

ALTRUSA WAVES

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF GARLAND NEWSLETTER



Fun at District Nine Conference!

Pictured here are Mary P, Barb B, Rhonda, and Jennifer



PRESIDENT'S *Pen*

Stephanie Noland



Remember Dr. Seuss who said, "You're never too old, too wacky, to wild...." Allow me to riff with my own ending. "...to pick up a book and share with a child." Doesn't that sound right for us, Altrusans?

This month, our visit to Ethridge Elementary marked our final book fair for 2025-26. Sharing books through five book fairs this year is definitely a milestone to recognize. We began last September at Weaver Elementary, celebrating Literacy Day with books for kids and teachers and cookies in their teachers' lounge. During the months between Weaver and Ethridge, we traveled to Shorehaven, Daugherty, and Shugart, sharing 2609 books with kids.

But hold on...although our book fairs are over, we're not done yet! Our new partnership with the Garland Public Library is providing new opportunities to connect books with readers. Later this month, we'll be a part of their Summer Reading Kickoff and, you guessed it, share books with children.

I can't think of much of anything more rewarding than experiences like these. In this, my last president's message, I challenge you today to make plans for at least one (or more) book distribution opportunities next year. You'll be glad you did.

Serving and reading alongside you,

Stephanie
snolandtx@yahoo.com

Service Kindness
Enduring Impact



IMPORTANT DATES

- May 4 Boxes to the Military packing party, 6:00pm
- May 8 Mother's Day Event at Christian Care, 1:30pm
- May 15 International Day of Families
- May 16 Garland Public Library "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" graduation, 2:30pm
- May 21 May Board meeting
- May 30 Garland Public Library's Summer Reading Kickoff
- May 31 Altrusa Book Club; 4pm, Wildwood Firewheel
- June 11 Business meeting

MAY MEETING NOTES

Menu for our President's Banquet:

Lone Star Barbeque buffet with brisket, chicken, grilled veggies, baked beans, mac-n-cheese and New York cheesecake for dessert. Meal cost: \$32.00

MEETING INFORMATION

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

is responsible for leading the Altrusa pledge, grace and accent at the May 14, 2026 meeting.

WEBSITE

AltrusaGarland.org

DISTRICT NINE WEBSITE

AltrusaDistrictNine.org

EMAIL

AltrusaGarland@gmail.com

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL

Altrusa.org

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GENERAL CLUB NEWS

Welcome to our new Board of Directors

PRESIDENT Betty Sainz	RECORDING SECRETARY Debbie Summerville	DIRECTOR Karla Langston
PRESIDENT ELECT Deborah Henson	ATTENDANCE SECRETARY Rhonda Schmid	HISTORIAN Mary Powlen
VICE PRESIDENT Barb Baker	PARLIMENTARIAN Wendy Santiago	IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Stephanie Noland
OPERATING TREASURER Barbara Powers	DIRECTOR Jennifer McKelvey	

Foundation Board of Directors

PRESIDENT - Stephanie Noland
VICE PRESIDENT/SECRETARY - Janet Epstein
TREASURER - Laura Contreras

"Unearth YOUR Story" at the Garland Public Library's Summer Reading Kickoff

We will be giving away books at the newly renovated Center library as families kick off their summer reading adventures. Meet at the library **May 30th** at 9:30 AM for setup, then join us for lunch at Dos Banderos around 12:30 PM. More details coming soon, mark your calendar and plan to come check out this library event.



GARLAND
LIBRARY

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Altrusa is invited to attend the graduation celebration for this Garland Public Library program on **May 16**. We have donated 100 books to be awarded as prizes to the children who have reached this goal prior to starting Kindergarten. Watch for more information in your email soon!

District Nine Conference Report

Our club received several awards at District Nine Conference this year. We earned **3rd Place** in the Mamie L. Bass Award for our work at the Boxing Gym, **3rd Place** in the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award for our work at The Achievement Center of Texas' library space, and **1st Place** in the Communications Award.

Additional celebrations go to our club members - Shirley Raymer for Honorable Mention in the Texas Onestar award and to Betty Sainz and Stephanie for being named Altrusa Ambassadors.



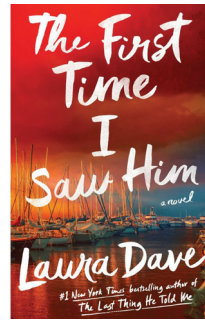
UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS



JANET BLACK
May 18TH



BARBARA JOHNSON
May 28TH



Altrusa READS Book Club

The book club choice for this month

The First Time I Saw Him by Laura Dave

This sequel to The Last Thing He Told Me continues the story of Hannah Hall and her stepdaughter Bailey as they are forced to go on the run after Owen reappears, seeking safety and a second chance while navigating danger and the power of forgiveness.

See you at book club on **May 31** at 4:00. We meet at Wildwood restaurant at Firewheel.

COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

Final Book Fair

We held our final book fair of the year on April 27th at Ethridge Elementary, and it was a great success.



THANK YOU

to all the volunteers who gave their time and support throughout the year. Your dedication helped make each event meaningful for the students and staff.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Membership Matters

Altrusa International of Garland closed the club year with growth, connection, and renewed energy. Stronger membership efforts welcomed new members, attracted prospective members, and honored the dedication of long-term and emeritus members. This momentum culminated in our Day of Service, highlighting the teamwork and heart of our club. We look forward to building on this success, welcoming new Altrusans, and celebrating members transitioning to Emeritus status at our upcoming President's Banquet.

Renewal

It's time to submit your renewal form and dues payment for the upcoming Altrusa year. Please complete the form sent by Barbara Powers (or contact her for another copy) and return it as soon as possible. Renewals and at least 50% of dues are due by **May 31**.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

A Scholarship Update

The Marjorie Hall-Chamberlain scholarship winners will be receiving their recognition at their school's award assembly on Thursday, **May 14**. We will invite them and their parent to join us at the June meeting so that we can celebrate with them and recognize their achievements.

