



*Light Tomorrow with Altrusa  
Today*

## Ginger Tonne

### President's Message

It has truly been an honor to serve as your President this past year. Your support, enthusiasm and hard work has touched my heart deeply. What an absolute privilege to work and serve with such a fantastic, talented, and dedicated TEAM. The year went by quickly! A heartfelt Thanks to all members who have made this such a great experience for me and a superb year. We have achieved wonderful things. Altrusa Sisters rock and will continue to serve their community and accomplish glorious things. Thank you all.

I sincerely wish success for an outstanding year for the incoming President, Christine Hart and her wonderful Board of Directors.

This year's District Nine Conference was attended by 21 members who all enjoyed the Conference. The great news is that Altrusa Richardson won the bid and will host Conference 2025, when our own Kimberly Kierce will assume the mantle of Governor for District Nine. We are so proud of her. A special thanks to Kimberly and Sue McElveen for mentoring me this year. Both are such great leaders.

We had a beautiful and meaningful Scholarship program led by Chair, Brenda Boston and her committee. The Scholarship recipients and their guests were so appreciative. Those recipients deserved their scholarships. The committee made wonderful selections and the students earned them. We are extremely fortunate that Brenda Boston has agreed to serve again next year as Scholarship Chair.

As we finish our year strong, please plan to attend our May 18th Club meeting, where we will install both our Club Board of Directors and our Foundation Board. It will be a fun evening.

Also, make sure to mark your calendars to attend the City of Richardson 150th Anniversary on

Saturday, June 24th in downtown Richardson. Our very own Christine Hart led this charge for Altrusa. It will be a fun, family event with many booths, activities, and entertainment. Altrusa Richardson will be able to have a table and furnish information to perspective prospects for membership in the coming year.

Again, I have immensely enjoyed serving as your President of Altrusa Richardson. What an incredible honor to serve my Altrusa Sisters. Thank you again for the privilege. We all will continue to "Light Tomorrow with Altrusa today."

Ginger Tonne

Altrusa Richardson President 2022-2023

### Coming events

May	3	11:30	Lunch Bunch, Apollonia's Kitchen, The Shire, Richardson
May	4	6:00	Foundation Board Meeting Darren's American Grill
May	4	6:30	Club Board Meeting Friends Place
May	9	6:30	Joint Club Board Meeting Christine Hart's home
May	10	6:00	Appletree Court Auction Appletree Court Assisted Living
May	11	11:00	Network Mother's Day Tea
May	12	10:00	Friends Place Mothers' Day Tea Friends Place
May	15	6:30	Altrusa Bridge Location TBA
May	18	6:00	Installation of Altrusa Boards Founders Hall
May	22	6:00	AWCLS - AKA Book Club Deb Bourland's home
June	1		Volunteer Hours Due

### Birthdays

May	4	Lynn Solomon
May	16	Mary Osentowski
May	16	Gloria Sandoval
May	24	Bonnie Perry

Email: [contact@altrusarichardson.com](mailto:contact@altrusarichardson.com)

Facebook: [@AltrusaRichardsonTexas](https://www.facebook.com/AltrusaRichardsonTexas)

Website: [altrusarichardson.com](http://altrusarichardson.com)

District Nine Website: [www.altrusadistrictnine.org](http://www.altrusadistrictnine.org)



## Scholarship Committee Report

By Brenda Boston



Nicholas Tu, Maya Kasselbaum, Alejandro Hernandez, Nicole Cascante, Jade Journey, Jose Navarro

At our April 27 Dinner meeting, the Scholarship Committee was excited to introduce our 2022-2023 Scholarship recipients to our members. The 6 students and their guests were thrilled to be receiving the scholarships.

Out of the 59 applications received, the Committee selected 11 students to interview. Although all were outstanding applicants, the Committee decided to award 6 scholarships.

Receiving the Jo Leeper Memorial Scholarship for \$3,000 is Jose Navarro. Jose is a senior at JJ Pearce High School where he has been involved with the varsity wrestling team, RYLA, SOS Lifeguards, Mu Alpha Theta as well as doing an internship for Crescent Systems. He also works part time. Jose plans to attend Texas A&M majoring in computer engineering.

Our other 5 recipients received the Altrusa International of Richardson Scholarship of \$2,500 each.

Nicole Cascante, a senior at JJ Pearce, plans to attend Texas Tech where she will major in nursing. Her goal is to be a Nurse Practitioner in pediatrics. Nicole plays clarinet in the JJ Pearce band and is in National Honor Society as well as playing PSA soccer, participating in track and

field, and serving as a camp counselor.

