



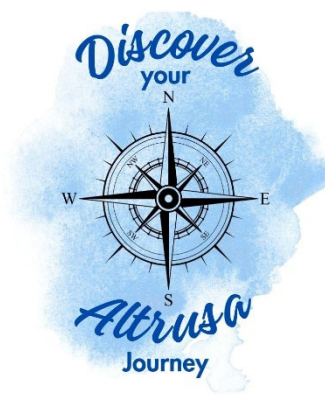
Annual Reports 2025-2026

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2025-2027 Board of Directors & Program Team

Governor: **Kimberly Kierce**
 Governor Elect: **Linda Hurt**
 First Vice Governor: **Guadalupe Carvajal**
 Second Vice Governor: **Frances Dalbey**
 Treasurer: **Mary Powlen**
 Director: **Beverly Luedke**
 Director: **Gail Woods**
 Immediate Past Governor: **Shirley Raymer**
 Secretary: **Sharon Tramonte**
 Parliamentarian: **LaVone Arthur**



DISTRICT NINE 2025 – 2027 PROGRAM TEAM

GOVERNOR SPECIAL APPOINTEES

Parliamentarian: **LaVone Arthur (Downtown Dallas)**
 Secretary: **Sharon Tramonte (San Antonio)**
 Assistant Treasurer: **Beth Miller (DFW)**

We are here to help you

"Discover Your Altrusa Journey"!

as of 05-01-2026

District Nine Administration

Board Liaison: **Kimberly Kierce, Governor**

BRR

Co-Chair **Mary Pearson (Temple)**
 Co-Chair **Brenda Tucker (Pampa)**
 Co-Chair **Mary Osentowski (Richardson)**

Governance

Co-Chair **Mary Powlen (Garland)**
 Co-Chair **Kitty Hall (Pampa)**
 Co-Chair **Marsha Peters (Richardson)**

Int'l Foundation

Co-Chair **Linda Moore (Temple)**
 Co-Chair **Betty Sainz (Garland)**

Fundraising

Co-Chair **Brenda Hill (Temple)**
 Co-Chair **Stephanie Noland (Garland)**

District Hospitality

Co-Chair **Jane Tucker (Richardson/Austin)**
 Co-Chair **Donna Jones (Austin)**

Leadership

Co-Chair **Sarah Wagner (Richardson)**
 Co-Chair **Lynne Moore (Pampa)**
 Co-Chair **Dana Hartman (Collin County)**

District Nine Communications

Board Liaison: **Sharon Tramonte, District Secretary**

Marketing

Co-Chair **Holly Mabry McCoy (Austin)**
 Co-Chair **Kelli McBee (Houston Central)**
 Co-Chair **Jennifer Phillips (Dallas)**
 Supporter: **Kaitlyn Glover (Waxahachie)**
 Supporter: **Trina Taylor (SWDC)**

Social Media

Co-Chair **Sherry Burk (Anderson Co)**
 Co-Chair **France Dalbey (Greenville)**

Website

Co-Chair **Sharon Tramonte (San Antonio)**
 Co-Chair **Mary Powlen (Garland)**

Newsletter

Co-Chair **Chris Scherer (The Chisholm Trail)**
 Co-Chair **Laure Bruner (Anderson Co)**

Technology

Co-Chair **Elle Reese (Dallas)**

District Nine Service

Board Liaisons & **Shirley Raymer, Immed. Past Gov**
 Award Coordinators: **Beverly Luedke, Director**
Gail Woods, Director

Literacy

Co-Chair **Kathleen Witte (Greenville)**
 Co-Chair **Janelle Williamson (Texarkana)**
 Supporter: **Versie Lusk (SWDC)**

International

Co-Chair **Laura Roach (DFW)**
 Co-Chair **Jane Tucker (Richardson/Austin)**
 Supporter **Lucy Thuku (Richardson)**

Service

Co-Chair **Paula Jandura (North Dallas)**
 Co-Chair **Hope LaGrone (Temple)**
 Supporter: **Debbie Trammell (North San Antonio)**

District Nine Membership

Board Liaisons: **Linda Hurt, Governor-Elect**
Guadalupe Carvajal, 1st VG
Frances Dalbey, 2nd VG

Member Growth (New Members & Diversity)

Co-Chair **Barb Hahn (Pampa)**
 Co-Chair **Delaine White (North San Antonio)**

Member Engagement (Celebrate and Support)

Co-Chair **Laura Trainor-Collins (Richardson)**
 Co-Chair **Debbie Llacuna (Copperas Cove)**
 Supporter: **Cynthia Castleberry (Anderson Co)**

New Club Building

Co-Chair **Debbie Mabry (Temple)**
 Co-Chair **Candace Martin (SW Dallas Co)**

ASTRA

Co-Chair **Kaitlyn Glover (Waxahachie)**
 Co-Chair **Tara Stafford (Temple)**

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE GOVERNOR 2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Serving as Governor of District Nine this year has been one of the greatest honors of my Altrusa journey. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work alongside such dedicated, compassionate, and talented leaders who exemplify Altrusa's commitment to Service, Friendship, and Leadership.

As I reflect on this year, I am filled with pride in what we have accomplished together and thrilled that so many people have embraced ***"Discover Your Altrusa Journey"***. Across our District, members tackled challenges, celebrated successes, strengthened clubs, developed future leaders, and made a meaningful difference in the lives of countless individuals through service. Whether through literacy projects, community outreach, leadership development, membership growth, or simply supporting one another, District Nine Altrusans demonstrated the power of collective action and servant leadership.

This report highlights the progress made toward our District goals this club year and celebrates the achievements of our Clubs and Members. Every accomplishment listed is the result of teamwork, dedication, and a shared commitment to advancing the mission of Altrusa. It has truly been a privilege to serve as your Governor, and I am thankful for the friendships, support, and inspiration that made this year both successful and memorable.

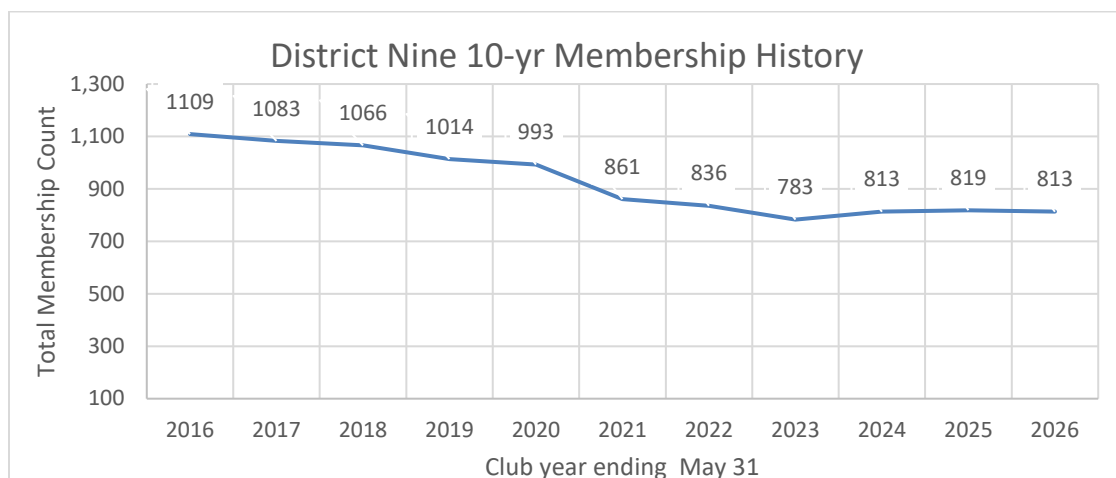
I am proud to reflect on the accomplishments achieved through the dedication of our Clubs, Members, Officers, and Program Team Leaders. Together, we have strengthened our District, expanded opportunities for service, and created a culture of support, education, and engagement that positions District Nine for continued success.

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

District Nine remained focused on growing and strengthening membership throughout the year.

- Membership growth remained a top priority through recruitment efforts, club support, and the promotion of Altrusa's mission within our communities. We had an increase of 102 members this club year:

Start Club Year: June 1, 2025 710 Members
End Club Year: May 31, 2026 813 Members

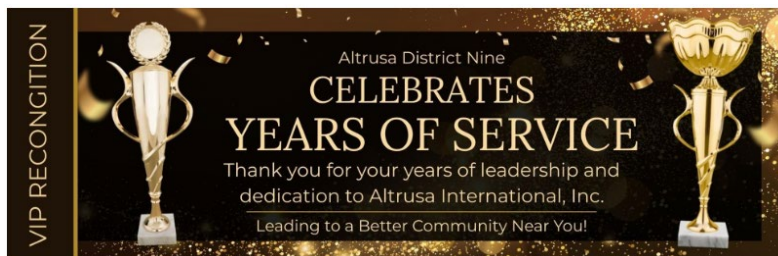


- Congratulations **Altrusa Downtown Ft Worth** (Charter Banquet June 14, 2025) and **Altrusa Waxahachie** (Charter Banquet September 27, 2025)! District Nine was honored to celebrate the charter of these two new clubs. While providing ongoing support of these new clubs, we also provided revitalization support to a few existing clubs facing membership challenges.
- Through personalized coaching via “**Altrusa Huddle**” virtual presentations (thanks to the New Club Building Team), personal club visits, and collaborative planning, several clubs were reenergized and felt more empowered to strengthen their membership base and found renewed enthusiasm for club meetings and service.
- A significant milestone was the creation of the **Altrusa Lone Star Texas Virtual Club**, providing an innovative membership option for individuals seeking flexibility while remaining actively engaged in Altrusa service and leadership opportunities. The creation of the Lone Star Texas Virtual Club expanded accessibility and inclusiveness, ensuring more individuals could experience the benefits of Altrusa membership, offering “Service the Fits Your Life”.
- Clubs were encouraged to host membership events regularly throughout the year and, through those efforts, District Nine has welcomed **141 new members**.

