

Conference Workshops

FRIDAY MAY 15TH**Making Your Club Unforgettable**with **Rhonda Hauter**, Past Governor, Gig Harbor

Rhonda has a wealth of experience in international branding and marketing. She will share this experience with you, along with tips and resources for you to take away to share with your club's communications team, all designed to make *your* club the 'UNFORGETTABLE' community service club in your town. She will also launch the 100% in 100 days campaign. Don't miss this workshop!

Social Media: Amplify Your Club's Presencewith **Dena Burian-Blacklaw**, Albany

Discover how to amplify your club's presence. Build Social Media networks and increase your following and engagement with hands-on skill building and a focus on planning your events. Don't just post! Instead, harness the power of social media --stop scrolling -- start growing.

Technology Support Squadwith **Sarah Johnson**, Albany & Friends

This is a collaborative session to provide assistance in areas such as technical support, design solutions, idea development, and more. We are assembling a group of members who possess specialized skills and are available to meet one-on-one with fellow members to address specific challenges. Examples include:

- Enhancing flyer layouts,
- Receiving technical support for Club Runner,
- Optimizing the use of social media applications,
- Editing photos on mobile devices, amongst others.

Each session will be approximately 20 minutes, depending on the skill required; attendees will choose their topic and reserve a time slot in advance

Three sessions will be offered: 2 Friday & 1 Saturday

Hints for Healthy Agingwith **Trece Eden**, RN, CCRN, MSN, Chief Nursing Officer & Longview-Kelso, Washington

Feeling tired? Sore? Lonely? Forgetful? Depressed? Seeking to find ways to better manage your personal well-being? Then this workshop is for YOU! Learn three simple changes you can make today to be the healthiest YOU at any age.

Open Doors, Open Hearts: A Fresh Take on Recruitmentwith **Jennifer Richart** and **Heather Hammons**, Altrusa Mid-Columbia

This workshop will help you reframe recruitment as an act of service rooted in relationships, not pressure or selling. Through interactive discussion and real-life examples, participants explore how one authentic conversation can spark powerful growth. Attendees will identify who is missing from their club's table, where to find them in everyday life, and how to invite them in ways that feel natural and welcoming. This session challenges common recruitment myths, reinforces the importance of meeting people where they are, and highlights how culture and first impressions shape retention. Participants leave with practical tools, a simple 30-second invitation, and a personal commitment to open at least one door — because recruitment isn't selling, it's service.

Difficult Conversationswith **Bettina Schempff**, Executive Director, Old Mill Center, Past District Governor, Corvallis, Oregon

Many of us have experienced situations when we had to deliver bad news, work through a conflict or give feedback that is not positive. This workshop will give you tools to understand the dynamics of difficult conversations. You will get tips on how you can prepare for conversations that might feel uncomfortable.

Designing Projects for Successwith **Tore Johnson**, Gig Harbor & **Pat McClintock**, Pendleton

Learn to develop and design your club projects using proven tools and communication techniques that will set you up for success.

Grant Writingwith **Nancy Gill**, Longview-Kelso & **Dorothy Bowen**, Pendleton

Learn about how to write a competitive grant proposal including how to answer application questions effectively and how to make it easy for judges to award you maximum scoring points.

"Conference was WAY MORE than anything I could have imagined. It was an emotional high for 3 days, surrounded by so many wonderful people, sharing ideas, stimulating our minds, energizing our bodies, uplifting our spirits. And we got to bring all that home with us to share."

Trudi Margueratt, Nanaimo, BC

Conference Workshops

(continued)

SATURDAY MAY 16TH

Getting & Staying Organized: Practical Types for a More Productive Life

with **Trece Eden**, Longview-Kelso Club

Feeling stressed and overwhelmed by your “to dos”? This workshop will help you maximize your time with simple, easy to implement tips to make the most out of your time.

Generational Groups Session

with **Robin VanWinkle**, Roseburg Club

X Y Z Doesn't Mean... Examine Your Zipper. Join this session on generational trends – Boomers, Gen X, Millennials, and Gen Z in a fun session focused on insights to improve club recruitment, retention, and community outreach. We'll also discuss what younger people are looking for in a volunteer organization and how we can respond.

Recruiting and Retaining Great Members

with **Debbie McBee**, Immediate Past Governor, Pendleton Club

Clubs continually seek effective strategies for recruiting new members and retaining current members. Discover successful approaches to attract and support new Altrusa members. Equally crucial is understanding how to engage and retain existing members. Build awareness of effective membership strategies that you can implement quickly and easily, thereby boosting the vibrancy, energy, size, and stability of your Altrusa club.