Alejandra Hernandez plans to attend Texas A&M majoring in mechanical engineering, At JJ Pearce he is Vice President of the Robotics team, is an SOS Lifeguard, served on the Superintendent's Advisory Committee, and was an intern at Paragon Innovations Engineering. Alejandro's sister Mariacarmen was one of our recipients last year.

Jade Journey plays varsity basketball and is in the National Honor Society and RYL club at JJ Pearce High School. She also volunteers with various community organizations. Jade plans to attend the University of Texas at Tyler where she will major in nursing hoping to help provide healthcare to underrepresented communities around the world.

Maya Kassebaum plans to major in psychology at the University of Texas in Arlington. While at JJ Pearce, she has been a SOS Lifeguard, involved in AVID, and started a dance group, The Heat, a Latin/Hispanic dance team. In addition, Maya works 4 days a week to earn her own spending money and save for college.

Nicholas Tu, a senior at Richardson High School, plans to become a geriatric oncologist. At RHS, he was on the varsity swim team, in Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, and Academic Decathlon. Nicholas was invited to participate in the National Youth Leadership Forum. During his junior year did a clinical rotation at Richardson Methodist Hospital as well as earning an EKG technician certification. Nicholas wants to attend the University of Texas Dallas.

Thank you to the members of the Scholarship Committee, Jennifer Davidson, Mary Osentowski, Gayle Ingle, Ginger Mayo, and Mary Beth McLemore, for all their work over the past several months.

## Membership Recruitment Committee

### Richardson Altrusa Welcomes New Member Shari Barat

By Brenda Boston



When you have a chance to meet Shari Barat, you will find her as delightful as I have!

Originally from New Jersey, Shari moved here in the 80's when her husband was transferred for work. She said she immediately fell in love with Texas and was so glad they made the move. She was pregnant at the time and found a new set of friends right away.

Shari is a retired RISD teacher starting her career in pre-school, then as a substitute teacher at Hamilton Park Elementary where her children attended school. But she soon found her real passion in teaching 8th grade English at North Junior High where she taught for over 20 years. For many years Shari was involved in PTA as a parent, then as a teacher. She has now joined the Richardson Retired School Personnel in addition to becoming an Altrusan.

Shari said Altrusa was a good fit for her because she loved working with service-oriented groups at her schools and feels she can enjoy that service with Altrusa.

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her three young grandchildren, watching baseball and college football, and reading. Her favorite genres are historical fiction, autobiographies/biographies, and some history, but she also enjoyed reading young adult fiction when she was teaching. Shari says she "dabbles" in art, loves rock and roll, and enjoys traveling when she can.

This Aggie Mom says she feels that she is resilient and can bounce back from whatever life

### **Richardson Altrusa Welcomes New Member Mary Anne Fernandez**

By Nancy Rohm



New Richardson Altrusan, Mary Anne Fernandez looks forward to participating in volunteer opportunities. She currently works full time as a consumer health librarian at Scottish Rite for Children in Dallas, coordinating the Family Resource Center, as well as the patient education and peer to peer support programs. She has worked at Scottish Rite for 22 years.

Mary Anne grew up in Katy, Texas. She met her husband Erwin at church and they have been married for 24 years. They have 3 adult children, including Gus, a Dallas police officer, Gabriela, a

student at St. Edwards University in Austin, and Benjamin, a Marine Reservist who will soon attend college.

Recently Mary Anne and Erwin traveled to Spain, Portugal and France to visit family and friends.

Mary Ann is ready to go! She participated in several of our volunteer activities before she became an Altrusan. She already volunteered to be a part of our Communication Committee in the new club year. We are so lucky to have Mary Anne in our membership.

### **Richardson Altrusa Welcomes New Member Trudi Swedlund**

By Nancy Rohm



New Richardson Altrusan, Trudi Swedlund, recently retired from Richland College and looks forward to participating in volunteer opportunities. As a former English Professor, she also wants to participate in our book club

Trudi was most influenced by her mother who literally "clawed her way up to earn a B.S. degree during the great depression". Her mother was a reader, a strong woman, and Trudi's soulmate. Another strong influence was her mentor, Dr. Joan Gantt, a graduate school professor who was the model of kindness and graciousness, unusual traits in a college university professor.

Growing up near the border in Elsa, Texas, Trudi never traveled out of the states except for trips into Mexico until as college senior she went on "World Campus Afloat" a ship that sailed around the world. She especially loved Hong Kong, Spain, and Scandinavia. The experience opened up a whole new world and Trudi became a world traveler. With Fulbright's she taught in Denmark, and in England twice. With Summer Fulbright's, Trudi taught in Egypt, China and India. During her teaching career, Trudi was very passionate and expended energy beyond the classroom helping her students with scholarships, recommendations, and transcending limitations.

