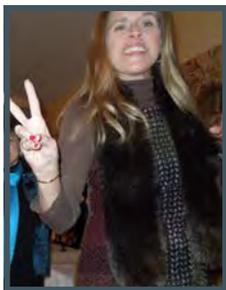


District Nine Director Linda Moore from the Temple club was our visiting dignitary. She spoke to us about District Nine and issued a challenge from the Temple club to broaden our outlook in recruiting. The Temple club has initiated their first male member.



Mary Beth lead us in a game in which we tried to name the 21 Presidents who are still active in our club...in the order in which they served. Then, some of the presidents assisted by sharing tidbits about what happened in the club during their presidencies. We followed with a round of applause for all the presidents who were willing leaders of our club, past and present.

A very special moment was the "crowning" of our Empress for the night, Mary Osentowski, who is the only member of our club to serve as District Nine Governor. Tagni, Mary's daughter, and a former member of our club, was present to share the moment. Mary lead us in a Conga line to a District Nine favorite song, "We are Family". And, just because we love to celebrate with music and dancing, we also danced (sort of) a dance called the Stroll, which was popular in 1966, to the music of "Celebrate Good Times!", which we certainly do!!



Meeting Preview

MARCH 21 MEETING: JOIN US FOR A MOVIE, THE 12 STONES ADVENTURE

By Barbara Berthold, International Relations Committee Co-Chair

The International Relations Committee invites you to a journey to Nepal. For many years, Altrusa Richardson has supported Heifer International in fulfilling its mission, which is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and care for the Earth.

At the March Program meeting, you will be given the opportunity to learn more about Heifer's work and how its programs transformed a community of women in one of the worlds most impoverished countries from helplessness to hope. Twelve Stones portrays the heart of Heifer's work - Passing on the Gift.

Curious? To watch an excerpt from the **12 Stones** movie, go here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zS-6pnQtR5A>
For more information about Heifer International, <http://www.heifer.org/>



Member Highlights

BARBARA BERTHOLD NOMINATED FOR REAL HEROES AWARD

For the 2013 Richardson Real Hero Award, *Altrusa Richardson* partnered with *Richardson Adult Literacy Center (RALC)* to nominate our very own **Barbara Berthold** for the amazing person she is and the great work that she has done for the Richardson community - through both organizations and many other organizations she serves. Barbara has been accepted as one of the finalists for this year's award. The Richardson Real Hero Award is voted on by the community at large - not just a panel of judges. The winner will be announced Thursday, March 6.

Barbara Berthold came to America in 2006 from Germany and has fully embraced the American culture - and the Richardson spirit of volunteerism. While she and her husband originally came for a five year overseas adventure, they have now decided to stay long-term, have purchased a home in Richardson, and have started the path to U.S. citizenship - all because of Richardson's hospitality and their positive experiences in our community. Throughout her time in Richardson, Barbara has been the model of outstanding volunteerism, devoting 10-20 hours a week to helping Richardson residents and their families.



In 2011, Barbara became a member of Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson, Texas, an international non-profit organization, making local communities better through leadership, partnership, and service. Barbara also currently serves as President of The Richardson Adult Literacy Center board of directors, a non-profit organization that transforms lives by providing free English as a Second Language instruction to adults from other countries who live or work in Richardson or the Richardson ISD area. Barbara first came to RALC as a student, then became a tutor, and, soon thereafter, became a board member. As an active Board Member, she dedicates over 200 hours a year administering and promoting their literacy programs and fundraising efforts.

Barbara, a graduate of Leadership Richardson, was a key organizer of Richardson's participation in the 2012 Japan America Grassroots Summit when twenty Japanese visitors came to Richardson. Barbara helped the Richardson Summit organizers plan and implement the greeting of these Japanese visitors at Richardson City Hall in August 2012 and organized a Richardson Progressive Dinner in September 2012.

District Nine News

DISTRICT NINE NEW CLUB BUILDING COMMITTEE AT WORK IN OUR AREA

By Bobbi Klein, District Nine New Club Building



You already know that the best way to grow Altrusa is to invite new members to join our club. But the better way is to get new clubs started, because new clubs can grow Altrusa even faster.

The District Nine Mission Statement ends with the words “...and encourages new club development across Texas”. To that end, there is a District Nine New Club Building Committee. Currently serving on the Committee are Linda Whitner-Gomez from San Antonio and Bobbi Klein. This Committee strives to assist District Nine clubs who choose to establish new clubs in their area. But the District Nine Committee also works to find new areas and establish new clubs that may not have a “mother” club. And that is happening right here in a community to which our club already has ties.

