News of Mighty Ninth

VOLUME 50
NUMBER 7
Winter 2025

The District Service Bulletin of Altrusa International District Nine, Inc.

GOVERNOR'S CORNER

Greetings District Nine Altrusans;

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! I hope each of you enjoyed your holidays and was able to spend time with family and friends. As we begin another year of making a difference with service projects that touch many lives with our Hearts of Service shining. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your caring and devotion to the service others. You are amazing Altrusans!

My sincere thanks to the District Nine Nominating Committee for their work in preparing the slate of candidates to serve on the 2025 – 2027 District Nine Board of Directors – Mary Black Pearson, Temple chair; Kadda Schale, Pampa; Laure Bruner, Anderson County; Cindy McIlroy, Richardson and Roxie Vincent, Copperas Cove. Ladies, your willingness to serve in this capacity and the time spent is greatly appreciated. The candidates' for district officers pictures and bios are included in this Call to Conference newsletter. Thank you to each candidate for your desire to serve District Nine.

Linda Hurt and I continue to meet with the 2025 conference chairs, Ginger Tonne and Carol Ruszkowski and Janie Jaquier, conference treasurer, in planning the many details of our Sixty-Nineth District Nine Conference to be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Richardson. These ladies along with their entire conference team are doing a incredible job and are amazing planners.

The conference will begin at noon on Friday, May 2, with the Leadership Luncheon for all Altrusans. We have keynote speakers for each banquet event to share ideas that will inspire and encourage each Altrusan. There are workshops throughout the weekend on topics suggested by our members in past conference evaluations. You will also have plenty of time for visiting with Altrusa friends from across the district and to browse our vendors for a little shopping. On Saturday morning delegates, past governors and current board officers will elect the 2025 – 2027 District Nine Board of Directors and then Saturday evening those elected will be installed at the

(Continued on page 2)

Register for Conference by clicking HERE!

editor:
Sharon M. Tramonte
smt4733@gmail.com

(Governor's' Corner continued from page 1)

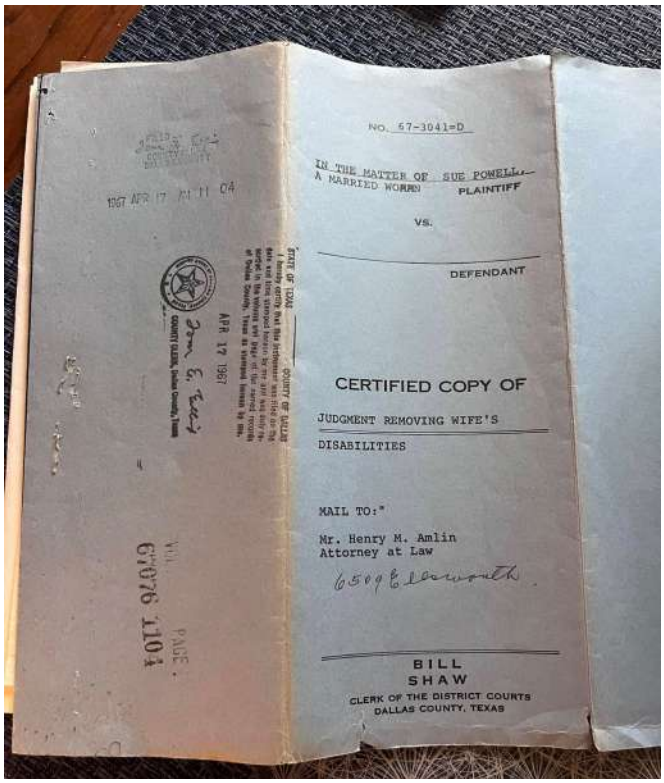
Governor's Banquet. We feel that this is going to be an unforgettable conference. Mark your calendar and save May 2 – 4, 2025 for an Altrusa weekend to remember!!! (Please remember that clubs do not need to provide an item for the Silent Auction.)

Again, thanks to each Altrusan for your many, many acts of service impacting lives across District Nine and the world. You are amazing as you serve others with your hearts of service shining. I am honored to serve you as governor of the Mighty Nineth.

Warmest regards, Shirley Raymer

Governor, Altrusa International of District Nine
972-278-8891/214-213-4281

Hearts of Service SHINE



NO. 67-3041-D

IN THE MATTER OF SUE POWELL, A MARRIED WOMAN — PLAINTIFF

VS.

DEFENDANT

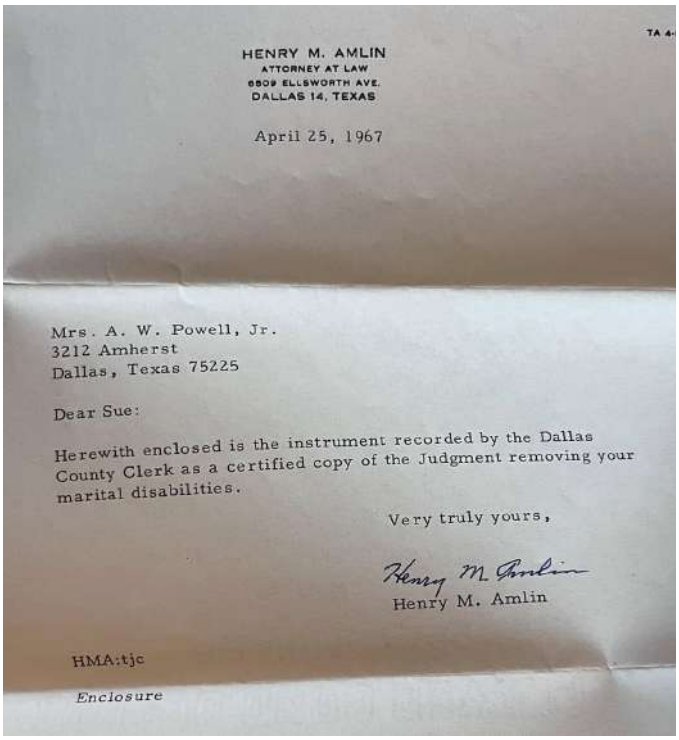
CERTIFIED COPY OF

JUDGMENT REMOVING WIFE'S DISABILITIES

MAIL TO:"

Mr. Henry M. Amlin
Attorney at Law
6509 Ellsworth

BILL SHAW
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURTS
DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS



HENRY M. AMLIN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
6509 ELLSWORTH AVE.
DALLAS 14, TEXAS

April 25, 1967

Mrs. A. W. Powell, Jr.
3212 Amherst
Dallas, Texas 75225

Dear Sue:

Herewith enclosed is the instrument recorded by the Dallas County Clerk as a certified copy of the Judgment removing your marital disabilities.

