



District One Altrusa International, Inc.
Bermuda, Canada, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont

District One Service Bulletin
"Altrusa the Key to Service, Leadership and FUN"
Volume 19 Issue 2
June 2021

District One Officers
2021-2023

Pam Lemieux
Portland
Governor
207-797-4494

pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net

Rita Cote
Greater Biddeford-Saco
Governor Elect
207-602-8179
rita@jonescove.net

Violet Sims
Greater Hartford
1st Vice Governor
860-223-2213
violetsims@yahoo.com

Susan Porazzo
Plymouth County
2nd Vice Governor
508-510-4788
smporazzo@hotmail.com

Wanda Pettersen
Portland
Treasurer
207-756-4431
Kettlecove_6@msn.com

Marie Pike
Portland
Secretary
207-929-0964
Pikerino2@aol.com

Cathy Baybutt
Carroll County
Director
603-651-8464
cathybaybutt@gmail.com

Hilda C. Schmidt
Central CT
Director
203-592-4819
HildaCSchmidt@hotmail.com

Linda Ring
Central CT
Immediate Past Governor
860-490-8211
Linda.Ring.Altrusa@gmail.com

Governor's Message



Welcome to my Altrusa District One Biennium.
A two-year adventure is just beginning.

Thank you to Governor Linda Ring and her team for pulling together an outstanding Virtual Conference. Linda received kudos from our International Guest, Jennette Borrell, for constructing a Virtual Conference that managed to cover all the 'business' requirements of Conference and include guest speakers and workshops, along with some fun exercises, using Zoom breakout rooms to allow members to meet and talk in small groups. The District One Virtual Conference was an incredible accomplishment.

Also, I need to thank my dear friend and fellow Portland Altrusan, Anita Chandler, for pulling together an Installation Ceremony that could be conducted 'virtually'.

In addition, thanks go out to the members of my Biennium Board and District One Committee Chairs. Thank you for agreeing to step up and serve. I am so impressed with the talent that I have on this biennium board. It is comforting to know I am surrounded by such great Altrusans.

Finally, I can not forget to thank the District One Membership. It was you who voted me into this position. Your support has not gone unnoticed. Thank you! My biennium team and I promise to support and help all the clubs in District One to achieve their goals and to be leaders in service in their respective communities.

My biennium theme is "*Altrusa is the KEY to Service, Leadership and FUN*". We all know that Altrusa is synonymous with Service and Leadership. What is not spoken about as much but is truly part of why we all are Altrusans, is the FUN that is generated. Have you ever seen an Altrusa Greeting that did not include hugs, smiles and laughter? What about working on a service project? Don't you have FUN? I am encouraging all District One Altrusans to embrace FUN at every opportunity.

Our next District One Board Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 7, 2021. If you have any issues that you would like to see addressed at this meeting, please drop me a line. District One Officers and Committee Chairs are invited to attend. Governor-Elect Rita Cote has offered to host the meeting at her house. Of course, we will cover all the business of Altrusa and there will be a FUN component. Rita lives on a lake in Waterboro, Maine, and there is a pontoon boat! Bring your bathing suit and let's have FUN.

Pam
Governor, Altrusa District One

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Conference Highlights

**Lighting the Way...
For Leaders in Service...
Through...**



International Representative

Jenette Borell – all the way from New Zealand.



Keynote Speaker

Joanne Lannin, Author

Finding a Way to Play: The Pioneering Spirit of Women in Basketball



Congratulations to the District One Conference 2021 Award Recipients

Award	First	Second	Third
Largest Number of New Members	<u>Quebec (5)</u>	<u>Seacoast (4)</u>	<u>Carroll County (3)</u>
			<u>Meredith (3)</u>
Membership % Increase	<u>Seacoast (25%)</u>	<u>Quebec (22%)</u>	<u>Merrimack Valley (18%)</u>
Net Gain New Members	<u>Quebec (4)</u>	<u>Merrimack Valley (2)</u>	<u>Carroll County (1)</u>
Club Anniversaries	<u>10 years</u>	<u>15 Years</u>	<u>45 Years</u>
	Greater Hartford	Carroll County	Merrimack Valley
Club Anniversaries	<u>65 Years</u>	<u>70 Years</u>	<u>75 Years</u>
	Central CT	Plymouth County	Laconia
	Litchfield County		
Newsletter	<u>Seacoast Sun</u>	<u>The Altrusagram</u>	<u>Central Breeze</u>
	Seacoast	Portland	Central CT
	Nadine Rueter	Marie Pike	Elsie Mathews
ASTRA	<u>Vacation Activity Bags</u>		
	Lakes Region High School ASTRA Club (Portland Club)		
Mamie L. Bass – Service	<u>Pivoting in response to COVID</u>	<u>This Snack's On Us</u>	<u>CLOSE=Children's Luggage Offers Self Esteem</u>
	Greater Biddeford Saco	Seacoast	Central CT
Letha A. Brown - Literacy	<u>Read Me a Story</u>	<u>Black and White Book</u>	<u>Brigid's Crossing - Leading with Literacy</u>
	Seacoast	Sanford-Springvale	Merrimack Valley
Nina Faye Calhoun – International	<u>Continued Support for Days for Girls</u>		
	Northeastern CT		
Gabrielle Crepeau - Leadership	<u>Linda Ring</u>		
	Central CT		
Governor's Award	<u>Debbie Lemieux</u>	<u>Denise Doyon</u>	<u>Cathy Baybutt</u>
	Communications Chair	Webmaster	DSB Editor



