

# ALTRUSA TIDINGS



ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL INC. OF RICHARDSON, TEXAS

OCTOBER 2011

WORKING TODAY – BUILDING TOMORROW

VOLUME 43, ISSUE 5

## 2011-2012 Board of Directors

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### BONNIE'S BASICS—OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF TODAY

It seems very fitting to me that Altrusa International Inc. of Richardson decided seven years ago to create a new event which would not only be our annual fundraiser but would recognize outstanding women in our greater community. What is more appropriate than a club of women leaders to hold an annual event to feature and recognize women who have made a difference in their business environments while also contributing to their communities?

So, Outstanding Women of Today began! It is our project! It is the vehicle through which we raise the money which is funneled back not only to our community through our projects, but also enables us to support worthwhile national and international organizations. We focus on helping children, youth, and adults live a better life, with literacy being our primary focus.

So, it is time for the 2011 Outstanding



Women of Today, which will take place on Friday, October 21, 2011. Nominations have been received in all of the categories and the information has been handed off to the judges. This is an exciting time!

Julianne Lovelace and Courtenay Tanner are co-chairs for a second year and many of you are working on their committee. It takes all of us to make it really work. As we finish the things that need to be done, let's also spend some time inviting people we know to attend. Tell them about it. Ask them to purchase a ticket and sit with you at the luncheon. It will be an opportunity for them to enjoy a great event, and also to learn about Altrusa International Inc. of Richardson. They will meet special women—our nominees—and be present as they are all introduced and recognized as finalists for the Outstanding Women of Today Award.

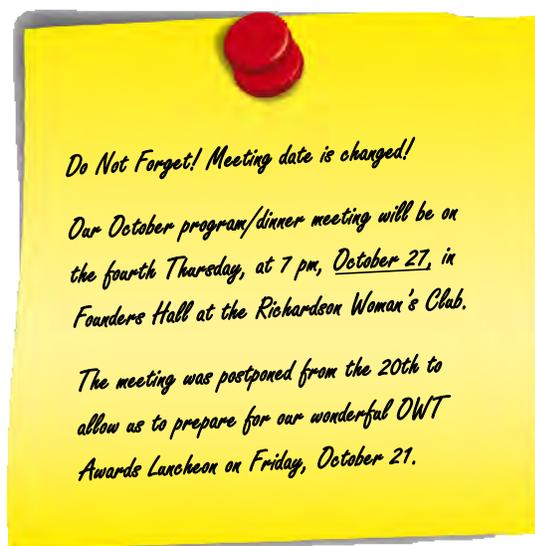
The success of this event will determine what we can do in 2012-2013 through our foundation budget as we support our community and other worthwhile projects

Let's make this our best Outstanding Women of Today event. As we do this, we will also continue our tradition of recognizing women leaders and moving forward in our mission: to serve our community while developing individual leadership.

I will see you at the luncheon.

*Bonnie Perry,*

President 2011-2012



## MEMBERSHIP RETENTION COMMITTEE REPORT

**SELECTION IS *THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL SOCIETY***

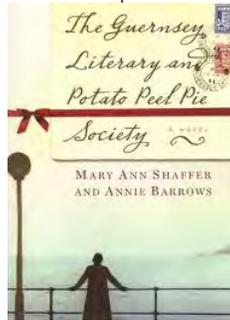
By Kay George

Oh, what a night! This gathering has to rank as the all time greatest since our book club began. Thanks to Gerry Carron for her animated guidance through discussion of *The Elegant Gathering of White Snows* by Kris Radish.

On a seemingly normal night in a small Wisconsin town, eight women begin walking the rural roads, attracting national attention. The eight women have been meeting every Thursday to drink wine and reveal secrets, becoming closer and closer as the time goes by. They run the gamut in age, occupation, and personality, but they have formed bonds stronger than any of them thought possible. This is a tale of friendship and love, loss and liberation.

