

DISTRICT TWELVE 2024

# CALL TO CONFERENCE

Our Altrusa District Twelve Conference 2024 is where friendship, fun and learning come together to inspire you as an Altrusan.

# Renew Reimagine Revitalize!

Please  
Join Us  
**May  
17-19**  
in Vancouver,  
Washington!

We take great pleasure in inviting each of you to “Renew”“Reimagine”“Revitalize”, our District Twelve Conference from May 17-19, 2024 in Vancouver, WA. This is our district’s most exciting event of the year!

Our Conference Committee has worked hard over the past eight months to create a wonderful reimagined conference experience offering an innovative program that will spark inspiration and collaboration! Through interactive workshops and dynamic discussions with a fantastic array of speakers, you’ll learn skills and strategies that will reenergize you and your club to achieve greater impact.

Have fun with fellow Altrusans as you participate in a hands-on service project. Enjoy enriching networking and friendship-building opportunities built into conference. Celebrate the phenomenal accomplishments of our clubs and members, while also taking care of business such as elections.

Take a break to unwind during our movie-night Pajama Party on Friday. Bring your sneakers and join us for an early morning



**Hearts & Hands  
in Service**

walk along the 2-mile waterfront path with our “Walking Talkies” group on Saturday morning. This walkway recently made the list of the “15 Best River Walks in the United States”! Visit the Farmer’s Market right outside the hotel during free time. Share an idea or write a message on our Gratitude Graffiti Wall, and plan on (you guessed it) a ton of fun as you renew your passion for Altrusa!

We are thrilled to have with us at conference our international visitor, Altrusa International President **Linda Smith**, International Leadership Chair **Brenda Smith**, our Altrusa International United Nations Representative **Kathy Schrein**, and visiting Rotarian keynote speaker **Alex Johnson**.

Whether you are a new member or an “I’ve-attended-every-conference” Altrusan, your presence at this conference is important to us! All the information you need is in this Call to Conference. We look forward to seeing you in Vancouver!

*With hearts and hands in service,*

**Debbie McBee**  
Governor, Altrusa District Twelve

## WANT TO GET A FEEL FOR CONFERENCE?

*Unsure what to expect or whether it's worth it? Watch these short videos!*

60-second Conference Overview:

[www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/y7k878kyd9uxtgo6gsiyi/Conference-Video.mp4?rlkey=3030k9o3hd1y4lkj2pmcm13c2&dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/y7k878kyd9uxtgo6gsiyi/Conference-Video.mp4?rlkey=3030k9o3hd1y4lkj2pmcm13c2&dl=0)

Hear what 6 first-timers and returning Altrusans have to say about conference in a 3-minute video:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/zosw0bjd8lwpwszbj1g0/Conference-First-Timers-Returners-Video.mp4?rlkey=r8oq4hexfqk10knmix4sw1md1&dl=0>

*“THIS IS THE POWER OF  
GATHERING:  
IT INSPIRES US - DELIGHTFULLY -  
TO BE MORE HOPEFUL, MORE JOYFUL,  
MORE THOUGHTFUL:  
IN A WORD, MORE ALIVE.”*  
- ALICE WATERS

**JOIN US FOR FUN AT THE HILTON VANCOUVER WA 2024 DISTRICT CONFERENCE!**



# REGISTER

for the Early Bird Event and Conference

Registration deadline is April 4, 2024. There are no late registrations

**Register for Conference online through our District Twelve website using the following links:**

**U.S. MEMBERS:**

[www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=083c89bb-6530-4175-ba5d-594b3ee31273](http://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=083c89bb-6530-4175-ba5d-594b3ee31273)

**CANADIAN MEMBERS:**

[www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=79c40bb3-5c4b-4551-989b-61b4f762c078](http://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=79c40bb3-5c4b-4551-989b-61b4f762c078)

**ASTRA MEMBERS & CHAPERONES:**

[www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=6b27420b-3de8-49d0-8bed-7f14ad4bad8e](http://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=6b27420b-3de8-49d0-8bed-7f14ad4bad8e)

**GUESTS:**

[www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=88495d42-40ee-4109-99b4-e6112daab7c2](http://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=88495d42-40ee-4109-99b4-e6112daab7c2)

Registration may be paid for with a credit card or you have the option to mail a check. An email confirmation is sent for each registration.

**REGISTRATION CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS AND CREDITS:**

Note: Per District Twelve Policy VII. C. 8, requests for conference refunds for a member who needs to cancel their registration will be granted and a full refund given provided that the request is made in writing via mail or email and received by the District Governor by April 30. Email refund requests to Governor Debbie McBee at [mmcbeed@aol.com](mailto:mmcbeed@aol.com)

On or after May 1, registered members who can no longer attend can request a conference credit to be used at the next year's conference. This request must be made in writing via mail or email and received by the District Governor prior to the opening conference events on May 16. Approval of conference credits are typically reserved for critical health issues. This credit is non-transferable.

If you experience any difficulty with the online registration process, please email Sue Jennings, Registration Chair, at [AltrusaRegSJ@gmail.com](mailto:AltrusaRegSJ@gmail.com).

## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE TO MEMBERS ABOUT CHANGE OF CONFERENCE VENUE

**By Governor Debbie McBee**

Little did I know, when I spoke of responding to change during my Installation, that our District Board would be dealing with unexpected change on a large conference scale by year end.

After the unexpected permanent closing of our Olympia venue in late December, we got to work quickly to find a new conference venue on short notice and to adapt our plans.

I extend a huge heartfelt thank you to **Julie Livingston, Tore Johnson, Jerry Cooley, the Olympia host club, the Conference 2024 Committee, and the District Board** for your amazing adaptability!

We are excited that we found a more suitable location to host our District Conference, one that is easily accessible and sure to elevate the quality and overall experience of our members. We are a "can-do" organization and we are finally meeting... at the Hilton Vancouver WA.

We RENEWED our commitment to conference and our clubs. We REIMAGINED where we could gather and how we could adapt our plans. We are REVITALIZED, having given new life and energy to Conference 2024!

**Please join us in person in Vancouver!**

We want you to celebrate and have fun together at conference! We intentionally kept registration to \$300 per person for the full conference, which is entirely food costs. District Twelve will absorb the other conference expenses. The Hilton Vancouver WA hotel, just 10 minutes north of Portland, has deeply discounted rates and also acquired a \$2000 Visit Vancouver financial sponsorship to help offset the increased event costs—so long as we meet our contracted numbers.

So, travel with your Altrusa friends to Vancouver for conference! Come with the intent to Renew, Reimagine, Revitalize ...and Relax together! This will be a truly GREAT conference!!!



# BOOK YOUR ROOM

at Hilton Vancouver WA

Located at the heart of the revitalized downtown Vancouver, the recently remodeled Hilton Vancouver WA hotel is immediately across the street from the Esther Short Park (home of Vancouver's Saturday Farmer's Market) and just a few minutes' walk to the Vancouver Waterfront, the Pier and over 50 restaurants and shops.

Our hotel block of rooms for conference consists mostly of rooms with 2 queen beds, including some accessible rooms, at a special rate of \$159/nt + tax. If you decide to reserve a different room option outside of the hotel block, please have the hotel link your room reservation to our Altrusa Conference block. The block includes a reduced parking rate of \$10/night.



## Hotel registration opens on February 7th.

Your Hilton hotel reservations can be made online using our custom Altrusa Group page. Simply copy and paste the URL below into your browser to access the exclusive rates available for our group:

### BOOKING LINK:

<https://group.hilton.com/zs1m0z>

Hotel: Hilton Vancouver Washington

Group Name: Altrusa District Twelve Annual Conference

Arrival Date: 2024-05-15

Departure Date: 2024-05-19

\*Please note, the entire URL must be copied and pasted for it to work properly. Please share this link with anyone who needs to book Altrusa rates.

Reservations can also be made by phone by calling the hotel directly at **1-360-993-4500** and referring to Group Name: Altrusa District Twelve Annual Conference.

## Hotel registration closes on April 14, 2024.

Please note that all room bookings must be confirmed by an individual booking name by that date. Blocks of rooms held by clubs will be cancelled if they are not confirmed with individual names.

**Hotel Room Cancellation:** In the event a guest needs to cancel a confirmed reservation, they must contact the hotel no later than 3 days prior to their scheduled day of arrival to avoid a "no-show" charge which will occur if they do not arrive on the scheduled date and do not cancel the reservation.



