

# NEWS OF



# MIGHTY NINTH

*Fundraising/Foundation Issue*

Volume 46 | Issue 4

Spring 2018



## *Set District Nine to Music*

### **Governor's Letter – Spring 2018**

#### **And the Music keeps playing...**

I do hope you are planning to join us in Richardson for our Sixty-Second Annual District Nine Conference on April 20-22, 2018. There will be lots of “music” and “Sharing” going on at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas. Your host clubs of Garland, Greenville, and Rockwall have been working extremely hard along with Mary Pearson, our Program Coordinator, to make sure that we have lots of fun, entertainment, good food and time to spend with our Altrusa Brothers and Sisters. I want to personally thank Betty Sainz, Carolyn McCullough, and Wendy Santiago for working so hard and coordinating this special weekend. I also want to thank those Altrusans that have stepped up to serve on various conference committees to make sure we get things done. There are also so many others involved in preparing for this event....Thank you to everyone!

We are so excited to have our International Director, Kathy Jackson coming to District Nine to share all the “goings on” with International. Let’s make sure we welcome her to District Nine....Texas style!! We will also be welcoming many First Timers to Conference!! This is where the Altrusa adventure begins....there is a special event for our First Timers headed up by Altrusan Jack Arthur of the Downtown Dallas Club on Friday! You won’t want to miss it!! And another special guest will be joining us in Richardson, Brian Floca – author, will be speaking to us on Saturday. He is a member of the family of one of our District Nine Board of Directors...be sure you are there to find out who he belongs to!

I want to remind everyone that we will once again have our Parade of Banners on Friday evening to kick off our Business Session.....so, bring your Club Banners and your Astra Banners to celebrate! You just don’t want to miss out on this experience! Lots of workshops, lots of fun, lots of dancing and more than anything...lots of Altrusa spirit to re-energize your soul.

In our last NOMN, I left off the name of a club that was awarded the Distinguished Club Award...my apologies and CONGRATULATIONS to Southwest Dallas County for being named as a Distinguished Club! We are so very excited that District Nine has so many outstanding clubs and this club is very deserving.

Let’s finish this club year with an encore and a call back to the stage! District Nine has been making beautiful music all over the State of Texas with service to all of our communities! Ladies and Gentlemen....great performance!

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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## Sixty-Second Annual District Nine Conference

LaVone Arthur

The Altrusa International Foundation will be active once again as we "Set District Nine to Music" in Richardson. Each Club, as well as Vendors participating in our Vendor Fair, is asked to contribute at least one item to the District Nine Conference Silent Auction. All proceeds from the auction will benefit the Altrusa International Foundation. An excellent time to shop for a very worthy cause!

New This Year

Hosted by your International Foundation Liaison Committee (LaVone Arthur, Antonia Buban and Melva Hill), International Foundation Trustee (Debby Weber) and International Foundation Legal Advisor (Martha Hofmeister), we hope you will all join us for our inaugural Foundation Breakfast, Saturday, April 21 at 7 am. We'll get an update on the activities occurring at our International Foundation, learn about the District Nine projects funded by International Foundation Grants and Disaster Relief Funds, celebrate the Clubs receiving the Linda Nichols Foundation Awards, and honor those District Nine Altrusans and Clubs who have achieved Lamplighter or Lucente Lamplighter status.

What is an Altrusa Foundation Lamplighter?

Lamplighters are Altrusans or Altrusa Clubs who have contributed \$500 (US) or more to the International Foundation in a twelve month period. Contributions can be made in one's own name or on behalf of someone else. Lamplighter members are recognized with a special gold Lamplighter pin. Diamonds are added to the Lamplighter pin upon each succeeding \$500 contribution. An Altrusa Club receives a distinguished Lamplighter patch for their club banner upon their initial contribution.

The Lamplighter contributions can be designated to any of the following programs: Grants, Endowment, Disaster Relief, or Where Needed Most. These contributions serve these programs alongside the Endowment Fund - making the Lamplighter Program a leading source of growth for the International Foundation.

The Lucente Lamplighter was established in 2005 and is named after Josie Lucente, who served 20 years as the Altrusa International Foundation's Executive Director. An individual who is honored or makes a total of ten \$500 contributions receives the unique Lucente Lamplighter pin. Lamplighters are recognized in Altrusa publications, the International Foundation's Annual Report, and at the Foundation Luncheon held at the Altrusa International Convention.

## Golfing for Literacy: 16th Annual Golf Tournament for Copperas Cove, TX

Roxie Vincent

In asking for input from other clubs about their fabulous fundraising projects, I felt that it would be fair if I gave you a bit of information about Copperas Cove's largest project. With our golf classic, we fund books for the 1st, 2nd, and often the 3rd grades at each of eight elementary schools.

I am happy to report that our golf classic has grown in size in the last two years from about seven teams to fifteen. Looking back, it is very difficult to point out any one contributing factor for our welcomed increase in attendance. Each year we try to continue with what we feel worked well and add another step in our approach to all our faithful sponsors, our myriads of people who help with prizes and most of all our tremendously generous golfers.