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT & HOSPITALITY

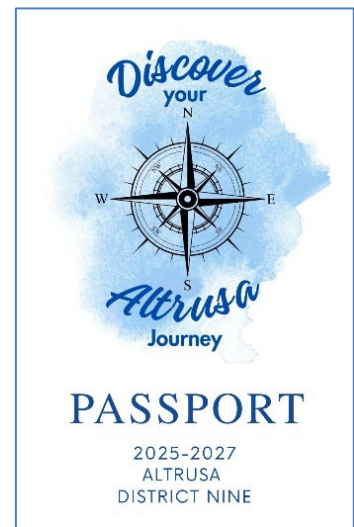
District Nine remained committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for every member and celebrating its members. Through the efforts of Membership Growth and Membership Engagement, District’s efforts further promoted Altrusa’s brand drivers of Diversity, Inclusion and Flexibility in a variety of ways.

- District events emphasized fellowship, networking, and relationship-building opportunities that strengthened connections among members. Through both in-person and virtual engagement opportunities, members across the district were able to participate, learn, and contribute regardless of geographic location.
- Clubs were encouraged to foster cultures of belonging where all members felt welcomed, included, and valued. Training was provided to assist clubs with creative ways to engage their members through member spotlights, club celebrations, and social events.
- District Nine was proud to launch its first-ever **Year of Service Recognition Program** during the 2025-2026 biennium. After months of research and development, a comprehensive membership database was created using historical membership records to recognize members’ years—and in many cases, decades—of dedicated service to Altrusa.



- While membership growth remains a priority, it is equally important to honor the members whose commitment, leadership, and service have sustained our organization over the years. This new recognition program celebrates the lasting impact of our members and acknowledges the invaluable contributions they make to their clubs, communities, and Altrusa as a whole.

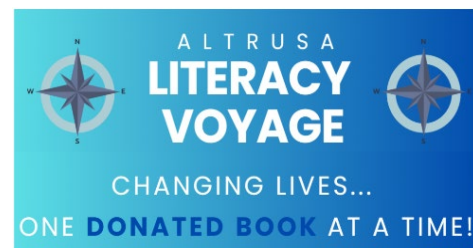
- Based on membership records as of August 1, 2025, District Nine recognized **723 members representing an incredible 8,703 cumulative years of service** to Altrusa.
- At the 2026 District Nine Conference, certificates were presented to members celebrating milestone anniversaries of **5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40+ years of service**. Among those recognized was Helen Quiram of Altrusa Waco, who celebrated an extraordinary **57 years of dedicated service**, and in attendance at the 2026 Conference, District personally recognized **Debbie Mabry** and **Susan Frensley** each for 45 years of service, exemplifying the enduring spirit of volunteerism and commitment that defines Altrusa. Thank you, Debbie and Susan!
- The Year of Service Recognition Program has established a meaningful new tradition within District Nine, ensuring that the dedication of our members is celebrated and preserved for future generations of Altrusans.
- District efforts to promote engagement and diversity inspired the creation of the **"Mighty Men of the Mighty Ninth"** feature in the District Newsletter. This section recognizes the contributions of our male Altrusans, celebrates the diversity of our membership, and highlights the many ways members strengthen Altrusa through service and leadership.
- In support of my theme, **"Discover Your Altrusa Journey,"** I created the **Altrusa Passport Book** to encourage member education, engagement, and fellowship. Through a series of activities focused on service, leadership, meetings, and friendship, members earned stamps as they participated throughout the year. The Passport provided a fun way for members to document their experiences, strengthen connections, and celebrate their unique Altrusa journey.



SERVICE

District Nine clubs demonstrated extraordinary commitment to serving communities locally through projects supporting literacy, education, food insecurity, children's programs, veterans, seniors, and a variety of other populations in need. Sadly, very few clubs have an International project. So, we still have a lot of work to do to ensure all clubs have an International project. It is important that we highlight Altrusa's international scope and provide support to those in need beyond our borders.

- Clubs continued to advance Altrusa's mission through impactful literacy projects, international relations initiatives, and community service programs.
- District Nine Altrusans stepped up to the **"Altrusa Literacy Voyage" Book Challenge**. As of May 31, 2026, a total of **54,642 books** were donated to literacy projects across Texas... "Changing lives, One donated book at a time"!
- The District encouraged clubs, especially during the monthly Club President's Council Meetings, to utilize **award criteria** as planning tools to strengthen project development and increase award submissions. Very few clubs showcased their service by submitting reports /award nominations.



- We were honored to recognize and celebrate the following clubs at the 2026 Conference for their outstanding projects in 2024-2025 club year.

	Mamie L Bass Service Awards (10 entries)	Letha H. Brown Literacy Awards (10 entries)	Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun Int'l Relations Awards (3 entries)
1st Place**	Pampa	Temple	Richardson
2nd Place	Richardson	DFW	Greenville
3rd Place	Garland	Garland	San Antonio

** First Place Winners receive payment from District (\$50) & International (\$100)

- We know amazing things are happening in District Nine clubs every day. When those successes go unreported, we miss valuable opportunities to highlight our impact, recognize our members, and inspire others. **I challenge every club to submit reports in ALL award categories next time.** Tell your story. Celebrate your accomplishments. Share the difference your club is making in your community.

LEADERSHIP

Developing leaders remained a cornerstone of District Nine's efforts. Altrusa is a builder of Leaders!

- Ten (10) **Super Saturday Training** events were conducted throughout the year, providing members with educational opportunities focused on personal growth, leadership development, club membership growth, club communications, service excellence, good governance, and overall sound club operations. Altrusans worldwide were invited to attend and all sessions were well-attended. All trainings were recorded and posted on the (new) District Nine YouTube Channel.
- Program Team Leaders** delivered specialized training and mentoring opportunities, sharing their expertise with club officers and members – offering concierge-style service in their respective field of expertise..
- Monthly Club President Council** meetings served as leadership development forums where Club Presidents and club leaders received personalized support and guidance tailored to their club's needs. These meetings provided consistent support for all club leaders, offering practical guidance, idea sharing, and leadership development.
- District Nine was invited to Altrusa Richardson's **"Leading with Kindness"** training session in January 2026. Attendees learned valuable leadership skills and also participated in providing video snippets to promote the 2026 District Nine Conference in Amarillo on social media.



- **Succession planning** was encouraged at all levels, helping clubs identify and develop future leaders while promoting mentorship opportunities for emerging Altrusans.
- The District elected its **2026-2028 Nominating Committee**, which plays a vital role in shaping the future of our District by helping ensure strong, capable leadership for the years ahead. We are grateful for these individuals and their willingness to serve: Shirely Raymer (Chair), Belva Gibson, Sheryl King, Laura Roach, and Kathleen Witte.

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, FUNDRAISING & FINANCE

District Nine promoted financial stewardship and sustainable fundraising practices.

- Clubs strongly supported the Altrusa International Foundation through contributions and participation in Foundation initiatives. At the 2026 District Nine Conference, an incredible **\$34,796** was raised: “Carry the Cause” (purse/bag) raffle resulted in \$5,153 and we had 73 new “Club 52” members, and 5 new Lamplighters. The outpouring of support was amazing!
- District facilitated the tracking and sharing of **Club fundraising activities** through the District website, creating a valuable repository of successful fundraising ideas and strategies. This resource encouraged collaboration and cross-support among Clubs while providing inspiration for new and innovative ways to fund service projects and community initiatives.
- Thirteen clubs were awarded **Altrusa International Foundation in the 2025-2026 Grant Cycles**, allowing them to expand their service impact and address important community needs.



GOVERNANCE & BYLAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND RULES (BRR)

For the first time, District Nine created a **Governance Program Team** in response to understanding that many clubs were struggling to maintain compliance with Altrusa International, IRS, and/or Secretary of State, etc.. The Team provided support to clubs to help achieve and maintain compliance and organizational effectiveness.

My goal for this biennium to achieve compliance in all 30 clubs in District Nine. I am happy to report that in the first year **17 Clubs (that includes the Club and Foundation) are in compliance**. With only 13 more clubs to go, we can do this!

- The Governance Team provided guidance regarding Altrusa International reporting requirements, Foundation reporting, financial responsibilities, and governance best practices.

- Training opportunities helped club officers better understand their governance responsibilities and organizational requirements.
- Clubs received assistance with bylaws, policies, reporting deadlines, and organizational filings to ensure continued compliance at all levels. Upon compliance, Clubs and Foundations received “Certificates of Completion”.

COMMUNICATIONS

District Nine strengthened communication efforts to ensure members remained informed, engaged, and connected... and the public had greater opportunity to hear what Altrusa is all about.

