

Happy VALENTINE'S DAY

Let's Be Sweet to Each Other.



The Photos above were sent from our new Choose Kind Library in Ghana. It is located in an orphanage supported by Brian William's organization, Think Kindness,.

President's Message

Happy February.

This club year has seen many changes as we strive to make the club reflect the needs of our members and be more attractive to new, younger members.



Many thanks to the Ad Hoc Committee; Kimberly Kierce, Jean Stuart, Deb Bourland, Rosemary Gouger and Samantha Slight and the Altrusans who have opened their homes and led the Café Conversations to determine the needs of the members. I hope you took advantage of the many opportunities to share your thoughts.

The Nominating committee has submitted the proposed slate of officers. (See page 2). The election will be held at the March business meeting, if you will be unable to attend the meeting, absentee ballots may be submitted to the Nominating Committee Chair, Laura Trainor Collins (lauratrainer@verizon.net until March 2).

Delegates for Conference will be elected at the February 6 business meeting. Please be prepared to vote for your representatives. The Nominating Committee will conduct the election.

Doin' That Kindness Thing,

Bobbi Klein

President, 2019-2020
972-998-0160

Events for February

See online calendar for event details, location, and sign-up at <http://altrusarichardson.com>

- Feb. 6 6:00 pm OWT Team Leaders Mtg.
- Feb. 6 7:00 pm Business Meeting
- Feb. 15 10:00 am Lone Star Book Rotation
- Feb. 20 5:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting
6:15 pm Birthday Dinner Celebration
(register on website)
- "Studio 54 Disco Party – We Are Family"
- Feb. 22 10:00 am Days For Girls Workshop
- Feb. 22 1:30 pm Ability House—Vera's B-Day
- Feb. 23 6:00 pm HASR "Evening with Larry James", 1st United Methodist Church
- Feb 24 6:00 pm AWCLS Author Lecture, Book is "Fatal Impact" by Diane Cobalt
- Feb 25 6:00 pm Mardi Gras Celebration
Desperado's (register on website)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 2020-2021 PROPOSED Slate of Officers for Club Board of Directors and Foundation Trustees



2020-2021 Board of Directors

President... Samantha Slaight
President-Elect... Vacant
Vice President... Rosemary Gouger
Recording Secretary... Jane Merz
Corresponding Secretary... Lynn Solomon
Treasurer... Lynda Calkin
2020-2022 Director... Mary Shiroma
2020-2022 Director... Susan Fischer
2019-2021 Director... Robbin Murley
2019-2021 Director... Thanh Tran
Immediate Past President... Bobbi Klein

2020-2022 Foundation Trustees

Marsha Peters
Brenda Boston
Sarah Nesbit
2019-2021 Foundation Trustees (serving their second year)
Deb Bourland, Jean Stuart, Cindy McIntyre, Jane Tucker

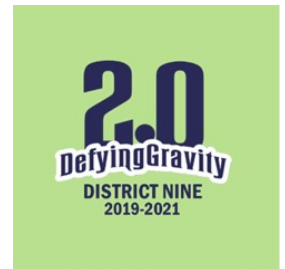
Submitted by Nominating Committee; Laura Trainor Collins, Linda Griffith, Sylvia McCloskey and Carol Ruszkowski

DISTRICT NINE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE – Conference Registration

Registering For Conference is Easy – Do It Now!
Don't Miss Out on the Fun!!

By Nancy Rohm, Conference Treasurer

We are so glad you are going to attend Altrusa District Nine 2020 Conference. You won't be disappointed – many plans are afoot. For those who want to pay by **check**, you do not need the printed Registration Form. Just do the following:



If you use or have access to a computer, follow these steps: Go to

<https://district-nine.altrusaevents.org/> When the page opens, select **“Read More”** below the Yellow Ticket.

On the next screen, under **“Register”**, select quantity 1 ticket. Mark other information below that applies – (Bringing a banquet guest, name of Club, preferred entrée for Gov Banquet, and if you are President or First Timer). At the bottom press, **“Add to Cart”**.

Scroll up and press the green letters on the right, **“Cart”**.