Introducing District ONE Board 2021-2023



Governor
Pam Lemieux



Governor Elect
Rita Cote



1st Vice Governor
Violet Sims



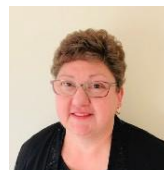
2nd Vice Governor
Susan Porazzo



Treasurer
Wanda Pettersen



Secretary
Marie Pike



Immed. Past
Governor
Linda Ring



Director – Cathy Baybutt



Director – Hilda Schmidt

DISTRICT ONE Committee Chairs 2021 – 2023

Committee/Chairs		Phone	Email
Service	Anita Chandler	(207)772-2701	achandler@maine.rr.com
Days for Girls	Claire Behrle	(978)256-4838	sbehrle@aol.com
Leadership	Susan Ulino	(860)742-1288	isadorad@charter.net
Membership	Jenn Belcher	(774)259-8320	ibelcher79@gmail.com
Communications	Debbie Lemieux	(207)310-4509	dalemieux33@gmail.com
DSB	Debbie Lemieux		
Webmaster	Linda Ring	(860)490-8211	linda.ring.altrusa@gmail.com
Social Media	Cathy Baybutt	(603)651-8464	cathybaybutt@gmail.com
Comm Support	Denise Doyon	(207) 282-2717	ddpills@maine.rr.com
Foundation Liaison	Anne Rash	(860)456-1600	arash@charter.net
ASTRA Liaison	Trish Maxim	(207) 693-6516	campnaples@fairpoint.net
Parliamentarian	Kitty Cunningham	(813)394-0301	kcunning_99@yahoo.com
Archives	Lucia Shannon	(508) 586-0755	lbshannon73@gmail.com
BRR	Pat Jackowski	(860)344-8622	pjjcjj@sbcglobal.net
Nominating	Mary Faries (until 2022)	(441) 295-3596	maryff@ibl.bm



Congratulations to the 2021 GRANT Recipients

Below is the list of District One Clubs that were awarded grants during **Cycle 2** in April 2021.

<u>District One Altrusa Club</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Grant Awarded</u>
Meredith, New Hampshire	File for Life Project	\$1,500
Portland, Maine	Literacy and Lunch	\$3,000
Carroll County, New Hampshire	Make Way for Readers	\$2,000
Plymouth County, Massachusetts	Jou Nouvo Community Center Library	\$4,000
Merrimack Valley, Massachusetts	<i>Brigid's Crossing</i> , Leading with Literacy To a Better Community	\$ 850

Congratulations to these five District One Clubs who were able to obtain funding for their service projects through the International Altrusa Foundation. Now you need to put these funds to good use and by May 15, 2022* submit a write up to International, documenting what you did.

The Altrusa International Foundation offers grants twice a year.

<u>Funding Cycle</u>	<u>Application Due</u>	<u>Funding Decisions</u>	<u>Grants Awarded</u>	<u>Follow Up Reports Due</u>
Cycle 1	September 15	October 31	Nov. 30	Nov. 30, 2021*
Cycle 2	March 15	April 30	May 15	May 15, 2022*

***Grant Follow-Up Reports are due to the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. office one year after the award is granted.**

Applicants may request between \$250 and \$4,000. The number of grants funded, and the amount of each grant, is dependent upon available funds. In Cycle 2 (April 2021) the Altrusa International Foundation awarded \$142,348 to multiple clubs and projects. If a project is not awarded a grant during a Grant Cycle, they can resubmit their proposal during the next Grant Cycle.

A grant recipient is obligated to use the grant award for the intended purpose and must file a report within one year after the grant is awarded. However, if the grant is not used for the intended purpose, it must be returned in full to the Foundation.

Altrusa Clubs, ASTRA Clubs, and Districts may apply for one service grant per cycle in the fiscal year and all applicants must agree to the terms of the grant. In Cycle 2 (April 2021), given that it has been difficult to raise funds in the past year and a half due to our COVID environment, a lot of District One Clubs turned to the Altrusa International Foundation for grants to fund their service projects. Well Done!



July 28 – August 1, 2021
 Altrusa International 57th
 Convention
 Charlotte, NC

A note about Convention **Remote Voter Registration**.....

The 2021 International Convention is scheduled for July 28th through July 31st, inclusive. This year due to the pandemic, not everyone who would like to attend the Altrusa International Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, is able to.

One critical part of Convention involves the elections. Since the attendance is expected to be stunted by the pandemic, International is offering an alternative way to cast your ballot.

Any eligible voter, not able to attend the International Convention, will be allowed to participate in voting, remotely, at a cost. Please Note: *Voters will be allowed to vote on Board, Nominating Committee and Foundation, NOT bylaw changes.* Voters will be provided a link to a registration form where they will be charged \$25 to be able to vote online. If you wish to vote remotely, you need to register to vote remotely **by June 30, 2021**. If you cannot find the link, contact Governor Pam to send it to you. Each registered voter will then receive pertinent information regarding what they are to vote on, as well as when the polls will be opened and closed.