To her Fantasy Dinner, Trudi would invite Sojourner Truth, Jane Austin, and Queen Elizabeth. Trudi will truly be an asset to Altrusa or Richardson.

## Richardson Altrusa Welcomes New Member Anne Harris

By Sherri White



Anne Harris is one of our new members who was initiated at the March meeting. Her sponsors are Deb Bourland and Cindy Murray. Anne is a paralegal with London Stock Exchange Group. She graduated from Texas Tech with a BA in experimental research psychology, from SMU with a MA in psychology and El Centro College with a degree in Paralegal studies. Anne is a member of First United Methodist Church where she is currently the Social Action officer for United Women in Faith.

On a personal note, Anne is married to Mike Harris and they have adult children, daughter (Amber), son (Jason) and daughter in law (Sarah). Anne says the best of all are the three grandchildren ages 15, 12 and 7 months.

Travel is her favorite hobby and her most interesting trip was an eleven-day trip with her son to Antarctica. She loves to read and is currently reading *Flowers for Algernon*. Two quotes that she lives by are from songs by Jewel "In the end, only kindness matters" and "My hands are small, I know. But they're not yours, they are my own".

Anne is looking forward to contributing her time and resources to various Altrusa projects.



## The Celebration of 100 years of Altrusa Service in Texas continues as we move into our next century.

By Debbie Mabry & Sharon Tramonte

District Nine's "Summer Service VIRTUAL Retreat" will be held **July 8<sup>th</sup>** from **10:00 am - 11:00 am** via **ZOOM**, which will include the

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video, a short program, and unveiling of the **Century Book** and as we kick off the next 100 year of Service in Texas.

The cost of this Virtual event is \$30  
- **Registration and Payment Deadline: May 31, 2023.**

All Paid Registrants will receive the **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Century Book**, which will be delivered no later than August 31, 2023.

Register online or print and mail your registration and check payment. The information is on the District Webpage.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

## CONFERENCE REPORT

By Ginger Tonne

A total of 21 attendees from the Richardson Club attended Conference 2023, with Richardson being in the top two for attendance.

The conference opened at 10:00am on Friday, April 21st with the Leadership Luncheon, to celebrate our 100th Anniversary. A panel of past Governors were each asked a different leadership question focusing on Leadership traits.

Throughout the Conference, the different Conference Awards were handed out. Next were workshops for Presidents and Treasurers. Later, on Friday afternoon, the First Timers event was held. Our own Ginger Mayo attended this and ended up having her name drawn for a prize.

At the opening session at 5pm, all candidates and nominees for District Board were introduced. Voting took place on Saturday before lunch.

Friday fun night was excellent. Good food, fun dancing and we received an awesome Altrusa history lesson. The parade of Governors over the last 100 years marked the event and it was so interesting. These courageous women are part of a proud Altrusa heritage. On Friday fun night, Altrusans were dressed in the decade of their club formation and there were some fantastic costumes. Of course, pictures were taken. Friday Fun night was a total success.

Saturday at the business session, a Service Breakfast was held and more awards were given. Awards are now given throughout the Conference. International President, Kathy Foley spoke about the success of "One Book at a Time" telling us that so far over 58,000 books have been donated. The District Nine budget was reviewed. Then later in the day the Foundation Luncheon was held and voting

results were announced. Yea for the Governor Elect, our own Kimberly Kierce!!

The Communications and Membership presentations were given, and we ended Saturday evening with our Governor's Banquet. Such a special dinner and dressy affair with beautiful decorations. The new District Board was installed that evening. Afterwards, receptions for the newly elected Governor, Shirley Raymer, and Governor Elect, Kimberly Kierce were held. Shout Out to Pam Johnson and Jane Tucker for hosting the reception for Kimberly.

Sunday, we had a Grab-and-Go breakfast and a very moving Memorial Service to honor Altrusans lost in the past year. In the session, Governor Shirley announced the theme for her term "Hearts of Service" and her 2023-2025 Program Team. Two of our Richardson Club members are on this team - Jane Tucker as a Service Committee member and Ginger Tonne as a Co-Chair for Fundraising, a newly formed committee.

The Bid for Conference 2025 was the last item on the agenda. The Richardson club received several kudos for the presentation "Richardson Wheel of Fortune" theme. Oh, by the way, we won the bid.

We had seven that received Perfect Attendance certificates and two members, Gayle Ingle and Nancy Rohm that received Membership Sponsors Pins. Also, Bobbi Klein needs to be recognized for first place of this year's Display Board. It was so good. It chronicled our year perfectly. Congrats Bobbi!

What a wonderful Conference for Richardson Altrusans.