Very truly yours,

Henry M. Amlin

HMA:tjc

Enclosure

A slice of history … 50 years ago, women in the United States gained the right to have mortgages, business loans and credit cards in their own names. Prior to that, if a woman was married, she had to file a petition to the court to 'remove her marital disabilities' if she wanted to conduct business in her own right. These images are the court documents that our very own Sue Powell successfully filed in 1967 to gain this right.

2025 District Nine Conference Delegate and Alternate Reporting

The number of eligible delegates for a club is based on the club membership as of January 2nd of the conference year. Each Club in good standing that has a total Active membership of fifteen (15) or less for whom dues have been paid to International and to the District, shall be entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate. For each additional fifteen (15) members or portion thereof, a Club shall be entitled to one (1) additional delegate and alternate up to a maximum of >five (5) delegates and five (5) alternates. Each club must report their Delegates and Alternates to the District Secretary to be eligible to vote at Conference. Below is a list indicating the number of eligible delegates for your club. Delegates must be present to vote. Please complete the registration and enter "no one attending Conference" in the name area if no one is available from your club to attend conference.

Members as of 1-2-25	2025 Conference Delegates (#)
Abilene	1
Anderson County	2
Arlington	1
Austin	1
Central Texas	1
Collin County	2
Copperas Cove	2
Dallas	2
DFW	2
Downtown Dallas	3
Downtown Fort Worth (Affiliates)	0
Garland	3
Greenville	4
Houston Central	1
Lake Cities (Rockwall)	1
Lubbock	2
Montgomery County	2
North Dallas	1
North East Texas	2
N. San Antonio	2
Pampa	3
Richardson	5
San Antonio	2
S.E. Tarrant Co. ER	2
SW Dallas Co.	3
Temple	5
Texarkana	2
The Brazos	1
The Chisholm Trail	1
Waco	2

An error was made in the recent call to conference document. Barb Hahn is from the Pampa club. We apologize for the error and any inconvenience it might have caused. Corrected documents are available on the District's website.

ALTRUSA International | Leading to a Better Community®
District Nine

Community Impact 2023-2024

Where we impact.....

Altrusa, an international organization, is present in over 30 locations in Texas and growing!

Fiscal Impact of Altrusa's service in Texas in 2023 exceeded

$4,047,724.

**2023 value of volunteer time report, Independent Sector*

What we do.....

Altrusa's international focus is **literacy,** but we provide service where it is needed in our communities.

Altrusa partners with many local organizations to achieve common goals of service.

Why become an Altrusan?

Altrusa is an avenue to provide opportunities for leadership and a sense of responsibility to your community. When we all come together to do Altrusa Service, we build strong human connections and make our communities a better place. Altrusans make a difference!

Reach out to us at districtninealtrusa@gmail.com
https://altrusadistrictnine.org

Welcome New Altrusans

According to the data in Group Tally, since October 2024, the following have become Altrusans.

Downtown Dallas
- Laura Hornung

Greenville
- Denica Diaz
- Kasey Smith

Montgomery County
- Amanda Garcia
- Christy Reasor

North San Antonio
- Stacie Gast
- Bonita Turner

Pampa
- Virginia Dewey
- Pat Duggan
- Sabrina East
- Susan Ferguson
- Belinda Forgay
- Janet Hancock
- Lee Lancaster
- Judy Popham
- Diana Rettig
- Alicia Snelgrooes
- Amy Ward

Richardson
- Carol Hansen
- Suzanne Henry
- Tina Tran

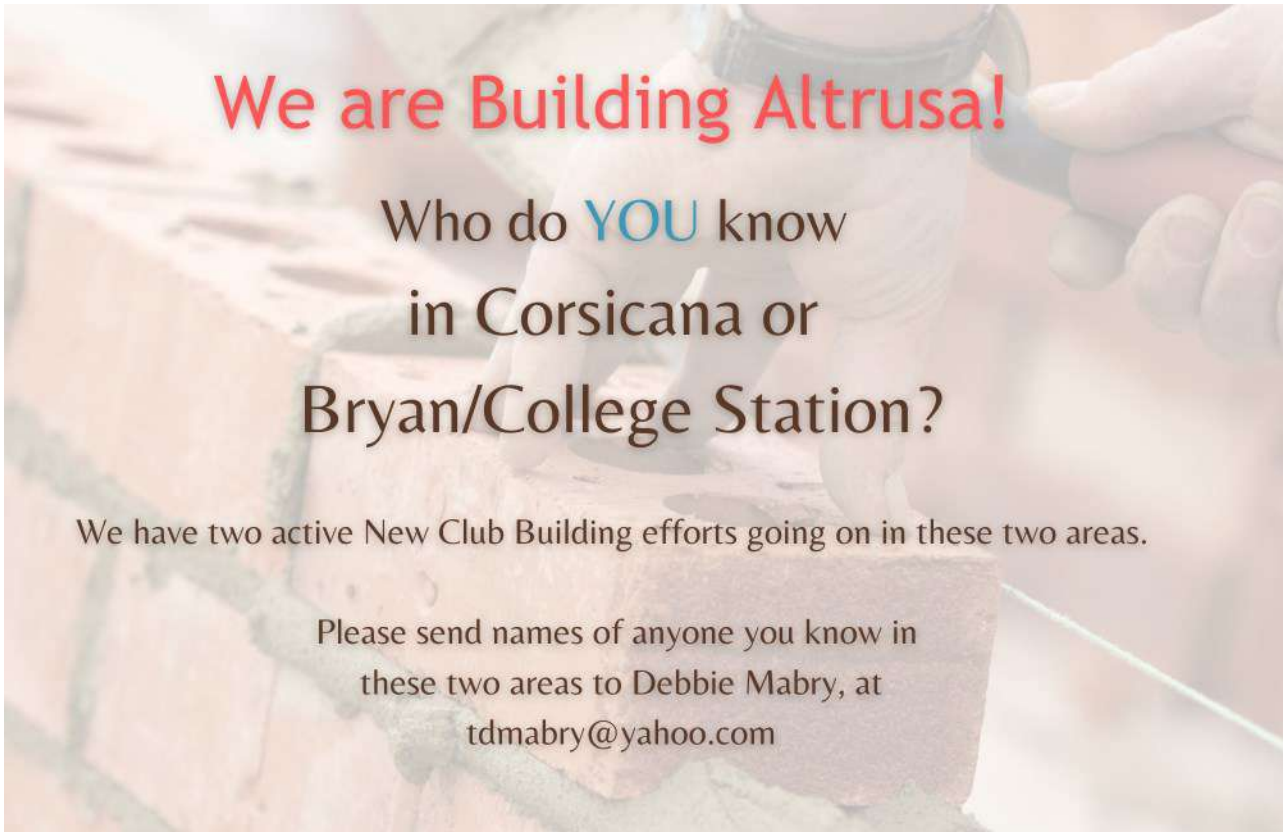
San Antonio
- Jo Anne Deleon
- Drucilla Ramon
- Manuel Solano