- The “**New of Mighty Ninth**” (NOMN) **Quarterly Newsletter** provided members with informative, educational, and inspiring content throughout the year. The publication showcased the expertise of Program Team Leaders writing articles that shared best practices and success stories, welcomed to new members, shared leadership development resources, and provided District updates.
- Our **social media** presence reached new heights this year through targeted campaigns and consistent sharing of original content from our Clubs on Facebook. The addition of LinkedIn expanded our outreach to young professionals and community leaders, introducing Altrusa to new audiences and increasing engagement. Growth across all social media platforms has been significant, helping strengthen connections within our District and enhance awareness of Altrusa more publicly.
- **Marketing** resources were promoted to increase visibility of Altrusa's mission, projects, and community impact. Training was provided to give members a “Marketing Suitcase” of tools and resources to better promote their club, service projects, and fundraisers.
- A strong **website** presence is essential in today's digital world. Every Altrusa Club should have an informative online presence that educates members and the public about Altrusa's mission and the impact our Clubs make in the community. One of my goals was to ensure every District Nine Club had a website presence, and we are very close to achieving that milestone, with only three (3) Clubs remaining. We can do this!!
- District Nine regularly updates all communication portals to provide timely information and valuable resources for both members and the public. This year, District communications through all channels highlighted club accomplishments, leadership opportunities, training events, fundraising, and service successes, thereby helping strengthen member engagement across the District - and more importantly - in the public eye.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

One of the highlights of the year was attending **Altrusa International's 59th Annual Convention in Quebec City, Canada, July 23-26, 2025**. I was proud to represent District Nine as Governor at this event. Serving in this capacity reinforced the importance of collaboration, cultural exchange, and unified leadership as we work together. District Nine was proudly represented by 49 attendees, easily recognizable in our sapphire blue Altrusa District Nine "Texas" shirts. Our members arrived eager to learn, share ideas, and be inspired by



Altrusans from around the world, while also experiencing the rich history, beauty, and unique French-Canadian culture of Quebec City.

Convention provided valuable opportunities for education, leadership development, fellowship, and the exchange of innovative ideas that continue to strengthen our clubs and communities.

District Nine celebrated winning the following awards on the international stage: Letha H Brown Literacy Award: 2nd place **Altrusa Garland**; 2023-2025 Int'l Literacy Challenge: **Altrusa Pampa** with over 9K books and **District Nine** 4th place overall; 2023-2025 Kindness Challenge Award: top honors to **Altrusa San Antonio** (10,000+ acts); Membership Awards: **Altrusa Pampa** (13 new members) and **Altrusa Temple** (11 new members). District Nine members fully embraced the whole experience, participating in workshops, networking events, and celebrating recognitions and accomplishments.



A particularly proud moment for District Nine was the recognition of one of our own, **Debbie Mabry**, who was selected as the recipient of the prestigious **Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award**. District Nine proudly celebrated Debbie, whose unwavering dedication, servant leadership, and lasting impact on countless lives continue to inspire Altrusans throughout our District and beyond. We are grateful for her many years of service and leadership and congratulate her on this well-deserved international recognition.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The **District Nine 70th Annual Conference** was held in Amarillo, Texas and hosted by Altrusa Pampa, with Conference Chair Guadalupe Carvajal and Co-Hosts Lynne Moore and Barb Hahn leading the effort to create a dynamic and memorable experience. Over 148 Altrusans traveled across the Texas terrain to experience a conference like no other - one that honored tradition while embracing innovation and renewed engagement.

While many beloved aspects of conference remained, several new features were introduced to energize and inspire attendees. One of the most exciting additions was the first-ever “**Servicepalooza**,” a hands-on service afternoon designed to connect learning with immediate impact. Participants engaged in meaningful projects including **Days for Girls** fabric tracing and cutting, **Patriot Paws** dog tug toy creation, **Teach Haiti** friendship bead bracelets made from handmade paper beads, and **Cards of Kindness**, where over 300 handmade “thinking of you” cards were created for members to take back and share within their own communities. We also

DISCOVER “SERVICEPALOOZA”
THE ULTIMATE SERVICE EXPERIENCE
APRIL 17 (1P-4P)

JOIN US FOR A CONE AND SO-APTERNOON OF SERVICE AND CONNECTION. CHOP FELLOWS UP CREATIVITY AND HANDS-ON SERVICE PROJECTS WHILE CONNECTING WITH FELLOW ALTRUSANS FROM ACROSS TEXAS. STOP BY, LEND A HAND, AND BE PART OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER.

CARDS OF KINDNESS
Share hope, encouragement, and joy - one handwritten note at a time. Conference attendees will add heartfelt messages of care and comfort for those who need a reminder that they are seen, valued, and supported. Special thanks to Altrusan BJ Taylor (Altrusa Copperas Cove) for providing the 300 hand-made cards.

BEADS OF FRIENDSHIP
String together connection and compassion as you create colorful bracelets to share as tokens of encouragement in your community. Create unique, one-of-a-kind wearable treasures using beads transformed from simple paper. The donated beads are part of TeachHaiti's vocational training. (Hosted by Jane Tucker, Altrusa Richardson & Altrusa Austin)

DAYS FOR GIRLS: FABRIC PREP
Support menstrual equity efforts by helping prepare reusable hygiene kits. Participants will trace and cut fabric pieces that will be sewn (at a later date) into sustainable menstrual products distributed through Days for Girls International. Your hands-on help ensures girls and women around the world can attend school and work with dignity and confidence. (Hosted by Altrusa Richardson)

PATRIOT PAWS: TUGS TOYS
Support service dogs in training with hands-on heart. Attendees will help create durable tug toys that provide enrichment, play, and reward-based training for future service dogs assisting veterans and individuals with disabilities through Patriot PAWS Service Dogs. (Hosted by Altrusa Dallas)

“DIGITAL LITERACY” TECH-CORNER
Build confidence in the digital world with hands-on guidance from tech-savvy helpers. This interactive opportunity will provide one-on-one support to show you how to navigate social media platforms, post/share photos, create engaging content, and understand the basics of online visibility. New to social media? Looking to sharpen your skills? Explore practical tools, simple “how-to” tips, and the confidence to represent your club online with ease. BRING YOUR SMART DEVICE and/or LAPTOP

offered a “Digital Literacy” Tech Corner to assist members. This whole interactive experience allowed members to serve together while strengthening bonds of friendship across the District.

Another innovative conference highlight was “**Workshopalooza**,” offering attendees the opportunity to choose from 10 engaging workshops. The abundance of options was both a challenge and a blessing - providing a wide range of learning opportunities tailored to diverse interests and leadership needs. Each session was interactive, practical, and discussion-based, maximizing the exchange of ideas, expertise, and best practices among members and clubs.

District Nine Conference Workshopalooza “A”
 Navigating Our Leadership Journey - Together! *
 Saturday April 18, 2026 - Session “A” (2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: LEADERSHIP IS A MOVE
 Learn how the choices you make shape your day, your leadership, and the impact you have on those around you. This interactive workshop builds on the keynote message, empowering Altrusans to respond with intention, strengthen their leadership skills, and inspire others through everyday decisions. (Same presentation at both sessions)

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH: FROM INVITATION TO IMPACT
 This interactive workshop combines inspiration with action. Hear real stories and proven strategies from four growing clubs that have achieved significant membership growth. Then, shift into hands-on strategy mode as teams receive a scenario and collaborate to create a customized Membership Growth Proposal designed to help that community thrive.

LEADERSHIP
“I AM REMARKABLE”
 Learn to own your accomplishments - supporting your ability to achieve your goals while inspiring others along the way. Back by popular demand! This workshop was first presented at the 2025 District Nine Conference and received outstanding feedback from attendees because of its powerful message and practical takeaways. Learn important skills that helps build confidence, strengthen leadership abilities, and inspire those around us.

LITERACY SUCCESS: INCREASING LITERACY IN OUR COMMUNITIES
 An interactive workshop designed to help Altrusa members create measurable literacy impact through strategic, sustainable projects. Participants will explore local needs, discover proven project ideas, build community partnerships, and gain practical tools to evaluate and share their club’s literacy success.

MARKETING
MARKETING 101: ALTRUSA BRANDING & COMMUNITY RECOGNITION
 An interactive, practical workshop equipping clubs with Altrusa Branding Guidelines and ready-to-use marketing tools and technology. Participants will explore press release basics, social media engagement, and strategic event promotion - all designed to increase visibility, strengthen branding, and amplify community impact.

*Subject to Change

District Nine Conference Workshopalooza “B”
 Navigating Our Leadership Journey - Together! *
 Saturday April 18, 2026 - Session “B” (3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: LEADERSHIP IS A MOVE
 Learn how the choices you make shape your day, your leadership, and the impact you have on those around you. This interactive workshop builds on the keynote message, empowering Altrusans to respond with intention, strengthen their leadership skills, and inspire others through everyday decisions. (Same presentation at both sessions)

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT: INVITE, INSPIRE, INVOLVE... AND WATCH YOUR CLUB THRIVE
 You’ve welcomed new members - now let’s help them truly belong. Learn from our dynamic panel as they share proven strategies to spark connection, strengthen retention, and turn members into engaged leaders. Walk away inspired and ready to build intentional engagement that strengthens your club and community.

LEADERSHIP
LEADING WITH KINDNESS: CREATING A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE
 Learn how empathy, emotional intelligence, and kindness can drive performance, strengthen relationships, and improve team dynamics. Discover actionable strategies to incorporate kindness into your leadership style and create a positive, high-performing work environment.

SOCIAL MEDIA: FROM CONTENT TO CONNECTION
 This workshop offers a practical overview of content do’s and don’ts - from defining your purpose to creating meaningful engagement. We’ll explore what makes content resonate, what weakens your message, and how to align posts with your mission and audience. Then, get ready to put ideas into action with a fun and interactive Content Remake Challenge. Come ready to think differently, collaborate, and turn content into connection.

