



ALTRUSA WAVES

Issue No. 115

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Caring - Commitment - Community

April 2021
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Words from our President

Happy Spring Everyone! I always look forward to this time of year. I am hoping to carry out my annual trek to Ennis to check out bluebonnets later this month and to say hello to the friendly longhorns in the area.

Thanks to all volunteers who are doing so much for the club. We may not see each other often but the "worker frogs" are doing a lot and I am highlighting some of our worker frogs.

Special thanks to Mary Dyer for sharing her piano playing with us and the residents of Mercer Place. Mary also helped (along with Elizabeth Fuentes) get goodies for the residents and staff for Easter.

Deb Henson and Rita Johnson are continuing to get birthday bags to Winter's Park. Our worker frogs are doing this every month. Thanks to the club members for sending supplies for this project.

Our scholarship committee of Patty Lucas, Mary Powlen and Alice Mae Britt have met and selected a well-deserving recipient. Those frogs are so busy!

So, what else are our frogs doing? Hum . . . oh yes, now I remember. We have some members willing to do remote reading for the residents of Pleasant Valley Healthcare & Rehab Center in Garland. Elizabeth is working on matching our members with a resident.

Finally, our frogs, Stephanie Noland and Marlee Nickerson, are getting our silent auction item ready for conference. So many frogs doing so much!

I know there are some frogs I have missed, but please know you will be recognized for all you do at a later date.

A Conference Watch Party is scheduled for April 30th at Helen Partain's house as it is the awards banquet and installation of District Nine's Board. Two of our members will be on the stage; Shirley Raymer, Governor-Elect and Mary Powlen, Treasurer. We are so proud to have these wonderful ladies representing us at District Nine! Also, during this event, we are making the bid to sponsor the 2023 Conference. Please, everyone wear their green shirts and we will celebrate this occasion (details to follow).

Our President's Banquet will be at the Holiday Inn on May 13th. This will be our first face to face meeting. I have requested there be only 4 per table and we will social distance as much as possible. Plan to invite prospective new members to share in this event. This is a great time to recognize all of our accomplishments for the 2020-2021 year, celebrate our year, thank the old board and install the new one!

Our **Caring, Commitment** and **Community** lives strong in our group so keep it up ladies! Much love, *Betty Sainz*



APRIL EVENTS

- Apr 7 World Health Day
- Apr 8 6p April Membership Meeting - Speaker from Achievement Center
- Apr 11 Altrusa Awareness Day
- Apr 15 Deadline to turn in Volunteer Hours to Betty
- Apr 16-17 2021 District Nine Conference - go to districtnine.altrusa.org for information
- Apr 20 6p Book Club - *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie* by Marie Benedict
- Apr 22 6p Board Meeting - Zoom meeting
- Apr 29 5th Thurs Event at Urban Vine at 5:30 pm. See Social Committee report on page 2
- Apr 30 District 9 Conference Awards
- May 13 6p President's Banquet - Installation of new officers
- July 25 - Aug 1 International Convention in Charlotte NC

GET THOSE VOLUNTEER HOURS REPORTED

The special form for reporting your yearly volunteer hours for all Altrusa hours spent for both Community Service activities and Meetings (planning, other activities). Also other volunteer activities in the community (church, scouting, other agencies) in which you participate. Betty's form will be sent when the newsletter is sent so you are sure to have a copy of her form.

If you have any questions, please contact Betty to get help. Please fill out and return the completed form to Betty no later than May 15th. For hours between May 15 to May 31, please estimate or add them on to next year.

The Community Service Committee
Is responsible for leading the
Pledge/Collect/Benediction
and the Altrusa Accent for April

GARLAND ALTRUSA IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

Email: garlandaltrusa@gmail.com

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

Website: districtnine.altrusa.org/garland/

District Nine Website: districtnine.altrusa.org



COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Communication Committee – Winters Park Nursing Home, Good Samaritans, Foundry Plaza, Weaver Elementary School, and Mercer Place . . . what do these have in common? These are all projects or organizations Altrusa Garland has supported both "hands on" and monetarily during a pandemic in **only the past five months!** We are anxiously awaiting the ability to resume meeting in person again and our goal to do that is the May President's Banquet. Keep your fingers crossed (and throw in some prayers) for that to happen and that our club keeps up with those needing our help as we inch back to a new normal. We **do** make a difference!



