



ALTRUSA WAVES

Issue No. 114

President: Betty Sainz - bsainz@multiforms.com

Caring - Commitment - Community

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Editor: Barbara Boyden - barbwired@theboydens.net



Words from our President

This is the month when we can all be a little Irish! Let the green show on the 17th and celebrate St. Patrick's Day with fun, friends and festivities.

As March rolls in, there is much to be thankful for. Our members survived the freezing weather as best we could. Those fortunate enough to live near fire stations,

hospitals and nursing homes were most fortunate. Many of us lost power for days but this was a time when neighbors were helping neighbors. We had a few members experience broken pipes but not too shabby. We live in a wonderful community.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee for working hard on getting a new Slate of Officers. We will be voting on these at the next business meeting. Thanks to all members who agreed to be a part of next year's board. It will be an exciting time to be able to participate in more events and service projects.

The Grant request for Founder's Plaza is currently being planned and will be ready to send to the Int'l Foundation by the March 15 deadline. Special thanks to Stephanie Noland for developing the request and Barbara Powers for fine tuning it. If awarded, there are many things we do as a club for this facility. Go Stephanie and Barbara!

We will be welcoming Marci Powers, an expert on Hospice, to our March business meeting -- a great opportunity to learn more about Hospice and what/how it will work for us in the future.

Now is the time to begin calculating the hours of volunteer service you have participated in this year. I need this information in May. If you have questions on how to calculate, contact me and I will assist.

We want to thank Helen Partain for generously allowing our club to store our Book Fair books in her garage. Also, thanks to Marlee Nickerson and her husband, Jerry, for spending most of a day moving the 52 boxes and shelving units from Mable Usrey's garage to Helen's. A special thanks to Mable for allowing us to store these books in her garage for many years. We have a year's worth of books to hold our normal Book Fairs in the GISD schools. Now we just need to patiently wait until GISD will allow us onto their campuses. The books have been sorted by grade level and are now easily accessible from the shelving units.

We are still looking for new service ideas for our club. Feelers have been sent for a couple opportunities but we are wanting more. If you come upon any ideas, please contact Elizabeth Fuentes or me.

There finally may be light at the end of the tunnel for this pandemic. With the availability of vaccines, many more will be able to get these shortly.

Thank you for all your support. I am so proud of what we have accomplished. As always remember to keep the **Caring, Commitment, Community** spirit going.

Betty Sainz

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



- Mar 8** International Women's Day
Mar 11 6p March Membership Meeting - Marci Ponders is our speaker with Hospice Information International Grant Request Due
Mar 15 International Grant Request Due
Mar 16 6p Book Club - The 7½ Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle.
Mar 25 6p March Board Meeting
Apr 7 World Health Day
Apr 8 6p April Membership Meeting
Apr 11 Altrusa Awareness Day
Apr 16-17-30 2021 District 9 Conference - [go to districtnine.altrusa.org](http://go.to/districtnine.altrusa.org) for information
July 25 - Aug 1 International Convention in Charlotte NC

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee, with Stephanie Noland as the Chair, and members Patty Lucas, Rita Johnson and Janet Black as Alternate, present the following slate for voting at our March 11th Membership meeting:

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

Nominations can be made from the floor but you must have talked with the person being nominated prior to the meeting.

The Social Committee

Is responsible for leading the

Pledge/Collect/Benediction

and the Altrusa Accent for March

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Communication Committee – This Committee uses several methods to share information from the printed word, to email, to internet and social media. While we’ve had challenges navigating through current restrictions to produce interesting news, one thing has remained constant: *Altrusa Waves*. And, our monthly newsletter would not be the success it is without our Editor in Chief, Barbara Boyden.

Barbara has been Editor of Altrusa Waves since 2017, taking a simple layout and information and enhancing it to provide our club with relevant and engaging news. She prompts our committees each month for their articles and updates, attends meetings as both committee member and “press”, reminds our sitting president for her “Words” and puts it all together to paint a picture of our club that makes our club and our members shine.

Thank you Barbara, for making our club stand out above all the rest. Your words encourage us all. (My goodness, thank you – ed)

Community Service – This committee met at the beginning of February to discuss new service project ideas. It was decided to reach out to area nursing homes about setting up times to read to their residents either through video calls or regular phone calls. Pleasant Valley Rehab Center in northeast Garland has shown interest in starting this project with them. A more detailed plan to help their residents is being developed. Be on the lookout for a sign-up email soon so you can become a part of this project. We would love to have as many members as possible join us. If you have ideas for other projects, please reach out to Elizabeth Fuentes or Sue Floyd.

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.

Membership – Even though our meetings are still via Zoom, guests are always welcome to join us. All that is needed for them to attend is the Zoom link which you can share via email. If you prefer, let Stephanie Noland know and she will send them the link directly.

Program – **Marci Ponders** is the speaker for this month. She is an Episcopal Priest and is Vicar at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Texoma. She formerly worked for a hospice in Garland that serviced multiple cities and was part of Baylor Hospital hospice care unit. She is a friend of Jan McCorstin and will explain what hospice care is, what it provides, when it is needed and who pays! This is valuable information we all will need at some point.

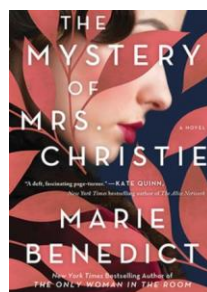
Social – April 29th is our next 5th Thursday and time for the planning to have a fun event that also counts toward make-up attendance (for the perfect attendance award) for any missed regular meetings.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

- 10 Mar Deborah Henson**
- 15 Mar Tammy Caruso**
- 16 Mar Marlee Nickerson**
- 30 Mar Christine Contreras**
- 1 Apr Tina Rhodes**

MARCH BOOK CLUB



Altrusa Reads was postponed for February due to the winter storm but will resume on March 16, discussing *The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle* by Stuart Turton. April’s read will now be *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie* by Marie Benedict. Please join us for the discussion – the more the merrier. Also, book club participants are the ones who choose the books we read! So, if you have a great book you want to read, let us know and we will get it on the schedule.

NURSING HOME VALENTINES

One hundred sixty-four nursing home employees received a little extra love this past Valentine’s Day, thanks to Altrusa Garland.

Buckets and baskets of valentine treats along with Valentine cards that included personalized messages of thanks and appreciation were delivered to Winters Park in Garland, and Founders Plaza in Wylie.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the cards, making the goody baskets and delivering them to the facilities. The employees **LOVED it all!!**