FUNDRAISING
HOW TO USE YOUR FUNDRAISER TO PROMOTE ENGAGEMENT
 Learn how to encourage friendships and engagement to make your fundraiser a success! How to create excitement, leadership growth and even gain new members while creating a successful event. Take your Fundraising farther!

COMMUNICATION
LONE STAR TEXAS VIRTUAL CLUB: “SERVICE THAT FITS YOUR LIFE”
 This will be the monthly meeting of the Virtual Club where we will conduct a short business meeting and discuss how virtual clubs work. Participants will help build an actionable plan and a service project calendar with flexible initiatives, supportive engagement, and a service model that truly fits your life.

*Subject to Change

We were honored to welcome our special guest **International President-Elect Kitty McElhaney**, who shared Int’l news and celebrated with us in true Mighty Ninth style, along with keynote speaker **Rebecca Silvestri**, who encouraged us for everyday to be our “Best Day Eva”, both of whom inspired attendees with their insight and leadership.

The 70th District Nine Conference in Amarillo reflected the best of who we are - service-driven, innovative, and deeply connected to our mission. It was a celebration of impact, leadership, and the continued growth of Altrusa across our District.

CLUB VISITS

I had the privilege of visiting eight Clubs this year and presenting my “M&M’S” presentation, which encourages Clubs to view membership growth and engagement from a fresh perspective (IYKYK!).

- **Altrusa Arlington** – This dynamic group of Altrusans exemplifies enthusiasm, service, and community involvement. Their energy and commitment to making a difference were evident throughout my visit. I was inspired by their “Fruits of Altrusa” and “Friends of Cupid”.
- **Altrusa Collin County** – I was honored to initiate two new members. The Club continues to grow through its commitment to service, and efforts to create and sell craft items to fund projects.

- **Altrusa Garland** – It was my pleasure to visit this outstanding Club, whose members consistently demonstrate dedication, fellowship, and a passion for serving their community. Club leadership provided fun and engaging monthly meetings that beautifully celebrated service and friendship.
- **Altrusa Lubbock** – This small but dedicated group listened intently to my District presentation and embraced the opportunity to view membership growth and engagement through a new lens while learning about District Nine initiatives.
- **Altrusa North San Antonio** – The Club extended exceptional hospitality and gifted me a beautiful teacup and saucer that perfectly reflected their warm spirit of friendship and their Club theme, “Steeping Happiness, Like a Good Cup of Tea”. What a fun group of dedicated Altrusans.
- **Altrusa Pampa** – I was thrilled to initiate two new members into this growing Club – boasting 12 new members this club year!! Their leadership, enthusiasm, and commitment to service are impressive, and it was exciting to work with them as they orchestrated a memorable District Conference.
- **Altrusa The Brazos-Waco** – This small but mighty Club proudly celebrated its 20th year of hosting the Waco community “Turkey Trot”, a testament to its long-standing commitment to service, strong community support, and lasting impact on the lives of those it serves.
- **Altrusa The Chisholm Trail** – My visit included a presentation from “Amy’s House”, a local community partner, that highlighted the important work being done in the area. It was inspiring to see how this dedicated Club collaborates with local organizations to make a meaningful difference in the community.

I am honored to call **Altrusa Richardson** my primary club and grateful for the support they have provided throughout my journey as an Altrusan and in my term as Governor. I am also proud to be a dual (non-primary) member of **Altrusa Collin County, Altrusa Downtown Fort Worth, Altrusa Garland, Altrusa Houston-Central, Altrusa Montgomery County, Altrusa North Dallas, and the Altrusa Lone Star Texas Virtual Club**. These memberships have expanded my opportunities for service, strengthened my connection to Altrusa, and enriched my journey through the many friendships formed across our District.

LOOKING FORWARD

The accomplishments of this year reflect the dedication, creativity, and passion of ALL District Nine Altrusans. Together, we celebrated growth, strengthened clubs, developed leaders, expanded service opportunities, and embraced innovative approaches to membership, service, and engagement.

I am grateful to our District Board, Program Team Leaders, Club Presidents, committee members, and every Altrusan whose commitment to service made these achievements possible. Another new step this year was creating an Assistant District Treasurer position to assist the District Treasurer with membership management and conference financials, thereby provide training for a future District Treasurer.

Working alongside my fellow District Nine Board members, I know that anything is possible, and we will have a lot of fun along the way. **This picture says it all!** It reflects the teamwork, laughter, dedication,



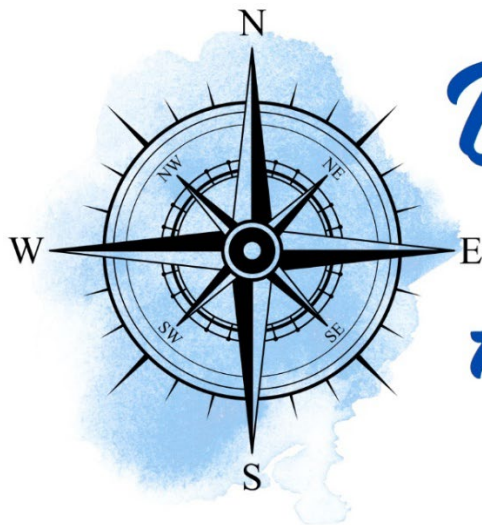
and shared commitment that defines our leadership experience in District Nine. Together, we support one another, solve challenges, and celebrate successes, all while keeping the spirit of service and friendship at the heart of everything we do.

In closing, I extend heartfelt pride and gratitude for the opportunity to serve District Nine and for the dedication of every Altrusan who contributed to the 2025-2026 accomplishments. It has been an honor to witness the impact of our collective service, leadership, and commitment to our community. Here's to another great year in 2026-2027!

With heartfelt pride and gratitude,

Kimberly D. Kierce

2025–2027 District Nine Governor



Discover
Your
Altrusa
Journey

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
GOVERNOR-ELECT
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

As your Governor-Elect of Altrusa District Nine, my primary responsibility is to fully prepare to be your Governor in the next biennium (2027-2029). This club year, that has entailed attending formal Governor-Elect training at the 2025 Altrusa International Convention in Quebec, Canada, participating in formal monthly Zoom call training sessions with other District Governor-Elects and the International Leadership Committee Chairs Linda Dorr and Karyn Evans. I am looking forward to formal Governor-Elect Training with the Altrusa International Board of Directors, our Leadership Committee Chairs and other District Governor-Elects in Chicago in July 2026.

As part of our training, we read various leadership books, fully read and discuss the Governor-Elect manual (all 113 pages!) and participate in asking/answering questions with other Governor-Elects through WhatsApp during each month. Meeting and working with other Governor-Elects has been lots of fun while being very meaningful, too. I am looking forward to working with the Governor-Elect from New Zealand in June 2026 to lead a discussion of one of our leadership books.

In addition to Governor-Elect training, I have had a variety of responsibilities for District Nine this year, beginning with working with the 2025 District Conference Team to finalize the actual expenses and present the results to the District Nine Board. Additionally, Nina Cox, the 2027 Conference Chair, and I met with several hotels regarding a location for 2027 District Nine Conference, and negotiated a contract with the Westin Southlake which the District Nine Board approved in December 2025. My home club, Altrusa DFW, looks forward to hosting this conference and working with Governor Kimberly Kierce and Program Chair Guadalupe Carvajal to present a great conference agenda and conference experience for all attendees!

And speaking of conferences, I was thrilled to be asked by District Nine Leadership Committee Chair Sarah Wagner to participate in the “Leading with Kindness and Strength” panel along with Past Governors Mary Osentowski and Brenda Tucker at a workshop during the 2026 Conference. Workshop attendees were enthusiastically engaged in the discussion, and my hope is that we all understand that we can be strong leaders while remaining kind at all times.

I attended the Altrusa Richardson Winter Leadership Luncheon, hosted by the club and their Leadership Committee in January 2026. Effective leadership is one of the keys to Altrusa’s success, and I truly enjoy learning new leadership skills and putting them into action. I hope to help others realize their leadership potential at all levels of the organization, as well.

At the May 2026 Super Saturday training, I was honored to be able to lead a discussion of the leadership book, Who Moved My Cheese? by Spencer Johnson, M.D. About forty Altrusans from District Nine and a few other districts attended, and a vibrant discussion was held.

As Governor-Elect, my official club visits were to Altrusa Austin, Altrusa Dallas, Altrusa Downtown Fort Worth, Altrusa Southwest Dallas County, and Altrusa Waco. Each of these in-person visits gave me the opportunity to get to know the members of these clubs better. Did you know that in the Waco club, for example, that there are at least two active members who are in their late 80s/90s who are still very active in the community? We sat at the same table during lunch, and I loved hearing their

involvement in the League of Women Voters and other civic organizations. It was such a pleasure to attend Altrusa Waco's 97th Anniversary Party along with the other Altrusa club meetings attended.

Lastly, I remained active in the Altrusa DFW club and as a non-primary member in the Altrusa Downtown Fort Worth club. I also became a non-primary member of the Altrusa Lone Star virtual club. Along with your other District Nine board members, I was active at our district board meetings.