Technology Support Squad (last chance)

with **Sarah Johnson**, Albany Club & Friends

This is the last opportunity to participate in a collaborative session to provide assistance in areas such as technical support, design solutions, idea development, and more. Don't miss out!



CONFERENCE MEALS

Friday Breakfast Buffet:

Cage-free scrambled eggs, bacon, herb parmesan smashed red potatoes, sliced fruit, bakery basket, fruit juice.

Friday Lunch Buffet:

Salad bar with baby greens, romaine lettuce, tomato, cucumber, olives, giardiniera, cheddar cheese, goat cheese, green onion, and chopped hard boiled eggs. Sandwich bar with sliced bread & rolls, salami, ham, roast beef, turkey, assorted sliced cheeses, pickles, lettuce, tomato, and onion.

Friday Dinner Buffet:

Baked potato bar with bacon, green onion, cheese, sour cream, jalapeno, and chili; green salad

Saturday Breakfast Buffet:

Continental Spread with sliced fruit, berries, pastries, assorted bagels, house jam, whipped butter, cream cheese, creamy yogurt, granola steel cut oatmeal, assorted toppings.

Saturday Lunch Buffet:

Asian Buffet with sesame noodle salad, General Tso's chicken, char siu pork, stir-fried veggies, and fried rice.

Saturday Dinner Buffet:

Bourbon braised short ribs with a bourbon demi-glace, chicken piccata with lemon, capers, parsley, and brown butter, Tuscan cauliflower steak with smashed cannellini beans and basil; wild mushroom risotto with parmesan and parsley, and Chocolate Royale for dessert.

Sunday Breakfast:

On your own!



DISTRICT TWELVE Call to Conference 2026

Health & Wellness Activities

Survey feedback from prior conferences said you'd like more opportunities for personal growth and enrichment, rest and relaxation, and networking and social interactions. We heard you! So, this year we've organized a variety of opportunities from which to choose to personalize your experience. Whether you want to enjoy an outdoor activity, create something new, or just relax, we've made space for you to make this conference your own!

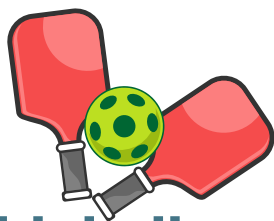
Choose Your Own Adventure



Creation Station

Birding with Ramona & Friends

Free Time



Pickleball

with

Marilyn and Randy Martell



We've arranged some creative and engaging activities suitable for all. You don't need any prior experience, just a desire to build upon a current skill or try something new.

PAINT A SEASHELL

CREATE A YARN GNOME

MAKE A GREETING CARD

MAKE A BEADED BRACELET

Creation Station

No experience or special skills required. Just bring your imagination. All supplies and instructions provided for you to complete one of four easy and fun crafts. This is also a wonderful way to network in a fun and creative way.



Birding with Ramona & Friends

Birding, Anyone?

The Semiahmoo Resort and Spa is located in the midst of some of the best birding areas in Washington. Join a representative from the North Cascades Audubon Society and other Altrusans during the Friday and Saturday afternoon "Choose Your Own Adventure" sessions. These sessions will be informative and fun and will get us outside, depending on weather. We will walk to see birds or maybe even drive to a birding hot spot. Bring your binoculars or borrow a pair on site. Contact **Ramona Leber** at 360-261-3971 or ramona.leber@cni.net with questions. For more information about the North Cascades Audubon Society Birding | Visit Birch Bay **Click [HERE](#)**

Walkie Talkies

Early morning walks with Bettina & Tami



Are you planning to walk 500 miles? Ok, maybe not 500, but how about a morning mile or two at Conference? Bring your walking shoes to Conference and join Bettina and Tami for a morning walk each day of Conference. Start your day exploring the beautiful area around Semiahmoo in the company of other Altrusans. We will be done in plenty of time to get ready for the conference activities each day. Join us for a chance to win a prize for participating in our daily walks. We will meet in the lobby: Friday 6:00-7:00 a.m. Saturday 6:30-7:15 a.m. Sunday 6:45-7:15 a.m.

Hope to see you there!!

