



President's Message

participate in a Nonprofit Fair and a Grants Workshop this month, and we have sent representatives to attend these events. It appears that businesses are interested in investing in non-profits, and our club is being closely considered for this purpose.

March is going to be a busy and important month. We will vote in the Boards for our new Altrusa year which begins in June. Jean is getting committee chairs in place and getting ready for another fabulous year.

Christine Hart

President 2023-2024



February started with a successful Leadership Event on a train journey. Twenty-seven members of Altrusa attended the event which was full of fun, creativity, and informative sessions. In the future, keep an eye out for the train at our meetings. Each car represents a committee opportunity, so which cars are you interested in? We would like to express our gratitude to the fantastic Leadership Team for making this event a success.



58th Birthday Favor

Happy 58th Birthday, Altrusa Richardson! What a wonderful evening with our District Nine representative, Frances Dalbey, speaking to us about the happenings in our very active district. She brought us many new children's books to donate. We also voted in our five delegates and five alternates for our conference in April. We have fourteen registered to go at this time.

Lunch Bunch is getting bigger every time. Great organizing, Judy and Lynne.

Starting from March, AWCLS is going through some significant changes. You can find details of these changes in this issue of Tidings. If you haven't been able to attend our book club's meetings due to the Monday evening schedule, now is your chance to see what all the excitement is about! Our book club experience has been the gateway for many members to join our club. We are proud to say that Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society is simply amazing!

Our club, Altrusa Richardson, is gaining recognition from various local organizations. We have been invited to par-

For more information go to the Events page at altrusarichardson.com

March Events

March 01 *Volunteer Hours due!*

March 08 International Woman's Day

March 09 Loan Star Book Rotation 9:00 am

March 09 Ability House—Kathleen's Birthday 1:30 pm

March 09 Altrusa Book Swap 4:00 pm

March 14 Board of Director's Meeting 6:30 pm

March 17 St. Patrick's Day

March 18 Altrusa Bridge 6:30 pm

March 21 Monthly Club Meeting 6:30 pm Social time;
7:00 pm meeting starts

March 24 Palm Sunday

March 25 AWCLS Book Club 6:00 pm

March 29 Good Friday

March 31 Easter Sunday

Kindness Committee Update

WE NEED YOUR HELP PREPARING FOR KINDNESS ACTION WEEKEND

By Sue McElveen, Co-Chair Kindness Committee

There are upcoming Hands-On work to be done helping the Kindness Committee to get ready for our KAN (Kindness Action Network) Event on April 6, 2024, at Friends Place from 9 am - Noon. We want everyone to have the opportunity to do something for this event. This is an especially good project to earn volunteer hours. We are meeting various dates this month to start assembling the clip-on reels that hold the nurse's badges for work. There are several steps to this process so there will be plenty that you can do. It is fun work, not complicated and would help our committee to get over 2000 done in time for the KAN Event.



Badge Reel

We plan to do one hands-on work day each week up until the KAN Event in April. Each week when we gather we will set the date for the next week and an email will be sent out calling for volunteers and give the location and

time. Please plan to come to any or all the work events to do something good for our community. And get to spend some quality time with your Altrusa sisters! For those of you that have not been at a meeting lately, our main focus for KAN this year is to honor nurses at Methodist Richardson Hospital. We hope to have enough of the badge reels to deliver to the hospital the day of the event. If we do not get all finished we will take them at a specific date in May when the hospital celebrates and honors their nurses.

If you have a couple of hours, please call, text or email me your name for more information on work dates and times.