With the increase in awareness of social media as a means of communication, our club added a stronger focus on using our Facebook presence to raise awareness of our mission to increase the literacy of our younger students in the CCISD. Between our internet postings and a continuous outreach to other media, like newspapers and radio, we did a presentable job of getting our name and mission to the people in our city and the surrounding area.

Our enhanced media presence is probably the best idea we have put into use. It was not difficult but was quite time consuming for a club as small as ours. It successfully worked and may help one of your bright ideas to shine even more. We hope to see you at Conference in April and hope you will give us all a taste of your ideas to make each Altrusa project even better.

# International Foundation Grants

LaVone Arthur and Shirley Raymer

Is your club taking advantage of applying for International Foundation Grants to provide recognition and funding for the outstanding service being provided to your community? The International Foundation Grants Program funds programs of Altrusa Clubs carrying out independent programs of community service. Grants currently range from \$250 to \$2,000 based on needs and funds available and are subject to specific selection criteria. Altrusa Clubs are limited to one grant per fiscal year while individuals are limited to a one time only Altrusa International Foundation Grant.

When considering applying for a grant include how the grant will fund service projects that involve Club membership participation, how the club decided on the project and the “hands on” provided by the club members. The project must be literacy related or directly benefiting individuals in the community who are disadvantaged. The proposal needs to state how the club learned of the need and how the club chose that specific project. A grant does not need to be lengthy but must include all the information required on the project checklist. A follow-up report is required by International Foundation within six months clearly defining the project’s impact on the community, how the funds were used and the involvement of the club members. Why not consider forming a grant committee and submitting a grant request for service that your club provides?

Thanks to the generosity of District Nine members, contributions are provided to the International Foundation from conference, as well as private and club donations and memorials. These funds are used for grants and disaster relief. Two of our District Nine clubs were awarded grants during the 2017 fall grant cycle. While we are thankful for those grants we would like more of our District Nine clubs to be recipients. Grants are awarded in both the Fall and Spring providing two opportunities to qualify. Consider the service your club provides and submitting a grant request to let others know of the good things your club is doing in the community!

## Planned Giving to the Altrusa International Foundation

International Foundation

There are many legacies that were established from the Principles of Altrusa handed down from Mamie L. Bass in the 1920s to the thousands upon thousands of service projects that Altrusans have provided to the communities in which they live. There is another type of legacy that Altrusans have also left for decades - a special gift to the Altrusa International Foundation through planned giving.

Planned Giving is simply an organized method for providing charitable gifts that are given to an individual or an organization through estate planning. Estate planning may seem daunting, but there are many resources available should you decide to include charitable giving in your estate plan. Estate planning information can be obtained from your attorney, accountant, insurance company, or financial investment firm.

Below are some ways to provide a charitable gift through Planned Giving to Altrusa International Foundation.

- Designating charitable gifts in your will
- Naming Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. as a beneficiary in your IRA, 401(k), or other qualified retirement plan
- Making a deferred gift with a life insurance policy
- Choosing other deferred giving options, such as Charitable Remainder Trusts, Charitable Lead Trusts, and Charitable Gift Annuities

Steps to Planned Giving:

- Thoughtfully consider whom you wish to include as recipients
- Choose a personal representative referred to as the Executor/Executrix
- Choose a guardian to take care of dependent family members
- If you wish to make a charitable gift to Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. be sure to stipulate the charity’s legal title. Your gift is tax-deductible and may be a specific amount, or you may choose a percentage of your estate.
- All Planned Giving requests are restricted to the Endowment Fund
- Instruct your attorney to submit a copy of your will to the International Foundation office and include contact details for who holds your original will

Altrusans who contribute to the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. Planned Giving Program become part of the Donor Round Table and receive special recognition at International Convention.



## New Member Report

### New Members for December 2017

| Club        | New Member         | Sponsor              | Sponsor    |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Nacogdoches | Felicia Colston    | Cindy Jolly          | Julie Ruiz |
| Nacogdoches | Sheila Hopkins     | Renita Nikki Roberts | Julie Ruiz |
| DFW         | Anita Ashe-Michini | June Kim             |            |

### New Members for January 2018

| Club             | New Member       | Sponsor            | Sponsor           |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| SW Dallas County | Linnae Henderson | Vickie Smith       | -                 |
| SW Dallas County | Pat Bonds        | Mary Musgrave      | Lee Ruth Bryant   |
| SW Dallas County | Michelle Meeks   | Sharon Jackson     | -                 |
| SW Dallas County | Keith Smith, Sr. | Vickie Smith       | -                 |
| SW Dallas County | Carol Wafford    | Linda Young        | -                 |
| Chisholm Trail   | Tracy Booth      | Linda Moore        | Elizabeth Tananka |
| San Antonio      | Irene Navarro    | Sylvia Zamora      | Rose Strawn       |
| Pampa            | Shelby Huff      | Virginia Fessenden | Leona Willis      |
| Richardson       | Kathryn Yates    | Sue McElveen       | Mary Osentowski   |
| North Dallas     | Debbie Mouser    | Cheryl Lawrence    | Paula Jandura     |