Linda Hurt
Altrusa District Nine Governor-Elect

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
FIRST VICE GOVERNOR
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your First Vice Governor during 2025–2026. This year, I supported the district in the following ways:

District Nine Board Meetings

I attended all Board meetings and contributed to key District Nine business, including reviewing emeritus applications, planning conferences and Fall Leadership, evaluating District policies and recommending updates, discussing ways to support local clubs, reviewing budgets and our strategic plan, helping the Governor coordinate Zoom calls with planning and committee groups, and assisting with other district needs as they arose.

Club Visits

I visited five District Nine clubs: Downtown Dallas, Texarkana, Copperas Cove, Central Texas, and Richardson. These visits have been one of the highlights of my year, giving me the opportunity to learn about each club's work, share District Nine news, and offer support where needed. I also provided helpful materials, including copies of the Governor's Passports and passport stamps. In addition, I connected several clubs with District Program Committees for support with needs such as social media and communications training. I provided the club Presidents with feedback reports and asked for their feedback on my visit. I also shared my Altrusa journey, including what I have learned and the areas where I continue to grow.

Conference Planning

I organized and attended monthly and weekly conference planning meetings with the Governor and the Pampa Club Conference Chairs. Together, we planned all aspects of the conference, including coordinating with hotel staff to secure discounted room rates, confirming meals, communicating audiovisual needs, selecting relevant workshops, arranging the keynote and other speakers, supporting the conference service project and Friday Fun Night, updating all associated conference websites, preparing conference slide shows, and assisting the Governor with the agenda and other printed and online materials. These meetings, and the leaders involved, taught me a great deal and left me better prepared for our next conference. I also organized materials on the District Nine Google Drive to create a roadmap for future planners. In addition, I created the participant survey to gather valuable feedback, analyzed the results, and shared them with the District Board. This analysis will help guide planning for the 2027 Conference and the 2026 Fall Leadership Event.

Committees and other Activities

I served on the Ad Hoc Committee reviewing District Nine policies and on the Finance Committee evaluating the proposed budget presented at the 2026 Conference. I stayed in close communication with the Governor to carry out her requests and supported fellow board members with conference awards, Fall Leadership planning, website materials, and other board responsibilities as needed.

I look forward to continuing to serve District Nine in 2026–2027.

Guadalupe Carvajal, First Vice Governor

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
SECOND VICE GOVERNOR
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Serving Altrusa District Nine this past year has been a rewarding experience filled with connection, service, and opportunities to strengthen relationships across our clubs. I was honored to visit and engage with several clubs throughout the district, including SETCER, North Dallas, and Anderson County. Each visit provided valuable insight into the unique strengths, projects, and dedication of our members as they continue making a positive impact in their communities.

The SETCER club demonstrated tremendous enthusiasm and commitment to service, while North Dallas showcased strong leadership and innovative ideas for member engagement and community outreach. Anderson County offered a warm welcome and highlighted the importance of fellowship and collaboration in sustaining a successful club environment. These visits reinforced the heart of Altrusa — service, literacy, leadership, and fellowship.

While I had hoped to be able to visit Houston Central, the club was unfortunately not very active during this past year, limiting opportunities for engagement. Additionally, Lake Cities made the difficult decision to disband during the year. Though this was disappointing, it also served as a reminder of the importance of continued member support, leadership development, and outreach to ensure the future strength of our organization.

Overall, this year has been one of growth, learning, and appreciation for the dedicated Altrusans who continue to serve their communities with passion and purpose. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve District Nine and look forward to seeing continued success and renewed energy throughout the district in the years ahead.

The District Nine Social Media Team made strong progress this year in expanding communication, increasing digital engagement, and supporting clubs throughout the district. Major accomplishments included launching the District LinkedIn presence, contributing two newsletter articles, creating multiple marketing campaigns, and developing quick tip sheets, Canva graphic folders, and a ticket tracking system to better assist clubs.

The Team also provided direct club support by helping establish a Facebook page for one club and a contact form for another. Training opportunities included a President's Call with basic social media guidance, intermediate training at Super Saturday, and a hands-on conference workshop focused on creating purposeful, engaging content.

District LinkedIn engagement showed significant growth from December 31, 2025, through April 28, 2026, with 2,257 impressions (up 37%) and 156 reactions (up 41.8%). The Team also led a social media film and graphic campaign promoting the District Conference, helping strengthen visibility and connection across District Nine.

France Dalbey, Second Vice Governor

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
TREASURER and FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

It has been both an honor and a privilege to serve Altrusa District Nine as District Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair for the 2025–2026 fiscal year. This year has provided many opportunities for growth, learning, and service while carrying out the responsibilities of the office, including the following:

- Reconciled monthly bank statements and worked to maintain a balanced budget while preserving reserves equal to at least six months of operating expenses.
- Processed expense reimbursements and approved expenditures in accordance with the direction of the Governor and the District Nine Fiscal Policies.
- Recorded district membership dues from clubs into the district financials.
- Created a section in the Budget to support the New Club Building Committee with financials for a new club prior to the charter date. Processed income and expenses for the new club then facilitated the transition of financial responsibilities from the District to the Chartered club.
- Maintained membership records and monitored membership statistics by club, including renewing members, new members (full-year, 14- months and half-year), reinstated members, affiliate members, lifetime members, emeritus members, young adults and late renewals.
- Provided the District Board with monthly updates regarding membership totals, new member activity and the budget after reconciling the monthly bank statement.
- Chaired the Finance Committee meeting by Zoom on January 28, 2026 during which the committee reviewed actual income and expenses against the approved 2025–2026 budget and prepared the proposed 2026–2027 budget.
- Submitted financial documentation for the CPA to prepare the Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) report for 2023-2024 and 2024–2025.
- Attended all board meetings and prepared financial and membership reports for review and discussion.
- Prepared and presented the Incoming Treasurer’s Workshop by Zoom on May 2, 2026.
- Prepared and presented the proposed 2026–2027 budget at the 2026 Conference.
- Submitted financial documentation for the CPA to prepare the 2024-2025 990EZ.
- Updated the financial documentation on the Board of Directors webpage.
- Provided ongoing computer and financial support to district membership by assisting members with financial processes and reporting requirements.
- Implemented and provided training for the newly established Assistant Treasurer role.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Powlen

Mary Powlen

Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair
District Nine, Altrusa International, Inc.

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
DIRECTOR and DISTRICT SERVICE LIAISON
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

It has been my honor and privilege to serve District Nine as one of the District Directors of the Mighty Nineth. During the last year (2025-26), I have had the privilege to visit as a District Representative, the Abilene club, the Montgomery County club and the San Antonio club. I found each club unique and prospering in their communities in their own ways. Whether it was through a legacy of literacy-based projects or FUN fundraising events, each club has had the opportunity to spread the good works of Altrusa throughout its community. Each one should be proud of what it has accomplished throughout the year and I applaud them.

I had the opportunity to attend The Chisholm Trail club and install their 2025-26 officers and participate in their goal setting meeting. The Chisholm Trail Club may be small but they are like their District.....Mighty!!! I also had the opportunity to attend the reorganizational meeting of the Central Texas Club and found that the enthusiasm to reorganize the once strong club was there. I recently returned to the club to assist them in developing a solid base on which they can return to the strong club they wish to become.

I attended the Altrusa International Convention in Quebec and enjoyed not only the amazing workshops but came home with new friends as well as strengthened old friendship from many around the country.

I attended the mid-year District Board meeting in Richardson hosted by Governor Kimberly and Mary Powlen and found it be extremely informative. I have attended the monthly President Council meetings each month as well as many of the Super Saturday Workshops presented by District Leaders.

On April 17-19th, I attended District Nine's Conference in Amarillo, hosted by the Pampa club. It was one of the most enjoyable conferences I have attended and found project palooza and the workshops to be very impactful and energizing. The Service Project, Tralee Crisis Center, brought home the impact that we as Altrusans make in our communities where domestic violence is happening as well as increasing our awareness to the problem.

Overall, I have been humbled by all that I have seen taking place throughout Texas by the hands of local Altrusans and can only encourage Altrusa District Nine to continue Serving and Making a Difference in their communities,

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beverly Leudke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Beverly Leudke
District Nine Director and Service Committee Liaison & Awards Coordinator

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
DIRECTOR and DISTRICT SERVICE LIAISON
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Serving as a Director on the District Nine Board has been one of the most rewarding, enlightening, and inspiring experiences of my Altrusa journey. I am deeply honored by the confidence and trust the membership placed in me to serve in this leadership role and to help support the mission, vision, and goals of District Nine.

During this year of service, I had the privilege of serving as District Liaison for three exceptional clubs: Altrusa International of Greenville, DFW, and Temple.

One of the greatest joys of my service has been visiting these clubs and building relationships with their members. Each visit provided an opportunity not only to share information and offer support, but also to listen, learn, and gain a deeper understanding of the unique strengths, challenges, and opportunities within each club. I was continually inspired by the dedication and passion demonstrated by club members as they worked to address the needs of their communities. Hearing about their service projects, literacy initiatives, partnerships, and outreach efforts reinforced the extraordinary impact Altrusa has across District Nine.

In addition to club support, I actively participated in the planning, organization, and implementation of our Annual District Conference. Collaborating with fellow board members, program teams, and volunteers to create a successful and meaningful conference was both rewarding and educational.

Throughout the year, I also participated in leadership development and training opportunities designed to strengthen current and future leaders. These experiences reinforced the importance of investing in others. Building strong leaders today ensures the continued success and vitality of Altrusa tomorrow. This year has given me a greater appreciation for the inner workings of our organization and the many dedicated individuals who work behind the scenes to support our mission. I have gained valuable insight into governance, strategic planning, collaboration, communication, and the collective effort required to serve a district as diverse and talented as District Nine.