A new screen will appear. It will confirm you bought one ticket and you will fill in your name, email, etc. At bottom **FIRST** press, **“Online”**, then **“Review Cart and Make a Payment”**

Another screen will appear. Enter your full address, then **FIRST** select, **“Update Address”** then **“Complete Reservation”**. **You are Registered!** The system receives your Registration information electronically.

Make your check to “Altrusa District Nine 2020 Conference” and mail it to: Nancy Rohm, Altrusa District Nine Conference, 2503 Springwood Lane, Richardson, TX 75082. You will receive acknowledgement by email soon after your payment is received.

If you are paying by **PayPal**, follow the first steps above, but do not press “Online” instead go directly to “Review Cart.

An Evening With Larry James

By Mimi Tanner, HASR Representative

Altrusans and guests are encouraged to attend this amazing conversation at 6:00 PM at the First United Methodist Church in the Worship and Arts Center, directly inside the doors labeled “Main Entrance.” There is no charge because Altrusa is a member of HASR. This is to replace the Conference that was cancelled because of the tornado.

Here is an excerpt from a webpage about Mr. James: "James, who was a Church of Christ minister in Richardson before taking the reins at CitySquare in 1994, figures he’s learned a thing or two in the last four decades. So in conjunction with CitySquare's 30th anniversary, he's released his second book, House Rules: Insights for Innovative Leaders, a primer that suggests sticking to your promises; being impatient with problems, not your people; cultivating chaos; and welcoming seemingly ridiculous ideas that could turn out to be brilliant."

ALTRUSA ACCENT

Celebrating Altrusans



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Alma Benoit	February 5
Marsha Peters	February 15
Jane Tucker	February 17
Sylvia McCloskey	February 16
Deb Bourland	February 24
Cindy McIntyre	February 27

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE – RETENTION COMMITTEE

Celebrate Altrusa Richardson’s 54th Birthday

**You Are Invited to
A Night at Studio 54
“We Are Family”**



**Put on your Boogie Shoes and Hustle on over to Founders Hall
February 20th, 6:15pm, Disco Dancing and Fun, Fun, Fun**



Prizes for Favorite Disco Outfit and Trivia.

**Meet our District Nine Visitor,
Governor-Elect, Mary Black Pearson.**

**Sign up on the club website for the \$20 dinner
or to just attend with no meal.**

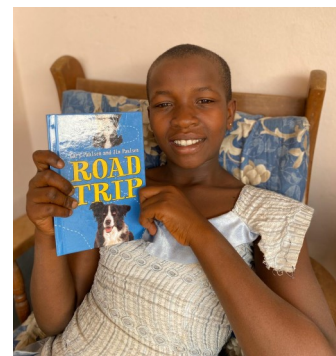
Guests Are Welcome. Can You Dig It?

KINDNESS COMMITTEE – Choose Kind Library Project

Choose Kind Library a Big Hit in Ghana

By Jane Tucker

A group of volunteers from Think Kindness have just returned from a trip to Ghana where they delivered a Choose Kind Library to an orphanage in Ghana. At this orphanage, volunteers are busy constructing a new home and school for the children. Our Choose Kind Library will make a wonderful addition to their new library. From the pictures of the students reading these Choose Kind books, you can tell from their smiles that they are thoroughly enjoying their new books.



Ghanan children enjoying their new Choose Kind books



Children of the Connect With a Child Center Orphanage

The Choose Kind Library Committee has targeted a new location in Kenya in another orphanage and children's home run by a group called Connect with a Child. The orphanage has no library and we will hopefully be able to make the donation to start one for them.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE– Retention



FAT TUESDAY CELEBRATION
Put on your best mask and strangely appropriate hat and join the Retention Committee for **MARDI GRAS FUN and PRIZES.**
FEBRUARY 25, 2020
6pm-8pm Happy Hour and Desperado Taco Special. Desperados, 3443 W. Campbell Rd. Friends and Family Welcome. Sign up by 2/21/2020.