# GET READY

Know what you need to bring!

## RAFFLE BASKETS

At each District Twelve conference, it is customary for our Altrusa clubs to put together the best of the best items into a basket as a gift that represents their club and community, as well as treasures found nowhere else! We invite you to give of your bounty for our raffle and silent and live auction, be it from your club, individual Altrusans, or community donors.



Be creative and thematic if that works. Your favorite wine or book collection, watermelon garden, or sweet creations might spark creative ideas. Think about great authors, jewelry, spa products, art work, gardening, clothing, or travel excursions, gift cards etc. Thinking outside the box is encouraged. We love to have items from individual members as well so please don't be shy!! Items in the regular raffle will be for the benefit of District Twelve Operations.

At conference, be prepared to purchase tickets galore to put inside the raffle boxes! Remember, this is all for great causes, not to mention lots of fun. Raffle tickets will cost \$1.00 each. Tickets can be purchased with cash or check. If you would like to use a credit card to purchase tickets, that can be arranged in the raffle room during open hours. Watch for Altrusa members waving colored raffle tickets and wearing brightly colored headgear. Winning raffle tickets will be drawn and numbers posted Saturday afternoon at Conference. Thank you so much for your support!

## CLUB DISPLAYS

Share the exciting projects that your club has done in the past year with a Club Display that other Altrusans can view at their leisure during conference. This area is a great place to visit – you'll discover new ideas for raising funds, increasing membership, and serving your community. There will be 3'x3' table space for each club to bring a Tri-board and other items to display. Please do not bring anything larger so all clubs will have equal space. The clubs display location will be in the Discovery Pre-Function hallway. Please email Pat Gurrad, Club Displays Coordinator, at [mail@gurrad.com](mailto:mail@gurrad.com) by April 15th if your club will be bringing a display.

Remember to pack:

- ✓ Club Banner
- ✓ Extra Snacks
- ✓ Altrusa Pin
- ✓ Cash
- ✓ Club Display
- ✓ Raffle Items
- ✓ Tote Bag
- ✓ Comfortable Shoes
- ✓ Pajamas & Slippers for Friday Fun Night
- ✓ Sweater or Light Jacket
- ✓ Wine Opener / Bottle Opener for evening get-togethers with old and new friends!

**\*PLEASE NOTE: TOTE BAGS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED AT CONFERENCE.** Please bring your own bag along if you'd like to use one.



So many fun things to buy! You'll need cash to buy raffle tickets (\$1.00 each); also for sale during conference will be books by the Literacy Luncheon keynote speaker, and of course the exciting Live Auction items on Saturday evening. Not to mention fun shopping at the Farmer's Market and stores right outside the hotel doors in Vancouver!

## WHAT TO WEAR

We all know the May weather can be unpredictable in Vancouver, WA. We could have sunny blue skies or cloudy cool weather with Columbia River breezes. Since all meetings and meals are within the hotel, bring comfortable BUSINESS-CASUAL clothing for the Business Sessions and Workshops. Meeting room temperatures can vary so dressing in layers is wise. No matter the function, COMFY Shoes are a must—particularly if you're walking around the park or down to the river during your free time.

### WHEN CAN WE DRESS UP FOR FUN?

- For our **Friday Fun Night Pajama Party**, you are encouraged to wear pajamas and slippers (or anything comfy casual) during our night of fun activities together, including our Pajama Parade. (see separate description for more ideas)
- During the Saturday **Literacy Luncheon**, you are encouraged to wear clothing or bring an item that connects you to an author or represents a genre; something that reminds you of a character or author in your favorite book
- The **Saturday Evening Black and Gold Awards Gala** is dress-up night, so bring on the Glam and Glitz if you like. Cocktail or semi-formal attire is suggested.



## ALTRUSA T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

Let your love of Altrusa shine with this super comfortable custom t-shirt in royal blue. Our T-shirt features our logo and heart-shaped word cloud on the front—words that you as members shared with us—and a call to ask us why we love Altrusa on the back!

Order your T-shirt online and it will be shipped directly to the address you provide. Use the following link to order: <https://altrusathibaudx.companysite/District-Twelve-Hearts-and-Hands-in-Service-T-shirt-p624162816>

Select your size: S-M-L-XL-XXL-XXXL (note: shirt style is Unisex, not contoured)

Shirts cost **\$25** each +shipping, and will be mailed to your address. By purchasing a T-shirt, you are also supporting our District Twelve Operations.

T-shirt orders must be placed by **April 4, 2024**



## GET YOUR VANCOUVER DISCOUNT PASSPORT!

The Visit Vancouver WA Tourism Services awarded Altrusa District Twelve a financial sponsorship to help offset the cost of conference with our change in venue to Vancouver. Along with that come some special features for our attendees!

Use the link at right to register for the free “Show Your Badge Pass”, which will give you exclusive discounts (accessible on your cell phone) at local restaurants, retailers, wineries and

## SERVICE PROJECT ITEMS TO BRING (OPTIONAL)

If you have space, please bring along any of the following items to support the conference service projects:

### Family Support Center of South Sound:

We will load backpacks on Saturday with the following items:

- Full Sized Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Body Wash
- 2 in 1 Shampoo/Conditioner

### All Kids Win:

Our Friday Keynote speaker will talk about this project and will take back any of the following donated items to help support their students:

- Safeway Gift Cards
- Walmart Gift Cards
- Fred Meyer Gift Cards
- Cans of Chili (Campbell's, Stagg and Hormel all have pull tab lids)
- Granola Bars

### Vancouver Warming Station:

The ASTRA Club members of Pendleton and Roseburg will be collecting adult crew socks, athletic socks and thermal socks at the Friday Night Pajama Party to be donated to a local Vancouver warming shelter, so **bring along a pair of new socks** if possible.



breweries in Vancouver. When you sign up for this pass on your cell phone, you will get a text with a “passport” that is ready to show to participating businesses for your discounts. No app needed.

Use the link below to get the Show Your Badge Pass for our conference dates: <https://www.visitvancouverwa.com/meetings/destination-services/dining-deals-vancouver/>



# GET EXCITED

Check out all the great things we've got in store for you!

## OPEN TIME:

**2½ Hours on Saturday to enjoy any way you want!**

In the evaluations from last year's conference, you asked us to allow more free time to visit with friends or relax. Done! We built in that "Open Time" on Saturday morning from 9:15-11:45am to enjoy whatever you'd like. Sit and catch up with friends. Walk out the hotel doors to Esther Short Park, right across the street, and have fun exploring the 60+ Farmer's Market vendors. Help pack backpacks for the Family Support Center from 9:15-10:15am or the Days for Girls Demo from 10:15-11:15am and still have time to wander outside or grab a coffee and pastry in the hotel lobby and visit with friends.

## WHAT'S CLOSE TO THE HOTEL? EVERYTHING!

- Walk a few blocks south to the 7-acre Vancouver Waterfront Park and Grant Street Pier, with restaurants, tasting rooms, and shops.
- Walk along the Renaissance Trail to the Historic Reserve, home to Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, Officers Row and the oldest continuously operating airfield west of the Mississippi—Pearson Field and Air Museum, all in a huge park setting.
- Meander Downtown through art galleries and enjoy the many murals. Visit one of the nation's few Brautigan Libraries.
- Walk a few blocks north to Uptown, filled with breweries, boutiques and eateries.
- There are 50+ eateries within a short walk of the hotel. Enjoy!



 Vancouver Walking Map  
Exploring Vancouver Page



## COMPLIMENTARY HORS D'OEUVRES NO-HOST BAR

### WELCOME!

Please join us as we gather together again for conference. Relax, connect, get excited! Your "cost of entry" is to write an act of kindness that you've done recently --and to consider making a donation of any amount, tiny or large, to benefit our District Twelve Foundation.

*Rsvp*

BY APRIL 15TH TO  
TOTALLYTORE@GMAIL.COM

YOU'RE INVITED TO A  
**PRE-CONFERENCE  
OPENING  
RECEPTION**

THURSDAY,  
MAY 16TH, 2024  
6:00-8:00PM  
HILTON  
PINE-SPRUCE ROOMS

HOSTED BY  
CONFERENCE CHAIR TORE JOHNSON  
& GOVERNOR DEBBIE MCBEE



## PARADE OF CLUB BANNERS

Renewing an old Altrusa tradition, we will have a District Twelve Parade of Banners at our Friday morning opening breakfast. Remember to bring your club banner! The Club President or designee for each club will carry their club banner in as part of our exciting Opening Ceremony.