DISTRICT TWELVE Call to Conference 2026



Conference Schedule *preliminary*

THURSDAY MAY 14TH

8:30am-12pm	Pre-Conference Board Meeting
3:30 -8:00 pm	Registration and Credentials open
3:30-7:00 pm	Raffle items accepted and Purchase Heads or Tails Beads in Stars Fundraising room
4:00-8:00 pm	Club Displays setup
3:30-8:00 pm	Donated service project items accepted
7:00-7:30 pm	Appreciation Reception for Club Presidents and Treasurers, Past Governors and International Officers (<i>invitation only</i>)
7:30-8:00 pm	REHEARSAL: Club Parade of Banners and Flag Ceremony Rehearsal
8:00-8:30 pm	EXPEDITORS TRAINING

FRIDAY MAY 15TH

6:00-7:00 am	Optional: Early Morning Walk
7:00-7:50 am	Raffle items accepted in Stars Fundraising Room; Club Displays setup
7:00-7:50 am	Stars Fundraising Room open
7am-5 pm	Registration and credentials open
7:20-7:45 am	FIRST TIMERS ORIENTATION
8:00-9:30 am	Welcome and LITERACY Breakfast
9:45-11:15 am	BUSINESS SESSION #1
11:30-12:00 pm	MINI WORKSHOPS (30")
12:15-1:45 pm	SERVICE & LEADERSHIP LUNCH
1:45-2:25 pm	Free Time, Creation Stations, Birding, Pickleball 101
2:45-3:45 pm	WORKSHOPS
4:00-4:30 pm	ALL ATTENDEE "Heads or Tails"
4:30-5:15 pm	ALL ATTENDEE: Membership Awards
6:30-9:00 pm	FRIDAY FUN NIGHT
9:00 pm	Enjoy your evening- Optional S'mores at Fire Pit

SATURDAY MAY 16TH

6:30-7:15 am	Optional: "Pickleball 102" class or The Walking Talkies Early Morning Walk
7:00-10:00 am	Registration and Credentials open
7:00-7:30 am	In reserve: Voting by Delegates/Elections
7:30-8:00 am	Stars Fundraising Room open
8:00-9:15 am	ASTRA BREAKFAST
9:15-9:30 am	Break – Stars Fundraising Room open
9:30-10:30 am	BUSINESS SESSION #2
9:45-10:45 am	ASTRA Activity
10:30-10:45 am	Break – Stars Fundraising Room open
10:45-11:15 am	Meet Your District Champion-for 2026
11:00-12:00 pm	ASTRA Group Activity and Project
11:15-11:30 am	Break – Stars Fundraising Room open
11:30-11:50 am	All-attendee photo
12:00-1:00 pm	ASTRA Lunch at Packers Restaurant
12:00-1:15 pm	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS Luncheon
1:15-2:00 pm	Free Time, Creation Stations, Birding, Pickleball 101, Outdoor Games
2:00-3:00 pm	WORKSHOPS
3:15-4:00 pm	District Foundation Annual Meeting and Presentation
4:15-6:00 pm	CLUB AND DISTRICT GROUP PHOTOS
6:00 pm	ASTRA Dinner at Packers restaurant
6:00-6:30 pm	INTERNATIONAL VISITOR RECEPTION
6:30-9:00 pm	SATURDAY BANQUET AND FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY MAY 17TH

6:45-7:15 am	Optional: Early Morning Walk
7:30-8:30 am	Breakfast on your own
8:30-9:45 am	CLOSING BUSINESS SESSION #3
10:30-11:30 am	POST-CONFERENCE BOARD MEETING

Thank you for Attending & Safe Travels Home



Banquet Attire

Saturday evening's banquet is a fun night to **dress up** and get **photos** together! **Cocktail** or **semi-formal** attire is **encouraged**—but wear whatever you're **comfortable** in as you enjoy our meal, celebrate the many District Twelve accomplishments and have fun with the **Foundation fundraiser**.

NEW THIS YEAR: BUY YOUR CONFERENCE PROGRAM AD!by **Debbie McBee**, Immediate past Governor

Celebrate Altrusa and show your support! Conference program ads are an affordable and meaningful way to support Altrusa District Twelve's mission while recognizing your club, business, family, or a special member. Ads may also highlight a signature project, share a message of support, thank an outgoing club President, celebrate a birthday, acknowledge someone meaningful to you or simply show your Altrusa pride. Best of all, your support will be seen and appreciated whether you're attending Conference or cheering us on from afar!

**How to Participate**

1. **Choose** the ad size that works best for you.
2. **Design** your ad and email it as a PDF or JPG to Debbie McBee (mmcbeed@aol.com) by March 21.
(hint: using Canva is a great way to create your ad, or send an image of your business card directly to Debbie)
3. ***Need help** with wording or design? **Email Debbie** by **March 10** to request assistance.
4. Submit **payment** with your ad submission.
 - * **Checks** payable to: Altrusa District Twelve; Notation: Conference Ad 2026. Send to Bettina Schempf, Treasurer, 3965 NW Elizabeth Pl. Corvallis, OR 97330
 - * **Online** payment link: [Altrusa Conference 2026 PROGRAM AD](#)
5. All ads and payments must be received by **March 21** to be included in the printed Conference Program.

