

ALTRUSA WAVES

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF GARLAND NEWSLETTER



STIR CRAZY SOCIAL Pepper Team: Mignon, Laura, Barbara P, Roz, Jackie, and Louise Bryant

PRESIDENT'S

Stephanie Noland

Pen



Big news... April is National Volunteer Month and the week of April 20 - 26 is considered National Volunteer Week. Who knew? I didn't, but I do now!! This seems like the perfect celebratory season for our club and our mission, don't you think? Every one of us is a volunteer...and everything we do for Altrusa is an act of service in our local community.

I love the theme for National Volunteer Week, 2025 - "Celebrate Service - an opportunity to shine a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve". Our combined efforts as Altrusans totaled 15,269 volunteer hours last year. That is a LOT to celebrate and a LOT of light shining on others. So, as we consider all we've done, both individually and collectively in 2024-25, I anticipate another big number this year. I mean, let's face it, we've been BUSY!

So, as you reflect upon and tally up the hours you have donated in service this year...(yes, that number is due soon, so get started), please know how much I celebrate your hearts for service and the selfless gifts of your time and energy for all things Altrusa.

Celebrating our work alongside you, *Stephanie*
snolandtx@yahoo.com



IMPORTANT DATES

- APR 10 Business Meeting
- APR 24 Board Meeting, Zoom
- APR 27 Book Club, 4:00 PM Wildwood Firewheel
- May 2-4 District Nine Conference - Doubletree Richardson

APRIL MEETING NOTES

Our guests for April are from **Patriot Paws**. This organization trains and provides service dogs to disabled American veterans. Yes! **They are bringing a dog!**

SERVICE PROJECT Packing Back-to-School snack packs for children in foster care

Menu Deli buffet with pasta salad, kettle chips, grilled veggies, and apple cobbler for dessert. Cost of meal this month \$30.50

MEETING INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

is responsible for leading the Altrusa pledge, grace and accent at the April 10, 2025 meeting.

WEBSITE

AltrusaGarland.org

DISTRICT NINE WEBSITE

AltrusaDistrictNine.org

EMAIL

AltrusaGarland@gmail.com

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL

Altrusa.org

garlandaltrusa on



COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

Book fairs

We wrapped up our book fair project this year with a bang! **521** books were selected at our newest school location, Williams Elementary. Thank you to Deborah Henson for serving as our liaison with GISD, Betty Sainz for organizing the books and volunteers, and, of course, thanks to each Altrusan who helped put books in the hands of young readers.



We are already in the process of organizing and planning for next year's book fairs. Laura Thomas, 5 Loaves, and The Lamplighter School have all donated books that will need stamping and sorting. We will also be reaching out to Half Price in order to have enough books for next school year.

Boxes to the Military

Thirteen Altrusans prepared **34 boxes** of goodies for deployed military. Boxes were filled with goodies, notes of appreciation from our club and, in some cases, personal notes from family members of the recipients. Thanks to Mary Powlen for hosting, Betty for bringing the shipping and labeling supplies, and, of course, thanks to all who helped in this project.

One box has already arrived! Elizabeth Fuentes' sister in law submitted a name and we've heard back.



Eggstaveganza

Debbie Summerville and Nicole Costa delivered 1,000 plastic eggs that were filled with candy by Altrusans for an Easter celebration at Gateway of Grace and also donated 85 books to support the community.



UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

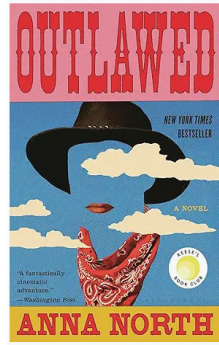


STEPHANIE NOLAND
APR 18TH

Altrusa READS Book Club

The book club choice for this month

Outlawed by Anna North



Instant New York Times Bestseller
The "terrifying, wise, tender, and thrilling" (R.O. Kwon) adventure story of a fugitive girl, a mysterious gang of robbers, and their dangerous mission to transform the Wild West...that begins with "In the year of our Lord 1894, I became an outlaw."

See you at book club on April 27 at 4:00. We meet at Wildwood restaurant at Firewheel.



SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Stir Crazy

A good time was had by all who joined us at the recent Stir Crazy at Kendra Walden's home. Congrats to the Salt (red) team for winning Entree and Side dish. Congrats to the Pepper (blue) team for preparing the winning appetizer. The food, the decorations, the sake, and fellowship was unmatched!

GENERAL CLUB NEWS

District Nine Notes

Have you seen the new Altrusa shirts? You can order yours online from the District Nine website.



Early registration for the conference ends April 9, but you can still register until April 16. After registering, please notify Stephanie or Betty. A reception for outgoing Board members Shirley Raymer and Mary Powlen will be held Friday night after dinner.

Year end reminders

It's hard to believe that this Altrusa year is nearly a wrap. Here are a few reminders as May 31 approaches:

- 1 Please begin to **calculate** your volunteer hours and submit the numbers via email to Stephanie. Include Altrusa meetings, Altrusa service projects, Altrusa events (Fall Leadership or District Nine conference), volunteer work you did for the club on your own (e.g., book stamping), and any volunteer work you did for another organization. It ALL counts.
- 2 Consider who you want to **nominate** for our annual frog awards. We recognize the club member spirit and growth awards. Also, if you were one of the winners last year, start hunting for that super safe place where you have the award frog in your home. You'll need to bring it to the MAY meeting.
- 3 If you have not already joined **Club 21** for this year, use your Club Runner app or the international foundation website to join.
<https://foundation.altrusa.org/donate/>