November 5-6, 2021
 District One Workshop
 Portland, Maine

Celebrating the old and the new Bienniums, with Dinner on Friday. You won't want to miss this.



April 22-24, 2022
 District One Conference
 At the North Conway Grand Hotel



Hosted by:
 Carroll County
 Laconia
 Meredith



SERVICE.....

From our Service Chair, Anita L. Chandler



Community Service - "Where to Find Our New/Next Service Project?"

Our Governor's theme for this biennium is: **"Altrusa, the Key to Service, Leadership and Fun"**. She placed Service as the center of her theme giving us the opportunity to lead with service and have fun while doing it!

We are aware that many clubs have signature projects that are near and dear to their current members. How do we expand these or add new projects that will serve our communities, attract new members and challenge all of us? Listen to each other, the "I wish we could add this to that" is an easy start.

For the new ideas that haven't been brought to the table, community needs surveys are available through many resources. City and town governments and the United Way both have current assessments and don't forget Veteran's Centers, schools and social service agencies are always aware of volunteer needs for all ages and have myriad types of needs for many skill levels. Networking and teaming with other organizations opens the door to great service with shared costs plus the bonus of new friendships and much fun!

Remember that your new service project doesn't have to be new or untried, there are always wonderful projects done by sister clubs featured in the DSB, you then only need to contact a friend for your next new and fun project.



Altrusa International Service Projects

A database of Service projects from throughout our Altrusa organization

Search the Service Project database

Enter a Service Project

Let the International website be your guide.

If you are struggling to find ways to continue providing service to your community or to come up projects that keep members engaged, search the database for ideas. Feel free to tailor any of the projects you see to the size of your club, budget and community.

<https://altruservice.org>

Service – SOS.....

April 2021
Issue 35

SOLDIERSCAREPACKAGES.COM

First Baptist Church, 85 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043
fbc.hingham@verizon.net 781-749-2516



Soldiers we are currently serving:

A Fielding in Kuwait
M Spoke FPO
J McCormick in S. Korea
M Proctor in Japan
E Carman in Kuwait
J Molina in Jordan
D Clark on ship
K Hasenstein in Kuwait
T Amra on ship
J Claypool in Japan
L Adams in S. Korea
W Wilcox on ship
K Ricketts in Kuwait
S Hallerman on ship
J Kesiner in Bahrain
W Carroll in Japan
R Paredes in Saudi Arabia
T Jackson in Kuwait
A Olsson in Afghanistan
E Cho in Kuwait
P Dixon in Kuwait
C Johnson in Afghanistan
D Tisor undisclosed
P Coronado Armed Forces Pacific



Do you know of a deployed Soldier?
Would he/she like to receive
Care Packages?

Let us know at fbc.hingham@verizon.net

Cumulative Stats

56,000 lbs. of donations shipped since 2005.

240 Point Leaders since 2005 (some serving multiple times). Each Point Leader has a unit averaging from 6 to 500 Soldiers.



Latest current cost to mail
one Flat Rate Priority Mail
package to a
Soldier is **\$17.80**

The COVID-19 Impact on Days For Girls

From our DFG Chair, Claire Behrle



The pandemic has posed a major risk to women and girls that has threatened the hard-won progress toward gender equality. I have been reading reports by Save the Children that have predicted that as many as ten million children worldwide may never return to school after the lockdown is over. Girls will be harder hit than boys. Many girls will be forced into early marriages or sold into the labor markets due to the extreme poverty faced by their families. During the pandemic the reports of gender-based violence have increased.

Days for Girls CEO, Celeste Mergens, reached out to DFG leaders in Africa to find out what impact they were seeing due to girls not attending school and not having access to menstrual supplies. The responses she received were heartbreaking. Taboos and stigmas still persist in many countries. To avoid being banished during their cycles females are doing whatever it takes to get supplies. She was told stories of women and girls in Kenya and Uganda exchanging sex with boda (taxi) drivers to get money for menstrual supplies, she heard stories from Zimbabwe about women using cloth napkins but not having access to clean water to wash them and contracting bacterial infections. Other stories from Uganda talk about girls cutting up blankets to make homemade pads and then being beaten by male family members for destroying the blankets. And the stories go on. Another disturbing trend that was on the rise during lockdown was the number of teenage pregnancies reported. UNICEF is predicting that by the time schools open again half of the school age girls will be either married off or pregnant.

Days for Girls trainers are working hard with local authorities to reach as many women as possible with supplies and educational materials; going door-to-door or holding small group meetings where possible. They are providing simple, easy to follow instructions on making homemade pads.

As Altrusans, what can we do to help? We can donate funds, perhaps employer matching gifts, to further support the work of DFG. We can donate our time and talents in creating DFG kits (or even a single component of a kit) for distribution to those in need. We can stay informed on period poverty and gender-based inequality and spread the message to others in our community who may want to get involved. If you need help on how to get started feel free to reach out to me, Claire Behrle, by email at sbehrle@aol.com.



Service - Days for Girls.....