SWDC
- Diane Clinkscale
- Doris Moore
- Jacquede Moore

Temple
- Katie Graham
- Carolyn Williams

Texarkana
- Brittney Harper

The Chisholm Trail
- Joy King



Altrusans in Action

Altrusa of Anderson County—ties for 2nd place in the annual Hot Pepper Festival parade! AND distributed over 500 books!

Altrusa of Dallas—members Christmas tree for the children at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital .

Altrusa of San Antonio — members are collecting plastic caps for Banco de Tapitas, an organization in Mexico raising money through recycling to pay for cancer treatment for children.

Altrusa of Garland—members present a donation to 5 Loaves Food Pantry.

Altrusa of Greenville—club members collected and donated items for their annual service project to stock the "Mothers' Gift Closet" at Women in Need, a domestic violence resource center. These donations allow children at the shelter to shop for their mothers for special occasions.

Altrusa of Lake Cities— Altrusans participate in the annual Toys for Tots Campaign.

Altrusans in Action

Altrusa of Dallas—the club donated and delivered flatware to the Ronald McDonald House of Dallas for families to use during their stay.

Altrusa of Lake Cities—members partner with Rockwell Area Chamber of Commerce Senior Service Alliance and Rockwell Helping Hands to collect Thanksgiving food donations.

Altrusa of San Antonio & ASTRA San Antonio—members gave away hundreds of free books and hosted carnival games at the annual Kinship Festival for their Make A Difference Day project.

Altrusa of North San Antonio—members partnered with the Mary Michael Elementary School staff to giveaway 90 books as their Make A Difference Day project

Altrusa of Richardson—members did an amazing job decorating the Ability House for the holidays!

Altrusans in Action

Altrusa of Copperas Cove—donated $2000 to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Program for Copperas Cove ISD junior and senior high school students.

Altrusa of Dallas—members pack needed supplies for the Senior Pet Assistance Network to donate to low income seniors.

Altrusa of Houston Central— members volunteer by making meals for those in need with Feed the City,

Altrusa of San Antonio—members continue to partner with Days for Girls every month to help bring period products to women across the world.

Altrusa of Pampa—members prepare 1,290 candy/cookie bags that went to Pampa ISD, Pampa Regional Medical Center hospital and clinics, city and county offices, Pampa Post Office, XCEL Energy, and Atmos Energy.

Altrusa of North San Antonio—Thanks to an Altrusa grant, members were able to organize the Mary Michael Elementary School clothes closet and food pantry for local families in need.

Altrusans in Action

Altrusa of Copperas Cove— Altrusans provided books to students at Cove North, Hill Country HeadStart, City Park and Sunshine HeadStart programs.as part of their Make A Difference Day project.

Altrusa of Garland—members present a donation to Good Samaritan of Garland, an organization that provides supplemental food to families and individuals.

Altrusa of San Antonio—another free book giveaway! This time at San Antonio Fire Department's Toys for Tots event.

Altrusa of Garland—members donate over 400 books to students at Weaver Elementary.

Altrusa of Lake Cities— Altrusans donate needed supplies to the Rockwell Rainbow room to support children in crisis.

Altrusa of Greenville—Altrusans participated in Make A Difference Day project by donating new toys and books to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and Women in Need.

Altrusans in Action

Altrusa of Anderson County—Altrusans were out in full force for the Paint Palestine Pink event supporting fighters, survivors, and racers. Their theme was "Chicks for a Cure".

Altrusa of Copperas Cove—Altrusans partner with Grace United Methodist to pack backpacks of food for the students in Copperas Cove ISD. This is an ongoing, collaborative service project.

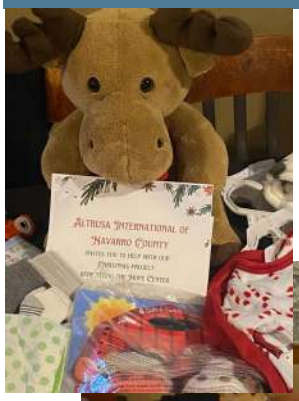
Altrusa of Dallas—awards $1,000 scholarship to a Dallas college student.

Altrusa of Garland—members present a donation to the Hope Clinic of Garland to help provide medical care and resources to the underserved Dallas County population.