Thanks to a suggestion from Carolyn Swanson, Bobbi Klein had lunch with June Rentmeester to see if she thought that an Altrusa club could be started at Franklin Park at Canyon Creek senior living community . June is a resident there, as is Carolyn’s mother, Ernestine, and Barbara Cornelius’ mother, Betty. (Both Betty and Ernestine have become adopted members of our club.) June thought it was a great idea and off she went to investigate the possibilities.

Within a week, June had set up a meeting for Carolyn, Bobbi and herself with Julie Davis, Marketing Director, and Pam Dallas, Life Enhancement Director, at Franklin Park. They also liked the idea and a Community Information Meeting was set for February 28.

In the meantime, June started talking to friends, and flyers were distributed in resident’s mailboxes. At the Information Meeting, June, Carolyn and Bobbi met with six ladies to see what they thought about starting a club. These ladies are very enthused and are now spreading the word, through other regular meetings scheduled with the residents, about service opportunities and Altrusa. And another organizational meeting is scheduled mid-March. They’re even planning their service projects—they were intrigued by the Teddy Bear Time concept, but not excited about remodeling projects!

I hope you’ll consider supporting these women by attending their meetings and lending your Altrusa wisdom.

District Nine News

SLATE FOR 2013-2015 DISTRICT NINE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNOUNCED

The District Nine Nominating Committee (Brenda Tucker(Chair), Valeta Gentzler, Mary Beth McLemore, Debbie Mabry and Brenda Reeves) have announced the slate for the next biennium’s Board of Directors. The delegates will vote during District Nine Conference on Saturday, April 20; two Directors will be elected. The new Board, including Beth Blair, Governor, will be installed at the Governor’s Banquet Saturday night.

Governor-elect	Sylvia Zamora, San Antonio	Director	Antonia Buban, Downtown Dallas
First Vice Governor	Linda C. Moore, Temple	Director	Bobbi Klein, Richardson
Second Vice Governor	Janelle Williamson, Texarkana	Director	Laure Bruner, Anderson County
Treasurer	Leslie Thompson, Lubbock	Director	Trina Taylor, Southwest Dallas County

To the Greatest Dad:

Thank you for your love and support throughout the years
and for instilling my sense of adventure
and encouraging me to pursue my dreams!

Your loving daughter, Kimberly



Roger Kierce 1937-2013

BOARD ACTIONS

- ◇ Met with District Nine Visitor, Director Linda Moore, from the Temple Altrusa Club
- ◇ Confirmed that our annual memorial donation has been sent to International Foundation; the donation is in memory of Altrusans’ close family members who died during 2012
- ◇ Appointed Rose Daughety to be our coordinator for Club 21 memberships

District Nine News

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM; SEE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

From www.altrusadistrictnine.org



District Nine, Altrusa International Inc.
Fifty-Seventh Annual Conference
April 19 - 21, 2012 at Embassy Suites, Frisco, TX

Registration Form

(Please Print Legibly. Your registration will be confirmed via email.)

Name: _____ Altrusa International Inc. of: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Check all that apply.

- International Representative, District Officer, Club President, Member, First Timer, Past International President, District Committee Chair, Delegate, Charter Member, Guest, Past District Governor, District Committee Member, Alternate, Affiliate Member

(Perfect Attendance ribbons for 2011-2012 club year will be available at the Credentials table.)

Table with 3 columns: Registration Type, Postmarked BEFORE March 16, Postmarked AFTER March 16, Received after March 30 or rec'd by March 30, Pay at the Door. Rows include Full, Partial (two meals), Partial (one meal), and One Meal, No Conference Registration (Guest).

What Are Your Meal Selections?

- Friday Night Fun Night, Saturday Awards Luncheon, Saturday Night Governor's Banquet. Options: Regular meal or Vegetarian or Wheat/gluten-free or Other*

* Other special dietary requirements must be ordered by March 31, 2013. I need _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$_____ No refunds will be given after April 12, 2013.
Make checks payable to District Nine Conference Fund or pay with Pay Pal (information to follow)

Mail Registration Form and check to:
Sharron Vance
718 Pebble Creek Drive
Garland TX 75040

Questions? e-mail to sharronvance@gmail.com

Hotel: Embassy Suites Frisco
7600 John Q. Hammons Drive
Frisco, Texas, 75034 1-972-712-7200
Altrusa room rate is \$159 + tax through March 28, 2013
Reservations: Call 1-800-921-1443 and request the Altrusa International District Nine Group Block. Group code TRU. Or
http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/D/D/ALFSES-TRU-20130417/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

International News

INTERIM ASSOCIATION DIRECTOR APPOINTED

By Donna Johnson, Chair, Altrusa International Personnel Committee.

