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President's Message

## Kimberly's Adventures

### Altrusa is a Journey, Not a Destination

Ralph Waldo Emerson said "Life is a Journey, not a Destination," but I like to think this also applies to Altrusa. While my year as President comes to an end, our Altrusa journey never ends—it continues on with new leadership, new ideas, new projects, new friendships, and new adventures.

A year ago, I issued Altrusa Passports to all members and continued issuing them to new members as they boarded the Altrusa Adventure this year. My hope is that each of you embraced the invitation to experience Altrusa like never before. Looking back on the successes of the year, I can clearly see that many of you accepted the challenge and did just that. We started the year with our travel itinerary, and tour overview encouraging us to Participate, Explore, and Serve. Oh, the places we planned to go! And Oh, the places we have been!

Members participated, got involved, and shared Altrusa by enhancing our club with 12 talented new members: **Zora Blankenship, Bonnie Buchanan, Dean Burroughs, Jan Flesch, Laura Maczka, Caity Post, Shelley Sarvarian, Lynn Solomon, Irene Strejc, Sue Walker, Sherri White, and Samantha Woodmancy.** Our newest Altrusa Sisters will be great assets to our club for many years to come!

The Altrusa motto is Patriotism, Efficiency, Service. Serving others is at the heart of Altrusa and what Richardson Altrusans do best! This year, members accepted leadership roles and provided preparation, planning, and completion of many projects. Foundation and Administration Committee Chairs and all project leaders are commended for making this a year of many successes. When we look at those impacted by our projects, it makes me proud to have served as President of such an amazing group of women giving in so many ways to those we care about and those in need. Richardson Altrusans truly are "Leading to a Better Community®"!

Many Altrusans made this a year of adventure and discovery. Altrusans are explorers! The success of our projects is due largely to the dedication, passion, and friendship of Richardson Altrusans who put their hearts into our projects: Chili 'n Totes, Make A Difference Day, Manners Party, Teddy Bear Time, Bookmovers, Appletree Court Auction, Ability House celebrations, Leadership Development Seminars, Book Club parties, the Japan America Grassroots Summit, and International Relations recognition of UN days... just to name a few of the many projects that positively impacted our community.

Altrusa is all about the journey, not the destination. It has been an honor to serve as your President, and I thank you for being part of a special year... *Discovering Altrusa: Your Passport to Adventure!*



Kimberly relaxes as her exciting year as President comes to a close, and she looks forward to many more adventures with her Altrusa Sisters

### Discover Altrusa!

Kimberly D Kierce  
2012-2013 President  
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Special Report

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES IS CELEBRATED MAY 15**

Jane Tucker, International Relations Committee Co-Chair



The United Nations has observed every May 15 as International Day of Families since it was proclaimed such by the UN General Assembly in 1993. It is meant to reflect the importance the international community attaches to families and provide opportunities to promote awareness of issues relating to families and increase the knowledge of the social, economic, and demographic processes affecting families.

This year's theme for International Day of Families is "Advancing Social Integration and Intergenerational Solidarity." The goal of the theme is to focus on all social groups and individuals in the political, social, cultural, and economic structure so they can participate in decision making processes and have improved access to education and economic advancement. Integration into society is essential in the creation of "a society for all" by promoting intergenerational solidarity among individuals in multigenerational family networks and among the

different age cohorts in larger communities. The policies and programs being created are intended to foster solidarity, promote social cohesion, share responsibility and understanding between generations not only at the family level, but at community and national levels to increase positive relationships across age groups and strengthen ties between family and community members.

Research indicates that intergenerational family bonds remain strong. Family members still assist one another in financial support as well as grandparents helping in the daily care of younger children to allow their parents to work. The success of social integration and inclusion efforts depends on the effectiveness of public policies and the support of local communities to participate in and engage people in planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluating policies and programs designed for social inclusion.

*Congratulations...*

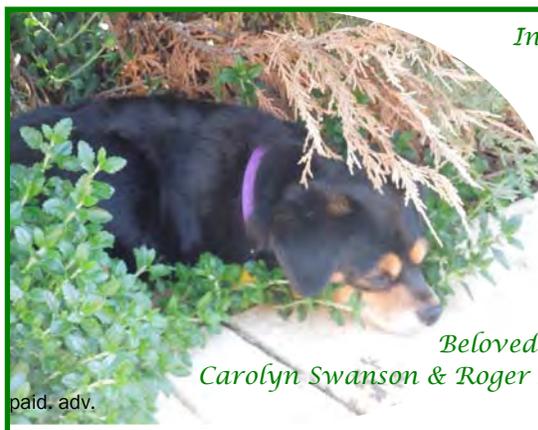
The Richardson City Council thanks all the outstanding, adventurous members of Altrusa who help chart the course to improve our community.



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.



*In memory of  
Rosie  
2006-2013*

*Beloved fur-child of  
Carolyn Swanson & Roger Nordmeyer*

paid. adv.