Altrusa of San Antonio— members give away free books at the Wortham Oaks Elementary School Winter Carnival.

Altrusa of Richardson—members participate in the Lonestar Book Rotation, a program to distribute books and magazines to senior living facilities.

Altrusans in Action



Altrusa of Navarro County (in formation) -held their Christmas service project benefitting the Hope Center of Corsicana, a resource center for young mothers journey through pregnancy and the early years of parenting. Holiday cards were written and donations accepted for the center.

Altrusa of San Antonio— members load up coats, clothes, underwear, and Spanish language books to deliver to Rio Bravo, a ministry in Reynosa, Tamaulipas Mexico supporting abandoned and neglected children.

Altrusa of DFW—members distributed over 2,000 books at the City of Southlake Trunk or Treat event.

Altrusa of Richardson—members pack Christmas bags for Hope's Door New Beginning Shelter

Altrusa of San Antonio—Altrusans distribute more free books at an event held by a local business.

Altrusans in Action

Altrusa of Copperas Cove—members serve up lunch to the hardworking solid waste management employees of Copperas Cove in recognition of their dedication.

Altrusa of Houston Central—Altrusans partner with Wreaths Across America to place wreaths at the veterans cemetery.

Altrusa of Lubbock—Altrusans participate in Hodges Elementary School's Literacy Night

Altrusa of San Antonio—members deliver reading kits to CHRISTUS Children's Hospital. This was the final step in a project funded by an Altrusa grant.

Altrusa of Lake Cities— members participate in Royse City Tri-County Chamber of Commerce's FUNFEST by providing free books,

Altrusa of Richardson—the Kindness Ninjas strike at Methodist Richardson hand out 1,000 decorated badge reels to nurses to celebrate National Nurses Week.

Altrusans in Action

Altrusa of Copperas Cove—members host game night at Stoney Brook Center, an assistive living facility.

Altrusa of DFW—members gear up for the annual Red Bag Event. Nearly 9,000 bags of food will be delivered to homes across the North Tarrant County area.

Altrusa of San Antonio—ramps up the Red Rover Program at Bob Hope Elementary School.

Altrusa of Richardson—Altrusans create sensory books for The Warren Center, an organization serving children and families impacted by developmental delays and disabilities.

Altrusa of Temple—Altrusans partnered with students of Central Texas Christian School to prepare and deliver holiday care packages during the annual Love Covers All project.

Altrusans in Action

Altrusa of Copperas Cove— partnering with the Friends of the Copperas Cove Public Library to distribute 121 books to three local retirement, skilled nursing, and rehabilitation facilities.

Altrusa of Lubbock—Altrusans participated at the South Plains Food Bank's Spooky Orchard/ Trunk or Treat Event by donating their equipment, supplies, and experience to kick-start the event. Free books were distributed at the event.

Altrusa of The Chisholm Trail— members deliver much needed supplies to Foster Love Bell County for their "Love & Safety" project. This organization provides desperately needed services to parents and children during the most dire of circumstances.

Altrusa of Richardson—members prepared and served a buffet meal to 80 seniors at the Network.

Altrusa of Copperas Cove— members pack gift bags for single moms to celebrate the holidays.

ASTRA

Altrusa of Temple & Lake Belton ASTRA—members furnish rooms to make Hilltop Recovery Ministries—Belton a home for their residents.

ASTRA San Antonio— Partnering with the Altrusa club, ASTRAns gave away hundreds of free books and hosted carnival games at the annual Kinship Festival for their Make A Difference Day project.

Lake Belton ASTRA—students recycle plastic grocery bags into plarn (plastic yard) to crochet into sleeping mats.

ASTRA San Antonio—members planned, designed, built-out, and stocked a children's reading corner at the San Antonio Police Department's Central Substation.

Lake Beton ASTRA—students fluff wreaths at the annual event for Wreaths for Vets.

ASTRA San Antonio—ASTRAns partner with Bexar County Child Welfare Board in preparing packs for San Antonio Police officers to carry in their cruisers for calls involving children.

Lake Belton High ASTRA—students make lap blankets for a community project.

ASTRA

Salado High ASTRA—members prepare greeting cards for seniors and care centers.

ASTRA & Altrusa San Antonio— members prepare to put on a holiday puppet show for residents at the San Pedro Manor Nursing Home.

Lake Belton High ASTRA— students make pumpkins for Canyon Creek Outpatient & Christian Farms and prepare sight word cards for High Point Elementary School.

ASTRA San Antonio—members wrap gifts for the children in the Red Rover Reading Program at Bob Hope Elementary School. Each child received a new book to add to their home library.

Lake Belton High ASTRA— students prepare gift bags and greeting cards for teachers and staff.

International

Dear Altrusans,
The holidays and now behind us and my favorite season is approaching – District Conference Time!. I love that we gather every year at District Conferences to celebrate our accomplishments for the past year, see friends we haven't seen since the last Conference, and a chance to make new Altrusa friends.

I encourage each Altrusan to make an effort to attend a District Conference. The Districts all have great workshops on not only Altrusa topics, but many Districts also offer other topics as well. This is a chance for you to get new service project ideas, find out about other club fundraisers, and gather new ideas for membership recruitment and retention. Keynote speakers are always inspirational so do not skip out on those presentation. At District Conference you get the chance to see the broader scope of Altrusa.

Each District will have an Altrusa International Representative (either an officer or director) in attendance at their Conference. Take the time to visit with them. They are there to share not only share about Altrusa but also to meet you and share any concerns you may have with the International Board.

I send best wishes for an outstanding Conference.

Altrusans R.O.C.K. – Creative Opportunities, Create Kindness

Linda K. Smith, President
Altrusa International, Inc.

