



*Light Tomorrow with Altrusa
Today*

Ginger Tonne

CONFERENCE MONKEY BUSINESS

The Adventures of Richardson Altrusans in Georgetown



Pam, Bobbi, Nancy and Gloria on the road

Late April many Richardson Altrusans (not enough) wound their way all the way down to Georgetown, Texas. The Richardson overachievers went on Thursday so they could have a relaxing night and a good night's sleep before all the fun began on Friday at noon. The underachievers and fun group left at 6 a.m. Friday (yes, the clock does have an a.m. on it!!) and had plenty of time to stop for a full breakfast and arrive just in time for a full lunch with just a little confusion about who was to sit where!!!! I am not saying who was in this late arriving group, but ours was the driver extraordinaire! She even provided a very interesting tour through Oak Cliff and South Dallas!!!

The Keynote for the luncheon was provided by Kent Julian, a life style coach and motivational speaker (and I think, a part-time stand-up comedian.) He taught us a new equation about attitude that we should try to incorporate into our daily lives. $E + R = O$.

The afternoon session provided 4 workshops to help make our club better, but do you think we really need to learn anything – Altrusa is a well-oiled machine!!!! I am sure you will hear about these workshops elsewhere. We met the candidates for the District Nine nominating committee, and then the BUDGET discussion began and lasted, and lasted and lasted!! I am sure you have already heard about the dues INCREASE!

Friday night fun night found us dressed in "zoom wear" with a great DJ. Y'all know there are some really good dancers in our club and we will have to be sure we have at least one meeting that includes dancing led by our new President!!!

Saturday morning brought on more food and more speeches - and some awards! During the session we heard from Kent Julian again. He gave us some more tips of how to improve

our lives and live a more rewarding lifestyle. And then it was time for lunch - anyone who doesn't know about Altrusa might think we were a group of women who mostly overeat!! BUT I must say, who every heard of putting jalapenos in mashed potatoes!?!? Ruined a perfectly good serving of my favorite food, just saying.

During the luncheon we heard from some Astra members and scholarship winners about how grateful they are for their Astra Club and how much their club enhanced their lives. More awards given out.

In the afternoon we heard that the budget had been approved by the voting delegates. There was a presentation from Families in Crisis. They also received the "bundles" the clubs were asked to provide.

Richardson Altrusa was scheduled for a group picture at 6:15 p.m. and everyone arrived with time to spare!! What a great looking group of fun women.

The Governor's banquet was lovely and of course our Kim was the Loveliest of ALL. We are so proud of all her accomplishments. The program was provided by Temple Altrusan Dr. Patsy Sulak. No more needs to be said. GREAT as always.

Our Club sponsored a reception honoring our very own Kimberly and it was great, over crowded, but very lovely. Kim was very gracious and I think she really appreciated the Chocolate Extravaganza.

Morning came early and with more food!! The Memorial Service began with our Mary O presenting the memorial tribute to those Altrusans that have left us since the last conference. It was heart-breaking to see Courtenay's picture displayed and her name read.

The wrap up session gave more awards, (this time we placed second for the Communications award). We ended with understanding what a great organization we are a part of and looking forward to the next district conference in Grapevine on April 21-23, 2023. Hopefully Richardson will have 100% attendance. Be there or be square!!

BTW: There was plenty of time to shop the great vendors present and I think most of us came away with just the right thing! I had to order my selection and I am anxiously waiting its arrival!! I can hardly wait for the show and tell!!

I think all of our Richardson Gals had a great time and came back feeling more bonded and truly understanding the meaning of a sisterhood.

Our driver did a great job getting the fun group back to Richardson. We, of course, had to stop in West for more food and shopping, not to mention stopping at Bucee's both coming and going!!!!

Happy trails till we meet again!!!

Anonymous

FUN AT CONFERENCE



With Kimberly – But Where's Mary Beth?



Gloria and Bobbi were everywhere!



Ready to get to work – and there's Mary Beth! Do you see Bobbi and Gloria?



Our fearless leader reflects!



Christine Hart wins a First-Timer Award While Gloria and Bobbi look on



Ready for a lovely evening and a great dinner.

And after dinner, a celebration for our Second Vice-Governor, Kimberly Kierce



Preparing the food, which was delicious and plentiful



A good time was had by all!



Our two fearless leaders



Kimberly was able to visit with most everyone



The one we really missed.

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