## Committee Report

### **ALTRUSA RICHARDSON DONATES TO USO TO MARK UN DAY OF FAMILIES**

*Jane Tucker, International Relations Committee Co-Chair*

To celebrate both May 15, UN International Day of Families, and May 11, Military Spouse Appreciation Day, the International Relations Committee has donated \$150 to the USO to be used in two programs that are designed to keep deployed military personnel connected with their families.



The first program selected is called Full Circle Home. The program originated in 2006 when Vickie Durfee thought of it as a way to help her deployed son get a gift to his girlfriend. So many of our service men and women are away from home and feel the need to reach out to their families with a care package to let them know how much they love them and miss them, especially at Christmas and Mother's Day. It enables our heroes to be heroes by allowing them an opportunity to send back love to their wives, fiancés, girlfriends, and mothers in the form of a gift package especially orchestrated for them. Last year, First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden joined dozens of Congressional spouses to assemble over 2,000 Mother's Day gift boxes for Full Circle Home. The boxes contained perfume, lotions, gift cards, a charm bracelet, and a hand-written note from the troops to the women in their lives.

The second program similar to Full Circle Home is called Operation USO Care Package. This program is designed to have a care package sent—not to the deployed military personnel but to the family to help them stay connected. Troops headed overseas write a note in a special journal which is packed in a “care package” with other useful items like prepaid calling cards, disposable cameras, and gift certificates for groceries and tutoring services. The package arrives home several weeks after the service member is deployed, reminding the family of how much they are loved.

Altrusa recognizes the importance our military families play in keeping our Armed Forces strong and our country safe. It is hoped that our contribution will help show our support for our Armed Forces and their families.

## Special Report on Patriotism

### **MAY 2013 NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH**

*By Jane Tucker, International Relations Committee Co-Chair*

Since 1999, when Senator John McCain and Representative Duncan Hunter introduced legislation to designate May as National Military Appreciation Month, our country has been using May to honor, remember and appreciate its military. During the month of May, six national observances are held to focus on military appreciation.

Loyalty Day is Wednesday May 1, and it is a day set aside to reaffirm our loyalty to the United States and to reflect on our proud American heritage.

Public Service Recognition Week is Sunday, May 5, through May 11. This time is set aside to honor those who serve our nation and to insure our government is held to the highest standards. The theme this year is “Why I Serve”.

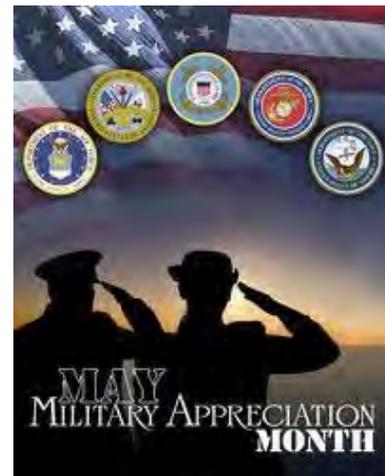
VE Day or Victory in Europe Day is Wednesday May 8. It was on May 8, 1945, that Germans throughout Europe surrendered to the World War II Allies.

Saturday, May 11, is Military Spouse Appreciation Day and is a day to honor military spouses and the important role they play in keeping our Armed Forces strong.

Saturday, May 18, is Armed Forces Day and is a day citizens of our country come together to thank our military members for their service to our country.

Memorial Day is Monday, May 27, and is a federal holiday to commemorate the men and women who died while in military service.

Because our military has played such a major role in the development of our country, it is important to promote public patriotism, awareness, and support for troops and veterans. This is why Congress designated this month to provide for a period that can encompass both history and recognition of our armed services with an in-depth look at the diversity of its individuals and achievements. It allows us as Americans to be educated on the historical impact our military has had and thus encourages patriotism and love for America.



Ability House Committee Report

**COMMITTEE CELEBRATED BIRTHDAYS WITH ABILITY CONNECTION TEXAS FRIENDS**

By Jan Skinner, Ability House Co-Chair

Mary Beth McLemore, Janie Jaquier, Ginna Coffey, and Jan Skinner celebrated Nina's birthday at Ability House. Janie made a pineapple upside down cake per Nina's suggestion. It must have been good, because the residents ate every bite! Robert reminded everybody that his birthday is in three months (in May it will be in three months).

Two weeks earlier, we celebrated Shawn's birthday at Wentworth house. (Shawn used to be a resident of Ability House. Wentworth house is another home for people with special needs; it's in Richardson and all the residents are men.) Jane Merz, Janie Jaquier, Ginna Coffey, and Jan Skinner celebrated Shawn's birthday.

To everybody who came to Ability House this program year to celebrate birthdays, Christmas, and Easter - the Ability House Committee thanks you!

Ability Connection Greetings!

Nina wore her new blouse today - which was a gift from her Altrusa friends - which she happily shared with everyone in our building!

