

# NEWS OF



# MIGHTY NINTH

*The Make A Difference Day Issue*

Volume 46 | Issue 3

Winter 2018



## *Set District Nine to Music*

### **Governor's Letter – Winter 2017/2018 And the Music keeps playing...**

Happy New Year!! What a full 2017 we had and what fun we are looking forward to in 2018. I hope that each of you had a wonderful holiday season to end 2017 and I wish you a prosperous and happy new year.

The District Board of Directors had their mid-year board meeting in Waco on October 14th. These hard working Altrusans are committed to keeping District Nine sound, growing and moving forward.

The membership of District Nine is growing! I am receiving new member applications each month from all over the Great State of Texas. All of the Membership Committees have been hard at work helping our under charter strength clubs grow, helping our membership that was affected by Hurricane Harvey and hosting booths, dinners and get-togethers to make all of our members and their guests feel appreciated.

I want to give a Shout-Out to two clubs in District Nine for receiving Grants from the International Foundation.....Collin County and Frisco! Congratulations and keep up the good work. I also want to encourage each club to submit an application for the next round of grants that will be given out in March. The International Foundation handed out almost \$63,000 in total grants this November and I would love to see almost all of our clubs listed as recipients.

I also want to recognize the District Nine Clubs that were recipients of the Distinguished Club Awards this past summer for the 2015-2016 Club Year.....I am a little late in doing this, so please accept my apologies.....Austin, Dallas, Downtown Dallas, Garland, Greenville, Pampa, Richardson, San Antonio, Temple and Texarkana. Congratulations to each of these clubs for their hard work.

District Nine Conference 2018 is approaching and I want to encourage each of you to plan on attending. Mark your calendars for April 20-22nd and come to Richardson, Texas for our Sixty-Second Annual District Nine Conference. See more information in this newsletter.

I want to say how honored I am to serve as the Governor of District Nine. I am truly blessed to be an Altrusan. Now.....let's "Set District Nine to Music" together and serve our communities with a song in our hearts and joyful music in our tones!

Altrusa Hugs,  
Linda Moore  
Governor 2017-2019



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## Revitalization Committee Report

Cindy Jolly, Austin

“Thank You” to District Nine Altrusans and clubs for your compassion and generosity to the five Altrusans who lost their homes and businesses in Orange TX during Harvey. The gift cards that you donated were given to these ladies on December 11th. Gift cards received after December 11th will be delivered to them at their January 8th meeting. Your continued support towards Altrusans in Orange and their schools, including support for Montgomery County, Houston, Rockport, Port Aransas and other Harvey stricken areas truly represents the heart and spirit of District Nine Altrusans.

Altrusans of Orange Texas and their guests celebrated Christmas friendship on December 11th. Marietta Howington and Deborah Mitchell presented a Christmas skit about Altrusa and sang Christmas carols, followed by a Christmas game led by Cindy Jolly. New members Debbie Davenport, Linda Gomez Whitener and Sheryl King attended as well as five guests. Altrusans of Orange have an opportunity to work with the District Nine Service Committee and the two adopted elementary schools in 2018. They are excited!



## Service Committee Report

Janet Black, Service Committee Chair

The Service Committee, with the help of other Altrusans, is now committed in helping others in need after the devastation caused by Harvey in the Houston, Orange and Montgomery County areas. A Houston elementary school has been helped, and now we will focus on two schools that were almost destroyed in the Orange area. Children in these two schools will not be allowed back into those buildings for many months. We will be working in these two schools helping to restore the libraries. Plans will be in more detail at our District Nine Conference. The Service Committee will be asking for supplies, money, and physical help from other Altrusa Clubs in District Nine.

The first literacy project has now been completed at the Herrera Elementary School in Houston. This project was a success because of many individual Altrusans and District Nine Altrusa Clubs. When Governor Linda Moore sent out the Service Committee's plea for help, most all clubs participated. Thank You. Because of your generosity, children now have a book of their own for Christmas. Altrusa Club of Houston received \$1,900 from your donations. Herrera Elementary had a Pajama Christmas Book Day on December 20th. More than 950 students received books during the day. The children were treated to a taste of hot chocolate with a mint candy cane to mix the chocolate well. Cookies were served in the gym as children listened to Christmas music. Each classroom continued celebrating by watching Christmas movies, and writing Thank You Notes to each District Nine Club that made this joyous day possible for them.