### New Members for February 2018

| Club          | New Member             | Sponsor              | Sponsor              |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Central       | Kathy Doughty          | Melanie Harrell      |                      |
| Central       | Mary Cary              | Judy Whitson         |                      |
| Copperas Cove | Linda Bode             | Llacuna              |                      |
| Dallas        | Felicia Holmes         | Elle Reese           |                      |
| DFW           | Tina M Miller          | June Kim             |                      |
| Houston       | Juanita Almanza        | Herlinda Trevino     | Diana Hinojosa       |
| Houston       | Irene Campos           | Herlinda Trevino     | Diana Hinojosa       |
| Lubbock       | Pearl Hilburn          | Crystal Yanez        |                      |
| Nacogdoches   | Tree Fulce             | Julie Ruiz           | Hollie Langston      |
| Nacogdoches   | Ronald Fulce           | Hollie Langston      |                      |
| Nacogdoches   | Azar Colter            | Hollie Langston      | Tree Fulce           |
| Pampa         | Laycee Johnson         | Roxane Funderburk    | Gretchen Adams       |
| Richardson    | Sebrena Bohnsack       | Kimberly Kierce      | Barbara Cornelius    |
| Richardson    | Lishan Liu             | Gloria Sandoval      | Betty Bruce          |
| San Antonio   | Angelica (Angie) Burns | Sylvia Zamora        | Rose Strawn          |
| Temple        | Sarah Davison          | Marie O'Neal         | Barbara Percy        |
| Temple        | Robin Early            | Melissa Tyroch Bragg | Sherri Woytek        |
| Temple        | Diane Mills            | Marsha Oliver        | Debbie Gordon        |
| Temple        | Ashton Moore           | Traci Squarcette     | Teresa Bowen-Bechtel |
| Temple        | Amanda Pierce          | Cari Psencik         | Natalie Grisham      |
| Temple        | Darla Reeder           | Celeste Kaylor       | Sherry Woodard       |
| Temple        | Cherie Shedore         | Julie Ruiz           | Kim Keiper           |
| Temple        | Candyce Speidel        | Lynda Schumann       | Chip Howell          |
| Temple        | Debbie Wagaman         | Melissa Tyroch Bragg | Sherri Woytek        |
| Wichita Falls | Patricia McCormick     | Leslie Berryhill     |                      |





# CONFERENCE

## SET DISTRICT NINE TO MUSIC FOR 2018 DISTRICT NINE CONFERENCE

Mary Black Pearson, First Vice-Governor, Program Chair

The first notes will play as the conference begins in Richardson on Friday, April 20th and the finale shall play on April 22nd for the Altrusans of District Nine orchestrating the lyrics and notes celebrating the success of all the District Nine clubs and the district's growing numbers devoted to service. Altrusans of Greenville, Garland and Rockwall have joined together to ensure your District Conference is orchestrated in perfect pitch and musical harmony.

Friday's fun and learning begins with the Leadership luncheon for District Nine's leaders to strike the notes that will form the melody of this year's conference. Excitement will build with registration of the attendees, vendors arriving to set up the vendor fair, officer training sessions on Friday afternoon, a first-timers' welcome event and the opening session with the parade of banners and presentation of colors. Friday night will crescendo with a musical highlights of the '80's as attendees dance the night away! Fun that you will not want to miss.

Saturday events celebrate the generous gifts of time, treasure and talent made by Altrusans of District Nine. Everyone starts early Saturday morning to celebrate the generosity of District Nine clubs and individuals for contributions to the Altrusa International foundation. The business session will include roll call, introduction of the candidates for district nominating committee, presentation from a visiting board member of Altrusa International and words from Governor Linda Moore. The main event of the day is the Awards luncheon celebrating Altrusans' gifts of time and talent for projects across the state highlighted by a keynote speaker, Brian Floca, speaking about the creation of a children's book. Dr. Patsy Sulak will present a motivational workshop for all attendees followed by workshops to develop club membership, ASTRA club formation and fundraising. The Governor's banquet will conclude the day's celebration of giving by District Nine Altrusans.

Between shopping, dining and meeting, Altrusans will compare notes on the development of programs focused on literacy, life skills and addressing the needs of their communities. Attendees will be encouraged to extend their generosity in support of those affected Hurricane Harvey and the subsequent storms and flooding.

Conference concludes Sunday morning with the Memorial Service and Devotional honoring the Altrusans who passed away in the last year and the closing business session. As the celebration ends and sends the attendees home inspired by the music composed of accomplishments and accolades, Altrusans will exchange invitations to Fall Leadership Event and District Conference for 2019 as well as International Convention for 2019.

Setting the district to music calls for each and every Altrusan to chime in for the success of service and continued generosity for the future service and leadership of District Nine Altrusans. Join the chorus and help orchestrate the music for this year and years to come.

Make sure you attend the Sixty-second Altrusa District Nine Conference, April 20th to 22nd at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas, Richardson, Texas! The music shall set District Nine in motion.