Leadership has also challenged me to grow personally. Throughout this term, I have often reflected on how I can better serve our clubs, support our members, and fulfill the responsibilities entrusted to me.

Serving District Nine has deepened my appreciation for servant leadership and reaffirmed my belief that when we work together with a common purpose, we can accomplish extraordinary things.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve District Nine. I remain committed to supporting our clubs, encouraging future leaders, and helping ensure that our district continues to grow, inspire, and make a positive difference in the communities we serve.

Gail Woods

District Director and Service Committee Liaison & Awards Coordinator

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

It is an honor to serve District Nine as your Immediate Past Governor. While this is a role that is much less demanding than that of District Nine Governor it is very rewarding. I have participated in each of our board meetings during the past year, other zoom meetings and in the charter banquet for Altrusa International of Downtown Ft. Worth. As chair of the Edith DeBusk Award, I appreciate the collaboration of past governors, Sandra Smith, Sylvia Zamora and Linda Moore, in scoring the nine applications for this award. It was my honor to recognize the winners of the Edith DeBusk Award at our Seventieth District Nine Conference in Amarillo in April. Congratulations to each of the nine applicants for the amazing job you did in leading your club. Each of you is a winner!!!

I had the opportunity to join Governor Elect Linda Hurt in her club visit to Altrusa International of Austin in February. It was nice to visit this club, learn of the club's service projects being done for their community and to visit with the Austin Altrusans that I've worked with through the years. I am especially grateful that I could join Linda in this visit because I was unable to visit them in person during my governorship. Austin is a strong club and I enjoyed working with them as they co-hosted the 2024 District Nine Conference.

It is my privilege to continue to serve District Nine. My thanks to each of you for friendship and the lives you touch in your service.

Warm regards,
Shirley Raymer
Immediate Past Governor

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
SECRETARY and WEBSITE COORDINATOR
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

District Secretary

As District Secretary, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my fellow board members for their mentorship, guidance, and assistance throughout the year as I learned the responsibilities of this position. Their support contributed greatly to a successful and productive year.

The District Board functioned smoothly and efficiently during the year, with all actions and proceedings documented in the official minutes of each board meeting. In addition, the district's digital archives have been maintained in a timely and organized manner, with agendas and approved minutes electronically filed and preserved within the district archives.

Several auditing assignments were completed during the year, including the review and coordination of member information between ClubRunner and GroupTally. In addition, perfect attendance and member years-of-service information was compiled, and recognition certificates were prepared, printed, and presented at the Annual Conference in Amarillo.

Website Coordinator

Work on the district website continued throughout the year with a focus on branding, accessibility, and member support. A favicon was added, and consistent Altrusa International branding was incorporated throughout the website. Club information was audited and updated as needed to ensure accuracy and consistency across district webpages.

Website development assistance was provided to clubs without an existing online presence, resulting in all but two clubs now having a club website. Significant enhancements were also made to the Members Only section of the district website through the development of resource pages dedicated to Altrusa branding, grants and fundraising, governance, literacy, service, and technology.

Throughout the year, numerous one-on-one training and support sessions were conducted to increase members' comfort and proficiency in navigating, utilizing, and customizing webpages. In addition, a fundraising page was created to assist clubs in sharing information regarding fundraising events and activities. The district book donation page was also updated periodically to reflect the number of donated books collected throughout the district.

Sharon Tramonte

District Secretary

District Website Coordinator

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
PARLIAMENTARIAN
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

As Parliamentarian, I attended the post-conference board meeting on May 4, 2025, board meeting/orientation on June 23 2025 (virtual), board meeting on August 13 2025 (virtual), mid-year board meeting on November 8 2025, board meeting on February 2 2026 (virtual), pre-conference board meeting on April 17 2026 and post-conference board meeting on April 19 2026. I reviewed and revised various District Policies and District Fiscal Policies as requested by the Board and thoroughly enjoyed my time with my fellow Altrusans at International Convention and District Conferences!

What an exciting Altrusa journey the first year of Governor Kimberly's biennium has been! I'm truly thankful for the opportunity to serve alongside her and the other amazing members of the District Board of Directors. It has been an honor to share in the leadership, fellowship, and dedication that continue to make District Nine so impactful and inspiring.

I had forgotten how much fun it is to sit at the head table during Conference and watch the faces of so many Altrusans—you know who you are! The laughter, reactions, and shared moments throughout the room were such a reminder of the joy and friendship that make Altrusa gatherings so special.

LaVone Arthur
Parliamentarian

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
GOVERNANCE
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

It has been rewarding to be part of the new Governance Committee during its first year of development. The committee has filled an important need for the district by providing guidance and support to clubs and foundations on governance and compliance matters. The following are some of the key tasks and accomplishments completed during this year.

- **Supported District initiatives with Participation in September Super Saturday Training, President's Council Presentation, Articles for the News of Mighty Ninth and Passport Task Completion** - Participated in the September Super Saturday training session, providing detailed instruction on compliance responsibilities for clubs and foundations. This included step-by-step guidance for completing the IRS Form 990-N, an overview of annual filing requirements for both the State of Texas and the IRS and a review of the governance website to demonstrate where members can access forms, deadlines, and compliance resources. Participated in the June President's Council agenda by presenting a summary of compliance procedures. This included outlining key annual responsibilities for clubs and foundations, highlighting deadlines, and answering questions to help leadership understand required reporting processes. Published articles for the district newsletter in reference to 2025 Bylaw Update and How to Change a Registered Agent. Provided district wide guidance and support to members for identifying opportunities to complete tasks listed in the Altrusa Journey Passport.
- **Development of Governance Webpage** - Created and organized the governance webpage as a centralized resource for clubs and foundations. The site includes information, links, forms, deadlines, and reference materials covering all major aspects of compliance, making it easier for clubs to locate current requirements and complete filings accurately.
- **Compliance Review** - Conducted a comprehensive review of every club and foundation in District Nine to verify current compliance status. This review covered current standings with Altrusa International, the State of Texas, and the Internal Revenue Service. Identifying and supporting organizations with missing filings or areas needing corrective action.
- **Support and Training** - Provided ongoing support to clubs and foundations needing assistance with compliance issues. This included researching filing concerns, clarifying requirements, and offering additional training and follow-up guidance to help organizations resolve outstanding issues.
- **Established Compliance for Newly Chartered Clubs** - Prepared and organized all required paperwork for two newly chartered clubs to establish compliance with Altrusa International, Internal Revenue Service and Texas Secretary of State. Educated membership of the new clubs on the required steps for organizational setup and maintaining compliance.
- **Assisted with Financial Setup and Banking** - Supported newly chartered clubs in establishing their financial operations by guiding them through the process of opening bank accounts, identifying required documentation for financial institutions, and ensuring appropriate officer authorization for account access. Assistance also included helping clubs understand basic budgeting practices and setting up procedures to meet their ongoing needs.

Mary Powlen
 Marsha Peters
 Kitty Hall

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION LIAISON
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

As the International Foundation Liaison, we worked closely with the International Foundation to coordinate and educate District Nine regarding Foundation updates, as well as assist with fundraising efforts for the International Foundation.

A major focus this year was educating District Nine members about the new Club 52 program, which replaced Club 21. This change was announced at the International Convention in Quebec City. The increase to Club 52 was necessary because the previous Club 21 contribution level could no longer adequately support the services provided by the International Foundation.

Our first educational opportunity was presenting “International Foundation 101” during the February Super Saturday event. During this presentation, we discussed the purpose of the International Foundation, how it benefits communities, ways members can donate, and the various Lamplighter giving levels. We also introduced the Carry the Cause purse auction fundraiser and encouraged members to donate new or gently used purses and totes for the event.

From February through mid-April, we collected donated purses and entered them into the GalaBid site with photographs and estimated values. Entering the items as they were received helped eliminate the last-minute rush of processing everything at once.

The auction site officially launched on the Monday prior to Conference, with bidding beginning at \$25 per item.

The Saturday evening dinner at Conference was dedicated to the Foundation. During the event, we concluded the purse auction with several members modeling the featured purses. We also encouraged donations to Club 52 and additional contributions to the International Foundation.

Throughout the Conference, Club 52 membership enrollment remained open, and members were able to receive their new pins immediately upon joining.

As a result of the many fundraising efforts and generous support from District Nine members, we surpassed the previous year’s fundraising total for the District. The total amount raised for the International Foundation, after fees, was \$34,796.32.

We are truly grateful for the continued generosity and commitment of the members of District Nine.

Linda Moore & Betty Sainz
International Foundation Liaisons

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
FUNDRAISING
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

The fundraising team has participated in Governor Kimberly Kierce's Zoom meetings. We have attended several online sessions regarding fundraising to learn more about the topic, and to see what can be applied to Altrusa.

We have written two articles for News of the Mighty Ninth.

Brenda Hill and Regina Phinney from Altrusa International of Temple, TX created a workshop that was presented at the District Conference in Amarillo. It was titled "How to Use Your Fundraiser to Promote Engagement." We had approximately 16 participants who actively engaged in this workshop. Lots of questions were asked, and there was much discussion. There were several questions about how to use the Altrusa Foundation (for the clubs who have their own foundation). I think that this could be a topic for the future, as some of the clubs were not using it to their best advantage regarding tax write-offs for donors. (We were fortunate that another Temple club member was in the session who is a CPA.)