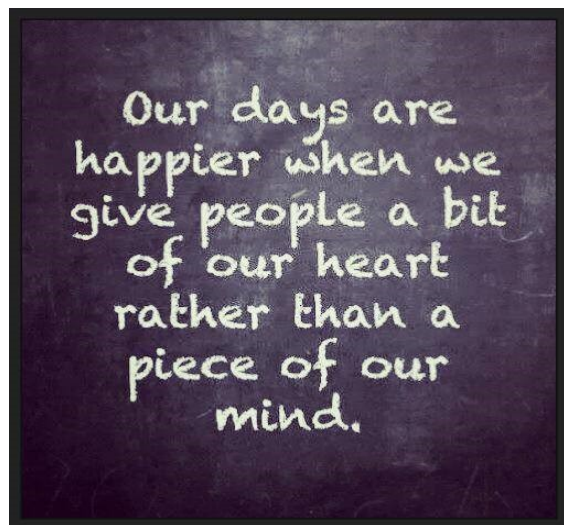
OUTREACH COMMITTEE–Seniors

Lone Star Book Rotation on February 15

By Lynn Solomon



The next Community Outreach Senior Book Rotation for the Richardson Public Library will be held Saturday, February 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. We partner with a men's organization and they will help carry the books. In order to have four teams, we need at least four Altrusans, and preferably eight. We also need vans and SUVs, so if you have one, please drive it that day. Please register soon!



February AWCLS Book “Fatal Impact” is Set in Richardson!!

Monday, February 24 6:00 pm Friend’s Place

Diane Cobalt will be the featured writer and speaker at this year’s “Author’s Vis- it”, sponsored by the Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society. If you love a good who-done-it murder mystery or just want to read a great book set right here in Richardson, you will not want to miss this exciting event!

Fatal Impact, the first book in the *Fatal* trilogy, is available at the Richardson library, online or a copy can be purchased from Pam Johnson. All three books in the trilogy will be available for purchase and/or to be auto-graphed that evening following the program.



Diane Cobalt

The Membership Retention Committee hopes that you will help support this annual event with your attendance and consider bringing a spouse, friend or family member with you. This will be a terrific opportunity to introduce someone to Altrusa or for all our members to have a wonderful evening together. It’s a perfect event for retention and/or recruitment for our club.



Please make plans to join us on **Monday, February 24th** from **6:00pm to 7:30pm** at **Friends Place**, 1960 Nantucket Dr., Richardson. The Members Committee will provide the food, wine, and tea. For questions or more information, please contact Pam Johnson at pamjohnson@friendsplaceads.com or call her at 214-476-8248.

AWCLS Books for 2020

DATE	TITLE	AUTHOR	LEADER
January 27	<i>The Prayer Box</i>	Lisa Wingate	
February 24	<i>Fatal Impact</i>	Diane Cobalt	Pam Johnson
March 23	<i>The Other Einstein</i>	Marie Benedict	Kay George
April 27	<i>The Overdue Life of Amy Byler</i>	Kelly Harmes	TBD
May 18	<i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i>	Delia Owens	Samanthia Slaight
June 22	<i>Everything I Never Told You</i>	Celeste Ng	TBD
July 27	<i>I Know Who You Are</i>	Alice Feeney	TBD
August 24	<i>Richardson Reads One Book</i>	To be Announced	Mary Beth McLemore
Sept 28	<i>The Day the World Came to Town</i>	Jim Defede	Jackie Scrivener
Oct 26	<i>Finding Dorothy</i>	Elizabeth Letts	Cheryl T.
Nov 23	<i>The Night Tiger</i>	Yangse Choo	Janice Campbell
December	<i>Holiday Planning Party TBD</i>		

The Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society, a.k.a. Book Club or AWCLS, is a monthly get together for members, but is also open to the community. The meetings are the 4th Monday of the month at 6:00 pm and are held at Friends Place, 1960 Nantucket Dr., Richardson 75080. It’s a great way to really get to know other members. Snacks are served. Sign up on the website events calendar or just show up.

Days for Girls North Texas Workday in Preparation for Conference



The group gets instructions from Cathie Ford, who is a Team Leader from Rowlett.

On January 18th, 2020 approximately thirty-five members of Altrusan clubs from all over North Texas and their guests attended the first of three workshops held at Friends Place to start preparations for the all District service project to assemble 400 Days for Girls kits at Conference.