In October 2012 President Dona Garretson advised the District Governors that Executive Director Harriet Lewis had left employment with Altrusa effective October 22. I trust this information made its way to you through DSBs and club newsletters.

Since that time President Dona has volunteered her time and expertise to the International Office by traveling to Chicago periodically (on average a week or two a month) and maintaining regular communication with the staff via telephone and email. She has handled all administrative and supervisory responsibilities of the Executive Director that are not in conflict with her role of International President.

The Personnel Committee met on February 7, 2013 to evaluate the current status regarding the vacancy in the position of Executive Director and came to several conclusions, some in consultation with the Finance Committee who also met that day. The conclusions were:

1. The International Office has been operating effectively in the absence of an Executive Director under the volunteer guidance of President Dona Garretson who negotiated a new lease for office space at extremely advantageous rates; initiated a new contract and a renewed relationship with Doc Morgan; helped the organization reduce expenses in a number of areas and worked with Altrusan Beth Blair to develop a plan to celebrate Altrusa's 100th anniversary to name a few of her recent activities
2. Asking Dona to continue as a volunteer takes advantage of her generosity and love of Altrusa and at times has her working full time as a volunteer for the International office plus carrying out her responsibilities as International President. In addition she will be assisting the office as it prepares for several major projects including the International Convention
3. With the continuing decline in income due to membership loss Altrusa International, Inc. can no longer afford the services of a full-time Executive Director and the position must be replaced with a new part-time position Association Manager.
4. Hiring a part-time Interim Association Manager would be a good way to determine the key functions that are necessary in this a position and the appropriate level of part time employment
5. Dona Garretson would be an excellent choice for the Interim Association Manager at half-time if she is willing to continue until after the Convention at which time the Personnel Committee and Board would reassess the situation and determine whether to continue with an Interim or a hire a Permanent Association Manager.

The Board of Directors at its mid-year meeting on February 8th offered Dona Garretson the position of Interim Association Manager effective retroactively from January 1, 2013 through July 31, 2013 which she accepted.

Donna Johnson

Chair, Altrusa International Personnel Committee

TEDDY VAN BIBBER



Maria Theresa (Teddy) Van Bibber passed away Monday, February 4, 2013, from natural causes, at the age of 91.

She was born in Ft. Worth, Texas on December 18, 1921 and later moved with her family to San Antonio where she

attended high school. There she met and married her late husband on February 14, 1947. She worked for many years for the Social Security Administration until retiring in December, 1981. She was an active member of Alamo Heights United Methodist Church and attended the Kum Doubler Sunday School Class.

Maria will be remembered as a loving and generous wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and will be greatly missed. She enjoyed attending church, playing bridge, reading and traveling with her husband during their years together. She lived the last 3 years in Dallas, Texas with her daughter and son-in-law.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 61 years, David Van Bibber, her sisters Victoria Gutierrez, Josephine Gonzales and Genevieve Flores. She is survived by daughter, Cindy Murray and husband, Tom; grandson, Brian Murray; granddaughter, Kathryn Morris and husband, Alan; great-granddaughter Aubrey Morris; and great-grandson, Owen Morris, two nephews and numerous nieces.

Memorial service, Friday, February 22, 1:00 pm, Alamo Heights United Methodist Church Garden Chapel, 825 E. Basse Road, San Antonio

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorial donations be made to the Joy Singers Fund of Alamo Heights United Methodist Church, 825 E. Basse Rd., San Antonio, TX 78209.

Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson, Texas

P.O. Box 832101

Richardson, TX 75083

Carolyn Swanson, Newsletter Editor

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www.altrusarichardson.com

International Foundation News

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION REQUESTS YOUR SUPPORT

By Ann Marie Snyder, Chair, Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.

It's that time of year, when we are all pressed with requests for donations to local and national charities. Most of us are forced to be very selective in our desire to help those in need. But as Altrusans, we can expand the global impact of our charitable donations with a gift to the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, Altrusans contributed a total of \$138,651.11. Your generosity is overwhelming. *Thank you so much.*

The Foundation's mission is to empower YOU, *Altrusans*, in providing effective, local community service programs, and to serve Altrusa and its international community. Through the Foundation Grants, Club 21, and the Disaster Relief Programs, Altrusans personally experience the power behind Altrusa International - Leading to a Better Community.