# Altrusa's "Movie Night" PAJAMA PARTY

## Friday Fun Night • 6:30-8:30pm

- By Petrece Meyersick, Pendleton

### Welcome to Friday Fun Night for Conference 2024!!

For this year's theme we have chosen a slumber-less slumber party! Please wear your favorite pajamas and comfy slippers and get ready to visit with friends and watch the big screen for some of your favorite movie clips from the past. We will enjoy a classic hamburger/hot dog buffet dinner along with soda and a cash bar. Grab your bag of popcorn from the **popcorn machine** while testing your knowledge in a **movie trivia quiz**. Wear fun pj's to join in the **Pajama Parade** and have a chance at winning a beautiful SPA basket or a lovely commemorative Conference blanket.

No slumber party would be complete without fun activities that include a chance to ham it up with your friends at our movie-inspired **photo booth** that prints your photos right then to take with you as party favors! Laugh as you try a **life-sized Jenga game** or **corn-hole** with friends and finish out our Pajama Party with **ice cream sundaes** to complete the theme in sweet style. Please rest up and get ready for a night to remember!

### WHAT SHOULD I WEAR TO A PAJAMA PARTY???

Pajamas! Most people wear some variation of pajamas, from standard PJs to onesies, robes, slippers, and more...or go for a t-shirt and shorts or sweatpants. Whatever you're comfortable in! Do your own thing, or your club can coordinate colors or styles. Plan to relax and have fun during our Friday Fun Night Pajama Party!...Prizes for best pajamas.



### IS THERE ANYTHING I NEED TO BRING TO OUR PAJAMA PARTY?

As a joint ASTRA service project, the ASTRA members of the Pendleton and Roseburg clubs will be collecting adult crew socks, athletic socks and thermal socks at the Pajama Party to be donated to a local Vancouver warming shelter that weekend. If you are able, please bring along a pair of new socks to donate to their project.



## CONFERENCE MEALS 2024

### FRIDAY BREAKFAST

**BREAKFAST BUFFET:** Fresh fruit, Scrambled Eggs, Smoked Pepper Bacon, coffee and tea

### FRIDAY LUNCH

**SOUP & SALAD BUFFET:** Soup De Jour, Build your Own Salad-with chopped greens, tomatoes, cucumbers, chopped egg, carrots, shredded cheese, Blackened Chicken, Garbanzo Beans, Croutons and assorted dressings

### FRIDAY DINNER

**BUILD YOUR OWN BURGER AND HOT DOG BAR:** Hamburger with cheese, lettuce, pickles, tomatoes, onions; potato salad, green salad, and potato chips, ice cream sundaes, coffee and tea

### SATURDAY BREAKFAST

**SKILLET BUFFET:** Fresh fruit, country skillet with scrambled eggs, sausage, peppers and onion, and red skin potatoes, coffee and tea

### SATURDAY LUNCH

**TACO BAR:** Tortillas, ground beef, refried beans, Spanish rice, shredded cheese, lettuce, olives, onions, jalapenos, salsa and sour cream

### SATURDAY DINNER

**ITALIAN:** Chicken Marsala, Wild Rice, Fire-Roasted Vegetables, Caesar Salad, dessert, coffee and tea

### SUNDAY BREAKFAST

#### CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

**BUFFET:** Fresh Fruit, Oatmeal with Brown Sugar, Assorted Yogurts and Breakfast Breads, coffee and tea

*Buffets will include some gluten free, dairy free and vegetarian options.*



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## THURSDAY, MAY 16

8:30AM-3:00PM	District Twelve Pre-Conference Board meeting
1:00-5:30 PM	Registration and Credentials Open Raffle Items Accepted & Club Donations Drop Off
4:00-5:00 PM	<b>PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS</b> (optional)- four workshops
6:00-8:00 PM	<b>Pre-Conference Opening Reception</b> with complimentary hors d'oeuvres
8:00-8:30PM	Expeditors Training



## FRIDAY, MAY 17

7:00 AM-5:00 PM	Registration and Credentials Open
7:15-7:45AM	Raffle Items Accepted in Fundraising Room Club Displays Setup First Timers Orientation
7:15-7:45 AM	<b>INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WELCOME BREAKFAST</b>
8:00-9:30 AM	Parade of Club Banners <b>Keynote Speaker Monica Seidl:</b> Belize Blessings
9:45-11:00 AM	<b>BUSINESS SESSION #1</b>
11:15AM-12:00 PM	<b>LEADERSHIP PANEL:</b> "I Didn't Think I Could: Sharing My Leadership Journey"
12:15-1:30 PM	<b>DISTRICT FOUNDATION LUNCHEON</b>
2:00-3:30 PM	<b>MEMBERSHIP &amp; SERVICE SESSION + DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS</b> <b>Keynote Speaker Matthew Kilfman:</b> All Kids Win
3:45-4:45 PM	<b>Keynote Speaker Alex Johnson:</b> Membership Through Service
5:00-5:30 PM	<b>WORKSHOPS SESSION #1-</b> five workshops
6:30-8:30 PM	Presidents and Treasurers THANK YOU RECEPTION (open to all) <b>FRIDAY FUN NITE:</b> Pajama Party Dinner and Activities



## SATURDAY MAY 18

6:30-7:00 AM	Optional: guided morning walk around Esther Short Park or Vancouver Waterfront Trail
7:00 AM—1:00 PM	Registration and Credentials open
8:00-9:00 AM	<b>ASTRA BREAKFAST</b> and ASTRA Service Awards <b>ASTRA President Keynote Speaker</b> <b>Kyah Hunter, Pendleton</b>
9:15-11:45 AM	<b>ASTRA Alumnus Keynote Speaker</b> <b>Emily Do Sabins, Physician Assistant</b> <b>OPEN TIME</b> – RELAX, EXPLORE, VISIT OR SERVE (ON-SITE SERVICE PROJECTS)
12:00-1:00 PM	<b>LITERACY LUNCHEON</b> <b>Keynote Speaker Mary Gentry:</b> Reimagining
1:15-1:45 PM	<b>MEET YOUR DISTRICT CHAMPION</b> for 2024-2025
2:00-3:00 PM	<b>BUSINESS SESSION #2</b>
3:15-4:15 PM	<b>WORKSHOPS SESSION #2-</b> five workshops
4:30-6:00 PM	<b>Club &amp; District Group Photos</b>
6:00-6:30 PM	International Visitor Reception
6:30-9:00 PM	<b>BLACK AND GOLD AWARDS BANQUET</b> and <b>FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER</b> <b>Keynote Speaker Dorothy Bowen,</b> International Foundation Trustee

## SUNDAY MAY 19

8:30-10:30 AM	<b>BREAKFAST and CLOSING BUSINESS SESSION #3</b>
11:00AM-12:15PM	<b>United Nations Keynote Speaker- Kathy Schrein</b> Invitation to Grand Ronde 2025 Conference
	District Twelve Post-Conference Board Meeting

## SATURDAY NIGHT



## FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER AND AWARDS DINNER

During our Saturday evening Black & Gold Gala, we will recognize the outstanding work of our clubs and members. Part of our celebratory program includes announcing **award recipients for the Mamie L. Bass Service Award, the Letha H. Brown Literacy Award and the Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award.**

We will also recognize the nominees and winner of the **District Twelve Gwladys Brewster Award.** This recognition is awarded to one member who exemplifies service, leadership and sustained long-term commitment to the principles of Altrusa.

Another important component of our Gala will be hearing from **Keynote Speaker Dorothy Bowen, International Foundation Trustee**, about the International Foundation. In the past five years, District Twelve clubs have received almost \$165,000 in foundation support! This is our opportunity to give back to the Foundation that gives generously to our clubs twice each year, so bid or donate during our live auction.

This is a fun night to dress up and get photos together in front of our glitzy backdrop! Cocktail or semi-formal attire is encouraged—but wear whatever you're comfortable in as you celebrate the many District Twelve accomplishments with us.



## FIRST TIMERS

If you are going to be a First Timer at our District Conference, WELCOME! We're excited that you'll be joining us! You'll learn a lot and make new friends while being inspired and having a ton of fun.