Brenda Hill (Altrusa Temple)

Stephanie Nolan (Altrusa Garland)

Program Team - Fundraising

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
LEADERSHIP
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

The Leadership Program Team started off with a change in personnel when Co-Chair Beth Miller left to fulfill another District Nine duty and was replaced by Lynne Moore from Altrusa Pampa. Beth did write a July 2025 Article for NOMN on Leadership before she left us. We attended Program Team meetings and as many Super Saturdays as we could manage, while exploring where we were aligned on leadership topics we wanted to explore, that would be useful to the clubs in District Nine. In alignment with the Strategic Plan, programs and messaging was tailored to speak to assimilating new members more quickly into the leadership ranks of their respective clubs while helping them meet their personal goals.

The Leadership Committee for Altrusa Richardson was working during this same time on our annual Leadership Luncheon that focused in 2026 on “Essential Communication Tools You Need as a Leader.” The event exceeded expectations meeting our attendance goals and bringing in members from other clubs in District Nine to hear communications professional Melinda Guravich deliver a meaningful program that also touched on goals from the District Nine Strategic Plan regarding new members becoming new leaders.

As we started to discuss workshop topics and the lineup for the 2026 Conference, the Leadership Team had the opportunity to submit an article on Servant Leadership to News of the Mighty Ninth for April. Co-Chair Lynne Moore is currently at work on an article for July. The Conference keynote speaker was Rebecca Silvestri, who was a panelist at the Richardson 2025 Leadership Luncheon focusing on Leading with Kindness. The decision was made for the Leadership Team to present a workshop at Conference with the same theme – “Leading with Kindness – Creating a Culture of Excellence.” We convened a panel that included District Nine Governor Elect Linda Hurt along with former District Nine Governors Mary Osentowski and Brenda Tucker. The workshop was well-attended and the questions we posed created an opportunity for lots of audience participation.

Governor Kimberly Kierce has requested that this workshop topic be considered for the upcoming Fall Leadership event in Waco, Texas and we are looking forward to this opportunity. This program has also been considered for a Super Saturday Training and is ready to go if needed or another one on a similar theme.

It has been a pleasure to work in this engaging and critical area of growth for all Altrusa clubs large and small in District Nine.

Sarah Wagner, Lynne Moore & Dana Hartman
District Nine Leadership Team

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
MARKETING
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

The District Nine Marketing Committee continues to support and strengthen the work of our clubs by providing tools, training, and resources that help tell the Altrusa story with clarity, consistency, and purpose.

This quarter, the committee hosted a **Super Saturday Marketing Training**, where we focused on the importance of proper logo usage and brand stewardship. While a logo may seem like a small detail, it serves as a visual representation of the trust, service, and impact that Altrusa has built within our communities. By using our brand consistently, we strengthen recognition and reinforce the credibility of our organization.

We also presented our **Marketing Suitcase** workshop, designed to equip members with practical resources, ideas, and technology tools that can be used to promote club projects, celebrate service, and connect more effectively with members and the communities we serve. Our goal is to make marketing approachable, useful, and empowering for every club, regardless of size or experience.

In addition, the committee continued its collaboration with the District Nine Social Media Team to help promote the Altrusa brand across digital platforms. By working together to highlight club achievements, service projects, district initiatives, and member impact, we are expanding awareness of Altrusa's mission and celebrating the meaningful work taking place throughout our district.

As we move forward, the committee remains committed to working in tandem with the District Nine Long-Range Strategic Plan. We continue to align our efforts with the district's strategic priorities, recognizing that strong communication and thoughtful storytelling help advance our mission and amplify the incredible work being done throughout District Nine.

Every service project has a story. Every volunteer effort creates an impact worth sharing. The Marketing Committee is honored to help our clubs shine a light on those stories, celebrate the heart of Altrusa, and inspire others to join us in service.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly McCoy and Kelli McBee
District Nine Marketing Committee Co-chairs

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE

SOCIAL MEDIA

2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

The District Nine Social Media Team has made significant progress in strengthening communication, enhancing digital presence, and supporting clubs across the district. Through a combination of strategic initiatives, hands-on support, and training, the team has worked to build a more connected and visible Altrusa community.

One of the key accomplishments this period includes contributing two articles to the district newsletter, helping to highlight social media efforts, share best practices, and keep members informed of ongoing initiatives. In addition, the team successfully established a LinkedIn presence for the district and connected the Facebook and Instagram accounts, expanding outreach to a broader professional audience and increasing visibility of Altrusa's mission and impact across platforms.

LinkedIn Highlights (12/31/2025 – 4/28/2026):

- 2,257 impressions, reflecting a 37% increase
- 156 reactions, reflecting a 41.8% increase
- 53 followers

These metrics demonstrate strong early growth and increasing engagement with district content.

Facebook Highlights (5/1/2025 – 4/30/2026):

- 11,708 impressions, reflecting a 352% increase
- 10,151 reactions, reflecting a 447% increase
- 1,075 followers

These metrics demonstrate strong engagement with about 100 additional followers.

Instagram Highlights (5/1/2025 – 4/30/2026):

- 2,578 impressions, reflecting a 100% increase
- 196 reactions, reflecting a 100% increase
- 210 followers

These metrics demonstrate strong increased engagement.

The team launched several targeted marketing campaigns to promote district initiatives and events, ensuring consistent messaging and branding. To support clubs at all levels of experience, quick tip sheets were developed and distributed, providing practical guidance on improving social media engagement and efficiency. A ticket tracking system was also implemented to streamline requests and ensure timely responses to club needs.

Direct support to local clubs has been a priority. The team assisted one club in establishing a Facebook presence, helping them build a foundation for community engagement. Another club received support in creating a contact form, improving communication and accessibility. To further

empower clubs, shared Canva graphic folders were created, giving members access to ready-to-use, branded visual assets.

Education and training have been central to the team's efforts. A President's call training provided foundational social media guidance for district leadership, while Super Saturday featured intermediate-level training to build on those skills. At the District Conference, the team led a hands-on workshop focused on moving *from content to connection*, encouraging participants to think strategically about the purpose of their posts and the message they want to convey.

In preparation for the District Conference, the team also developed and executed a coordinated social media film and graphic campaign, elevating promotion efforts and enhancing the overall visibility of the event.

Overall, the District Nine Social Media Team has focused on building capacity, increasing consistency, and providing practical tools and support. These efforts have strengthened the district's digital presence and equipped clubs with the resources needed to effectively share Altrusa's story within their communities.

Submitted by

Sherry Burke & France Dalbey

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
NEWSLETTER: News of Mighty Ninth
2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Newsletter Team provided four editions of the *News of Mighty Ninth* including articles from the Governor and each Program Team throughout the year.

All NOMN editions are on the District website: <https://altrusadistrictnine.org/Page/nomn>

Program Team article schedule:

2025-27 NoMN Committee Schedule				
Deadline: 10th of month		Publish: 15th-20th		
COMMITTEES	July 2025	Sept 2025	Jan 2026	April 2026
BRR				
Governance				
Int'l Foundation				
Fundraising				
Hospitality				
Literacy				
Int. Service				
Service				
ASTRA				
Marketing				
Website				
Social Media				
Technology				
Member Growth				
Member Engagement				
New Club Building				
Leadership				

Additionally, we highlighted various clubs and their amazing work within their communities.

Featured Clubs:

July 2025	Sept 2025	Jan 2026	April 2026
Abilene	Anderson Co	Garland	Arlington
Downtown Ft. Worth	Central Tx	Lake Cities	Richardson
Houston Central	Dallas	North Dallas	SW Dallas Co
Northeast Tx	Downtown Dallas	Pampa	The Brazos

Chris Scherer & Laure Bruner, Newsletter Editors

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE LITERACY PROJECTS 2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

This year, the District Nine Literacy Committee made meaningful progress in advancing the goals outlined in the Altrusa International 2024–2030 Long Range Strategic Plan. With a continued focus on ensuring that **100% of clubs maintain a signature literacy project**, the committee prioritized education, resource development, and measurable impact across the district.

Progress Toward Strategic Goals

Strengthening Literacy Engagement Across Clubs

To support clubs in developing and sustaining impactful literacy initiatives, the committee focused heavily on education and resource sharing. A key highlight of the year was the delivery of both a **Super Saturday Workshop** and a **District Conference workshop**, designed to equip members with practical tools, innovative ideas, and a deeper understanding of effective literacy programming.

These sessions provided a platform for collaboration, idea exchange, and inspiration, reinforcing the importance of literacy as a central pillar of Altrusa's mission.

Expanding Access to Literacy Resources

In collaboration with Sharon Tramonte, the committee successfully launched a **dedicated Literacy Page on the District Nine website**. This new resource hub serves as a centralized location for literacy project ideas, tools, and best practices, making it easier for clubs to access support and strengthen their service efforts.

Measuring Our Impact

District Nine clubs demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to literacy through their service efforts this year. Collectively, clubs reported the donation of **43,318 books** to communities across the district. This remarkable achievement reflects both the scale of our outreach and the dedication of our members to improving literacy outcomes for individuals of all ages.

The committee continues to emphasize the importance of tracking and reporting these contributions to better capture and communicate the full impact of our work.

Supporting Reporting and Recognition

The Literacy Committee will continue to provide guidance and encouragement to clubs in completing their Annual Literacy Reports, which also serve as submissions for the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award. Updated templates and ongoing communication will promote consistency, timeliness, and quality in reporting, while also highlighting exemplary projects across the district.