Your contributions supported the Foundation's Programs:

Grants Program	\$67,462
Birthday Celebration Book Grants	\$5,350
Club 21	\$17,000
Disaster Relief	\$3,000

and funded

Community Leadership Award	\$2,000
Letha H. Brown Awards	\$1,950
Nina Faye Calhoun Awards	\$1,750
ASTRA Scholarships and Service Awards	\$3,403

Total Distributed \$101,915

The Altrusa International Foundation Board of Trustees and I are committed to you and your clubs and we hope that you have a wonderful 2013. Thank you for your continued support of the Altrusa International Foundation's programs. **Together, we can make a difference in the lives of others around the world.** Please complete the contribution form to make your gift to the International Foundation. You may also donate by going to www.altrusa.org. If you need assistance making your donation, please contact the Foundation Office at foundation@altrusa.org.

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Special Report

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN RICHARDSON—COULDN'T HAPPEN

By Susan Frensley, International Relations Committee

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS SLAVERY IN THE MODERN AGE



Back in the late '90s, early 2000s, I noticed newspaper announcements of programs being put on at various elementary schools in Garland, Plano and Richardson. A group called Zambia a Cappella would put on concerts at the schools. One of my favorite singing groups at the time was Ladysmith Black Mambazo. They were the most wonderful a cappella singing group from South Africa. They had made appearances on Sesame Street. If Zambia a Cappella was even half as good, they would be fantastic singers.

My son Paul was in RISD's Mohawk Elementary school. I was very much anticipating Zambia a Cappella coming to Mohawk and, sure enough, a concert by the group was shortly announced to be held after school.

Parents were given information about the group. It was group of young Zambian men who were being sponsored in the U.S. by a church group out of Whitesboro, TX. Most of the young men were supposedly orphans. The advertised goal of the sponsors was to have the young men sing and earn money to go to college in the U.S. Also, another goal was to build a school (for orphans, of course) in the district of Zambia that the young men came from, using part of the proceeds from the concerts. (The concerts were free. Money was generated by cassette and CD sales, poster sales and other merchandise.)

I was very concerned about the group, because I worried that the young men might be taken advantage of. I determined to keep my eyes out at the concert.

But at the concert, which Paul and I enjoyed very much, I looked carefully at the singers. While they were singing, they looked very joyful. They had good eye contact with the audience and seemed at ease. As they sang and danced their way out of the venue, I tried to make eye contact with each one. But they kept their eyes down. They immediately boarded the bus that they came on—no mingling with their new fans.

However, there was a sales table that did a rush business. We bought a cassette tape for me. Paul loved the group very much and wanted a poster. My misgivings could not be supported by what I had observed, so we put the poster up in Paul's room. And I enjoyed the cassette tape a lot.

Later on, a small article appeared in the Dallas Morning News to the effect that a couple in Whitesboro were being investigated by Federal authorities for human trafficking of youths from Zambia. Of course, details were few and there was no follow-up. My fears were realized. But for years I did not find out anything more.

One day in a doctor's office, I picked up a *People* magazine. One of the articles was about a former member of Zambia a Cappella. He had been adopted by an American couple and was going to college. He told some of what the young men had been subjected to while under the control of Keith Grimes and his wife, who were the "sponsors" of Zambia a Cappella.

I urge you to read the rest of the story by clicking on the links below. If something seems to be too good to be true, it just might be. I do not know what I could have done if somehow one of the young men had indicated that he needed help at the Mohawk concert. But I hope I would have done something. Of course, these youths were living in fear, so they did not reach out to anyone.

The main lesson is that human trafficking can be carried out pretty openly, even in communities like Plano, Richardson and Garland.

Links: <http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/americas/11/25/wus.slave.choir/index.html>

and <http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/kralis/060801>

Club Calendar March 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 <i>Sarah Nesbit bday; Ability House: Kathleen</i>
3	4	5 <i>Education: Teddy Bear Time</i>	6 <i>Seniors: Atria Bingo</i>	7 Business Meeting	8 <i>International Women's Day</i>	9
10	11 <i>Bridge</i>	12	13	14 <i>Retention: SMALLS dinner</i>	15	16
17 <i>Barbara Berthold bday</i>	18 <i>Education: Good Manners preparation</i>	19 <i>Education: Good Manners party; Teddy Bear Time</i>	20	21 Dinner Meeting	22	23 <i>Leadership: Adventure on Carousel Altrusa</i>
24	25 <i>AWCLS Seder dinner@ Friends Place</i>	26 <i>Education: Teddy Bear Time</i>	27 <i>Ann Payne bday</i>	28 <i>Board meeting; Carla Weiland bday</i>	29	30 <i>Ability House: Easter celebration</i>
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, 6 pm, 4th Thursday, Friends Place Adult Day Services

Events on this calendar are copied from the calendar on our website. See the event listing 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.

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