The District Nine Service Committee, **Thank You for Your Service to Others.**

## Communication Committee

Frances Dalbey

Have you ever thought to yourself, “I know that we talked about that,” or “What are the details on the xyz event?” We are being bombarded with so many messages from so many sources that we have to see or hear something, on average, seven times to remember it. If we use multiple senses (heard and seen vs. only seen) we may need less.\* So when we think we are tired of seeing that FB post for our event, it is then that some have actually retained it for the first time. So when promoting service project, membership event or other happening, I encourage you to say it again, and again and again...then add a video to say it one more time! Then remind them with an email, text or maybe something a little old fashion like a mailed card or even a phone call. As we reach the half way mark of the Altrusa year there are many things that are important - are we communicating our messages multiple times in multiple formats? If not, we are probably not being heard.

On another note, don't forget to send information....  
Janna for Website - [janna.s.janes@gmail.com](mailto:janna.s.janes@gmail.com)  
Trina for Social Media - [trinataylor1@yahoo.com](mailto:trinataylor1@yahoo.com)  
Mary for Newsletter - [mpowlen4@yahoo.com](mailto:mpowlen4@yahoo.com)

\*Notes taken from TheBabyBoomerEntrepreneur.com (<https://goo.gl/8aYtfv>)

“What is the Rule of Seven? And how will it improve your marketing?”

## Denton Revitalization - ON THE MOVE

Dee Parmer, Denton Revitalization Committee

Denton is off to a good start with its Revitalization efforts. We participated in the Arts and Autos Extravaganza in downtown Denton, Guyer High School Choir Arts and Crafts Festival, Denton High School Choir Arts and Crafts Festival and the Aubrey Peanut Festival. From this participation, we collected approximately 50 prospects. We moved our meeting place to the North Branch of the Denton Public Library System and met some good contacts there. The library clears out books in late February and we have been offered our choice of books for service activities. Through a prospect that works for the Denton ISD, we donated (courtesy of Kimberley Kierce) toiletries to a local Boy Scout Troop. We have a large donation of travel books and magazines from the Sharron Carr Travel Agency and Dee Parmer. We will be looking for a group that would be interested in sharing these with others.

Amanda Fitch is currently updating the Denton facebook page with our own activities and there will be more changes as we move along. Starting after the holidays, we will pursue our prospects actively with e-mails and telephone calls. Plans for our meeting room include photo displays of service projects, new member initiations, membership activities and the Altrusa organization. More coming as we move forward.

## Bylaws, Resolutions, and Recommendations Update

Linda Nichols

“District Bylaws, Resolutions and Recommendation (BRR) Committee -International Policy 7 provides the opportunity for District Officers, District Committee Chairs, Past Governors and Clubs to submit proposed bylaws, resolutions and recommendations to the District BRR Committee Chair at least 90 days before District Conference. Our District BRR Committee Chair is Linda Nichols and you may email your recommendation to her at [lnichols@austin.rr.com](mailto:lnichols@austin.rr.com). Each proposal should include a history with background and rationale, an implementation date, fiscal impact, if any, and the suggested motion. Although the Conference is not until April 20-22, 2018, the BRR committee is responsible for circulating these recommendations to all of us at least 60 days before Conference. So if you or your club members are considering any changes to the bylaws, any resolutions or recommendations send in your proposal to Linda Nichols by January 12th.

## New Club Building Committee

Chris Scherer, New Club Building Chair

What does investing mean to you? Building your nest egg for retirement, singing in the choir at church or serving as a deacon or elder, coaching your child's soccer, volleyball or t-ball team? All of these activities add an important quality to your life because it means something to you.

You became an Altrusan because you wanted to invest in yourself and your community. Now it's time to diversify your investment and share it with others outside your club. Altrusa International needs to increase its portfolio around the world. We need to build a larger presence to expand our reach to those who need assistance the most. We can't help everyone but we can help affect the lives of a few people which creates a ripple effect that can be felt across the globe.