UN International Days

February 20—World Day of Social Justice
March 8—International Women's Day
April 7—World Health Day
May 15—International Day of Families
June 6—World Environment Day
August 12—International Youth Day
September 8—International Literacy Day
September 21—International Day of Peace
October 16—World Food Day
October 24—UN Day
November 25—International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
December 10—Human Rights Day

2025 Slate of Candidates

Kimberly Kierce

Richardson

Governor

In 2001, I made one of the best decisions of my life: I became an Altrusan with Altrusa International of Richardson. Since then, I've found my true passion— helping others. Through Altrusa, I've been blessed with many opportunities to serve my community, uplift others, and support individuals to achieve their greatest potential.

My vision for District Nine is to engage our communities through service, celebrate our members, and empower Altrusans to lead. With my experience in leadership roles at the club and district levels, I understand our strengths and challenges. It's time to simplify, refocus, and ensure the District provides the support clubs and members need to succeed. In the upcoming biennium, I will focus on small actions, that have a big impact. Together, we'll focus on empowerment, encouraging all Altrusans to advance our mission and make a difference at every level. I want every Altrusa to make the best out of their Altrusa journey. In 2001, I made one of the best decisions of my life: I became an Altrusan with Altrusa International of Richardson. Since then, I've found my true passion— helping others. Through Altrusa, I've been blessed with many opportunities to serve my community, uplift others, and support individuals to achieve their greatest potential.

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After serving in many club and foundation roles, including Club President 2012-2013, my District Nine service includes Treasurer (2017-2019), Second Vice Governor (2019-2021), First Vice Governor / Program Coordinator (2021-2023), and Governor Elect (2023-2025). As I look ahead to the next biennium, I am excited and optimistic about leading the Mighty Ninth. It is going to be an Amazing Altrusa Journey - together! Professionally, I serve as the Municipal Court Administrator for the City of Richardson, where I lead a dedicated team through innovative projects and technology and operate a model court. My career, which began in 1991, has been deeply enriched by lessons from Altrusa, and vice versa. I earned my bachelor's degree from UNT and hold certifications as a Certified Municipal Court Clerk (CMCC) and Certified Court Manager (CCM). In 2024, I was honored with the TCCA Lorna Nelson Lifetime Achievement Award for my dedication to the profession and mentoring court clerks across Texas.

A proud Texan, I'm passionate about international travel, Dallas Stars hockey, and life with my Maine Coon cats, Mandy Jane and Tyler Skye. My boyfriend, Robert Taylor, shares my love for travel and hockey, and provides unwavering support of all my activities.

Through all my endeavors—professional, personal, and Altrusa—I am grateful for the opportunity to lead, serve, and inspire.

Immediate Past Governor:: ...Shirley Raymer
Garland

Governor: .....Kimberly Kierce
Richardson

2025 Slate of Candidates

recommended from the Nominating Committee

Governor Elect: .....Linda Hurt
DFW

First Vice Governor: .....Guadalupe Carvajal
Dallas

Second Vice Governor: ... Frances Dalbey
Greenville

Treasurer: .....Mary Powlen
Garland

Directors:

Barbara Hahn
Pampa

Beverly Luedke
Temple

Debbie Trammell
N San Antonio

Gail Woods
SWDC

2025 Slate of Candidates

Linda Hurt

DFW

Governor Elect

Linda Hurt has been an Altrusan with the DFW club since 2002. She has served in many positions including President and Treasurer of both the Club and the Foundation. Linda is currently 1st Vice Governor for the District and has previously served as District Treasurer (2011 – 2013), Director (2019 – 2021), 2nd Vice Governor (2021 – 2023), Conference Treasurer, Conference Registration Chair, and Mamie L. Bass Award Coordinator. Linda has held board positions with the Center for Transforming Lives where she was the President of the Board, and Emporia State University Foundation (her alma mater) where she has worked on the Finance Committee since 2015 and the Executive Committee since 2018. She recently received the Emporia State University Alumni Association's University Service Citation Award for unique and significant contributions to the university, its students and its staff members.

Linda holds a BS in Business degree with an accounting major from Emporia State University and an MBA from the University of Chicago. She spent her entire career with BNSF Railway Company and its predecessor companies, beginning in 1977. She held the positions of VP-Investor Relations from 2007 – 2010 and Treasurer from 2000 – 2007. She is married to Bill and is mother to three adult children. After her retirement in 2010 Linda has enjoyed doing a lot of volunteer work (especially with Altrusa), traveling with her husband and family, participating in Bible studies, playing a little golf and spoiling her two grandchildren.

Guadalupe Carvajal

Dallas

First Vice Governor

Guadalupe Carvajal has been a member of Altrusa International Club of Dallas since 2002. She has served in several Club and Foundation Board positions including President, Vice President, Director, and Treasurer. Guadalupe has also served as Chair of several club committees, including Membership, Communications, Finances, and Ways and Means. Guadalupe is currently serving as Club Secretary, and editor of the club yearbook as well as Secretary for the Downtown Fort Worth Club (club in formation).

Guadalupe currently serves District Nine as the Second Vice Governor and is the liaison to the District Nine Leadership Committee. She previously served as Director (2021-2023) and Awards Co-Chair for the Mamie L. Bass, Letha Brown, Communications, and Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun awards. Guadalupe earned a BA Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin. She has over 35 years of service and executive experience in state and federal government. She recently retired from serving as the District Manager of a Social Security office in the Dallas area.

Guadalupe is from Tyler, Texas. She is the 7th of eight children and is faith and family oriented. Her favorite pastimes include spending time with family and friends, attending college sports events, taking care of her canine companions "Little Mutt" and "Bela", and being involved in the good works of Altrusa.

Francis Dalbey

Greenville

2nd Vice Governor

Frances Dalbey became an Altrusan in 2003. She served as President of the Greenville club in 2009-2010.
She has served in most offices within the club, except Recording Secretary. She has served as committee chair or co-chair for all four club committees. She is currently serving as District Nine director.

Frances has served at the District level for several years, having helped with first timers events, communications workshops, memorial presentations, district conference program, communications co-chair, and service chair. Frances attended several international conventions and

(Continued on page 20)

2025 Slate of Candidates

(Continued from page 19)

recently assisted with first timers and a book sale at the International Convention in San Antonio.

