

# ALTRUSA WAVES



ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF GARLAND NEWSLETTER

**BOOK GIVEAWAY** at Achievement Center of Texas for their annual Special Arts Festival. Altrusans, Barbara Powers, Stephanie Noland, Elizabeth Fuentes, Rhonda Schmid and Barb Baker.



## PRESIDENT'S Pen

Stephanie Noland



*In case you missed it (but I'm sure you haven't), asking federal employees to report 5 weekly tasks has been all over the news these days. I'm not going to get political, so hang with me...*

*I believe the bigger question, and one for all of us, comes from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Life's most persistent and urgent question is - What are you doing for others?" Let's think on that.*

*I can't believe it's March! At school, I'm planning toward the end of the year (while counting the days until Spring Break, of course). In Altrusa, March begins our final quarter of the year. We're wrapping up our 2024-25 events and projects, while preparing for what's to come for 2025-26. There are so many opportunities available for us so we can easily respond to Dr. King's question. Our **service** to others with **kindness** will leave an enduring **impact**. In other words, we will **SKI**.*

Serving others alongside you,

*Stephanie*

snolandtx@yahoo.com



## IMPORTANT DATES

- MAR 13 Business Meeting
- MAR 19 Boxes to the Military
- MAR 23 Book Club, 4:00 PM Wildwood Firewheel
- MAR 27 Stir Crazy
- MAR 28 Book Fair at Williams Elementary
- MAR 31 Board Meeting, Zoom
- May 2-4 District Nine Conference - Doubletree Richardson

## FEBRUARY MEETING NOTES

We will be learning more about our international partner, **Friends of Cozumel** for our program this month.

Our **service project** for the evening will be stuffing plastic Easter eggs for Gateway of Grace. Please bring bags of candy for this project.

**Menu** for the March 13 meeting - chicken and beef fajitas, beans, rice, pico, queso, salsa, guacamole, chips. Cost of the meal will be \$32.00

## MEETING INFORMATION

### COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

is responsible for leading the Altrusa pledge, grace and accent at the March 13, 2025 meeting.

#### WEBSITE

[AltrusaGarland.org](http://AltrusaGarland.org)

#### DISTRICT NINE WEBSITE

[AltrusaDistrictNine.org](http://AltrusaDistrictNine.org)

#### EMAIL

[AltrusaGarland@gmail.com](mailto:AltrusaGarland@gmail.com)

#### ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL

[Altrusa.org](http://Altrusa.org)



# COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS

## COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

### Boxes to the Military

Once again, we will be packing care packages to send to deployed military. Join us at Mary Powlen's home on **March 19** as we prepare "hugs from home" for those who are serving. Please submit any addresses you may have to Mary by March 10. If you'd like to bring a snack to share that evening, feel free.



### Williams Book Fair

As noted, our book fair for Williams Elementary was postponed to **March 28** at 12:30. This will be a big event, Williams and Park Crest have combined into Williams...so we need a lot of Altrusans to help with this, our final book fair for the year. Location: 2232 Parkcrest Drive, Garland

**BOOK FAIRS**

**The Achievement Center of Texas** - Special Arts Festival  
One of our favorite events of the year, the Special Arts Festival was held on **March 8**, and Garland Altrusa was there giving away books for readers young and old.



### ACT Grant Update

The library project at the Achievement Center of Texas is rolling along. Our Eagle Scout partner has led shelf building, sanding, staining, and book preparation. We will contribute with book donations, decor, and setting up furniture. Please plan to participate when the call goes out.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

### Welcome New Member! Barb Baker

She initiated into membership at our February meeting. Be sure to add her to your directory and email records.  
5801 Firecrest Drive | (214) 335-8346 | akasnicklfrtz@yahoo.com

Know Someone Who'd be a GREAT Altrusan?  
Membership dues for the remainder of this year (2024-25) are half price through March 31. Beginning April 1, new members are offered a "14 for the price of 12" dues deal.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

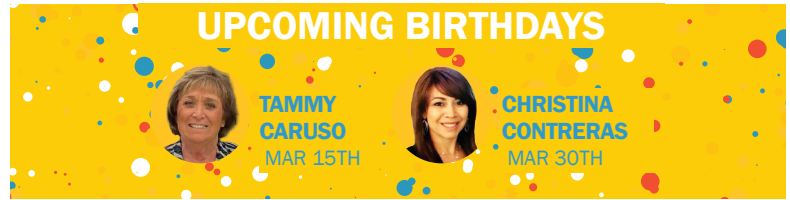
Time to go a little **STIR CRAZY!** Please plan to attend and bring a friend to this super fun event sponsored by our Social committee. We'll be getting together on **March 28**, RSVP by March 10. Please let Helen her know that you're coming.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee presented this slate of officers for the upcoming Altrusa year:

<b>Garland Board of Directors - Nominees</b>	Director (2025 - 2027) - Amy Sausamedia
President - Stephanie Noland	Parliamentarian - Mary Powlen
President Elect - Betty Sainz	
Vice President - Deborah Henson	<b>Foundation Board Nominees</b>
Operating Treasurer - Barbara Powers	President - Mary Powlen
Recording Secretary - Wendy Santiago	VP/Secretary - Patty Lucas
Attendance Secretary - Rhonda Schmid	Treasurer- Laura Contreras
Director (2024 -2026) - Christina Contreras	

**EDITOR Christina Contreras** cmcontreras01@yahoo.com



## Altrusa READS Book Club

The book club choice for this month  
**The Secrets We Kept** by Lara Prescott

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER, this is a thrilling tale of secretaries turned spies, of love and duty, and of sacrifice—inspired by the true story of the CIA plot to infiltrate the hearts and minds of Soviet Russia, not with propaganda, but with the greatest love story of the twentieth century: Doctor Zhivago  
See you at book club on March 2 at 4:00. We meet at Wildwood restaurant at Firewheel.

## GENERAL CLUB NEWS

### Finding Your Fit

Committee Sign up sheets will be available at the March and April meetings. We need everyone to consider ways that they can best engage with all that is Altrusa Garland this coming year. We need everyone to participate in both Community Service and Fundraising, but ALSO need those who find their bliss in Membership, Communications, Programs, Scholarship Awards, and Social. We also need members who are willing to step into co-chair leadership positions for these committees.

### Club 21

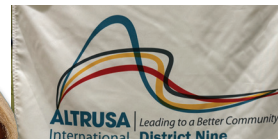
March is the month to join or renew our Club 21 memberships for \$21, which sends a disabled or ill child to summer camp. As Shirley Raymer says, "It's the best \$21 you'll ever spend." You can pay via the Club Runner app, by check, or with cash. Please help us reach 100% participation!

### Call to Conference

All Garland Altrusans are encouraged to attend the 69th District Nine Conference, May 2-4, at the Doubletree in Richardson. Registration for the event and hotel accommodations is open on the District Nine website. Be sure to book your hotel through the website link for the conference rate. First-time attendees can apply for partial scholarships.

Delegates representing our club are Patty Lucas, Barbara Powers, and Elizabeth Fuentes, with Betty Sainz as the alternate. We will celebrate Shirley Raymer's service as District Governor and welcome Kimberly Kierce as the incoming Governor. Contact Mary Powlen if you'd like to help organize a reception for Shirley.

On Sunday, we will honor charter member and Boxes to the Military founder, Beverly Ryan, at the district's memorial service.



**GOVERNOR'S HOME CLUB**