Thank you very much for making her birthday so special! She loved her card, the perfume, soft drinks... and the special request pineapple upside down cake was a big hit!

We hope the attached photo helps share what a delightful birthday Nina had thanks to Altrusa.

I also want to thank Altrusa of Richardson for the past eleven months of wonderful parties and celebrations for Nina, Vera, Robert, Shelly, Kathleen and Roberto! Their lives are much richer because of your friendship!

Best wishes from all of us at Ability Connection always!

*Bill*

Bill Knudsen  
President/CEO  
Ability Connection Texas

Hello Altrusa of Richardson!

The attached photo captures the essence of Shawn's Birthday party on April 13<sup>th</sup>. He selected the photo so everyone could see the color of his birthday cake frosting on his tongue!

He greatly enjoyed the celebration, along with his housemates - Andrew, Brain, Alvin, Rob and Mark - and he loved his birthday card and Apple gift card. After the signing of happy birthday and the consuming of birthday cake Shawn gave his Altrusa friends a tour of his room - complete with all his electronic devices being on, making noise and running.

As always...all of us at Ability Connection greatly appreciate Altrusa's wonderful friendship with Shawn, Robert, Vera, Nina, Shelly, Kathleen and Roberto...and as always we send you our very best wishes!

*Bill*

Bill Knudsen  
President/CEO  
Ability Connection Texas



Committee Report

**SENIOR COMMITTEE MOVES BOOKS, HOLDS AUCTION, SERVES TEA!**

By Gloria Sandoval, Senior Committee Co-Chair

When it comes to “volunteerism”, Altrusans rock! For the Senior Committee, April, and May are two busy months and need lots of volunteers.

It started out with the quarterly Richardson Public Library Book Rotation held April 13. Altrusans Mary Osentowski, Marsha Peters, Jan Flesch, Jane Merz, Brenda Moreland, Genevieve Hamulak, Pam Fitzgearld, and Gloria Sandoval along with the Richardson Men’s Exchange Club moved the crates of books (from and to) Senior living residences that have signed up for the Book Rotation program. Altrusa has had the distinct privilege of being involved with this community event since its inception.

The residents of Appletree Court, an assisted living facility, look forward to the spring Appletree Court Live Auction held April 23. The residents use “Apple Bucks” to pay for their winning bid. Twice a year, once in the fall and again the spring, Altrusans help organize a live auction of collected items such as all occasion greeting cards, lap throws, toiletries, stuffed animals, etc. The bidding is fast, very competitive, and great fun for all. A soft cuddly brown bear went for the outrageous price of 4,000 apple bucks. Altrusans Dena Davis, Carol Buffington, Norma Hammerlund, and auctioneer Gloria Sandoval kept track of all the bidding. Janet Martinez, the new Activity Director for Appletree Court said “this is simply amazing.”

Next on the agenda for Seniors is the annual Friends Place Mother’s Day Tea, scheduled for May 10th, at 1:00 pm. Friends Place Adult Day Services provides activities and social events for individuals affected with memory problems living in Richardson and the surrounding Dallas area. Altrusans have been volunteering for this event for several years by helping serve tea and cookies and simply enjoying the camaraderie of the seniors at the Tea.



Residents ready to bid at Appletree Court Auction.  
Cuddly little bear sold for 4000 Apple Bucks!  
Blue lap robe went for 1200 Apple Bucks!



International News

**BYLAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT CONVENTION**

There are a number of proposed changes to Altrusa International’s defining documents. One of them is to amend the articles of incorporation to eliminate “Inc.” in the middle of Club Names; and provide for implementation of policies necessary to preserve Association, District and Club tax exempt status.

See the May 2013 issue of *International Altrusan* on [www.altrusa.org](http://www.altrusa.org) for more information on this and other recommended revisions that will be considered at the 2013 Convention.

Project Report

**TERRACE ELEMENTARY 4TH GRADERS CHOOSE HEIFER INTERNATIONAL GIFTS**

By Mary Beth McLemore and Barbara Berthold, International Relations Committee

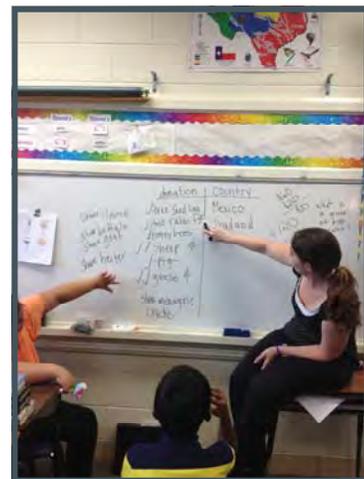
Holly Baxter's 4th grade class chose the country and animals to be sent to Heifer International. On April 30, 2013, Mary Beth McLemore and Barbara Berthold visited the class for the International Relations Committee. The students, who had read a little about Heifer when studying for the Stars Test, were excited to do this special project according to the Mrs. Baxter.

