



*Light Tomorrow with Altrusa
Today*

Ginger Tonne

President's Message

Happy New Year

As we look ahead to 2023, let us remember all the great things we accomplished in 2022. A big shout out to the Retention Committee of Membership under the direction of Laura Trainor-Collins for the wonderful and fun Holiday party in December. Excellent food and gifts for all! Our Meeting Coordinator, Sylvia does a great job!

It was a difficult and tough year for many. Faith, prayers and love bound us together and helped us to pull through our daily lives. So many blessings were also bestowed.

We have much planned to do for the new year. The calendar for January – June will soon be posted on our website. I encourage everyone to plan ahead.

I would like to announce that our Altrusa Texas Governor, Mary Pearson, will be attending our Birthday celebration in February. It will take place in Founder's Hall at the Richardson Woman's Club on February 16th. Governor Mary and I communicated before the holidays, and she indicated that she very much wanted to visit our Club at that time and is looking forward to it. Our Membership Recruitment Committee, no doubt will make fantastic plans for the festivities. So let's look ahead with a SMILE! - Birthday party, KAN weekend, Scholarships, and a Leadership Training workshop in the Spring to name a few. We also have additional celebrations being planned for 2023 that are great for our Club. The District Conference in April in Grapevine will be fantastic. Sue McElveen and her planning committee for the District Nine 100th Birthday are very hard at work to make Richardson shine. In addition, Altrusa Richardson will be working with the City of Richardson under the direction of Vice President, Christine Hart to celebrate the City's 150th Anniversary. We are going to really show our contributions to the community of

Richardson, Texas. This is all Club activity. So, you can see just how busy we are going to be this Spring.

My wish is for everyone to have a Blessed and Happy New Year. Let's continue to "Light Tomorrow with Altrusa Today".

Ginger Tonne, President

Coming events

Jan	1		December volunteer hours due
Jan	12	6:30	Board of Directors Meeting Friends Place
Jan	19	6:30	Monthly Club Meeting, RWC Club House
Jan	23	6:00	AWCLS – Book Club, at Mary Beth McLemore's Home – <i>The Maid</i> by Nita Prose

Birthdays

Jan	5	Helen Bate
Jan	5	Mary Beth McLemore
Jan	14	Mouna Al Rashed
Jan	23	Mimi Tanner

Altrusa Scholarship Committee

By Brenda Boston

It's January, so that means that the Altrusa Scholarship Application has been updated and will be available on the Altrusa Website on January 13th.

Scholarships are for University/College, Community College, or Vocational Training Schools. Applicants must be a U.S. Citizen and reside in the City of Richardson or attend a RISD high school. Students must submit the application, an essay about their career goals and why they are applying for the scholarship, a resume of their school and community activities, and a transcript.

Applications are due to the Committee by February 18. The Committee will read the applications, select students to come in for interviews, then decide on the recipients. The Committee considers the student's financial need,

their grades, their school and community activities, and their essay.

This year, there is \$12,000 available for scholarships plus another \$3,000 for the Jo Leeper Memorial Scholarship.

In April, the Committee will host a dinner for the recipients and their guests where members will have the opportunity to meet them.

Happy New Year 2023!

Altrusa of Richardson, this is our year!

By Christine Hart

Our City of Richardson is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year and the City has asked our club, Altrusa International of Richardson, to head up the non-profits "participating in community volunteer/giveback effort".

Richardson is a community that gives in passion, generosity, time, creativity, effort and resource. Richardson has 150+ non-profits. Some that will be involved with us are Network, Kiwanis, RALC, YMCA, Rotary(s), RWC, RISD, RSO, Warren Center, Junior League and League of Women Voters. This is just to start!

This is going to be big and we are going to have a lot of opportunity to let people know about Altrusa and all the non-profits and volunteer opportunities that make our city so unique.

Celebration Day is June 24th, but there will be so much going on to celebrate before that. From January 1st, 2023, keep your eyes on the happenings at:

<https://richardson150th.com>

If you have any ideas for a project, activity, or want more information, please let me know as soon as possible.