# CONFERENCE SERVICE PROJECT

Mary Black Pearson

District Nine gives from the heart across the state in many ways. At conference we usually address a specific need in the community where conference is hosted. However, in 2017, beginning with Hurricane Harvey, the devastation along the Texas coast became an immeasurable and immense force of nature that seemed to know no boundaries as communities were flooded and ravaged by wind with storm after storm and then the flow of water from bursting dams.

Through the efforts of your District Nine Service Committee, your conference host clubs and District Governor and financial assistance from Altrusans across the country, children in Orange County will receive books to call their "own" and school libraries will receive funding for rebuilding plus donations of supplies, hands-on assistance and more.

Here's how you can help at district conference:

1. Sponsor a book for a child with a \$20 purchase at the Barnes & Noble book fair booth
2. Make a cash donation payable to the Altrusa International Foundation of Garland, Texas to be reserved for the District Nine Service Committee to use in support of a hot lunch and supplies for the Elementary Students in Orange
3. Purchase any merchandise from a Barnes & Noble in the 5-day period beginning on Saturday, April 21, 2018, using a special code and Barnes & Noble will provide District Nine with 20% of the sales proceeds to purchase more books for children in Orange County.
4. Bring new children's books to the Everything room as donations for the children of Orange County with any collected unexpired BOX TOP\$ EDUCATION. Continue to save box tops and an address for future mailings will be given to you. Be sure they are not expired.

Here's how it will work:

Barnes & Noble will partner with Altrusans to provide a selection of books for purchase written or illustrated by Brian Floca, our key note speaker who will be there to share how a children's book is created. Plus, Barnes & Noble has already offered to sell District Nine 207 books in advance at a discounted price which are sponsored by Altrusans of Temple and Altrusans of Greenville. We need attendees to sponsor at least 200 MORE books so that every child at Little Cypress Elementary can have an autographed book to take home for the summer (407 children are attending school in a church while their school is rebuilt after being flooded last Fall). And with the purchase of these 200 books, District Nine gets 20% back in the form of a credit to spend on more books for the children or the schools as determined by the District Nine Service committee. Each sponsored book will have a book label noting who the book is given by or in whose honor the donation was made as the sponsor desires.

Making a cash donation serves the goals set by the District Nine service committee. Your host club, Altrusa International of Garland, will provide banking services through their Foundation account allowing you to make tax deductible donations designated for use by the District Nine Service Committee. The Garland Altrusans will be able to take cash, checks or credit cards with funds going into their Foundation account as designated funds for this service initiative. These funds will be used to provide a hot meal for the children at the church and depending on the amount donated such other support as determined by the District Nine service committee. Since school resumed after the flood waters subsided in September, the church facility has not had the equipment necessary to provide a hot lunch for these children. Keeping in mind that many of these children and their families lost everything that they had with the rising water, a hot meal is a luxury that they have not enjoyed for sustenance at school. For many of these students, the only hot meal that they would regularly receive before the flood occurred was the school lunch. Altrusans will say that they care with a hot meal and gifts of books and other supplies for children to begin their summer and close out this school year. The date is being coordinated by the District Nine Service Committee.

Your generosity through shopping with Barnes & Noble in the 5-day purchase period can include purchases for your own family members of books at the Barnes & Noble booth at conference or through other Barnes & Noble shopping with the special code that you will receive at conference. Every dollar you spend results in 20% coming back for the conference service project in a credit for the purchase of more books. Once that generous gift is calculated based on your shopping totals, the District Nine Service Committee will have the opportunity to determine how best to support this student population in Orange County using the credit earned at Barnes & Noble.

You can also bring new children's books to the Everything room as a donation. These books will be given to children for their own home library. All donated and sponsored books will be gathered together and transported to Orange County to be presented before the end of the school year.

Your District Nine Service committee will be asking for your time and talent as a volunteer when it comes time for school to resume in the Fall of 2018 by asking you to assist with classroom set-up and general back to school arrangements in Orange County. You can indicate your willingness to volunteer by stopping by the Everything Room and signing up to be notified when volunteers will be needed.

Altrusans funds will replenish the libraries with books, provide support to the students and teachers and give children their own books. A book may seem a small token to give in light of the great loss but it can transform a child's world emotionally when they have a book to call their "own" and a book that creates a world of possibilities through encouraging them to read. Let's all read a book in support of this great need and share our love with Orange County Altrusans and their community.

## CONFERENCE NOMINEES



**Holly McCoy** is a graduate of Texas Tech University with a degree in Design Communication, which includes Graphic Design and video/film editing and documentation. She has been married to Russell McCoy for five years and they have one son, Marshall.

“I feel as if I have been an Altrusan all my life. My mother is past Governor, Debbie Mabry, so I have grown up in and around Altrusa since I can remember. I have been a volunteer with many of the Temple club’s projects since I was a little girl, but my favorite has been Camp Dreamcatcher. I have been a counselor at Camp Dreamcatcher and remain a dedicated volunteer.” Other programs that Holly has supported for many years include the Lone Star Circle of Life Bike Tour as support crew and photographer/videographer, the Be The Match Registry, as a volunteer/drive coordinator to add more volunteers to the marrow registry, and the Miracle Match Marathon, the annual fundraiser of the Baylor Scott & White Marrow Donor Program.