Here are a few insights to help you as you plan for conference:

- Register for conference early -and please note the \$25 First-Timer registration discount
- Reserve your Hilton Vancouver hotel room early -check with your club members about potentially sharing a room and carpooling to conference
- Order an Altrusa t-shirt if you want one
- When you get checked in to the hotel, find the conference registration area on the second floor to get your name badge, meal tickets, and program
- If you plan to arrive Thursday afternoon, consider joining us at some of the pre-conference workshops and the casual Early Bird free Pre-Conference Reception.
- Throughout conference, enjoy the keynote speakers at each meal, attend workshops that interest you, participate in the more formal business sessions, help with a hands-on service project, have fun at our Friday Fun Night pajama party, venture out for the Saturday morning river walk or exploring Vancouver, and enjoy the weekend
- If you are a delegate you will be seated with other delegates during the business meetings. Attend the delegate briefing to know the issues and be ready to vote as your Club wishes.
- Dress is business casual, except for the Saturday Gala which will be cocktail/semiformal.
- Group photos by club will be taken on Saturday afternoon before the Gala.
- **A First-Timers Orientation Session** will be offered by Governor Debbie McBee on Friday morning at 7:15 am before the opening breakfast to help you become acclimated. At this session, you'll get a better idea of what to expect from conference and have the opportunity to get questions answered, along with meeting other Altrusans who are



attending conference for their first time too. We look forward to meeting you then!

Most of all, take time to visit with Altrusans from all over our district and have fun during Conference!

# Conference Workshops

## THURSDAY MAY 16

### Pre-Conference Workshops 4:00-5:00pm

#### Social Media for Beginners

Presenters: Megan Lauer, Dena Burian Blacklaw and Kelli McBee

Bring your cell phone or laptop to set up a social media profile, then create and publish a post on Facebook, Instagram and/or LinkedIn. Learn the benefits of these three platforms and how they can help increase awareness of your club activities by reaching more community members. Learn best times to post, how to tag and how to amplify your posts to get more likes and followers. Get hands-on help to make a post and get your social media questions answered.

#### ClubRunner Open Session: Q&A, Training and Demos

Presenters: Courtney Barclay, District Webmaster • Vickie Willson

Come with your ClubRunner questions! This workshop is designed to get you more familiar with our district website and get your questions answered. Ask us about logging in, website features, where to find things, how to access the member directory for any club, how clubs can add something to the event calendar, using the CR app—whatever you're still wondering about with ClubRunner.

#### Successful Club Fundraisers Come in All Shapes and Styles

Presenters: Tore Johnson, Olympia • Marla DeHope, Gig Harbor • Debbie Davis, Pendleton

After sharing a handout of favorite Altrusa club fundraisers, we will discuss how clubs create successful opportunities from large community events and in-person or online auctions, to 50/50's, wreath sales, raffle basket sales, cookbook sales and more. Share your ideas and get new ideas for club fundraisers.

#### Let's Talk Leadership

Presenters: Bettina Schempf, District Leadership Co-Chair and International Treasurer • Debbie McBee, Governor and Past International ASTRA Chair • Linda Smith, International President • Brenda Smith, International Leadership Development Chair

Wondering what leadership opportunities exist at the club, district and international levels of Altrusa and how much is really involved at each level? ...or how you can develop better personal leadership skills through Altrusa? Perhaps you're trying to work out how to motivate committee members or resolve a club issue. Join us for an open conversation about leadership in Altrusa.

## FRIDAY MAY 17 3:45-4:45pm

#### Design with Canva!

Presenters: Amber Rosewood • Megan Lauer

Learn basic design techniques for creating flyers and social media graphics using Canva during this interactive workshop. Please sign up for a free account at Canva.com beforehand and bring your tablet/laptop (and log in info) to the workshop.

#### Managing Uncomfortable Conversations

Presenter: Bettina Schempf, Past Governor, International Treasurer and District Twelve Leadership Co-Chair

Do you dread addressing a concern with a fellow club member or colleague? Do you fear conflict and backlash when you bring up a topic of concern? This workshop will introduce you to tools that are helpful when we face difficult conversations. The tools are helpful in all parts of your life where you hold important conversations to build, strengthen and repair relationships and understanding.

#### Name that Tune - Parliamentary Style

Presenter: Trece Gurrad, District Twelve Parliamentarian

Does even thinking about parliamentary procedure put you to sleep? Well, no more! This fun and interactive presentation will have you rockin' out while you learn some essential aspects that will help your meetings run smoothly and efficiently in the future.

#### Success with Membership Through Service

Presenter: Alex Johnson, Rotarian and CEO of Laurex Advisors

Do you want to make a difference in your community and get more people involved? If so, you will want to attend this workshop to see how your service can not only help your community but also routinely attract new members as well. This workshop will give you tips for completing your service projects so your club can be successful and grow.

#### Chair Yoga

Presenter: Britt Glass, Campbell River

Grab a seat and follow Britt Glass as she leads you through a variety of modified yoga poses that can be done while seated in a chair. Increase your flexibility and strength while having fun. With the modifications in chair yoga, anyone of any age and physical condition can participate.

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

## FRIDAY ALL-ATTENDEE LEADERSHIP PANEL

### *“I Didn’t Think I Could: Sharing My Leadership Journey”*

Presenters:

#### **Rita Rosenberg**

District Twelve Treasurer and Pendleton Club Foundation Treasurer

#### **Rita Lawless**

Club President, Longview-Kelso and Past Membership Chair

#### **Lynda Carter**

Incoming Club President, Roseburg and Past Service Chair

#### **Karen Rose**

District Twelve Literacy Chair and Second Vice President, Pendleton

#### **Nicole Jaki**

Altrusa ASTRA Co-Chair; Roseburg and Young Professional

#### **Dorothy Bowen**

International Foundation Trustee and Past President, Pendleton

#### **Brenda Smith**

International Leadership Chair and Past Governor, District Eight, Salina KS

# Conference Workshops

CONTINUED

**SATURDAY MAY 18 3:15-4:15pm**

### **Fundraising: Working Smart Rather than Working Hard!**

Presenters: Tore Johnson and Company Representatives of Lynch Creek and Raise Right

This workshop will give you an overview of the Lynch Creek Farms Fundraising Program and Raise Right Gift Card Program and letting the companies do all the work for your fundraising! Learn about how wreaths and gift cards can get you extra club cash without hosting a big event.

### **Get Noticed - Marketing your Club**

Presenter: Amber Rosewood, District Communications Chair

Create a simple, easy to follow marketing plan for your club. Incorporate public relations, social media, and community outreach strategies to improve your club's name recognition, increase your membership, and highlight your activities and events.

### **Eight Easy Pieces: Travel Light**

Presenter: Deborah de Beauchamp, Altrusa of Central Grays Harbor

Learn how you can pack your bag and travel with just eight pieces of clothing. This workshop includes a wonderful PPT to show how to travel in style with just a few pieces of clothing for men and women. Deborah is a Faculty Member of Olympic College.

### **Using Social Media and Service to Build ASTRA**

Presenters: Cynthia Mounts, District ASTRA Chair • Members of the ASTRA Clubs of Pendleton and Roseburg • Cindy Towers and Nicole Jaki (Roseburg) • Donna Biggerstaff (Pendleton) • Trece Gurrad (Longview-Kelso) • Britt Glass (Campbell River).

Are you interested in sponsoring ASTRA in your Club? Are you interested in increasing membership in ASTRA? Do you want to know how to pick projects that will get traction in the community? Or how ASTRA can help Altrusa with projects? Come to this workshop and leave with more knowledge and confidence! ASTRA is a youth service club with activities and mentoring by Altrusans to build leadership skills and community involvement in young people.

### **The United Nations: Top Ten Historical Facts About Altrusa at the U.N.- Renew YOUR Focus on the U.N.!**

Presenter Kathy Schrein, Representative for Altrusa United Nations' Dept. of Global Communications, Civil Society Unit/NGO

Come join us to learn the historical facts about Altrusa and the United Nations. Did Eleanor Roosevelt really bring Altrusa to the United Nations table? Or, did a NYC Altrusan and World War II WAC help to get Altrusa a seat at the 1946-48 U.N. table? Why is Altrusa then listed as a Non-Governing Organization (NGO) only since 1978? New pictures and visuals. See you there!