Here is to 2023!

Christinehart1000@gmail.com.

Altrusans Assist with the Richardson Library quarterly Loan Star Book Rotation



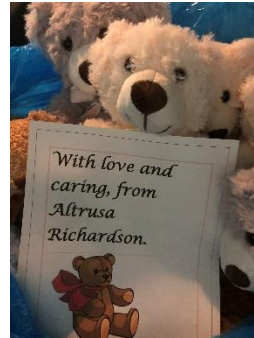
By Alma Benoit

Altrusans Ginger, Alma and Kimberly joined Exchange Club members Paul, Dan and Doug on Nov. 5 for the quarterly Richardson Library Loan Star Book Rotation. Library books, including large print versions, are rotated among Richardson senior living facilities and the Senior Center to provide varying selections of books for these onsite libraries. Many residents are unable to visit the library in person, so they look forward to these selections.

Sophomore Sisters Make a Difference Day Project

By Samantha Slaight

The Sophomore Sisters collected and delivered 70 stuffed animals for Adam's Animals.



Delivered to the distribution center Disciples Christian Church, Senior Pastor DeAnna Golsan and Jan Carter

Adam's Animals is an organization named after a young man who passed with cancer. Before he passed, he gave one of his most beloved stuffed animals to a young boy who was hospitalized with cancer. In order to remember their son, Adam's parents decided to create an organization that would collect stuffed animals to be delivered to area children's hospitals on November 14th, Adam's birthday. Over the years, hundreds of stuffed animals have been given along with a balloon to children who are patients in area children's hospitals. Our contribution to Adam's Animals made a child's day just a bit brighter.

Community Outreach Delivers to the Boys and Girls Club of Richardson

The Community Outreach Committee was granted funds from the Community Initiative Fund to purchase gifts for the children at the Richardson Boys & Girls Clubs.

The mission of the clubs is as follows: Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Dallas enables all

young people, especially those who need us most to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.



Pictured are Lynn Solomon, Andrew Morris, Alma Kerry Gaines, Susan Fischer, Benoit and Deb Alma Benoit, Andrew Morris, Bourland B&GC Director; Deb Bourland, Ginger Mayo and Jean Stuart at the gift delivery to Boys and Girls Clubs.

Boys & Girls Clubs are open to all children between the ages of 6 and 18. The Richardson location serves 50 children daily. We worked with the director, Andrew Morris, who stated that he would like to start a chess club. He also said he would like Checker sets and individual gifts for the younger children, and suggested action figures. We provided and delivered eight wooden chess/checker sets, four wooden Jenga games, four wooden 12-in-1 Game House Classic Games sets (chess, checkers, manacala, backgammon, Parcheesi, tic-tac-toe, passout, solitaire, snakes & ladders, Chinese checkers, pick-up-sticks, and playing cards) 11 Disney Princess 9" figures and 10 comic book 9" action figures (Spider-Man, Avengers and Batman).

We also provided refreshments — festive holiday cookies and juice boxes.

Andrew Morris more than once expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation for the unexpected gifts and recognition of the children in his charge in such a kind and generous manner. He shared the cookies and juice boxes with the children on the day of delivery and presented the gifts to them on a later date at their Christmas party.

Altrusa Provides Gift Bags for Hope's Door New Beginnings

By Cindy Murray

One of this year's projects for Community Outreach was to provide Christmas gift bags for 30 clients of Hope's Door New Beginnings. This is an agency that offers intervention and prevention

services to individuals and families affected by partner and family violence. They have Outreach/Administration and Batterers Intervention & Prevention Program locations in Plano and Garland. They also have a resale store in Plano to help fund HDNB client services and to provide an opportunity for clients to shop using vouchers for essential items.



Our new member Beth Leos is Volunteer Program Manager for Hope's Door New Beginnings. She was so helpful in providing a list of potential gift items that could be included in the gift bags. Our committee consisted of Carol Ruskowski, Mary Boyter and myself. We planned carefully to get the most out of our \$400 budget.