Frances is the Outreach Specialist for a local hospital, she has worked in retail management and non-profit. She has always been involved in her community; she is involved in several chambers and Daybreak Rotary. Frances and her husband, Rich, live in Greenville with their four-legged children.

Mary Powlen
Garland
Treasurer

Mary has been an Altrusan since 2010 with Altrusa International of Garland, Inc. and has served in several Club Board positions and lead multiple committees as the Chair. She has also served as the Foundation Treasurer and Club Treasurer multiple times. Community service has always been her first passion and was the initial reason for joining Altrusa. Mary has been active at the District Nine level since 2015, first as Editor of the News of Mighty Ninth for 4 years (2015- 2019), Co-Chair of Leadership Training (2019-2021), District Treasurer (2021-2023) and District Secretary (2023-2025).

After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of North Texas, Mary spent 20+ years working in the insurance and financial planning industry. She enjoys spending time with family, traveling and exploring different cultures, genealogy research and the many service activities Altrusa is involved with for the community. Altrusa has provided opportunities and interesting experiences including an Altrusa family with several friendships she has made through the years.

Shirley Raymer
Garland
Immediate Past Governor

Shirley's Altrusa journey began more than twenty years ago. The desire to serve others and the service opportunities, especially related to literacy, offered by Altrusa Garland led her to become an Altrusan. Shirley has chaired both the Membership Development, Leadership Training and the International Foundation Liaison committees on the District Nine Program Team and served on each level of the District Nine Board of Directors with the exception of District Treasurer.

The joys of service have been many for her. The opportunities for contributing to others and making a difference in their lives, the honor of visiting clubs across the district and becoming better acquainted with the wonderfully caring members and the precious friends that would likely not have become a part of her life if not for Altrusa have all been a part of her rewarding experience with Altrusa over the years.

Shirley's desire for Altrusa is to have membership grow as clubs continue to share the gift of Altrusa touching and bettering more lives through Altrusa's many services to local communities as well as abroad. Shirley affirms that Altrusa has blessed her life and she is thankful for the privilege of serving the Mighty Ninth.

2025 Slate of Candidates

Barbara Hahn
Greenville
Director

Barb has been an Altrusan since 2005 with Altrusa International of Pampa. While starting out as "just a member", she quickly became involved and has since served as club director, secretary, vice-president, and has served as club president for two terms. She has chaired several club projects and currently is filling the shoes of Mrs. Claus in Pampa's annual fundraiser.

She has been married to her husband, Scott, for 23 years! Together, they have a blended family of five children, six and half (one due early April) grandchildren, one and half (one due early June) great grandchildren, and two rescued German Shepherds.

In addition to Altrusa, Barb is active in her church serving as the representative at Presbytery meetings, serving in the Outreach Ministry, Christian Education Ministry and adult bible study leader.

Barb has worked at a major financial firm for 20 years and is proud of her professional designation of FPQP®, Financial Paraplanner Qualified Professional. She is one of the first to obtain this designation in her region!

Barb is known for her giving spirit, love of service, helping others, and working hard.

Beverly Luedke
Temple
Director

Service has always been a part of my life.....I guess you could say it is in my DNA. My parents were always involved in community service and so I naturally believed that serving others was a part of life. My life has been wonderfully filled with love and joy. Married with two children has been a life dream....and as a physical therapist and serving those in need, I loved every moment of my 35 year career. Touching lives was extremely rewarding but once retired and children grown, I found a void for service in my life. Fortunately, my best friend invited me to Altrusa soon after I retired and I can say I never looked back. Now, fifteen years later, I would like continue my service through Altrusa as a District Nine Director, sharing my experiences to assist clubs and members with challenges they may be encountering or simply standing by them with support as they grow.

Debbie Trammel
N San Antonio
Director

My journey with Altrusa has been short but mighty fulfilling. I have experienced incredible personal growth by absorbing knowledge from other Altrusans. This all began when my exercise buddy invited me to attend an Altrusa meeting. I am a charter member of the North San Antonio club since March 2019. Based on my desire to serve others and Altrusa's focus on literacy, this was absolutely something of interest for me following retirement. While my 35 year career with AT&T centered around budget management, contract negotiations and human resource assistance to employees and retirees, it was my time to give back to our community and make a difference.

I have served Altrusa International of North San Antonio on the board in various positions, including two terms as Club President, Director, Club's Foundation President and Treasurer and tutor to children post-Covid to improve reading. Other positions were Communication committee chair, a member of District Nine Leadership Committee and 2024 District Nine Conference Co Chair Coordinator.

If elected for the District board, I will strive to utilize by organizational skills and planning experience to enhance the member experience for clubs. Additionally, identify ways to empower women to become the best leaders among their clubs through the transfer of knowledge.

In my spare time I enjoy cooking, quilting, gardening, spending time with family and friends and traveling.

2025 Slate of Candidates

Gail Woods

Southwest Dallas County
Director

Gail has been a member of Altrusa International of Southwest Dallas County (SWDC) since 2016. An active member in her club, Gail has served as the Foundation secretary, club secretary, and club president. She has also served as chair to the communications committee. At the district level, Gail has been an active member of the New Club Building Committee.

She is passionate about her family and cherishes her three adult children, nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren - four of whom share her dedication to Altrusa and community service. Gail is a retired contracting specialist. In the 21 years at The Exchange, Gail administered multi-million dollar contracts for fast food franchises at military installations worldwide. Gail holds a master's degree in business administration and management, with a focus on finance, human resources, and business operations.

While her achievements are varied, Gail is most proud of her tenure as club president where she spearheaded fundraising of $15,000 in donations and grants to fund vital community projects, increasing club membership, and inspiring members to log more than 20,000 community service hours.

Guided by the mission of Altrusa International, Gail is passionate about volunteering and fostering positive change in her community and beyond. She is deeply committed to serving others and helping to improve the lives of the underprivileged and disadvantaged.