You can start a new club in your community or a neighboring one. New Club Building is here to assist you with this investment.



# New Member Report

## New Members for September 2017 16

Club	New Member	Sponsor	Sponsor
Temple	Amber Motl	Debbie Mabry	Debbie Fendrick
Temple	Sharon Schmidt	Kelly Nix	Carol White
Temple	Lori Luppino	Tara Stafford	Cari Psencik
Temple	Tara Manley	Charlene Tapman	Teresa Reevis
Austin	Carol Robbins	Tanya Goldsmith	Cheryl Taylor
SETCER	Selinza Mitchell	Argenia Cooper	Carolyn Alexander
Collin County	Beth Bean	Lee Straayer	
Collin County	Sandra Morton	Maxine Lowther	
San Antonio	Diane Castillo	Kim Glodich	Rose Strauss
Anderson Co.	Cynthia Toole	Lois Durant	Chaundra Dantin
Richardson	Judy Blome	Lynn Solomon	Christine Hart
Richardson	Shirly Waller	Christine Hart	Janet McColloch
Richardson	Catherine "Cat" Zultner	Christine Hart	Gerry Carron
Pampa	Mendi Bonner	Gail Hooper	Melodie Dosch
Pampa	Kim Lancaster	Lisa Crossman	Terry Gamblin
Pampa	Barbara Pipkin	Venita Morehead	Mattie Norton

## New Members for October 2017 8

Club	New Member	Sponsor	Sponsor
Temple	Terry Malovets	Beverly Luedke	Theresa Reese
Garland	Marilyn Steidel	Mary Dyer	-
Chisholm Trail	Jessica Coufal	Sharon Tomlinson	-
Nacogdoches	Renita "Nikki" N. Roberts	Chip Howell	Julie Ruiz
DFW	Melissa L. Corbin	Genevieve Shafer	-
DFW	Sarah M. Wright	Jason Wright	-
Lubbock	Brenda Kinning	Shannon Bradshaw	-
Austin	Karen Higgins	Donna Jones	-

## New Members for November 2017 21

Club	New Member	Sponsor	Sponsor
Copperas Cove	Marc Payne	Diane Payne	-
Copperas Cove	Sandor "Sandy" Vegh	Marc Payne	
Garland	Tina Rhodes	Betty Sainz	
Garland	Meagan Sturgeon	Mary Dyer	
Greenville	Keli Aiken	Deana Hunt	Lee Scruggs
Greenville	D'Anna Bates	Luanne Dickens	Angela Franklin
Greenville	Farrah Brabson	Crystal Romero	Libby Stromberg
Greenville	Trina Coldiron	Julia Wensel	Luanne Dickens
Greenville	Tracey Fentum	Julia Wensel	Mercedes Barbosa
Greenville	Linda Gregg	Lee Scruggs	Mary Standfield
Greenville	Jenny Krueger	Julia Wensel	Frances Dalbey
Greenville	Heidi Seale	Luanne Dickens	Stacey Earls
Greenville	Shantelle Selvaggi	Misty Little	Luanne Dickens
Greenville	Janice Vreeke	Misty Little	Lee Scruggs
Greenville	Kathleen Witte	Vanda Jack	Frances Dalbey
Greenville	Kelly Bullock	Deana Hunt	Lee Scruggs
Greenville	Lindsay Yost	Deana Hunt	Lee Scruggs
Lubbock	Audrey Ashcraft	-	-
Nacogdoches	Sheila Hopkins	Renita Nikki Roberts	Julie Ruiz
Temple	Tiffany Jarosek	Christina Sparks	Julie Ruiz
Temple	Tammy Schaub	Tara Stafford	Debbie Gorden

# Make A Difference Day

## Central Texas Club



This year's MADD event was "Step Up and Step Out". We collected Gift Cards (\$10-\$20 increments) from shoe stores or donated "GENTLY" use professional footwear for men and women. With the "Vocational" theme in mind, we spoke with Families in Crisis to discuss their needs and found they have professional clothing, but pairing those with shoes was a challenge

## Copperas Cove Club

Cindy Hutcherson, 2017-2019 President, Altrusa International of Copperas Cove, TX, Inc

Altrusa International of Copperas Cove, TX, Inc. was delighted to have two Make a Difference Day projects this year. Our club gave each child a book at three Head Start centers in our community which totaled 96 students. Club members provided the books and went to each site to read to the students. Our club has done this project for many years. For the second project, club members gathered at the club president's home to assemble treats for our local police department. Once the treats were prepared, several members drove to the police department and presented them to the staff. It was the club's goal to thank our police department for the difference they make in the community each and every day.