Ways for Altrusa clubs to support DAYS FOR GIRLS

1

Gather Monetary Donations

\$10 = 1 Days for Girls Kit that lasts 3 years!
<https://donate.daysforgirls.org/altrusa>

2

Gather Days for Girls Kit Supplies

- travel size soap
- Ziploc bags (gallon size, freezer)
- girl panties (sizes 10,12,14,16)
- washcloths
- grosgrain ribbon (5/8"width, 38"length)
- 100% cotton fabric
- 100% cotton flannel fabric

*pattern restrictions apply to fabric, see additional page for guidelines

3

Volunteer with a local Days for Girls Chapter or Team

Email chaptersassist@daysforgirls.org to get connected with a group near you.

4

Start your own Days for Girls Team

Start by filling out the New Team Application here:
www.daysforgirls.org/chaptersandteams

**Thank you for helping us reach
Every Girl. Everywhere. Period.**

Find them on
FaceBook.



Days for Girls International 
@DaysforGirls · Nonprofit Organization

 Donate

Archives....

From our Archive Chair, Lucia Shannon



Altrusa archives 2020-2021 may well stand as an important testimony of our collective success during a covid-19 plague year. Every effort in service, fundraising, and communication should be acknowledged via documents. Your annual club report, the reports from the secretary and treasurer, as well as the newsletter will demonstrate your resilience. Details in your service and literacy reports will be important to document decision making, adapting to health restrictions, yet meeting demonstrable needs. Grant applications, applications for the Mamie L. Bass, Letha H. Brown, and Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun awards and your strategic plan should be included too. Now put it all on a flash drive, and perhaps a back-up flash drive. You've got this!

Retaining Club Membership

From our Membership Chair, Jenn Belcher



An interesting blog from **Classy.org** gives advice on “How to Improve Your Membership Retention.” Below is a summarization of it’s four points.

- **Empower and Educate Your Members**
 - “...start off by educating your volunteers about your organization in a way that specifically includes them in the vision and mission”
 - Have members practice stating our mission and goals in their own words to improve their confidence when talking with others (word of mouth is a great marketing tool to recruit new members)
- **Match Members’ Skill Levels to Project**
 - “A critical step to engaging (and keeping) your volunteers is to assign tasks that align with their distinct skill sets”
 - Are some members better at sewing than others? Set them up with a project that plays to that strength rather than a member who has hand-to-eye coordination problems (*I’m speaking from personal experience*).
 - What about a member that is in a job that handles finances? Do they feel more confident volunteering to be the club’s treasurer?
- **Play to Their Fundraising Strengths**

Using the book by Stephanie Roth, “The Accidental Fundraiser,” volunteers/members fall under 3 categories.

 - Entertaining – these volunteers are very sociable, welcoming, and creative with ideas for group activities.
 - Selling – some people have a knack for selling products or promoting events. These volunteers would be great at selling tickets.
 - Asking Directly – these volunteers are more likely to have fundraising experience and are more comfortable with soliciting for donations.

Some members could be comfortable with all three direct service methods, while others may prefer to engage in background support, i.e., writing thank-you letters, posting to social media, or helping with the newsletter.

- **As Always, Follow up**

Thanking our members either in person, through a letter, a special moment in your club’s monthly meeting or in your newsletter, is a way to demonstrate how much we value our members’ time and commitment to our clubs, and the tremendous work we all do to improve the economic well-being and quality of life through our commitment to community service and literacy.

To view the full blog from Classy.org: <https://www.classy.org/blog/4-things-you-must-do-to-improve-volunteer-retention/>





Hints and Tips from the Communications Committee



From our Social Media Chair, Cathy Baybutt

Did you know that almost all of the District One Altrusa clubs have a Facebook page or a FB group? One of our goals is to spread the news of Altrusa. So sharing other clubs posts and sharing what they are doing is beneficial to all. Here is a list of Altrusa District One Clubs Facebook Pages. Visit these pages and hit **LIKE** and **FOLLOW**. Their posts will Show up in your feed, making it easier to **SHARE**.

Connecticut

Altrusa of Northeastern Connecticut
Altrusa International of Central Connecticut
Altrusa of Litchfield County
Altrusa International Inc of Greater Hartford

[@Altrusa.CentralCT](#)

Massachusetts

Altrusa International of Plymouth Cty
Altrusa International of Merrimack Valley
Altrusa International of Quincy, MA

New Hampshire

Altrusa Club of Meredith, NH
Altrusa International of Laconia
Altrusa International of Carroll County NH

[@carrollcountyalttrusa](#)

Maine

Altrusa International of Greater Bangor, Inc.
Altrusa International - Portland, Maine Club
Altrusa International - Sanford/ Springvale, Maine
Altrusa International of Biddeford-Saco
Altrusa International of the Seacoast

[@AltrusaPortland](#)

Quebec

Club Altrusa International de Québec
Altrusa District One
Altrusa International
Altrusa International Foundation, Inc

[@AltrusaDO](#)

[@altrusainternationalinc](#)

What's up with the @ symbol?

Some of our clubs have assigned an "Alias" or a username to their facebook. Which shows up with the @ symbol.

Makes it easier to search ALL THINGS ALTRUSA. In the



search field; type in @Altrusa. You will find clubs and posts.

If you create a post on your FB page and would like it to also show up in another clubs feed, Instead of typing in the entire FB page name, you can type the Alias name as shown, with the @ symbol.

Don't forget to add hashtags at the tail end of your posts. #Altrusa #Altrusaservice #Altrusaliteracy #Altrusafundraising #Altrusafoundation

Hashtags let you search for specific posts. Try it. Put in #altrusa. And see what pops up. I expect to see more Facebook posts to share.