LaVone Arthur

Downtown Dallas
Parliamentarian

LaVone Arthur became an Altrusan in 1986, and served as President of Altrusa International of Downtown Dallas in 1990-1991 and Trustee of the Foundation in 2013-2015, including as the inaugural Chair and is currently serving an additional term as Chair.

Her District Nine board service began in 2003, serving as Governor in 2011-2013. In addition, she served as the District Nine Liaison to the International Foundation in 2017-2019 and is currently serving as Co-chair of the District Nine New Club Building Committee.

On the International level, LaVone was Chair of the Governor's Council, served on the International Service Committee, and as Chair of the International Nominating Committee. She is currently a Trustee of the Altrusa International Foundation, serving as Vice-Chair and Chair of the Education, Development and Marketing Committee. She has recently been elected to serve as Chair for the 2025-2027 biennium.

LaVone retired from Baylor Scott & White Health, the largest not-for-profit health system in Texas, where she served for over 38 years in a variety of roles in the areas of Strategy, Finance, and Business Development. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in health systems engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a Master of Business Administration in health services management from the University of Dallas. LaVone was a member of the prestigious Leadership Dallas Class of 2014 and the recipient of multiple awards, including the Dallas Business Journal's Women in Business Award and Who's Who in Healthcare, Becker's Women Hospital & Health System Leaders to Know and the Outstanding Women of Today in Healthcare award from the Altrusa International of Richardson Foundation.

LaVone is married to Jack (who is also an Altrusan) and enjoys theater, music, traveling, and laughing with girlfriends, many of whom she would not know if not for Altrusa.

2025 Slate of Candidates

Sharon Tramonte

San Antonio

Secretary

After finishing her professional training, Sharon began to look for an outlet for her servant's heart. She stumbled onto Altrusa through a mentor and co-worker and became a member of Altrusa International of San Antonio in 1997. Since becoming an Altrusan, Sharon has served her club as project lead, committee chair, director, secretary, vice-president, and president. Many positions she has held numerous times, including serving as president on three separate occasions. Sharon was instrumental in developing the Altrusa International of San Antonio Foundation and served as its inaugural chair. In addition, she has served as the foundation's director and secretary.

She has been active at the district level on several committees and has served as co-chair of the membership committee and chair of the communications committee. On the international level, Sharon has served as co-chair of the 2023 Altrusa International Convention in San Antonio.

Sharon retired from The State of Texas Health and Human Services in 2021, where she served for 28 years caring for the most vulnerable citizens with mental and developmental disabilities. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Sciences from Texas A&M University, a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy from The University of Houston, and a Doctorate in Pharmacy from The University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.

In addition to Altrusa, Sharon is active in her church and several of their ministries. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, spending time with friends, cooking, woodworking, and spending time in or around water.

All Conference Service Project

network
OF COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

Network is a non-denominational, community-based organization serving over 32,000 individuals within 14 zip codes within Richardson ISD. They provide basic needs assistance, a mobile food pantry, senior's net, and mental health services. They pay rent, utilities, and provide emergency food for families that qualify. They have a wonderful clothes closet and even a toy store for parents to select gifts for their children at Christmas time.

Their needs are basic. Requested donations (choose one or more):

- Diapers all sizes
- Adult Diapers
- Baby Wipes
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Laundry soap
- Dish soap
- Cleaning supplies
- New and gently used children's book

Network also has an Amazon Wish List to facilitate support.

Network's Amazon Wish List

BRR Proposed Changes

Section 3. Appointed Officers

The Governor shall appoint the District Secretary, who shall not have a vote on the Board, such appointment to be approved by the District Board of Directors.

Rewrite to state:
The Governor shall appoint the District Secretary and, if desired, an Assistant District Treasurer, and neither appointee shall be entitled to vote on matters before the District Board. Such appointments shall be approved by the District Board of Directors.

Section 6. District Treasurer

The Treasurer shall:

(a) Collect all dues from Clubs for members in the District.
(b) Keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures.
(c) Deposit all money received, in the name of the District, in a depository approved by the District Board of Directors.
(d) Submit for audit the books in which records of receipts and expenditures have been kept within twenty (20) days of the end of the fiscal year.
(e) Submit an annual financial report to Conference.
(f) Chair the Finance Committee.
(g) Transfer District financial records to the incoming treasurer at the close of Conference at which the successor is installed or within forty-five (45) days of the end of the fiscal year.

Add:

(h) Train and enlist the help of the Assistant District Treasurer, if appointed, in whatever areas that are beneficial.

NOTE: Section 4. Approval

No amendment adopted by a District Conference shall be effective until it is approved by the International Bylaws, Resolutions and Recommendations Committee.

Agenda

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NINE
SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
RICHARDSON, TEXAS
MAY 2 – 4, 2025

THURSDAY, MAY 1

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.	District Nine Pre-Conference Board Meeting

FRIDAY, MAY 2

9:00 – 11:45 a.m.	Registration and Credentials Open
	Club Display Set-Up
	Club Banner Drop-Off
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Vendor Booths Open
10:30 -11:30 a.m.	Reception for Past Governors, Club Presidents and District Board
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	Leadership Luncheon Leadership
	Keynote Presentation, Jenny Roberson, Retired Elementary Principal | Adjunct Professor at Dallas Baptist University Leading from the Heart: The Power of Servant Leadership
	Edith DeBusk President's Award
	Innovation Award
1:30 – 2:00 p.m.	2025-2027 Program Team Meeting
1:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Registration and Credentials Open
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.	LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS:
	Presidents
	Treasurers
	Secretaries/Record Retention
2:00 – 2:40 p.m.	BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS FOR ATTENDEES (choose one):
	I Am Remarkable
	How to Streamline Meetings/Parliamentary Procedure
	Altrusa District Nine Website Tutorial for First Time Users
2:45 – 3:30 p.m.	BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS FOR ATTENDEES (choose one):
	Basics of ALTRUSA
	How to Complete a President's Report
	TBD
3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Break
4:00 – 4:30 p.m.	First Timers Event
5:00 p.m.	Vendor booths close for the day
	Live Auction Commences
5:00 – 6:15 p.m.	Opening Business Session
	Presentation of Colors
	Welcome from District Nine Governor Shirley Raymer
	Welcome from Altrusa – Richardson President Jean Stuart
	Proclamation from the Mayor of Richardson – Mayor Robert (Bob) Dubey
	Credentials/Registration Reports
	Ratification of Conference Rules
	Presentation of District Budget 2025-2026
	Presentation of Slate and Nominations – District Nine Board
	Altrusa International Foundation – "How to Give During Conference"

Agenda

6:30 p.m.	Cocktail Reception
7:00 – 9:30 p.m.	Friday Fun Night – "A Texas Fiesta Friday" with dinner, dj and dancing – Hosted by Altrusa International of Richardson, Inc.