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## MARY GENTRY

The Literacy Luncheon features Keynote Speaker Mary Gentry, an attorney-turned-writer who has



authored three books and lives in Olympia, WA. Originally from the Spokane valley, Mary began her career as a teacher, became an adjunct professor, taught classes for the US Army and Bureau of Indian Affairs, then practiced law for almost 30 years. She has served on multiple nonprofit and professional boards. Through her writing, Gentry celebrates the ordinary and chronicles the connections between relationships, small moments and life events. She is a wonderful example of reimagining life. Mary is an inspirational speaker and will have her books available for autographs and sale afterward.

## MATTHEW KLIFMAN

Matthew Klifman is an active volunteer for All Kids Win and has served on their Board since 2019. He is a passionate speaker and promoter of All Kids Win. All Kids Win is a non-profit based in Thurston County that provides weekend food bags to middle and high school students in the region. They currently serve over 1,000 students every week. Matthew's career has been in banking and he currently serves as Vice President-Financial Sales with First Citizens Bank in Olympia, WA.



## ALEX JOHNSON

Alex Johnson is CEO of Laurex Advisors and a Business Coach in Plano, Texas. He coaches CEOs



throughout the country to be more organized and accountable so they can not only grow their business but also have more personal time. Alex also enjoys using his business skills to help increase nonprofit service, engagement, and memberships globally.

Personally, Johnson has been awarded accolades at the nonprofit service organizational level for recruiting new members and for his leadership skills, and for leading his own Rotary club to become the fastest-growing service club in North America.

Alex is eager to share his membership tips with Altrusans at conference during his keynote speech and a Success with Membership through Service workshop.

## MONICA SEIDL

Monica is a lifelong volunteer and humanitarian. Married with two adult kids, and grandchildren, her heart is full. Yet her extended international family over-flows her heart. Her first international mission trip was to Ecuador in 2003 for two weeks with a local church. After that she was hooked. Her next trip to Brazil created an international family relationship. She has opened her home to Brazilian students for extended stays. She has held many board and volunteer positions with several non-profits such as Kiwanis, Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, church and Altrusa. Currently she works as a project specialist focusing on economic development and small business support for the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Government.



Two years ago Monica resigned from managing a bank in which she worked for 18 years, to focus on her passion project in Belize. She and her husband bought property and built a home in Belize five years ago. While traveling to Belize, Monica searched for a volunteer opportunity. She attended two Rotary clubs in Belize and kept searching. She and her neighbor, Rosa, started asking about local needs. The gaps and needs of their village emerged and the wholistic idea of helping the community with the basics of education, health and safety became the focus. When Monica is not focused on Belize projects she enjoys adventures with her hubby, kayaking, and home decorating.

## KATHY SCHREIN *Representative for Altrusa United Nations' Dept. of Global Communications, Civil Society Unit/NGO*

### Altrusa's NGO Role at the United Nations-Recharge Your Club's Commitment to Our Worldwide Partnership!



Have YOU ever wondered just what Altrusa's role might be at the United Nations? As Altrusa serves as a NGO advisor, what responsibilities do we have at the UN? Where is our office and can we vote on General Assembly issues? How can we Altrusans best convey the mission of the United Nations in our District Twelve communities? Also, become familiar with the UN Days of Observance and the Sustainable Development Goals. Learn more and share our global vision.

## Message from our International President



Dear Altrusans,

My favorite time of year is fast approaching! I love Conference time. This is a great opportunity for us to gather as Altrusans 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 all Altrusans 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 presentations. Soak it all in!

Each District will have an Altrusa International Representative (either an officer or director) in attendance at their Conference. I encourage you to take the time to visit with them. They are there not only to 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.

# Service Projects at District Conference

## All Kids Win



All Kids Win is a 501(c)3 non-profit based in Thurston County that provides

weekend food bags to middle and high school students in North Thurston, Tumwater and Olympia and K-12 students in Tenino, Rainier, Yelm and Rochester and K-8 at Wa He Lut Indian School. We are currently serving over 1,000 students every week and each bag of food costs \$10.02.

If questions, please email Joan Julius. [jajulius@comcast.net](mailto:jajulius@comcast.net)



## Family Support Center of South Sound

Our Mission - "Working Together to Strengthen All Families and Survivors

Family Support Center helps families in transition find services, homes and jobs. Many of the families are homeless and the Support Center provides temporary homes until permanent housing is found. We seek donations of full-sized toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, body wash and 2-in-1 shampoo-conditioner to go into 49 backpacks. We will load the items into the backpacks for delivery to their location. This is a Hands-on project for Altrusans and ASTRA members to work together filling these backpacks.

Please notify Joan Julius of any items you plan to donate and the quantity. Email [jajulius@comcast.net](mailto:jajulius@comcast.net)

## Days For Girls

The other on-site project is about Days For Girls. We will be presenting an educational program regarding the Days for Girls Project. Because Days for Girls is very selective regarding the sewing of the product, we will not actually be making any product, but will give demos of how items are sewn, steps taken to make kits, and how kits are distributed. Monetary donations are always welcome as well as 100% printed cotton fabric and 100% dark colored cotton flannel, (not shirting). This flannel should not have animals, patriotic, or holiday motifs. If you are interested in beginning a Days for Girls Project, please join us for information.



## ALL KIDS WIN BY THE NUMBERS

**\$10.02** COST PER BAG  
**15,939** NUMBER OF BAGS SENT OUT IN THE 23-24 SCHOOL YEAR

**37** NUMBER OF DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS  
**1122** STUDENTS FED PER WEEK as of 1-8-24  
ON TRACK TO SEND OUT 41,250 BY THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

**48** NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WE SERVE  
**1122** STUDENTS FED PER WEEK as of 1-8-24

**\$540,000** TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET FY 23-24

YELM COMMUNITY SCHOOLS: 37%  
NORTH THURSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS: 24%  
WA HE LUT INDIAN SCHOOL: 10%  
OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT: 5%  
TUMWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT: 7%  
RAINIER SCHOOL DISTRICT: 3%  
ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT: 2%



# FOUNDATION FUNDRAISERS

## Raffle & Auction Support for Foundation and District!

by Sarah Johnson, Immediate Past Governor

At District Conference we have an opportunity to raise funds for our new District Twelve Foundation, for the International Foundation, and for district operations (raffle tickets and t-shirts). As soon as our District Foundation has raised \$20,000, it will be able to begin awarding grants to our clubs. We are almost there, so we need your support!

At the Saturday Night Gala, in addition to celebrating our District and International Foundations, there will be a live auction. Selected items will be on the bidding block for some fun and lively bidding. Proceeds from the live auction will be split with 60% dedicated to our District Foundation and 40% to International Foundation. You won't want to miss this



event, that is sure to not be silent! Live Auction Items can be paid for via cash, check or credit card following the auction.

At conference, be prepared to purchase tickets galore to put inside the raffle boxes! Remember, this is all for great causes, not to mention lots of fun. Raffle tickets will cost \$1.00 each. Tickets can be purchased with cash or check. If you would like to use a credit card to purchase tickets, that can be arranged in the raffle room during open hours. Watch for Altrusa members waving colored raffle tickets and wearing brightly colored headgear. Winning raffle tickets will be drawn and numbers posted Saturday afternoon at Conference. ***Thank you so much for your support!***

**The Altrusa International Foundation has given \$164,909 with 51 grants to 16 of our District Twelve clubs in the past 5 years!**

Bidding on a silent or live auction item or making a Lamplighter donation or Club 21 donation (\$21) to the International Foundation helps support the Foundation, enabling them to continue giving these funds back to our District Twelve clubs.



## Embracing Memories Tribute

by Sarah Johnson, Immediate Past Governor

In Conference tradition, we will honor the lives of Altrusans who passed away over the last year, celebrating their lives and accomplishments. A photo and short biography are needed for each deceased member ahead of time. The biography should include some Altrusa information as well as personal information ... what was their favorite food, did they love to travel, etc.

Please send information to Sarah Johnson, Immediate Past Governor at [sarahmjohnson1475@gmail.com](mailto:sarahmjohnson1475@gmail.com) by **May 1, 2024**. Sarah will confirm receipt via email. If you don't get a response from Sarah that it was received, please resend or text her at 503-871-0789 to make sure it was received.