Community Service – In honor of Easter, Mary Dyer recorded a video of her playing piano with Easter songs that she shared with Mercer Place for the residents to enjoy. In addition to the video, Mary and Marlee delivered a basket of goodies for the staff and residents. Thank you to Betty and Mary for putting the basket together.



Our next project will be reading to the residents of Pleasant Valley Rehabilitation Center. We have a few volunteers but could definitely use some more. Please sign up via the link below if you are able to read to the residents of Pleasant Valley – <https://forms.gle/86MTf5iLHTLyF5n46> or email Elizabeth. The word from our members is that Mary's tape is beautiful to hear.

Fundraising – Our committee had an impressive year in spite of current restrictions and exceeded our goals such that no other fundraising activities are needed. However, we welcome ideas to help our next club year build on this plan. New club year is not very far off (1 June).

Membership – We want to get to know you! Membership is spotlighting club members in each newsletter so we can know each other better. Be on the lookout for an email with a couple of quick and easy questions to answer. This month, let's get the scoop on Janet Black!

Janet has been an Altrusan since 2004. Janet has plenty to brag about with her two children, one stepchild, 6 grands and 4 great-grands. Members of the Lone Star Corvette Club, Janet and her husband, Mike, participate in open road racing events where they race at an average of 140 mph! Bet you didn't know that Janet didn't originally plan to become a teacher, majoring instead in clothing and costume design in college.

Program – Our program speaker for the April meeting is Andrew Micak, Executive Director of the Achievement Center of Texas. We have supported this daycare facility located in north Garland for many years both monetarily and distributing children books at their Spring Festival which is generally held in March.

Marci Pounders, the Episcopal Priest who is Vicar at St. John's Episcopal Church in Texoma, brought very helpful information to the March program regarding hospice care. She told us she would provide contact information if we had any questions since she did not have the opportunity to open the session to questions. Here it is: chaplainmarci@yahoo.com; or 214.519.4923.

Social – Our 5th Thursday event is on for Thursday, April 29th. We will meet at Urban Vines on Garland Rd, just north of Buckner Blvd., at 5:30 pm for a Happy Hour. . . with Half Price wine by the glass! Plan for individual checks, great wine, yummy food and, of course, great conversation and lots of laughter! Please join us and get credit for a "make up meeting" toward that perfect attendance certificate.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

1 Apr Tina Rhodes
18 Apr Stephanie Noland

APRIL BOOK CLUB



This month's Book Club read is *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*, by Marie Benedict. Please join us for the discussion at 6pm, April 20th. Look for the email later in the month with the Book Club Zoom number from Stephanie Noland to participate. Invite friends to join the discussions – the more the merrier! Club participants are the ones choosing books we read, so, if you have a great book you want to read, let us know and get it added to the schedule.

Altrusa Book Club will meet on May 18 at 6pm via Zoom. Book title is TBD. Watch for more information.

NEW OFFICERS TO BE INSTALLED

The new officers listed below were elected by the members at the March meeting and will be installed at our May 13th President Banquet, scheduled at The Holiday Inn on PGB at 6 pm, Thursday, May 13th :

- President - Betty Sainz
- President Elect - Tina Rhodes
- First VP - Stephanie Noland
- Recording Secretary - Carol Hansen
- Attendance Secretary - Marlee Nickerson
- Foundation Treasurer - Jan McCorstin
- Operating Treasurer - Barbara Powers
- Director 2021- 2023 - Donna Raymer
- Director 2020 - 2022 - Rita Johnson
- Parliamentarian - Helen Partain
- Historian - Christina Contreras
- Immediate Past President - Patty Lucas

Some thoughts on Texans and our language:
George Hutson of Waco, offered these Texan pronunciations:

- JEVER --- did you ever?
- NARE --- Opposite of wide
- WHIRL --- Where'll you be?
- MARE --- Holder of highest city office
- YET? --- Frequently confused with the adverb of the same spelling but means: "Have you eaten?"
- FAR --- You probably have one of these burning in nippy weather.