SATURDAY, MAY 3

7:00 – 8:00 a.m.	Registration and Credentials Open
7:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.	Vendor Booths Open
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	SERVICE BREAKFAST Service Project Overview – Network of Community Ministries Service Speaker – Dr. Jennifer McCormack Walker, Executive Director, Literacy Texas Mamie L. Bass and Letha H. Brown Literacy Awards District Nine Club Book Challenge Awards Presentation by 1st Place Winning Clubs - Mamie L. Bass and Letha H. Brown Award-Winning Projects
9:30 – 9:45 a.m.	Break
9:45 – 11:15 a.m.	Business Session Credentials and Registration Reports 2025-2027 Long Range Strategic Plan Greetings and Report from International – Penny Daugherty, International Director 2025-2027 Board of Directors Candidate Forum Delegate – Voting Forum
11:15 – 11:45 a.m.	Voting Registration and Credentials Open
12:00 Noon – 1:15 p.m.	Foundation Luncheon Envelope Campaign Foundation Awards – Linda Nichols Foundation Contribution Awards Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award Foundation Report Description of Auction
1:15 – 1:30 p.m.	Break
1:30 – 2:15 p.m.	All-Member Workshop – Three Keys to Longevity, Relevancy and Vitality, Pat Alva-Kramer, Investor, Speaker, Author
2:15 – 3:30 p.m.	Business Meeting Resumes Voting Results Announced Focus on ASTRA Presentation ASTRA Service Award Governor's Biennium Report – Governor Shirley Raymer
3:30 – 3:45 p.m.	Break
3:45 – 4:30 p.m.	BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS FOR ATTENDEES (choose one): Let's Keep the Fun in Fundraising I Am Remarkable Service Panel – Award-Winning Service Projects (1st, 2nd and 3rd place award winners)
4:00 p.m.	Vendor Booths Close
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.	Break for Preparing for Governor's Banquet and Installation
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.	Club Group Photos

Agenda

5:15 p.m.	Cash Bar Opens
6:30 p.m.	Banquet Doors Open
	Auction Closes
6:45 – 9:00 p.m.	Governor's Banquet and Installation
	Introduction of District Nine Past Governors
	Introduction of International Representative and District Nine Board Members
	Dinner
	Installation of 2025-2027 District Nine Board of Directors
	Governor Pin Presentation
	Jade Necklace Presentation
	Incoming Governor's Remarks – Incoming Governor Kimberly Kierce
	Announcement of Live Auction Results

SUNDAY, MAY 4

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.	Pick Up of Auction Items, Club Displays and Club Banners
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Memorial Service
9:30 – 9:45 a.m.	Break
9:45 a.m. – Noon	Closing Business Session
	Final Registration and Credentials Reports
	Service Project Results
	Altrusa International Foundation Results
	Focus on Membership Presentation
	Joella T. Butler Membership Awards
	Sue Powell Perfect Attendance Recognition
	Ambassador Awards
	Award Presentation
	First Timers Awards
	Communications Awards
	Club Display Awards
	Closing Remarks from International Visitor – Penny Daugherty, International Director
	Invitation to International Convention 2025
	Invitation to District Nine Conference 2026
	Invitation to Bid on District Nine Conference 2027
	Outgoing Governor's Special Recognition – Immediate Past Governor Shirley Raymer
	Passing of Gavel and Banner
	Incoming Governor Remarks – Governor Kimberly Kierce
	Introduction of 2025-2027 Program Team
	Adjournment
12:30 p.m.	Post Conference District Nine Board Meeting

Penny Daugherty
International Visitor

Penny has been a member of Altrusa International of Mexico, MO since 2001. She is the Office Manager and Vice President of KXEO/KWWR Radio where she has been employed since 1999. She is married to Michael and together they have four children: Katelyn Daugherty, Sarah Hollenberg, Logan Daugherty, and Logan Meeks, as well as four beautiful granddaughters.

In addition to the busy work life at their family-owned radio station, grandchildren, and Altrusa, Penny and Michael enjoy traveling when time allows. They both volunteer on various service boards and committees in her hometown, including the Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce, Audrain County United Way, and Audrain County Relay for Life.

Penny originally started serving at the District level of Altrusa as a Communications Chair in 2008 and then was elected as a Director on the District Eight Board in 2011 before eventually serving as Governor from 2019 to 2021, and now is in her second year as International Director. She credits Altrusa as playing a big part in helping build her self-confidence and become a more effective leader. She has been encouraged by the way many Altrusa clubs have embraced and supported the International "Days for Girls" project at whatever level they choose and hopes that mutual service projects and events will help bring our clubs closer together, gain more publicity, and attract new members that we can share the Altrusa bond with.

Penny is truly thankful for the support and friendships she has made over her years on the Board and attending Conferences and Conventions. She looks forward to seeing those familiar faces on Zoom sessions, visiting clubs, at Conferences and at International Conventions. This will be her first visit to District Nine, even though she has already worked alongside a few of the District's members. Please feel free to introduce yourself and get to know her while she is here.

Grab your cowgirl/boy or señorita/señor outfit and join us for Friday Fun Night at Conference. After a buffet Fiesta dinner, there will be a dj playing music from the 80s and 90s with lots of dancing, including a line dance or two!