First, Mary Beth talked to them about Heifer and her experiences on a farm, which taught her about the importance of the Heifer Project. Many of the students shared their farms adventures too. Then Mary Beth explained to the class about Altrusa and the \$150 Altrusa wanted to send to Heifer. Information sheets were handed out and students divided into groups to make decisions on how to spend the amount, which, to them, seemed to be a lot of money.

Each child was given a butterfly, which they knew represented Heifer. These pipe cleaner crafts were made by Rose Daughety' seniors as part of the decorations for our Twelve Step Heifer Program at the March Dinner Meeting. As the students worked to come up with an animal or animals, colorful butterfly rings, bracelets, and wands circulated with them. A lot of individual knowledge was shared, questions were asked, and then decisions were made.

Ms. Baxter wrote on the board all the different suggestions of which countries and what animals to buy for them. Groups explained their reasons for their choices. Four countries, Mexico, Thailand, Haiti, and Nepal, were picked but the majority decided on Mexico and Thailand. It was a definite that all students wanted to buy lots of animals and not just one so after discussion and lots of reasoning the vote was \$20 for a share of Sheep, \$20 for a share of Seedlings, a Trio of Rabbits for \$60, Honeybees for \$30 and Flock of Ducks/Geese for \$20.

Each child was then given a Heifer flag or a sparkling butterfly to show that they were ambassadors of Heifer International. Again, these items were recycled from the March table decorations. Mary Beth and Barbara enjoyed Ms. Baxter's well-run, smart class and both hope Altrusa will continue to encourage sharing of projects with our adopted school Terrace.



Project Report

**WEBALE NYO, NYO! (IN ENGLISH: THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING BeadforLife)**

By Jane Tucker, International Relations Committee Co-Chair

BeadforLife has become a well know endeavor among the members of our local Altrusa Club. For the past three years, the International Relations Committee has hosted bead parties to help provide economic support for the women of Uganda. This year, the committee was a vendor at the District Nine Conference held April 19-21 at the Embassy Suites in Frisco, Texas. The booth enabled all District Nine clubs the opportunity to see first hand the jewelry and promote the involvement of more Altrusa clubs in the BeadforLife program.

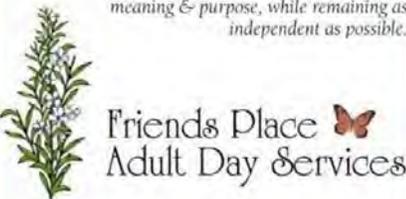
For the Conference silent auction, the BeadforLife organization graciously donated a \$50 gift consisting of a lovely handmade jewelry pouch along with a necklace, earring, and bracelet set. In addition to this, the organization furnished complimentary necklaces to Altrusa members who furnished an email address allowing them to receive the BeadforLife monthly newsletter and/or obtain further information on sponsoring their own bead parties.

Along with the BeadforLife jewelry, our committee also sold jewelry made by high school students in Haiti. The School of Hope in Port au Prince, Haiti, has its students make this jewelry on Saturdays as a means of earning funds for their college education.

From this year's effort, we earned a combined total of \$1,017 to send to these two organizations. Hopefully, we have also encouraged other Altrusa District Nine clubs to lend their support to BeadforLife and TeachHaiti.



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**Project Preview**

**ASAPP: ALTRUSA SISTERS ADOPTION PET PALACE**

By Carolyn Swanson, Seniors Committee

The Seniors Committee voted earlier this year to use their remaining funds for a “senior pets” project. It was not exactly clear whether the “senior” applied to the pets or the people, but funds became available at the same time an animal-related need was identified.

**First, the funding.**

Carolyn Swanson and her mother, Ernestine, both retired from companies with big hearts who turn volunteer hours into money for nonprofits in which their employees or retirees volunteer. The companies are Texas Instruments and PNM Resources. (Verizon has a similar program; does your employer??) Ernestine’s \$100 grant and Carolyn’s \$1000 grant will be given to AnimaLuv, a local non-profit founded in 2004 by former Altrusan Peggy Thorburn. AnimaLuv provides an avenue for donations and volunteer efforts benefiting the City of Richardson Animal Shelter.



**And then more funding.**

The Club did not need to purchase a President’s Pin for Kimberly Kierce, because she received her pin as a gift from a friend. Kimberly has requested that \$300 of the funds budgeted for her pin be given to AnimaLuv. (Thanks to Mary Beth McLemore, for setting a precedent in such a situation! She used her “pin money” to have an Altrusa Tree planted at the Richardson Woman’s Club.)

**Second, the project.**

There will be a new adoption/video room at the Animal Shelter. There will be continuous video on the City website, showing available animals (mostly cats) climbing cat trees and doing other cat things.

**Third, the publicity.**

Our sponsorship of the “Altrusa Sisters Adoption Pet Palace” will be shown on a plaque near the door to the room and on scrolling text along the bottom of the streaming video from the Altrusa Sisters Adoption Pet Palace!



