

ALTRUSA WAVES



ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF GARLAND NEWSLETTER



Words from our PRESIDENT Stephanie Noland



It's February, so "love is in the air" for both Valentines and also for all the GALentines in our club!

Thinking about our Altrusa club, especially this month, reminds me of a famous quote by Mother Theresa, "Do small things with great love." So many of the things that we do seem to be "small things"...a book in the hands of a child, a package of diapers given to a refuge parent, a thank you note to deployed member of the military, a treat or small token to the hotel servers, a jar of jelly or box of mac-n-cheese to the food pantry...each a small thing, but when done in great love and service to our community the impact is BIG.

However, it's not just things we give...**LOVE** is also in the work we do! Hang on with me here just a minute. **LOVE = Look! Our Volunteers (are) Everywhere!** Altrusans roll up their sleeves and get to the business at hand all over... Garland elementary schools, nursing homes, food pantries, free medical clinics...and that doesn't even begin to touch all the places where individuals volunteer in other community partners beyond our Altrusa work! Y'all my heart is FULL!!!

The newsletter each month is full of things we've done and given...in love to our community (as well as the next opportunities we're planning to do and give). There's a lot of love in the air around Garland Altrusa. Be sure to take a moment and check out what we've got on deck and coming up soon...then find your places to serve and share with the Garland/Rowlett/Sachse (and beyond) area.

For Valentine's Day, the month of February, and beyond, I want you to know that ... **I LOVE** serving alongside you,

Stephanie
snolandtx@yahoo.com



School supplies for Montclair Elementary
Jan McCorstin, Rita Johnson, Debbie Summerville, Barbara Johnson, Betty Oursler, Erin Pacheco (Principal), Patty Lucas, Zoila Rangel (Librarian)



IMPORTANT DATES

- Feb 8 Business Meeting, 6 PM, Holiday Inn
- Feb 22 Weaver Bookfair, 8:30 AM
- Feb 25 Book Club, 4 PM, Wildwood Firewheel
- Feb 27 Board Meeting, 6 PM, via Zoom
- Feb 29 5th Thursday Social, 6 PM, LaBella's
- Mar 2 ACT Arts Festival, 10 AM
- Mar 5 Boxes to the Military Packing, 6PM
- Apr 19-21 District Nine Conference

JANUARY MEETING

Altrusa welcomes **Hope Clinic's executive director, Tanya Downing**, as our program speaker for February. Altrusa and Hope Clinic have a long-standing partnership in our local community and Tanya will bring an update about what's happening at the clinic these days.

MEETING BRINGS

JERKEY & NUTS
to include in our Boxes to the Military

MEETING INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

is responsible for leading the Altrusa pledge, grace and accent at the February 8, 2024 meeting.

WEBSITE

AltrusaGarland.org

DISTRICT NINE WEBSITE

AltrusaDistrictNine.org

EMAIL

AltrusaGarland@gmail.com

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL

Altrusa.org





COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Your RSVP Matters!!!

Please remember to RSVP for the month's dinner (both attending OR not attending). It's super important that we have an accurate count for the hotel no later than Tuesday before the event, but it would be better if it was even earlier. You can respond to the Evite or you can email or text Patty Lucas with your response.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

New member orientation is in the works for this month! If you are a new member or a new member sponsor, please watch your email for the finalized date and time. Sponsors, please reach out to your new member to be sure they know how helpful this event will be for them finding their places of service in our club.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee has confirmed a full slate of officer candidates to present at the February meeting. Voting on these candidates will be at the March meeting. As always, nominations will also be received from the floor. Thanks to Mary P, Patty, and Rita for your work in preparation for the next Altrusa year's board.

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

Our **final book fair** for this year will be the morning of **February 22** at **Weaver Elementary**. Please reach out to Betty if you are able to help out. Remember, a GISD background check is needed before you're able to be on campus.

Boxes to the Military packing party is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 5** at Mary Powlen's at 6:00 pm. We are still collecting names/addresses for deployed military who'd appreciate a gift from home. Our goal is to reach those men and women who are serving outside of the U.S. Share any addresses with Mary or Betty.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Thanks to 2024 being a Leap Year, there's a **5th Thursday!** The Social Committee is planning a Wine, Chocolate & Pizza Party for our **5th Thursday Social at Labella's at 6:00 Thursday, February 29th**. We are asking that everyone bring their favorite wine or other beverage. We will take care of the Pizza.



EDITOR Christina Contreras cmcontreras01@yahoo.com



Altrusa READS Book Club

The book club choice for February
The Keeper of Lost Things
by Ruth Hogan

A charming, clever, and quietly moving debut novel of endless possibilities and joyful discoveries that explores the promises we make and break, losing and finding ourselves, the objects that hold magic and meaning for our lives, and the surprising connections that bind us.

We will meet on **Sunday, Feb 25 at 4:00** at Wildwood at Firewood.



Check out our picks on GoodReads [2023 List Here](#)



DISTRICT NEWS

Congratulations to the two newly chartered clubs in District Nine: NE Texas and Houston Central. Our club has sent "seed money" for each local foundation.

Save the Date! District Nine Conference is coming April 19-21 in San Marcos. You can check out the details here: <https://altrusadistrictnine.org/page/conference-2024>

Registration is open and it's recommended that you make your hotel reservations as soon as possible.

The delegates and alternates for our club will be elected at the February meeting. Please reach out to Stephanie if you're interested in being a delegate (but are unable to attend the February meeting.)



JANUARY BUSINESS Meeting



GOVERNOR'S HOME CLUB