## IMPORTANT CONFERENCE DATES AND DEADLINES

March 1	ASTRA Service Award submissions due
March 31	District Award submissions due <i>Mamie L Bass Service Award Letha H. Brown Literacy Award Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award Gwladys Brewster Outstanding Altrusan Award</i>
April 1	Deadline to email Club Delegate and Alternate Names to District Twelve Secretary Nancy Lucas
April 4	<b>CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FINAL DEADLINE</b>
April 4	<b>T-SHIRT ORDERS DEADLINE</b>
April 14	<b>HOTEL RESERVATIONS DEADLINE FOR DISCOUNTED BLOCK RATE</b> (Non-discounted rooms may be available after this date at the regular hotel rate)
April 14	<b>EARLY BIRD EVENT REGISTRATION FINAL DEADLINE</b>
April 30	Deadline to Request Conference Registration Refund (Written request must be received by Governor McBee by April 30)
May 1	Embracing Memories Submission Deadline Submit names to Sarah Johnson
May 6	<b>DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE BRIEFING</b> at 7:00pm on Zoom
May 16-19	<b>DISTRICT TWELVE ANNUAL CONFERENCE</b>

## DELEGATES & ALTERNATES

Part of the purpose of our District Twelve Conference is conducting the annual meeting of the district. This will include voting on district nominees and potentially on bylaws proposals or other business.

Serving as a delegate for your Club is both an honor and a responsibility. You are responsible for representing your club and voting on issues and in elections as your club has decided. Delegates will be seated in a specific place during the two Business meetings to facilitate voting. Alternates will be seated right behind the delegates.

An orientation and briefing for Delegates and Alternates will take place on **Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm on Zoom:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89570667540?pwd=VDEyMno1M2p4Z2ZlcVQ1K0ZaQm5rZz09>

Meeting ID: 895 7066 7540 Passcode: 337039

Each Club President will receive notification of the number of delegates and alternates your club is allowed for voting purposes at District Conference by **District Twelve Secretary Nancy Lucas** in early March.

The number of delegates and alternates allowed are based upon membership as of February 29, 2024 and are as follows:

15 or fewer members – 1 delegate/1 alternate

16-30 members – 2 delegates/2 alternates

31-45 members – 3 delegates/3 alternates

46-60 members – 4 delegates/4 alternates

61+ members – 5 delegates/5 alternates

If your club has not received notification from District Secretary Nancy Lucas by March 15 or if you have questions, please contact Nancy at [nmichaelslucas@gmail.com](mailto:nmichaelslucas@gmail.com) Deadline for sending names of club delegates and alternates to Nancy is **April 1, 2024**.

## THREE PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

*By Trece Gurrad, District Bylaws, Resolutions and Recommendations (BRR) Chair*

Three club bylaws changes are under consideration. Two are adding definitions of affiliate and life member classifications in Article IV, Section 1. The third is providing clarity to terms of service in Article VIII, Section 2. Details regarding these proposals shall be emailed to all members no later than March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

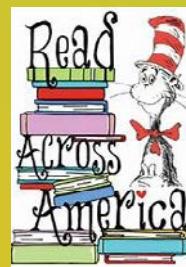
## BOARD DIRECTORS CONSIDERATION

In an effort to support leadership succession on the District Board, the board is considering filling additional leadership positions for board service as already permitted by the District Twelve Bylaws, including the option to potentially fill Director position(s) again. This will be discussed further by the Board and information will be shared with all members no later than April 15th, 2024 if the board decides to proceed. This proposal does not require a bylaws change and would be open for discussion and questions at the Delegate Briefing on May 6th and during the Conference Business Session.

## LITERACY: at Conference and Beyond!

*By Karen Rose, District Twelve Literacy Chair*

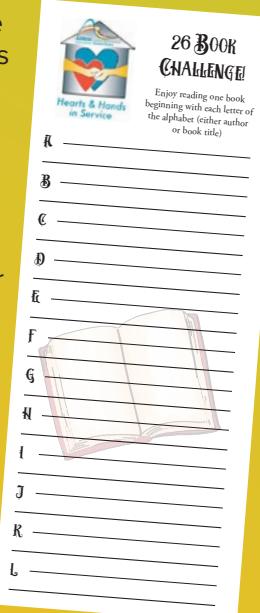
During the Literacy luncheon at Conference, we encourage you to wear clothing or bring an item that connects you to an author or represents a genre; something that reminds you of a character or author in your favorite book. For this meal, you will be seated by literary genre, with others who also enjoy that same genre. The five genres will include **Historical Fiction, Mysteries/True Crime, Non-Fiction, Romance, and Fantasy**. Before our Keynote Speaker, get to know fellow Altrusans and the books they enjoy reading.... and have fun planning something “literary” to wear!



Our District Twelve Literacy Council members have created a District-wide literacy activity and are encouraging all clubs to do similar projects for **Read Across America Week, March 2-6**. Clubs are encouraged to ask community Special Guest Readers to read to students that week. Having community members read, ask questions about the book, and just get acquainted with our young students can help spark children's imagination, promoting reading and community connections. This event could be done in schools, libraries or other venues during another community event.

We have a few members who have already completed their bookmarks for the **“26 Book A-Z Challenge”** that were passed out as a reading challenge at our Bellingham 2023 Conference. That's impressive! Please send me the names of anyone who has filled out all lines for the 26 book challenge....and for the rest of us, let's keep reading and filling up our bookmarks! If you need another bookmark, let me know.

Club Literacy committees have been busy posting articles on Facebook and/or other venues about their many literacy projects. If your club has posted information about at least **“5 Literacy Projects”** between June 1, 2023 and February 29, 2024, your Literacy Chair should email me ([k\\_rose123@hotmail.com](mailto:k_rose123@hotmail.com)) the articles and dates posted for recognition at our 2024 conference. We will recognize those clubs at conference.





# BLOW YOUR OWN HORN

Submit entries for International and District Awards

## THE BEST OF THE BEST: GWLADYS BREWSTER OUTSTANDING ALTRUSAN AWARD

This award is an award bestowed on a member of District Twelve at the annual Conference. It is named after Gwladys Brewster, Past Governor (1973-1975), Altrusa International of Nanaimo, and is the highest individual award in District Twelve.

Each of our District clubs has many members who willingly give their time and talents in service to Altrusa. They make a lasting contribution to our organization and communities. Your nominee should be that hard-working individual who is committed to club projects and club leadership. It may be your "go to person" for advice or the person your members all look up to. This person adds that extra measure of spice that keeps your club moving forward.

The recipient of this award will receive an International Foundation Lamplighter Pin, which is acquired by a \$500 contribution the District makes annually to the International Foundation. These contributions are made possible by the proceeds from the District Conference Raffle each year.

**We want to see 100% club participation in nominations** for this award - every club has an Outstanding Altrusan!

Since this is a District Twelve Award, the application is not on the International website but can be found on our District Twelve website at <https://altrusadistricttwelve.org/page/district-awards>

The nomination form has been completely revised to be more similar to International Awards formatting and to help clarify the requirements and guidelines. Email nominations to Sarah Johnson, Immediate Past Governor, at [sarahmjohnson1475@gmail.com](mailto:sarahmjohnson1475@gmail.com) no later than March 31st.



Gwladys Brewster

## DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

*No entry form is necessary – all you've got to do is recruit and keep members!*

The District Membership awards will be based on membership as a percentage of total club membership. Each category will have an award of a \$50 check to the club and a certificate of recognition. If there is a tie between clubs then all clubs earning that achievement will be awarded a certificate and a drawing of tied clubs will decide the monetary recipient. The year will be calculated from June 1 to May 1, to allow time for calculating the totals before conference.

### CATEGORIES ARE:

- MOST NEW MEMBERS RECRUITED IN THE YEAR
- BEST RETENTION RATE IN THE YEAR
- MOST NEW YOUNG PROFESSIONALS RECRUITED IN THE YEAR

District Twelve Membership Olympics Awards will also be presented.

### New: DISTRICT LITERACY RECOGNITION

Clubs who have conducted at least **5 Literacy Projects** and posted information about their projects on social media or print media will be recognized at conference.

Altrusa members who have completed their bookmarks for the **"26 Book A-Z Challenge"** that were passed out as a reading challenge issued by Governor McBee at our Bellingham 2023 Conference will be recognized at conference. More bookmarks are available.