## Project Preview

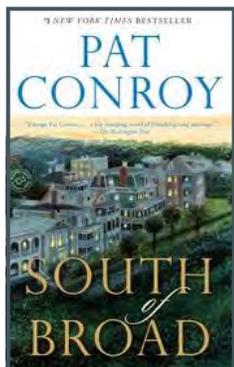
**AWCLS WILL DISCUSS *SOUTH OF BROAD* IN MAY, *THE CHAPERONE* IN JUNE**

By Jan Belcher, Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society

A few very adventurous souls met on Monday, April 22 to discuss *Empire of the Summer Moon* by S.C. Gwynne. Thanks to Susan Frensley who stepped up to lead an interesting and informative discussion.

This was our history book selection for the year. The book traces two astonishing stories. The first traces the rise and fall of the Comanche, the most powerful Indian tribe in history. The second entails one of the most remarkable narratives ever to come out of the Old West: the epic saga of the pioneer woman Cynthia Ann Parker and her mixed-blood son Quanah, who became the last and the greatest chief of the Comanche.

Our selection for May 20 is *South of Broad* by Pat Conroy. Leopold Bloom King has been raised in a family shattered—and shadowed—by tragedy. Lonely and adrift, he searches for something to sustain him and finds it among a tightly knit group of high school outsiders. Surviving marriages happy and troubled, unrequited loves and unspoken longings, hard won successes and devastating breakdowns, as well as Charleston, South Carolina's dark legacy of racism and class divisions, these friends will endure until a final test forces them to face something for which none of them are prepared. Spanning two turbulent decades, *South of Broad* is Pat Conroy at his finest: a masterpiece from a great American



writer whose passion for life and language knows no bounds.

If you are reading ahead...

- ◇ The book selected for June 24 is *The Chaperone* by Laura Moriarty. The discussion will be led by Jan Belcher.
- ◇ The selection for July 22 is *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova. The discussion will be led by Lois Ferrara.

REMINDER – Since the fourth Monday in May is Memorial Day, we will move AWCLS to the third Monday. See you on May 20 at Friends Place, 1960 Nantucket Drive in Richardson. As always, we begin at 6:00 PM and end by 7:30 PM. Bring snacks, chocolate, and wine to share. We always have a great time!

**HAPPY READING!!!!!!**



We can use our website to register for more than just dinner meetings! Watch for opportunities to volunteer for service projects, to sign up to bring food and beverages to the Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society meetings, and more! Need help with the website? Barbara Cornelius, Kimberly Kierce, and Carolyn Swanson will be glad to help!

**BOARD ACTIONS**

- ◇ Developed plan for 2012-2013 District Nine award submissions
- ◇ Approved Scholarship Endowment proposal from Finance Committee
- ◇ Decided to nominate Barbara Berthold for Altrusa International Community Leadership Award
- ◇ Received progress report from Bobbi Klein on new club at Franklin Park Senior Living

**GALE CROMBIE**

Gale Crombie, step-father of Altrusan Barbara Cornelius, was born in Cuyahoga Falls, OH on June 6, 1924, and passed away on Saturday, April 27, 2013. Gale was raised by his single mother who encouraged him to

work hard and succeed. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. After the war, he worked for and retired from Bridgestone/Firestone Tire Company. For a short time he was a professional dancer in New York City. He and Betty celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary on March 25, 2013 and during their marriage they traveled extensively throughout the world - enjoying 62 cruises! He is survived by his wife, Betty Crombie and her three daughters, Sally Neiger, Corky Larson (husband David) and Barbara Cornelius (husband Jerry). He will be cremated and his ashes interred in the columbarium wall at the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, OH. There will be no services. Condolences can be sent to Betty in care of Barbara Cornelius.

Meeting Highlights

**SEVEN SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS HONORED AT APRIL 18 DINNER MEETING**

By Mary Osentowski, Scholarship Committee Co-Chair

Altrusans enjoyed presentations from the scholarship winners at the dinner meeting April 18. The accomplishments of these winners provide optimism for the future as these individuals are already making their mark in their schools, the community, and workplace.

The Scholarship Committee annually gives scholarships to RISD graduates or medical students. Scholarships range from \$500 - \$2,000 for 2-year or 4-year colleges or universities. Scholarship recipients are selected based on scholastic achievement, financial need, community volunteerism, extra-curricular activities, and a short essay. Scholarship money is for tuition, fees, and textbooks only.

**Paige Graham**, Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Nursing and the Vice President of Finance at Methodist Richardson Medical Center, has outstanding organizational, interpersonal, and communication skills. She aspires to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration at UTD with a focus in Healthcare Management.

**Tana Peavy**, the Quality and Risk Manager at Richardson Regional Medical Center, has exhibited her abilities to lead, mentor, and direct necessary changes in her current role. She is eager to continue her education to earn a Masters of Science in Nursing degree in order to enhance her career in the medical field.