Membership Committee, Retention Team Update

ALTRUSA BOOK SWAP

By Laura Trainor-Collins

COME JOIN US for Famous Altrusa Chili at the Member Book Swap. The Retention Team invites you to the 2024 Altrusa Book Swap on March 9, 2024, from 4pm to 6pm at Janie Jaquier's home. We will be serving our Famous Altrusa Chili, Hot Dogs, Chips, Iced Tea, and Desserts. You have time to do a little spring cleaning and gather The books you would like to swap. Any unclaimed books will be donated to the Sophomore Sisters Project and The Genesis Women's Shelter Library. Please invite friends, family, and guests to join us. This is always a fun party, and this year Laura, Gayle and Jean are making the chili so you don't want to miss this gastronomical event. BYOB alcoholic beverages. Sign up on the club website by March 5, 2024.



ALTRUSA | *Leading to a Better Community*
International

Add an Altrusan Month Membership Incentive

Could your club use an extra \$100 for help with a service project, a membership recruitment event, help send a member to Conference, etc.?

Altrusans R.O.C.K. – Realize Opportunity, Create Kindness



Now is your chance to show others in your community that we R.O.C.K.! Add at least one new member in April 2024, and your club could win one or five (5) \$100 cash prizes.

All clubs who enter a new member in Group Tally in April 2024 are eligible. Of those who enter a new member, five club names will be drawn and each will receive \$100.

Don't miss out on this chance for \$\$.

Membership Committee, Retention Team Update

ALTRUSA SISTER SOLAR SUPPER

By Laura Trainor-Collins

WOW. It's exciting that Richardson is located in the path of a total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. The Retention Team invites you to celebrate this celestial event at our first ever Sister Supper. What a great way to end the evening after experiencing this momentous eclipse.

This will be a fun "outa this world" get together on April 8, 2024, at 6pm at Appolonia's Italian Kitchen, 3610 Shire Blvd, Richardson, TX 75082. Appolonia's is offering us special half price pizzas and half price margaritas (strawberry, regular and Italian) in their private room. Of course, salads and other menu items will be available. This is an individual member pay event. Please feel free to invite friends, family, and guests. It's possible we may have some visitors from outer space to play a game with. Please register for this event on the club website.



Membership Committee, Recruitment Update

58TH BIRTHDAY MEETING

By Shari Barat

It was a festive meeting on Thursday, February 15th as Altrusa International of Richardson celebrated our 58th birthday! The tables were beautifully adorned with flower-laden teapots (thanks to Brenda Duckett) and yummy sugar cookies decorated with an edible topping (created by Kimberly Kierce) and baked by Norma Hammerlund and Altrusa friends. After a delicious meal catered by Aboca's, members sang Happy Birthday and enjoyed Italian Cream Cake.

This meeting was also an opportunity to bring guests and introduce them to our club and hopefully get them excited to "Be the Change" and join us in the coming year! We had a very nice turnout and are excited to share pictures of some of our members and the guests they introduced! Before the adjournment, the Recruitment Committee had a "Name that Tune" game with titles popular when Altrusa Richardson began. Answers spelled out "ALTRUSA".



Returning member Jill Van Os and Mary Beth McLemore

Membership Committee, Retention Team

AWCLS Meeting Time Changes in March

By Janet McCollouch

Altrusa Wine and Chocolate Literary Society will begin meeting at 2:00 PM on the fourth Monday of each month beginning in March. The group will continue to meet in members' homes with the hostess providing light snacks. We would love to have new readers join us and enjoy lively discussions, friendship, and afternoon snacks. Please let the hostess know you are coming by signing up on the Altrusa website.



District Nine Update

CONFERENCE SERVICE PROJECT

By Linda Hurt

This week's District Nine Conference email is all about Service! Attending conference is such a special event, and one of the top-ten reasons is that we all work together on a conference service project. Thank you, **Sheila Winton, District Nine Service Chair, and Sheryl King**, for designing our conference service project and determining the wonderful non-profits in South Texas that we will be serving with our donations.

The non-profits we are serving during conference are: Bereavement Center of South Texas and Southwest Key Programs (San Antonio).

It is very easy for interested clubs or members to participate in the Conference Service Project:

- Order books/hygiene products through Amazon and have them automatically shipped. Wish lists are posted on Amazon.com.
- Buy books/hygiene products and bring them to conference.
- Make a monetary donation.