Since 2006, Holly has been in the fields of political and governmental relations. She was the clerk of the Texas Senate Committee on Education for nine years, Governmental Relations Coordinator for the Texas Cable Association, and is now Operations Manager for Texas Aspires and has held that position over a year.

An Altrusan since 2006 and member of Altrusa International of Austin, Holly has been president of her club three times. On the District level, she has worked on Past Governor Beth Blair’s Innovation Committee, Communications Chair under Past Governor Sylvia Zamora, and remains on the Communications Committee this biennium for Governor Linda Moore.



**Rose Strawn** has been a member of Altrusa International of San Antonio Texas, Inc. since 1996. Her mother-in-law Inez Strawn introduced her to Altrusa. Inez has been a member since 1986 and is currently an emeritus member. Emily Strawn is an honorary member since 2012.

Rose has held several leadership positions within the club, including President in 2000-2001 and 2013-2014; currently she serves on the San Antonio Foundation and club membership chair. She helped organize the first ASTRA club in San Antonio in 2011 along with two more clubs. She continues to serve as ASTRA committee chair and advisor to this day. At District level, Rose has also served as ASTRA chair under Governor LaVonne Arthur and Beth Blair and Co-Chair under Governor Sylvia Zamora. At the International level she also served on the ASTRA International Committee. Rose received a lamplighter award by District Nine at conference in April 2017 for her ASTRA service. She has a passion for working with young adults in providing them with leadership tools and a nurturing platform for them to grow and become civic minded adults. Rose is one of the first club members who pioneered the Red Rover Program in 2011, a kindness and care awareness to animals literacy program.

She recently retired from a twenty-five year career in Real Estate. During her career she was an active member of the National Association of Realtors, The National Association of Real Property Management and served as liaison to the San Antonio Board of Realtors Governmental Affairs Committee. She also received numerous Real Estate professional designations.

Rose is married and has two grown children. She is anxiously awaiting her first grandchild. She is also a mother to two adorable Shi –Tzu’s.... Jack and Teddy. Her friends say her commitment to the principles of Altrusa are displayed on a daily basis.



**Janet Black** has been a member of Altrusa Garland since 2004. She has served in several board positions and was President for two years from 2011-2013. During this time, Garland won awards for projects accomplished while under her leadership. She was instrumental in setting up a Reading Corner for children at Hope Clinic in Garland. This Reading Corner won first place in District Nine Letha H. Brown/Governor’s Literacy Award. The club also won second place in the Nina Fay Calhoun International Award, for the Heifer International program, Read to Feed, at four Garland schools. Third place was received for the Mamie L. Bass Service Award, achieved by sending Boxes to Our Military several times a year. These projects are ongoing and consistently make a difference in Garland.

Janet has served on the District Nine Membership Committee and Service Committee. She was Chairman of the Hurricane Harvey Task Force that has become incorporated with the Service Committee, which she is currently the Chairman. She was instrumental in creating the mission statement and recovery projects for District Nine’s participation to help those affected by the hurricane. This is an ongoing effort during this long recovery period.

In 2017, Janet was honored to have a Garland community service award named for her. The Janet Black Community Service Award was and will be presented annually to a Garland resident who has supported the community by donating time volunteering. The award was named in honor of Janet because of her extensive background in volunteerism. Janet is a Past President of Garland Civic Theatre and a current member of Preservation Garland Inc., Garland Retired School Personnel and Garland Federation of Clubs, where she is currently serving as President. She was awarded the Roxie Scott Club Woman of the Year from this organization. Janet is currently serving on the board of the Richardson Woman’s Club Charitable Foundation, where she works with city officials in Richardson and members of Richardson Woman’s Club.





**Martha Hardwick Hofmeister** served as Governor of District Nine from 2003-05. Other District Nine board service includes stints as Director, Second Vice Governor, First Vice Governor, and Immediate Past Governor, and she's served six governors as Parliamentarian. Martha, a business litigator, has been a proud member of the Downtown Dallas club since 1986. She is a two-time President of that club, founded the first ASTRA club in the State of Texas, and has served on the International Board as a Director and as Legal Advisor. Other pertinent Altrusa service includes terms as chair of the International ASTRA, New Club Building (Extension) and Bylaws, Resolutions, and Recommendations committees, and her ongoing duties as the Legal Advisor to the Altrusa International Foundation. Martha is married to Kent, lawyer by day and Catdaddy by night/weekend; they have one dog, three cats, four bonus kids, and seven (so far) grandkids. Martha and Kent love to spend time at their lake house in East Texas and to travel as often as time and work duties permit. Martha loves to read, nap, shop, and laugh, and she treasures her many wonderful Altrusa friends throughout Texas and the world.