**Dianna Goodman**, a registered nurse at Richardson Regional Medical Center since 1997, has worked in ICU, Out Patient Surgery, Cath-Lab, and currently in the Emergency room. She shares her wealth of knowledge and is praised by patients, staff, and physicians for her work ethic and compassion for patients. She is pursuing a Masters Degree in Nursing/Education.

**Alexis Alba**, a senior at Plano East High School, organized the first 5K for Autism Speaks in North Texas and raised \$20,000. She ranks in the top 7% of her class and demonstrated outstanding leadership as the goal keeper for the Plano East Varsity Soccer Team. She volunteers at her church, Special Olympics, and Plano Heritage Museum. She plans to become a pharmacist and will attend UTD.

(Continued on page 11)





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**SEVEN SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS** *(Continued from page 10)*

**Kayci Barnett**, a senior at Richardson High School, is a determined student with high standards and has a 99% average. She is an RHS cheerleader, a member of the Desperados Dance Team, a member of Student Council, and was selected as a member of the Homecoming Court. She also works twenty hours a week. She will attend the University of Arkansas and hopes to become an elementary teacher.

**Dana Le**, a senior at Richardson High School, ranks eighth in her class, and serves as Senior Class President. She is a member of the Eaglettes Drill Team; the Principal's Student Advisory Council and has been active throughout high school in the Health Occupations Students of America. She has done volunteer work at Richardson Medical Center and will pursue a degree in the medical field at the University of Texas.

**Cooper Rehn** will pursue a degree in Electrical Engineering at Texas A & M University. A senior at Plano East High School, he has been recognized as an AP Scholar with Distinction and National Merit Commended Scholar. He is a percussion section leader of the Plano East Band and gives back to his community with Care Corps Food Pantry and church mission work. He earned the rank of Eagle Scout and continues to be actively involved in Boy Scouts.

Liz Luthans and Mary Osentowski served as Co-chairs of the Scholarship Committee. Other committee members include Pat Hansen, Bobbi Klein, Gay McAllister, Jo Leeper, Ginger Tonne, Irene Strejc, Toni Garrett, and Jan Belcher.



Paige Graham



Tana Peavy



Dianna Goodman



Alexis Alba



Kayci Barnett



Dana Le



Cooper Rehn

**Meeting Preview**

**MAY 16 MEETING: LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD**

This will be a very special evening of celebration—one where we will celebrate the accomplishments of the year that is ending in May. President Kimberly Kierce will present her report on our Adventures in Altrusa. President-Elect Pam Kovacs and her Board of Directors will be installed and Pam will share the goals for her Presidency. Mary Beth McLemore and Nancy Rohm will conduct the installation ceremony. The 2013-2014 Board Members are:

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| President Pam Kovacs                 | Foundation Treasurer Courtenay Tanner    |
| President-Elect Gloria Sandoval      | Director 2013-2014 Linda Korn            |
| Vice President Sue McElveen          | Director 2013-2014 Cindy McIntyre        |
| Recording Secretary Marsha Peters    | Director 2013-2015 Kay George            |
| Corresponding Secretary Gerry Carron | Director 2013-2015 Jo Leeper             |
| Administrative Treasurer Jenn Rohm   | Immediate Past President Kimberly Kierce |

Meeting Highlights

**APRIL BUSINESS MEETING: FOUR NEW MEMBERS, HYPERTENSION, TAP PROJECT**

By Bobbi Klein, International Relations Committee

The best part of the April business meeting was the initiation of four new members: Jan Flesch, Sue Walker, Sherrie White, and Bonnie Buchanan. (They are pictured lower left. Learn more about them on pp.13-14 of this issue.

The International Relations Committee recognized World Health Day and this year's theme of Hypertension, more commonly known as high blood pressure. A blood pressure monitor was available for members to check their blood pressure and information on the warning signs of high blood pressure was distributed.

Also highlighted was the UNICEF "TAP PROJECT" which is a nationwide campaign that provides clean water and adequate sanitation to children around the world. Currently, UNICEF works in more than 100 countries around the world to improve access to safe water and sanitation facilities in schools and communities and to promote safe hygiene practices. Since 1990, thanks to the work of UNICEF and its partners, more than 2 billion people have gained access to clean drinking water. With just \$5, UNICEF can give one child safe drinking water for 200 days. Bottled water was available for a donation if members wished to make one. \$65 was raised for a donation to the TAP PROJECT. Our donation will provide drinking water for 13 children for 200 days or for one child for 2,600 days!

It's amazing what tremendous good such a small amount of money can do in the right hands!! Thank you to all who were able to assist with this simple project.



Gloria (above) and Barbara (below) appear pleased with their blood pressure readings.



New members Jan, Sue, Sherri, and Bonnie.



Bobbi encourages participation in UNICEF TAP Project.