See the attached flyer for more information. There are links in the flyer to access the wish lists and order through Amazon and/or to make a monetary donation. If you haven't already done so, please bring the project information to your club so that you make sure that you have an opportunity as a club to be part of this wonderful conference service project. And of course, individual participation is always welcome, too.

And speaking of service, our Saturday Luncheon at conference will focus on our "Hearts of Service." We will hear from employees of the two non-profits as well as a personal story from a woman whose family was directly served by the Bereavement Center of South Texas. And annual District Nine Service Awards will be announced as well as the District Nine Club Book Challenge Awards. Later that afternoon, you may participate in sharing service ideas in one of our workshops

I am so hopeful that you plan to attend conference this year. What a wonderful time we will have, and it is a great time to celebrate our Hearts of Service and participate together to serve two special non-profits in South Texas!



L-R: Mary Beth McLemore, Christine Hart, Lynn Solomon, Judy Blome, Jean Stuart, Deb Bourland



L-R: Kathy Stock, Mary Osentowski, Nancy Crowe, Sue McElveen, Cindy Murray, Ginger, Mayo, Gayle Ingle

Membership Committee, Retention Update
Lunch Bunch Event
by Lynn Solomon and Judy Blome

Altrusa Lunch Bunch was held at Besa's Italian Restaurant in Garland on Wednesday, February 7th. We had a wonderful attendance with thirteen Altrusans attending! The food was great and so was the fellowship. Attendees voted unanimously to have the next Lunch Bunch at Coco Shrimp in Richardson. This is a new restaurant that serves only shrimp....so keep that in mind!! It is located at Plano and Beltline and has been open for only a few weeks. The next Lunch Bunch will be held on Wednesday, May 8th so SAVE THE DATE!!

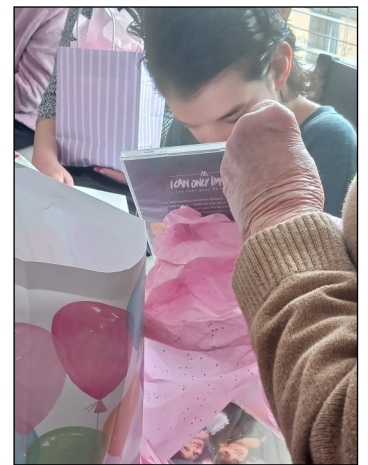
Ability House Update
Crystal's Birthday Party February 10



Left: A good picture of Crystal as she waits for the party to start



Right: Crystal is being helped as she opens her presents



Above: Crystal examines a present by feeling it in her hands

Right: Ability House friends Kathleen (on the left) and Jane (on the right) watch as Crystal opens her presents. Jane is waiting impatiently to present her gift to Crystal.



Left: Crystal's party had a Valentine's Day theme including the beautiful Valentine cake

Ability House Update

Vera's Birthday Party February 24



The happy birthday girl Vera, flashing her indefatigable grin, approves of the horse that Sherry White shows her. Shelly is left of Sherry.



L-R: Crystal, Rosemary Gouger, Donna Burr's daughter, Donna Buhr, prospective member Holly, Janie Jaquier and Shelly. Note: the wonderful three tiers of Unicorn cupcakes and playful Unicorn birthday theme.



Vera opens another gift while friends look on. L-R: Janie Jaquier, John Sanders (behind) Shelly, Sherry White, one of the caretakers, Nina's sister Dina, and Nina



L-R: Kimberly Kierce, Kathleen (behind Kimberly), Jane and Donna's daughter reaches to serve a cupcake



Around the table starting in front left corner: Nina, Vera (center front), Donna Buhr (standing), Jane and Kathleen



Don't these unicorns look just delightful? Thank you again Rosemary Gouger, our resident facilitator of sweet fun.