Alignment with International Initiatives

The committee will remain committed to supporting Altrusa International's global literacy priorities. President Chris is continuing Past President Kathy's book challenge, and we want you to be a part of it. The challenge is for Altrusans to distribute one million books and/or devote 500,000 literacy service hours to our communities during the 2025-2027 biennium.

Looking Ahead

District Nine continues to lead with purpose and passion in the area of literacy. Building on this year's success, the Literacy Committee will focus on expanding resource accessibility, increasing participation in reporting, and further strengthening the visibility of our collective impact.

Through collaboration, innovation, and a shared commitment to service, we are confident that District Nine will continue to transform lives through literacy.

Respectfully submitted by

Kathleen Witte and Janelle Williamson, Literacy Co-Chairs

Altrusa International District Nine INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROJECTS 2025-2026 Annual Report

The purpose of the International Relations Committee is to support the mission of Altrusa International by (i) promoting international understanding, (ii) encouraging participation in international service projects, and (iii) increasing awareness of global literacy, education and humanitarian efforts throughout District Nine. In addition, the Committee encourages clubs to participate in recognizing at least two United Nations Days of Observance and to support a military service project.

The Committee's goals for this past year were to encourage and assist District Nine Clubs to:

1. Develop and implement a new international service project
2. Participate in new or existing international service projects
3. Participate in recognizing at least two United Nations Days of Observance
4. Promote participation in a military service project
5. Support *Days for Girls*
6. Submit a written entry for the Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Service Award describing the club's international service project

Highlights of this year's international service efforts across District Nine include:

- Articles describing the International Relations Committee's goals in both the Summer and Fall 2025 issues of "News of Mighty Ninth"
- District-wide fundraiser supporting UNICEF's Trick or Treat campaign raising \$942.29
- Presentation to the District Nine President's Council (10-13-2025) by Committee Co-Chair, Jane Tucker, on ways to support global projects through the United Nations Days of Observance
- Super Saturday Zoom presentation on international service (10-18-2025) by Committee Co-Chair, Laura Roach
- Two international projects included in "Servicepalooza" at the Seventieth Altrusa District Conference: *Days for Girls* and *Teach Haiti International* (Paperbeads)
- Information display on *Days for Girls* in the Conference "Everything" room
- Participation in Zoom meetings hosted by Vickie Kilgore, Altrusa's International liaison with *Days for Girls* on Altrusa's contributions globally

Looking ahead to 2026-2027, the Committee aims to increase communication with and among clubs on types of international service projects, including those focused on literacy in other countries as well as those supporting active-duty military serving overseas. Internally, we plan to promote applications to the Altrusa International Foundation for grants supporting international projects as well as nominations for the Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award. Finally, we have ambitions to explore a District-wide international service initiative potentially involving all District Nine clubs in some capacity.

Respectfully submitted by

Laura Roach and Jane Tucker, District Nine International Relations Co-Chairs

Altrusa International District Nine
MEMBERSHIP GROWTH
2025-2026 Annual Report

Governor Kimberly Kierce appointed two co-chairs to lead the Membership Growth Committee for this biennium: Barb Hahn of Pampa and Delaine White of North San Antonio. Despite the distance between them, the co-chairs communicated regularly by phone and email to complete district assignments.

In accordance with the District Nine Long Range Strategic Plan goals to increase membership by 25%, increase cultural and generational diversity by 5%, and streamline the onboarding process for new members, the committee contributed articles to the *News of the Mighty Ninth*, presented membership growth ideas at the Presidents' Council meeting, collaborated with all districts during a Super Saturday training session, and handed out over 170 flower seed packets at conference with different "growth" ideas attached.

The Membership Growth Committee also reached out to clubs, as requested, to offer ideas and assistance for revitalizing their clubs and increasing membership.

By sharing the TEAM (Together Everyone Adds Members) campaign, promoting new "Join Us" links and initiation scripts on the District Nine website, and providing a new "How to Add a Member" flowchart, the committee encouraged clubs to celebrate each new member and strengthen their recruitment efforts. As a result, 126 members have joined District Nine since June 2025.

The Membership Growth Committee will continue to implement the Long Range Strategic Plan action items designed to support the continued growth of our district throughout the remainder of the biennium.

Barb Hahn and Delaine White

Co-Chairs, Membership Growth

Altrusa International District Nine

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

2025-2026 Annual Report

We re excited to help clubs create even more meaningful and engaging experiences for every member!

To celebrate the dedication of our members, every club was contacted to review and verify each Altrusan's start date. This important effort ensured that members were recognized for their **years of service** to Altrusa. Certificates were proudly presented to those reaching milestones of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, and even 45 years of service.

In addition, the **Rookie of the Year Award** was developed to honor outstanding new members. Award criteria and a scoring rubric were thoughtfully created and submitted to the District for approval, paving the way to recognize and encourage the next generation of engaged Altrusans.

Our team authored an article for the *News of the Mighty Ninth* highlighting the benefits of hosting an **Annual Club Member Re-Orientation Program**. This fun and informative program is a great way to reconnect members with the mission, opportunities, and friendships that make Altrusa so special.

We also presented a dynamic 45-minute **Super Saturday training** session featuring an interactive slideshow packed with creative member engagement ideas and practical suggestions for conducting successful new member orientations and annual member re-orientation programs.

At the **Spring Conference** in Amarillo, we shared even more inspiring strategies through a hands-on workshop focused on keeping members enthusiastic, involved, and connected throughout the year.

When our members feel informed, welcomed, and valued, they are more likely to stay engaged—and that s when clubs truly thrive!

Debbie Llacuna, Copperas Cove

Laura Trainor-Collins, Richardson

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
HOSPITALITY
2025-2026 Annual Report

This year, Hospitality was created as a new service team to emphasize to District Nine Altrusa Clubs the value of hospitality. The service team's mission was to make clubs aware of the importance of creating welcoming, inclusive, and supportive environment for members, guests, volunteers, and community partners. Hopefully this past year, this new service team has shown that hospitality serves as the welcoming and engagement part of Altrusa. By fostering a culture of warmth, inclusion, and appreciation, a hospitality committee in an Altrusa club helps strengthen the organization's sense of community and Altrusa's mission's effectiveness.

The Committee's "Passport" tasks for "Discovering Your Altrusa Journey" were:

1. Make clubs aware of what duties a hospitality committee can oversee. For example, set-up and/or clean-up at a Club meeting, membership or service event. Checking in on members during illness, or major life events.
2. Be a Greeter at Club meetings or events and provide guests with Club contact information. Introducing guests to members and encouraging networking.
3. Obtain Guest contact information to send a 'Thank You' note to Guests for attending an Altrusa event. Send birthdays, congratulations, and sympathy cards to members
4. Following up with Guests by inviting them to upcoming Club events and/or projects.

This year's highlights were:

1. Increased awareness of the importance of hospitality through submitting articles in the Summer and Winter issues of "New of Mighty Nineth".
2. Presentation to the District Nine President's Council through zoom on ways to enhance hospitality in Altrusa Clubs.
3. Throughout the year 2025-2026 year, helped make & suggest gift items for District Nine events.

Looking forward to 2025-2026, the committee aims to find ways to strengthen relationships among members and volunteers by improving guest and member experiences, strengthen volunteer engagement, and fostering a culture of care, inclusion, and appreciation. Altrusa is built on service, leadership, fellowship, and community impact. Ultimately, inclusion and warmth are not separate from Altrusa's mission- they are part of how the mission succeeds.

Respectfully submitted by

Donna Jones & Jane Tucker/Hospitality District Team Co-Chairs

Altrusa International District Nine

NEW CLUB BUILDING

2025-2026 Annual Report

The New Club Building Team meet monthly throughout the year to discuss strategies not only for building new clubs in District Nine, but also for supporting those clubs after chartering.

Our activities included:

New Club Initiatives:

The team worked on initiatives in **Downtown Fort Worth, Corsicana, Waxahachie, Borger, and Bryan/College Station**. While the Corsicana and Borger initiatives were ultimately unsuccessful, we successfully chartered new clubs in **Downtown Fort Worth** and **Waxahachie**. The **Bryan/College Station** club continues to grow, and we are hopeful it will charter this fall.

Support for New Clubs:

The team also hosted several “District Nine Huddles,” designed specifically for members of newly formed clubs. These sessions provided fundamental information to help clubs established and operate successfully. The huddles proved to be an effective way to share basic knowledge, answer questions, and help new members feel more comfortable and connected within Altrusa.

Support for Struggling Clubs:

The “Huddle” concept was later expanded to assist several struggling clubs as well. This support was extremely well received by members. Additionally, the team is exploring ways to assist the **Central Texas** and **The Brazos** clubs by working alongside the Membership Committee to develop action plans that will help move these clubs forward successfully

Clarifying Processes:

As we worked with several potential clubs, it became clear that we needed to clarify the processes for new club formation to help both the clubs and the district remain on a clear and organized path. One important decision made by the group was to discourage new clubs from forming a Foundation until:

- they have been in existence for at least two (2) years, and
- have a membership of more than 20 members.

This recommendation (approved by the District Board) comes after observing several newly chartered clubs struggle with the additional board positions, administrative responsibilities, and paperwork required to operate a foundation immediately after chartering.

Debbie Mabry and Candace Martin,
New Club Building Co-chairs