**Ad Sizes & Rates**

- Business Card (3½" × 2") — \$25
- ¼ Page (2¾" × 4¼") — \$30
- ½ Page (5½" × 4¼") — \$50
- Full Page (5½" × 8") — \$100



Purchasing an ad for \$25 is a simple and meaningful way to support District Twelve operations while sharing an encouraging message with fellow Altrusans. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of the Conference Program while supporting the impactful work of Altrusa District Twelve

—and you do not need to attend Conference to participate!

**Celebrating 25 Years**

of
the "Celebration of Literacy" project
in Roseburg and all Altrusans and
ASTRA members who have helped us
promote literacy!

(Example - all ads will be printed in black and white)

DISTRICT TWELVE Call to Conference 2026

**IMPORTANT
CONFERENCE DATES
AND DEADLINES**

Parade of Banners



Continuing an 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, accompanied by any First Timers from that club

"Conference opens the world of Altrusa to far more than our local Clubs. I enjoyed sharing ideas and learning how other Clubs do things".

Sally Zalac, Gig Harbor

March 1

ASTRA Service Award submissions due

March 10

Deadline to request help with Conference Program Ads

March 21

Conference Program Ads due

March 31

District Award submissions due

Mamie L. Bass Service Award

Letha H. Brown Literacy Award

Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award

Gwladys Brewster Outstanding Altrusan Award

April 1

Deadline to email Club Delegate and Alternate Names to District Twelve Secretary MaryAlice Ridgway

April 7

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FINAL DEADLINE

April 13

HOTEL RESERVATIONS DEADLINE FOR DISCOUNTED BLOCK RATE 5:00 p.m.

(Non-discounted rooms may be available after this date at the regular hotel rate.)

April 23

Know Before You Go Information Session at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

April 26

Notify Debbie McBee of basket themes or items being donated for raffle/auctions

April 30

Deadline to Request Conference Registration Refund

May 1

'Lives Well-Lived' Submission Deadline
Submit names to Debbie McBee

May 4

DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE BRIEFING at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

May 15- 17 DISTRICT TWELVE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

International Visitor



Kitty McElhaney
International
President-Elect
Altrusa International
of Lake City, Florida,
District Three

An Altrusan since 2000, Kitty has served on numerous committees in her club, including Club President (2006-2007 and 2018-2019). She served as a District Three Director, Governor Elect and Governor for the 2019-2021 biennium. During her biennium, she chaired the Governors Council for Altrusa International. Currently, Kitty is the Parliamentarian for the District Three Board, in addition to serving as the ASTRA Committee Chair. She served as a Director for the International Board (2021-2023) and is currently President-Elect for the Altrusa International Board.

Kitty's professional career spanned more than 42 years in the role of teacher, school-level administrator and Assistant Superintendent. Though retired, she is often contacted by school systems in surrounding counties to consult on special projects. During her tenure in the school system, she began her service on the Take Stock in Children Board, which provides college scholarships to First Generation College bound students. She continues to serve on that Board, having chaired it for many years. Her altruistic spirit in other areas include serving on a Board that manages foster care and adoptions. A member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Kitty has served as Vice-Regent, Regent and is Honorary Regent of her Chapter.

Kitty is married to her husband, Frank, of forty years. She has a son, daughter in law, two awesome grandchildren: and her stepdaughters' family includes four amazing grandchildren. When not engaged in family or volunteer activities, she enjoys reading, camping, crafting and quilting.

"I am excited to attend the **"Building Bridges and Serving Communities"**. I look forward to making new friends and strengthening connections with familiar ones".



Sarah Johnson, Cynthia Mounts,
Tore Johnson, Bettina Schremp,
Julie Livingston & Ilona Kerby

a Message from your

District Twelve Foundation

by **Ilona Kerby**, District Twelve Foundation President

Once again, **Conference 2026** will have a variety of **fun opportunities** to support the District Twelve Foundation as it continues to grow and increase its ability to award money to clubs. In partnership with the Immediate Past Governor and Altrusa International Foundation liaison for District Twelve, we have been busy planning to support both Foundations.

During **Carnival Night**, come prepared to 'pay to play' the **Human Slot Machine**, get ready for gardening by contributing to the **seed packet fundraiser**, get those **raffle tickets** for a chance to win, or participate in the **oral and/or silent auctions**. There are opportunities for all to participate at their comfort level.