Most of the gift items were purchased from Dollar Tree but 2 came from Walmart and Amazon. With our budget, we purchased Christmas gift bags, shampoos, lotions, body washes, bath sponges, manicure kits, deodorants, lip balms, socks, pediscrubs, tissues and journals. Through the generosity of donations, we were able to also include pens (Thanh Tran), mini-toiletries bags (Kim Kierce), earrings/bracelets bags (Carol Ruskowski's daughter Christine Bright), chocolates (Carol) and individually designed beautiful gift cards (donated by Mary Boyter's friend Mollye Kirk). Mary and Carol wrote a personal message in each gift card.

We gathered at my house to assemble the bags on December 13 and loaded up Carol's SUV. Carol delivered all the gift bags to HDNB Outreach/Administration location in Plano on December 15. Co-chair Deb Bourland and I met with Beth afterwards for a formal handoff. Through perseverance and despite several delays and obstacles along the way, the Christmas Spirit prevailed to ensure 30 women would be remembered for Christmas. It was an example of Altrusa love.

The Warren Center – Operation Santa Gift Drive and Party

By Deb Bourland

The Warren Center located in Richardson is a 501C3 agency which focuses on providing early

childhood intervention programs for those who have developmental delays or disabilities. They serve children from birth to 8 years old. They have two other locations in Garland and Irving. The three locations provide services for approximately 1200 clients and their families.

On November 30th, Altrusans Deb Bourland, Gloria Sandoval, and Christine Hart delivered 31 toys which were selected from the Warren Center's Amazon Wish list for the clients at the Warren Center. These toys are designed to help develop specific skills for their clients. The toys were given out at the Warren Center's Operation Santa Christmas party on December 10th, 2022.

On December 10th, from 11 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. at The Highland Park Presbyterian Church, The Warren Center staff along with volunteers from numerous organizations, including Altrusa, held Operation Santa for their clients and their immediate families. The event had numerous sensory friendly games for the children and every child from birth to eight years old left with a gift from Santa himself. The smiles on the children's faces having fun really made this the season merry and bright for many families. Altrusans Jane Tucker, Lynda Calkin, and guest (and incoming Altrusan) Mary Ann Fernandez worked the party!



Altrusans Deb, Christine and Gloria



Abby Gray and Jane Tucker



Mary Ann Fernandez, Incoming Altrusan

Altrusa has adopted a young lady in Haiti



Willnise Pierre Louis

This year the Kindness Committee set aside money this year to send her a gift. Willnise is now in the 7th grade.

Reprint of a really nice Article in the 2022 Wrap-up Edition of the Richardson Chamber of Commerce Newsletter, along with our picture



Annual Luncheon Honors Local Leaders

Altrusa International of Richardson honored "Outstanding Women of Today ... Builders of Tomorrow" on Oct. 28 at the Richardson Woman's Club. This year's sold-out "Hearts for Humanity" luncheon recognized women who exemplify determination, leadership, and tireless efforts to improve the lives of others. [See the list of recipients.](#)

To support Altrusa's efforts in our community, [donate](#) the amount of your choosing. Proceeds benefit community outreach projects and scholarships provided by Altrusa International of

Richardson, serving the needs of elementary schools, community organizations, international programs, and seniors in Richardson. Donations are tax-deductible, and electronic receipts are provided. To learn more about becoming an Altrusan, visit their [website](#) or contact Deborah Bourland at 469-556-4909 or by e-mail at contact@altrusarichardson.com.

HOLIDAY PARTY HIGHLIGHTS



Mouna and Radi Al Rashed, Susan Fischer, Susan and Brad Long



Shari Barat, Gene Ingram, Cindy McIntyre, Jane Tucker, Brenda Boston



Beth Leos, Sherri White, Gayle Ingle, Sharon Nash, Cindy Murray



Bob and Ginger Tonne, Cristine Hart



Marsha Peters, Tom and Nancy Rohm, Mary Beth McLemore, Ginger Mayo



Our Fearless MC, Laura Trainor-Collins

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