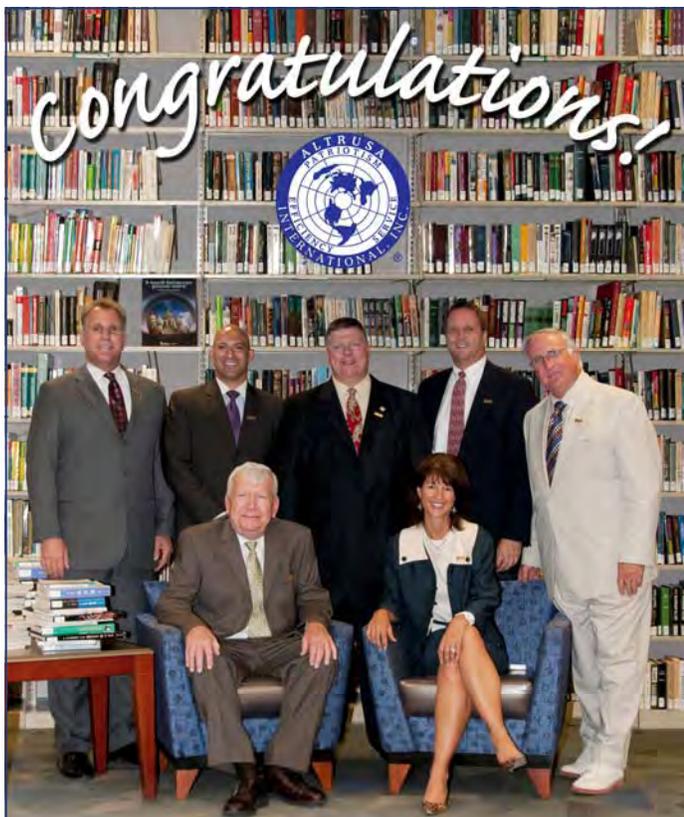
Thanks to Genevieve Hamulak, who treated us to

incredible pizza, and Kay George for the accompanying salad. Also to Lois Ferrara and Jan Belcher for providing wine, Jan Belcher for dessert, and Pam Kovacs for water, and paper goods.



The selection for October is *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. In January 1946, writer Juliet Ashton receives a letter from a stranger, a founding member of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society. This begins a remarkable tale of the island of Guernsey during the German Occupation, and of a society as extraordinary as its name. Kay George will lead the discussion of this fascinating book.

As always, we meet at Friends Place Adult Day Services, 1960 Nantucket Drive in Richardson.



The Richardson City Council congratulates Altrusa for its 44 years of continued service in our community.

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



## IN THE MEDIA

**FROM OCTOBER ISSUE OF *RICHARDSON TODAY*****Altrusa****luncheon Oct. 21**

Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson, Texas hosts its 2011 Outstanding Women of Today... Builders of Tomorrow Awards Luncheon at noon Oct. 21 at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas/Richardson. Twenty outstanding women will be honored and winners in six categories announced. The speaker is author consultant Dottie Gandy.

Tickets are \$45 and may be ordered at [www.altrusarichardson.com](http://www.altrusarichardson.com).

**BOARD ACTION**

- Reviewed Strategic Plan presented by Nancy Rohm; made a minor change and agreed to submit to Club for approval

## MEETING PREVIEW

## OCT. 27 PROGRAM MEETING

At our October 27 meeting, Dr. Hal Barkley of SMU will speak on Family of Origin: How can we know where we're going if we don't know where we've been?

Dr. Barkley is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, a Licensed Professional Counselor, a Clinical Member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, and a Certified Sex Therapist with the American Association of Sex Educators. He earned his Masters of Education degree in Counseling at Texas Tech University in 1972 and his Ph.D. in Counseling from the University of North Texas in 1982.

In addition to having maintained a limited private practice for the past 25 years, Dr. Barkley worked as a school counselor and educator for 35 years with the Carrollton-Farmers



Branch ISD. He has also worked as an adjunct with SMU for five years prior to becoming full-time at SMU, and has worked with Brookhaven College and a counseling agency in Carrollton. During his career, he has served on numerous advisory boards and committees, has published several articles in professional journals, and has presented a wide range of programs at both state and national conferences with an emphasis on counseling with Hispanic adolescents and a variety of sexual topics. In November 2008, Dr. Barkley presented a workshop at the Texas Counseling Association 52nd Annual Professional Growth Conference in Houston, Texas. Entitled "Sexuality Counseling," the workshop focused on the dynamics of assisting the adolescent client in sexual decision making.