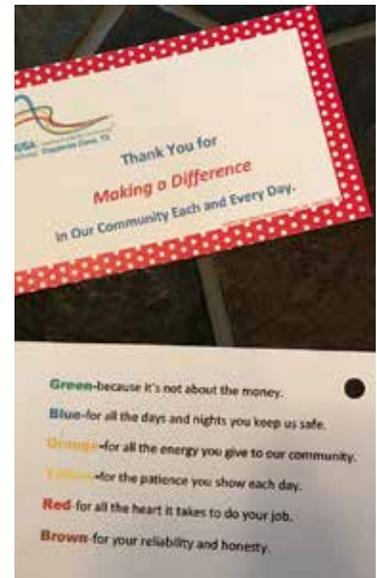


## Books and Bears / Share Your flare



Dr. Elizabeth Tanaka, The Chisolm Trail Club

Our club collected and donated 330 books for AWARE Central Texas to distribute at their Christmas on the Farm event. AWARE Central Texas is the volunteer arm of Child Protective Services and works to prevent child abuse through education. We also collected 218 stuffed animals for AWARE Central Texas to give to children who are removed from potentially threatening home situations. We "shared our flare" by presenting at an area middle school regarding the importance of reading. Our target audience was military dependents. All students were given information about services available to families of military personnel and goody bags.



## Fort Worth

Eva Riggs

Fort Worth Altrusans donated and organized about 50 care packs (plus extras) for delivery to veteran clients at the Presbyterian Night Shelter. The project highlighted the club's Make a Difference Day this fall.



## Garland Club

Shirley Raymer

The manners and etiquette classes conducted at Daugherty and Centerville Elementary schools got the 5th grade girls excited about our Altrusa Tea Party. Several speakers and our latest scholarship winner presented ideas to challenge and encourage the girls to excel in their education and life to make their dreams come true. Our members made refreshments and participated in the event helping make the party special for each of the 60 girls attending. We had 100% participation from our club members for this 2017 Make A Difference Day event.



## Greenville Club

Julia Wensel

At Altrusa Greenville, Make a Difference Day projects fall to the 'Babes' (members with less than a year of service). This year's small group of 'Babes' put together a fun community event called Books Alive, hosted in partnership with the local public library. The idea was for Altrusans to dress in costume as their favorite book characters, read to the children attending and give away free books to increase reading in the community. Children were also encouraged to come in costume. Books Alive served approximately 150 children, with over 130 books and 50 goody bags given away. Altrusans read to groups and children were encouraged to participate by sharing their favorite books to be added to the event "book". Attendees colored bookmarks to take home with their books, as well as a custom designed coloring sheet. Children, and parents alike, had fun taking photos in the Books Alive photo booth. A love of reading was evident throughout the event!



## Houston Club

Alexis Zamora



Altrusa Houston collaborated with a community church to distribute infant clothes, baby supplies, and toys among other items to families with newborns and children up to the age of 2 years. The mothers received baby shower themed gift bags and could choose any items they needed. Club members assisted a first time mother with suggestions for items she would need in the future for her newborn.

Refreshments were served and the mothers received formula and diapers before leaving. We had a great experience participating in this service project.

## Nacogdoches Club

Julie Ruiz

The coalition, Nac CAN, suggests using the environmentally friendly carbon bag to properly dispose of unneeded medications. The Altrusa Nacogdoches Club is helping distribute the bags to civic clubs, senior citizens, and the general public. Dangerous medications around the house lead to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse. The group decided to make this a service project for Make A Difference Day because it was the same day as National Prescription Take Back Day.