At the beginning of the workshop, Cathie Ford, a Team Leader with the Rowlett Days for Girls Team, gave an overview on what is included in each kit and the logic behind why the kits are designed the way they are.

During the four hour session, attendees cut ribbon, material for shields and transport bags, as well as sewed liners and transport bags.

The next workday will be held February 22nd, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.



The ladies above are cutting and sewing parts of the kits.



A Garland Altrusan and Katie Bates cut more ribbon



L-R Janie Jaquier, Mimi Tanner (standing), Jane Merz ,Marsha Peters, Cindy McIntyre and a guest are measuring and cutting ribbon for the bag handles.



ABILITY HOUSE COMMITTEE UPDATE

And the Winner is.....ALTRUSA!!!

By Rosemary Gouger

WE WON! Thank you to everyone who helped us create the winning yard decorations for Ability House Richardson! Landon Cole, the Volunteer and Community Outreach Manager for Ability Connection, tells us that out of the seven Ability Connection resident homes, Ability House Richardson, with the help of our voting Altrusa Sisters won the day. He tells me that they raised over \$500.00 and \$200.00 of that came straight from Altrusa Richardson!

Thank you to all the worker bees who helped Rosemary Gouger and her husband John dress up the yard for the Christmas holidays! The residents at Ability House Richardson were thrilled! So, thank you to: Bobbi Klein, Gayle Ingle, Linda Caron and her hubby, Donna Buhr and her hubby, Jane Tucker, Kimberly Kierce and Robert. If I missed anyone, thank you!

Last but not least...Don't forget to join us for Vera's Birthday on February 22nd.



Decorating Ability House: (L-R) Bobbi Klein, Jane Tucker, James and Donna Buhr, Kimberly Kierce, Robert (Kimberly's friend - on the roof), Rosemary Gouger, Linda Caron, Blake Whitaker (Linda's husband—on ladder)



Bobbi Klein adds some yard art. (Robert on roof, Blake Whitaker on ladder)

In Memorium

It is with heavy hearts that we note the passing of Pam Johnson's beloved father. Pam's father passed on January 2, 2020. The memorial service was held January 18th. Pam cared for her father for many years prior to his passing.

Cards and can be sent to:

Pam Johnson
2412 Morning Glory Drive
Richardson, TX 75082

February 2020 U.N. Days and Observances

Excerpted from www.un.org



International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation,

February 6, 2020:

The theme of 2020 is “Unleashing Youth Power”

Female genital mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures that involve altering or injuring the female genitalia for non-medical reasons and is recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights, the health and the integrity of girls and women.

Girls who undergo female genital mutilation face short-term complications such as severe pain, shock, excessive bleeding, infections, and difficulty in passing urine, as well as long-term consequences for their sexual and reproductive health and mental health.

Although primarily concentrated in 30 countries in Africa and the Middle East, female genital mutilation is a universal problem and is also practiced in some countries in Asia and Latin America. Female genital mutilation continues to persist amongst immigrant populations living in Western Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand.

To promote the elimination of female genital mutilation, coordinated and systematic efforts are needed, and they must engage whole communities and focus on human rights, gender equality, sexual education and attention to the needs of women and girls who suffer from its consequences.

World Day of Social Justice, February 20, 2020:

The 2020 theme is “Closing the Inequalities Gap to Achieve Social Justice”.

Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations. We uphold the principles of social justice when we promote gender equality, or the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants. We advance social justice when we remove barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability.

For the United Nations, the pursuit of social justice for all is at the core of our global mission to promote development and human dignity. The adoption by the [International Labour Organization](#) of the [Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization](#) is just one recent example of the UN System’s commitment to social justice. The Declaration focuses on guaranteeing fair outcomes for all, through employment, social protection, social dialogue, and fundamental principles and rights at work.

A Few Facts

- Employment growth since 2008 has averaged only 0.1% annually, compared with 0.9% between 2000 and 2007.
- Over 60 per cent of all workers lack any kind of employment contract.
- Fewer than 45 per cent of wage and salaried workers are employed on a full-time, permanent basis, and even that share is declining.
- By 2019, more than 212 million people were out of work, up from 201 million in previous years. 600 million new jobs need to be created by 2030, just to keep pace with the growth of the working age population.