**Member Highlights****NEW MEMBER BONNIE BUCHANAN**

**Bonnie Buchanan's** parents are originally from Texas but work with IBM took them to New York in the 1940's. Later, they moved back and Bonnie was born in Irving, Texas. While she loves New York, she is a Texan through and through. Her three older brothers now live in Texas as well. She is a proud mother of the three most amazing people on the planet. Her children are her greatest achievement and they amaze her with their incredible brains and talents. Bonnie loves the outdoors—a nice evening walk or camping with the family. They enjoy cooking and watching movies together as well.

Bonnie also loves music—she must have music in her life everyday. She finds great joy in attending live concerts as musicians express their art and gifted talents. Her hobbies include teaching, cooking, writing, reading, music, movies, relaxing, leading, volunteering, and “do-it-yourself” home projects. While Bonnie is “dog person”, she confesses that her newest family addition, a 1-year old grey tabby named Gandalf, is the perfect companion. Several months ago, Bonnie met Julianne Lovelace at a Women in Leadership Luncheon and the rest is history as they say. “It has been an absolute pleasure to have been so welcomed and received by all of you,” Bonnie said, “I completely feel at home with each of you and know that if I were to call upon you, your response would be bubbling over with goodness and joy to help. Here is to all of you...Cheers!”

**Member Highlights****NEW MEMBER JAN FLESCH**

**Jan Flesch's** home town is Minneapolis, where she met her husband, Roger, on a blind date, he had just gotten out of the Army after graduating from the University of Wisconsin -Platteville and began working for the FDA as a food inspector. After a short courtship, they married and had three children as they moved several times as a result of Army transfers: from Minneapolis, to Little Rock, back to Minneapolis, to Peoria, to St Louis, to Kansas City, to Overland Park, KS, and finally to Dallas when he was transferred to the FDA Dallas office in 1976.

Living in Dallas has been a wonderful experience for Jan. “We have so many great friends here that I can't imagine living anywhere else.” Jan recently retired from Berkner High School as Executive Assistant to the Principal (to all five of the BHS Principals to be exact). Her three children and four grandchildren are Berkner grads—and proud of it! After 33 years, she thought it was time to turn in her 120-ram mascot collection and begin concentrating on traveling with her husband (now celebrating 54<sup>th</sup> year of wedded bliss) and focusing on community/church/school volunteering. Altrusa fits well into her current volunteer activities at Berkner, St Joseph Catholic Church, and the Women's Guild among other activities. “I look forward to my affiliation with Altrusa and thank my sponsors Gloria Sandoval and Pat Hansen.” Jan said, “I am a happy retiree looking forward to volunteering with Altrusa! Now... if only the casinos would come through with some \$\$...”



## Member Highlights

### NEW MEMBER SUE WALKER

**Sue Walker** grew up in the northern suburbs of Chicago. Her father was a well-known gymnastics coach and founded the Illinois HS Gymnastic Association. At the University of Illinois, he won seven NCAA titles, a record that still stands today. Premier Gymnastics of Chicago hosts an annual tumbling and trampoline competition, the Joe Giallombardo Invitational Meet, in her dad's honor. He was elected to the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame, the Gymnastics Coaches Hall of Fame and is in the Cleveland, OH Sports Hall of Fame. In 1963, Sue came to Texas to attend Abilene Christian University, majored in communications, got married her junior year, and transferred to UT Austin where she lived for 34 years.

Sue had a home-based business for many years and was a residential real estate agent before embarking on a 10-year career at the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce. She spent four years at AngelouEconomics, an Austin-based economic development consulting firm. After a 3-year stint as a marketing director for Temple Texas Economic Development Corporation, she was hired by the Richardson Chamber of Commerce and currently serves as the Director of Economic Development. She has fostered redevelopment of 13 local shopping centers and attracted more than 130 new restaurants to Richardson. In her free time, Sue enjoys all genres of music, old movies, singing, playing with the kids, watching sports—especially the Rangers, the Mavs, and, yes, even the Cowboys. She loves to travel: road trips, mountains, seashores, and, hopefully, 5-6 trips to Italy. Sue has four children—three daughters, one son, and nine grandchildren. When asked about her hobbies, she responded, “Can grandchildren be a hobby?”



## Member Highlights

### NEW MEMBER SHERRI WHITE

**Sherri White** is a “Native Texan”, born and raised in McKinney. She attended Texas Women's University in Denton where she received her degree in Home Economics Education in 1974. During her first teaching job at Lewisville High School, she met the love of her life, Daryl White. He was an agent for Southland Life and had called on one of her co-workers. Daryl loved to “spin” the story by telling people that they met while she was teaching and he was one of her students! Sherri and Daryl were married in 1979 and moved to Richardson. Heart-breakingly, Daryl passed away November 2012 from early onset Alzheimer's.