Good luck!

More Hints and Tips about the International Website

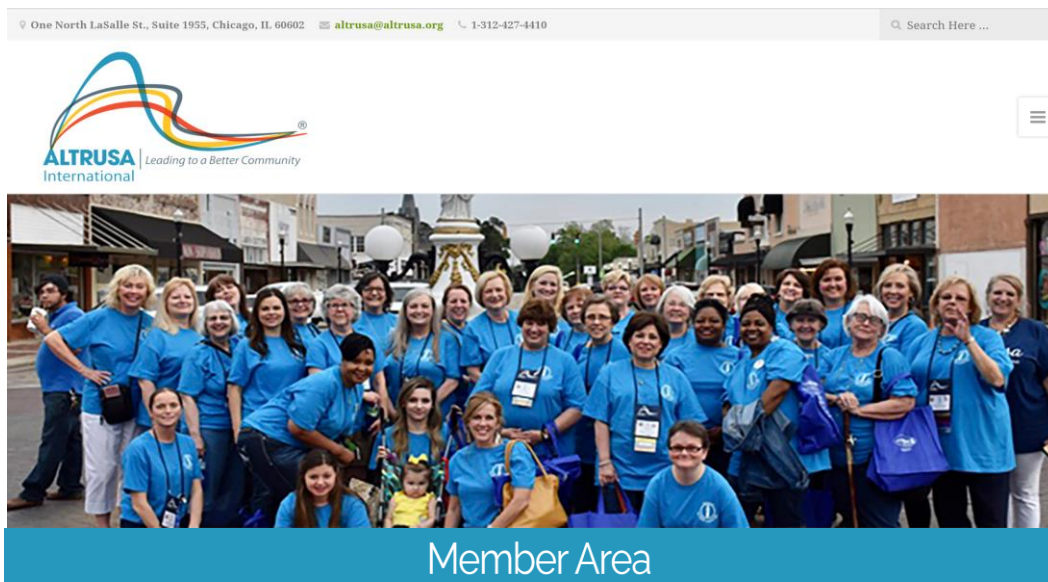
From our Webmaster, Linda Ring



The KEY to finding WHAT you need on the Website...

We had lots of fun with our Information Scavenger Hunt Sharing Session back in April. But we only scratched the surface of what you CAN find if you know HOW to look for it! Most everything you will ever need is out there on the Altrusa Website. The KEY is knowing how to search, and where to look!

First, make sure you are in the **Members Only** section. You should click through the Member Login and use the generic userid (**altrusan**) and password (**MamieLethaNina1917**).



Once there, you can either use the search box in the upper right to find the document you need. Suggestions: Privacy Policy, Initiations, By-Laws, etc.

Or:

Another method is by making an educated guess as to which tab holds the information you desire.

- Initiations?... should be under Membership.
- By-Laws?... check under Governance.
- GroupTally?,,, would that be Membership or Treasurer?
 - The person who uses GroupTally the most is the Treasurer. Where might that be? Leadership? Is there a link under there? YUP!
 - And it's also under Membership because you need information on how to add new members! Turns out both tabs point you to the same set of GroupTally manuals and videos!

I did a quick sweep through each of the tabs and copied the top contents into one user friendly reference page... File it under INFORMATION... so when you need it, you will find it again!

Linda Ring, District One Webmaster
Immediate Past Governor

Continued Hints and Tips from your WebMaster..... Topics you will find in the MEMBER Section

COMMUNICATIONS TAB:

- Ask About Altrusa Podcast
- Altrusa Compass
- International Altrusan
- Marketing Toolkit
- Zoom Documentation
- Altrusa Webmaster Resources
- International Communications Committee

GOVERNANCE TAB:

- Bylaws & Policies
- Incorporation Toolkit
- Financial Statements
- International Board of Directors
- International Committee Chairs
- Governor Elect Training
- International Office Staff
- International BRR Committee
- International Nominating Committee

MEMBERSHIP TAB:

- GroupTally
- Membership Forms
- New Member Kit
- Membership Toolkit
- New Club Building
- Virtual Clubs Toolkit
- Membership Reports
- International Membership Development Committee

LEADERSHIP TAB:

- Biennium Reports
- Club Annual Report
- Strategic Plan
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Leadership Toolkit
- Group Tally Toolkit
- Club Treasurer
- International Leadership Development Committee

SERVICE TAB:

- International Service Awards
- Days for Girls Toolkit
- Altrusa SOS Toolkit
- Service Project Database
- Service Project Toolkit
- International Service Program Development Committee

Hi Everyone!

The District One Website is now in new hands! If your club information has recently changed, please send the updated information to the NEW WEBMASTER (me, Linda Ring) at this email address: Altrusa.DistrictOne.Webmaster@gmail.com

I am learning the ropes, and will update your information, post your club newsletter, etc. as quickly as possible. Thanks a bunch! and if you have any questions... you can reach me at 860-490-8211

Linda Ring

News from Bangor...



Preparing meal for
Ronald McDonald
House.

Members labeling
books for donation to
daycare & library
kiosk.



Donations for Bangor
Humane Society.

News from Bermuda...