## PROJECT REPORT

## ALTRUSA RECOGNIZED AS MAJOR SPONSOR OF RROB LECTURE

By Janet Vance

Jamie Ford, author of this year's featured book, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, delivered an inspiring lecture on the nature of love, our search for identity and belonging, and the injuries of war to our humanity. There was a full house at Richardson High School (about 1,300) to share this free annual event.

Altrusans Sandy Martin, Liz Luthans, Nancy Rohm, Bobbi Klein, Brenda Boston, Pam Kovacs, Sue McElveen, Ann Payne, Kay George, Janet Vance, and Jean Stuart, and Altrousers Tom Rohm, Bob Boston, and Paul Vance attended the Richardson Reads One Book (RROB) lecture and author reception, where they served as ushers and lent willing hands where needed. The new Altrusa book discussion group read and discussed *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* earlier this year.

Altrusa of Richardson is a major \$1,000 sponsor of Richardson Reads One Book, and was recognized in the opening remarks at the event. Sponsorships enable RROB to offer a free lecture from a nationally known author to encourage reading and to build bridges in the community through the shared experience of book discussion. The featured author also spends half a day each year speaking with Richardson High School students. This year, author Jamie Ford urged budding high school writers and artists to pursue their dreams of making the

arts their life's work. Ford commented later to Janet Vance that RROB was the largest group that he had ever spoken to and that Richardson's high school students were the most engaged and articulate of all the high schoolers that he has addressed—further testimony to the fact that Richardson is a community of readers!

**PAM KOVACS, AUTHOR JAMIE FORD, AND BRENDA BOSTON AT THE RICHARDSON READS ONE BOOK AUTHOR RECEPTION**



## OWT COMMITTEE REPORT

**OCTOBER 21 IS THE BIG DAY! PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!**

Have you made your reservations for our Outstanding Women of Today Luncheon and Awards Presentation?

Why wait until the last minute? The deadline is October 11. (But, yes, if exceptional circumstances prevent you from meeting the deadline, you can contact Carolyn Swanson up until Sunday, October 16, to make a reservation—we don't want anyone to be left out!)

Why such an early deadline? Because reservations, payments, sponsorships, seating assignments, are printing of badges are big jobs performed by the OWT committee. The sooner you make your reservation, the better your chance of your seating request being met, and the easier it will be for the committee to make sure we have another fabulous event!

Have you invited friends to the luncheon? What a neat way to meet a social obligation—purchase a ticket for your friend so she can attend a memorable event! Tickets also make nice gifts for friends and relatives!

Have you signed up to help on the Big Day? Contact Courtenay Tanner or Julianne Lovelace and offer your assistance. The luncheon is even more fun if you participate in the preparations!





# MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

## October 22, 2011




HandsOn NETWORK  
A DIVISION OF POINTS OF LIGHT INSTITUTE

USA WEEKEND  
A GANNETT COMPANY

## PROJECT PREVIEW

**THERE IS STILL TIME TO HELP WITH MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY PROJECT**

*By Toni Garrett*

On Make a Difference Day, October 22, we'll deliver children's books to NETWORK. Between now and then we have to collect books! You have three options for participation.

The bookshelf at NETWORK is bare, so our donations will make a huge difference right here in our community:

1) Bring children's books to the meeting October 6 to

donate to NETWORK for Make a Difference Day. This is our last meeting before the delivery on October 22.

2) Help collect children's books at Half Price Books this Saturday (October 8) at 7:30 AM for Make a Difference Day. Contact Sue McElveen if you can help.

3) Donate money so we can purchase books.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

**HOW TO HAVE REWARDING FUN WITH TERRACE ELEMENTARY STUDENTS**

By Andrea Rutledge

Altrusans are very busy helping Terrace Elementary students and their teachers. The classrooms are bursting at the seams and every desk is in use since class size in RISD has risen. Your gift of school supplies is in daily use as new students transfer in without supplies. Altrusa is truly appreciated at Terrace.