**Chris Scherer:** Although I wasn't born in Texas, my family moved here when I was four so I consider myself a Texan. I've lived in Temple for 16 years now and work at the Vasicek Cancer Treatment Center at Scott & White Medical Center, Temple. I became an Altrusan in 2001 with the Temple club where I served in multiple positions on the board of directors including President in 2011-2012 as well as chair of various committees for Taste of the Holidays and the Caring Ball, fundraiser for Temple Community Free Clinic, during my tenure there. I was the organizer for The Chisholm Trail club in 2015 and have served on its board of directors since.

In 2014 I began serving on District NINE's membership committee which transitioned to new club building committee member for 2015-17 and currently serving as chair of the new club building committee for this biennium. Additionally, I am a member of the International New Club Building Task Force for 2017-19.

When I first learned about Altrusa I was telling my mother all about this wonderful organization I was going to join when she told me I was an Altrusan legacy. My grandmother McClelland died when I was two so I never really knew her but I found out she was an Altrusan in Coffeyville, Kansas in the 1940-50s. After I was initiated into Altrusa my mother gave me grandmother's president's pin from when she served her club as president. I was extremely honored to be installed as President of the Temple club with grandmother McClelland's president's pin which is the one I continue to wear today.

Altrusa International New Club Building Task Force 2017-2019  
 Altrusa District NINE New Club Building Chair 2017-19  
 Altrusa International of The Chisholm Trail, Inc. Board of Directors 2017-18



**Janelle Williamson** became an Altrusan with Altrusa International of Texarkana, Texas, Inc. in 2003. She has found Altrusa a wonderful learning experience and a way to make friends in near and far away places. A couple of the many benefits she's found in Altrusa include making a difference in local communities by helping with worthy causes, and gaining leadership skills that help her with Altrusa relationships, business, and life in general. Janelle married her high school sweetheart, Tracy, ran a business with him for many years and today they still enjoy each others company. As Sales and Marketing Executive for a local television station, she loves getting to know people and helping them solve their advertising and marketing dilemmas. Her hobbies include traveling, learning new things, scuba diving, bicycling, and meeting new friends wherever she goes.

Janelle has served in many capacities in her local Altrusa club. She was recruited on the Communications Committee her first year and helped with the newsletter and yearbook. She has served as Membership Development Chair at least three times. She was Vice-President/President-Elect for 2 years and served as Fundraising Chair, then as President for 2 years. She has again served two more times as Fundraising Chair and this year is Fundraising Co-Chair and is also on the Membership Development Committee.

On the district level, in 2011-2013 she served as a Director on the District Nine Board. In 2013-2015 as Second Vice-Governor of District Nine. She served as Fundraising Committee Chair, Ad Hoc Conference Committee Chair, on the Long Range Strategic Planning Committee and has served on the Leadership Committee Team for District Nine.

Janelle has attended all District Nine Conferences since she became an Altrusan in 2003. She has attended two Altrusa International Conventions and plans to continue this as is so helpful to learn what other clubs all over the world are doing to better their communities, and is so much fun to meet these talented women and men who are leaders in their own clubs, districts and communities. Altrusa truly has provided many networking and leadership opportunities for her to share with others and has become her most favorite hobby!





I, **Joyce Anderson Newsom**, have been a member of Altrusa International Southeast Tarrant County Early Risers, Inc. since 2001. During my first visit to a S.E.T.C.E.R. meeting, the club was discussing working registration for the Expanding Your Horizons event that was being held at UTA. I had been involved with Girl Scouts Circle T Council for some time at this point and this was a major event for my girls. This group was so enthusiastic about who would be able to work and how many ladies they would need on that day. They did not know about me and my affiliation with the scouts at that time. At that moment I knew I wanted to be a part of this group. I was president from 2008-2009. I have been secretary three times and served as a director three times. Being chair of hospitality seems to be something that sticks with me. I bring some suggestions to S.E.C.T.E.R. from other groups I volunteer with that may also work for us. I am a very active volunteer. I work with the Breast Cancer Tea Organization, received the Harold Washington Award for Volunteerism by a Government Employee, the Bold Woman Award from Girl's, Inc., and the 30 Year Lifetime Achievement Award from Girl Scouts of Texas Oklahoma Plains, formerly Circle T Council. I serve at St. John Baptist Church in Grand Prairie with New Member Ministry and Cancer Companions. I am originally from Orlando, FL. I am a widow, with a daughter, son-in-law and my 2 beautiful grandchildren that live in Chicago, IL.



My name is **Kantrina (Trina) Taylor** and I currently serve as the 2017-2018 District Nine Social Media Coordinator. Currently, I served as the Director of the Lewisville Club. I served as President and 2 terms as Vice President. In addition to my volunteer efforts with the Altrusa Southwest Dallas County Club; I, also volunteer with my daughters Girl Scout Troop, Awana at my church and currently serve on the PTA Board as the VP of Membership.

I attended Texas Woman's University and I am currently employed with a Non-Profit, Anthem Strong Families, where we help families be their own Champions. I also worked for Ericsson as a Project Coordinator, was a contractor for 924 Sports Management as the Director of Client Services and the Elizabeth Ann Williamson Foundation for Ovarian Cancer; and, had a 25-year love affair with the

retail industry (Saks Fifth Avenue).