In the month of March 2021, our member Norma Latham carried out a personal fundraiser as an individual effort to support our club the Altrusa Club of Bermuda.

On two occasions, Norma made her very famous well loved Roti to sell to her great following of Roti lovers. Roti is a flatbread native to India.

Norma is always cooking up something. She volunteers at the Christ Church in Warwick, Bermuda as one of the cooks on Tuesday's, to help to feed the hungry and needy.

She also makes a delicious quiche and always brought a couple of pans when we were allowed to do our quarterly teas at our local rest homes. However due to the pandemic in the last 15 months we've not been able to carry out this service.

In appreciation of Norma's personal fundraising effort which netted a total of \$1,040.00 the Club members donated a plant to her. Norma also has a great green thumb and can get pretty much get anything to grow.

Contributed by
Mary Faries



News from Carroll County...



Make Way for Readers is our new literacy project. Carroll County applied to Altrusa International Foundation and received a \$2000 grant. The project had members packing over 500 Dr Seuss bags which contained information about the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten that 10 of the county libraries participate in. These bags were delivered to 20 daycare / preschools in Carroll County. The grant money was used to support 10 of the libraries in the Carroll County. They will purchase books and materials to support their children's programs. Each library was asked to followup with information about how this might have increased readership.

Beth Wheatley Dyson (middle) presenting one of the \$200 checks. This one is to the Conway Library.

One old and one new volunteer opportunity that club members participated.

The old is our monthly packing of the End 68hrs of Hunger food bags that are sent home each weekend to food insecure families. Packing this month Cathy B. (New friend) Darlene, Shawn, Barb, Cathy SH, Ruth, Janel, picture taken by (new member), Marilyn.



Opportunity #2. Fourteen members over 2 days volunteered to sort and unpack clothing for the Whitehorse thrift store. The store supports the Whitehorse addiction center. The members were pleased with the results and will probably return in the future to lend a willing hand.

Afternoon group on day #2 - Marsh, Nancy, Janel, Peggy, Cindy and Cathy

More News from Carroll County...



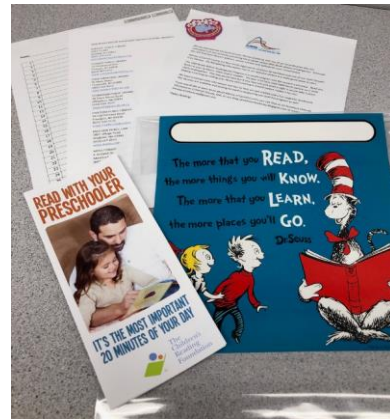
Packing the bags to be delivered to child care centers.

Nancy Spaulding, Sue Battles, Pat McCoy, Cathy Sholtanis and Lisa Maggiolo. .. Cathy Baybutt Photographer

Items included in the Dr. Seuss bags:

- ✓ Magnetic book mark
- ✓ Introduction letter from Altrusa
- ✓ List of participating libraries and ...
- ✓ the first sheet from "1000 books before Kindergarten" tally sheets.

Pat McCoy, Cathy Sholtanis, Nancy Spaulding, Sue Battles, Lisa Maggiolo and Cathy Baybutt Photographer
The final boxes all ready to deliver on launch week. The First week of May.



Carroll County Altrusa celebrated it's 15th anniversary. There are 9 charter members still involved with the club and they all received their 15 year pins. Diane Robinson, Peggy Poirier, Nancy Spaulding, Cathy Baybutt, Cindy Hyatt, Jan Estes, Pat McCoy, Lorraine Streeter. Missing Pat Kehoe.



Membership present at the Annual June Meeting. Front row. Cindy Hyatt, Beth Wheatley Dyson, Peggy Poirier back row, Donna West, Cathy Sholtanis, Diane Robinson, Nancy Spaulding, Pat McCoy, Jan Estes, Cathy Baybutt, Janel Maxwell (in the back), Lorraine Streeter, Marsha Brown, Ruth Stevens, Barb Kennett. Photo by Kathy Somerville.

News from Central CT...



Congratulations!



Central CT Club Officers for 2021-2023!
Installation was held on Wednesday, May 26th!



L-R:
Jamie Santaniello - Immediate Past President
Bonnie Laput - Director,
Kimberly Czaja - Director
Edna Liberty - Treasurer
Cathy Boone - Foundation Treasurer
Roberta Tundermann - Secretary
Kathleen Didato Kovel - Vice President
Lynne Reilly Havlicek - President!
Hilda Schmidt - Director

Thank you, Hilda
Schmidt for the
COLORFUL
Installation
Ceremony!

We were so excited to officially welcome Kimberly Czaja as a member of our club. She is a third generation Altrusan! Pictured are her sponsors, Kathleen Didato (mom) and Tiffany Shaffer with our newest Altrusan, **Kimberly Czaja!**



News from Laconia...

Altrusa International of Laconia has given \$300.00. to support *GOT LITERACY* this summer. *GOT LITERACY* LACONIA is part of the *GOT LUNCH* program.

While supporting them each year since inception, this year was difficult without our annual fundraiser *TASTE OF THE LAKES REGION*.

However, members of the club felt this was important to the mission of Altrusa. *Numeracy* (a part of literacy) will be included this year also. The young people of Laconia benefit greatly from the work of *GOT LITERACY* and we are proud to support their efforts.