Activities are underway, and there are lots of different ways for you to help if you would like:

- The first grade teachers need magazines with pictures that the children can cut up for projects. If you have magazines you are through with that have good pictures, such as *Southern Living*, *Texas Highways*, *National Geographic*, *Good Housekeeping*, or food or other such magazines, please bring them to the next Altrusa meeting you attend. We will collect magazines until December.
- Pat Hansen and Andrea Rutledge work with the Wednesday Club, a group of well-behaved and eager kindergarteners. We have designed the curriculum. We meet the group each Wednesday from 1:30-2:30. We would love to have a third partner or a substitute. Contact Andrea for details.
- Barbara Berthold and Andrea Rutledge are working in the Pre-K classrooms, and Andrea is working in a first grade classroom. If you'd like to work regularly in a classroom, contact Andrea. This is direct contact work with students and very rewarding. It also requires consistent attendance.
- Field trip chaperones needed!!! Call or email Andrea if you would like to chaperone.
  - Thursday, October 20. Pre-K trip to the Arboretum. 9:00-1:30. See the pumpkin patch and village, view the fairytale houses, view the gardens in Autumn. Most of these children are 4-years old, and for most, this will be their first bus ride.
  - Friday, November 11. Third grade field trip to the Museum of Science and Natural History. Electric Theater presentation, Planetarium show, limited exhibits.
  - Santa's Village Pre-K and kindergarten field trip, one morning in December. The Village is staffed by the current Leadership Richardson class and Parks and Recreation employees. It is lots of fun!
- Teddy Bear Time. There is a Pre-K class of twelve and a waiting list of seven! Sign up to volunteer for

this Wednesday night literacy program for Parent and Child. This year the program is a lap-sit and siblings are actively discouraged. This Spring Read-to-Me will follow the Teddy Bear Time model and use new Scholastic books. Read-To-Me is for kindergarten children who have not attended Teddy Bear Time in Pre-K.

- Books are needed for Terrace children. We particularly need Pre-K, kindergarten and first grade books, but can use books for all elementary students. The teachers all have classroom libraries, and love to give books to students for their home libraries. Just bring your books to any Altrusa meeting and give them to Andrea, Linda Korn, Barbara Berthold, or Ann Payne.

In other news, the new and improved Homework backpacks and DVD library were distributed for the first time at Teddy Bear Time on September 14. Although the entire Education committee worked on the backpacks, the burden of the work fell on Hazel Weathers and Linda Korn. We know what a good product those two ladies produced! The backpacks are enrichment activities on a variety of subjects, such as alphabet, numbers, colors and shapes, nutrition, P.E., art, music, and a 10-book library for parents and their child to choose to check out on Thursday and return to class on Monday. Each week the contents of the backpack are inventoried and consumables replaced. The parents are held accountable for lost inventory.

The Education Committee always welcomes new members. For more information, contact Linda Korn or Andrea Rutledge.

You Are Invited to

*Buns & Roses*

Romance Tea for Literacy

Meet some of today's hottest romance authors, enjoy an elegant afternoon of tea, and, yes—buns and roses—all while supporting literacy.

Romance authors from around the country, representing many different romance genres, will host each table.

Books will be available for purchase and autographing.

Sunday, October 9, 2011

3:00 - 6:00 pm

Renaissance Hotel

900 East Lookout Drive

Richardson, Texas 75080

Seating is limited.

Advance ticket required.

We have reserved a table with author Liz Lipperman. We have nine seats available, and tickets are \$40. Of course, we can always have a second table as well. It is also possible to buy a general admission ticket for \$35, but then you would be in open seating - not with the rest of us gorgeous gals.

Who wants to join us for tea and fun on Sunday afternoon? Jean Stuart will take reservations and collect checks.

## PROJECT REPORT

**HOT DOGS AND COOOOOL WEATHER!***By Jane Merz, Membership Retention Committee*

Bobbi and Steve Klein opened their home and gorgeous backyard to 20 hungry Altrusans and one guest (and one hopeful dog, Annie) for hot dogs and all the fixins'. Who would have thought that when we planned this event and it was 100+ degrees that we would have had a gift of cooler weather to enjoy a picnic by the pool? Now that is either luck or we have a good connection with the weather maker. We had our usual surfeit of books to exchange. Thank you to our hosts Bobbi and Steve, Ellen Stevenson for her superb planning, and all you great Altrusa cooks.