Email your entry information or questions to District Literacy Committee Chair Karen Rose at [k\\_rose1232@hotmail.com](mailto:k_rose1232@hotmail.com)

# INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AWARDS



## ***It's time to sing your own praises!***

The various International Service Awards are your chance to share the amazing work your club does to improve your community and the world. Winners are announced at our District Twelve Conference and then the first-place winning projects are sent on to be considered for awards at the International level. We encourage every Club to submit a nomination for each of these awards, sharing the impactful contributions that you have made in communities.

The Service, International and Literacy awards have been revised recently by International to align the basic requirements of all three awards. Items of significance to note about the changes are:

Eligibility- Item 4: regarding projects that have previously won

Entry Preparation- Item 4D: supporting information cannot exceed 6 pages.

**AWARD ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MARCH 31 IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED.**

See contact information for each award in the descriptions at right.

Criteria and applications for the Mamie L. Bass, Letha H. Brown and Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun awards are available on our District Twelve website at [altrusadistricttwelve.org/page/district-awards](http://altrusadistricttwelve.org/page/district-awards)

or the International website at [login.altrusa.org/service/](http://login.altrusa.org/service/) (Username: altrusan • Password: MamieBass1955)

## **MAMIE L. BASS SERVICE AWARD**

Outstanding service to the community through hands-on service. This is your chance to showcase a project that is making a big impact in your community. Email your entry or questions to District Service Chair Joan Julius at [jajulius@comcast.net](mailto:jajulius@comcast.net)

## **LETHA H. BROWN LITERACY AWARD**

Outstanding service to the community through literacy projects. We know your club has been working to improve literacy in your community - tell us about it! Email your entry or questions to District Literacy Committee Chair Karen Rose at [k\\_rose1232@hotmail.com](mailto:k_rose1232@hotmail.com)

## **DR. NINA FAY CALHOUN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AWARD**

Outstanding club achievement in international relations. Share how your club is reaching out beyond our borders to make a difference around the world. Email your entry or questions to District International Relations Chair Lisa Gregory at [lisa0330@gmail.com](mailto:lisa0330@gmail.com)

## **ASTRA SERVICE AWARD** (\*due March 1)

Outstanding achievements in service by ASTRA members whose service projects meet needs in their local or school communities.

Email your entry or questions to District ASTRA Chair Cynthia Mounts at [cynthia.m22@charter.net](mailto:cynthia.m22@charter.net). The ASTRA award must be received by March 1st.

Download the fillable ASTRA application at: [chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnibpcajpcgkclefindmkaj/https://astra.altrusa.org/files/2019/10/ASTRA-Service-Award-Guidelines-2019-fillable.pdf](https://astra.altrusa.org/files/2019/10/ASTRA-Service-Award-Guidelines-2019-fillable.pdf)

**There are additional resources available on the District Twelve and International websites.**

# NON-CONFERENCE NEWS

## FEBRUARY 2024

# ONLINE WORKSHOPS

ALTRUSA DISTRICT TWELVE PRESENTS



### ► ALTRUSANS R.O.C.K.

### KINDNESS CHALLENGE

TUESDAY, FEB. 6

6PM - 7PM

The Realize Opportunity, Create Kindness" initiative is a challenge by Int. President Linda Smith to each Altrusan to do one act of kindness weekly and each club to report those acts. Learn more from Linda!

**Hosted by** Altrusa International President Linda Smith

**Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85357537054?pwd=cmZnSDhucVFHU1V1S1N6YjIHMDdUZz09> Meeting ID: 853 5753 7054 Passcode: 687635

### ► GRANTWRITING

THURSDAY, FEB. 8

5PM - 6PM

Learn how to write a competitive grant proposal, including what funders are looking for, important information to include in your application, and how applications are scored.

**Hosted by** Dorothy Bowen and Karin Power

**Zoom:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9550051251?pwd=9pQ2B6YpTNL5mhVhaTY8j53fJ0FVc7.1&omn=81195711394> Meeting ID: 813 9735 5594 Passcode: 026539

### ► LEADERSHIP

### DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP #2 7PM - 8PM

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

Continue to develop your leadership skills in this second session which will include a focus on the goals of a meeting, creating agendas, basics of parliamentary procedure and club budgets.

**Hosted by** Bettina Schempf, Tore Johnson, Tami Atkinson and Debbie McBee (Session #3 is March 21st)

**Zoom link:** <https://oldmillcenter.zoom.us/j/82365599799?pwd=ZhMQvODP8arAPoOi0NnOT24HRVxVKZ.1>

### ► MEMBERSHIP

### RECRUITMENT BOOTCAMP

TUESDAY, FEB. 20

5PM - 6PM

If you're looking for new ways to find new members or how to use "Add an Altrusan Month" in April to grow your membership, join this bootcamp offered by the International Membership Committee!

**Hosted by** Sylvia Juarbe & International Membership Committee

**Zoom link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84487999319?pwd=d3VEN29lamJ0ck56Q3dWUmTTW1hQT09> Meeting ID: 844 8799 9319 Passcode: 816385

**VISIT [WWW.ALTRUSADISTRICTTWELVE.ORG](http://WWW.ALTRUSADISTRICTTWELVE.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION**

## Altrusa District Twelve has a Zoom Account!

*-Jennifer Richart,  
District Technology Chair*

Do you need to schedule a committee or club meeting on Zoom? If so, District Twelve now has a Zoom paid subscription that you can use for Altrusa business.



Our district zoom link will allow clubs or committees to have meetings with up to 100 users with no time limit. Please note, however, that we can only have one meeting scheduled at a time (no overlapping meetings).

Please text or email Jennifer Richart, District Technology Chair, to schedule one-time or recurring meetings. Jennifer's email is: [jennifer.l.hammons@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.l.hammons@gmail.com), or you can text her at 509-554-0427.

The following information is needed to schedule your meeting on Zoom:

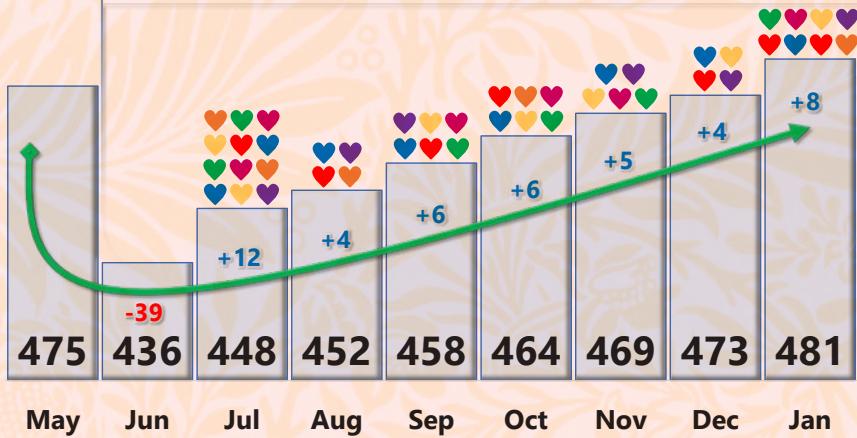
- Put "Need Altrusa Zoom link" in your subject line
- Title of meeting (eg. "Roseburg Membership Committee meeting")
- Date of meeting
- Time of meeting
- Duration of meeting
- One-time or recurring? (if it's recurring, identify frequency -eg. 2nd Thursday of each month)

Give Jennifer at least a couple days' notice to schedule it and send you the link so that you can then share the meeting link with your group. If there is another meeting already scheduled during the time you requested, she will let you know. For questions, contact Jennifer.

*Thank you, Jennifer, for providing this scheduling opportunity for our district members!*

# Welcome NEW MEMBERS!

Growth: +45 members in District Twelve in the past 8 months, reflecting 10% growth since June 2023!



## OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2023

CLUB	NEW MEMBER	DATE	SPONSOR(S)
Albany	Gail Hodge	10/11/23	Dena Burian Blacklaw/Jodi Gillespie
	Janice Danaher	11/8/23	Terri Beatti
Corvallis	Sammi Lehmann	10/6/23	Tammy Skubinna
Nanaimo	Trish Hanna	10/10/23	Jan Weir
	Bobbie Mawdsley	10/10/23	Vicki Calder
	Rosanna Van Reeuwyk	10/10/23	Trudi Margueratt
Gig Harbor	Stacy Blaisdell	10/24/23	Nancy Hohenstein/Sally Zalac
	Cindy Barton	11/7/23	Nancy Hohenstein
Hermiston	Jennie Mathisen	11/2/23	Sue Daggett and Ann Fialka
Pendleton	Amanda Brown	11/8/23	Kris Mulvihill
Yaquina Bay	Tammy Green	11/8/23	Kathleen Kellay

## DECEMBER 2023 - JANUARY 2024

CLUB	NEW MEMBER	DATE	SPONSOR(S)
Albany	Barbara Powell	1/10/24	Terri Beattie
Campbell River	Deb Stephens	1/10/24	Shelley Holmes
	Barb Kendall	1/24/24	Shelley Holmes
Gig Harbor	Holly Batsford	1/3/24	Nancy Hohenstein/Sally Zalac
Longview-Kelso	Jamie Jordan	12/7/23	Trece Gurrad/Pat Gurrad
	Michelle Burton	12/10/23	Erik Moser/Anne DeFrancisco
Nanaimo	Carol Myers	1/9/24	Cheryl Cukrowsky
Olympia	Diana Carnine	12/1/23	Shirley Pearsall
Pendleton	Courtney Summerfield (YP)	1/10/24	Theresa Degan
	Heidi Zigler	1/24/24	Lori Furstenberg
	Lisa Kopetski	1/24/24	Michelle Monkman/Darcey Ridgway

## IMPORTANT DISTRICT DATES TO REMEMBER:

### FEBRUARY, 2024

#### Celebrations

- Feb Centralia-Chehalis Club 75th Anniversary!
- Feb. 13 Olympia Club 58th Birthday
- Feb. 20 UN World Day of Social Justice
- Feb 11-17 Random Acts of Kindness Week 2024

#### Learning Opportunities

- Feb 6 Altrusans R.O.C.K. Kindness Challenge 6:00pm (Zoom)
- Feb. 8 Grantwriting 5:00pm (zoom)
- Feb. 15 Leadership Development Workshop #2 (of 3) 7:00pm (Zoom)
- Feb. 20 Membership Recruitment Bootcamp 5:00pm (Zoom)

#### Meetings

- Feb. 12 Literacy Council Meeting 6:30pm (zoom)
- Feb. 19 Conference Committee Meeting 7:00 pm (Zoom)
- Feb. 20 Presidents' Council Meeting 7:00 pm (zoom)
- Feb. 22 District Leadership Team Huddle 6:30pm (Zoom)
- Feb. 26 Membership Council meeting 7:00 pm (Zoom)

#### Deadlines & Miscellaneous:

- Feb 29 -Governor's Challenge: Membership ends

### MARCH 2024:

#### Celebrations

- March Corvallis Club 66th Birthday
- Mar. 2 Read Across America Day (Dr. Seuss Day)
- Mar. 8 International Women's Day
- Mar. 20 International Day of Happiness
- Mar. 28 Campbell River Club 40th Birthday

#### Learning Opportunities

- Mar. 14 New Member Networking 6:30pm (Zoom)
- Mar. 21 Leadership Development Workshop #3 (of 3) 7:00pm (Zoom)

#### Meetings

- Mar. 18 Conference Committee 7:00pm
- Mar. 19 Presidents' Council 7:00pm
- Mar. 25 District Board Meeting 5:30pm (Zoom)
- Mar. 25 Membership Council 7:00pm (Zoom)

#### Deadlines & Miscellaneous:

- March Club Officer and Board elections
- Mar. 1 ASTRA Service Award applications due
- Mar. 15 International Foundation Grant applications due
- Mar. 15 ASTRA Scholarship applications due
- Mar. 31 District Twelve Award submissions due
- April 4 Conference Registration Deadline

### SAVE THE DATE:

#### District Twelve Conference

May 17-19, 2024 at Hilton Vancouver WA

#### Altrusa International Convention

July 23-26, 2025, Quebec City, Canada

# CELEBRATE US!

## Celebrating 60 Years of Service – Janet “Mark” Bell

Altrusa of Longview-Kelso recently recognized and celebrated Mark Bell for her 60 years of steadfast service to Altrusa. The world was a different place in 1964 as our country was embroiled in the Vietnam War, Martin Luther King was assassinated, The Beatles took America by storm, LBJ signed the Civil Rights Act - and Mark Bell was initiated into the Altrusa Club of Longview-Kelso!

Over the years Mark has held and excelled in leadership roles both at the local and District Twelve level. Mark served as District Twelve Governor from 1977-1979. During her years in the Longview-Kelso club she was Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Director, First Vice President, President, Immediate Past President, Membership Chair and Civil Defense. When asked about Civil Defense Mark shared that clubs were encouraged to take First Aid classes and focus on health and safety in the community. A group of Altrusans signed up and participated in First Aid classes at the YMCA. Within the first couple months of completing the class two Altrusans were able to put their new skills to work in real life emergencies. Helen Price used the Heimlich maneuver on a woman who was choking and Lois Brudi was able to resuscitate her husband when he had a heart attack.

Mark Bell also served as our All for Fun Altrusan - a great role for her as she has a quick wit and wonderful sense of

humor. Mark is a WWII buff and loves to read about women of importance in history and her large library focuses primarily on non-fiction works. She and her husband Don were in the insurance business and operated Bell Insurance in Kelso for many years. Mark and Don had pilot licenses and flew a small airplane. As a result Mark has a real love of airplane stories.

Some of Mark's favorite projects were working to make Longview's Clearview Park (now named Victoria Freeman Park) a reality, and providing the McClellan Arts Center with needed interior items. One of the big fundraisers she was very involved with was the sale of reject cabinet doors. Helen Price's husband worked in the Department at International Paper that made the doors. They couldn't sell them but could donate them so Altrusa became the beneficiary of thousands of reject cabinet doors. Drug Abuse Prevention Center participants provided the labor to move them and Baker Lumber stored them for free. Then our stalwart leaders Helen Price, Sallie Ivie, Shirley Heitzmann and Mark Bell hit the road taking these to artist conventions to sell to tole painters. They raised over \$60,000 to be able to gift to the community.



Mark's service on the District Board and as Governor gave her the opportunity to make friends from all over the District. She also traveled to many locations for District Conferences and International Conventions. From her first convention at the Empress Hotel in Victoria, to Brighton England and Atlanta, where the keynote speaker was Barbara Bush speaking on literacy, she got involved and met Altrusans from around the world.

When asked why she joined Altrusa, Mark said that when she went to work in Kelso in 1963, many of the women she met were members and she liked the way they talked about being a member. When other service organizations opened to women, Mark stayed loyal to the organization that invited her in when others would not. Marks' words of wisdom are "when asked to serve at any level, say yes."

Governor Debbie McBee sent a card and flowers on behalf of the District Twelve Board to thank Mark for her remarkable lifetime of service to Altrusa.

Mark, Altrusa International District Twelve and Altrusa International of Longview-Kelso appreciate your 60 years of loyal commitment to Altrusa and all the service you gave to Altrusa and the community. THANK YOU for being a role model for so many of us who have followed your lead, and living Altrusa values throughout your life!

## HAPPY 75TH BIRTHDAY, CENTRALIA-CHEHALIS!!!



Altrusa International of Centralia-Chehalis is celebrating 75 years of service in our communities. This club began to be organized in September 1948 and chartered in February 1949 when Bernice Reihl was District Governor. They were recognized in 1956 with the Public Affairs Citation of Merit. Their members have done many projects over the years, especially with literacy. One significant ongoing project that has been ongoing for several years is Centralia College Scholarships for a nursing student. In fact, one of our prior scholarship recipients has gone on to get her Doctorate degree in Nursing. Dr. Kimberly Metz said when she had the time she would have to become a member of Altrusa. She has been an Altrusan since 2013 and is now Club President. They now give two

scholarships each year plus a donation to the Riverside Fire Authority to help pay a volunteer's tuition to become an EMT. Two of the longest current members, Bonnie Coumbs and Joyce Barnes, both became Altrusans in 1988. Bonnie and husband Lee have been active Altrusans and attendees at both District Conference and International Convention, usually wearing their colored-coordinated shirts. Their members have overseen the Holiday lights display in the park every holiday season, distributing books to families at that community event as cars drove through to view the lights. One of their major fundraisers has been Pecan sales. They hope to continue for another 75 years. Congratulations and Happy Birthday to our dedicated Centralia-Chehalis members!

Renew  
Reimagine,  
Revitalize!

See you at  
Conference!!!