News from MEREDITH...

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPEATS SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL MUFFIN DAY PROJECT

The Community Service Committee delivered over 25 dozen muffins to various locations on March 1st in honor of National Muffin Day 2021.

Deliveries were made to: Isaiah 61 Café, Riverbank House, Carey House, New Beginnings, the Meredith Police and Fire Departments and the road crew at Meredith Dept. of Public Works. It made for a bright (and tasty) Monday morning for many of our neighbors.



The Meredith Altrusa Community Service Committee delivered several baskets of muffins to the teachers of Inter-Lakes Elementary in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week. Shown with the baskets are Altrusa member Vivien Mitchell and ILES Principal Michael Bryant.

Altrusans Janine Schifino and Karol Keating thank Meredith Hannaford Supermarket Assistant Manager Pierre Doda and Manager Joe Gentile for their continued support of our club through Hannaford's "Reusable Bag Program."



More News from Meredith...

Our Community Service Committee is grateful to the Altrusa International Foundation for awarding us a Foundation Grant for \$1,500 for our File of Life Project. The entire club will be assisting in getting these life-saving files distributed throughout our community this summer and next fall.



In May, our Altrusa Scholarship Committee was pleased to award a total of \$5,000 to three, non-traditional students who are at least 23 years of age. Notified by phone and receiving packets with award certificates and pertinent information concerning their scholarship were Megan Magrauth, Sara Hahn Pinkham, and Dorothy Crowell. The scholarships honor the memory of our club's Founder Dr. Jeanette A. Ritzenthaler, a longtime member Marian Touhey, and Jackie LaPoint, daughter of Past President Kathy LaPoint and her husband Glen.

For over 20 years, Altrusa Welcome to Kindergarten Bags have been donated by the Meredith Club's Literacy Committee. This year the committee delivered a total of 110 Welcome Bags in time for kindergarten registrations for students enrolled at Inter-Lakes Elementary (55), Sandwich Central (10), Moultonborough Central (30), and New Hampton Community School (15). The typical and colorful drawstring bag seen in this photo includes items such as crayons, pencils, dice (great for learning numbers), a deck of cards (flash card use), a coloring book, WikkiStix, modeling clay and a brand new book for parents to read to their new kindergartner. Pictured back row, left to right, are Literacy Co-Chairs Marie Stephens and Pat McFarlin with ILES Kindergarten teacher Katie Earl; front row, left to right, are Reading Specialist/Title 1 Project Manager Alesia Parks and Kindergarten Teacher Erin Geib.



News from Northeast CT...

Altrusa Club of Northeastern CT members were thrilled to be able to meet in-person for our installation of officers! We had to get creative with distancing guidelines, but were thrilled to be able to see each other, and enjoy the fresh air together.



Carlita Cotton - President
Jodi Walencewicz - 1st Vice President
Bonnie Ryan - 2nd Vice President
Nancy Trawick-Smith - Treasurer
Jane Schreiber – Secretary
Marylou Bradley - Director
Susan Ulino- Immediate Past President

From left to right: Carlita Cotton, Susan Ulino, Marylou Bradley, Jane Schreiber, Jodi Walencewicz. Not pictured are Bonnie Ryan and Nancy Trawick-Smith.



Altrusa of Northeastern CT really enjoyed learning from our own [Anne Rash](#) how to find FUNDING for our service projects on the May 13th district-wide Thursday training session. Anne explained where and how to find funds, including grant sources that many of us hadn't heard about. By all accounts, this training session was much needed and well attended.

News from Portland...

Portland Honors Volunteer of the Year Award Winner
Ray Richard is Altrusa's 2021 Volunteer of the Year
 for his work with Portland Wheelers!

Ray has volunteered with Portland Wheelers for over 5 years and currently serves as President of the organization, providing about 800 hours of service per year. He began as a volunteer "pilot" pedaling the adaptive trikes that Portland Wheelers uses to give rides to anyone who can't ride a bike by themselves. An avid bicyclist, Ray uses his skills to lead a crew in maintaining and repairing the trikes and drives trucks and trailers to ride sites. Ray trains new pilots and presents refresher courses to returning pilots. He also meets with potential partner organizations and offers demos of what Portland Wheelers can provide to enrich the lives of the people served by those organizations.

Ray also furthers the mission of Portland Wheelers by speaking to groups, participating in fundraisers, taking photos of events, and is administrator of the organization's Facebook page.

Sue Wall, who nominated Ray, said that, "The wheelers love riding with Ray, who cracks silly jokes and is incredibly kind and patient with them. He never fails to respect other volunteers, caregivers, and safety protocols whenever we ride."

The Portland Altrusa club donated \$250 to Portland Wheelers in honor of Ray Richard, our 17th Volunteer of the Year.



Chili and cornbread! YUM! Ann Smith and Susan King prepared dinner for 15 Ronald McDonald House guests (plus ourselves and the volunteers) on Tuesday, May 11th. Apples, tangerines and chocolate chip cookies rounded out the meal.



left to right: Ann B, Trish M, Pam L, Ann S, Nicki G

A warm, muggy but DRY morning greeted us at the Barron Center Memory Garden on Saturday. Nicki G. led her intrepid crew of Pam L., Trish M., Ann B., Ann S. and Susan K. in a cleanup effort!