**AT LEFT, KAY ROSE AND JEAN STUART PICK OUT NEW BOOKS.**



**L-R: JAN SKINNER, BARBARA CORNELIUS, MARY BETH MCLEMORE, JO LEEPER, AND KIMBERLY KIERCE PAUSE FOR REFRESHMENTS.**



**PAM KOVACS ENJOYS THE COOL, GREEN BACK YARD.**

## SENIORS COMMITTEE REPORT

**ALL THE USUAL GREAT PROJECTS PLUS VNA GIFT WRAP!***By Gloria Sandoval, Co-chair*

Members of the Seniors Committee met Thursday, September 15, before the dinner meeting to review their schedule of events and projects for the 2011-2012 year. These events and projects include: Alzheimer's Memory Walk, scheduled for November 12 at Fair Park; Atria Bingo on the second Wednesday of each month; Apple Tree Court Auctions in the Spring and Fall; Friends Place Mother's Day Tea on May 11; the quarterly Richardson Public Library Book Rotation; and the VNA Gift Wrap, usually in November. Co-Chairs for the Seniors Committee are Sandy Martin and

Gloria Sandoval; however, members in the Committee choose an event or project and serve as chair for it.

The Seniors Committee is a busy group and we invite all members of Altrusa Richardson to participate in our events. The next Richardson Public Library Book Rotation is scheduled for October 7-8 and the Fall Apple Tree Court Auction is scheduled for November 15.

Come join us at any of our events. You are always welcome.

## PROJECT PREVIEW

**AMERICAN HERO QUILTS***By Linda Olivera*

At the program meeting this month the International Committee introduced a new project for our club - the American Hero Quilt project.

Linda Olivera recently met Gail Bohmfalk, a quilter from Lone Oak, Texas. Gail is a member of a quilting group that meets at a church in Quinlan, TX. For three years they have been making "American Hero Quilts" out of denim squares and patriotic fabric. They send them to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, at Ramstein AFB near Landstuhl, Germany (see this link for more info: <http://www.goarmy.com/amedd/facilities/landstuhl-regional-medical-center.html>). The quilts are presented to service men and women from all branches of service - Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines. They have received numerous letters from service personnel, chaplains, and officers - thanking them for their donation of quilts and letting the quilters know that it has meant a lot to the men and women receiving the quilts.

The quilts are "rag" quilts and are made with 96 denim squares on the front and 96 squares of patriotic fabric on the back. On every denim square is written comforting words, phrases, sayings, or whatever the

writers choose. This is where we come in - Altrusans will be decorating the squares using Sharpie Permanent Markers so the words will not wash out. I have three sheets of encouraging words/phrases that can be used or you can just write something from your heart. Some of us will also use applique and machine embroidery to embellish the squares. They will provide as many denim squares as we'd like; the more squares we can finish, the more quilts they can complete. They can also use donations of denim to use for the squares, and we will be collecting clean denim clothes at business and dinner meetings. Linda Olivera, Debbie Simms, and Norma Hammerlund have agreed to cut the donated jeans into squares that Altrusans can take home to complete.

I brought a sample quilt to the meeting, and members were very enthusiastic about this project. The International Relations Committee would love to have 100% participation with this project - all you need to do is write on ONE SQUARE. Please help us by donating jeans or decorating a square or two or three. What a super way to honor our service personnel and let them know that we appreciate their service to our country.



## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

## SEPTEMBER 15 PROGRAM MEETING: RALC

By Jane Merz

Katie Patterson, Interim Executive Director of the Richardson Adult Literacy Center, was our guest speaker at the September dinner meeting. Katie has been an active volunteer and leader in the Richardson community for many years. She has served in various capacities within PTAs at local and council levels, school district committees, and local nonprofit organizations. As a volunteer ESL teacher and former RALC board member, Katie understands the rich history of the Center and the great need for its services in our community.

Katie has initiated several programs in the short time she has been in her current position. Working with the Junior League, Teddy Bear Time has been expanded into schools other than Terrace and, working with RISD schools, ESL classes have expanded into additional elementary schools and junior highs, just to name a few. Katie was instrumental in beginning a class on Culture, Community, and Communication for Turkish doctoral students

at UTD. For this endeavor, Katie enlisted RALC Board President, Dr. Barbara Berthold, and former UTD Registrar Jean Stuart to teach the class.

Katie lives in Dallas with her husband and two children.



## MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

FROM SEPTEMBER 30 *neighborsgo*

## A NEWS BRIEF BY THE NEIGHBORSGO STAFF FEATURED ALTRUSAN KAY HOPPER.

## The Warren Center partners with former Dallas Cowboy

The Warren Center for children with development differences recently raised \$125,000 during a fantasy football fundraising event at Cowboys Stadium that drew 400 guests.