### **What a Great Year for Samantha!**

Conference was a very 'awarding' time for our 2021-2022 year! Awards received at Conference were:

Edith DeBusk President's Award  
Third Place

Mamie L Bass Service Award  
First Place

Highest Number of Club 21 Members  
Third Place Thanks Marsha Peters!

Highest Percentage of Club 21 Members  
Third Place Marsha again

Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International  
Relations Award  
First Place Kudos Jane Tucker!

Communications Award  
First Place That's Jean Stuart and the  
and the Communications Committee

AND

For 2022-2023 Club Display Board - First Place -  
Yay Bobbi!

### **District Nine's Website - ClubRunner**

We were reminded at Conference that we all need to become familiar with the District website - and we need to keep our individual information up to date on that site. You won't get important emails if your address is not up to date! So,

Need **CLUBRUNNER HELP?**  
Text Jenna at [254.534.8090](tel:254.534.8090).

### **Accent on Altrusa Club Archives**

by Candace Martin Altrusa International of  
Southwest Dallas County

Most people think of archiving as a way to store old documents and records for safekeeping. But it is really a way to tell our story and to preserve our legacy.

How awful would it be for the next generation of Altrusans to not be able to tell our story and continue our legacy through our work because we failed to properly document and archive our minutes, treasurers report, and information regarding the success of our Foundation or ASTRA club.

Each of these things are a representation of who we are as a club, what we have accomplished as a club and shows the compassion we have for serving others. Think about it, how many clubs have logged 150 hours tagging books, or was up at 3:00 in the morning to party on the plaza promoting North Texas Giving Day, donated and delivered over 200 cases of water to Wilmer, took time out on four Saturdays to feed local firemen? These are just a few remarkable things we have been able to do. To me, those are the stories that are worthwhile telling .and a blueprint for the next generation to follow.

So, let's blow the dust off those scrapbooks and presidents reports, sort through that box of pictures. And if you are like me, go through that pile in the corner for those minutes, informative newsletters and treasurers report and archive our history. We want the next generation of Altrusa Southwest Dallas County to yes, have our properly documented records but we also want them to know our legacy.

# 2023 International Convention

## San Antonio, Texas

Wednesday, July 19 - Saturday, July 22

### ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL

#### District Nine Sixty-Seventh Annual Conference

#### *Rise and Shine!*



#### **RICHARDSON ALTRUSA HAD A GOOD YEAR!**



Edith DeBusk  
President's Award

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**



Mamie L. Bass  
Service Award

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**



Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun  
International  
Relations Award

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**



No picture available

Club 21 Membership  
Number of Members  
and in Percentage of  
Members

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place in both**

Club Display Board  
Award

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

Communications  
Award

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

#### **Samanthia spent a lot of time up front!**

#### **Friday Meals in our Teal Shirts**



#### **Then the fun began**



#### **It's the 60's You Know!**



**Cindy, Jean, Ginger M., Nancy, Sue  
And Ginger T.**



**Our own future Governor, Kimberly Kierce, whose  
candidacy for Governor-Elect was announced.**

**And we ate – again**



**Jane and Cindy**

**And there were Dancing Queens!**



**Saturday Lunch**



**Mary O**

**Cindy**

**Gloria**

**Saturday Night Banquet**

**We Really Did Work:**



**Governor Mary Black Pearson got us started,**



**FESTIVE!**



**Our own Past Governor, Mary Osentowski**



**Kimberly and Robert**

**Then we celebrated with Kimberly – our new Governor-Elect**



**Kimberly arrives!**



**Governor Shirley Raymer observes as letters are chosen**



**Visiting**



**With friends LaVone Arthur and Martha Hardwick Hofmeister**

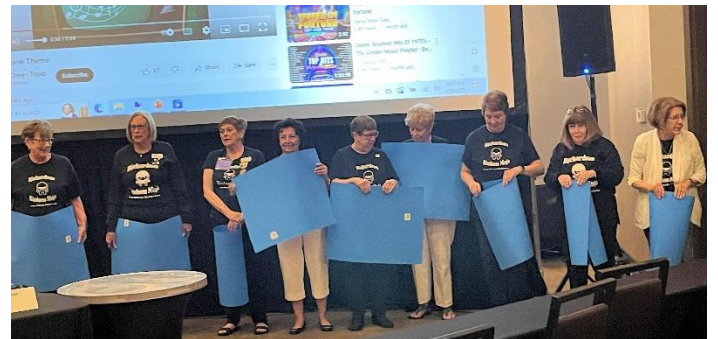


**Pat is a dynamic game show host.**

**Richardson Bid for Conference 2025  
Wheel of Fortune!**



**Pat and Vanna with contestants Pam Johnson and Sue McElveen**



**Okay – that was a hard job!**



**RICHARDSON!**

**CONFERENCE 2025  
In Beautiful Downtown Richardson**