News from Quebec...

On April 6, we were honored to host Governor Linda Ring on our Zoom meeting. She impressed us with her presentation which allowed us to know more about her and appreciate her great talents and personality.



District One Zoom Conference:

Many members of the club participated in one or the three sessions and specially appreciated the efforts of the District to translate in subtitles. A very different way of seeing each other, but a lovely way to meet before the opening of the borders that we hope for soon.



Easter Baskets:

This year, due to pandemic, each altruasan was paired with a lady's family and did the market for her. Everything was then distributed at the Maison Zoé-Blais with a gift voucher inserted in a Happy Easter Card.

Mother's day at la Maison Zoé-Blais
Each lady was given a bouquet with their weekly food basket.



News from Quincy...



Greater Quincy Chapter of Altrusa, International Inc.

"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve." - Albert Schweitzer

Donation of 55 books- one for every 5th grader at Snug Harbor to leave elementary school with.

As we look forward to this new year 2021, already five months in, we Altrusa chapter members can be grateful we are here to share our good fortune of surviving and serving the Covid pandemic. We had plans for May baskets, painting rocks workshop, application for a Book Project award, consideration of support for Safe Rooms in Homes for Our Troops, more cards for soldiers, more reading videos, and discussion to create video about history of civic organizations in USA. The most positive development for our group is that each member has taken on a specific role in the chapter!! Many hands make light work.

- ❖ Kelly remains president running meetings, setting the agenda, keeping contact with community members and Altrusa leaders, and maintaining the Altrusa focus.
- ❖ Becky remains vice-president eventually producing a newsletter, doing videos, hosting meetings, and keeping Altrusa supplies (banner, scrapbook, info board, lantern, etc).
- ❖ Kathy continues to be treasurer keeping the books, paying our dues, purchases and any reimbursements
- ❖ Karen is now secretary providing the zoom opportunity, as well as taking quick notes, conducting grant research and application, and communicating efficiently with us all.
- ❖ Linda is corresponding secretary, drafting letters for press releases, elders, and soldiers. Ilda is social media secretary working on the website, info flyer, other hard copy items.
- ❖ Deanna has been our Altrusa representative and liaison at city and civic events. Surely, there are more ideas, more needs, more suggestions, more opportunities for this small but mighty group to tackle together. Our next July meeting will reveal what comes next.

News from Seacoast...

Dover Children's Home

Our Dover Children's Home Project continued with members going to Dover one beautiful morning to dust and clean out 3 rooms of book shelves. Old or damaged books were removed to make space for the newly purchased books by Altrusa of the Seacoast. We also brought 10 fleece blankets, in colorful LOVE bags, for the residents.

On the right side: Lauren Petraitis,
Development Director
All others are Seacoast members.



At our May Business meeting we met at Norma's Restaurant and initiated 4 new members.

They are: Cyndee Cirelli, Betsy D'Agostino,
Char Plotycia and Drew VanAlstyne.

Alfred, ME - Two Altrusa clubs in Maine joined together for a donation to the York County Shelter Program. Each club purchased items from the Shelter's list. On a beautiful, but chilly, Saturday morning, these two clubs met in Alfred, Maine. Representatives from the shelter were appreciative as they accepted the needed personal and household items. Altrusa International, Inc. of Sanford/Springvale and the Seacoast enjoyed this joint project and hope to connect again soon.



More News from Seacoast...



Dream Factory of Maine (York Chapter) realizes the Dreams of critically and chronically ill children between the ages of 3 through 18. This year there were 3 Dreams that this organization was trying to fulfill. With no fundraising because of Covid, available funds were not supporting these Dreams. This was brought to our attention. Altrusa of the Seacoast donated \$1,500 to fund one of these Dreams. There was an article in the Sentinel and the York Weekly about this donation.

- from left to right: Penny Eldridge, Sandy LaBonte, Virginia Avery, Director Dream Factory of Maine-York, Barbara Leavey, Traci Avery Pardoe, Dream Factory, Norma Clark

In observance of "World Book Night" members gathered for a Program meeting at a member's home. Twenty-four books were collected for a future donation to a shelter.



In April, Seacoast members celebrated Altrusa's 104th Birthday at Norma's Restaurant. We enjoyed delicious cake and ice cream, and added colorful balloons for decoration.



**Please send news stories, photos, new members,
officer installations and all things Altrusa to
altrusa.districtone.dsb@gmail.com**

**Schedule of DSB publications: Submission Deadline
March 1st, June 1st, Sept 1st, Dec 1st
Publish Sept 15, Dec 15, Jan 30 (Conference forms), March 15, June 15**

**We know you are all busy doing wonderful things, wouldn't you like to share the news
with your fellow Altrusans. You can submit photos and captions any time. We'll include
as many as we can. Thank you for helping to make our job easier.**

**District One Communications Committee
Linda Ring, Webmaster,
Cathy Baybutt, Social Media,
Denise Doyon, Communications Support Extraordinaire,
Debbie Lemieux, DSB editor**

Contact information:

**Altrusa International
One North LaSalle St. Suite 1955
Chicago, IL 60602
1-312-427-4410**

altrusa@altrusa.org

**Treasurer, District One
Wanda Pettersen
77 Evergreen Lane
Windham, Me 04062**