Scott Murray served as emcee for the evening, which included silent and live auc-

tions, a raffle and a fantasy football draft.

For 18 years, The Warren Center has partnered with the Dallas Cowboys, and five-time Pro Bowl selection Darren Woodson is working with the group this year.

Woodson joined ESPN as an NFL analyst in 2005. He appears on NFL Live and SportsCenter, as well as other ESPN platforms throughout the year.



Submitted photo by CINDY WILKERSON

The Warren Center executive director Kay Hopper (left) joins former Dallas Cowboy Darren Woodson at Cowboys Stadium during the fantasy football fundraiser.

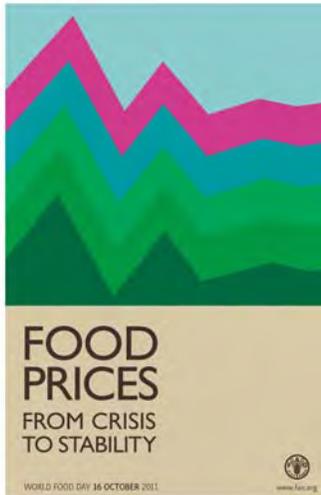
## THE STORY "AUTHOR VISITS RHS" (ABOUT JAMIE FORD AND RICHARDSON READS ONE BOOK) AND PHOTOS BY ANN MARIE SHAMBAUGH INCLUDED THIS SHOT WITH ANDREA RUTLEDGE IN THE BACKGROUND.



Members of the RHS culinary arts magnet prepared food and served guests at a Richardson Reads One Book reception before the lecture.

## SPECIAL REPORT

## WORLD FOOD DAY IS OCTOBER 16



World Food Day was established in 1981, to increase awareness, understanding and informed year-around recognition of the founding of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in 1954. Each year, a theme is established to call attention to needs for improvement in the world's supply and distribution of food. The information below is from a leaflet

available for download from <http://www.fao.org>.

Between 2005 and 2008, the world's staple food prices soared to their highest levels in 30 years. During the last 18 months of that period, maize price increased by 74 percent while that of rice almost tripled, climbing a whole 166 percent.

Food riots broke out in more than 20 countries. Editorialists decreed the end of cheap food. But then, after peaking in June 2008, prices slumped again – falling 33 percent in six months – largely as a vast financial and banking crisis threw the global economy into recession.

The downturn was short-lived, however. In 2010 grain prices shot up 50 percent and continued to soar into 2011 before starting to dip somewhat in the second quarter of 2011. And at that point what would happen next was very much an open question.

Economists believed, however, that the kind of price roller-coasters experienced since 2006 are likely to recur in the coming years. In other words food price volatility – the technical term for the phenomenon – has probably come to stay.

That is not good news. Price swings, up-swings in particular, represent a major threat to food security in developing countries. Hardest-hit are the poor. According to the World Bank, in 2010-2011 rising food costs pushed nearly 70 million people into extreme poverty.

“FOOD PRICES – FROM CRISIS TO STABILITY” has been chosen as this year's World

Food Day theme to shed some light on this trend and what can be done to mitigate its impact on the most vulnerable.

At the level of net food importing countries, price spikes can hurt poor countries by making it much more expensive for them to import food for their people. In 2010, the world's Low Income Food Deficit Countries (LIFDCs) spent a record US\$164 billion on food imports, representing a rise of 20 percent on the year before.

At the level of individuals, people living on less than US\$1.25 a day may need to skip a meal when food prices rise. Farmers are hurt too because they badly need to know the price their crops are going to fetch at harvest time, months away. If high prices are likely they plant more. If low prices are forecast they plant less and cut costs.

## NEWS FROM OTHER CLUBS

## DALLAS CLUB INVITES YOU TO SHOP

The Altrusa Club of Dallas Foundation  
presents

ALTRUSA  
International

THE 7TH ANNUAL  
GLITTERATI HOLIDAY  
BOUTIQUE

Sunday, October 30, 2011  
Noon - 5:00 PM

Tiferet Israel Synagogue 10909 Hillcrest Road, Dallas, TX 75230  
(Northwest corner of Hillcrest and Royal)

Dozens of local artists Handmade and unique gifts for men, women and children  
Professional gift wrapping available Lunch for sale by Natalie's Kitchen

Admission: \$1.00 donation Parking is free  
Cash and checks accepted  
Select vendors accept credit cards

Benefiting local charities through fundraising and services, Altrusa Club of Dallas Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization  
For more information: DallasGlitterati@aol.com or www.altrusadallas.org

Find us on Facebook, Altrusa Glitterati, become a fan and help us grow.

**ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL NEWS****TASK FORCE APPOINTED TO REVIEW MEMBERSHIP-RELATED DATA**

President Dona Garretson has appointed a task force to review current membership-related data and the methods by which it is collected and maintained. Immediate Past President Donna Johnson is Chair of the task force. The other members are Carolyn Rash, District Nine; International office Membership Services Associate Bill Howard; and George Biernadski, Consultant. Additional task force members may be added as projects develop.

The task force will concentrate on an extensive review of effectiveness of current data collection and maintenance

processes and membership needs for data. In addition, they will be the team to develop the online application replacing the current paper process for the Club Activity Reports and the Distinguished Club Awards.

The International President and the Executive Director will be included in progress reports as the process moves forward. The Task Force will initially report findings and progress to the International Board of Directors at the January, 2012, Board meeting.

**DISTRICT NINE NEWS****NEWS OF MIGHTY NINTH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE**

News of Mighty Ninth, the Altrusa District Nine newsletter is published four times a year: January, April, July, and October.

The October issue should be completed soon. Chanc-

es are good that the District Nine website will not yet be revamped—they are awaiting information from Altrusa International—so you can expect to receive News of Mighty Ninth via email.

**ALTRUSA ACCENT****PATSY PALMER REYNOLDS FUND**

The Patsy Palmer Reynolds Fund is managed by Endowment Administrator Susan Frensley. The recipient of this endowment must be a single, working mother, either divorced or widowed, who resides in Richardson or within RISD boundaries. She must be receiving vocational or

professional training, and at least one of her children must be a minor.

Patsy Palmer Reynolds was the first president of Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson (1966-67) and served again in the same capacity in 1977-78.

**INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION NEWS****OCTOBER IS FOUNDATION GRANTS MONTH**

October is designated as the Foundation Grants Month and Altrusa Clubs and Districts are asked to consider making a contribution to the Grants Fund during this month.

Altrusa International Foundation Grants are awarded to Altrusa Clubs to assist them in supporting their community service projects/programs for:

- Local literacy councils, book purchases for libraries, and literacy tutoring.
- The disadvantaged, including the elderly, battered women, the homeless, handicapped, underprivileged children and individuals needing medical care.

In addition, Grants may also provide assistance to individuals for:

- Vocational assistance, including job training and re-training, equipment purchases for start-up businesses,

and employment-related personal rehabilitation programs.

- Graduate school assistance to international students from developing countries.

The International Foundation is a vital part of the “Altrusa Family” and through your continued support of its Grants Program, we will be able to continue to provide the needed assistance to local clubs as they continue in their efforts of leading the way to better communities.



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## SPECIAL REPORT

**UNITED NATIONS DAY IS OCTOBER 24***By Deb Bourland*

United Nations Day marks the anniversary of the United Nations Charter. On October 24, 1945, the United Nations came into being when five countries ratified the charter. The founding members were France, Republic of China, Soviet Union, United Kingdom and the United States. Now the organization has grown to 193 members. On this day, there are a number of events or celebrations that highlight the works of the UN and the specialized agencies supporting a variety of human needs. The events are global and are held in New York City; Hague, The Netherlands; Geneva, Switzerland; Vienna, Austria; and Nairobi, Kenya. The first United Nations Day was held on October 24, 1948.

The UN has four main purposes: to keep peace throughout the world, to develop relationships among nations, to work together to improve the lives of people around the globe, and to create an environment for nations to achieve these goals. Since its inception, the UN has played a key role in bringing about independence in more than 80 countries that are now sovereign nations.

The strength of the UN is that it doesn't work alone, but joins together with 15 specialized agencies including the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, International Labor Organization, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Each year, the UN designates certain themes and days to call attention to global issues. In addition to United Na-

tions Day, the UN has designated the same day as World Development Information Day. This day is to highlight development issues and the need to strengthen international co-operation in the development field. There are a number of educational programs that the UN offers for organizations interested in this topic. The same week, October 24-30, has been designated as disarmament week. The UN continues to focus on removal of weapons of mass destruction.

