

ALTRUSA WAVES

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Words from our President

Tina Rhodes

Happy New Year!

After a busy holiday season it's time to kick off the new year with wonderful opportunities to serve in our community. Are you ready?

We had busy Christmas season with the 5 Loaves event in Sachse, where we distributed over 325 books, Winter Wonderland at Weaver Elementary, and installation of 2 more of our Little Free Libraries. We have book fairs scheduled already, with the first being January 9th at Weaver.

Garland club will also start off the new year with 3 new members who have already committed to join us, one more who has pledged to join, and we anticipate a visitor at our January meeting. It's thrilling to start January with the addition of so many new faces among us. Membership Committee is preparing the installation ceremony for February – you won't want to miss it!

Altrusa Garland is making a difference in our community. I'm excited for the new year – it always brings possibilities, anticipation and enjoyment. My hope is that you feel the energy, too. Together we can serve others in 2023 with generosity and purpose.

In Service,
Tina

Items to bring to the meeting.

We just heard from 5 Loaves that they are in desperate need of macaroni and cheese and jelly.

If you can help them with these items, It would be greatly appreciated.

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 12	Business Meeting, 6 PM, Holiday Inn District Visitor, Kathleen Smith
Jan 22	Book Club, 4 PM, Wildwood Firewheel
Jan 26	Board Meeting, 6:00 PM, Place TBD
Feb 9	Business Meeting, 6 PM, Holiday Inn



Weaver Elementary Book Fair helpers

These lovely ladies woke up early to help with the book fair. Pictured L-R: Rita Johnson, Mary Powlen, Tammy Caruso, Barbara Powers, Tina Rhodes, Stephanie Noland, Betty Sainz, and Jan McCorstin.

MEETING INFORMATION

Membership Committee

is responsible for leading the Altrusa pledge, grace and accent at the January 12, 2023 meeting.

GARLAND ALTRUSA IMPORTANT INFORMATION

EMAIL: GarlandAltrusa@gmail.com

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

WEBSITE: [GarlandAltrusa.org](https://www.GarlandAltrusa.org)

DISTRICT NINE WEBSITE: [AltrusaDistrictNine.org](https://www.AltrusaDistrictNine.org)

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL: [Altrusa.org](https://www.Altrusa.org)

Committee Happenings

Community Service

Little Free Libraries

Special thanks to Boy Scouts of America Duck Creek District's Assistant Scoutmaster Frank Baum, Twilight Camp Director Julian Gonzalez (and Elizabeth Fuentes' husband), Stephanie Noland, John Powers, and Barbara Powers for installing two Little Free Libraries during the Christmas Break. These libraries were installed at Montclair Elementary and Southgate Elementary. With the previous installation at Weaver Elementary, we now have 3 installed! Hopefully we can get approval to install a few more this month. (See pictures below right)

Special Note About the Little Libraries:

The Library Aide at Southgate Elementary, Viola Prieto, shared an observation: "Thank you so much, we love the Free Little Library. This morning I saw three girls getting books from there. I loved seeing that. Made my heart happy."

Weaver Elementary Early Childhood Winter Wonderland

Special thanks to Patty Lucas and Rita Johnson for volunteering at the Winter Wonderland.

5 Loaves Book Fair

The "Gift of Literacy" was well received at 5 Loaves. Parents and children appreciated the books that were given away. It special seeing all the wonderful smiles on their faces. Thanks also goes to 5 Loaves for allowing us to participate in this event. (See pictures below)

Membership

We are excited that the board has approved Renee Nicholas, Christy Miller, and Barbara Johnson for membership in our club! What a way to begin the new year! Be sure to do what you do best...and extend a warm Altrusa welcome!

Programs

We are honored to have our District Nine Director, Kathleen Smith for our program this month. Please give her the Garland Altrusa welcome.

Garland VA Medical Center

Christmas Cards Thank You Note

On behalf of the Garland VA Medical Center (549A5) patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation to you for your 28 Christmas cards.

It is through the efforts of community partners like you that allow us to continue the quality care and services that we seek to provide for our deserving Veterans. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you again for future events.

Noel Ramirez, Specialist, VA Center for Development & Civic Engagement



Upcoming Birthdays

Jan 12 Mary Henderson
Jan 15 Helen Partain
Jan 18 Rita Johnson
Jan 30 Debra Summerville
Feb 1 Rosalyn Blackshear



Altrusa Reads Book Club

Now that the holidays are behind us, we will resume our monthly book club discussions. Please join us this month as we discuss *Daisy Jones and The Six* on January 22 at 4pm. We meet for good food and great conversation at Wildwood at Firewheel Town Center.

Hometown Hero

Altrusans active in our community

We have a Hometown Hero in our midst. Wendy Sheriff was spotlighted by the Garland Chamber as one of the "good hearts of our community and that you don't have to be born here to make your mark here."

Congratulations Wendy!



Little Libraries

Special thanks to these holiday elves for continuing the effort to get our libraries installed. It has become a challenge dealing with the different entities of "Call 811 Before You Dig".

Great Job Altrusans!

Boy Scouts of America Duck Creek District Recognition Dinner

Friday, February 24, 2023 at South Garland Baptist Church
If interested in attending, contact Barbara Powers



5 Loaves Book Fair

Candid pictures from this event. Fun was had by all who attended. Many thanks to all our volunteers!