At the District Twelve Foundation **Annual Meeting**, we will be updating members on the status of the Foundation. Our Treasurer, **Robin Van Winkle**, will share our financials and we will elect three Trustees for the next two-year term.

- Tore Johnson's first term will end, and he has agreed to stand for a second term as Trustee.
- Cynthia Mounts has reached her term limit and will be leaving the Board, creating a vacancy. We have a nominee, Nancy Harper from Coeur d'Alene, who has stepped forward to run for that position.
- Jennifer Richart, Mid-Columbia, was appointed to fill out the remainder of Bettina Schempf's term and has indicated she would like to run for a two-year term when this term expires in May.

As always, **nominations** will be taken from the floor if there are any other persons interested in being considered for a position on the Foundation Board.

*Thank
you!*

DISTRICT TWELVE Call to Conference 2026

SMALL GIFTS. BIG IMPACT

WORLDWIDE CHANGE

SUPPORTING THE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION AT CONFERENCE AND ONLINE

By **Debbie McBee**, Immediate Past Governor

Supporting the Altrusa International Foundation means investing in literacy, education, and service projects that transform lives—both in our local District Twelve communities and around the world. Each year, the Foundation strengthens communities by funding vital initiatives. In the 2023-2025 biennium, the Foundation awarded over \$421,000 in club grants, scholarships, and awards. Through this collective effort, Altrusa's impact reaches far beyond what any single club could achieve alone.

Just as importantly, the **generosity of District Twelve members comes full circle**, returning to our own district through club grants, scholarships, and disaster relief support that directly benefit our communities. In the Fall 2025 Grant cycle, our **Longview-Kelso, WA** and **Coeur d'Alene, ID** clubs received \$4500 in grants. These meaningful outcomes are possible because members believe in Altrusa's mission and choose to support it financially.

At this year's District Twelve Conference, members will have several exciting opportunities to help advance this vital work, including a fun **"Heads or Tails" fundraiser and a Silent Auction**—both new this year—along with our always-popular **Live Auction**. Also new this year, you can become a **Club 52 Founding Member**, and members who are not attending Conference can also support the International Foundation through online silent auction bidding and donation opportunities, ensuring everyone in our District has a chance to participate!



Dado health care workers with **Andando** staff, supported by the **Albany Club**.



Fully stocked ambulance provided to the community of San Antonio, Caya, **Belize** supported by the **Longview-Kelso Club**

Together, these events provide us with opportunities to give, knowing that every contribution of any amount truly makes a difference. Whether a member contributes **\$5, \$50, or \$500**, each donation helps expand opportunity and build brighter futures. Each of these fundraising activities is optional for our members, but they offer a simple and meaningful way to support the Foundation's work while coming together in the spirit of service and generosity that defines Altrusa. More about the various opportunities are highlighted on the next two pages.

DISTRICT TWELVE Call to Conference 2026

HEAD'S OR TAILS a Little Game

BIG FUN-DRAISING with a PURPOSE!



“**Heads or Tails**” is a fast, fun fundraising game that anyone can play. The event will be held on **Friday afternoon**, so be sure to buy your beads early! To play, Conference participants purchase at least **one set of beads for \$5**, which serves as their entry into the game. Players can buy as many sets of beads as they want. Wearing their beads, all players stand to begin the round and choose “heads” or “tails” by placing their hands on their head or hips. The game host flips a coin and announces the result. Players who guess incorrectly remove one set of beads but stay in the game as long as they have beads left. When players have no beads left, they sit down. The game continues through multiple rounds until players run out of beads and sit down.



The last player left standing with beads remaining is declared the winner and receives 50% of the proceeds. This activity goes quickly and is a ton of fun, while raising important funds. Our goal is to raise at least \$1000. Fifty percent of the proceeds will go to the winner of the game (with the winner hopefully having a take-home prize of \$500!), and 50% of the proceeds will be donated to the International Foundation.

At just \$5, join in the fun of this quick game, playing for a great cause!

Get ready to **click, bid, and WIN!** We’re adding some extra excitement to Conference this year with a brand-new **Silent Auction fundraiser**—and everyone can join in, whether you’re attending or not.

Bidding opens online May 1, 2026, on the ZEFFY mobile bidding platform, so you can start bidding from anywhere. The easy-to-use **APP** lets you submit your bids directly from your phone or computer and also notifies donors when they’ve been outbid. Auction items will close in two phases—some on Friday and others on Saturday during Conference –giving you plenty of chances to win something great!



SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER Bid for a Cause!



Even better? Your bids make a difference! **60% of silent auction proceeds will support the District Twelve Foundation**, while **40% will benefit the Atrusa International Foundation**. Prizes can be taken home from Conference –and if you’re not at Conference but still win—no worries! A club member can bring your item home to you, or it can be mailed (excluding wine).

Some of the silent auction items already donated include a designer purse, a “**S’More Fun for You**” basket, a J.A. Henckels 13-piece **Knife Block set**, a Dr. Seuss **Book Basket**– and more items are coming in!

Bid often. bid generously. and let’s have some fun while supporting causes close to our hearts!

BE A "CLUB 52" FOUNDING MEMBER!



Club 52 is a signature fundraising initiative of the **Altrusa International Foundation** that grew out of the earlier "Club 21" initiative. Originally established in 1997 to support camps for children living with HIV/AIDS, the program has expanded over the past 30 years to fund a broader range of children's camps, international healthcare and education initiatives, and other services for children with disabilities or serious health needs. Under Club 52, individual supporters are invited to give **\$1 per week for 52 weeks—a one-time annual donation** of \$52—to help sustain and expand this legacy of service. Those who donate during the current giving period (July 2025 through May 31, 2026) are recognized as Charter Members of Club 52 and receive a Club 52 pin. Clubs that contribute \$252 or more in that period also receive recognition and a special Club 52 banner patch as a symbol of their commitment.

Join Club 52 during the District Twelve Conference! Make your \$52 contribution at Conference and be part of a powerful, collective effort to create meaningful change. Let's show the impact our district can make when we give together!

District Twelve Club 52 Charter Members to date include: Tami Atkinson, Dorothy Bowen, Dena Burian Blacklaw, Bonnie Canaday, Lisa Clark, Tammy Cournoyer, Kathleen Kellay, Jan Kerby, Ilona Kerby, Julie Livingston, Debbie McBee, Karen Rose, and Bettina Schempf.

There will be opportunities to become a Club 52 member at Conference, but for more information or if you might not be at Conference and want to become a Club 52 Charter member, use the link below:

<https://foundation.altrusa.org/giving-programs-2/club-52/>



LET THE FUN BEGIN!

PADDLE RAISE & LIVE AUCTION!



This year's District Twelve Conference is bringing double the excitement with a brand-new **Paddle Raise** and our much-loved **Live Auction** on Saturday evening. Live auctioneer **Ron Allen** will be back with us, adding his signature energy and fun to the bidding.

Live auction items will include amazing themed baskets, a Portland Gear Cascade Weekender bag, a designer purse filled with gift cards, and a couple of fantastic trips.

Every dollar counts: For the live auction, **60% of proceeds go to the District Twelve Foundation** and **40% to the International Foundation**—so you're supporting causes close to our hearts while enjoying some friendly competition. For the paddle raise, 100% of the income goes to the International Foundation.

How to participate: Raise your paddle to donate \$25, \$50, or up to \$500, or place your winning live auction bid as auction items are announced. On Saturday evening, donation envelopes will also be provided at each table so you can easily contribute by check or credit card, specifying your donation amount. Payments can be made by **cash, check, or credit card**—and any donation amount helps! Whether you're bidding to win an item or simply supporting our Foundations, this is a fun way to give, cheer, and celebrate together!

How to donate an auction item: Please email **Debbie McBee** at mmcbeed@aol.com by **Monday, April 26** with a brief description of your donated item and its approximate value, if possible. Then, bring your item to the **"Stars" Fundraising Room** on Thursday afternoon when you arrive at Conference.

LAMPLIGHTERS

The International Foundation's **Lamplighter Giving Program** is a special way to recognize individuals who support the Altrusa International Foundation through financial giving. A Lamplighter pin is presented to individuals who **make a donation of \$500** or more to the Foundation in a year, symbolizing their commitment to Altrusa service and leadership.



Lamplighters help sustain Foundation grants that support **education, literacy, health, and community programs** around the world. Continued giving at the **\$500 level** is recognized with additional stones added to the pin, honoring ongoing generosity. Clubs and districts that contribute at the Lamplighter level also receive a patch and special recognition. Becoming a **Lamplighter** is a meaningful way to extend your impact beyond hands-on service and help ensure Altrusa's mission continues to shine.

Consider becoming a Lamplighter—or renewing your Lamplighter status—**by making your tax-deductible \$500 contribution** during our District Twelve Conference. You may donate during the **Saturday Paddle Raise**, stop by the **“Stars” Fundraising Room**, or use the **QR code** below during Conference.