I truly believe that if one places God first, family second and volunteerism third, that life will definitely be favorable to you. My daughter and I makes every effort to ensure that our neighbors, not just in and around our local community, but globally get what is needed for living and being prosperous by donating our personal goods and services.

My hobbies include crafting, organizing, entertaining, decorating, and social media consulting. I make it a priority to seek out those that are open to change and transformation; how else, will one be their best self. A personal goal of mine, is to inspire those I meet to give back; allowing, many others to gain a lot. I live by and teach my daughter to live by the "Golden Rule", "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"

All my Best,  
Trina:)

**"The purpose of life is to matter, to count, to stand for something, to have it make some difference that we have lived at all" Leo Rosten**



**Roxie Vincent** became an Altrusan in 2002. She has held the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, President and Board Member. She is currently a Member of the Board of Altrusa Int of Copperas Cove and the Treasurer of the Board of the Altrusa Int of Copperas Cove Foundation.

After joining Altrusa, Roxie began attending District Nine Conferences. She has been a member of a Membership Retention Committee, a Membership Development Committee and is presently the Chair of the 2017-2019 Fundraising Committee.

Roxie became a resident of Texas in 1969, when her husband, Dick, was hired by State Farm Insurance, working in the regional office data processing department in Austin, at which he was employed until his passing from cancer in 2001. Roxie has two adult children, seven adult grandchildren and a young great grandson who all live nearby and help to keep her busy when she is not working at the Copperas Cove State Farm Office or participating in an Altrusa project of some kind.



# Committee Reports

## Communications Committee

### Report

Frances Dalbey



Can't wait to see everyone at conference! I do hope that you are making plans to attend. One opportunity that you will have at conference is to share input with International. "One of our main goals for this biennium is to improve the bi-directional information flow between International and our membership. We are seeking new ways to get input from the membership on their questions, concerns, and suggestions for Altrusa as a whole." If you would like to give feedback at conference the information will be in the Everything Room OR you can give us feedback via Survey Monkey. Here is the link: <https://goo.gl/L4QnQt>. You can also scan the QR Code to take you there!

### New Club Building

### Committee Report

Chris Scherer

Spring is here. For Altrusans that means we're all looking forward to going to District Conference. When you're contemplating starting a new club, District NINE conference is the best marketing tool you have. One of the first things an organizing committee does is make a list of prospective members. These can be business leaders, friends, co-workers, family, etc.

Saturday of District conference truly represents who we are and what we do as Altrusans. Invite the prospective members to join you at conference. We know that once an Altrusan has been to conference very rarely do they ever miss another. What better way to share Altrusa with those prospects? They'll come away energized and excited to start organizing the new club.

### Leadership Training

### Committee Report

Sherri Woytek

Conference is upon us and we have some exciting plans to further our investment in our leadership. Our focus will be on our existing membership. We want to capture how each member is driving solutions to community needs while forming lasting relationships. In a few short words, think about how you would define your personal contribution to growing the club and mentoring new members. Please take time to write it down and be prepared to share in a very unique way that can be shared throughout District Nine. You won't want to miss this activity, so be on the lookout for the "Dear Altrusa" backdrop at Conference. We are look forward to seeing you and sharing your selfless gift to Altrusa.

### Membership Retention

### Committe Report

Chip Howell

"Membership Retention, Who's Responsibility Is It Anyway?"

When Governor Linda Moore asked me to serve District Nine as Membership Retention Chair, my total trust was in her confidence in me. My experience has always been with building and growing teams; not with making sure they stay whole. It was also a good chance to put to practice my new attitude which I stole from former Success Magazine Editor and self-made millionaire, (before his thirtieth birthday), Darren Hardy, to take a new job or role for what I can learn from it.

Social events, service projects, Mid-year reviews, responsible and active sponsors/mentors, club orientations, attending Conference and International Convention are all key important tools for the Membership Retention of your Club, District Nine, and Altrusa International. When it boils down to the bare bones of Membership Retention, there is only one person who I can be responsible for his actions. So whose responsibility is Membership Retention anyway? Mine! Only I can play my part in the music of my Club, District Nine and International. We each must own our own responsibility for our role in our Club. Consequently, I cannot play another Altrusan's part. Everyone must play his or her own part, no matter how big or small. The Altrusa International Resource Guide found in the member site of the Altrusa website defines for us our responsibility for expectations under the "Membership" section found on pp 23-25, especially where it says, "responsibilities." When we all have a better understanding of the responsibilities and expectations as Altrusans and with concerted effort we work to live up to those, then we make up the strong chorus of District Nine. When we know our place and part, then together in glorious harmony we will lead our communities to be better communities.