Family is the center of Sherri's life – she loves being a mom and now “Grammy”. Her two children, Jeff (married to Kim) and Melanie (married to Bill) live in Belton and Dallas, respectively. All four of them are AGGIES... Whoop! Her grandchildren, Grace (3 years old) and Tucker (1 year old), are the love of her life. Sherri taught at North Garland for ten years. Since 1991, she teaches and coordinates the Future Teacher Internship program at Naaman Forest High School and heads the Career and Technical Education Department. “Many thanks to all of you for your warm welcome, “ Sherri stated, “My sponsors, Pat Hansen and Cindy Murray, are dear friends and I thank them for their love, support, and encouragement. I look forward to making many new friends and serving others in Altrusa Richardson.”



District Nine News

**DISTRICT AWARDS PRESENTED AT 2013 CONFERENCE IN FRISCO**

LINDA NICHOLS FOUNDATION AWARDS

Total Club Contributions

1. Temple
2. Downtown Dallas
3. Central Texas
4. San Antonio

Average Contributions Per Member

1. Central Texas
2. Temple
3. San Antonio
4. Downtown Dallas

YEARBOOK AWARD

1. Greenville
2. Lubbock
3. Dallas

DR. NINA FAY CALHOUN INT'L RELATIONS AWARD

1. Richardson
2. Anderson County
3. Dallas

CLUB COMMUNICATION AWARD

1. Greenville
2. Richardson
3. Dallas

LETHA H. BROWN/GOVERNOR'S LITERACY AWARD

1. Central Texas
2. Collin County
3. SE Tarrant County Early Risers

MAMIE L. BASS SERVICE AWARD

1. Lubbock
2. Texarkana
3. SE Tarrant Early Risers

EDITH DEBUSK PRESIDENT'S AWARD

1. Pampa
2. Dallas
3. Temple

CLUB DISPLAY AWARD

1. Anderson County
2. Richardson
3. Greenville

JOELLA TERRILL BUTLER MEMBERSHIP AWARD

1. Sherman
2. Lubbock
3. Richardson

International Foundation News

**INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION AWARDS PRESENTED AT 2013 CONFERENCE**

2011-2012 CLUB LEVEL 21 CLUBS

- Dallas  
Downtown Dallas  
San Antonio  
Temple

HIGHEST NUMBER OF NEW CLUB 21 MEMBERS

- Temple  
San Antonio  
Richardson

2010-2011 CLUB LAMPLIGHTERS

- Downtown Dallas  
Greenville  
Richardson  
San Antonio  
Temple  
The Brazos

Altrusa Accent

**PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules of parliamentary practice in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, govern the proceedings of Altrusa International and all Districts and Clubs within the boundaries of the United States, subject to any special rules which have been or may be adopted by International, the District or Club. Clubs outside the United States may interpret the reference according to their customary rules of parliamentary procedure, subject to any special rules which have been or may be adopted by International, the District or Club.

## *Altrusan Adventures: Play in May*

### **Lone Star Park Adventure**

Enjoy a Saturday afternoon on the Silks Dining Terrace in cool comfort while watching the races!



Wagering optional.

Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie

Silks Dining Dress Code: Upscale or Business Casual and Collared Shirts for men

COST: \$14/pp plus \$12.50 min. food/beverage req./pp

First Live Race: 1:35 pm on Saturdays

DATE: May 25, 2013

TIME: 12p- 6p

## *Altrusans Play in May: Art Party at G'Nosh*

Join us for an evening of fun with friends while an instructor shows step by step methods to creating a beautiful masterpiece of your very own.



No experience required!

All painting supplies will be provided.

Just bring your favorite beverage and a few snacks to enjoy this causal evening of relaxation and fun!

**G'nosh** (Campbell/Coit behind La Madeleine)

Cost: **\$25**

**Friday, May 31, 2013**

**7:00 pm - 10:00 pm** (Doors Open 6:30p)

Painting: "Tuscan Landscape"

To reserve your seat, please sign-up and be prepared to pay at the door the night of the event. We must have at least 15 attendees for the discount listed. If you RSVP and do not attend, you may be billed.

# Club Calendar May 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 <b>Business Meeting;</b>	3	4 <i>Altrusa Marketplace</i>
5	6	7	8 <i>SENIORS: Atria Bingo</i>	9 <i>RETENTION: SMALLS dinner</i>	10 <i>SENIORS: Mother's Day Tea</i>	11
12	13	14	15	16 <b>Dinner Meeting;</b> <i>Gloria Sandoval, Mary Osentowski bday</i>	17	18
19	20 <i>RETENTION: AWCLS, <b>Tidings deadline</b></i>	21 <i>RETENTION: Lunch Bunch</i>	22	23	24 <i>Bonnie Perry bday</i>	25 <i>Altrusa Adventure: Lone Star Park</i>
26 <i>Jan Skinner bday</i>	27	28	29	30 <b>Board Meeting</b>	31 <i>Altrusa Adventure: Art Party at G'nosh</i>	

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](http://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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