Altrusa International Foundation Trustee **Dorothy Bowen** will be happy to present you with your Lamplighter pin at Conference!

Raffle Fundraiser FUN FOR A PURPOSE

by **Debbie McBee**, Immediate Past Governor



Be ready to purchase raffle tickets galore at Conference and join in the fun while supporting a great cause! Proceeds from the raffle help support Altrusa District operations, making this a simple and enjoyable way to give back.

Tickets may be purchased with cash or check, and credit card purchases can be arranged in the raffle room during designated open hours.

Keep an eye out for Altrusans waving brightly colored raffle tickets and sporting eye-catching headgear—you'll know them when you see them!

Raffle tickets are just **\$1.00** each, so be sure to bring plenty of small bills.

Winning ticket numbers will be drawn and posted Saturday afternoon at Conference.



"Attending Conference is exciting. You meet so many new people and make amazing connections. The bonding time with your Club is so valuable. I learned marketing/communication strategies as well as so much about our history. Hearing about all of the powerful projects makes what we do so worthwhile!"

Jody Mancuso, Albany

I love to greet old friends and meet first timers. I enjoy the busy agenda, as well as some downtime for getting reacquainted with Altrusans, and exploring a new community.

Terri Taber, Pendleton

DISTRICT TWELVE Call to Conference 2026

A note from the Nominating Committee Chair

First, a big thank you to my committee members Ann Fialka and Anne DeFrancisco for serving these two years.

Thank you to all the Candidates for stepping up and answering the call for the Treasurer-Elect and Nominating Committee Members. You will notice that we have two candidates from Pendleton Club. You will be voting for only one of them. The one with the most votes will move forward. Also, the individual of all the candidates will become Chair of the Committee.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve as your Nominating Committee Chair these past two years.



In Service,
Tore Johnson

Treasurer Elect



Patty Bordelon *Coeur d'Alene, ID*

I am interested in the position of Altrusa District Twelve Treasurer-Elect for 2026–2028 for several reasons. First, I bring more than four decades of experience as a financial executive in the for-profit sector, and I enjoy applying that expertise to support strong, transparent financial stewardship. Second, my sister and I are charter members of the Coeur d'Alene club, and the past year and a half of being part of Altrusa District Twelve has been deeply rewarding—both in building meaningful friendships and in contributing to our local community. I believe strongly in Altrusa's mission and am excited to contribute in new ways to its continued success.

Nominating Committee

Janet Baker *Campbell River, BC*



I am the daughter of a WWII air force veteran, the widow of a thirty-four-year career army veteran and the mother of a twenty-year air force member. As you can see, most of my life has been spent in and around military bases, moving all over my country, following my husband wherever he was posted. I learned to adapt to many different living situations and to help my two sons adjust to each new place we were sent. We made many friends along the way, some of whom I still contact years later. Life as a military wife has taught me how to deal with many different people and has given me a real understanding of various areas of my country. Even though there were times that were difficult, I would not want to change a thing. There truly is "no life like it". We finally settled in Campbell River, British Columbia on beautiful Vancouver Island in a lovely home overlooking Discovery Passage. During our time there, we hosted many a happy family gathering, our four grandchildren were born, and we watched them grow into the wonderful young people they are today. When I retired, I wanted to do something to give back to my community and several friends encouraged me to join Altrusa. I found it to be a wonderful organization filled with people who also want to give back to their community. I have made many great friends during my fifteen years in the club and have met some amazing people. My husband passed away three years ago, and life has changed a great deal since then, but Altrusa is still an integral part of my life. I hope to continue with my club for many years to come as we work together to serve our community and help those less fortunate.

Nominating Committee (*continued*)



Judy Brizendine *Pendleton, OR*

I am delighted to be a candidate for the District Twelve Nominating Committee 2026/2028. Altrusa is filled with passionate caring people with a heart and head for service and I am thankful to be part of this group. I first became interested in Altrusa years ago as a first-grade teacher. The Feed the Child Program made such a positive difference in my students' lives. They were so excited to receive their weekend food bags each week. I am passionate about literacy and Altrusa's focus on literacy is truly one of my favorite things. My theme for the year I was president was "We rise by lifting others". The emphasis that collective growth and success are achieved when individuals support and uplift one another, rather than striving for individual advancement alone. That is exactly what Altrusa is all about!