In 2011, the themes observed by the United Nations are Year of the Forests, Year for People of African Descent, Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding, and Year of Chemistry. There are a number of international conferences and information provided by the UN for education around the globe.

The UN continues to focus on improving the lives of women. In 2007-2008, the UN focused on the global campaign, "UNITE to End Violence against Women," a multi-year campaign to continue to fight violence against women and children. This campaign is still in effect and is targeted to save more than 16 million lives of women and children. The UN designates November 25 as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

For over 60 years, the United Nations has continued to serve as a global organization, focused on addressing a variety of global issues. Through its organizations and numerous educational forums, it has improved the lives of millions of people and at the same time continues to take on new challenges, such as climate change, international terrorism, and AIDS.

## SPECIAL REPORT

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS IS OCTOBER 1***By Jane Tucker*

The United Nations General Assembly first designated October 1 as Older Persons Day on December 14, 1990. Underlying the framework of this day was the fact that policy makers felt the need to recognize the importance of our aging population. Today, these same issues are even more enhanced. Significant advocacy efforts have been calling for increased international thinking and action on the human rights of older persons. Older persons are not a homogenous group, and the challenges they face in the protection and enjoyment of their human rights vary greatly. While some older persons manage to lead active lives, others, unfortunately, face homelessness. Within the next generations, the proportion of the population age 60 and over will increase from its current 740 million to reach 1 billion by the end of this decade. International Older Persons Day draws atten-

tion worldwide to the recognition of humanity's demographic coming of age and the promise it holds for maturing attitudes and the future undertakings of its older population. The United Nations General Assembly has designated the 2011 theme for Older Persons Day, "Launch of Madrid +10: The Growing Opportunities and Challenges of Global Aging." With the significance and growing political force of older persons, the United Nations acknowledges that literacy and educational attainment of current older populations still contributes to their exclusion from fuller participation in society. To that end, the United Nations maintains a voice for all populations and pledges to continue to develop a supportive environment to reorient the ways in which societies perceive, interact with, and care for their older citizens.

## CLUB CALENDAR OCTOBER 2011

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- Thurs., Oct 6 (7:00 PM) Business Meeting (Clubhouse)
- Sat., Oct 8 (7:00 AM) Half Price Books/
- Mon., Oct 10 (6:30 PM) Bridge at Mary Osentowski's home
- Thurs., Oct 13 (5:30 PM) Meet and Greet, Humperdink's
- Fri., Oct 21 (11:30 AM) OWT Luncheon**
- Mon., Oct 24 (Noon) Reservations due for Oct 15 meeting
- Mon., Oct 24 (6:00 PM) Tidings Deadline
- Mon., Oct 24 (6:00 PM) Book Club at Friends Place
- Thurs., Oct 27 (6:00 PM) Board Meeting (Founders Hall)
- Thurs., Oct 27 (7:00 PM) Dinner Meeting (Founders Hall)

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Mary Hoglund
- 7 Barbara O'Dell
- 9 Gerry Carron
- 11 Sue McElveen
- 23 Brenda Moreland



Remember, if you choose, you may bring a gift 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. The guideline is that the gift should cost around \$5.

### MONTHLY MEET AND GREET



October 13, 5:30 PM to 7:00-ish  
At Humperdink's, in the restaurant, not the bar  
(Southbound 75 between Campbell and Arapaho)  
Bring someone interested in Altrusa!

### MEMBERSHIP RETENTION BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet 6:00-7:30 PM on Monday, October 24, at Friends Place Adult Day Services, 1960 Nantucket Drive, Richardson. Refreshments will be served.



### MEETINGS

#### Business Meeting

7 PM, October 6  
Clubhouse  
at Richardson Woman's Club

Dinner Reservations  
due by Noon, Monday, October 24  
Contact: Jean Stuart

#### Dinner/Program Meeting

7 PM, October 27  
Founders' Hall  
at Richardson Woman's Club

#### Board Meeting

Prior to dinner meeting 6:00 PM  
on October 27

### MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

#### BRIDGE



Monday, October 10  
6:30 PM Schmoozing  
7:00 PM Let's play bridge  
At Mary Osentowski's home