## Lubbock Club

Shannon Bradshaw

For Make A Difference Day, we partnered with the South Plains Food Bank and gave them a donation of \$300. With this money they purchased "Snack Packs" for a local school for the children who qualified and/or are eligible for the free or reduced meal program. With this money the SPFB purchased (through a state approved bidding agency) a milk or juice, fruit cup or applesauce, granola bar or crackers, cereal and other nutritious snack type foods. Altrusa also made 144 Halloween treat bags that included a bookmark, stickers and a pencil. With literacy being our focus, we also included a Halloween word search.

## Pampa Club

Roxane Funderburk

We partnered with Hampton Village to teach resume and application completion, dressing for an interview, and answering interview questions. We focused on high school students and adults. Several outlets in the community were used to advertise the event. Supervision with arts and crafts was provided for children who accompanied their parents.

## Rockwall Club



Rockwall partnered with Women In Need for our Make a Difference Day project. Glenn Raymer made a wooden bookshelf for the facility. Club members installed and decorated the bookshelf then purchased books to stock the shelves. Women In Need (WIN) provides a safe shelter for victims of domestic violence.



Mendi Bonner and Chalenia Freeman present a poster "How to Dress for Success".



Altrusans set up the game room for the children.

## Richardson Club

Nancy Rohm

On the evening of Make A Difference Day, twenty-two Richardson Altrusans, guests, and spouses ate dinner at Café Momentum in Dallas in support of their program. The café management told us the most helpful thing we can do is to come there and eat, allowing the interns to have experience cooking, serving, cleaning-up, etc. Additionally, Richardson Altrusans presented the Café's Executive Chef with a \$250 check from our Foundation. The money will be used to purchase much needed black slacks and shirts for the servers to wear. Café Momentum is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit that works with the Dallas County Juvenile Justice System to train post-release non-violent juvenile offenders in the skills that will allow them to run a restaurant.



## San Antonio Club

Gerleine A. Schoonover

Our Make a Difference Day occurred at the Bob Hope Elementary School. We chose this venue because we desired to expose the children to the different occupations that are available to them in the future. An Altrusan is the Librarian at the school, so we met the children during their library time. Each presenter had thirty minutes for their presentation. The grades ranged from pre-kinder to 5th grade. The following were the occupations presented from Altrusa members: Nursing, Cosmetology, Artist, Real Estate Agent, Wood Worker, and Travel Agent.



## Collin County Club

Valerie Pedersen, President

Forman Elementary is a Title One school in Plano TX. where over 80% of the students are disadvantaged and approximately 40% are limited in English proficiency. Altrusa International of Collin County has been for many years, and continues to be, involved in hands-on-service in the library at the school. The members of this Chapter decided that donating more Playaways to the inventory would be very much appreciated by staff and students alike. As well as this donation in honor of "Make a Difference Day", members volunteer on a regular basis to help shelf books. Every year we host a Bluebonnet Bash for all the children who read at least ten books on the annual Texas Bluebonnet reading list and give each child a book of their own. In August we set up a "bookwalk" from the library to the cafeteria which we will renew on a regular basis.



## Call To Conference 2018...

Come One... Come All...

Make plans now to attend the Sixty-Second Annual District Nine Conference to be held in Richardson, Texas at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas on April 20-22, 2018, where we will continue to "Set District Nine to Music" during this wonderful weekend of fun, friends, festivities, fellowship and service!

**Here are a few details of some of the changes for Conference 2018...**the schedule will have a lot of new looks to it this year. We will be doing the Officer Training Sessions on Friday afternoon...President's workshop, Treasurer's workshop and Secretaries workshop. We moved these sessions, so the members that attend these training sessions can now attend other workshops on Saturday and enjoy their time at conference a bit more.

We are also adding a meal to the registration...we will be having a Foundation Breakfast on Saturday morning for the entire Conference Body. We will be including the Foundation awards during this breakfast.

Our Saturday morning business session will be changing also and our speaker will be during our luncheon.

So...these are just a few on the changes we have made for Conference! Please make plans to attend. The link to the hotel is on the District Website and the room block is open. Please make your reservations now!

For some of our more seasoned Conference Attendees...you may remember that this hotel was the site of our 2008 Conference during Past Governor Brenda Tucker's Biennium. The hotel is having a soft renovation done and will look fresh and bright for our event.