



# ALTRUSA WAVES

Issue No. 122

President: Betty Sainz - bsainz@multiforms.com

Caring - Commitment - Community

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## Words from our President

The holiday season is upon us as we plan for all the parties, dinners and festivities happening in our lives. This is a busy time for everyone! Decorations are still being put up and gifts being selected for the big day.

I hope you are planning on attending our Holiday meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup> and wear your ugly sweater (if you like)

and let's have some fun. The Holiday committee has plans in the works for a great time! Thanks to Stephanie, Karla and Barbara P. for getting everything together.

During this season, I like to take a moment to reflect on all we have accomplished. It is a joy to work with all of you. I want to give a special thanks to our board for their guidance and support. The extra time you give is greatly appreciated and it shows in what we do for our community.

Here's wishing all of you a safe and blessed holiday wherever it may take you.

Thanks for everything you do and for keeping the "Caring, Commitment and Community" going throughout the year!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Fondly, Betty Sainz



## EVENTS

- Dec 1 3p Special GFC Tea at Chocolate Anger - (In lieu of Dec 30<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Thus - counts as make-up meeting)**
- Dec 9 6p December Membership/Business meeting - time for our yearly holiday party too and an ugly Christmas sweater contest (see article below)**
- Dec 10 Human Rights Day**
- Dec 16 No December Board meeting - cancelled**
- Dec 17 8:30a Winter Wonderland at Weaver Elementary Special Ed (see article below)**
- Jan 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR, Y'ALL**
- Jan 13 6p Membership meeting - Half Priced Books is providing our program.**
- Jan 20 6p Board Meeting**

## DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Be sure to make plans to attend our annual Christmas party. The invite is in the mail with all the important details, but you can be sure the evening will be full of fun and festivities. If you are interested in competing in an "Ugly Christmas Sweater" Contest (totally optional), dress accordingly! Of course, guests are welcome . . . just be sure to add their name and count to your RSVP. **Reminder** - reservations must be made no later than Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## WINTER WONDERLAND AT WEAVER ELEMENTARY

The Weaver Elementary Early Childhood Special Education "Winter Wonderland" event will be in the gym on Friday, December 17, at 805 Pleasant Valley Rd, in Garland.

About 110 students will rotate through 20 activities, including Altrusa's "bookstore". This is an early release day for Garland ISD so both morning and afternoon sessions will attend at the same time. Our Altrusa volunteers are needed for all events. The planned schedule is set-up 8:15-9:00, activities 9:00-10:30, and clean-up 10:30-11:00. Please remember GISD requires volunteers to register online and complete the background check. You can register at [garlandisd.net](http://garlandisd.net), click on "Connect" at the top and then click on "Volunteer". This page should give you detailed instructions regarding Garland ISD's volunteer process. Call Elizabeth or Barbara Powers if you can help.

**The Holiday Program Committee is responsible for leading the Pledge/Collect/Benediction/Altrusa Accent for the December Meeting**

## GARLAND ALTRUSA IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

Email: [garlandaltrusa@gmail.com](mailto:garlandaltrusa@gmail.com)

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

Website: [GarlandAltrusa.org](http://GarlandAltrusa.org)

District Nine Website: [www.altrusadistrictnine.org](http://www.altrusadistrictnine.org)



**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**>Communications Committee** – Our printed Membership Directory for the current club year will be available for those who have not yet received one. Check with Stephanie Noland at the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting/Christmas party.

Reminder: NEW deadline for making dinner RSVP's for our business meetings has been changed to the Friday prior to our meeting – call no later than Dec 3 or use Evite..

**>Community Service** – The Winter Wonderland Special Education project on Dec 17<sup>th</sup> at Weaver Elementary School needs volunteers. See article on page 1 and call Elizabeth Fuentes or Barbara Powers to help.

The item(s) to bring to December Membership meeting for Boxes to the Military are body wash and lotion.

**>Fundraising** – We need a member to volunteer to Chair the Fundraising Committee. Begin thinking about friends and businesses to request donations to our next fund raising activities for the new club year beginning 1 June, 2022. It will be here before we realize it.

**>Membership** – Directories are here! Stephanie will have directories at the December meeting for those who have not yet received one.

**>Program** – This is the time for our annual Christmas Party. This year there will be an Ugly Sweater contest for those who choose to participate. See article on page 1.

**>Social** – Our Christmas meeting party is always fun, so don't miss sending your RSVP immediately!

**ADDRESS CHANGE**

Please make this address change.  
Deb Henson's correct address is -  
4101 Stableglen Drive  
Rockwall, Texas 75032  
All subsequent directory deliveries will have the address corrected.

**HIGH TEA DAY**



Members of the former Garland Federation of Clubs invited Garland Altrusa members to a "High Tea" on December 1<sup>st</sup>, at the Chocolate Angel restaurant in Plano. It was a wonderful and fun event to begin celebrating the holiday season. Interesting teas, tiny sandwiches and desserts were served on china and crystal dishes. Those attending were happy to be able to visit with friends we have missed because of this pandemic and the

chatter and laughter was a delightful break.

Pam Clark, former member of Garland Altrusa organized the event and we want to thank her for sharing it with us.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



- 2 Dec**      **Mary Helen Vollmer**
- 20 Dec**   **Mary Dyer**
- 10 Jan**    **Barbara Boyden**

**"ALTRUSA READS" BOOK CLUB**



Our book club selection for this month is **Just Haven't Met You Yet**. Here's a teaser: from the *New York Times* best-selling author, Sophie Cousens. This story comes as a heartwarming and hilarious tale that asks: "What if you pick up the wrong suitcase in an airport, only to fall head over heels for its unseen owner?"

Join us in reading this light-hearted romance – comedy. Discussion date and time TBA. Watch for more details to come.

**GETTING TO KNOW YOU**

The Altrusa Member Spotlight shines this month on . . .

**Helen Partain** – Helen's been an Altrusan since 2007, after being invited by Shirley Raymer. She's held several offices including Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and is currently Parliamentarian. Helen is a true "Dallasite", having been born and raised in Oak Cliff. An interesting tidbit about Helen is that she graduated from Sunset High School at the age of 15!

She and Wendell married in 1956, and enjoyed 46 years of raising Rae Lynn, Bryan, and Denise. Their company, Partain Surveyors, Inc., has been going strong since 1979, and is now under the leadership of Bryan (who was one of the youngest men to earn his Surveying license!) Although Helen plans to move soon to Mineola and live with her grandson, Daniel, and his wife, Jana, she plans to remain a Garland Altrusan and attend as many functions as possible. We are all glad about that, Helen!

**Rosalyn Blackshear** – A native Texan, Rosalyn has enjoyed both city and country living including Fort Worth, McKinney, a ranch in Wills Point, and Garland.

Roz became a radiological tech at the age of 21 and wonders if, doing a book report on Pierre and Marie Curie back in 4th grade, influenced her career decision. Hmmm....could be?

Gary and Rosalyn married in 1992, and have two girls and two boys between them. All the kids, and now 8 grandkids, live in either McKinney or Houston, so they're close for visiting!

Something you might not know about Rosalyn is that she was a realtor while working in the medical field . . . and sold a house or two to her medical colleagues!

They are currently working on the fixer-upper lake house they purchased about 6 month ago. Roz says, "We enjoy what we have when we have it." Sounds good to me!

**COMING SOON:**