Patty Johnson *Albany, OR*



I am Patty Johnson, and I've had the privilege of being an Altrusa member for over 40 years. I first joined the Yaquina Bay Club in 1985, and when I relocated to Salem in 1999, I became a member of the Salem Club. We faced challenges in keeping the Salem club active, so I then joined the Albany Club. I've been honored to serve as president of both the Yaquina Bay and Salem clubs, and I've been deeply involved in numerous committees, projects, and fundraisers over the years. Currently, I serve as chair of the International Committee for the Albany Club and recently contributed to completing the club's financial audit.

What I value most about Altrusa is its unwavering commitment to literacy, which has always resonated deeply with me. But I also believe that the true strength of our organization lies in the flexibility each club has to identify and pursue projects that address the unique needs of its community. Throughout my years of involvement, I've witnessed remarkable leadership growth among our members, whether stepping up to lead a committee, project or fundraiser, or taking on officer roles at both the club and district levels. It's been incredibly rewarding to see others grow into these leadership positions. I would be honored to continue this support as a member of the District Twelve Nominating Committee, helping to identify and encourage the future leaders of our organization

Lynda Carter *Roseburg, OR*



I became an Altrusan in May of 2021. Joining Altrusa has been a very rewarding experience for me. I have been an avid reader for most of my life and I believe that the younger you start making a reader, the more likely they will continue to read. Being able to help a child start reading is a joy to me. Seeing a child's eyes light up when you tell them that they can take the book home with them fills my heart with joy. The number of books that Altrusa gives away in a year is amazing. Altrusa members are a very passionate group of people. They believe in helping to better their community with their many projects. Literacy can change a person, a community, and the world and I am proud to be able to help do this.

Nominating Committee (*continued*)



Susan Swearingen *Pendleton, OR*

I have been a member of Altrusa International of Pendleton, OR Inc since May 2005. I have held the office of President for two years for 2013/2014 and 2014/2015. I have been on the Board two times and most recently 2024/2026. I have served on committees and as Chair.

I am currently serving as the District Twelve Service Chair for the term 2024-2026. I was born and raised in Pendleton, OR and am the third youngest of eleven siblings. I am currently retired, but have worked for Pacific Northwest Bell, Cascade Natural Gas for 28 years and Gordon's Electric for 10 years.

I enjoy helping with so many of the projects that Altrusa of Pendleton has. Seeing and feeling the positivity for helping others.

Lives Well Lived

by **Debbie McBee**, *Immediate Past Governor*

Each year at our District Twelve Conference, we pause to honor and remember Altrusans from our district who have passed away during the past year.

At this time, we are aware of the following members:

- May 21, 2025: Holly Batsford, Gig Harbor
- August 12, 2025: Sandy Nichols, Pendleton
- September 16, 2025: Marsha Stipe, Mid-Columbia
- October 2, 2025: Diane Wittman, Gig Harbor – District Treasurer
- October 10, 2025: Joyce Barnes, Centralia-Chehalis
- October 11, 2025: Ronna Smith, Olympia
- December 4, 2025: Roberta Cook, Nanaimo
- December 14, 2025: Hannah Booth, Longview-Kelso
- January 3, 2026: Evelyne Hendrix, Corvallis (Past Governor)
- January 24, 2026: Lois Brudi-Conrod, Longview-Kelso

If you are aware of any District Twelve members who have passed away since May 18, 2025 and are not listed above, please email me at mmcbeed@aol.com so they may be included in this year's memorial presentation.

Additionally, if not already submitted, we respectfully ask club Presidents to provide a brief biography and headshot photo for each member listed by **May 1st, 2026**. This information may be emailed directly to me or submitted using the link below

Click [HERE](#)

SAVE THE DATE
CONFERENCE 2027

Next year's District Twelve Conference will
be held **May 21-23, 2027**.

More information will be forthcoming

ALTRUSA DISTRICT TWELVE

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP:

GROWING AS LEADERS: SKILLS, STRATEGY & SUCCESS



PRESENTERS:

TAMI ATKINSON,
Leadership Co-Chair

TORRE JOHNSON,
Leadership Co-Chair

DEBBIE MCBEE,
Immediate Past Governor

Join us for a dynamic leadership development workshop on Zoom, open to ALL Altrusans—whether you're new to leadership or a seasoned Chair or Club Officer. Together, we'll explore key traits of successful leaders, effective problem-solving strategies, skill development, maximizing resources and more. Plus, we've planned interactive activities that are both fun and practical. Don't miss this opportunity to grow, connect, and be inspired!



MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026



6:00–8:30PM



ZOOM LINK: [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/88207915880?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88207915880?pwd=4WMSZI2NEHKW2HWNHGJBLTYAAVTECV.1)
PWD=4WMSZI2NEHKW2HWNHGJBLTYAAVTECV.1