## ASTRA Committe Report

Highlight on San Antonio by Rose Strawn

The ASTRA Archer Club of KIPP Aspire San Antonio has had a very busy year working on three service projects. The first service project is a reading/mentoring program in which the club members read twice a month to four-second grade classes at Esperanza Dual Language School at KIPP Academy. The second service project involves collecting and putting together toiletries for the Rainbow Rooms at Child Protective Service. The third project is partnering with the Soldiers Angels organization and participating in their "Valentine for Veterans" program, in this project, club members make Valentine Cards to be delivered to veterans both overseas and in the United States. Together with the Altrusa Club they presented the Soldiers Angels representative a \$100.00 check to help with the postage expense at the Altrusa Club dinner meeting.



## Service Committee Request for Donations at Conference

Altrusa District Nine will be helping to re-establish two elementary school libraries that were destroyed during Hurricane Harvey. The children will not be allowed to return to these schools until late August through October. These two schools are in very low socio economic areas and need donations and help. The schools chosen by the Service Committee are:

- (1) **Oak Forest Elementary** VISD Vidor, TX 77662
- (2) **Little Cypress Elementary** LCMCISD Orange, TX 77632

**Children's Books (new) for grades Pre K through 2nd grade will be collected.** Your donation of books will be appreciated and given to the children at Little Cypress Elementary, to take home. These children are being taught in a church with no hot lunches. **You can volunteer to help prepare hot lunches for these children and hand out the new books collected.** This will happen in late April or early May. Please sign up to volunteer.

**BOX TOPS EDUCATION are needed.** Bring all you have to Conference and continue to save these. An address for future mailings will be given to you. Be sure they are not expired.

**Your time is needed.** Sign up to **volunteer** in these school libraries, and classrooms on a Friday or Saturday, before students return. Help librarians and teachers decorate their teaching areas. Dates to volunteer will be announced when are known. Construction must be completed first. Encourage your Altrusa Club to come down and help with this service project, then celebrate your day of service.

**Cash Donations** will be accepted. These donations will be divided between both schools. This money will help purchase library books, and other library needs.

**Your Donations are needed. PLEASE HELP!**

Janet Black  
Service Committee Chair



## District Nine Fundraising Committee Report

Roxie Vincent

Welcome to the most exciting part of our Altrusa District Nine year. Conference is almost here! I hope you are as intrigued to hear and see what our mighty leaders have in mind to increase our presence in our communities.

The fundraising committee had less than spectacular success over the winter holidays but are still actively engaged in learning what your clubs have been doing since our new biennium started.

My local club held its 16th annual golfing for literacy tournament in October of 2017. Our attendance has doubled in the last two years but in the real world that only keeps pace with the book expenses of our schools this year. We already realize that we will have to do something even better to continue our growth. (This is my sneaky way of introducing our workshop at conference.)

I would love to have a round table from those of you who can impart valuable information to our new or smaller clubs. However, even the small projects may add sparkle to another group's planning for next year. My committee will try to reach each club by telephone before conference to get a feel for what you have been doing and what more you need help with. The fame of District Nine proves that other districts are watching so who knows, we may be able to put together a product that will have information for all those interested wherever they reside. I hope to see you at conference. Please introduce yourself if you see any of the fundraising committee in Richardson.

## Revitalization of the Altrusa of North Dallas Club Committee Report

Linda Young

Linda Young of the Revitalization Committee met with the Altrusa of North Dallas Club to work on a project providing various kinds of seasonings and spices for the Homeless Women Veterans of America Food Pantry. The North Dallas Club's project "Spice It Up", included bagging and labeling spices and seasonings into small zip lock bags for the food pantry. The Club also donated funds to help purchase female Honor Guard Uniforms used in preparing the deceased veteran for burial. There are fifteen (15) homeless retired veteran women who volunteered to be properly trained to work at a funeral when a veteran woman passes away in the state of Texas. Altrusa of North Dallas donated money to help dress 5 1/2 veteran ladies to show respect at a military funeral. Camilla Zimbal, Retired veteran commander for the Women Veterans of America, was present to receive this donation and our appreciation for serving in the military and giving back to the community by organizing the Women Veterans of America.

## Honorable Mention

In February, First Vice Governor Mary Pearson attended the Berger Club meeting to present two fifty year pins. District Nine received these pins for the presentation, during the International Convention. District Nine is honored to have Delores Renfroe and Marie Jackson recognized for 50 years of membership in the Altrusa organization. Their contributions to Altrusa through service and friendship have touched many lives and continually make a difference in their community. Marie Jackson recently passed away and her daughter, Charlene Buckles, also a member of Altrusa, accepted the pin on her mother's behalf.

Dear District Nine:

Thank you so much for the Altrusa pin marking my 50 years as an Altrusan.

The 50 years are so special in my life, for the association with other Altrusans, for all the special projects and programs we were able to work on together, and for all of the Altrusa friends I have made and all mean so much to me. Thanks District Nine for the recognition and to Mary Pearson for making the presentation at our Club meeting.

*Delores Renfroe Berger, Tx*





District Nine Governor Linda Moore presented a check to Little Cypress Elementary School and Oak Forest Elementary School. Each school received a \$5000 check to aide in the rebuilding of their library after the Hurricane Harvey devastation. The funds were provided by a grant from the Disaster Relief Fund.